

CABINET

Tuesday, 1 December 2015 at 5.30 p.m.
C1, 1st Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London,
E14 2BG

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

OUR BOROUGH, OUR PLAN APPENDICES

The meeting is open to the public to attend.

Contact for further enquiries:

Matthew Mannion, Democratic Services,
1st Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG
Tel: 020 7364 4651
E-mail: matthew.mannion@towerhamlets.gov.uk
Web: <http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk>

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agenda:



For further information including the Membership of this body and public information,
see the main agenda.

**PAGE
NUMBER(S)** **WARD(S)
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**5 .1 Our Borough, Our Plan - Local Plan First Steps; and
supporting information**

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All Wards

Our Borough, Our Plan



A New Local Plan First Steps

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Foreword

The development of our new Local Plan is taking place at an important moment. As the centre of London continues to move East, Tower Hamlets is now one of the fastest growing boroughs in the UK. This is reflected in our growing population, the increasing level of development interest and the rising value of our local economy. While this growth brings great opportunities by increasing local investment, new jobs and improvements to facilities, it also creates an increasing demand for housing, and business space and places pressure on local services. National Policy changes, to welfare, housing and planning, as well as global economic trends, are also adding further stresses which are being felt in the borough.

All this is within the context of a borough which still faces huge challenges. Our employment rate is rising but still below London's, we have the highest rate of child poverty in the country and high levels of health inequality. The affordability of housing continues to present a significant challenge, reducing the ability of residents with a range of incomes to remain in the borough. Many residents are concerned about

the pace of change and the scale of recent developments. I believe it is crucial that we ensure new developments are accompanied by the additional infrastructure and services required to maintain a good quality of life. It is also vital that we protect and enhance the elements of our borough which contribute to its unique identity, be that heritage buildings, local pubs, community facilities and faith buildings, local business spaces or markets.

I am committed to ensuring that more residents benefit from the growth in the borough, such as through improved services or access to housing that is actually affordable and meets local needs. The borough's physical regeneration however can only be one part of the picture; we need to ensure that residents receive access to training and job opportunities, so we can reduce poverty and inequality.

It is a very important that we meet existing and historic needs. But we are welcoming many thousands of new residents every year and so we need both to support existing communities and to welcome the new East Enders and to plan for and provide for their needs too. This includes public

infrastructure – schools, health services and so on - but also making sure that our new developments work well, include leisure opportunities and open space, handle waste effectively, are supported by transport systems, are served by well-planned shops and other services and are planned and designed in ways that are efficient and sustainable. Our Borough can manage high density development in quite a few places, but it must be development that ‘works’, and doesn’t store up problems in the future from poor design or inadequate services. And so, to re-emphasise this crucial point, getting growth right is vital for our future.

An up to date Local Plan with policies which reflect the real needs of local residents and businesses, and which addresses the latest national and regional context, is crucial for the borough to make the most of the opportunities available, help tackle our enduring challenges, manage the

pressures we face and deliver our aspirations.

The “Our Borough, Our Plan: A New Local Plan First Steps” consultation is the starting point for the development of the new Local Plan, which will be adopted by autumn 2017. This document and consultation are designed to help shape the direction of policy, so I would urge everyone with an interest in Tower Hamlets to voice your views. In doing so, we will meet the needs of the borough going forward, with a shared vision that we can all be proud of.



John Biggs
Mayor of Tower Hamlets

About this document

What is this document about?

In this document we have started to consider what the spatial vision, planning strategy and policies for Tower Hamlets should be over the next 15 years. These will be set out in a new Local Plan, which will guide development, identify how land is used and shape our neighbourhoods by determining what will be built and where.

This is the first consultation stage for the preparation of a new Local Plan. It aims to identify the challenges for the borough and how we can best approach these through our planning policies.

Your input is an invaluable part of the preparation process for the new Local Plan and will inform the development of a vision, objectives and policies to help create a better Tower Hamlets.

The document asks questions to help capture your views. Please feel free to comment on any other issues you feel are important or relevant to planning policy and whether we should include any other policy areas in the next stage. This document should begin to address the following questions, which will be taken forward in more detail in the development of policies in the new Local Plan:

What does planning policy need to address as a priority?

What is the most important thing about your local area?

Our growing neighbourhood really needs a new park and a new school. Will the policies plan for this?

How should we approach our policies to ensure positive outcomes for those living, working and visiting the borough?

What can a Local Plan do to help me and my children continue to afford to live in the Borough?

We keep getting more and more new development but don't appear to be getting major infrastructure investment to support it. What is the Local Plan going to do about it?

I'm worried about the pace of growth, it seems out of control to me. What will a Local Plan do to manage this?

What are the challenges for your local area?

How to give us your comments and feedback

London Borough of Tower Hamlets is undertaking public consultation on this document and its supporting information from:

14 December 2015 to 8 February 2016

You will be able to find all information on this consultation on the council's website:
www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/localplan

Please contact the Plan Making team for further details via:

E: planmaking@towerhamlets.gov.uk (please enter "Our Borough, Our Plan consultation" in the subject)

T: 020 7364 5009

Twitter: @TowerHamletsNow

The council would like to encourage the use of our **e-form** for electronic responses. The form will be published on the council's website (as shown above).

Any written comments should be sent to the following freepost address:

FREEPOST
Our Borough, Our Plan Consultation
D&R Strategic Planning
London Borough of Tower Hamlets
PO BOX 55739
London
E14 1BY

Hard copies are also available in Tower Hamlets libraries and Idea Stores listed below:

- **Idea Store Bow**, 1 Gladstone Place, Roman Road, Bow, E3 5ES
- **Idea Store Canary Wharf**, Churchill Place, E14 5RB
- **Idea Store Chrisp Street**, 1 Vesey Path East India Dock Road, E14 6BT
- **Idea Store Whitechapel**, 321 Whitechapel Road, E1 1BU
- **Idea Store Watney Market**, Watney Market, E1 2FB
- **Cubitt Town Library**, Strattondale Street, E14 3HG
- **Local History & Archives Library**, 277 Bancroft Road, E1 4DQ
- **Bethnal Green Library Cambridge Heath Rd**, London E2 0HL

Consultation Event Calendar

This consultation will be supported by a series of public drop-in sessions taking place at various locations around the borough. Please refer to the calendar below for the date and time of an event taking place near you.

Date	Location	Time	Address
Thursday 14 th January 2016	Idea Store, Crisp Street	11:30-14:30	15 Market Square, London, E14 6AQ
Saturday 16 th January 2016	V & A Museum of Childhood, Bethnal Green	10:00-13:00	Cambridge Heath Road, Tower Hamlets, London E2 9PA
Thursday 21 st January 2016	Alpha Grove Community Centre	17:30-20:30	Alpha Grove, London, E14 8LH
Thursday 28 th January 2016	Idea Store, Whitechapel	17:30-20:30	321 Whitechapel Road, London, E1 1BU
Saturday 30 th January 2016	Idea Store, Bow	10:00-13:00	1 Gladstone Place, Roman Road, London, E3 5ES

Section One: Setting the Scene

1.1 What is the Local Plan?

The new Local Plan will set out a vision, strategic priorities and a planning policy framework to guide and manage development in the borough for the next 10 to 15 years, in line with the planning policy requirements set out by national and regional government.

1.2 Why is it important to have a Local Plan?

It is important for the borough to have an up to date plan in place with a clear vision, objectives and planning policies to guide development decisions. Together with the London Plan, the Local Plan is a critical tool for a planning authority to plan proactively and positively for development by focusing on the community needs and opportunities in relation to places, housing, economy, infrastructure, local services and other areas. It also seeks to safeguard the environment, adapt to climate change and enhance the natural and historic environment.

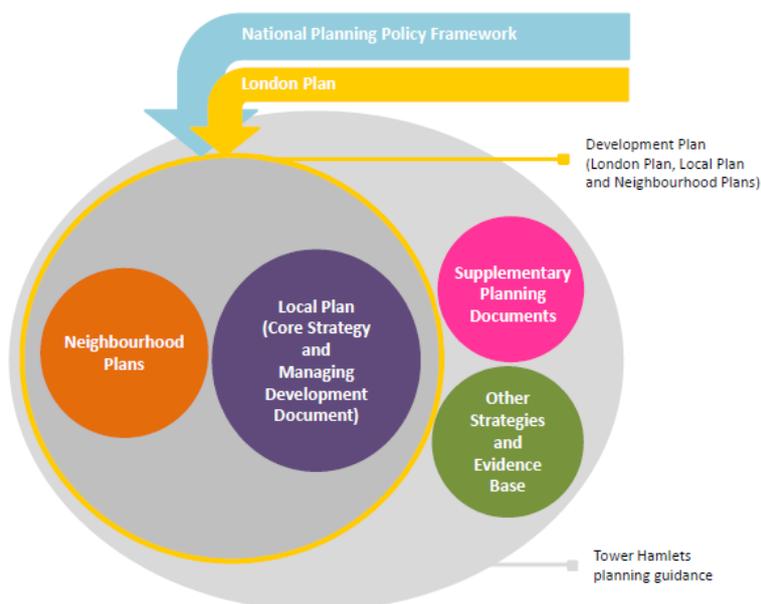


Figure 1 Framework of the Tower Hamlets Local Plan

1.3 Why do we need a new Local Plan for Tower Hamlets?

There are a number of main reasons for the council to prepare a new Local Plan, including:

- Since the adoption of the Core Strategy (2010) and Managing Development Plan Document (2013), Tower Hamlets has experienced

significant changes, in particular, continued population growth and increasing demand for homes, jobs and infrastructure. Information from the Greater London Authority (GLA) showed that the population of Tower Hamlets was 280,474 in June 2014, and expected to increase by 23 per cent to reach 364,804 by 2024¹. The borough has a relatively young working age population, with almost half of all residents of the Borough (49 per cent) aged between 20 and 39. Tower Hamlets is the fourth largest employment location in London with 240,000 jobs based in the Borough in 2012. The Greater London Authority (GLA) estimates that the number of jobs in the borough will increase by 169,000 between 2010 and 2031.

- Significant planning changes have also taken place in recent years at both a national and regional level. Amongst others, this includes the National Planning Policy Framework (2012) and Planning Practice Guidance, the Localism Act and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) from the Government. The London Plan has also been further altered to provide new policy directions for London boroughs to follow. The Further Alterations to the London Plan was adopted in March 2015 (FALP)². The Mayor of London has increased Tower Hamlets minimum ten year housing target from 28,850 to 39,314. The new housing target means that the borough will potentially accommodate 10 per cent of London's population growth in just 1.3 per cent of its land area³. There will also be a 41 per cent increase in jobs⁴.
- These combined changes will have significant implications for the council's planning policies, in particular the need to plan for sufficient additional infrastructure to support the increasing population. The council is proactively responding to these changes by preparing a new Local Plan that, when adopted by autumn 2017 will replace the current Core Strategy (2010) and Managing Development Document (2013). This will help ensure that the needs of the borough residents can continue to be met through the provision of affordable housing, jobs, community facilities and infrastructure.

1.4 How will we prepare this new Local Plan?

The preparation of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets new Local Plan is regarded as a priority for the council and the Mayor, as set out in the Community Plan 2015.

¹ 2014 Round of Demographic Projections; Local authority population projections - SHLAA-based ethnic group projections, Capped Household Size, short-term migration scenario; October 2015

² <https://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/planning/london-plan/further-alterations-to-the-london-plan>

³ The estimated figures were represented on behalf of the Council during the Examination in Public of the Further Alterations to the London Plan in 2014.

⁴ The estimated figures were presented on behalf of the Council during the Examination in Public of the Further Alterations to the London Plan in 2014.

The council is working hard to make the best use of resources to produce the new Local Plan for adoption by autumn 2017. A summary of the indicative Local Plan preparation timetable is set out below (Table 1).

Milestone	Indicative Date
First engagement and consultation	Winter 2015/2016
Preparing the Draft Local Plan	Spring - Summer 2016
Draft Local Plan formal consultation	Autumn 2016
Amending the Draft Local Plan for Submission	Winter 2016
Publication of the Local Plan for Submission	Winter 2016 - Spring 2017
Preparing the Local Plan for Submission	Spring 2017
Submission to the Secretary of State	Spring 2017
Examination by a Planning Inspector	Spring/Summer 2017
Adoption by Full Council	Autumn 2017

Table 1 Local Plan Production Indicative Timetable

Following the preparation of the Local Plan, the council must submit it to the Government for examination. As part of this examination, an independent planning inspector will assess the Local Plan and consider:

- Whether the plan has been prepared in accordance with the Duty to Cooperate⁵;
- Legal and procedural requirements; and
- Whether it is sound – positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy.

A number of key factors contributing to preparation of a Local Plan are included in the diagram below (figure 2).

⁵ A legal duty on planning authorities in England and public bodies to engage constructively and actively and on an on-going basis to maximise the effectiveness of preparation in the context of strategic cross boundary matters.



Figure 2 The components that are the most relevant to the preparation of a Local Plan

Section Two: New Plan, New Vision

2.0 Introduction

A core part of a Local Plan is its “Vision”. Good practice suggests that a “Vision” should be both aspirational and realistic. It should provide a strong impression of what the borough will spatially be like in the next 10 to 15 years. In developing this vision, we need to establish a better understanding of the current context of the borough in terms of social, economic and environmental aspects, as well as the challenges and opportunities Tower Hamlets faces.

This section helps us to think ahead - what Tower Hamlets will be like in 10 to 15 years. It also provides an overview of the borough profile in respect of its place, people and economy through highlighting the challenges that the borough faces, opportunities for development, and how best we can achieve shared objectives amongst our community. These challenges and opportunities largely reflect the content in the Tower Hamlets Partnership’s Community Plan (2015), which is part of the evidence base for developing a new vision for the Local Plan.

2.1 Our borough – place, people and economy

Place

Tower Hamlets is an inner city borough which shares boundaries with the City of London and the London Boroughs of Newham and Hackney. The east side of Tower Hamlets is bordered by River Lea, and part of the borough is now in the planning authority remit of the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC). The River Thames flows along the south of the borough separating it from the Royal Borough of Greenwich and the London Borough of Southwark (See figure 3 below).

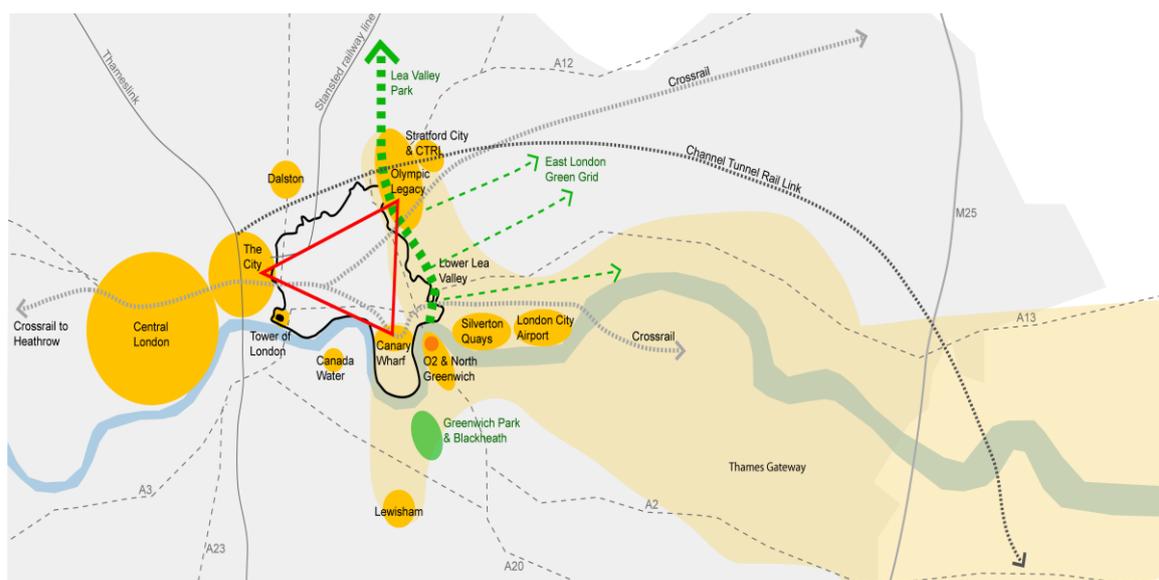


Figure 3 Tower Hamlets Regional Role

Figure 4 (below) illustrates that Tower Hamlets is made up of places with distinct and unique characteristics, from the major international business centres of Canary Wharf and parts of the City Fringe, to residential areas with traditional East End character such as Bow and Stepney, historic Whitechapel, and vibrant Shoreditch. Alongside these places are major leisure attractions and landmarks such as Brick Lane, Spitalfields Market, the Tower of London and Victoria Park.

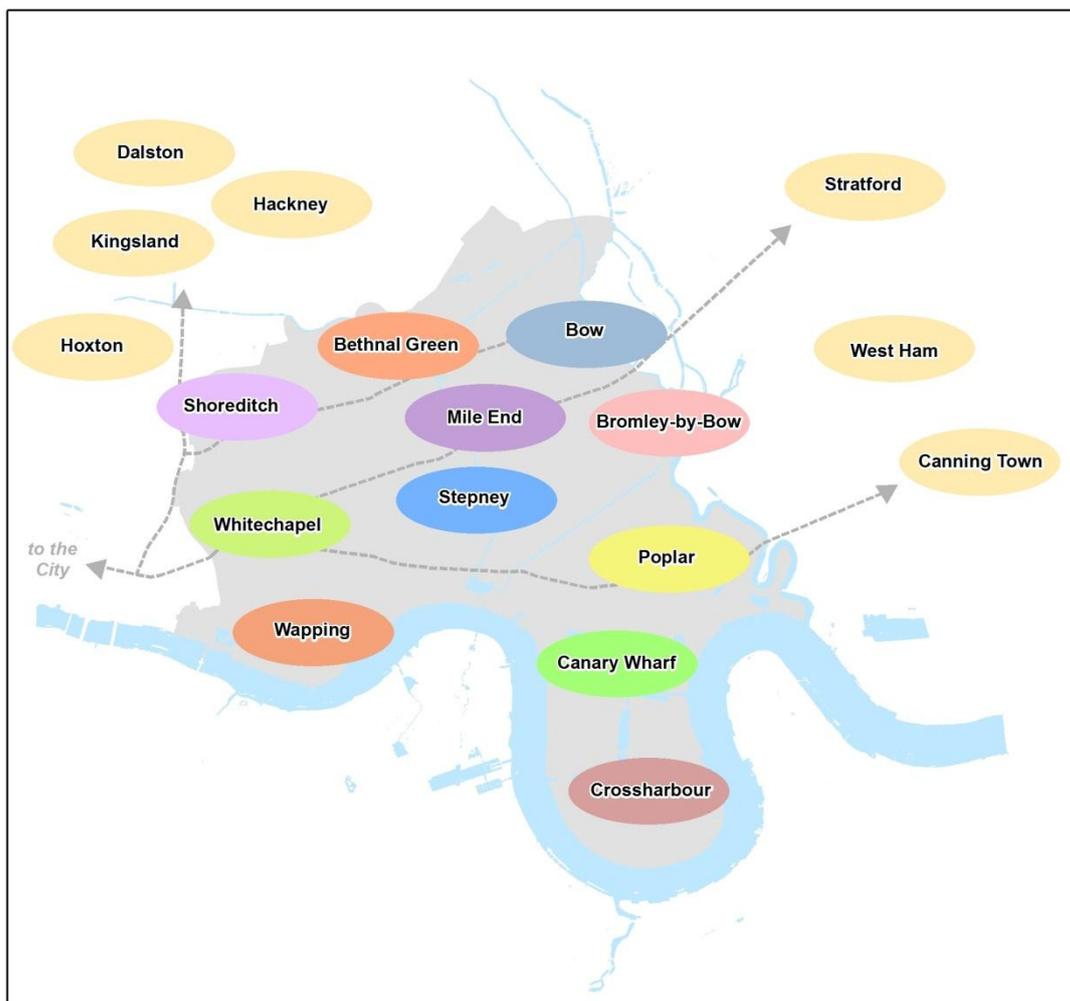


Figure 4 Some of Tower Hamlets Distinct Places

People

The population of Tower Hamlets was estimated to be 284,000 as at June 2014. Tower Hamlets has a relatively young working age population, with almost half of all residents in the borough (49 per cent) aged between 20 and 39⁶.

According to the 2011 Census, 69 per cent of the borough's population are from a minority ethnic community. In the last decade international migration has shaped the profile of the borough's communities – 43 per cent of the borough's population were born outside of the UK.

⁶ The Office for National Statistics published its mid-2014 population estimates on 25 June 2015. The mid-year estimates are the 'official' estimates of population for local authority areas.

Economy

Tower Hamlets has one of the most dynamic economies in the country. 11,440 local businesses provide approximately 251,000 jobs in the borough. Our economy is being driven by the continued growth in financial and business services and by 2030 there are expected to be a further 75,000 jobs in that sector.⁷ The City Fringe/ Whitechapel and Canary Wharf/Isle of Dogs area accounted for the majority of all employment in Tower Hamlets⁸. According to VAT registrations, there are 11,445 VAT based enterprises in Tower Hamlets in 2013. Of these, the majority of businesses (10,145) are micro businesses employing less than 10 people.

Furthermore, the borough also attracts hundreds of visitors to key attractions such as the Tower of London and Whitechapel Gallery and the hotel industry is responding to increased demand for visitor accommodation.

2.2 What are we planning for?

Table 2 below provides a summary of the emerging trends, pressure and likely outcomes in terms of social, economic and environmental aspects in the next 10 -15 years. This is based on information available at this stage although some areas will be difficult to predict and will require further evidence to be produced as the Local Plan evolves.

Our Population will be...	Our Economy will be...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The borough's population is projected to increase from 280,474 in 2014 to 364,804 in 2024, an increase of 23% (ONS).⁹ • The greatest increases will be amongst the older working age population, the 'White' population and the 'hyper diversity'¹⁰ of the borough. • The borough's employment rate has been rising rapidly. However higher than average levels of unemployment remain amongst some groups of residents and in-work poverty remains. In light of the changing housing market and welfare provision, this trend is likely to continue in certain places within the borough. • The last ten years has seen a reduction in the percentage of residents living in social rented accommodation, a small level of growth in owner occupation and large growth in the private rented sector. This trend is likely to continue. • The borough is likely to become more polarised between an increasingly wealthy home owning or renting group and a reducing group of residents in affordable housing or subsidised. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment projections published by the GLA estimate the number of jobs in the borough will almost double, increasing by 169,000, between 2010 and 2031 to 379,000. • The changing global economy, emerging employment sectors and working trends, including the rise of remote working and self-employment, will have an impact on the type of employment spaces and facilities required in the borough. • Population and retail trends, including growing online shopping and smaller chain convenience stores are changing the use and role of Town Centres. • Town centres are increasingly moving away from only providing retail spaces to delivering spaces for leisure and cultural activities as well as service provision. • The changing shape of development in the borough will also influence the nature and location of our Town Centres, for example, creating opportunities for new Town Centres in

⁷ Tower Hamlets Borough Profile (draft, 2015)

⁸ Business registration and employment survey (BRES) data published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

⁹ 2014 Round of Demographic Projections; Local authority population projections - SHLAA-based ethnic group projections, Capped Household Size, short-term migration scenario; October 2015

¹⁰ the borough will be home to more residents from many more different countries, than is currently the case

	emerging growth areas.
<p>Our Infrastructure will be...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The borough’s transport infrastructure will be boosted by the arrival of Crossrail in 2018. However population growth and development will place further pressure on the borough’s other transport network, including buses, DLR, walking and cycling. • There will be an increasing need for leisure, social, education infrastructure and reducing space to provide it. New delivery models and locations will be required. • Many public sector services are seeking to merge services and reduce the number of buildings they operate from. This means even less available publicly owned sites for infrastructure provision. • The education system has also changed following the introduction of Free Schools and Academies, which follows a different system for their establishment. • Neighbourhood Planning has been introduced under Government legislation. This has enabled more detailed planning at neighbourhood level led by designated Neighbourhood Forums. An adopted Neighbourhood Plan will become part of the local planning system to determine planning applications within the designated Neighbourhood Areas. 	<p>Our Environment will be...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The borough has seen a consistently high level of development interest since the production of the last Local Plan. This is likely to continue as the population and economy grow in Tower Hamlets and London. • The current high values of residential development mean that other land uses, including employment space, community facilities and open space, will become even more difficult to secure and deliver and come under increasing pressure for conversion to housing. • More development will come forward on smaller and and/or constrained sites, leading to a denser borough. • There will be increasing pressure to regenerate and intensify developments. • The location of development and borough orientation will change. The new Housing Zone and Opportunity Area means that development space is being opened up on the eastern boundary of the borough, an area which is currently poorly connected. • The borough already has the third highest carbon emission levels, due to vehicular emissions. This is likely to worsen unless mitigating action is taken. • Increasing development will also impact on the quality of the borough’s built and natural environment.

Table 2 A summary of the Future Population, Economy, Infrastructure and Environment Trends

2.3 The challenges we face

Story so far...

Infrastructure provision

Population growth will demand more homes and jobs and will significantly impact on existing social and physical infrastructure, including schools, healthcare and open spaces and leisure facilities as well as less visible but very important infrastructure such as utilities and telecommunications. It is important that the council establishes a better understanding of infrastructure needs and prioritise them where required. The existing mechanism is struggling to fill the infrastructure funding gap, given the increasing needs. It has become more challenging for the council to deliver infrastructure through other innovative approaches.

Quality of the environment

Higher density developments have come forward in less accessible locations outside of town centres, creating a landscape which does not reflect the historic and prevailing pattern of buildings and spaces. While high density developments offer the opportunity to optimise the use of a site, their siting and design needs to be carefully managed to ensure that it has regard to the surrounding context, in particular the historic and environmental assets which make Tower Hamlets unique.

Streets and public realm in parts of the borough are sometimes disconnected and of poor quality. The lack of consistency contributes to a poor visual appearance of the streetscape in general.

Supply and cost of housing

Tower Hamlets continues to be a place where people want to live but there is a limited supply of homes and prices are high. The cost of housing is increasing and the borough is likely to become more polarised between those on higher and lower incomes, further increasing inequalities in our local communities. We want to make sure that the new homes are built in the right locations are of a high design quality and are affordable for local people.

Economy and improving job opportunities

The local economy is getting stronger but there is a need to ensure we have the right skills within the working population to enable residents to access the range of job opportunities in the borough and beyond.

Transport capacity and connectivity

The borough's transport network will come under greater pressure with the projected rise in people living, working and visiting the borough. As a result of its strategic location, Tower Hamlets is developing more characteristics of a central London borough. However, there is a need to ensure we better connect with neighbouring boroughs, especially to the east, as well as ensure internal connections are improved.

Health and well-being

Tower Hamlets has one of the largest health inequality gaps in the country and has one of the highest rates in London of people suffering bad or very bad health.

Social cohesion

The changing nature of the borough through the scale and type development taking place requires positive and proactive management to ensure we create diverse and balanced neighbourhoods which bring communities together.

2.4 The opportunities we have

Story so far...

Opportunity areas

The London Plan (2015) identifies a number of opportunity areas within Tower Hamlets - namely City Fringe/Tech City (including Whitechapel), Isle of Dogs and South Poplar, and Lower Lea Valley (including part of the Olympic Legacy area and the Poplar Riverside Housing Zone). These areas present an opportunity to optimise the supply of available land to enable the development of homes, jobs and required infrastructure for all Tower Hamlets communities. Details are set out in 2.5 below.

Infrastructure delivery

The anticipated level of development coming forward in the borough will be supported by developer contributions in the form of planning obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). These are mechanisms which will enable the delivery of required infrastructure in the areas of need in a timely manner. The facilities and services needed to support Tower Hamlets' communities includes, but is not limited to, transport, education, health, open space and telecommunications.

Thriving economy and town centres

Tower Hamlets has a strong economy and is home to a number of international and national companies, who continue to invest in the borough. There is also an established and growing small and medium sized enterprise (SME)/microbusiness sector, and new tech industries attracted to the City Fringe/Whitechapel area in particular. This is also supported by a hierarchy of interconnected, vibrant and inclusive town centres of local economic activity with good transport accessibility and a mix of uses.

To ensure local residents have access to job opportunities, it is a priority to equip local residents with the skills and qualifications to benefit from this growth through setting policy requirements for training and identifying sites for potential training and education facilities. There is also an opportunity to ensure our town centres continue to be vibrant and diverse to meet the needs of the growing population.

Crossrail

Public transport accessibility in the borough will be further enhanced by the new Crossrail Stations at Whitechapel and Canary Wharf, which are scheduled to open in 2018. Crossrail will shorten journey times between these stations and a number of other major growth areas including Bond Street, Stratford City, City Airport, and Heathrow. This has significant implications for both national and international business, and will attract inward investment, more jobs, and development opportunities in the Whitechapel and Canary Wharf areas.

Cross boundary opportunities

Tower Hamlets interfaces with the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) (the planning authority for Fish Island and Bromley-by-Bow), the London Borough of Hackney, London Borough of Newham and the City of London. These boroughs have development opportunities, such as Stratford International, and London City Airport, the benefits of which Tower Hamlets can harness for its communities, by way of improving connectivity and accessibility to these areas.

2.5 Designated Opportunity Areas

Figure 5 shows the proximity of these designated Opportunity Areas and how they link with Tower Hamlets town centres and other neighbouring boroughs. The locations of designated Opportunity Areas (Number 1-3) are indicative for illustration purposes. Details of these Opportunity Areas are set out in the separate plans and guidance by GLA. The potential connections (in purple) such as new footbridges and tunnels illustrated in the map are aspirational at this stage. It aims to provide a strategic overview of how Tower Hamlets should consider maximising the growth opportunities by linking better with its surroundings.

Area 1: City Fringe/Tech City

The City Fringe area of Tower Hamlets, including Tech City, is emerging as one of London's most significant areas for economic growth, containing considerable opportunities for new and emerging sectors of the economy with particular requirements for clustering and accommodation. The council's Whitechapel Vision Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) (2013) is driving forward regeneration in Whitechapel including new homes and job opportunities, public realm improvements, a new civic hub for Tower Hamlets and potential Med City focused on the Royal London Hospital and Queen Mary University London.

Area 2: Isle of Dogs and South Poplar

The Isle of Dogs and South Poplar has been identified as an Opportunity Area by the Mayor of London in the London Plan to potentially accommodate a minimum of 10,000 new homes and 110,000 jobs. The Greater London Authority (GLA) is producing an Opportunity Area Planning Framework (OAPF) Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) to provide more detailed planning policies for the area. This will help manage growth coming forward in advance of the new Local Plan being adopted in 2017. The OAPF will also be a material consideration that the new Local Plan will need to take into account.

The first draft of the OAPF SPG is scheduled for public consultation in spring 2016 and the GLA is working with the council, partners and key stakeholders in the production of this document. The council has asked the GLA to prioritise work on the Development Infrastructure Funding (DIF). The DIF is a key piece of evidence that supports the OAPF and the GLA's plans for growth, and demonstrates how the GLA and partners will manage growth in the area through this strategic infrastructure plan and committed investment. Normally a final DIF is published when the OAPF is complete, which is anticipated to be late 2016. However because of the importance of infrastructure and the scale of potential growth in this area, the council has asked the GLA to prioritise this work and publish the complete DIF in spring 2016. The council is working proactively with the GLA, TfL and other key stakeholders in the production of the OAPF and the new Local Plan.

The council adopted the South Quay Masterplan SPD in October 2015 that provides additional design guidance to help coordinate new developments in the South Quay

area. This will be part of the evidence to inform the development of the OAPF and the new Local Plan.

Area 3: Lower Lea Valley/Poplar Riverside Housing Zone

The Lower Lea Valley Opportunity Area covers three London Boroughs: Hackney, Newham and Tower Hamlets. Within Tower Hamlets, it comprises the areas of Hackney Wick/Fish Island, Bromley-by-Bow and Poplar Riverside Housing Zone. The LLDC is the planning authority to determine planning applications within Hackney Wick/Fish Island and the Olympic Legacy Area.

The Olympic Legacy has been a catalyst attracting development opportunities and investment. Through the Local Plan and other supporting documents such as the adopted the Bromley-by-Bow Masterplan SPD (2012), the council has identified a vision and planning guidance to promote affordable housing, jobs and social infrastructure for local communities in the area.

More recently, the Poplar Riverside Housing Zone is an initiative of the GLA to drive forward growth located on the redevelopment of former industrial land and existing social housing estates. It is estimated that the Housing Zone could deliver more than 9,000 new homes over the next 10 years. This will require the council to work collaboratively with the GLA and other key stakeholders to ensure that additional schools, community centres and spaces are planned at an early stage of development proposals in order to meet the needs of all communities.

2.6 Suggestions

With your input, we propose to create a new vision for the Local Plan by applying the following principles:

1. The vision should be concise and easy to understand
2. The vision should reflect council and community priorities
3. The vision should acknowledge the challenges and opportunities Tower Hamlets faces
4. The vision should describe places in Tower Hamlets, and provide a clear sense of what the place will be like in 10-15 years' time
5. The vision should be underpinned by a number of objectives which are measurable

2.7 Let us know what you think

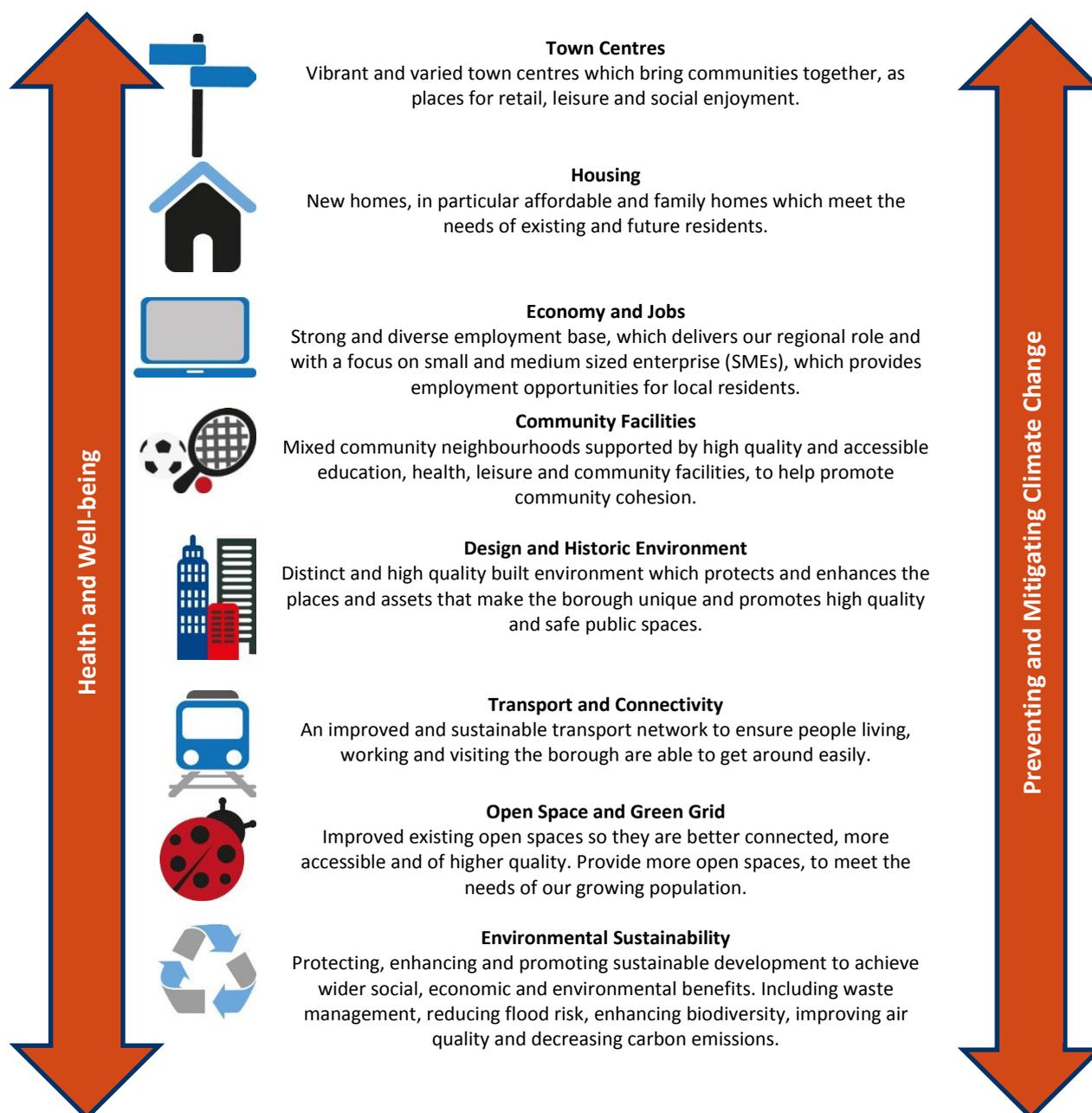
-  **Do you agree with the key challenges and opportunities for the area you live, work or visit in Tower Hamlets?**
-  **Do you agree with the principles stated in 2.6 above?**
-  **What are the most important things that the Local Plan vision needs to include?**

Section Three: Topics

3.0 Introduction

The production of a Local Plan should be undertaken in a way in which promotes fairness, community cohesion, empowerment and resilience in line with the principles set out in the Community Plan 2015. To deliver this, a series of key topics have been identified in this section.

Our Policy Aims:



We considered that there are two cross cutting themes running through all eight topics and they are set out below. These will need to be taken into account when we are developing all Local Plan policies.

- **Improving residents health and well-being**

This topic goes beyond improving access to health facilities and includes a range of measures to improve the wider determinants of health, including employment, high quality housing, and access to open space and leisure facilities.

- **Preventing and mitigating climate change**

This topic requires policy interventions across all topics, from promoting low carbon transport, to improving the energy efficiency of homes to incorporating flood reducing design.

Town Centres



3.1 Town Centres

Story so far...

The Council's strategic policy approach towards "refocusing" on the borough's town centres has been reinforced more recently by London Plan policies directing appropriate higher density development, including residential development, to town centres and transport nodes. While such development helps to ensure town centres remain as focal points, facilitating residential uses can also compromise active retail, leisure and commercial uses including provision of appropriately sized units.

The borough has an excellent range of shopping areas containing a selection of local businesses and national and international chains. These not only meet the everyday convenience needs of the borough's residents and workers, but also provide a unique experience for local people, Londoners and tourists alike. The vibrancy of traditional street markets, the internationally renowned Brick Lane, the specialist independent shops of Columbia Road and its flower market and the multi-national chains of Canary Wharf attract many people to the borough.

However, in addition to managing pressure for residential development and densification of our town centres, there is a need to respond to changing consumer behaviour and emerging demands. Overall vacancy levels across our town centres have improved in recent years but there is a disparity in the performance between individual centres. Current planning policies underpin Council initiatives to support town centres, but new legislation, including a relaxation of permitted development rights, has impacted on their effectiveness. Furthermore, the protection of small local shops serving immediate convenience needs outside of our town centres has become more difficult.

We need to ensure our policies are more responsive to changes at all levels and reflect future needs and demands including responding to areas of the borough where growth is most intense.

What we know

- Uses within our town centres
Tower Hamlets town centres form part of the borough's distinct identity and character. These places act as anchors for local areas, with a mix of uses and activities that draw our borough's diverse communities together. Increasingly, town centres are being used for leisure purposes (such as for eating, drinking and socialising) and as hubs for essential social and community facilities such as Idea

Stores and health centres. This is a move away from the traditional role as destinations offering predominantly shopping facilities.

The London Plan (GLA, 2015) encourages such non-retail uses within town centres, citing arts, culture, leisure and the night-time economy in particular. With high need and demand for housing across London the Mayor of London also considers some of our town centres as a potential source of accommodating new homes. The London Plan suggests “there is scope to redevelop or convert redundant offices or under-used space above shops into more active uses, especially housing.”

The borough has a number of successful street markets but future development and upgrading of transport infrastructure, including enhancing cycle routes, could negatively impact on them. Evidence shows that markets enhance the vitality of town centres and can support the development of new enterprises. It may be necessary to review current policies to ensure that markets are supported and protected where necessary. There may also be opportunities to encourage new markets in the borough.

It is important to promote town centres as places of employment, supporting the retention and upgrading of existing space and encouraging additional floorspace for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and low threshold enterprise space¹¹ (LTES) through redevelopment.

In contrast, some uses can have negative impacts on the vitality and attractiveness of town centres, especially where clusters of similar businesses have emerged. These include hot-food takeaways, betting shops and payday loan shops. New legislative changes make it easier to control betting shops and payday loan shops than was previously the case. The council’s Community Plan (2015) also seeks to limit the impact of what are deemed ‘unhealthy uses’ in the borough.

Therefore, we must consider how our policies accommodate a wide range of uses to support our town centres to ensure they are future-proofed for continued vitality and viability. In addition, we will also need to consider how good design will contribute to town centre vitality in terms of providing high quality public space which does not attract anti-social behaviour or crime.

- Changing nature of retail in our town centres

The borough’s population is growing and the nature of residents, workers and visitors is evolving. Changes within the retail industry and the convenience of online shopping have altered the role and function of town centres in the borough, resulting in some centres under-performing.

¹¹ This is the lower value non-residential space found in and around town centres (GLA, 2014). You will be able to view the relevant document via the link:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Accommodating%20Growth%20in%20Town%20Centres.pdf>

The most recent retail vacancy rates according to our Town Centre Survey show a borough average vacancy rate of 9.1 per cent, which is better than the national average but worse than the London average. Some town centres such as Brick Lane and Roman Road East have vacancy rates above the borough average but have shown improvement in recent years following the implementation of targeted strategies. Future policies will need to provide a basis for continuing recent improvements by supporting such interventions.

Emerging areas of population growth within the borough, such as within Opportunity Areas, also present a chance to create or re-designate town centres to meet the needs of local people.

- General Permitted Development Order (GPDO)¹²
New legislative changes through the General Permitted Development Order (GPDO) make it possible for shops to be converted to other uses such as estate agencies, restaurants and offices without the need to apply for planning permission. These changes potentially undermine the council's existing policies on retail and town centre uses and its ability to control the diversity of uses. The conversion of B1 office space to residential use through permitted development may further impact on the vitality and vibrancy of the borough's town centres in non-exemption areas¹³.
- Changing development pressures
Large supermarket chains have scaled back expansion of superstores and instead now favour smaller local-format convenience supermarkets. Although the Council has successfully defended refusals of planning applications for new out-of-town-centre convenience supermarkets at appeal, the borough's policies directing 'anchor' uses to designated town centres are likely to come under increasing pressure.

¹² <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/when-is-permission-required/what-are-permitted-development-rights/>

¹³ The government has designated exemption areas from office to residential permitted development rights so that supply of employment space for office use will be protected in key locations, including the Central Activity Zone CAZ/Tech City and north Isle of Dogs. Details can be seen via the link:

<http://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/planning/permitted-development-rights-for-change-of-use-from-commercial>

Suggestions

1. Update the existing local evidence base for town centres, which could include:
 - A revised Tower Hamlets **Town Centre Health Check survey** (based on the 2013 London Town Centre Health Check) to provide a ‘snapshot’ of health of our town centres in terms of occupied retail and leisure floorspace, vacancy levels etc.
 - A new Town Centre **Retail and Leisure Capacity Assessment** (based on the existing study produced in 2009) to ascertain needs for new floorspace, or identify existing overcapacity.
 - Further investigation into the impact of the GPDO on Tower Hamlets town centres.
 - Further investigation into optimum unit sizes in town centres

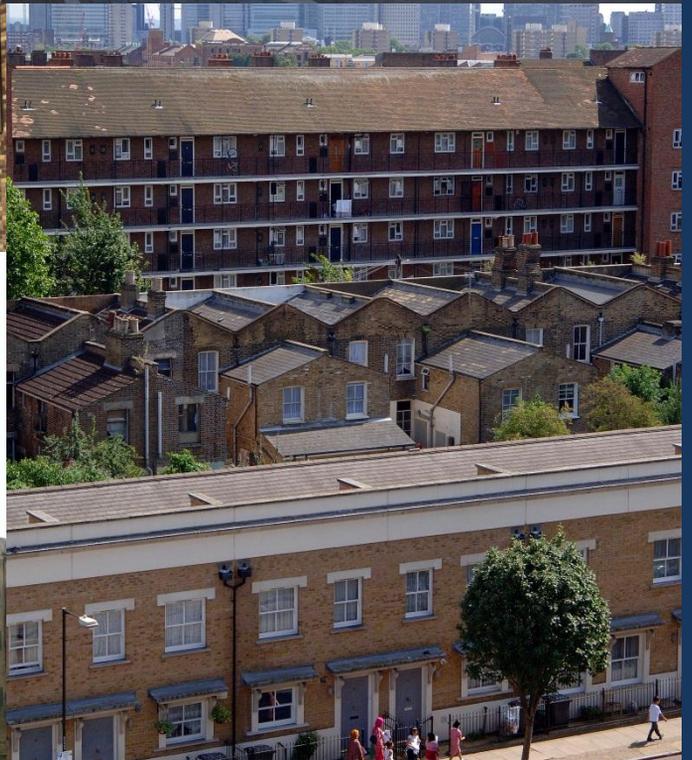
2. Work with other teams within the Council and our partners to create individual visions and strategies for our town centres to:
 - Consider introducing more stringent policies to restrict uses such as betting shops, payday loan shops and hot food takeaways, especially where there are existing concentrations.
 - Consider revising the current position on protecting ‘A1’ retail uses as a priority to give greater flexibility where ‘non-A1’ uses are proposed that will positively increase the diversity of uses within town centres and/or support the reinvigoration of under-performing town centres.
 - Consider protecting successful centres and support diversification of uses or alternative policy approaches where there is excess capacity, in order to manage vacancy rates.
 - Consider designating new town centres or re-designate existing town centres higher or lower in our hierarchy. This will also be underpinned by reviewing existing town centre boundaries and ensuring the type and mix of uses are appropriate to support the needs of existing and future communities.
 - Consider identifying and designating ‘Local Parades’ as a new layer of our town centre hierarchy to enhance the existing policy to prevent the loss of local shops.
 - Seek to ensure that units are of adequate size and quality to support the needs of a range of town centre uses
 - Review existing policy position for street markets based on an updated **Street Market Strategy**.

Let us know what you think

 Do you agree with our proposed approaches?

 Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?

Housing



3.2 Housing

Story so far...

Over the last 10 years, Tower Hamlets has experienced the fastest population growth in London and the borough has continued to transition from its industrial heritage to become a more attractive place for living. The delivery of housing in the borough is required, not only to respond to local need, but also to fulfil the borough's statutory duty to co-operate with neighbouring boroughs and meet the housing need, policies and targets established by the Greater London Authority (GLA) in the London Plan.

Tower Hamlets is expected to contribute a minimum of 39,310 new homes, approximately 10 per cent of the London housing target, by 2025. The borough's ability to supply land for housing in these quantities is becoming increasingly limited as a significant proportion of our available sites have already been developed. Land also needs to be secured to support the delivery of new infrastructure, such as schools, open spaces, health centres and transport links to create sustainable communities.

The delivery of housing is one of the biggest challenges for the Local Plan, not only in terms of land availability and meeting London Plan targets, but also in terms of meeting local need for different tenures and unit types. The appropriate design and form of housing also needs to be addressed to ensure appropriate densities and the quality of housing. (Density and housing quality are discussed in section 3.5 Design and the Historic Environment). Like most of the other inner London and central London boroughs, Tower Hamlets' land values continued to rise over the last ten years. This has in part been driven by high levels of property investment, particularly by foreign investors. This has led to concern that some of this new housing is either empty or infrequently used, leading to increased prices and demand. This has made delivery of affordable housing even more challenging. At national level, the challenge of delivering housing to meet local need is exacerbated by a constantly evolving legislative framework.

The draft Welfare Reform and Work Bill and the draft Housing and Planning Bill will impact on our ability to meet housing need through limiting access to affordable housing and the delivery of affordable housing within the borough. It is also the case that the definition of affordable housing, which is set nationally as a percentage of local market rent, results in rental levels which are not considered 'affordable' to many of those in need of housing. This is a particular concern for families and is one of the main reasons for people moving out of the borough (Community Plan, 2015).

As well as affordable housing, we are also required to consider provision for older people, key workers, students, vulnerable people and gypsies and travellers. We also have high levels of overcrowding which results in above average demand for larger homes in comparison with other boroughs in London.

The new Local Plan will need to respond to these challenges and make sure our policies can help deliver a wide variety of high quality homes suitable for the borough's existing and future households in terms of their size, income and the particular support needs of diverse individual households.

What we know

- London Plan housing targets

The London Plan (2015) establishes a minimum housing delivery target for all London boroughs. The target for Tower Hamlets has increased by more than 35 per cent for 2015 – 2025 (3,931 units per annum) compared to the previous London Plan (2011) target (2,885 units per annum). The 2015 target represents a minimum and boroughs are expected to exceed the target in their Local Plans.

The council has raised strong concerns with the Mayor of London that the higher housing target was set without giving adequate consideration to the borough's infrastructure capacity and constraints. The sustainable delivery of housing requirements of the London Plan (2015) is a major challenge for the borough and we will continue to voice these concerns with the Mayor of London. The council also has a statutory duty to cooperate and engage with neighbouring authorities on cross boundary or strategic matters such as housing in the production of the Local Plan.

- Infrastructure planning to support housing for communities

Linked to the concern expressed above, the council acknowledges the existing infrastructure shortfalls and the need for a more comprehensive understanding of the borough's social and physical infrastructure demands to support current and future communities. The council needs to undertake exercises to establish how much development will take place in the borough over the next 10-15 years. This can help match estimated housing numbers and population growth across the borough with the services and infrastructure provision required to support sustainable growth.

- Location of housing

It is anticipated that the majority of housing delivery will be taking place in the designated Opportunity Areas in the Housing Zone and the Isle of Dogs and South Poplar; and in the City Fringe and Whitechapel. The delivery of housing in these locations is informed and supported by the collaborative work between the council and other key stakeholders, in particular the GLA.

- Loss of affordable housing contribution from development

The borough has a significant need for affordable housing. The existing planning policy requires 35 per cent to 50 per cent of all new development for 10 units and above. However, legislation enables applicants to negotiate their affordable housing contributions during the planning application stage. The development industry has utilised viability tools to demonstrate that development proposals presented cannot deliver the planning policy requirements, and still remain viable and deliverable. This often results in planning applications with lower affordable housing rates than our policy requirements.

- Meeting diverse housing needs within the borough
National legislation places a responsibility on our new Local Plan to meet the market and affordable housing needs of our local residents and to support London's need for more homes through new development. Our overall housing target is set out in the London Plan (2015). This target is supported by a piece of evidence called the London Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA). To support new Local Plans, local planning authorities are expected to build on this evidence with their own local level SHMA, which provides a more detailed picture of the particular housing needs in the local areas. Together this local SHMA and the council's Housing Strategy can consider the needs of specific groups in the borough such as students, people with disabilities, older and vulnerable people, key workers, and gypsies and travellers. The council is also aware that key workers including nurses and teachers find it difficult to live in the borough, given the increasing property prices.
- Housing affordability
Currently, local indicators show that 38 per cent of affordable housing stock in the borough is owned and managed by the council and Housing Associations. There is a shortfall in affordable homes provision, with over 19,000 households on the housing waiting lists, over half of which require family sized accommodation (three bed and above). Local evidence suggests the need for a much higher percentage of the borough's housing stock to be affordable, than is currently delivered.

This need is expected to be exacerbated by an expected extension of the 'Right to Buy' to housing association tenants as set out in the draft Housing and Planning Bill which will result in the loss of affordable housing stock. This loss will come about as a result of sales of Housing Association homes and the associated proposal that councils sell high value council homes that become empty to pay for the scheme. Although provision will be made for one for one replacement of Housing Association homes sold under the scheme, it is indicated that they do not necessarily have to be of the same tenure or in the same area.

In addition, the recent publication of the draft Housing and Planning Bill indicates that a proportion of homes on new schemes will be 'Starter Homes' for sale at 80 per cent of market to first time buyers under 40 years of age. These homes will be counted as affordable homes but the council considers that such provision will further limit the council's ability to deliver 'real affordable housing' to meet our community's needs.

The delivery of intermediate housing (including shared ownership) continues to pose challenges, particularly on larger properties in high value areas within the borough. Residents in Tower Hamlets would need to be earning the top end of the permitted intermediate income level (£71,000 for one or two-bed; £85,000 for three-bed and above) in order to be able to afford shared ownership properties, unless the public subsidy is increased substantially. Under the current market conditions, the objective that the council should seek to ensure that the intermediate housing product is provided for households within the full range of incomes below the upper limit is increasingly difficult to achieve. The Local Plan should be realistic about intermediate

housing in relation to affordability, and think further about the definition of affordable housing relating to local circumstances alongside development viability.

The council will work with relevant stakeholders as part of the Local Plan process to address these issues. Tower Hamlets is committed to maximising the delivery of housing that is affordable to local people and will continue to secure funding for this purpose.

- Diversifying housing stock: Private Rented Sector (PRS) and self-build

Local indicators already suggest that the borough requires a lot more social rented housing than market housing or intermediate affordable housing. It also suggests that the market for 'intermediate' housing is being met through the growth in the Private Rented Sector (PRS). The borough is experiencing an increase in the proportion of units in the PRS with around 40 per cent of all homes now let out privately.

This coincides with a new policy requirement within the London Plan (2015) to support the contribution of new purpose-built PRS, or redeveloped for rent, normally by an institution or management company within the private sector to individuals. The benefits of this form of PRS include a financing mechanism which can incentivise building of new units and give tenants a greater degree of security in their tenancy, a professional accountable management service and consistent quality. The borough has granted planning permission for such provision to support housing options for residents to remain in the borough for the longer term, contributing to community cohesion.

The draft Housing and Planning Bill introduces new duties on Local Authorities to promote custom and self-build homes. The Local Plan will need to be informed by an understanding of what role these forms of housing play in helping to address housing needs and housing delivery in the borough.

Suggestions

1. Update the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) in light of the latest legislation and guidance e.g. the role of self-build and custom build, starter homes and brownfield land.
2. Identify the need for a new evidence base, where appropriate, to consider:
 - Housing affordability
 - Affordable housing viability
 - Housing typologies: this could consider appropriate building types for:
 - mixed uses within developments
 - low cost home ownership
 - self-build and community land trusts
 - family housing
 - housing for older people
 - high density housing
 - special needs housing including for vulnerable homeless persons
 - The need for further gypsy and traveller accommodation.
 - The impact of foreign investment in new housing and empty homes
3. Review the existing Local Plan policies for the delivery of market and affordable housing based on evidence base.

Let us know what you think

 **Do you agree with our proposed approaches?**

 **Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?**

Economy and Jobs



3.3 Economy and Jobs

Story so far...

Tower Hamlets has a thriving economy with increasing employment rates and a diverse employment sector. Our employment rate is below the London average but our economy is ranked as one of the most dynamic in the country. Some of the biggest international financial and business services companies are concentrated in Canary Wharf and the City Fringe. There are emerging new employment opportunities in Whitechapel, as part of the Whitechapel Vision regeneration project, and as part of the expansion of knowledge-based digital companies around 'Tech City' in Shoreditch. The majority of businesses registered in Tower Hamlets are microbusinesses employing less than 10 staff.

However, the borough faces challenges in dealing with high and persistent levels of unemployment in certain groups, particularly amongst women. And there are indications that local people are not necessarily benefitting from the high concentration of jobs in the borough due to a mismatch in skills.

The Council's policies aim to protect employment land against loss to competing land uses, in particular housing, as these are areas that can accommodate future jobs and provide training opportunities for residents. Nevertheless, our policy position might be threatened by government policy interventions, in particular the change of rules allowing the conversion of offices into new homes without planning permission under permitted development rights. The results of increasing rental values in certain locations have made it more difficult to accommodate the need for affordable workspace.

A key part of the new Local Plan must be to respond to these challenges by identifying what employment areas we want to continue to protect in light of the changing legislation, and also consider how we can ensure that SMEs are able to find suitable and affordable premises to enable them to stay in the borough.

What we know

- Protecting our employment land - Offices
There has been pressure to allow residential developments in our Preferred Office Locations (POL), including Aldgate and Canary Wharf. The evidence base that we commission will need to consider what the demand for large floorplate offices is likely to be in the future, and how we might need to respond to a growing demand for different types of office space that reflects changing work patterns.

- General Permitted Development Order (GPDO)

In May 2013 the Government introduced permitted development rights allowing the change of use of buildings currently or most recently in office use, to residential use, without the need to apply for planning permission, for a period of three years. The City Fringe, Whitechapel and Canary Wharf areas are currently exempted from these permitted development rights, but they apply to the rest of the borough. Since the introduction of the new permitted development rights the council has received a total of 10 proposals for converting office use (B1) into new homes (C3) through the prior approval process. Amongst these proposals, the largest application would involve the creation of over 400 new dwelling units in an occupied office building in a locally designated office location (LOL).

The government has recently announced that these permitted development rights will be made permanent after May 2016. The exemption areas are only expected to remain in place until May 2019. We need to fully understand the possible implications of this on the future availability of employment land in the borough, and whether there may be a need to consider alternative means of protection of employment areas such as Article 4 directions (that remove specified permitted development rights in certain areas).

- Protecting our employment land - Industrial

A significant amount of industrial land has been released for other uses since 2010; much of this is now within the boundary of the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) in Hackney Wick/Fish Island. The London Plan requires us to keep safeguarding the Strategic Industrial Locations (SIL) in the borough to make sure we protect the supply of land for so-called “dirty uses” in inner London areas, including for the management of waste. However, we know that there may be a falling demand for land for industrial uses in inner London, and that there are businesses occupying premises the Tower Hamlets SILs that do not reflect the original intention of these designations. This means that sites in these areas have become under-used and may not fulfil their potential, in terms of providing affordable workspaces and jobs for local people.

- Supporting affordable workspaces

Microbusinesses employing less than 10 people represent the vast majority of businesses in Tower Hamlets (88.6 per cent)¹⁴. It is the SME sector that is most likely to continue to provide employment for local people. We need to ensure there are adequate workspaces available to accommodate SMEs, including start-up and scale-up businesses, and that they are flexible, adaptable and affordable, to encourage these businesses remain in the borough.

As prices rise and there is pressure to convert land and buildings to other uses such as housing, it can become difficult for existing and new businesses and entrepreneurs to find the right premises that they can afford. The borough is particularly keen to explore opportunities to support the provision of shared space

¹⁴ Borough Profile Research Briefing 2013-11 – Tower Hamlets Business Structure, December 2013

to support SMEs through planning policies, to enable them to operate in the borough on an affordable and flexible basis.

In addition to floorspace, there are other elements contributing to the delivery of affordable workspace. This includes specifications for the units and broadband connection. The Mayor of London has considered digital connectivity as one of most important infrastructure elements for London. It plays an important role in productivity of business. According to research from Broadband Hotspots¹⁵, a large part of Tower Hamlets is falling into the no or poor connectivity zone.

Suggestions

1. Update the existing local evidence base for employment and jobs, which could include:

- An updated Employment Land Review (ELR) to understand how much employment space has been gained and lost in the borough since the last Local Plan was produced, as well as anticipated future supply and demand. This will inform the strategic direction of our employment policies in the new Local Plan, including how we take forward our employment designations (POL, SIL, LIL and LOL). The evidence base that we commission will need to consider what the demand for large floorplate offices is likely to be in the future, and how we might need to respond to a growing demand for different types of office space that reflects changing work patterns.

2. Review our existing policies in light of the evidence base findings to:

- Consider strengthening our existing employment policies to ensure that we protect existing office floorspace, and that the right kind of new floorspace is being delivered in the suitable and appropriate locations to meet current and emerging market demand.
- Consider introducing a new policy to support the provision of affordable workspace for local businesses and entrepreneurs.
- Consider updating policies to carefully manage the remaining industrial land in the Borough in line with the London Plan, and to ensure that job opportunities in these areas are intensified and that we identify adequate land for industrial uses, including for waste management.

¹⁵ Source: broadband-notspot.org.uk (self-reported distribution of slow broadband connections)

Let us know what you think

 Do you agree with our proposed approaches?

 Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?

Community Facilities



3.4 Community Facilities

This section covers:

- Education and Life Long Skills
- Health facilities
- Idea Stores and libraries
- Sports and leisure centres
- Other community and social facilities such as community halls, places of worship, pubs and youth centres

Story so far...

Tower Hamlets has a range of valued health, leisure, social and community facilities.

Our schools are amongst the best performing inner-city schools in London and we are home to universities that attract students from around the world. Our Idea Stores have received wide national and international acclaim. Our sports and leisure centres are well-used, capitalising on the legacy of the London Olympics in 2012. The borough's hospitals such as The Royal London play an essential role in providing care for those across London and beyond, and on a local scale improved medical centres have been delivered in recent years such as the 'XXPlace' Health Centre in Mile End. The borough is home to a number of historic and significant faith buildings representing a range of denominations. The borough's pubs not only serve their local communities, but attract custom from across a wide area because of their character and heritage.

However, the borough's increasing population and housing targets place a strain on the capacity of existing community infrastructure. While the current Local Plan has successfully delivered new facilities such as a secondary school at Bow Locks and an Idea Store at Watney Market, more new facilities are required. At the same time, with the high value of land in the borough and demand for housing in particular, existing facilities have come under increasing pressure from development.

Tower Hamlets has a vibrant arts scene, with a host of festivals, family and community events, and activities for young and old, and cultural events for all. There is an opportunity to further enhance the boroughs arts and culture facilities through new development.

3.4.1 Education and Life Long Skills

What we know

- Demand for new school facilities to meet population growth

In order to meet the London Plan housing targets, there will be increased pressure on the borough to deliver enough new school places to meet demand. Schools have already been delivered in some areas such as Bromley-by-Bow and Stepney. New areas of intense population growth have emerged (such as Poplar Riverside, the Isle of Dogs and South Poplar and Whitechapel) and it is the council's intention to identify possible new sites for schools, as part of its strategic planning.

However, this process has been made more challenging because there is less and less land available to develop and it is increasingly difficult to secure new sites for schools because of the increasing value of land, particular for residential development.

The demand for new schools can also be met through Free Schools, which are delivered outside of the council's remit. National legislation allows new Free Schools to operate in more restricted sites and buildings, with less play space, than is allowed for Local Authority schools. Free Schools often use public open space and leisure facilities to ensure pupils have access to leisure and play facilities. The new Local Plan provides an opportunity to consider whether new policies could help this need for play and leisure space to be met, in addition to residents' needs.

The allocation of sites for new schools is considered as part of the Local Plan preparation. The proposed methodology for this exercise will be explained in section 'Infrastructure, Delivery and Monitoring'.

- Supporting Early Years through childcare facilities

The current Local Plan makes reference only to the provision of Children's Centres, to support the under-fives. It does not consider the borough's need for additional types of Early Years provision, such as childcare facilities. While national planning policy does not require the council to plan for these facilities, the authority has a statutory duty to provide disadvantaged two year olds with fifteen hours of free childcare per week for thirty-eight weeks per year and this will be expanded to thirty hours of free childcare for three and four year olds in September 2017. The council is currently not meeting its target for places, in part due to difficulties in securing locations for new childcare facilities. The new Local Plan provides an opportunity to consider how our planning policies can help to support the need for different forms of Early Years provision.

- Enhancing the skills of residents

Although Tower Hamlets is one of the largest employment locations in London, only about one fifth of jobs in the borough are filled by residents, and around 20 per cent of all employment in the borough is based in the 'low pay' sector (LBTH, 2014). There

is a need to diversify employment, particularly to match the skills of existing residents with highly skilled jobs created within the borough. This could be achieved by supporting small to medium firms and local entrepreneurs. The Community Plan 2015 seeks to generate more apprenticeships, traineeships and other opportunities for young people, develop skills provision for adults and increase the number of employment opportunities for disabled residents. Funding for such opportunities might be facilitated through planning obligations linked to new development.

- Protection and creation of further, higher and adult education facilities
Increasing development pressure for residential schemes is likely to put pressure on existing accredited further, higher and adult educational facilities. Currently, applicants for development proposals are not required to submit supporting information to justify the loss of educational facilities other than schools. We will review this policy position to ensure that facilities for the development of the education and skills of residents are retained.

The council's current policy position supports the creation of further, higher and adult education facilities. With competition for available land, it is important that the borough continues to attract accredited facilities that help to address the borough specific education and skills needs. The new Local Plan provides an opportunity to review existing evidence to make sure our policy is working as well as effectively as possible.

Suggestions

1. Update the existing local evidence base for educational facilities, utilising new and existing evidence through an Infrastructure Delivery Plan. The Plan should incorporate findings from professionals within the relevant specialisms.
2. Review our existing policies in light of the above supported by new evidence, to:
 - Establish the current and future requirements for school places and identify new areas of search for new or expanded schools. This in turn will inform revised policy and requirements of new and existing Site Allocations.
 - Consider introducing new policies to encourage and manage a range of early years provision (ages 0-4) to ensure that the needs of all young people and their guardians are met throughout the Borough and existing facilities are protected.
 - Consider introducing new policies to protect existing non-school educational facilities (such as colleges, universities and adult training centres) from unnecessary loss to ensure that a range of opportunities for learning and skills are available.
 - Consider developing a stronger policy for skills and training by linking it with other policy areas such as town centres, employment and delivery policies in order to enhance the available evidence base to secure planning contributions.

Let us know what you think

-  **Do you agree with our proposed approaches?**
-  **Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?**

3.4.2 Health, Leisure and Social Facilities

What we know

- New community facilities to meet population growth
The increase in the borough's housing target (GLA, 2015) means that provision of new community infrastructure, which includes health centres, Idea Stores, sports and leisure centres, places of worship and other community and social facilities serving the needs of the community are going to be further stressed by the increasing needs of the borough's future population. Although some facilities identified previously have been delivered or are under construction, such as Idea Store Watney Market and a swimming facility and sports hall at Poplar Baths, there is a need to ensure we provide community infrastructure to meet the needs of existing and future residents.

As part of the new Local Plan preparation, the council will aim to identify possible new sites for community facilities (in particular for health, Idea Stores and leisure facilities) as part of strategic planning. The allocation of sites for community facilities is considered as part of the site allocation process in the section on: 'Infrastructure, Delivery and Monitoring'.

- Health facilities
A growing population means that there is a need for new facilities or additional capacity within existing facilities. Tower Hamlets Vanguard programme is developing new models of care, its vision is that partners will work together to deliver innovative, integrated and seamless care to patients, carers and families. The Programme is being led by the Tower Hamlets Integrated Provider Partnership (which includes the council), in partnership with NHS Tower Hamlets Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). As an integral part of this, an extensive exercise is underway to assess both the health needs from different groups in the borough together with potential impact of new methods of service delivery, to determine the number, size and type of facilities required to deliver care in Tower Hamlets.

The council is also aware that the NHS is under pressure to make efficient use of their estates which could result in merged facilities and land being sold for alternative use, as has happened with the London Chest Hospital site.

- Idea Stores/Libraries
There are areas of the borough with a lack of provision of Idea Stores or libraries within walking distance. Additional demand for Idea Stores will also be created by a

growing population. Therefore, the new Local Plan will need to consider potential locations for new or enhanced Idea Stores or libraries.

- Sports & leisure centres

Such facilities are currently directed to town centres as these are generally the most accessible and contribute towards the vitality and viability of town centres. However, due to size requirements town centres may not be able to accommodate these uses. In order to provide new facilities to meet communities' needs, the council may need to consider allowing these facilities to locate out-of-town-centre in exceptional circumstances.

- Decline of the borough's pubs

There has been concern at the decline in public houses (pubs) in the borough. Research has found that 134 pubs have closed in the borough since 2000, a net loss of 52%. Pubs are classed as community facilities in our current Local Plan. The GLA (2015) require boroughs to bring forward policies to protect pubs. This gives Tower Hamlets an opportunity to strengthen its policies and evidence requirements in order to protect these facilities from unnecessary loss.

- Protection and creation of existing community and social facilities, including places of worship

The London Plan encourages boroughs to optimise the use of land and promotes redevelopment of brownfield land. In doing so, redevelopment may include the loss of existing community and social facilities for other financially higher value uses, such as housing. Policies on these facilities will need to be carefully managed to ensure they are effective in preventing unnecessary loss.

In addition, a growing population means that there is a need to improve the existing facilities and create new ones. The Local Plan needs to respond to the population change and identify possible sites to allocate these uses as part of the plan making process.

Suggestions

1. Work with partners within and outside of the council to update the existing local evidence base for community facilities, or align future Local Plan policies to recent existing evidence.
2. Review our existing policies in light of the above, and supported by new evidence, to:
 - Incorporate findings from a new Council Leisure Strategy and needs assessment and an updated Joint Needs Assessment
 - Establish the current and future requirements for community facilities (in particular, Idea Stores, health and leisure facilities) and identify new areas of search for new or expanded facilities. This in turn will inform revised policy and requirements.
 - Consider whether we can strengthen our policy protection of pubs.
 - Consider allowing new community facilities to locate out-of-town-centre in exceptional circumstances and where the role of town centres would not be undermined.

Let us know what you think

 **Do you agree with our proposed approaches?**

 **Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?**

Design and Historic Environment



3.5 Design and Historic Environment

Story so far...

The borough has a unique history and a rich character that has evolved over many years. It is also growing rapidly; the skyline is changing and new forms of development are transforming the ways in which we live and work. The current Local Plan has positively influenced these changes, helping to deliver attractive new development and preserve and enhance our built heritage. However, continued growth is placing unprecedented demands on our built environment. Tower Hamlets is now the second most densely populated borough in London, and a population that continues to grow will further increase population densities.

There are concerns that the types of development coming forward in response to these demands will not produce the best outcomes for the future of the borough, and are not representing the most sustainable way for the residents of Tower Hamlets to live and work. Some development proposals have far exceeded the optimum density ranges set by the London Plan. While this is allowed in exceptional circumstances there is concern that these exceptions may become the norm, particularly in the London Plan's identified Opportunity Areas. In addition, many of these exceptions have been built outside the borough's areas for intensification such as town centres, which has a negative impact on the distinct character and identity of Tower Hamlets. With the rising land values and continuing pressure on delivering housing, there is concern that the amount and pace of change will irreparably damage the borough's distinct character, identity and heritage assets and settings.

In developing the new Local Plan it will be important to ask if the ways that planning policy has helped shape the design of new development in the past, will continue to deliver the best outcomes in such a rapidly changing and growing borough. The plan will also need to ensure that new forms of development not only serve the housing and development needs of current and future Tower Hamlets communities, but do so in a sustainable way that also respects the very things that make Tower Hamlets so unique and that is our distinct character, identity and heritage.

3.5.1 Design

What we know

- Level of development and density

The borough is experiencing increasing demand for growth and rising land values, particularly in relation to residential land uses. This is resulting in increasingly intensive levels of development coming forward. The London Plan requires our Local Plan to identify opportunities for development. In particular, it promotes optimising

land in designated Opportunity Areas (the Isle of Dogs, City Fringe and Lower Lea Valley), town centres and areas with good public transport accessibility. However, these areas cover a large proportion of the borough and there is concern that Tower Hamlets could become overdeveloped with a sea of high-rises, and lacking variety of built form and loss of its distinctive characteristics.

In addition to the level of development coming forward, national and regional policies allow higher development densities in exceptional circumstances, which are sometimes beyond what is recognised to be the most suitable density ranges. However, the council is concerned that these exceptions are becoming increasingly common and could have unsustainable and unacceptable negative effects on Tower Hamlets' communities and distinct character, identity and heritage. In many cases, the current intensive level of development in the borough has resulted in tall buildings in excess of 15 storeys coming forward outside our preferred town centre hierarchy locations, together with residential densities that are far in excess of the upper range of the London Plan density ranges.

With this in mind, the Local Plan will need to carefully manage and promote densities in a proactive and positive manner to create sustainable communities which have regard to their surrounding context and character whilst optimising development potential in accordance with the requirements set at a national and regional level.

- Comprehensive and co-ordinated development

The borough's Opportunity Areas feature significant areas of brownfield land that can make an important contribution to the regeneration of Tower Hamlets and the delivery of much needed housing. However, these areas often have a fragmented and complex pattern of land ownership and there is a danger that the piecemeal development of individual sites can compromise the opportunity to achieve the best development and design outcomes.

Ensuring that development is brought forward in a comprehensive and co-ordinated way can help to ensure a higher standard of design is achieved. In particular, it can help to ensure the efficient use of land, promote a more coherent, legible and attractive townscape, create high quality living and working environments and help deliver appropriate public realm and infrastructure. It is therefore important that the Local Plan encourages a co-ordinated approach to regeneration, ensuring that development sites are consolidated or brought forward in a complementary way that achieves the optimum form of development.

- Liveable streets and public realm

Streets and public realm includes all the spaces between buildings that can be publically accessed, comprising roads, parks, squares, pedestrian routes and cycleways. The condition and quality of streets and public realm significantly impact on residents' quality of life and contributes towards successful placemaking and public health and well-being. Given the level of development and densities coming forward in the borough, there is a need to ensure that streets and public realm are attractive, functional and safe, and can accommodate the various needs of different

users. In doing so, new development will need to help create successful places by ensuring that urban spaces are appropriately defined by buildings, achieving a human scale of built form and a comfortable microclimate. Successful design should also help reduce crime and anti-social behaviour through the creation of defensible space and provision of lighting and CCTV. Streets and public realm will also need to be designed to cope with the increasing demands placed on them; allowing ease of movement, as well as creating places for entertainment and interaction.

- Housing quality

The borough is expected to deliver significant numbers of new homes, and it will be important to ensure that these are designed to the highest standards. This will include ensuring that new homes are of a sufficient size to accommodate the needs of a range of potential residents. The Government introduced national housing standards in March 2015, which set out requirements such as minimum internal floor areas and minimum floor-to-ceiling heights. Whilst some of these standards align with those in the current Local Plan, some are less onerous and will not create the same standard of amenity.

Housing quality is also about ensuring that new homes positively contribute to our health and wellbeing by ensuring adequate levels of daylight, sunlight, privacy and ventilation, as well as providing a good outlook and protection from unacceptable levels of noise. Design can influence these factors in a variety of ways, from the strategic layout of development of sites to detailed design elements. However, given the increasing pressure to increase housing densities there is a danger that some aspects of housing quality will be compromised. The new Local Plan must help to ensure that the appropriate standards are met, whilst delivering sufficient numbers of new homes.

Suggestions

1. Update to the local evidence base, which could include:
 - A Study on Sustainable Place Making for Tower Hamlets - to understand the impacts on sustainability of intensive levels of development and in particular of developments with densities above London Plan optimum ranges.
2. Review our existing policies in light of the above, supported by new evidence where necessary to:
 - Review and identify appropriate locations where concentrated clusters of more intensive levels of development are suitable and set out where they will be resisted.
 - Consider a policy which sets out the circumstances where levels in excess of the London Plan's upper density range will be acceptable on an exceptional basis.
 - Consider ways that new development can be brought forward in a comprehensive and co-ordinated way, avoiding piecemeal development and achieving the best development outcomes for the borough and its residents.
 - Review policies to reinforce that development should create and reinforce a liveable, safe, sociable and self-sustaining street and public realm network, particularly in light of increasingly intensive patterns of development.
 - Review policies to ensure that new housing is designed to the highest standards that meet the needs of a wide range of residents and reflects housing design requirements of different building densities.

Let us know what you think

 Do you agree with our proposed approaches?

 Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?

3.5.2 Historic Environment

What we know

- Protecting and enhancing the historic environment
Protecting and enhancing the historic environment is a key component of the NPPF and an important element of achieving sustainable development. Tower Hamlets' historic environment comprises heritage assets (buildings, features and spaces of local and national significance), which contribute to its unique and distinctive character. There is a need to ensure that new development preserves and enhances the identity of the heritage assets in the borough and where necessary bring them back into active use. As well as protecting and enhancing our heritage assets, it is

also important to consider how best we can protect their setting (the surroundings in which they are experienced). This is particularly important in light of the significant amount of change taking place in the borough and the anticipated levels of development coming forward. The Local Plan will therefore need to find ways to effectively balance these competing demands.

- Identifying non-designated heritage assets

Tower Hamlets has many heritage assets of local significance which contribute to the unique character of the borough. This includes public houses with heritage value that are highly valued by Tower Hamlets' communities and form part of local distinctiveness. However, these assets are not formally designated and are therefore at risk of being redeveloped without measures to preserve and enhance their heritage value. The Local Plan will therefore need to ensure that these important assets are sufficiently protected through Local List and Conservation Area Strategies.

- Strategic and local views

Tower Hamlets has a number of cross borough strategic views which require management in accordance with the London Plan. With the changing nature of the borough's skyline there will be a need to carefully manage development to ensure these views are not unacceptably harmed. There is also an opportunity, through the Local Plan, to identify and manage locally important views that contribute to the interest and character of the borough.

Suggestions

1. Review our existing policies in light of the above, supported by new evidence where necessary, to:
 - Ensure development has regard to the significance, character, scale and amenities of surrounding heritage assets and their settings.
 - Strengthen our existing approach which seeks to ensure development preserves and complement the boroughs heritage assets to also include non-designated heritage.
 - Identify some of the borough's non-designated heritage assets through the Tower Hamlets Local List. This could include protecting buildings of cultural interest such as public houses and preserving their community use.
2. Update the existing local evidence base, which could include:
 - Updating the borough's Conservation Strategy
 - Consider the best way to review our Local Views Assessment to ensure we continue to protect and enhance views for specific areas in the borough.

Let us know what you think

 Do you agree with our proposed approaches?

 Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?

Transport and Connectivity



3.6 Transport and Connectivity

Story so far...

Tower Hamlets is a well-connected borough, supported by a comprehensive public transport network. This includes the Overground, Network Rail, four Underground lines and the DLR. Public transport accessibility will be further improved by the new Crossrail stations at Whitechapel and Canary Wharf. There are approximately 30 bus routes that pass through the borough. Riverboat services are also accessible at St. Katherine's Pier and Canary Wharf Pier.

Although the borough's population has increased, car ownership remains static and there are a growing number of residents walking and cycling to work.

Nevertheless, the borough has a number of challenges in relation to the capacity of the existing transport network. This includes traffic congestion during peak hours on the borough's major roads (A11, A12 and A13), public transport and on-street car parking.

Despite being relatively well served by public transport, parts of the borough are isolated and disconnected due to physical barriers created by roads, railways, rivers and canals. This creates poor connectivity within the borough, particularly movement north-south and to the east into neighbouring authorities.

Pollution from road traffic congestion is identified as the main source of emissions in the borough, which in turn has significant impacts on air quality, climate change and the health and well-being of our neighbourhoods.

Given the existing challenges the borough faces, the scale of growth projected cannot be accommodated by the borough's existing transport infrastructure. Therefore, new development needs to demonstrate it can be sustainably accommodated with adequate transport and highway infrastructure and interventions to ensure the borough delivers sustainable communities.

What we know

- Congestion and Capacity

The borough's major transport routes suffer from congestion and over capacity, particularly during peak hours, on main roads and public transport. There is also more demand than capacity for on-street car parking. This is likely to remain a challenge for Tower Hamlets, given the projected growth which cannot be accommodated on the existing transport network.

There is an opportunity to better utilise and manage the borough's existing transport network to:

- Increase capacity on buses and trains by improving frequency and capacity.
- Reduce car trips and car ownership to alleviate on-street parking and road congestion by promoting sustainable transport, securing car-free development in appropriate locations, and managing of on-site and on-street parking.
- Encourage and promote cycling as a principal mode of transport for residents, by redesigning roads to accommodate appropriate and safe cycle lanes and cycle parking.
- Promote the use of river transport and taxis.

To further alleviate congestion and increase capacity, there are opportunities to reduce the need to travel via public transport and car by encouraging mixed used developments so people can access work and shops within walking distance. In turn, this will create more sustainable communities comprising homes, jobs, leisure and education facilities.

- Growth Areas

The borough's Opportunity Areas will deliver a significant number of new homes and jobs. However developments will increase demand on the existing congested and over capacity transport network. The delivery of these areas is dependent on the provision of adequate transport and highway infrastructure and interventions to ensure growth is matched with an improved and enhanced transport network will be necessary.

Working with the GLA, TFL and neighbouring authorities to ensure these areas are managed in a proactive and positive manner is crucial to the successful delivery of development in these areas.

- Connectivity and Accessibility

The borough's well connected road, railway, river and canal network also creates physical barriers and poor connectivity. This is a particular issue in the east of the borough where poor connectivity across the A12 and River Lea isolates and disconnects many communities. There is also poor connectivity between the Isle of Dogs and South Poplar because of Aspen Way.

Overcoming the physical barriers arising from the road, railway, river and canal network and enhancing connectivity within the borough and into neighbouring boroughs, will make joined up sustainable communities. In doing so, the new Local Plan provides an opportunity to coordinate development and focus investment to maximise opportunities to improve existing links and create new ones to improve connectivity, as well as ensuring sites increase movement through new developments.

- Strategic cross boundary connections

North of the River Thames, the borough shares its boundaries with the neighbouring authorities of Hackney, Newham and the City of London, and the LLDC planning authority. These areas include major, and growing, transport hubs, such as Stratford International and London City Airport, which offer benefits to Tower Hamlets businesses, through international links, and to residents, through employment opportunities. Many local residents travel out of the borough for work, which presents an opportunity to work with neighbouring boroughs and GLA to improve connectivity and accessibility to these areas.

Much of the traffic congestion on the borough's major roads (A11, A12 and A13) originates from trips which start outside the borough. A large proportion of users of these roads are travelling through the borough. Therefore any strategy to alleviate this congestion will need to be addressed strategically. This presents an opportunity to work with neighbouring boroughs, GLA and TfL to manage and mitigate the impacts of trips through the borough.

Strategic objectives have been identified by TfL for the east and south east sub-region to address overarching traffic congestion. A proposed East and South East London Transport Options Study is under way to look at further potential for improving connectivity and capacity to central London boroughs, particularly focused on the Isle of Dogs and South Poplar.

- Air quality

Road traffic congestion results in poor air quality and high levels of road noise, which impacts upon the health and well-being of residents' lives. The high levels of emissions and poor air quality has contributed to Tower Hamlets failing to meet the Government's air quality objectives. This is addressed in further detail in section 3.8.3.

- Public realm and street quality

In areas of the borough, streets and the public realm lack a coherent structure and are poorly laid out. The lack of consistency contributes to a poor visual appearance of the streetscape and public realm. To ensure the borough has liveable streets there is an opportunity to provide cohesive principles to ensure development improves and enhances public realm and streetscape. There is also an opportunity to reinforce the principle for the public realm to be 'green' as far as possible through the Green Grid, for improving general health and well-being, mitigating local flooding, and reducing the impacts of climate change.

- Safety and security

High levels of vehicle movements and congestion in the borough has a significant impact on collisions and conflicts between cyclists, pedestrians and vehicles. There is a need to ensure the growth of the transport network balances the needs and safety and security of all users.

Suggestions

1. Update the existing local evidence base for transport, which could include:
 - A Transport Impact Assessment for the borough to ascertain what levels of growth the borough can accommodate within the existing transport network and identify the required infrastructure and interventions to meet future growth.
2. Review our existing policies in light of the above, supported by new evidence, to:
 - Work with GLA, TfL and neighbouring boroughs to identify where additional transport infrastructure and interventions are required at a local and strategic level, to meet the demand generated by residential and employment growth.
 - Promote sustainable transport by prioritising walking, cycling and public transport to relieve congestion, improve air quality, and reduce noise pollution and carbon emissions.
 - Manage the growth in road traffic congestion by reducing car ownership/use and limit the level of car parking in new developments and on-street parking.
 - Reallocate and redesign road space to provide a safe environment that is accessible for walking and cycling, in accordance with the Road Safety Strategy and Cycling Strategy, and in line with the Roads Taskforce recommended strategies.
 - Promote active and healthy lifestyles by encouraging walking and cycling.

Let us know what you think

 **Do you agree with our proposed approaches?**

 **Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?**

Open Space and Green Grid



3.7 Open Space and Green Grid

Story so far...

Tower Hamlets has a relatively wide range of open spaces that contribute to the wider landscape character and structure, including parks, city farms, natural greenspaces, historic burial grounds, playgrounds, housing amenity land and allotments. Victoria Park is considered one of the Country's best parks. Together with our waterways and recreational facilities of the Lee Valley Regional Park, they offer many benefits for people and communities, the environment, wildlife and the local economy. For instance, high quality parks, places for play, walking routes and canal paths will contribute towards improving health and well-being as well as providing environmental benefits such as reducing flood risk, supporting wildlife, creating areas of beauty and enhancing the character and identity of the borough.

The overall provision of publicly accessible open space in the borough is still low compared to some other London boroughs and national standards, and some parts of the borough are acutely deficient. The previous Local Plan has done a good job in developing a Green Grid Strategy which helped identify the important open space and waterways within the borough and make recommendations for potential investment in projects which helped to deliver a strategic network for our open space. With the expected population growth, the Local Plan needs to continue to ensure that adequate supply of high quality public and private open spaces, including gardens and balconies are provided for all to access and enjoy.

What we know

- Open space policies

The council's Local Plan has a clear position on protecting and safeguarding all existing open space, as well as maximising opportunities for new publicly accessible open space. It only allows development on open space in exceptional circumstances: where it provides facilities to ensure the function, use and enjoyment of the open space or where there will be an increase of open space and a better outcome is achieved.

New development has provided financial contributions to help improvements to the existing public open space including our parks with children's play areas, pocket parks, new event infrastructure at Victoria Park, resurfacing at Stepney Green and a landscaping improvement plan at Bartlett Park. This investment in public open space will continue and can be supported through the implementation of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), which came into force on 1st April 2015. In addition, it is expected that accessible on-site provision will still be sought through the planning process, where it is considered appropriate, due to the size or nature of the development.

- Multi-functional spaces

With open space in the borough at such a premium, it is important that existing and new open spaces fulfil as many roles as possible for the public. These include providing sport, play and active and passive recreation, enhancing health and wellbeing, supporting wildlife, and providing functional benefits such as reducing flood risk, reducing noise and air pollution, and ameliorating extremes of climate. These latter functions will become increasingly important with climate change and this is covered in more detail in section 3.8 below. The Green Grid Strategy considers all these benefits of open space, and will provide the mechanism for prioritising investment in open space projects.

- The accessibility of open spaces

The current Local Plan policies have been very successful in protecting our existing open space. However, since the last Local Plan and due to the borough's rapid population growth, there has been a decrease in the amount of public open space per 1,000 people. As a densely populated borough with large numbers of residents without access to a private garden and a rapidly increasing daytime workforce, existing publicly accessible open spaces need to be of the highest quality and should support an increasing range of demands from a diverse range of users. There is also a need to ensure that future publicly accessible open space needs are planned for in areas with the potential for substantial change such as Isle of Dogs and South Poplar Opportunity Area and Poplar Riverside Housing Zone.

A large proportion of the green space in the borough is housing amenity land. Much of this is currently not as well used nor as well valued as it could be. Often these spaces have little variety in the types of plants used, which limits the habitats they can provide to a range of wildlife. There are clear opportunities to realise the potential of this land to provide attractive and interesting open spaces, accessible to and used by residents and, where appropriate, the public. There are a number of good examples of recent schemes implemented by Tower Hamlets Homes, who have created 17 wildflower meadows across their estates, and housing associations, such as East End Homes who have made improvements to the Manchester Estate, where previously underused and spaces have been transformed to attractive, wildlife-rich places.

The need for open space has been and could continue to be met through a wide range of types of open space, including pocket parks, linear open spaces and growing spaces. These spaces have been delivered and enhanced through the green grid strategy, using section106 funding.

- Play Spaces

Tower Hamlets has a young population. The majority of the housing stock in the borough is flats, with very little private open space available for play. Creating safe, well designed play spaces for a range of ages, near to where young people live is crucial for improving health and wellbeing in the borough. The current Local Plan requires play space to be retained and provided in new residential development, in line with national

and regional standards and requirements. The new Local Plan will be expected to carry this policy forward.

- Waterways

The London Plan (2015) identifies waterways, such as those by rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs, as Linear Open Spaces, and as such considers the opportunities provided by waterspaces as being important for sport, recreation and visual amenity, all of which contribute to health and wellbeing. Together these waterspaces constitute the Blue Ribbon Network - London's strategic network of waterspaces. In Tower Hamlets, the Blue Grid Strategy addresses the issues relating to the borough's waterspaces and flood risk. The waterways include the borough's historic docks, which form an important part of the distinct character, identity and heritage of the Tower Hamlets. In recent years, development has led to the loss of some open waterway at our historic docks in exceptional circumstances. Given the importance of waterways to the borough, it will be important to continue to protect and enhance these spaces through the policies in the new Local Plan.

- Green Grid

The delivery of the Green Grid responds to the borough's significant deficiency in open space. It aims to deliver 'green infrastructure' in the borough by enhancing the quality of existing open spaces and creating new public open space, as well as strengthening connections between them for the enjoyment of local communities.

It promotes a viable, convenient, safe and enjoyable alternative to private transport and promotes increased physical activity, and the corresponding health benefits. The Green Grid also promotes high quality, accessible green infrastructure that encourages ecological networks and links between habitats and responds to climate change, whilst improving access to habitats, greenspace and fostering community well-being.

The Green Grid, together with the Open Space Strategy provides an opportunity to ensure that green infrastructure is planned, delivered and managed in a co-ordinated and integrated manner.

Suggestions

1. Review the current Local Plan policies based on updated evidence. The new evidence could include:
 - An updated Open Space Strategy (including waterspaces) assessing the quantity and quality of all existing open space, children’s playspace, sports and recreation facilities, and exploring opportunities for new provision based on needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities.
 - An updated Green Grid Strategy (considered in conjunction with transport networks such as cycling and walking; and with a health impact assessment).
 - Updated evidence from the Canal and River Trust to assess the quality of the borough’s waterways and opportunities to enhance waterway use and access.

2. With land uses due to intensify and the associated residential and working populations set to increase, due consideration for planning for public open space needs must be considered as part of Site Allocations and all planning frameworks such as the Isle of Dogs Opportunity Area Planning Framework and Poplar Riverside Housing Zone.

Let us know what you think

 **Do you agree with our proposed approaches?**

 **Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?**

Environmental Sustainability



3.8 Environmental Sustainability

This section covers:

- Waste Management and Contaminated Land
- Reducing Carbon Emissions
- Reducing Flood Risk
- Biodiversity

Story so far...

With significant growth projected for Tower Hamlets and London as a whole, the need to manage waste efficiently, safely and sustainably is a pressing issue. The Council has a responsibility to meet the London Plan waste apportionment targets and to fulfil this we have safeguarded waste sites for protection for this use. These sites have historically been used for operational waste management purposes. As the borough transitions away from its industrial heritage and with pressure for development and rising land values, safeguarded waste sites that were previously unviable for development are now being considered for redevelopment. The new Local Plan will need to review the Council's existing safeguarded sites and may need to safeguard other sites to continue to meet our responsibilities under the London Plan.

Tower Hamlets produces the third highest level of total carbon dioxide emissions of the 33 boroughs in London. Carbon dioxide is the key greenhouse gas causing climate change, and impacting on air quality. The borough has been suffering from poor air quality, mainly due to emissions from combusting engine vehicles and plant equipment. Given the significant levels of development and growth in the borough the council needs progressive CO₂ emission reduction policies to guide future development proposals. The borough also contains areas identified as at the greatest risk of flooding (near the River Thames and River Lea). The Local Plan plays a vital role in mitigating and adapting to the challenges of climate change through minimising carbon emissions, air pollution and flooding risks, which can have huge impacts on health and well-being and the local economy.

The borough has a diverse range of sites of biodiversity value, including areas of open space, waterways and formally designated Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs). Developments that include 'living building' techniques (green roofs, walls, terraces) are increasing, but given the size and nature of development, biodiversity will need to be carefully managed to ensure new development protects and enhances these areas and also provide new opportunities for biodiversity.

3.8.1 Waste Management

What we know

- Waste apportionment
The London Plan (2015) apportions or allocates a target for each London Borough to manage a number of tonnes of waste (household and commercial and industrial). Each borough must then safeguard land to manage this waste. The London Plan (2015) downwardly revised the previous London Plan target for the number of tonnes of waste the council needs to manage. The Local Plan will therefore reflect these changes.
- Safeguarding sites
The borough has a number of safeguarded waste sites, which have been allocated to meet our waste apportionment target set out in the London Plan. These safeguarded sites are becoming more attractive for development as land values rise and the character of the borough transitions away from its industrial heritage. Development pressure is also being exerted on these sites by the regional and local need for housing and infrastructure. In addition, many of the borough's safeguarded waste sites are in designated areas for future housing growth in the London Plan, including the Fish Island area of the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) and in the identified Poplar Riverside Housing Zone.

The new Local Plan will need to take account of these competing pressures and responsibilities. The Local Plan will consider the most sustainable and feasible options for meeting London Plan waste apportionment. Options include looking to secure alternative sites, areas or arrangements for meeting London targets and the continued safeguarding of existing sites safeguarded sites. In preparing the new Local Plan, the borough will consider the options available in partnership with other waste and planning authorities, the GLA and landowners to ensure that collectively we meet the ambitions of the London Plan in the most sustainable way.

- Waste facilities and reducing waste
The borough has a number of operational waste management facilities. However, these facilities do not manage all the waste created in Tower Hamlets. As such, part of the waste generated is managed outside of the borough. Waste management operations at a facility in the Poplar Housing Zone, have stopped operation and there are no new, or planned, waste management facilities in the borough.

The new Local Plan offers an opportunity to consider how the design of new developments can better encourage waste management, in line with the waste management hierarchy (prevention, preparing for re-use, recycling, other recovery, and disposal). Higher density developments and strategic site allocations provide an opportunity to consider whether innovative waste management solutions can be integrated into the design, construction and operational stages of development from the outset.

- Designing for waste storage, collection and movement

Poor design can result in an untidy, unhealthy, unsafe and unsightly public realm, for example, where insufficient storage space for waste leads to the disposal of waste on the street. Design of new developments needs to consider adequate internal and external storage, separation of waste types such as recyclable waste or organic waste and the location of and accessibility to storage containers for people and waste disposal vehicles. There is an opportunity for the new Local Plan to review how well our design policies have been working and introduce improvements to address this where possible.

The borough's new developments will generate increased movements by the authority's waste disposal vehicles. The new Local Plan also provides an opportunity to encourage new development to minimise the resulting trips generated.

Suggestions

1. Develop an evidence base that seeks to identify strategic and innovative options to minimise highways based implications of an increased volume of waste being created in the borough. This piece of work could consider the feasibility of:
 - Managing waste onsite
 - Installing new suction based technologies in new and existing developments
2. Update the existing waste evidence base in light of new national and regional policy to consider the best methods for the borough to meet London Plan targets for waste apportionment and safeguarding of land, as well as the ability of the borough to practically manage waste generated in the borough. This piece of work could consider the feasibility of:
 - Continuing to safeguard existing waste sites
 - Safeguarding new sites or areas (including in the London Legacy Development Corporation area) that could meet waste apportionment targets, as well as the practical need to manage the borough's waste as close to source as possible.
 - Pooling waste apportionment targets to the satisfaction of the GLA and the relevant boroughs.
3. Revise our existing policies in light of the new evidence base, policy and good practice standards.

Let us know what you think

 **Do you agree with our proposed approaches?**

 **Are there matters not discussed that we should be considering?**

3.8.2 Reducing Carbon Emissions

What we know

- Policy drivers

Carbon dioxide is the key greenhouse gas causing climate change. Whilst the Government has delayed the delivery of zero carbon homes, there remain significant drivers to reduce carbon emissions including the Mayor of London's objective of delivering a 60 per cent reduction in CO₂ by 2025; and the 80% cut required under the 2008 Climate Change Act.

Growth in population and employment is likely to make it more challenging to reduce emissions, as will the increasing number of smaller households which tend to have higher per capita emissions. However, growth also provides a number of opportunities for securing reduced CO₂ emissions. These include, through the construction of highly energy efficient homes and offices, the development of decentralised energy networks, securing of finances for carbon offsetting and retrofitting of existing buildings and homes to reduce their energy use and fuel bills.

All development must be considered in respect of the EU directive on energy performance of buildings, which requires member states to ensure that all new buildings are nearly zero energy buildings by 2020, and that public authority new buildings are nearly zero energy after 31st December 2018.

Suggestions

1. Review our current policies to continue to reduce carbon emissions through:
 - the delivery of energy efficient buildings;
 - the requirement for developments to be designed to connect to existing or proposed decentralised heat and energy networks;
 - the requirement for the integration of renewable energy technologies into developments to meet the UK and EU targets for electricity from renewable sources by 2020
2. Continue to request the highest standards of sustainable design and construction in new developments and ensure they are designed for future climate scenarios.
3. Consider a move towards a zero-carbon borough in line with European carbon emission targets.

Let us know what you think



Do you agree with our proposed approaches?



Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?

3.8.3 Reducing Air Pollution

What we know

- Air Quality

Parts of Tower Hamlets, particularly around major roads, have some of the poorest air quality levels in London. Since 2000 the borough has been declared an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) for both NO₂ (Nitrogen Dioxide) and PM10 (particulate matter). This means that the air quality in Tower Hamlets is constantly monitored to identify the levels of harmful pollutants, which have adverse effects on residents' health and well-being. Since monitoring began, Tower Hamlets continues to exceed Air Quality Objectives.

As development pressures increase and more constrained sites are brought forward, either for new development or change of use, it is likely that residential development will increase near major roads. A key challenge for the new Local Plan therefore is to actively support the reduction of poor air quality in the borough by identifying actions to reduce air pollution and where this is not possible, mitigating measures, including design and off-setting actions should be encouraged.

Suggestions

1. Review the current policy position and consider focusing on enhancing our monitoring network framework to improve understanding of air quality in development areas to minimise exposure and health risks of residents.
2. Review our current policy position to consider how plant, vehicle, construction and operational emissions from new developments can be appropriately assessed, and reduced where possible, and all remaining significant impacts are adequately mitigated.

Let us know what you think

 **Do you agree with our proposed approaches?**

 **Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?**

3.8.4 Reducing Flood Risk

What we know

- Flood Zones

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that “inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided by directing development away from areas at highest risk”. It is also well recognised that climate change is a major contributor to flood risk.

The Isle of Dogs and eastern areas of the borough are located in Flood Zone 2 and 3 (Medium and High Probability), whereas the western and northern areas away from the River Thames and River Lea are in Flood Zone 1 (Low Probability). The borough’s flood risk zones also fall within the opportunity areas which will experience high growth in the next 10-15 years. Therefore it’s important to ensure that developments do not increase flood risk and reduce flood risk where possible through design.

- Surface Water Flooding

In addition to risk from flooding from the borough’s rivers, surface water flooding is thought to pose the greatest risk of flooding within the borough. Through urbanisation, most of the borough is paved and surface water rainfall is drained away via piped systems and into the combined sewer system. The sewer system was built in the Victorian period and its capacity for rainwater is limited. The Isle of Dogs is most vulnerable as a low lying area and the lowest part of the catchment.

The new Local Plan provides an opportunity to work with stakeholders to consider how new development can further reduce the risk of surface water flooding through incorporating design features including rain water harvesting and installing Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS).

Suggestions

1. Update our Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) to take account of new modelling and mapping requirements as well as national policy.
2. Update our policies in light of updated flood risk assessments, the Council’s new (SuDS) guidance document and to consider further design options to reduce local flood risk.
3. Continue to engage with Thames Water to ensure that sewer capacity able to support future development.

Let us know what you think

 Do you agree with our proposed approaches?

 Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?

3.8.5 Biodiversity

What we know

- Protecting important habitats and species:

Tower Hamlets supports a variety of wildlife. This includes rare and protected species such as bats, peregrine falcons, great crested newts and black redstarts. Our Local Biodiversity Action Plan, published in 2014, sets objectives and targets for conservation of our priority species and habitats, and suggests what the council and other stakeholders can do to achieve these objectives.

In recent years a variety of excellent projects to enhance local biodiversity have been delivered, both in council managed open spaces and in schools and housing estates. Mile End Park is widely acknowledged as an exemplar of how to integrate wildlife habitat within a heavily-used urban park. Through the planning system, and existing Local Plan policies, the council has secured biodiversity improvements, such as the provision of green roofs and living walls, bat boxes, bumblebee boxes and nest boxes for important bird species.

- Sites most important for wildlife:

The borough currently has 35 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) which have been identified using criteria adopted by the Mayor of London, and they were most recently reviewed in 2009. Guidance published by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) recommends review of SINCs every 5-10 years.

Suggestions

1. Undertake a Habitat Regulation Assessment Screening to inform the draft of Local Plan policies in the next stage, including a review of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation to ensure all important sites are protected.
2. Retain our current planning policies which seek to protect important wildlife sites and ensure that new development provides enhancements for biodiversity, including green roofs.
3. Review Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in 2016 to ensure all important sites are protected.

Let us know what you think

 Do you agree with our proposed approaches?

 Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?

Section Four: Infrastructure, Delivery and Monitoring

4.1 Introduction

This section will discuss the general principles underpinning delivery and monitoring of a Local Plan in line with current Government guidance. The main focuses are set out as follows:

1. Development opportunities in Tower Hamlets
 - Opportunity Areas
 - Site Allocations
2. Supporting development with adequate infrastructure
3. Viability
4. Monitoring the Plan

Story so far...

The Mayor of London has identified the Isle of Dogs and South Poplar, Lower Lea Valley and City Fringe/Tech City as Opportunity Areas where significant additional homes and jobs are expected to be accommodated. The Poplar Riverside Housing Zone is also regarded as a great opportunity to drive forward housing growth. At a local level the council has allocated sites to support the borough's population growth with new homes and key infrastructure, such as schools and open space.

The new Local Plan provides an opportunity to ensure that growth in these areas comes forward in the most sustainable way. It will be important to prepare new Local Plan policies that manage and coordinate growth in different development sites and allocations, to ensure they support the delivery of necessary infrastructure, which meets the needs of the borough's growing population. Therefore, to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure for the borough both now and in the future, the development of the new Local Plan will require a proactive and positive joint working with infrastructure providers, the development industry and the public to identify, prioritise, fund and deliver infrastructure in a timely manner, alongside viability considerations.

The consideration of viability is a key factor in preparing a Local Plan. The NPPF states that plans should be deliverable, and understanding Local Plan viability is critical to the overall assessment of deliverability. Therefore, the Local Plans will be aspirational but realistic, and will ensure that the impact of the policies when read as a whole should be such that the plan is deliverable.

The Annual Monitoring report (AMR) provides an assessment of policy performance and plays a crucial role in understanding policy implications and formulating robust policies. The Council has published an Annual Monitoring report since 2005, and will continue to monitor the effectiveness of the Local Plan through the AMR.

4.2 Opportunity Areas

The London Plan (2015) identifies a number of Opportunity Areas within Tower Hamlets - namely City Fringe/Tech City, Isle of Dogs and South Poplar, and the Lower Lea Valley (including part of the Olympic Legacy area and the Poplar Riverside Housing Zone). These areas have emerging planning frameworks and/or development strategies, which will inform the development of the Local Plan, and provide further guidance to manage and coordinate development.

Delivering the full development potential in these areas is critical to helping manage the borough's continued growth, through the provision of homes, jobs and infrastructure. These areas will also contribute to delivering the vision for Tower Hamlets. These areas are further detailed in section 2. 'New Plan, New Vision'. Therefore, it is important that the council responds proactively by working collaboratively with the GLA, TfL, landowners, developers and other key stakeholders to make sure sustainability is built into the strategic planning framework for these areas, as well as locally specific policies which are supported by Tower Hamlets communities.

The council has been working in partnership with the key stakeholders (e.g. developers, Government agencies, local communities, neighbourhood forums) in these identified Opportunity Areas to make sure that their plans and strategies contribute positively to the vision and strategic objectives of the emerging Local Plan.

The London Plan requires Local Plans to integrate policies that bring together regeneration, development and transport proposals with improvements in learning and skills, health, safety, access, employment, environment and housing. The council considers that these requirements align with the principle of sustainable development set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The principle of sustainable development underpins all aspects of plan making, including the preparation of our new Local Plan and its policies.

The regeneration of areas in the borough including the identified Opportunity Areas, Housing Zone and site allocations provides an excellent opportunity to deliver models of exceptional place making, which embody the true principles of sustainable development. In order to support this, the new Local Plan can define those elements we consider most important to the delivery of these places. The delivery is also dependant on a commitment from landowners and developers to meaningfully engage and collaborate with the community and stakeholders. We can encourage applicants to go the extra mile and exceed the requirements for community involvement set out in national regulations and in the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

4.3 Site Allocations

One of the key parts of deliverability is identifying potential development sites within the borough. In doing so, the council can influence the type of development built in the certain locations and ensure that the community will benefit from large scale development through securing infrastructure and affordable housing. There are currently twenty Site Allocations in the Managing Development Document (2013). These sites have been allocated to plan for strategic housing developments (i.e. sites that can provide over 500 new net-additional homes).

Given the anticipated population growth, there is also a need to review existing site allocations and identify additional sites to support the delivery of new homes and key infrastructure, such as schools and publically accessible open space. If sites are not identified and safeguarded for specific uses, the borough would be at risk of not being able to meet its identified housing target, and the provision of infrastructure for its communities.

The new Local Plan will consider whether it is necessary to allocate sites to include the following uses:

- Large scale housing development
- Health facilities
- Leisure facilities
- Open space
- Idea Stores
- Primary school
- Secondary school
- District heating facility
- Waste management facility
- Gypsies and Travellers accommodation
- Multi-faith burial ground
- Employment uses

The new Local Plan will not identify all sites that will be developed in the borough over the plan period, but only sites with strategic and regeneration importance. Other sites, including smaller infill sites, can be appropriately managed using the emerging policies in the Local Plan.

Suggestions

1. Continue to gather information on potential sites within the borough for allocation of strategic uses through the 'Call for Sites' exercise.
2. Review the existing site selection method as suggested below:

Stage 1	Development of a sites database using sites from the SHLAA (Strategic Housing and Land Availability Assessment), and sites submitted as part of the 'Call for Sites' information gathering and Site Allocations in the existing Local Plan (Managing Development Document).
Stage 2	Development of selection site criteria selection
Stage 3	Undertake site assessment to identify sites of strategic and regeneration importance
Stage 4	Final list of suggested site and allocated uses

Table 3 Proposed process for site selection

Let us know what you think

 **Do you agree with our proposed approaches?**

 **Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?**

4.4 Infrastructure provision

Planning for infrastructure is at the heart of this Local Plan. The facilities and services needed to support our communities and to enable the local economy to thrive, includes but is not limited to, the following:

- **transportation:** roads, bus routes, train network;
- **education facilities:** schools, colleges, universities, adult learning centres;
- **community facilities:** Idea Stores, libraries, sports and leisure facilities, community centres;
- **health care:** hospitals, local GP surgeries and other facilities;
- **open spaces:** parks, playing fields and sports pitches
- **telecommunication:** Super-fast broadband connection, wireless hotspot

How is infrastructure funded?

The infrastructure required for Tower Hamlets will be funded from a range of sources, including the following:

- **Section 106 Planning Obligations (s106):** are obligations on the developer which are: necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms; directly related to the development; and fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.
- **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL):** is a standard levy on new development. The funding is collected by the council and is then reinvested in infrastructure necessary to support growth in the borough.
- **Others:** contributions from developments will not be able to fund all of the costs of new infrastructure, particularly where there are existing deficits. We will need to identify other sources of funding for projects where necessary.

Evidence to support the council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) shows that the cost of meeting our infrastructure need is far greater than the available funding. In 2013/14, the council estimated that the aggregate infrastructure cost to be over approximately £530 million. It is likely the Community Infrastructure Levy will make a modest contribution (approximately 40%) towards filling the likely gap to fund local infrastructure. Therefore it will be important that we work with government, GLA, key infrastructure partners including TFL and the development industry to bridge the gap in funding.

The 2013 Infrastructure Delivery Schedule has indicated that transport and connectivity, education, training facilities and area based enhancement projects are amongst the highest costing infrastructure categories. This schedule will be updated to reflect current infrastructure priorities, based on the anticipated level of growth and the most relevant information from different service areas across the Council.

Tower Hamlets will experience considerable residential and commercial growth in years to come and this will bring with it a greater demand for infrastructure to support more residents, workers and visitors. The council has implemented a local Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which will secure a considerable amount of funding from residential and commercial developments towards delivering infrastructure. The CIL will also be reviewed alongside the production of the new Local Plan to ensure it is set at the most appropriate level when the plan is adopted. However, funding from CIL is not designed to pay for the full cost of providing infrastructure. The council will secure funding from other sources, such as Government grants and match funding in order to ensure the delivery of the necessary infrastructure to support the development of the borough.

In order to understand what additional infrastructure will be necessary over the life of the plan, an evidence base will be produced to assess infrastructure needs and provide a delivery plan that will detail what infrastructure is required and when and how it will be delivered. This plan will be regularly monitored and updated to reflect current infrastructure priorities, based on anticipated levels of growth and the most relevant information from all service areas across the council.

Projections of growth on which infrastructure needs and priorities will be based comes from the council's Growth Model which provides an up to date and realistic assessment of growth expected through development in the borough. This model will be updated at least annually to ensure that the council constantly monitors the pattern of growth and can adapt its infrastructure needs analysis and delivery plan as necessary. This will help the council better plan for infrastructure.

Suggestions

1. Undertake the scoping of a new Tower Hamlets Infrastructure Study to identify specific infrastructure requirements necessary to enable growth over the new Local Plan period. This could include a live infrastructure schedule where the information is reviewed and updated regularly. This schedule could cover for at least the first five years of the plan period and include:
 - Needs and costs
 - Funding sources
 - How it relates to the developer/rate of development; and
 - Responsibilities for delivery

Let us know what you think

 **Do you agree with our proposed approaches?**

 **Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?**

4.5 Viability

Since the council's last Local Plan, the national planning policy focus on facilitating the delivery of the Local Plan policies and its development targets has placed even more emphasis on the importance of viability.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that *“the sites and the scale of development identified in the plan should not be subject to such a scale of obligations and policy burdens that their ability to be developed viably is threatened”*. It calls for all policy requirements being considered together in assessing viability. This means a Local Planning authority will need to:

- test the whole plan and all its policies together to assess whether the plan can be delivered in relation to viability, show its impact on viability in terms of the local economic conditions and market realities; and
- carry out separate viability assessment on strategic sites if they are the most important supply to meet growth targets.

The current Tower Hamlets Local Plan is supported by a number of separate viability assessment, including:

- Tower Hamlets Viability Appraisal of Proposed Development Site Allocation (Central Area) (April 2008)
- Tower Hamlets Affordable Housing Viability Study: 2011 Update(December 2011)
- Tower Hamlets Sites Viability Testing (February 2012) & Neptune Wharf scenario viability test (Revised July 2012)
- Community Infrastructure Levy viability Assessment (2014)

The above viability evidence will need to be updated to support a new Local Plan

Suggestions

1. Undertake an integrated Viability Assessment across the whole Local Plan (including policies and sites), alongside the review of CIL Charging rates.

Let us know what you think

 **Do you agree with our proposed approaches?**

 **Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?**

4.6 Monitoring the plan

Monitoring is a key component of an effective planning system. Under the plan-monitor-manage approach, monitoring plays a crucial role in evaluating policy performance, understanding policy implications and formulating robust policies. Prepared by the council, an annual Monitoring Report provides a means of assessing the performance and effectiveness of key policies in the Local Plan.

Importantly, an annual Monitoring Report is the primary tool for identifying policies which are performing effectively, as well as those that are not, and therefore need to be reviewed. Policies are assessed using a series of indicators covering a wide range of spatial planning matters.

The monitoring indicators can be amended in order to reflect changes at national, regional and local levels. The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (2015) can help shape the monitoring indicators for the Local Plan in terms of monitoring environmental and sustainability effects. Some good practice has suggested that provision should also be made to monitor the impacts of the plan and its sustainability effect.

Suggestions

1. Review all monitoring indicators to make sure they reflect both the Council's and local communities' priorities, alongside the indicators set out in the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

Let us know what you think

-  Do you agree with our proposed approaches?
-  Is there anything not discussed that we should be considering?

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Evidence Pipeline

The list of evidence base documents below is not exhaustive at this stage and is likely to be updated during the drafting of the Local Plan. They have been identified based on the national planning policy requirements in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (2012).

Project	Status
Sustainability Appraisal	Scoping commenced summer 2015
Tower Hamlets Growth Model	To be finalised autumn 2015
Employment Land Review	To be commenced autumn 2015
Town Centre Study	To be commenced autumn 2015
Waste Management Evidence	To be commenced autumn 2015
Open Space Strategy	To be commenced autumn 2015
Strategic Housing Market Assessment	Finalised autumn 2015. Further needs may be identified to meet Local Plan evidence requirements.
Habitat Regulation Assessment	To be commenced spring 2016
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	To be commenced spring 2016
Viability Assessment	To be commenced spring 2016
Infrastructure Delivery Plan	To be commenced spring 2016
Transport Impact Assessment	To be commenced spring 2016

Appendix 2 – Acronyms & Glossary

Glossary	Definition
Affordable Housing	Social rented, affordable rented and intermediate housing (definitions below) provided to eligible households whose needs are not met by the market. Eligibility is determined with regard to local incomes and the council's housing allocation policy.
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	A charge on larger planning applications to help fund new infrastructure required to support the development.
Development Plan	The borough's Development Plan is comprised of the London Plan (produced by the Mayor of London), the Local Plan and any Neighbourhood Plans that may come forward. This set of documents is used to manage development by helping to assess planning applications. It is guided by national guidance and supported by other supplementary guidance.
Defensible Space	An environment whose building layout, design features and site plan discourages crime and anti-social behavior through increasing visibility and positive activity in the space.
Duty to cooperate	The duties on the council and other public bodies to proactively engage with each other on an on-going basis to ensure any strategic cross boundary issues are addressed through the plan making process.
Early years settings (EYS)	Facilities and services for children of pre-school age (0-4), which include childcare providers, Children's Centres and nurseries.
Evidence base	Policies contained in the Local Plan must be supported and justified by appropriate, up-to-date and relevant evidence in terms of the economic, social and environmental characteristics and prospects of the area and must meet

Glossary	Definition
	identified needs. This makes up the evidence base for the Local Plan. A wide range of evidence base studies is listed in Appendix 1 of the document.
Housing Zone	An initiative of the Mayor of London to accelerate new housing development in specific areas of London, including Poplar Riverside in Tower Hamlets.
Infill development	Development that takes place on vacant or undeveloped site between other developments and/or built form.
Intermediate Housing	Homes for sale and rent provided at a cost above social rent, but below market levels subject to the criteria in the Affordable Housing definition. These can include shared equity (shared ownership and equity loans), other low cost homes for sale and intermediate rent
London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC)	The LLDC became the planning authority for the Olympic Legacy area following the Olympic Games in 2012. The north-east area of Tower Hamlets (Hackney Wick/Fish Island and Bromley-by-Bow) was transferred to LLDC in terms of planning responsibilities. Nevertheless, Tower Hamlets continues to provide other services and responsibilities such as the allocation of affordable housing and provision of school places.
London Plan	The London Plan is the spatial development strategy for all of London. It is written by the Mayor of London and the Greater London Authority. London boroughs' Local Plans need to be in general conformity with the London Plan, and its policies guide decisions on planning applications by councils and the London Mayor.
Low threshold enterprise space	Lower value non-residential space often found at the edge of town centres or in areas of lower footfall. It may also consist of lower-quality premises than other properties in the area.
National Planning Policy Framework	The National Planning Policy Framework

Glossary	Definition
(NPPF)	sets out the national Government's economic, environmental and social planning policies for England.
National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG)	Online resource giving up-to-date Government planning guidance and requirements.
Neighbourhood Planning	<p>Neighbourhood Planning gives communities the ability to create planning documents and development orders: Neighbourhood Development Plans and Neighbourhood Development Orders. A Plan must be in 'general conformity' with the strategic policies of the council's Local Plan and should not promote less development than set out in the Local Plan or undermine its strategic policies. An adopted plan will form a part of the statutory development plan and will be used to inform planning application decision making for the relevant area.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Planning is undertaken by Neighbourhood Forums within designated Neighbourhood Areas. Since the introduction of the regulations, Tower Hamlets has two designated neighbourhood areas and one designated neighbourhood forum – the East Shoreditch Neighbourhood Planning Forum and Area; and Wapping Neighbourhood Planning Area.</p>
Opportunity Area	The London Plan identifies Opportunity Areas in the City Fringe/Tech City, Isle of Dogs and South Poplar and Lower Lea Valley as having the ability to accommodate high levels of growth, focusing on housing.
Planning obligation (Section 106 agreement)	A legal agreement between the developer, local authority and other interested parties primarily intended to make acceptable those developments that would otherwise be unacceptable in planning terms.
Private Rented Sector (PRS)	All non-owner occupied self-contained

Glossary	Definition
	dwellings that are being rented out as housing (not including forms of affordable housing).
Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)	An assessment which identifies a future supply of land that is suitable, available and achievable for housing and economic development uses over the plan period.
Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)	An assessment of objectively assessed needs for market and affordable housing.
Site allocation	Site allocations have been identified to plan for strategic housing developments (i.e. sites that can provide over 500 new net-additional homes in the current Local Plan) and key infrastructure which will help the borough meet its housing targets and for key regeneration sites.
Sites of Interest for Nation Conservation (SINC)	Local landscape features, both in built up areas and on open land that are affected by development and will promote conservation and enhancement.
Small and medium-sized enterprise (SME)	A category of businesses that employs overall a total of no more than 250 people.
Starter Homes	Included in the draft Housing and Planning Bill, this is a new dwelling which is only available for purchase by qualifying first time buyers and which is made available at a price which is at least 20% less than the market value. The maximum price a starter home may be sold to a first time buyer in London is £450,000.
Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	The SA appraises the policies in the Local Plan, to identify the potential social, economic and environmental policy impacts and identify alternatives. This is used alongside the Strategic Environmental Assessment, Health Impact Assessment, Habitats Regulations Assessment and Equalities Impact Assessment, which also appraise impacts on specific groups or characteristics. The SA Scoping Report and the other impact

Glossary	Definition
	assessments Screening Reports which required at this stage are published alongside this document for consultation.
Tower Hamlets Community Plan (2015)	The Community Plan provides the Tower Hamlets Partnership's long-term vision for the borough, articulating local aspirations, needs and priorities. It informs all other strategies and delivery plans of the partnership, including the council's Strategic Plan.
Tower Hamlets Growth Model	A dynamic model used to project development in the borough over the next 20 years.
Town centre	An area of commercial uses within a boundary defined by an adopted Local Plan, often serving as a focal point for a community/communities. Not all areas of predominantly retail/commercial activity will therefore be officially defined as town centres.
Town centre hierarchy	Sets out what role and function different town centres in the borough perform in relation to each other and across London. It includes the borough's Central Activities Zone (CAZ), activity areas, major centre, district centres and neighbourhood centres.
Waste apportionment	The amount of London's waste that each borough is required to manage to ensure London is self-sufficient in managing its municipal, commercial and industrial waste that it produces. This requires an amount of land to be safeguarded within the borough.

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London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (Consultation Draft)

For the London Borough of Tower Hamlets Local Plan

November 2015

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1. Introduction

The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is a required process for assessing the social, economic and environmental impacts of planning documents, including a Local Plan. It aims to ensure that policies contained in planning documents promotes sustainable development by establishing a systematic evaluation method, which will take account of social, economic and environmental considerations and impacts at all stages of plan making process.

This scoping report forms the first stage of the required Sustainability Appraisal which informs and accompanies the first steps developing a new Local Plan for Tower Hamlets.

This document identifies the scope and level of detail of information to be included in the Sustainability Appraisal. It sets out the context, objectives and approach of the assessment to facilitate the Sustainability Appraisal process being proportionate and relevant to the Local Plan that is being assessed.

This report will inform a statutory consultation with key agencies that hold environmental responsibilities; these agencies include Historic England, Natural England, and the Environment Agency. Other environmental organisations, partners and residents are also invited to make comments. The purpose of this is to obtain feedback on the scope of content and level of detail of the Sustainability Appraisal in the next stage.

1.1. The Local Plan

LBTH is in the process of preparing a new Local Plan. The Local Plan will set out the borough's vision, objectives and a planning policy framework for the next 15 years. This new Local Plan will replace the borough's Local Development Framework which consisted of the *Core Strategy 2009* and *Managing Development DPD 2013*. The Local Plan will reflect changes regarding policies following the adoption of the *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)*. It will also reflect significant changes that have since taken place, particularly continued population growth and increasing demand for housing, jobs and infrastructure.

The Sustainability Appraisal applies to all documents that form part of the new Local Plan. This includes all Development Plan Documents and Area Action Plans.

1.2. Requirements

1.2.1 Sustainability Appraisal

The Sustainability Appraisal is a legal requirement for the preparation and development of the Local Plan. The *UK Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004* require a local planning authority to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal of each of the proposals in a Local Plan during its preparation.

Sustainability Appraisals incorporate the requirements of the *Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004* (commonly referred to as the 'Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations'), which implement the requirements of the *European Directive 2001/42/EC* (the 'Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive') on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment. SEA ensures that environmental issues are incorporated and assessed in decision-making throughout the entire plan making process.

The Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive stipulates that the aim of the SEA is to: *"provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development"* (Article 1).

It identifies factors that need to be considered. These include but are not limited to: biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, climatic factors, material heritage and landscapes.

1.2.2 UK Guidance for preparing an SEA/ SA

In addition, to the environmental requirements of a SEA, the Sustainability Appraisal is much broader and must also consider economic and social factors that could be impacted by the making and implementation of the Local Plan. Unlike, the SEA there are no specific directives that stipulate requirements for a Sustainability Appraisal. Instead guidance¹ is published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) that promotes a combined process to assess social, economic and environmental effects.

In summary, a Sustainability Appraisal must meet the legal requirements for an SEA set out in the EU Directive. It must also incorporate social, environmental and economic aspects which are not specified but are locally determined through the analysis of baseline information and relevant objectives and evidence in policies and plans. This will form the basis of a framework through which the local plan policies will be assessed.

¹ www.pas.gov.uk

The purpose of this report – the Sustainability Scoping Report – is to identify the range of key local social, environmental and economic issues which affect Tower Hamlets. This is to ensure that the local plan policies do not exacerbate existing issues and meet the identified needs.

1.2.3 Related processes that sit outside the Sustainability Appraisal

The following processes and assessments are requirements for assessing Local Plans, but sit outside of the Sustainability Appraisal.

1.2.3.1 Equality Analysis

An *Equality Analysis (EA)* is a requirement under the UK *Equality Act 2010* and *Public Sector Equality Duty*. It serves as a mechanism for ensuring that ‘due regard’ is given to minority groups in decision-making and the activities of the Council. This includes policies, procedures, projects and proposals.

It is a separate process to that of the Sustainability Appraisal, however given that there is some overlap of purposes, the Equality Analysis should be read in conjunction with this report.

An Equality Analysis Quality Assurance assessment has been undertaken on this Scoping Report. This indicates that a full Equality Analysis is not required at this stage. Instead steps will be taken to ensure that due regard for the nine protected characteristics are embedded in the Local Plan process and policies. A full Equality Impact Analysis will be undertaken on the Local Plan.

The Equality Analysis Quality Assurance assessment is attached as Appendix 3.

1.2.3.2 Health Impact Assessment - London Plan

A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) was also undertaken, as per the requirements of the London Plan. The HIA flags where there are gaps in data and where health as a cross-cutting issue can be incorporated across a number of thematic areas to support healthy communities. In summary, this report is structured to meet the requirements of the EU on Environmental Impact Assessment, associated regulations at the national level, and the findings of local processes and assessments.

Again, this is a separate process to that of the Sustainability Appraisal and is regulated by different legislation. Given the overlap of purposes, HIA findings have been incorporated into identifying sustainability issues relating to health in Appendix B and the Sustainability Appraisal Framework.

The Health Impact Assessment Screening is attached as Appendix 2E.

1.2.1.1 Habitats Regulations Assessment

The Local Plan may also require a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) as set out in the Conservation of *Habitats and Species Regulations 2010*. A separate screening assessment was carried out that screened potential considerations and impacts that relate to the undertaking and implementation of the Local Plan in relation to European habitats and species. It concluded that a Habitats Regulation Assessment is not required at this stage, but an assessment should be undertaken to determine whether a Habitats Regulations Assessment may be required for future drafts of the plan. If a Habitats Regulations Assessment is required, the Sustainability Appraisal should incorporate this. Figure 1 highlights the differences of purpose and emphasis between the HRA, SEA, and Sustainability Appraisal.

	Habitats Regulations Assessment	Strategic Environmental Assessment	Sustainability Appraisal
Aim of process is to...	Maintain the integrity of the Natura 2000 network & its features	Provide for a high level of protection of the environment	Promote sustainable development
Emphasis of process is on...	Preventing development that could harm European sites	Providing information on environmental impacts, consultation, documenting decisions	Consideration (and where necessary balancing) of social, economic and environmental impacts
	'protection led'	'baseline led'	'objectives led'
Level of detail, quantification			

Figure 1: Differences of purpose between HRA, SEA and SA.
Adapted from Source: <http://www.levett-therivel.co.uk/AAinE.htm>

1.3. Sustainability Appraisal Process

This stage and this report, define the scope of the rest of the Sustainability Appraisal. It sets the context, objectives and defines the scope of the overall Sustainability Appraisal, so that the Appraisal may be proportionate to the scope of the Local Plan. It does so through five sequential steps as follows.

- **Stage A1:** Relevant policies, plans and programmes are reviewed to scope and define preliminary sustainability objectives and indicators to be included in the Sustainability Appraisal framework.

- **Stage A2:** Existing information and data relating to these objectives and indicators is collated. This serves to provide a baseline against which positive and negative impacts may be assessed throughout the rest of the Sustainability Appraisal process. It also serves to highlight data gaps which may need to be addressed in gathering and updating the evidence base to carry out the Sustainability Appraisal. This step also provides an opportunity to test and refine the objectives and indicators identified in the previous step.
- **Stage A3:** Sustainability issues are identified from the work undertaken in the previous two steps. This serves to provide another level of refinement of sustainability objectives.
- **Stage A4:** Sustainability Appraisal Framework. The previous steps inform the framework. Sustainability objectives are tested for strategic compatibility with the SEA Directive, and tested for conflicts between objectives. Appropriate indicators and where applicable targets are identified which assist to measure progress towards objectives.
- **Stage A5:** Relevant consultation bodies are then consulted on the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal. The purpose of this is to ensure that the right level of detail and issues have been captured and are adequately reflected in the Framework. There are opportunities for wider consultation later in the Sustainability Appraisal process.

This initial stage sets the scene from which to then undertake the following stages of the Sustainability Appraisal process, which are beyond this report. These stages are:

- **Stage A (this report):** Establishing the context, defining objectives and scope, developing a framework for the Sustainability Appraisal.
- **Stage B:** Using the framework to assess the Local Plan policies. This will assess the policy effects and those of possible policy alternatives.
- **Stage C:** Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal report which occurs alongside preparing the Local Plan.
- **Stage D:** Consulting with relevant consultation bodies and the general public on the Sustainability Appraisal report, alongside the Local Plan consultation.
- **Stage E:** Reporting and monitoring after the Local Plan has been adopted.

Figure 2 on the following page illustrates these different stages and highlights how the Sustainability Appraisal process aligns with the different stages of developing and implementing the Local Plan.

SA Process			Local Plan Process
Stages			Stages
Stage A Scoping	Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope	Publish SA Scoping Report	Stage 1 Evidence gathering, engagement
Stage B Testing	Developing and refining the alternatives and assessing effects	Developing draft SA Report	Stage 2 Draft Local Plan
Stage C Developing	Preparing the SA report	Publish draft SA Report	
Stage D Publishing	Consulting on the draft DPDs and the SA report	Submit SA Report (final) as part of Evidence Base	Stage 3 Submission Stage 4 Examination Stage 5 Adoption
Stage E Monitoring	Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the DPDs		State 6 Monitoring

Figure 2: How the LBTH Sustainability Appraisal process ties in with the Local Plan Process (Source: LBTH, 2015).

2. Stage A1: Review of policies, plans and programmes

2.1. Purpose

This section identifies key environmental protection objectives established at the international, European Union Community, national, regional and local levels that are relevant to the Local Plan and scoping of the Sustainability Appraisal. It sets the basis for defining Sustainability Appraisal objectives, indicators and the framework.

This step is guided by the SEA Directive which stipulates that the SEA must cover:

“an outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes” (Annex 1 (a)).

“the environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation” (Annex 1 (e))

2.2. Method

The Local Plan and the Sustainability Appraisal/SEA must be framed in the context of international, EU Community, national, regional and local objectives that relate to sustainability and its environmental, economic and social dimensions. To do so, a comprehensive review of all relevant policies, plans and programmes was undertaken. This can be found in Appendix 2A: Review of Policies, Plans and Programmes. The summary of this review has been used as one input to inform the proposed Sustainability Appraisal objectives set out in the Sustainability Appraisal framework in Section 4.6.

The review has sought to ensure that the Sustainability Appraisal objectives do not conflict with the objectives of other relevant policies, plans and programmes. In doing so, it assists to highlight areas of potential conflict which will need to be addressed through modification and mitigation.

2.3. International and EU plans, policies and programmes

The scope of this Sustainability Appraisal is framed by requirements already set in higher tier policies and programmes. From an international perspective these requirements are derived from international agreements and European Union Directives. In general, most of these agreements and directives have been

transposed into national legislative requirements and policies, however a number of European Directives still require consideration.

2.4. National plans, policies and programmes

The preparation of national plans, policies and programmes should be consistent with international policy and legislation, and EU Directives. A review of national plans can be found in Appendix 2A: Review of Policies, Plans and Programmes- National Plans and Programs.

A number of these are worth noting here as they heavily influence the direction of the Sustainability Appraisal objectives and Local Plan requirements.

The **UK Sustainable Development Strategy 2005** outlines the Government's overarching objective 'to raise the quality of life in our communities'. This is further defined as the follows. These should be incorporated into the objectives for the Sustainability Appraisal.

- Living within environmental limits;
- Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society;
- Achieving a sustainable economy;
- Promoting good governance; and
- Using sound science responsibly.

A **Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive** provides information and guidance on how to comply with the European Directive 2001/42/EC "on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment", known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment or SEA Directive. The Guide is intended to apply to all plans and programmes in the UK which fall within the scope of the Directive. Specific guidance has however been developed for certain types of plans and programmes, particularly land use and spatial planning and transport planning.

The **National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)** brings together policies of various topics into a consolidated set of priorities under sustainable development. It needs to be addressed when making decisions and planning development. It works to ensure that planning decisions contribute to national priorities while also allowing for local decision-making that reflects local needs and priorities. National priorities include protecting the natural environment, minimising contributions to climate change and its effects, and supporting local growth.

NPPF Paragraph 152 is particularly relevant to defining sustainability objectives. It states that:

"local planning authorities should seek opportunities to achieve each of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, and net gains across all three. Significant adverse impacts on any of these

dimensions should be avoided and, wherever possible, alternative options which reduce or eliminate such impacts should be pursued. Where adverse impacts are unavoidable, measures to mitigate the impact should be considered. Where adequate mitigation measures are not possible, compensatory measures may be appropriate.”

The **National Planning Policy Guidance** provides guidance on the use and interpretation of the NPPF and is also a material consideration for the preparation of a Local Plan and associated sustainability appraisal.

2.5. Regional and sub-regional plans, policies and programmes

The scope of the Sustainability Appraisal is framed by requirements set in regional and sub-regional level plans which in turn should generally comply with those at international and national tiers. A full list of those reviewed and their relevant objectives and indicators can be found in Appendix 2A: Review of Policies, Plans and Programmes- Regional and Sub-Regional Plans and Programs.

The **Mayor’s London Plan (last updated March 2015)** which is the Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London is worth note. It sets out a regional vision and policies that cover housing, transport, employment and the environment amongst others. The Local Plan is bound to and will be tested against its general conformity and compliance with the London Plan.

2.6. Tower Hamlets plans, policies and programmes

The **Core Strategy (2009)** along with **Managing Development DPD (2013)**, constituted Tower Hamlets’ Local Development Framework. The new Local Plan is replacing the existing Local Development Framework to reflect changes in national policies following the adoption of the NPPF, along with reflecting changes in the borough.

Similar to this Sustainability Appraisal of the Local Plan, the Core Strategy and **Managing Development** also underwent a Sustainability Appraisal during their preparation process. The Sustainability Objectives of this appraisal are listed below and form one strand of input into formulating the Sustainability Objectives for the new Local Plan in Appendix 2C: Method for developing the Sustainability Objectives.

Sustainability Objectives for the assessment of the Core Strategy 2009:

- To give all residents quality, affordable housing.
- To give all residents the opportunity of an occupation providing self-worth and good livelihood, particularly in deprived areas.
- To improve health, promote healthy lifestyles and reduce health inequalities.
- To create safe and secure environments and reduce crime.

- To reduce the need to travel, reduce private vehicular transport and encourage the use of public transport, cycling and walking.
- To combat fuel poverty, reduce energy consumption and promote renewable forms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- To improve water quality and reduce water use.
- To conserve, enhance and where appropriate create species, habitats, green spaces and watercourse.
- To improve air quality.
- To minimise flood risk within the borough and elsewhere, and promote the use of sustainable urban drainage systems.
- To minimise waste requiring disposal and to increase recycling and recovery.
- To reduce the impact of noise.
- To promote good quality in urban design, and the conservation and appreciation of the historic environment.
- To create sustainable communities through the regeneration and efficient use of land and buildings with links to appropriate infrastructure.
- To provide accessible social and community facilities and open spaces.
- To reduce poverty and ensure equality of opportunity for all residents.
- To ensure that the plan does not negatively affect existing residents of Tower Hamlets, and particularly disempowered groups.

The Tower Hamlets' **Community Plan 2015** was published in September 2015. The principles and themes outlined in the Community Plan are highly relevant to the Sustainability Objectives and Local Plan. The Plan continues the principles of 'One Tower Hamlets' which are: equality, cohesion, and community leadership. The cross-cutting priorities of the plan are empowering residents and building resilience; promoting healthier lives; increasing employment; and responding to population growth.

2.7. Summary of Policy and Plan Objectives

By reviewing the relevant International, National, Regional and Local policies and plans (provided in full in Appendix 2A), the following list of common objectives has been drawn.

This list forms one input, alongside the baseline information contained in Appendix 2B, into formulating the sustainability objectives. These inputs will be collated, combined and assessed, to create a comprehensive list of sustainability objectives in the Sustainability Appraisal Framework in Section 4.

This process is illustrated in Appendix 2C: Method for developing the Sustainability Objectives.

1. Place the public and community at the centre of planning processes and policy objectives.
2. Plan for and meet the challenges of population growth.
3. Foster trans-boundary cooperation and co-delivery of strategies and services to address issues where appropriate.

4. Improve the quality of life for all residents and reduce deprivation, including child poverty and fuel poverty.
5. Facilitate the development of a wide choice of housing tenures, sizes and affordability level that meet lifetime and energy efficiency standards and caters for all, including the need for specialist housing.
6. Protect human health and reduce health inequalities, through provision of adequate health facilities and by influencing the wider determinates of health.
7. Improve the safety and security of all, and promote community cohesion.
8. Improve access to community facilities, including leisure facilities.
9. Increase accessible open spaces that are high quality, connected, multi-functional and include spaces for play.
10. Promote accessible, safe and sustainable transport and reduce transport related contributions to climate change.
11. Ensure all school age residents have access to high quality and well-designed education facilities and improve access to early years provision, including childcare.
12. Increase opportunities for residents to get into training, access lifelong learning opportunities and acquire skills for employment to benefit from job opportunities.
13. Support a robust, low carbon and competitive economy that creates shared prosperity and helps all residents reach their full potential.
14. Support the vitality of diverse, inclusive and secure town centres and neighbourhoods.
15. Protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and cultural heritage.
16. Promote inclusive and sustainable design and construction which contributes to a sense of place.
17. Minimise the borough's contribution to climate change and promote mitigation and adaptation measures to address the negative effects of climate change.
18. Promote energy security and increase the proportion of energy use from renewable sources.
19. Maintain biodiversity; conserve and enhance natural habitats, and landscapes of importance.
20. Encourage reduced and more efficient use of water.
21. Protect and manage the quality of water bodies, including groundwater.
22. Improve air quality.
23. Reduce and manage the risk of floods.
24. Reduce waste, enhance recycling and reuse, and promote sustainable waste management.
25. Avoid, prevent and reduce adverse effects to residents and nature of exposure to environmental noise.
26. Safeguard and enhance the quality of soil.
27. Promote development on previously developed land.

3. Stage A2 & A3 Baseline

3.1 Purpose

This section outlines the current environmental, social and economic conditions that may be affected by the Local Plan.

The baseline is guided by the SEA Directive which states that:

“the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected” (Annex 1 (c); and

“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/EC” (Annex 1 (d)).

The identification of issues is guided by the following SEA Directive.

“to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans with a view to promoting sustainable development.” (Article 1)

3.2 Method

The baseline information was compiled from the review undertaken in Section 2, and in addition from national and local data sets. Data gaps were also identified.

Baseline information has been collected for the key borough characteristics identified in the SEA Directive and highlighted as of local importance through the policy review.

The baseline information, sustainability issues and data gaps can be found in Appendix 2B. Trends were also identified where possible. This information informs the Sustainability Appraisal Framework in three ways:

Firstly, the identification of current information and issues is one input into the development of sustainability objectives.

Secondly, it provides a baseline from which to assess the potential effects of alternative proposals for the Local Plan in the following stages of the Sustainability Appraisal (beyond this report).

Thirdly it provides a baseline for future monitoring (after the adoption of a new Local Plan).

3.3 Likely Future Trends

The Sustainability Appraisal considers the likely future environmental, economic and social conditions without a new Local Plan. This is to help establish a new baseline against which the possible impact of any new Local Plan policies can be assessed. For some aspects, this will be difficult to predict, however for other areas, where major national and regional changes are occurring, potential impacts can be identified and highlighted. The current understanding of future trends is provided below, but this will be further influenced as the evidence base is produced through the next stage of the Local Plan process.

Population Change:

According to the GLA's 2014 SHLAA population projections, the borough's population is projected to increase from 280,474 in 2014 to 364,804 in 2024, an increase of 23%. This large population growth will not be uniform across different elements of the population and will lead to changes in the demographics of our borough.

The projections show that the borough's population will increase across all of the age groups, but that the greatest increases will be amongst the older working age population (ages 35 to 64).

The increasing population will also create changes in the ethnicity of residents. The largest percentage increase will be in the 'other' category, which will increase by 49% from 10,600 in 2014 to 15,769 in 2024, reflecting that the borough will be home to an increasing number of residents from many more different countries, than is currently the case. The 'White' population is also due to increase by 33% over the next ten years, whilst the 'Bangladeshi' population is due to increase by a relatively smaller 16%.

The income profile of the borough is also changing. The borough has historically had high levels of unemployment, however this has been reducing steadily and is now at its highest ever level with 68.1% of residents in employment in February 2015. The borough is now only 3.7% behind the London average. However higher than average levels of unemployment remain amongst some groups of residents and in-work poverty remains. This is also influenced by the changing housing market and welfare provision, which influence who can afford to live in the borough.

Our current local plan did not envisage this level of population increase or change and a new Local Plan will have to consider how the needs of these diverse groups are met.

Housing Provision

The Council is in the process of producing a new Strategic Housing Market Assessment. Early indications suggest that despite building the highest number of homes and affordable homes in the Country, the Council will still need to produce a large number of homes, of which over half will need to be affordable and about half will need to be family homes.

The last ten years has seen a reduction in the percentage of residents living in social rented housing, a small level of growth in owner occupation and large growth in the private rented sector. This trend is likely to continue.

In addition the last 5 years have seen a range of changes to housing and welfare policy which will have had a significant impact on the borough's population and will continue to do so. Cumulatively the impact has been to change the income profiles of residents able to live in the borough. The borough is likely to become more polarised between an increasingly wealthy home owning group and a reducing group of residents living in social housing.

These trends are likely to be exacerbated through the Housing and Planning Bill which proposes significant changes to how affordable homes should be delivered as well as to the tenure of affordable homes. It places increasing emphasis on affordable home ownership, rather than rent, which will change the profile of residents able to access affordable housing. It also proposes an extension in the Right to Buy policy to housing association tenants, paid for by the sale of void 'high value' council homes. The Council is concerned that this will reduce the availability of social rented homes and further change the income profile of residents able to live in the borough.

Our current Local Plan did not envisage any of the housing or welfare policies policy changes currently in operation and a new Local Plan will have to address the resulting changing need and available provision.

Development Pressure

The borough has seen a consistently high level of developer interest since the production of the last Local Plan. This continued even during the recent 2008 recession.

Of the strategic sites identified in the last Local Plan the majority are already at some point within the planning process. The number of new strategic sites available for development in the borough is reducing, as reflected by the significantly lower number of sites identified through the recent Call for Sites process.

The reducing number of available sites is increasing land values and creating land use pressures. The current high values of residential development mean that other land uses, including employment space, community facilities and open space, will come under increasing pressure for conversion to housing provision and there will be a reduced amount of land available for additional provision of these uses.

More and more development will come forward on smaller and more contaminated or constrained sites, leading to denser development. There will also be increasing pressure to regenerate and densify existing developments.

Our current Local Plan does not envisage this level of growth and resulting land use pressure, nor the implications for existing land uses. A new Local Plan will be required to address these new challenges and provide policies which seek to direct growth and identify new sites for the provision of needed infrastructure.

Cohesion Challenges

The large population changes and the fast pace of development means that the borough is changing extremely rapidly. This will be felt both through different groups of residents working and living in the borough and in new buildings and places.

The Council's One Tower Hamlets policy has been successful in promoting community cohesion throughout the borough. The borough's annual residents' survey records a yearly increase in the number of residents who think that people from different backgrounds get on well together. In the 2014-15 survey this is now at 81%. As the diversity and income differentiation in the borough increases, the Council will need to work harder with partners and residents to continue this positive trend.

Our current local plan includes policies to promote mixed communities, shared housing amenity and open access to public open space, however a new Local Plan may need to consider how to strengthen these policies.

Neighbourhood Planning has also become part of the planning system since the last Local Plan. This enables groups of residents to designate an area and develop planning policies for the area. A new Local Plan is required to incorporate the emerging neighbourhood plans, as well as to ensure that there are comprehensive planning policies which connect and unite the borough.

Changes in the Economy and Employment

The borough is currently home to a huge range of businesses, many of which are large multinational companies. However the majority of businesses in Tower Hamlets are SMEs with fewer than ten employees.

Employment projections published by the GLA estimate the number of jobs in the borough will almost double, increasing by 169,000, between 2010 and 2031 to 379,000. This growth is higher than the growth projected for London.

The changing global economy, emerging employment sectors and working trends, including the rise of remote working and self-employment, will have an impact on the type of employment spaces required in the borough. In addition the growing value in residential development is increasing pressure on employment space for redevelopment into housing.

These changes are likely to create a very different pattern of development pressure to that envisaged in our current Local Plan. The new Local Plan will have to consider whether to continue to encourage employment uses within Tower Hamlets and if so, where, and what infrastructure, such as high speed broadband or shared workspace, will be required to support them.

Town Centre Uses

Regionally there is increasing pressure to diversify Town Centre uses, especially well connected Town Centres, to deliver more high density housing.

The borough's population changes and new retail trends, including the increase in online shopping and the rise of smaller chain convenience stores, are also having an impact on the nature of town centres. Town centres are increasingly

moving away from only providing retail spaces to delivering spaces for leisure and cultural activities as well as service provision.

The changing shape of development in the borough will also influence the nature and location of our Town Centres, possibly reducing the demand for certain uses in some areas but also creating opportunities for new Town Centres in emerging growth areas.

Our existing Local Plan has a strong focus on Town Centres, with policies designed to improve their vitality and viability, but it did not envisage the changing growth areas and trends which a new Local Plan will have to consider.

Connectivity and Transport Infrastructure

The borough's growth and connectivity is being enabled by the provision of strategic transport connections including Crossrail. However the rapid increase in growth will place a huge strain on existing transport infrastructure.

The new Housing Zone and Opportunity Area means that development space is being opened up on the eastern boundary of the borough. This area has suffered from low connectivity, especially across the borough boundary into Newham. This new development provides an opportunity for this to be improved, enabling the borough to become a gateway from central London to the east.

The current Local Plan does not plan for this level of growth and connectivity requirements. In addition the new growth areas require up to date infrastructure and connectivity planning, which our new Local Plan will have to plan for.

Service Provision Changes

Since 2010 the national government has adopted a savings process which has reduced funding available for Local Government and has frozen spending on Health and Education. The current government has indicated that this is due to continue until at least 2018. However the local impact will be felt well into the future as it has already changed how many of these services are provided, with many public sector services seeking to merge services and reduce the number of buildings they operate from.

The education system has also changed following the introduction of Free Schools, which are not under Local Authority control and which follow a different system for their establishment. This has created uncertainty in our planning for schools places and how the Council delivers new schools.

Our existing Local Plan did not envisage the level of public sector change and our new plan will have to consider future delivery models for these services, which may influence their land use.

Environmental Challenges

Parts of Tower Hamlets, particular around major roads have some of the poorest air quality levels in London. As development pressures increase and more constrained sites are brought forward either for new development or change of use, it is likely that residential development will increase near major roads.

The majority of the borough is located within a nationally designated Flood Zone. The areas within the highest flood zone risk are also the areas which have been identified as GLA opportunity areas which will experience growth in the next 10-15 years.

Carbon dioxide is the key greenhouse gas causing climate change. Whilst the government has delayed the delivery of zero carbon homes there remain significant drivers to reduce carbon emissions in line with the Mayor of London's objective of delivering a 60 per cent reduction in CO₂ by 2025, and the 80% cut required under the 2008 Climate Change Act. Growth in population and employment is likely to make it challenging to reduce emissions, as will the increasing number of smaller households which tend to have higher per capita emissions.

As the borough increases in density, the likelihood of parts of the borough being subjected to the urban heat island effect increases.

Our existing Local Plan did not envisage the level of population and development growth and therefore did not make provision for the level of environmental impact. Our new Local Plan will have to consider these impacts and risks and ways of mitigating them.

3.4 Sustainability Issues

The following highlights the key sustainability issues relevant to the Local Plan and these reflect the challenges and priorities set out in the Community Plan, 2015. The underlying evidence base which informs these issues is contained in Appendix 2B.

- **A Growing and Changing Population:** Tower Hamlets was the second fastest growing borough in England and Wales for the year 2013/14 (based on proportion). High growth is predicted to continue. The increasing population will also create changes in the age and ethnicity of residents. The largest percentage increase will be in the 'other' category, which will increase by 49% from 10,600 in 2014 to 15,769 in 2024, reflecting the increasing 'hyper diversity' of the borough. The biggest growing age group is of residents aged 35 to 64.
- **Increasing income inequality and enduring deprivation:** Tower Hamlets is one of the most relatively deprived areas in London and England for multiple deprivations. Since 2007, the borough has improved in its overall relative position in the country. However the proportion of children and older persons living in income deprived families is significantly high. In addition income inequality is high and increasing.
- **Relatively High Unemployment and Skills Gap:** Tower Hamlets is a major location for employment in London, attracting a large daytime population of employees. However there is a major skills gap between local residents and the jobs available, reflected in a rising but lower than London average employment level. The median income in the borough is also lower than the UK and London average, reflecting low average skill

levels. Fewer adult residents hold higher qualifications or any qualifications than the London average.

- **Varying economic strengths of local town centres:** Current vacancy rates in our town centres vary from around 1.25% to 15.5%. In addition levels of fast-food outlets, betting shops and payday loan stores are higher than ideal and have socio-economic and health implications. Town Centre uses are changing, with increasing cultural and social activities and a move away from traditional retail provision.
- **Undersupply of housing:** The Council is in the process of producing a new Strategic Housing Market Assessment. Early indications suggest the Council will need to produce a large number of homes, of which over half will need to be affordable and about half will need to be family homes, reflecting a current lack of both tenures. In 2015, there was a waiting list of 19,810 households on the Council's housing waiting list.
- **Overcrowding and lack of suitable homes:** Overcrowding is a major issue in the borough. According to the 2011 census, 32,235 households had too few rooms than what they required. This represented 34.8 per cent of all households in the borough.
- **Housing Affordability Gap:** Housing has been getting less affordable in the borough. This is reflected in both high sale and private rental values. Between 2010 and 2015 house prices rose by 46% from £341,900 to £499,060. The percentage of social housing stock is also reducing and affordable housing products are diversifying and becoming more expensive. The changes to welfare provision is limiting the ability of the low paid and unemployed to live in the borough.
- **Pressure on School Places:** The expected housing and population growth in the borough increase the need for school places. Current forecast is that there will be about 9,000 more 4-16 year olds needing a school place over the next 10 years. Over the extra capacity already planned for, that means the equivalent of 2-3 new primary schools. The growth in primary numbers in previous years is now feeding through to secondary schools and the borough will require 2-3 new secondary schools over the next 10 years. However fluctuating birth rates across London, as well as increasing family mobility, means that this figure will need regular revision.
- **Lack of Early Years / Childcare places:** In 2013 the Government introduced a new statutory duty on Councils to ensure adequate provision of 15 hours of childcare for disadvantaged two year olds. The borough's demographics mean that Tower Hamlets needs to provide the highest number of places. The Council is currently under providing by 1,398

places. In 2017 the duty will increase to 30 hours for disadvantaged 2 year olds and all 3 and 4 year olds, increasing the need to provide places.

- **High Health Inequalities:** Residents in the borough have lower life expectancies than average, but life expectancies are improving. There are significant health inequalities amongst residents in the borough. This is reflected in the variation of life expectancies between the most and least deprived residents. Tower Hamlets has higher than average premature death rates from cancer, respiratory disease and circulatory disease.
- **Poor Children's Health Indicators:** Children in Tower Hamlets have amongst the highest levels of obesity nationally as well as poor oral health. Vitamin D deficiency is also a concern amongst mothers and children. Lower than average percentages of children achieving a good level of development at the end of reception year at school is also a concern.
- **Relatively high levels of crime and concern about crime:** Whilst total crime figures and most crime types are reducing in the borough, the rate of crime is still higher than that for London and England. In addition residents reported crime as the top concern in Tower Hamlets and public confidence with the police is only at 60%.
- **Pressure on transport capacity:** There is a need to increase the current and future capacity on trains, underground, overground, DLR, buses and local roads. 'Pinch points' around the borough need to be addressed, particularly those identified in the Isle of Dogs. There is a need to further encourage active modes of transport, particularly for local trips. There is a need to address road space conflicts between cyclists, pedestrians and motorists. This is particularly pertinent for 'pinch points' which have been identified through modelling.
- **Lack of Open space:** Tower Hamlets has just over 232 hectares of open space which is 1.2 hectares per 1,000 residents. This is well below the National Playing Fields Standard of 2.4 hectares per 1,000. With increasing development creating new open space is a challenge.
- **Poor Air Quality:** Tower Hamlets produces the third highest level of total carbon dioxide emissions of the 33 Local Authorities in Greater London. Air pollution levels for the borough overall exceed targets set by the Government's Air Quality Strategy, 2014. Transport contributes to the majority of pollution in the borough. The close proximity of much of the borough to large arterial roads is of much concern, due to the impact on vulnerable groups such as children, the elderly and those with existing medical conditions. Air pollution has significant implications on health and life expectancy and is considered to be the second largest contributor to deaths after smoking.

- **Increasing rates of Fuel Poverty:** In 2013, 7.6% households in Tower Hamlets were estimated to be experiencing fuel poverty. This was an increase from the previous year, in which 7.3% of all households in the borough were estimated to be experiencing fuel poverty.
- **Rising Heat Island Effect:** London generates its own microclimate, known as the Urban Heat Island (UHI), which can result in the centre of London being up to 10°C warmer than the rural areas around London. The 2003 summer heatwave resulted in about 600 excess deaths in London. The hot temperatures in 2006 resulted in extremely high demands on London's power supply network and subsequent 'brown outs', due to the high cooling demand.
- **Low levels of biodiversity:** There are large areas in the borough which are considered to have deficient access to nature and biodiversity.
- **Low recycling rates:** The Council's recycling rates are below the London average, but rising steadily. The wet recycling rate is particularly low, which reflects the relatively small amount of garden waste produced, due to the nature of the housing stock. Whilst individual local authorities no longer have borough specific recycling targets, all local authorities are working towards 50% recycling rates (the National target).
- **Pressures on Waste Processing Capacity:** Our current safeguarded waste sites are both in areas transitioning away from industrial use and into residential use through their inclusion within the Poplar Riverside Housing Zone and the Fish Island area of the LLDC. The resulting increasing land values, as well as regional and local housing targets, creates pressure for alternative use for these sites.
- **Poor Water Quality:** For the 3 years between 2011/12 to 2013/14 the quality of the Lower Lea has remained unchanged. The quality of the water is reported as moderate, its chemical status is moderate and ecology is poor.
- **High level of flood risk, especially in areas of expected development:** A considerable proportion of the borough is within flood zones 2 and 3 (areas of highest risk). This includes those areas expected to accommodate high levels of development, including around the river Lea and Isle of Dogs. Over a third of Tower Hamlet's surface area is covered by buildings, roads and car. This high level of surface sealing exacerbates the risk of surface water level flooding. There is one critical drainage area identified in Tower Hamlets Plevna Street and Launch Street however the Isle of Dogs is also considered at risk from Surface Level Flooding, especially the potential to exceed the capacity of the drainage network.

- **High Noise Complaints:** The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health calculates the rate of noise complaints per thousand of population for all London boroughs. In 2013/14 in Tower Hamlets this was 22%, amongst the highest in London and above the London average of 17.4%.
- **Heritage under pressure from development:** High levels of development and associated drivers of land prices and population growth, place pressure on heritage conservation. This pressure is compounded by the borough's location on the city fringe which has a mass of tall buildings. The demand for development could result in less consideration to the impact of appropriate scale of new buildings on the wider area. The Tower of London is a UNESCO world heritage site, a status which could be threatened unless its surroundings are protected.
- **Emerging design issues:** Increasing development is raising issues around sunlight, daylight and wind effects. In addition the borough may wish to undertake local view assessments to understand whether there are local views which should be protected, in addition to those protected by the London Plan. Finally the opportunity areas in the borough are located in areas of high archaeological importance.

3.5 Data gaps and limitations

A list of specific data gaps for each factor can be found in Appendix 2B.

The baseline information collected highlights a general shortage of information to be able to fully assess the likely current and future state of the environment, as required by the SEA directives. This is further compounded by the interconnectedness of the drivers and effects of the factors. Where there are data gaps, this should be addressed in the following stages of the Local Plan evidence base where appropriate.

Another limitation that needs to be highlighted is the use of different data sets and the predominance of insufficient time to show a trend. The identification of trends overall is therefore a gap. These limitations are not specific to Tower Hamlets. Many authorities have data gaps. This is even more so given the context of rapid change which can make data sets that are a few years old, of little significance.

Much of the data is collected or collated by external bodies. Therefore, the London Borough of Tower Hamlets has little control over the temporal and spatial scope of the data and whether collection methods may change in the future, which would restrict reliable comparisons. It is important to recognise these limitations.

The use of indicators also presents certain limitations. Indicators do not explain why things have or are happening, and the secondary effects of those changes. Therefore, some caution must be taken in realising that the information collected around indicators may be a simplification of issues and their interactions.

Similarly, it may be a small component in what is required to meet the objective. Qualitative information will also be needed, and expert judgements may still need to be made in some circumstances.

Relevant baseline information will be updated during the SA process as and when new data is published. For example, following the completion of emerging technical reports on specific thematic areas.

4. Stage A4 Sustainability Appraisal Framework

4.1 Purpose

The Sustainability Appraisal Framework is central to the Sustainability Appraisal assessment process. The framework provides a way in which emerging policies can be assessed in terms of their likely sustainability effects.

4.2 Method

The objectives provide a list of locally defined objectives which describe what we as a borough would like to achieve with our new Local Plan.

The review of the plans, policies and programmes and the identification of key sustainability issues from the baseline information provide the information that is required to enable a set of SA objectives to be formulated. Appendix 2C shows the inputs and process of developing the Sustainability Objectives.

The framework will be used to complete the final sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan policies. Against each objective is a set of questions which are designed to assess the emerging policies. Where it is considered that the policy will make a noticeable contribution to the achievement of the objective, through a positive response to the prompt questions, a significant positive effect will be recorded. Where it is considered that the policy will materially hinder achievement of the objective, through a negative response to the prompt questions, a significant negative effect will be recorded. Where it is considered that the policy will not have a significant effect on the objective, through a neutral response to the prompt questions, a significant neutral effect will be recorded.

The nature of the effect will be described in accordance with the SA Regulations. Reference to baseline information will be made where available to justify the effect recorded, but in some instances an element of professional judgement may be required.

It should also be noted that sustainability objectives are separate from the evolving Local Plan objectives; although the two processes influence each other and there may be some overlap of objectives in terms of key local issues.

4.3 Sustainability Objectives

1. **Equality:** Reduce poverty and social exclusion and promote equality for all communities.
2. **Liveability:** Promote liveable, safe, high quality neighbourhoods with good quality services

3. **Health and wellbeing:** Improve the health and wellbeing of the population and reduce health inequalities.
4. **Housing:** Ensure that all residents have access to good quality, well-located, affordable housing that meets a range of needs and promotes liveability.
5. **Transport and mobility:** Create accessible, safe and sustainable connections and networks by road, public transport, cycling and walking.
6. **Education:** Increase and improve the provision of and access to childcare, education and training facilities and opportunities for all age groups and sectors of the local population.
7. **Employment:** Reduce worklessness and increase employment opportunities for all residents
8. **Economic Growth:** Create and sustain local economic growth across a range of sectors and business sizes.
9. **Town Centres:** Promote diverse and economically thriving town centres.
10. **Design and Heritage:** Enhance and protect heritage and cultural assets; distinctive character and an attractive built environment.
11. **Open space:** Enhance and increase open spaces that are high quality, networked and multi-functional.
12. **Climate change:** Ensure the Local Plan incorporates mitigation and adaption measures to reduce and respond to the impacts of climate change.
13. **Biodiversity:** Protect and enhance biodiversity, natural habitats, water bodies and landscapes of importance.
14. **Natural Resources:** Ensure sustainable use and protection of natural resources, including water, land and air, and reduce waste.
15. **Flood risk reduction and management:** To minimise and manage the risk of flooding
16. **Contaminated Land:** Improve land quality and ensure mitigation of adverse effects of contaminated land on human health.

1.1 How Sustainability Objectives meet the requirements of the SEA Directive

The above SA objectives have been assessed to ensure that suitable balance is provided between the three elements of sustainability: environment, economy, social.

Table 1 shows how the Sustainability Objectives meet the requirements of the SEA Directive. Each Sustainability Objective has been assessed as to which SEA Directive dimensions it may assist to address.

SEA Directive issue	Sustainability Objectives
Biodiversity	11, 12, 13
Population	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14
Human health	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14
Fauna	13, 15
Flora	13, 15

Soil	11, 13, 15, 16
Water	11, 13, 15
Air	6, 12, 14
Climatic factors	1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
Material assets	2, 10
Cultural heritage	10
Landscape	11, 13, 16

Table 1: Relation of Sustainability Objectives to the SEA Directive's issues

1.2 Compatibility between objectives

As mentioned previously, conflicts may exist between objectives and what they aim to achieve. Appendix 2D shows the compatibility and potential conflicts between the Sustainability Objectives. The potential conflicts which the matrix in Appendix 2D highlights are as follows.

Housing and:

- biodiversity,
- water resources and use,
- water bodies,
- air quality,
- flood risk and management,
- waste,
- noise,
- soil,
- heritage and
- open space.

The potential for conflicts between achieving the housing objective and the above objectives rests upon the way in which planning for housing will occur and ensuring that housing is delivered in a sustainable manner. These are matters that the Local Plan will need to address.

There are also potential for conflicts between

- economy and employment; and :
- noise,
- soil,
- heritage and
- open space.

The potential for conflicts in achieving the economy and employment objective and the objectives above may arise particularly around the prioritisation of space and land to meet different objectives. This is a particularly pertinent issue in Tower Hamlets where available space and land is minimal.

Highlighting these potential inconsistencies between different Sustainability Objectives allows the framework to try to balance these issues, or determine where the priorities should lie. Where possible, a win-win or compromise situation should be sought. However if a compromise is not possible, trade-offs may be required which should be documented and transparent

1.3 Sustainability Appraisal Framework

The following Sustainability Appraisal Framework sets out indicators and targets, where applicable, with which to measure the sustainability of the Local Plan.

Sustainability Objective	Appraisal prompt questions	Indicators / Targets	Reference
1. Equality: Reduce poverty and social exclusion and promote equality for all communities.	Will the Strategy / Policy.... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce poverty and social exclusion? Promote social cohesion and integration? Promote equity between population groups? Reduce fuel poverty? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the borough's relative ranking for indices of multiple deprivations (IMD). Reduce the percentage of children living in income deprived households. Reduce the percentage of older persons (aged 65 and over) living in income deprived households. Reduce the number of households in fuel poverty. Increase the percentage of residents who feel that people from different backgrounds get along. 	English Indices of Deprivation 2010; LBTH Indices of Deprivation Summary 2011; 80:20 pay ratio (London's Poverty Profile, 2014); Public Health Outcomes Framework; Tower Hamlets Annual Residents Survey 2015
2. Liveability: Promote liveable, safe, high quality neighbourhoods with good quality services	Will the Strategy/Policy... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve access for all residents to services, facilities and amenities near their home? Such as schools, early years provision, council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of school places including places for child care and early education, in line with pupil place projections. Provide increases in infrastructure in line with the 	LBTH Annual Pupil Place Planning; the LBTH Leisure Strategy; LBTH Idea Store Strategy; LBTH

Sustainability Objective	Appraisal prompt questions	Indicators / Targets	Reference
	<p>services, libraries and idea stores, community and faith facilities, leisure centres, open space and play areas and neighbourhood shops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure appropriate infrastructure is delivered alongside development, including transport and utilities. • Promote high quality public realm? • Reduce the impacts of noise, vibration and pollution on public realm? • Reduce opportunities to commit crime and anti-social behaviour? • Improve perceptions of safety and reduce the fear of crime? 	<p>Leisure Strategy, Idea Store Strategy and Open Space Strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number and quality of play spaces • Improve the number of residents who consider Tower Hamlets a good place to live. • Reduce rate of noise complaints • Reduce crowding on rail services • reduce 'excess wait time' on buses • reduce traffic delay • Reduce the crime rates per 1,000 people. • Reduce in the proportion of people who perceive crime as a top personal concern 	<p>Open Space Strategy; LBTH ARS, 2015; Public Health Outcomes Framework; Office of National Statistics Local Profiles; Tower Hamlets Annual Residents Survey 2015</p>
<p>3. Health and wellbeing: Improve the health and wellbeing of the population and reduce health inequalities.</p>	<p>Will the Strategy/Policy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and enhance access to an adequate level of provision of health / leisure / community/ open space facilities? • Improve mental and physical health and wellbeing? • Reduce proliferation of activities with negative health externalities? • Reduce health inequalities? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase healthy life expectancy. • Increase proportion of children who achieve a good standard of development • Increase participation rates in sport and recreation. • Reduce levels of excess weight among children and adults. • Reduce the number of excess 	<p>Life expectancy of women and men; Mortality rates; Sport England Active People Survey; CLG Indices of Deprivation; LBTH JSNA 2015; Public Health Outcomes Framework; Tower</p>

Sustainability Objective	Appraisal prompt questions	Indicators / Targets	Reference
		winter deaths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase levels of social inclusion (proxy measure: % of adult carers who have as much social contact as they would like). • Reduce the number of people who experience common mental health disorders 	Hamlets mental health strategy and JSNA, 2013
4. Housing: Ensure that all residents have access to good quality, well-located, affordable housing that meets a range of needs and promotes liveability.	Will the Strategy /Policy... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase access to good housing? • Meet good housing design standards, including for energy and heat efficiency? • Increase mix of housing types and sizes? • Create opportunities for providing specialist and supported housing • Protect or increase levels of affordable housing? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide 3,931 additional units in LBTH by 2035 (GLA SMHA, 2013) • Contribute to meeting the need for affordable and family housing, as identified in the latest Strategic Housing Assessment. • All new housing developments to meet EU target of near zero energy buildings by 2020 • Reduce rate of statutory overcrowding 	LBTH Housing Needs Assessment 2014 (interim findings - draft); GLA SMHA, 2013;
5. Transport and mobility: Create accessible, safe and sustainable connections and networks by road, public transport, cycling and walking.	Will the Strategy/Policy... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve connectivity both within the borough and to neighbouring boroughs and wider London? • Encourage a shift to more sustainable forms of travel and away from private vehicle use? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase cycling network and support to increase share of all trips made by bicycle. • Enhance mode split in favour of active transport, and secondly public transport. • Meet Mayor of London's Transport Plan targets for mode split. 	LBTH Health Profile, 2014; LBTH Cycle Strategy, 2015; LBTH LIP

Sustainability Objective	Appraisal prompt questions	Indicators / Targets	Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link new development with sustainable transport provision? • Increase transport efficiency? • Improve safety of the transport network? • Improve accessibility of the transport network? • Enhance capacity of the transport network? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in the vehicle (miles / km) travelled per person per year? • Mode Share Increase the percentage of journeys made by means other than the car. • Reduce the percentage of Principal Road Network where maintenance should be considered. • Reduce the number of persons killed and seriously injured on roads within the borough. • Reduce the total number of casualties from road traffic accidents within the borough. • Reduce CO2 emissions from ground based transport. • Reduce crowding on rail services • reduce 'excess wait time' on buses • reduce traffic delay 	
<p>6. Education: Increase and improve the provision of and access to childcare, education and training facilities</p>	<p>Will the Strategy/Policy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve opportunities and facilities for formal, informal and vocational learning for all ages? • Support the Local Authority to fulfil its statutory duties for provision of school places and childcare places? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of school places, in line with pupil place projections. • Increase the number of early education and child care places in line with population projections • Reduce the proportion of 16-18 years olds not in education, 	<p>Department for Education; Office for National Statistics in NOMIS; Labour Market Survey, 2014; CLG Indices of Deprivation, 2010; Office for National</p>

Sustainability Objective	Appraisal prompt questions	Indicators / Targets	Reference
and opportunities for all age groups and sectors of the local population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to upskilling and meeting the skills gap? 	<p>employment or training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the proportion of residents who attain an NVQ Level Four or higher. Reduce current deprivation score for education and skills. Reduce the proportion of residents with no qualifications. 	Statistics, in NOMIS Labour Market Survey, 2014.
<p>7. Employment: Reduce worklessness and Increase employment opportunities for all residents</p>	<p>Will the Strategy/Policy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve access to employment, especially for local people? Tackle barriers to employment, such as affordable childcare and skill levels? Improve access to employment for those groups currently experiencing above average worklessness, including BME women. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase proportion of residents who are employed. Reduce worklessness amongst high priority groups Increase number of jobs available to borough residents. Reduce the employment rate gap between Tower Hamlets and London Increase the median wage of residents 	BRES, 2012 in LBTH, 2014; NOMIS-Official Labour Market Statistics Local Authority Profile- Tower Hamlets, 2014.
<p>8. Economic Growth: Create and sustain local economic growth across a range of sectors and business sizes.</p>	<p>Will the Strategy/Policy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the resilience of local businesses and local economy? Support a range of business types and sizes? Stimulate regeneration and support employment opportunities for the borough's residents, particularly those in deprived areas? Provide the infrastructure and workspace required for new and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain office and employment space. Measure business use conversion to other uses. Increase number and range of businesses operating in the borough 	Emerging Evidence Base for Economic Growth Strategy

Sustainability Objective	Appraisal prompt questions	Indicators / Targets	Reference
	existing businesses?		
9. Town Centres: Promote diverse and economically thriving town centres.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the vitality of diverse town centres that serves the needs and wellbeing of residents? Promote the correct locations for different town centre designations, which take into account future growth scenarios? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the town centre retail unit vacancy rates. 	Town centre vacancy rates reported in LBTH, Annual Monitoring Report, 2013;
10. Design and Heritage: Enhance and protect heritage and cultural assets; distinctive character and an attractive built environment.	Will the Strategy/Policy... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value and their setting? Conserve townscape and neighbourhood character? Promote high quality architecture and design? Promote location sensitive density and design? Protect valued local views? Protect and enhance cultural assets and spaces for cultural activities? Help achieve a planned and aesthetically balanced skyline as seen in protected views 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieve a reduction in the number of entries on the Heritage at Risk register. Protect historic buildings, including listed buildings, buildings on the local list and areas and buildings in the conservation strategy. 	Historic England's Heritage at Risk Register.
11. Open space: Enhance and increase open	Will the Strategy/Policy... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributes to meeting the increasing need for open space? Link existing open spaces? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of eligible open spaces managed to Green Flag standards. Increase the amount of all types 	LBTH website and Green Flag Award website; Open space (hectares) per 1,000

Sustainability Objective	Appraisal prompt questions	Indicators / Targets	Reference
spaces that are high quality, networked and multi-functional.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide open space in areas of scarcity? • Improve the quality of open space? • Protect or improve public accessibility of open space now and in the future? 	of public open space (green, hard, play, sports etc)	people (LBTH, AMR 2012/13)
<p>12. Climate change: Ensure the Local Plan incorporates mitigation and adaption measures to reduce and respond to the impacts of climate change.</p>	<p>Will the Strategy/Policy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the delivery of developments with a reduced need for energy? • Reduce emission of greenhouse gases? • Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources? • Increase the number of district energy systems (combined heat and power)? • Reduce fuel poverty? • Reduce impact of climate change, including flooding and urban heat island effect? • Ensure new and retrofitted development and infrastructure location and design is future proofed against the future impact of climate change? • Promote construction? • Deliver development in accessible locations and robust transport infrastructure? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce energy consumption across all sectors, including consumption of domestic electricity. • Reduce carbon emissions. • Reduce energy consumption across all sectors, including consumption of domestic electricity. • Reduce carbon emissions. • Support EU target for near zero energy buildings for 2020 • Support GLA target for delivery of district energy systems. • Support national target of reducing carbon emissions by at least 80% by 2050. • Support London's CO2 emissions reduction target of 60% of 1990 levels by 2025 • Improvements in the energy efficiency ratings for buildings (residential and non-residential) • Ensure that a significant 	<p>Neighbourhood Statistics, ONS, 2013; Fuel poverty sub-regional statistics; Department of Energy and Climate Change; UK Carbon Plan; Low Income High Cost (LIHC) indicator (DECC 2013). Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2010/31/EU; Mayor of London climate change and mitigation and energy strategy 2011</p>

Sustainability Objective	Appraisal prompt questions	Indicators / Targets	Reference
		proportion of the energy supply of new development is gained on-site and from a renewable source and/or from a decentralised, renewable or low-carbon, source	
13. Biodiversity: Protect and enhance biodiversity, natural habitats, water bodies and landscapes of importance.	Will the Strategy/Policy... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and enhance diverse and varied habitats? • Improve connectivity between wildlife sites? • Integrate further biodiversity provision within new developments? • Improve people's access to nature? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase wildlife habitats • Protect European, national and locally designated sites 	Mayor of London's Biodiversity Strategy, 2002 Tower Hamlets Biodiversity Strategy 2014
14. Natural Resources: Ensure sustainable use and protection of natural resources, including water, land and air, and reduce waste	Will the Strategy/Policy... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve water quality, reduce piped water use and reduce waste water? • Minimise the production of waste across all sectors and increase reuse, recycling, remanufacturing and recovery rates? • Make appropriate provision for waste management facilities to meet the London Plan apportionment target? • Maintain or improve soil quality? • Promote development on brownfield sites? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the biological river quality • Minimise waste and increase rates of reuse and recycling in line with DEFRA and EU standards • Reduce residual household waste per a household • Increase waste sent for refuse, recycling or composting • Make improvements to air quality in line with UK Air Quality Strategy requirements. • Reduce the number of air quality hotspots. 	LBTH AMR, 2013/14; ONS, 2013; European Waste Framework Directive 2008; Defra, 2007; TH Contaminated Land Strategy 2013; UK Air Quality Strategy London Air Quality Network LBTH, Clear Zone Plan, 2010; TH Air Quality Action Plan 2003.

Sustainability Objective	Appraisal prompt questions	Indicators / Targets	Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help protect residents from existing poor air quality? • Reduce emissions of Nitrogen Dioxide/Particulate matter PM10? • Contribute towards achieving national and international standards for air quality? 		
<p>15. Flood risk reduction and management: To minimise and manage the risk of flooding</p>	<p>Will the Strategy/Policy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise the risk of all types of flooding to people and property? • Promote the use of sustainable urban drainage systems. • Ensure developers reduce Surface Water Runoff Rates (with stricter requirements in Critical Drainage Areas? • Incorporate the EA TE2100 PLAN? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not grant planning permission when contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding and water quality grounds • Increase the number of sustainable urban drainage systems in the borough • All Developments Reduce surface water runoff in line with London Plan • Safe guard corridors of land along existing defence walls. • Improve the Riverside and flood defences. 	<p>LBTH AMR 2013/14; Environment Agency TE2100 Plan;</p>
<p>16. Contaminated Land: Improve land quality and ensure mitigation of adverse effects of contaminated land on human</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain or improve soil quality? • Ensure mitigation of adverse effects of contaminated land on human health? • Promote development on brownfield sites? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the amount of contaminated soil 	<p>TH Contaminated Land Strategy 2013;</p>

Sustainability Objective	Appraisal prompt questions	Indicators / Targets	Reference
health.			

5. Stage A5 Consultation and Next Steps

Consultation on this document will take place alongside consultation on the Local Plan Engagement document “Our Borough, Our Plan: A New Local Plan First Steps”.

The purpose of the consultation is to gain approval on the scope and level of detail of information. The consultation feedback, as well as further research and the completion of emerging technical reports on specific thematic areas, will be used to further update the scoping report, before it is finalised.

This is stipulated by Regulation 4 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. This regulation also defines which organisations should be consulted in this stage of the Appraisal. This is based on the organisations’ environmental responsibilities. These organisations are:

- The Environment Agency
- Natural England
- English Heritage

Comments from these agencies, as well as other interested organisations and residents are also welcomed.

Consultation at this stage will help to make sure that the SA will be as comprehensive and robust as possible and meet statutory requirements. It is available for consultation for a period of five weeks in order to comply with the SEA Regulations (The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, 12(6)).

In seeking comments on this report, we have asked consultees to consider the following questions:

1. Is the document clearly structured and understandable?
2. Is the review at Appendix 2A of plans and policies sufficient? Are there any other relevant plans and policies that should be taken into account? Are any of the plans or policies outdated or superseded?
3. Is the range of baseline information at Appendix 2B appropriate and/or are there any further baseline indicators that might provide useful information and where might they be sourced?
4. Do you consider that the main sustainability issues have been correctly identified and highlighted?

5. Do you consider that these proposed SA objectives, prompt questions and targets are sufficient and reflect the key sustainability issues?

Comments should be sent to:

Strategic Planning – Plan Making Team
London Borough of Tower Hamlets
Town Hall
Mulberry Place
PO Box 55739
5 Clove Crescent
London
E14 2BG

Or emailed to: planmaking@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Responses from the consultees will be addressed in subsequent stages of the Sustainability Appraisal process.

References

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

LBTH Sources:

- Sustainability Appraisal for the Core Strategy 2006 (Proposed Submission Document)
<http://modern.gov.towerhamlets.gov.uk/mgConvert2PDF.aspx?ID=12837>
- Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report for South Quay Masterplan (Sept 2014). (Prepared by Land Use Consulting)
http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/pdf/5815_18_SouthQuayMasterplan_SEA_Scoping_Report_20140911.pdf

Other:

- A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/7657/practicalguidesea.pdf
- Implementation of Directive 2001/42/EC on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment “the European Commission guidance”
www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/eia/030923_sea_guidance.pdf
- UK Sustainable Development Strategy: Securing the Future (2005) and the UK’s Shared Framework for Sustainable Development, One Future – Different Paths (2005)

1. Population

LBTH Sources:

- *LBTH Borough Profile website²: Population Key Facts Tower Hamlets 2013.*
- *LBTH Planning for Population Growth and Change Baseline Report 2009*

Other:

- ONS. (2014). 2012-based Subnational Population Projections for England. Available at http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778_363912.pdf
- ONS 2012 MYE
- ONS Census 2011

2. Equality

LBTH Sources:

- *LBTH Indices of Deprivation Summary, 2011*
- *The Poverty Premium, Toynbee Hall, 2014*
- *Equality Impact Assessment scoping report, 2015*

3. Housing

² http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgs/901-950/916_borough_statistics.aspx

LBTH Sources:

- Affordable Housing Viability Report 2009
- Affordable Rent Programme 2011-2015
- Central Area Property Study 2007
- Criteria for Gypsies and Travellers Report 2009
- Five Year Supply of Deliverable Housing Sites 2013-2018.
- Homelessness Statement 2013-17
- Inner East London Broad Rental Market Area (BRMA)
- Managing Travellers Accommodation Report 2009
- New Housing Survey 2008
- Older Person Housing Statement 2013-2015
- Overcrowding and Under Occupation Statement 2013-2015
- Private rental market and house price trends in Tower Hamlets June 2013
- Student Accommodation Report 2009

Other:

- English Housing Survey 2014 (published February 2015)
- GLA Further Alterations to the London Plan (last updated March 2015)
- GLA Strategic Housing Market Assessment, 2013

4. Economy and Employment

LBTH Sources:

- Creative and Cultural Industries Report 2006
- Employment Land Study 2009
- Spatial Economy Study (amended 2011)
- Retail and Leisure Capacity Study 2009
- Small & Medium Office and Workspace Study 2006
- Live Work Report 2006
- Industrial Land Study 2006
- Aldgate Commercial Land and Property Study 2007
- Local Employment by Industries Research Brief 2014.
- Local Economic Assessment 2010
- Household income in Tower Hamlets, 2014

Other:

- NOMIS-Official Labour Market Statistics Local Authority Profile-Tower Hamlets available at:
<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157257/report.aspx?town=tower hamlets#tabempunemp>

5. Education

LBTH Sources

- LBTH Primary School Site Selection and Summary Table

Other:

- NOMIS Labour Market Survey, 2014
- ONS Annual Population Survey

6. Safety

LBTH Sources

- TNS-BMRB, Tower Hamlets Annual Residents Survey 2014

Other:

- Office for National Statistics Local Profiles
- Indices of Deprivation for England 2010

7. Health and wellbeing

LBTH Sources:

- Planning for a healthier urban environment in Tower Hamlets, 2011 (summary and technical)
- Improving health and Well-Being Strategy
- Healthy High Streets [date?]
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment: Life and Health in Tower Hamlets (July 2015, Tower Hamlets JSNA Reference Group).
- Tower Hamlets mental health strategy and JSNA, 2013

Other authorities:

- Air Quality in Tower Hamlets, A guide for public health professionals (Mayor of London, 2013)
- Impact of the Redevelopment of Raven Row on the Mental Well-being of the Local Community in Whitechapel, Tony Coggins and Susan Biddle, September 2014.
- Rapid Health Impact Assessment Tool, HUDU, June 2015 (2nd Ed.).
- Transforming Services Together (NHS)
- Understanding the Health Impacts of Air Pollution in London, King's College London for Transport for London and the Greater London Authority, July 2015.
- Public England. (2014). *Health Profile 2014 for Tower Hamlets*.
- Public Health Outcomes Framework <http://www.phoutcomes.info/public-health-outcomes-framework#page/3/gid/1000041/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/102/are/E09000030/iid/90638/age/1/sex/4>

8. Air Quality

LBTH Sources:

- Safer Communities: Air Quality Action Plan 2014-2018
- Clear Zone Plan 2010
- Tower Hamlets Air Quality Action Plan 2003

Other authorities:

- King's College London. London air quality network. <http://www.londonair.org.uk/LondonAir/Default.aspx>
- Defra. UK Air Quality Strategy 2007

9. Energy and Climate change

LBTH Sources:

- Heat Map Study Report
- Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Report 2009
- Sustainable Energy and enhanced Biodiversity Report 2007
- The Hills Fuel Poverty Review 2012

Other authorities:

- Department of Energy and Climate Change. *Fuel poverty sub-regional statistics 2010-2013*, available at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fuel-poverty-sub-regional-statistics>

10. Transport and mobility

LBTH Sources:

- *Clear Zone Plan 2010*
- *Cycling Plan, 2009 (currently being updated as of 2015)*
- *Walking Plan*
- *Parking Stress Study*
- *Review of Car and Cycle Parking Standards*
- *Public Transport Capacity Assessment P1 and 2*
- *Transport and Utilities Baseline Review*
- *Road Safety (forthcoming)*

11. Biodiversity

LBTH Sources:

- *Biodiversity Action Plan, 2014-2019* <http://www.towerhabitats.org/your-habitats/biodiversity-action-plan.htm>
- Biodiversity Website.
http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ignl/environment_and_planning/sustainability/biodiversity.aspx

Other:

- UK SAC Data Spread sheet available at <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1461>

12. Soil

LBTH Sources:

- *Biodiversity Action Plan, 2014-2019* <http://www.towerhabitats.org/your-habitats/biodiversity-action-plan.htm>
- 2013 Tower Hamlets Contaminated Land Strategy

Other:

- European Environment Agency. *Map of soil sealing in London.* http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/figures/soil-sealing-in-the-capitals/london-eps-file/image_large

13. Flood risk reduction and management

LBTH Sources:

- Flood Risk and the Core Strategy- General Sequential Test (CS)
- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) Level 1 (2009)
- Surface Water Management Plan (2011)

Other:

- <http://rsta.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/363/1831/1455>
- Flood risk assessment: local planning authorities
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-assessment-local-planning-authorities>

14. Water resources and use

LBTH Sources:

- Annual Monitoring Report 2013/14

15. Waste

LBTH Sources:

- *Waste Evidence Base Report Update*

16. Noise

No sources identified.

17. Town Centres

LBTH Sources:

- Town Centre Policy Development Report
- Town Centre Boundaries and Balance of Uses Review
- Town Centre Spatial Strategy to 2025 (2009)
- Borough Portrait for the Town Centre Spatial Strategy
- Tackling the takeaways: A new policy to address fast-food outlets in Tower Hamlets
- Emerging Evidence Base for Economic Growth Strategy

18. Heritage

LBTH Sources:

- Blackwall and Poplar Connections Public Realm Study
- Character Area Assessment
- Urban Structure and Characterisation Study 2009
- Conservation Strategy (check when last updated)
- LBTH Local List (War Memorials) available via LBTH Conservation website
- LBTH Local List (Other Buildings) available via LBTH Conservation website
- LBTH Archaeological Sites Interactive Map available via LBTH Conservation website
- Scheduled Achievement Monuments (SAMs) via LBTH Conservation website

19. Open Space

LBTH Sources:

- Open Space Strategy 2006-2016
- Green Grid Strategy Map
- Green Grid Baseline Report

20. Trans-boundary matters

No sources identified.

Appendices:

Appendix 2A: Review of Policies, Plans and Programmes

Appendix 2B: Baseline Information

Appendix 2C: Method for developing the Sustainability Objectives

Appendix 2D: Compatibility and potential conflicts between the Sustainability Objectives

Appendix 2E Health Impact Assessment Screening

Appendix 3 Equality Impact Assessment Screening

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Appendix 2A: Relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives

International

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (2015)		
<p>The Sustainable Development Goals were set in September 2015 to replace and update the Millennium Development Goals. They cover all three dimensions of sustainable development: Economy, social and environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End poverty in all its forms everywhere • End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture • Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages • Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all • Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all • Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all • Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all • Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation • Reduce inequality within and among countries • Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable • Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns 	<p>The UK Government has yet to localise the SDGs and determine a UK level plan for their implementation.</p>	<p>Through the SA and consultations, the Council should be mindful of SDG 16: <i>Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels</i></p> <p>The Local Plan should take account of all the goals, but with particular focus on SDG 11: <i>Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</i></p> <p>And the following subtargets: 11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums 11.2 By 2030, provide access to safe,</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts • Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development • Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss • Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels • Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development 		<p>affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons</p> <p>11.3 By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries</p> <p>11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage</p> <p>11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations</p> <p>11.6</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
		<p>By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management</p> <p>11.7</p> <p>By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities</p>
<p>UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (1992) and Kyoto Protocol (1997)</p>		
<p>The Kyoto Protocol agreed in 1997 was designed to address the fact that greater cuts in emissions were needed to prevent serious interference with the climate. It has been ratified by over 166 countries. It sets legally binding emissions reductions targets on the developed countries that have ratified it (including the UK). In December 2007, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change took place and brought together over 180 countries. Under the 2007 convention governments have to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather and share information on greenhouse gas emissions • Launch national strategies for climate change • Co-operate in preparing for adaptation to the impacts of climate change. 	<p>Developed countries agreed to reduce their collective emissions of greenhouse gases by 5.2% from 1990 levels by the period 2008 to 2012.</p> <p>The UK target is to reduce emissions to 12.5% below 1990 levels by 2012 (note that the UK has imposed further targets upon itself since then).</p>	<p>The SA should assess the implications of the Local Plan on climate change emissions.</p> <p>The Local Plan should contribute towards reducing carbon emissions, in line with these and further targets.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)

European Union

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
SEA Directive 2001 Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment		
Provide for a high level of protection of the environment and contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development.	The Directive must be applied to plans or programmes whose formal preparation begins after 21 July 2004 and to those already in preparation by that date.	Requirements of the Directive must be met in the SEA/SA of the Local Plan. The Local Plan must be assessed in accordance to the Directive.
Initial Directive of 1985 85/337/EEC and amendments codified by 2011/92/EU Assessment of the Effects of certain Public and Private Projects on the Environment		
Initial Directive of 1985 85/337/EEC and amendments codified by 2011/92/EU Assessment of the Effects of certain Public and Private Projects on the Environment	No specific targets of relevance	Establishes the requirements to undertake Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of specified projects likely to have a significant impact on the environment

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
European Spatial Development Perspective (1999)		
<p>The European Spatial Development Perspective is based on the EU aim of achieving balanced and sustainable development, in particular by strengthening environmentally sound economic development and social cohesion. This means, in particular, reconciling the social and economic claims for spatial development with an area's ecological and cultural functions and, hence, contributing to a sustainable, and at larger scale, balanced territorial development. This is reflected in the three following fundamental goals of European policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic and social cohesion • Conservation of natural resources and cultural heritage • More balanced competitiveness of the European territory. 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance. Targets and measures for the most part deferred to Member States.</p>	<p>The SA should include objectives that complement the principles of the ESDP.</p> <p>Care should be taken when preparing the SA to make sure it encompasses the philosophy of both national and international strategy documents.</p> <p>The Local Plan needs to recognise the tensions between social, economic and environmental issues and include policies that encourage sustainable development.</p>
Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006) and 2009 review		
<p>This document sets out a single coherent strategy on how the EU will meet long-standing commitments to sustainable development. This document presents a renewed version of the 2001 EU Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS). The aim of the SDS is to identify and develop actions to enable the EU to achieve continuous improvement of quality of life both for current and for future generations, through the creation of sustainable communities able to manage and use resources efficiently and to tap the ecological and social innovation potential of the economy, ensuring prosperity, environmental protection and social cohesion.</p>	<p>The key objectives of the strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental protection; • Social equity and cohesion; • Economic prosperity; and • Meeting our international responsibilities. <p>The guiding principles are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion and protection of fundamental 	<p>International objectives and targets relating to sustainability should be considered in the SA both when characterising the baseline and setting the SA objectives.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rights; • Solidarity within and between generations; • Open and democratic society; • Involvement of citizens; • Involvement of businesses and social partners; • Policy coherence and governance; • Policy integration; • Use best available knowledge; • Precautionary principle; and • Making polluters pay 	
<p>Environment Action Plan to 2020, the 7th EAP that will be guiding European environment policy until 2020</p>		
<p>Guides European environment policy to 2020, but to provide a more long term direction , set s avision to 2050: “In 2050, we live well, within the planet’s ecological limits. Our prosperity and healthy environment stem from an innovative, circular economy where nothing is wasted and where natural resources are managed sustainably, and biodiversity is protected, valued and restored in ways that enhance our society’s resilience. Our low-carbon growth has long been decoupled from resource use, setting the pace for a safe and sustainable global society.”</p>	<p>It identifies three key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to protect, conserve and enhance the Union’s natural capital • to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy • to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures 	<p>International objectives and targets relating to environmental policy should be considered in the SA both when characterising the baseline and setting the SA objectives.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>and risks to health and wellbeing</p> <p>Four so called "enablers" will help Europe deliver on these goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • better implementation of legislation • better information by improving the knowledge base • more and wiser investment for environment and climate policy • full integration of environmental requirements and considerations into other policies 	
<p>Directive 1996/62/EC: Air Quality Framework (1996) and Daughter Directives: (1999, 2000 & 2002) - New Air Quality Directive 2008/50/EC</p>		
<p>The Framework Directive establishes a framework under which the EC will agree air quality limit values or guide values for specified pollutants in a series of Daughter Directives. The Directives contain limit values relating to the pollutants and it is necessary for these targets to be translated into UK legislation.</p> <p>This report by the Air Quality Expert Group (AQEG) looks at the scientific background to interactions and synergies between air quality and climate change from the perspective of policy measures developed to address both or either, focusing on the UK and Europe in the period to 2022.</p>	<p>Avoid, prevent and reduce harmful effects of ambient air pollution on human health and the environment.</p> <p>Thresholds for pollutants are included in the Directives. The list of atmospheric pollutants includes sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter, lead, ozone, benzene, carbon monoxide, poly-aromatic hydrocarbons, cadmium, arsenic, nickel and mercury.</p>	<p>The SA framework should include an objective that addresses the improvement of air quality.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)		
<p>The purpose of this Directive is to establish a framework for the protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevents further deterioration and protects and enhances the status of aquatic ecosystems and, with regard to their water needs, terrestrial ecosystems and wetlands directly depending on the aquatic ecosystems • Promotes sustainable water use based on a long-term protection of available water resources • Aims to enhance protection and improvement of the aquatic environment, inter alia, through specific measures for the progressive • reduction of discharges, emissions and losses of priority substances and the cessation or phasing-out of discharges, emissions and losses of the priority hazardous substances • Ensures the progressive reduction of pollution of groundwater and prevents its further pollution • Contributes to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts 	<p>Objectives for surface waters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievement of good ecological status and good surface water chemical status by 2015 • Achievement of good ecological potential and good surface water chemical status for heavily modified water bodies and artificial water bodies • Prevention of deterioration from one status class to another • Achievement of water-related objectives and standards for protected areas <p>Objectives for groundwater:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievement of good groundwater quantitative and chemical status by 2015 • Prevention of deterioration from one status class to another • Reversal of any significant and sustained upward trends in pollutant concentrations and prevent or limit input of 	<p>The SA should include an objective regarding the protection and improvement of water supply and water habitats.</p> <p>The plan should consider how the water environment can be protected and enhanced, and include policies that promote the sustainable use of water resources.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p style="text-align: center;">pollutants to groundwater</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achievement of water related objectives and standards for protected areas 	
Directive 2006/118/EC on the protection of groundwater against Pollution and Deterioration		
<p>This Directive is designed to prevent and combat groundwater pollution. Its provisions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> criteria for assessing the chemical status of groundwater criteria for identifying significant and sustained upward trends in groundwater pollution levels, and for defining starting points for reversing these trends preventing and limiting indirect discharges (after percolation through soil or subsoil) of pollutants into groundwater. 	<p>Groundwater is considered to have a good chemical status when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> measured or predicted nitrate levels do not exceed 50 mg/l, while those of active pesticide ingredients, their metabolites and reaction products do not exceed 0.1 µg/l (a total of 0.5 µg/l for all pesticides measured); the levels of certain high-risk substances are below the threshold values set by Member States; at the very least, this must include ammonium, arsenic, cadmium, chloride, lead, mercury, sulphate, trichloroethylene and tetrachloroethylene; the concentration of any other 	<p>The SA should include an objective regarding the protection and improvement of groundwater quality.</p> <p>The plan should consider how the quality of groundwater can be protected and enhanced.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>pollutants conforms to the definition of good chemical status as set out in Annex V to the Water Framework Directive (<u>EN</u>);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if a value set as a quality standard or a threshold value is exceeded, an investigation confirms, among other things, that this does not pose a significant environmental risk 	
Directive on the Assessment and Management of Flood Risks 2007/60/EC		
<p>This Directive aims to reduce and manage the risks that floods pose to human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity. It requires Member States to assess whether all water courses and coast lines are at risk from flooding, to map the flood extent and assets and humans at risk in these areas, and to take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce this flood risk.</p> <p>The Directive shall be carried out in co-ordination with the Water Framework Directive, most notably through flood risk management plans and river basin management plans, and also through co-ordination of the public participation procedures in the preparation of these plans.</p>	No specific targets of relevance.	<p>The SA should include an objective on reducing flood risk in the parts of the borough in flood zones 2 and 3.</p> <p>The LP should consider how to reduce flood risk in London and support flood management plans of London and the Thames Estuary.</p>
The Waste Framework Directive (2008) Directive 2008/98/EC on waste		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>The aims of this directive are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a comprehensive and consolidated approach to the definition and management of waste. • To shift from thinking of waste as an unwanted burden to a valued resource and make Europe a recycling society. • Ensure waste prevention is the first priority of waste management. • Provide environmental criteria for certain waste systems, to establish when waste ceases to be a waste (rather than significantly amending the definition of waste). 	No specific targets of relevance.	<p>The SA needs to incorporate objectives that address waste issues, e.g. minimisation and re-use etc.</p> <p>The plan should seek to promote the key objectives of prevention, recycling and processing of waste, conversion of waste to usable materials, and energy recovery.</p>
<p>Electricity Production from Renewable Energy Sources (2001) Directive 2001/77/EC</p> <p>Promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (2009) Directive 2009/28/EC</p>		
<p>This directive, which amends and appeals earlier Directives 2001/77/EC and 2003/30/EC, creates a common framework for the use of renewable energy in the EU so as to limit greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and promote cleaner transport. To do so, it sets targets for all EU countries with the overall aim of making renewable energy sources account for 20 % of EU energy and 10 % of energy specifically in the transport sector by 2020</p>	<p>The 2001 Directive sets a target for the EU of producing 22% of its overall electricity use from renewable energy sources by 2010 with each Member State having its own target (UK: 10%).</p> <p>The 2009 Directive establishes a common framework for the use of energy from renewable sources in order to limit greenhouse gas emissions and to promote cleaner transport. To this end, national action plans are defined,</p>	<p>The SA needs to incorporate objectives to promote the production and use of renewable energy.</p> <p>The plan should seek to promote the key objectives of meeting the UK's renewable energy target.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>as are procedures for the use of biofuels</p> <p>Each EU country is to make a national action plan for 2020, setting a share for renewable energy sources in transport, heating and the production of electricity.</p>	
<p>The Landfill Directive 1999 Directive 99/31/EC on the landfill of waste</p>		
<p>This Directive aims to prevent or reduce adverse effects on the environment from landfilling of waste by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills.</p>	<p>Targets set by the directive are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the amount of biodegradable waste sent to landfill to 75% of the 1995 level by 2010. • Reduce this to 50% in 2013 and 35% by 2020. 	<p>The SA should include objectives to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill.</p> <p>The LP should contribute towards meeting the targets set for increasing the amount of recycling and reducing waste.</p>
<p>EU Environmental Noise Directive (2002) Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise</p>		
<p>Defines a common approach to avoid, prevent and reduce the adverse effects due to the exposure to environmental noise.</p>	<p>Principles of the directive include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring environmental 	<p>The SA should assess the effects of the plan on noise including from</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
Provides a basis for developing European wide measures to deal with noise emitted by road and rail vehicles, infrastructure, aircraft and outdoor, industrial and mobile machinery.	<p>problems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informing and consulting the public. • Addressing local noise issues. • Developing a long-term EU strategy. 	disturbance to local populations and also wildlife.
EU Habitats Directive (1992) Directive 92/43/EC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora		
Seeks to maintain biodiversity taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements. Conservation of natural habitats and maintain landscape features of importance to wildlife and fauna.	<p>Member States are required to take measures to maintain or restore at favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species. This includes Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas and it is usually accepted as also including Ramsar sites.</p> <p>Plans that may adversely affect the integrity of sites may be required to be subject to Appropriate Assessment under the Directive.</p>	<p>Include SA objectives to protect and enhance sustainability.</p> <p>Should include the conservation provisions of the Directive, and include objectives that address the protection of biodiversity.</p> <p>When required, a Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening exercise should be undertaken.</p> <p>There are no sites of European significance within the borough. There are no SACs, SPAs, Ramsar sites, SSIs or NNRs in the borough. The closest such sites are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walthamstow Reservoir (SPA) • Epping Forest (SAC)

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower Thames Marshes (SPA) <p>LP must take into account the habitats and species that have been identified under this directive, and should include provision for the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment as appropriate.</p>
EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020		
<p>The Strategy aims to anticipate, prevent and attack the causes of significant reduction or loss of biodiversity at the source, which will help both to reverse present trends in biodiversity decline and to place species and ecosystems, including agro-ecosystems, at a satisfactory conservation status, both within and beyond the territory of the EU.</p>	<p>No specific objectives or indicators.</p>	<p>Include SA objectives that address biodiversity.</p> <p>LP must consider biodiversity protection.</p>
EU Conservation of Wild Birds Directive 2009 Directive 2009/147/EC is a codified version of Directive 79/409/EEC as amended		
<p>This Directive relates to the conservation of all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state in the European territory of the Member States to which the Treaty applies, including the designation of certain habitats as Special Protection Areas. It covers the protection,</p>	<p>The preservation, maintenance, and re-establishment of biotopes and habitats shall include the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of protected areas. Upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological 	<p>Include measures in defining SA objectives for biodiversity.</p> <p>The Local Plan should ensure that the upkeep of recognised habitats is maintained and not damaged</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>management and control of these species and lays down rules for their exploitation, and also the prevention of pollution / deterioration of habitats or any disturbances affecting the birds. The main provisions are the maintenance of favourable conservation status of all wild bird species, the identification and classification of Special Protection Areas for rare/vulnerable species and the establishment of schemes for the protection of wild birds.</p>	<p>needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-establishment of destroyed biotopes. • Creation of biotopes. 	<p>from development.</p> <p>Avoid pollution or deterioration of habitats or any other disturbances affecting birds.</p>
<p>Aarhus Convention (Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters) (1998)</p>		
<p>The Convention addresses the need to guarantee the rights of access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters. There is a requirement for these provisions to be implemented in the Member States.</p>	<p>There are no specific objectives, targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The SA process has to comply with the principles of the Convention. Enough time needs to be provided for in the SA process to permit consultation in accordance with Aarhus requirements.</p> <p>The Local Plan Consultation Process will have to ensure we comply with the convention.</p>
<p>The Charter for the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (International Council on Monuments and Sites, 1987)</p>		
<p>The charter concerns historic urban areas including cities, towns and historic centres or quarters, together with their natural and manmade environments. In order to be most effective, the conservation of historic towns and other historic urban areas should be an integral part of coherent policies of economic and social development and of urban and regional planning at every level.</p>	<p>There are no specific objectives, targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>Include an SA objective to address protecting historic areas.</p> <p>The Local Plan should ensure the protection of historic areas of the borough.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
European Transport Policy for 2010: A Time to Decide (European Commission, 2001)		
<p>The policy outlines the need to improve the quality and effectiveness of transport in Europe. A strategy has been proposed which is designed to gradually break the link between transport growth and economic growth to reduce environmental impacts and congestion. The policy advocates measures that promote an environmentally friendly mix of transport services.</p>	<p>There are no specific indicators or targets of relevance.</p>	<p>The SA framework should include objectives which address the need to reduce reliance on the private car and the overall level of road traffic whilst prioritising walking, cycling and public transport.</p> <p>The Local Plan should include policies to promote the use of sustainable transport.</p>
UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), The Athens Charter (1931 and The Venice Charter on the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (1964)		
<p>These charters and convention aims to protect and enhance the world's cultural heritage. In terms of the UNESCO convention, each Party to the Convention recognizes the duty of ensuring the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage; and will ensure that effective and active measures are taken for the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage situated on its territory.</p>	<p>There are no specific objectives, targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives to protect cultural and heritage assets.</p> <p>The Local Plan should protect the borough's cultural and heritage assets, particularly the Tower of London a UNESCO World Heritage Site.</p>
Directive on Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (96/61/EC)		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>The Directive provides an integrated approach to pollution prevention. It seeks to ensure a high level of protection to the environment through measures to prevent or reduce emissions to air, water and land. It addresses issues relating to waste, wastewater, energy use and environmental accidents. The Directive is based upon several principles including best available techniques.</p>	<p>There are no specific objectives, targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The SA framework should include a number of objectives addressing environmental protection in particular recognising the need to prevent pollution to air, land and water.</p> <p>The Local Plan should include policies to protect and enhance the natural environment.</p>

National Plans and Programmes

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012) and associated National Planning Policy Guidance</p>		
<p>The NPPF introduces a presumption in favour of sustainable development. The government's planning policy approach for delivering sustainable development re set out under the following key policy themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Building a strong, competitive economy 2. Ensuring the vitality of town centres 3. Supporting a prosperous rural economy 4. Promoting sustainable transport 5. Supporting high quality communications infrastructure 	<p>Presumption in favour of sustainable development. Delivering sustainable development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building strong, competitive economy. • Ensuring vitality of town centres. • Promoting sustainable transport. • Supporting high quality 	<p>Include objectives relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening the economy. • Vitality of town centres and the benefits of mixed use developments • Sustainable transport. • housing availability and

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>6. Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes 7. Requiring good design 8. Promoting healthy communities 9. Protecting Green Belt land 10. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change 11. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment 12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment 13. Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals</p>	<p>communications infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes. • Requiring good design. • Promoting healthy communities. • Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding, and coastal change. • Conserving and enhancing the historic environment. • Facilitating the use of sustainable materials. 	<p>quality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • good design. • health and well-being • climate change mitigation and adaption, to include minimising the risk of flooding. • conservation and enhancement of the natural environment. • conservation and enhancement of heritage assets. <p>The Local Plan must conform with the NPPF.</p> <p>Set out clear economic visions for that particular area.</p> <p>Recognise town centres as the heart of their communities.</p> <p>To implement sustainable transport modes depending on nature/location of the site, to reduce the need for major road transport infrastructure.</p> <p>Enhance the provision of local community facilities and services by supporting the expansion of electronic communications networks.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
		<p>Identify size, type, tenure and range of housing that is required in particular locations.</p> <p>Establish a strong sense of place to live, work and visit.</p> <p>Promote safe and accessible environments with a high quality of life and community cohesion.</p> <p>Use opportunities offered by new development to reduce causes/impacts of flooding. Recognise the wider benefits of biodiversity.</p> <p>Sustain and enhance heritage assets and put them to viable uses consistent with their conservation. A plan may be considered unsound if there has been no proper assessment of the significance of heritage assets in the area, and the plan does not contain a positive strategy for the conservation, enhancement and enjoyment of the historic environment.</p> <p>Include policies which identify and safeguard mineral resources and</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
		associated infrastructure and promote the use of recycled/secondary materials prior to the extraction of primary materials.
Localism Act 2011		
<p>The Localism Act contains a number of proposals to give local authorities new freedoms and flexibility shifting power from the central state. In summary the Act gives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New freedoms and flexibilities for local government; • New rights and powers for local communities, including neighbourhood planning 	No specific objectives or indicators.	<p>The SA Framework should be mindful of this Act as its principles will help to create vibrant, cohesive and empowered communities.</p> <p>The plan should be mindful of the key principles and powers of this Act, especially the need to incorporate Neighbourhood Plans into Local Plans.</p>
UK Sustainable Development Strategy: Securing the Future (2005) and the UK's Shared Framework for Sustainable Development, One Future – Different Paths (2005)		
<p>The strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. As a result of the 2004 consultation to develop new UK sustainable development strategy, the following issues have been highlighted as the main priority areas for immediate action:</p>	<p>Although there are no specific targets within this Strategy, it makes reference to targets set in related Public Service Agreements (PSA) and other relevant policy statements.</p> <p>It also lists 68 high level UK government</p>	<p>Ensure that the range of sustainability objectives reflect key principles and priorities and promote sustainable development and communities.</p> <p>The Local Plan should reflect and</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable consumption and production – working towards achieving more with less • Climate change and energy - confronting the greatest threat • Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement - protecting the natural resources on which we depend • From local to global - building sustainable communities - • Creating places where people want to live and work, now and in the future. <p>The following principles will be used to achieve the sustainable development purpose, and have been agreed by the UK Government, Scottish Executive, Welsh Assembly Government, and the Northern Ireland Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living within environmental limits • Ensuring a strong, healthy, and just society • Achieving a sustainable economy • Promoting good governance • Using sound science responsibly <p>The Shared Framework For Sustainable Development identifies the shared goals for the UK that devolved administrations need to work towards. They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable consumption and production • Climate change and energy • Natural resource protection and environmental Enhancement • Sustainable Communities 	<p>strategy indicators, which will be used to measure the success with which the above objectives are being met.</p> <p>The most relevant to this study are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenhouse gas emissions: Kyoto target and CO2 emissions • CO2 emissions by end user: industry, domestic, transport (excluding international aviation), other • Renewable electricity: renewable electricity generated as a percentage of total electricity • Energy supply: UK primary energy supply and gross inland energy consumption • Water resource use: total abstractions • from non-tidal surface and ground water sources • Waste: arising by (a) sector (b) method of disposal • Bird populations: bird population indices: farmland birds (b) woodland birds (c) birds of coasts and estuaries (d) wintering wetland birds • Biodiversity conservation: priority species status (b) priority habitat status • River quality: rivers of good (a) biological (b) chemical quality • Air quality and health: (a) annual 	<p>contribute to the national Sustainable Development Strategy principles and priorities</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>levels of particles and ozone (b) days when air pollution is moderate or higher</p>	
<p>Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future (ODPM, 2003)</p>		
<p>This sets out a long-term national programme of how the Government intends to deliver sustainable communities. It focuses mainly on tackling housing supply issues in the South East, low demand in other parts of the country, and the quality of housing and public spaces.</p>	<p>The main sections are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable communities; • Step changes in housing supply; • Decent homes; including the need to bring council homes up to a decent standard; and • Improvements to the local environment, particularly the public realm. <p>It recognises that the success of communities relies on more than just housing and communities must develop economically, socially and environmentally.</p>	<p>Include objectives that seek to address housing supply, particularly affordable housing supply, and promote key environmental and sustainability issues in line with main objectives.</p> <p>The SA should acknowledge local action to meet local needs. It should recognise that housing should be provided for all sections of society.</p> <p>It should recognise that environmental improvements can improve quality of life.</p> <p>The SA Framework should be reviewed against these objectives .</p> <p>The Local Plan should build upon relevant elements of the Communities Plan. The Local Plan should not conflict with the national programme of action.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
		<p>The plan should encourage housing to be addressed by local partnerships as part of a wider strategy of neighbourhood renewal and sustainable communities.</p> <p>It should also encourage environmental enhancement to be central to regeneration solutions, including the use of green space networks as a basis for development and have due regard for landscape character and designations.</p>
The Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 and amendments 2014		
<p>The Community Infrastructure Levy (the levy) is a tool for local authorities in England and Wales to help deliver infrastructure to support the development of the area.</p>	<p>No specific objectives or indicators.</p>	<p>The SA should consider the impact of CIL in delivering local infrastructure.</p> <p>In drafting, the Local Plan should take into account the current CIL.</p>
Urban White Paper – Our Towns and Cities: The Future (ODPM, 2000)		
<p>The Urban White Paper sets out a vision for the future of towns and cities.</p>	<p>It identifies four steps to making “all urban areas places for people”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting the design and quality of the 	<p>SA objectives should reflect the general principles to achieve higher quality, more accessible, safer and</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>urban fabric right.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling all towns and cities to create and share prosperity. • Providing the quality services people need. • Equipping people to participate in developing their communities. <p>This vision of urban living includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People living in attractive, well-kept towns and cities which use space and buildings well; • Good design and planning, which makes it practical to live in a more environmentally sustainable way, with less noise, pollution and traffic congestion; • Towns and cities able to create and share prosperity, investing to help all their citizens reach their full potential; and • Good quality services-health, education, housing, transport, finance, shopping, leisure and protection from crime that meet the needs of people and businesses wherever they are. <p>As well as targets on crime, education attainment, health and unemployment it includes targets such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better, safer and more reliable 	<p>sustainable urban environments.</p> <p>The Local Plan should reflect the general principles to achieve higher quality, more accessible, safer and sustainable urban environments. It should also seek to contribute to the supply of new housing on previously developed land</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>transport systems, leading to the increased use of public transport and reductions in road congestion by 2010;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better housing with all social housing being of a decent standard by 2010 and with most improvement taking place in deprived areas; • A better environment with 60% of new housing provided on previously developed land or through conversions of existing buildings by 2008; 17% of underused land reclaimed by 2010; • Better designed buildings and places; and clean and more attractive streets. 	
HOUSING		
Sustainable Communities: Homes for All (ODPM, 2005)		
<p>This strategy sets out the Governments five-year programme for housing. Topics covered include proposals to expand home ownership and revive the UK housing market, affordable housing and support for first time buyers. It includes measures to improve supply and delivery while protecting the environment and action in low demand and growth areas; details of the Government's First Time Buyer, Key Worker and Homebuy schemes; and action on homelessness to halve numbers living in temporary accommodation by 2010 and addressing other management and tenure issues.</p>	<p>Targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain target that 60% of all new housing development should be built on brownfield land • Raise design standards, with the aim that a hundred more developments gain a Building for Life Award for Excellence • Improve minimum energy standards for all new homes, reducing carbon emissions by around a further 25% 	<p>SA should include objectives that support the achievement of sustainable housing provision.</p> <p>Local Plan principles should reflect support for improving housing supply to relevant design standards and in an energy efficient manner.</p> <p>The Local Plan should ensure</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a new Code for Sustainable Buildings to promote excellence in environmental performance • Raise the average energy efficiency of the whole of the residential housing stock by 20% compared with 2000. • Promote more sustainable buildings, saving energy, water and materials and helping to meet the target to cut UK carbon emissions by 60% by 2050: • Promote more sustainable, high quality design and construction, to reduce waste and improve resource efficiency. 	<p>adequate provision of new housing to meet future demand.</p>
The Code for Sustainable Homes: Setting the Standard in Sustainability for New Homes (2008)		
<p>This sets out the assessment process and performance standards required for the Code for Sustainable Homes.</p>	<p>The Code is a voluntary standard designed to improve the sustainability of new homes.</p> <p>The Code measures the sustainability of a home against nine design categories, rating the 'whole home' as a complete package. These categories are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy & CO2 • Emissions, • Pollution, • Water, • Heath & Wellbeing, • Materials, • Management, • Surface, 	<p>Include objectives which promote sustainable development and seek to achieve higher levels of efficiency (e.g. in energy, water etc.) where appropriate.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take into account their roles in promoting the implementation of the Code for all residential development.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Run-off, • Ecology, and • Waste. 	
CLIMATE CHANGE		
Climate Change Act (2008)		
<p>The Act commits the UK to action in mitigating the impacts of climate change. It has two key aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve carbon management, helping the transition towards a low-carbon economy • To demonstrate UK leadership internationally, signalling a commitment to take our share of responsibility for reducing global emissions in the context of developing negotiations on a post-2012 global agreement at Copenhagen in December 2009 [and beyond]. 	<p>Relevant commitments within the Act are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The creation of a legally binding target of at least an 80% cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, to be achieved through action in the UK and abroad (against 1990 levels). Also a reduction in emissions of at least 34% by 2020. • A carbon budgeting system which caps emissions over five-year periods, to aid progress towards the 2050 target. • The creation of the Committee on Climate Change - a new independent, expert body to advise the Government on the level of carbon budgets and on where cost-effective savings can be made. • The inclusion of International aviation and shipping emissions in the Act or an explanation to Parliament why not - by 31 	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that address climate change issues including flooding and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>The plan should ensure that policies are in place to encourage the reduction in CO2 emissions whilst promoting sustainable economic growth.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>December 2012.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further measures to reduce emissions, including: powers to introduce domestic emissions trading schemes more quickly and easily through secondary legislation; measures on biofuels; powers to introduce pilot financial incentive schemes in England for household waste; powers to require a minimum charge for single-use carrier bags (excluding Scotland). • New powers to support the creation of a Community Energy Savings Programme. 	
Stern Review of the Economics of Climate Change (2006)		
<p>The review examines the evidence on the economic impacts of climate change and explores the economics of stabilising greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. The second part of the review considers the complex policy challenges involved in managing the transition to a low-carbon economy and in ensuring that societies are able to adapt to the consequences of climate change. The document clearly identifies that adaptation is the only available response for impacts that will occur over the next few decades.</p>		<p>The SA Framework should include an objective relating to the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>The plan should ensure that policies are in place to encourage the reduction in CO2 emissions whilst promoting sustainable economic growth.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
UK Carbon Plan (2011)		
<p>The Carbon Plan sets out the Government's plans for achieving the emissions reductions committed to in the first four carbon budgets, on a pathway consistent with meeting the UK's 2050 target. The publication brings together the Government's strategy to curb greenhouse gas emissions and deliver climate change targets.</p>	<p>The Carbon Plan includes the following targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to reduce carbon emissions by at least 80% by 2050. 	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that complement the priorities of this Plan</p> <p>It should be ensured that reducing carbon emissions is a key theme throughout the plan</p>
Climate change and biodiversity adaptation: the role of the spatial planning system – a Natural England commissioned report (2009)		
<p>The report examines ways in which the land use planning system can help biodiversity adapt to climate change. Strategies are identified that enable LDFs to deliver against the Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs' (Defra) 12 core adaptation goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conserve existing biodiversity <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1a Conserve protected areas and other high quality habitats 1b Conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species 2 Reduce sources of harm not linked to climate 3 Develop ecologically resilient and varied landscapes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3a Conserve and enhance local variation within sites and habitats 3b Make space for the natural development of rivers and coasts 4 Establish ecological networks through habitat protection, restoration and creation 5 Make sound decisions based on analysis <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5a Thoroughly analyse causes of change 5b Respond to changing conservation priorities 		<p>The SA should refer to specific guidance in the document for using SA to improve the ability of biodiversity to adapt to climate change.</p> <p>Development of the plan should include recommendations from this report. Biodiversity assets should be protected from inappropriate development and i.e. use of buffer zones around sensitive sites.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
6 Integrate adaptation and mitigation measures into conservation management, planning and practice		
The National Adaptation Programme – Making the Country Resilient to a Changing Climate (Defra, 2013)		
<p>The programme recognises the challenges cities face in a changing climate – with higher population density “including a larger proportion of vulnerable groups, concentrated assets, infrastructure, transport systems, buildings, schools, hospitals and businesses are expected to be acutely impacted by increased severity and frequency of flooding, higher summer temperatures, heat waves, extreme weather events and increased pressure on water resources”</p>	<p>The report sets out visions for the following sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built Environment – “buildings and places and the people who live and work in them are resilient to a changing climate and extreme weather and organisations in the built environment sector have an increased capacity to address the risks and take the opportunities from climate change”. • Infrastructure – “an infrastructure network that is resilient to today’s natural hazards and prepared for the future changing climate”. • Healthy and resilient communities – “a health service, a public health and social care system which are resilient and adapted to a changing climate. Communities and individuals, including the most vulnerable, are better prepared to cope with severe weather events and other impacts of climate change. Emergency services and local resilience capability take 	<p>Include objectives which seek to promote the implementation of adaptation measures to make the Borough more resilient to a changing climate.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take account of the visions set out in the Programme.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>account of and are resilient to, a changing climate”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture and Forestry – “profitable and productive agriculture and forestry sectors that take the opportunities from climate change, are resilient to its threats and contribute to the resilience of the natural environment by helping maintain ecosystem services and protect and enhance biodiversity”. • Natural Environment – “the natural environment, with diverse and healthy ecosystems, is resilient to climate change, able to accommodate change and valued for the adaptation services it provides”. • Business – “UK businesses are resilient to extreme weather and prepared for future risks and opportunities from climate change”. • Local Government – “Local government plays a central role in leading and supporting local places to become more 	
ENERGY		
Energy White Paper – Planning for our electric future (DECC, 2012)		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>This White Paper sets out the Government's commitment to transform the UK's electricity system to ensure that our future electricity supply is secure, low-carbon and affordable.</p>	<p>15% renewable energy target by 2020 and 80% carbon reduction target by 2050.</p>	<p>Include SA objectives to reduce carbon emissions and increase proportion of energy generated from renewable sources.</p> <p>The Local Plan should support renewable energy generation and encourage greater energy efficiency.</p>
<p>Building a Greener Future: Policy Statement (DCLG, 2007)</p>		
<p>This report sets out the Government's proposals to reduce the carbon footprint of new housing development and indicates the Government's views on the importance of moving towards zero carbon in new housing. The report also explores the relationship between the planning system, Code for Sustainable Homes and Building Regulations in delivering ambitions for zero carbon and proposes a timetable for revising the Building Regulations in order to reach zero carbon development in all new housing in England & Wales.</p>	<p>This Statement confirms the government's intention to achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25% more energy efficient homes by 2010, • 44% more efficient homes by 2013 and • zero carbon (net carbon emissions should be zero per annum) homes by 2016. 	<p>Include objectives which seek to improve the energy efficiency of proposed developments and encourage uptake of renewable energy.</p> <p>The Local Plan should ensure residential development is zero carbon in line with targets.</p>
<p>The Energy Efficiency Opportunity in the UK (DECC, 2012)</p>		
<p>This is an Energy Efficiency Strategy aiming to realise the wider energy efficiency potential that is available in the UK economy.</p> <p>The Strategy identifies four barriers to energy efficiency which need to be overcome which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embryonic markets. • Information. 	<p>The Strategy draws attention to maximising the potential of existing dwellings by implementing 21st century energy management initiatives on 19th century homes.</p>	<p>Include SA objectives relating to energy efficiency and adaptation of the existing building stock.</p> <p>The Local Plan should seek to address the barriers identified within the Strategy and improve the</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Misaligned financial incentives. Undervaluing energy efficiency. 		existing building stock through appropriate adaptation measures.
Energy Act 2013		
<p>The Act sets out new legislation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflect the availability of new technologies (such as CCS and emerging renewable technologies) Correspond with our changing requirements for security of supply infrastructure (such as offshore gas storage) Ensure adequate protection for the environment and the tax payer as our energy market changes. 	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	<p>The SA Framework should include an objective relating to minimising greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>The plan should ensure that policies are in place to encourage the reduction in CO2 emissions whilst promoting sustainable economic growth.</p>
UK Fuel Poverty Strategy (Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform, 2001)		
<p>The strategy identifies the main causes of fuel poverty in the UK (a combination of poor energy efficiency in homes and low incomes) and outlines its effects on quality of life and health. The strategy aims to reduce fuel poverty especially of vulnerable members of society, such as children and the elderly.</p>	There are no specific objectives, targets or indicators of relevance.	<p>The SA Framework should include an objective to reduce fuel poverty.</p> <p>The Local Plan should include policies designed to reduce fuel requirements in new buildings and therefore reduce fuel poverty.</p>
TRANSPORT		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
Transport White Paper – Cutting Carbon, creating growth: Making sustainable local transport happen (DfT 2011)		
<p>The vision is for a transport system that is an engine for economic growth but one that is greener and safer and improves the quality of life in our communities.</p> <p>This White Paper forms part of the dft's overall strategy to tackle carbon emissions from transport. It sets out what Government believes is the best way in the short term to reduce emissions at the local level, using the tools that are available to us now, principally by encouraging people to make more sustainable travel choices for shorter journeys. This White Paper is about providing the early reduction in carbon emissions that local action is best placed to deliver, while facilitating the access to local jobs that will boost economic growth.</p>	<p>The document does not contain specific targets or indicators.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should ensure inclusion of objectives that promote sustainable transport.</p> <p>The Local Plan should recognise the importance of safe, reliable and efficient transport systems to economic and social wellbeing. The sustainability impacts of transport should also be fully understood.</p>
The Future of Transport White Paper – A Network for 2030 (DfT, 2004)		
<p>This White Paper builds upon the 10-year Transport Plan and looks at the factors that will shape travel and transport networks over the next 30 years. It sets out how the Government proposes to respond to pressures balanced against safeguarding economic and social well-being and the environment. It highlights that is essential that planning and transport policies are closely co-ordinated to produce more sustainable patterns of development and travel.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure we can benefit from mobility and access while minimising the impact on other people and the environment, now and in the future. • Get the best out of our transport system without damaging our overall quality of life. • Develop strategies that recognise that demand for travel will increase in the future. • Work towards a transport network that can meet the challenges of a growing economy and the 	<p>Include SA objectives to reduce the need to travel and improve choice and use of sustainable transport modes.</p> <p>The Local Plan should provide for an increase in demand for travel whilst minimising impact on the environment. Policies also needed to promote public transport use rather than increasing reliance on the car.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>increasing demand for travel but can also achieve the government's environmental objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides targets for emission reductions, now superseded by later agreements. Transport is currently responsible for about a quarter of total emissions. 	
Door to Door: A Strategy for Improving Sustainable Transport Integration (DfT, 2013)		
<p>The strategy focuses on four core areas which need to be addressed so that people can be confident in choosing greener modes of transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accurate, accessible and reliable information about different transport options Convenient and affordable tickets Regular and straightforward connections at all stages of the journey and between different modes of transport Safe and comfortable transport facilities <p>The strategy also includes details on how the Government is using behaviour change methods to reduce or remove barriers to the use of sustainable transport, and working closely with stakeholders to deliver a better-connected transport system.</p>	<p>The document does not contain specific targets or indicators.</p>	<p>Include SA objectives relating to high quality, efficient sustainable transport systems.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take into account their role in addressing the four core areas outlined in the Strategy.</p>
CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY		
Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended)		
<p>The Act still forms the basis of conservation legislation in Great Britain, although</p>	<p>The document does not contain specific</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>it has been much modified.</p> <p>Schedules 5 and 8 of the Act detail lists of legally protected wild animals and plants respectively. These are updated every five years.</p>	<p>targets or indicators.</p>	<p>objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity resources.</p> <p>The Local Plan must ensure that the requirements of the Act are complied with and that species and habitats are protected.</p>
<p>The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010)</p>		
<p>These Regulations make provision for the purpose of implementing, for Great Britain, Council Directive 92/43/EEC [8] on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.</p> <p>They replace and update the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) in England and Wales (and to a limited degree, Scotland - as regards reserved matters).</p>	<p>The document does not contain specific targets or indicators.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity resources.</p> <p>It is essential that the Local Plan should consider biodiversity protection.</p>
<p>Working with the Grain of Nature: a Biodiversity Strategy for England (March 2011)</p>		
<p>The overarching vision of this Strategy is for a country where wild species and habitats are part of healthy functioning ecosystems; where we nurture, treasure and enhance our biodiversity, and where biodiversity is a natural consideration of policies and decisions, and in society as a whole.</p>	<p>The Strategy's specific vision for towns and cities is to have towns and cities which have a place for wildlife, and in which a flourishing biodiversity makes a real contribution to the quality of life of</p>	<p>SA objectives should incorporate the key aims of the strategy.</p> <p>The Local Plan should help promote the vision of the strategy for towns</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>urban residents, workers and visitors. Development that makes minimal impact on wildlife habitats and contributes to the conservation of biodiversity. Five key aims for protecting biodiversity in towns and cities are also set out in the Strategy as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that cities, towns and other settlements contribute fully to the goals of biodiversity conservation • To ensure that construction, planning, development and regeneration have minimal adverse impacts on biodiversity and enhance where possible • To ensure that biodiversity conservation is integral to sustainable urban communities, both in the built environment, and in parks and green spaces • To ensure that biodiversity conservation is integral to measures to improve the quality of people's lives, delivered through other initiatives e.g. Community Strategies, including Neighbourhood Renewal and Cultural • Strategies, social inclusion, health and equality of opportunity • To value, further and enhance people's own contributions to 	<p>and cities and ensure that it does not impede the achievement of the five key aims for towns and cities.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	improving biodiversity in towns and cities and to increase their access to it	
Natural Environment White Paper (2011)		
These indicators show changes in aspects of biodiversity such as the population size of important species or the area of land managed for wildlife. They provide part of the evidence to assess whether the targets set out in the following column have been achieved.	There are eighteen UK biodiversity indicators grouped under six focal areas aligned to those used by the Convention on Biological Diversity: 1. Status and trends in components of biodiversity 2. Sustainable use 3. Threats to biodiversity 4. Ecosystem integrity and ecosystem goods and services 5. Status of resource transfers and use 6. Public awareness and participation	include an SA objective relating to the enhancement of the natural environment and consider the multiple benefits that the natural environment can provide (e.g. health benefits). The Local Plan should protect the intrinsic value of nature and recognise the multiple benefits it could have for communities.
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (2011)		
The aim of the Strategy is to guide conservation efforts in England up to 2020. Moving further on from 2020, the ambition is to move from a net biodiversity loss to gain.	The strategy includes 22 priorities which include actions for the following sectors: • Agriculture • Forestry • Planning and Development • Water Management • Marine Management • Fisheries	Include SA objective relating to the protection and enhancement of the natural environment. The Local Plan should take into account their role in seeking to prevent the degradation of biodiversity and ecosystem services

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Pollution • Invasive Non-Native Species 	<p>within LBTH. DPDs should also recognise their contribution to securing a net gain in biodiversity.</p>
<p>Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England (DEFRA, 2009)</p>		
<p>The vision is “by 2030, all England’s soils will be managed sustainability and degradation threats tackled successfully. This will improve the quality of England’s soils and safeguard</p> <p>The vision is “by 2030, all England’s soils will be managed sustainability and degradation threats tackled successfully. This will improve the quality of England’s soils and safeguard.</p>	<p>The Strategy highlights the areas for priority including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better protection for agricultural soils. • Protecting and enhancing stores of soil carbon. • Building the resilience of soils to a changing climate. • Preventing soil pollution. • Effective soil protection during construction and development. • Dealing with our legacy of contaminated land. 	<p>Include SA objective which seeks to safeguard and enhance the quality of soil, specifically in the context of the Local Plan this relates to the need to remediate previously contaminated land</p> <p>The Local Plan should help protect and enhance the quality of soils and seek to sustainably manage their quality for future generations.</p>
<p>GREENSPACE</p>		
<p>Accessible Natural Green Space Standards in Towns and Cities: A Review and Toolkit for their Implementation (2003) and Nature Nearby: Accessible Green Space Guidance (2010)</p>		
<p>These publications by Natural England explain and give guidance on the concept of Accessible Natural Green Space Standards (ANGSt). The 2010 report provides practical advice to planning authorities on meeting the standards within new and existing developments.</p>	<p>ANGSt recommends that everyone, where they live, should have an accessible natural greenspace:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • of at least 2ha in size, no more than 	<p>The SA Framework should contain an objective relating to the provision of green space.</p> <p>The Local Plan should attempt to</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	300m (5 minutes walk) from home; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at least one accessible 20ha site within 2km of home; • one accessible 100ha site within 5km of home; and • one accessible 500ha site within 10km of home; plus a minimum of 1ha of statutory Local Nature Reserves per thousand population.	ensure that the standards are met within the borough.
HERITAGE		
Historic Environment: A Force For the Future (2001)		
<p>The UK Government Guidance sets actions to protect and sustain our heritage for future generations through measures that look in detail at Funding, Legislation, Policy Guidance, Delivery Mechanisms, Reprioritisation and Partnership Working.</p> <p>The Government vision is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public interest in the historic environment is matched by effective partnerships and the development of a sound base from which to develop policies. • Maximising the full potential of the historic environment as a learning resource. • Ensuring the historic environment is accessible to everybody and is seen as a something with which the whole of society can identify and engage with. • The historic environment is protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations. • The historic environment is an economic asset that is well harnessed. 	The document does not contain specific targets or indicators.	<p>The SA should include objectives that relate to the protection and enhancement of the historic environment.</p> <p>The Local Plan will need to take on board the issues and themes that have been identified in the document.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990		
<p>The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 is an Act of Parliament of that altered the laws on granting of planning permission for building works, notably including those of the listed building system in England and Wales.</p>	<p>The document does not contain specific targets or indicators.</p>	<p>The SA should include objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of heritage assets.</p> <p>The Local Plan must ensure that the requirements of the Act are complied with and that Listed buildings and Conservation Areas are protected.</p>
Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Notes 1,2 and 3 (Historic England, 2015)		
<p>The three guides are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Historic Environment in Local Plans 2. Managing Significance in decision taking on the Historic Environment 3. The Setting of Heritage Assets <p>Good practice guides in implementing the NPPF historic environment policy.</p>	<p>The document does not contain specific targets or indicators.</p>	<p>The SA should include objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of heritage assets.</p> <p>The Local Plan must ensure that the requirements of the NPPF with regards to heritage assets are applied for, in line with best practice.</p>
Guidance on Tall Buildings (CABE and English Heritage 2007)		
<p>In January 2007, CABE and EH produced this draft guidance to replace the existing Guidance on Tall Buildings published in 2003. The draft guidance sets out similar requirements to the adopted guidance. However, the draft places greater importance on the need for local authorities to consider appropriate locations for tall buildings in their areas and undertaking urban design studies to</p>	<p>The document does not contain specific targets or indicators.</p>	<p>SA objectives should reflect the general principles to achieve higher quality and sustainable design.</p> <p>The Local Plan should consider how</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>identify these.</p>		<p>to ensure the designation of areas for tall buildings are appropriate. However, it is necessary to make it clear that such proposals would still have to comply with sustainable design and amenity requirements.</p>
<p>Urban White Paper – Our Towns and Cities: The Future (ODPM 2000)</p>		
<p>The Urban White Paper sets out a vision for the future of towns and cities. It identifies four steps to making “all urban areas places for people”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting the design and quality of the urban fabric right. • Enabling all towns and cities to create and share prosperity. • Providing the quality services people need. • Equipping people to participate in developing their communities. <p>This vision of urban living includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People living in attractive, well-kept towns and cities which use space and buildings well; • Good design and planning, which makes it practical to live in a more environmentally sustainable way, with less noise, pollution and traffic congestion; • Towns and cities able to create and share prosperity, investing to help all their citizens reach their full potential; and • Good quality services-health, education, housing, transport, finance, shopping, leisure and protection from crime that meet the needs of people and businesses wherever they are. 	<p>As well as targets on crime, education attainment, health and unemployment it includes targets such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better, safer and more reliable transport systems, leading to the increased use of public transport and reductions in road congestion by 2010; • Better housing with all social housing being of a decent standard by 2010 and with most improvement taking place in deprived areas; • A better environment with 60% of new housing provided on previously developed land or through conversions of existing buildings by 2008; 17% of underused land reclaimed by 2010; • Better designed buildings and places; and clean and more attractive streets. 	<p>SA objectives should reflect the general principles to achieve higher quality, more accessible, safer and sustainable urban environments.</p> <p>The Local Plan should reflect the general principles to achieve higher quality, more accessible, safer and sustainable urban environments. It should also seek to contribute to the supply of new housing on previously developed land.</p>
<p>AIR</p>		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (DEFRA, 2007)		
<p>The Strategy sets out air quality objectives and policy options to further improve air quality in the UK to deliver environmental, health and social benefits.</p> <p>It examines the costs and benefits of air quality improvement proposals, the impact of exceedences of the strategy's air quality objectives, the effect on ecosystems and the qualitative impacts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure that everyone can enjoy a level of ambient air quality in public spaces, which poses no significant risk to health or quality of life. • Render polluting emissions harmless. • Sets air quality standards for 13 air pollutants. 	<p>Include SA objectives to protect and improve air quality.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take account of the likely impact on air quality from development.</p>
WATER AND FLOOD		
Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales (2009)		
<p>This is a strategy produced by the Environment Agency (EA) and applies to both England and Wales. It forms the EA's strategy for water resource management for the next 25 years.</p> <p>The focus of the strategy is understanding the present state of water resources and planning for the management of water resources to prevent long-term environmental damage and degradation. The strategy highlights where water abstractions are unsustainable and where further water is needed. The issue of climate change and its impact upon our water resources is also considered. 30 action points are identified to deliver the strategy, which include developing leakage control, encouraging good practice when using water and promoting the value of water.</p>	<p>The document does not contain specific targets or indicators.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that promote the protection of the water environment.</p> <p>The Local Plan needs to consider the protection and enhancement of water resources.</p>
Future Water: The Government's Water Strategy for England (DEFRA, 2008)		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>Sets out how the Government want the water sector to look by 2030 and an outline of the steps which need to be taken to get there.</p>	<p>The vision for 2030 is one where we, as a country have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “improved the quality of our water environment and the ecology it supports, and continue to maintain high standards of drinking water quality from taps; • Sustainably managed risks from flooding and coastal erosion, with greater understanding and more effective management of surface water; • Ensure a sustainable use of water resources, and implement fair, affordable and cost-reflective water charges; • Cut greenhouse gas emissions; and • Embed continuous adaptation to climate change and other pressures across the water industry and water users”. 	<p>Include objectives which seek to protect, manage and enhance the water environment.</p> <p>The Local Plan should aim to contribute to the vision set out in this Strategy.</p>
<p>Flood and Water Management Act (2010)</p>		
<p>The Act will provide better, more comprehensive management of coastal erosion and flood risk for people, homes and businesses. It also contains financial provisions related to the water industry. The Act will give the EA an overview of all flood and coastal erosion risk</p>	<p>The document does not contain specific targets or indicators.</p>	<p>The SA should include objectives, targets and indicators that address flooding risk and the need to manage run-off effectively.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>management and unitary and county councils the lead in managing the risk of local floods. It will also enable better management of water resources and quality, and will help to manage and respond to severe weather events such as flood and drought.</p>		<p>The Local Plan should consider flood risk issues. It should seek to avoid siting new development in floodplain and ensure the sustainable use of water resources.</p>
The National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England (Environment Agency, 2011)		
<p>This Strategy sets out the national framework for managing the risk of flooding and coastal erosion. It sets out the roles for risk management authorities and communities to help them understand their responsibilities.</p>	<p>The strategic aims and objectives of the Strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • manage the risk to people and their property; • Facilitate decision-making and action at the appropriate level – individual, community or local authority, river catchment, coastal cell or national; • Achieve environmental, social and economic benefits, consistent with the principles of sustainable development. 	<p>The SA framework should include objectives/indicators which seek to reduce the risk and manage flooding sustainably.</p> <p>The Local Plan should seek to reduce and manage the risk of all types of flooding.</p>
Planning Policy Guidance Flood Risk and Coastal Change (March 2014)		
<p>Advises on how planning can take account of the risks associated with flooding and coastal change in plan-making and the application process.</p>	<p>The document does not contain specific targets or indicators.</p>	<p>The SA framework should include objectives/indicators which seek to reduce the risk and manage flooding</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
		<p>sustainably.</p> <p>The Local Plan should seek to reduce and manage the risk of all types of flooding, using best practice guidance.</p>
<p>Thames Region Catchment Flood Management Plan, 2009</p>		
<p>The CFMP is a high-level strategic planning tool, which should be used to agree policies for sustainable floor risk management, taking into account likely impacts of climate change and future development across the region. The document is linked closely to PPS25 and sets out the flood risk across the Thames region considering: the distribution of property at risk from fluvial flooding; and probability and historic flood events. It can be used to inform the SFRA. The main messages it sets out for the regions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood defences cannot be built to protect everything • Climate change will be the major cause of increased flood risk in the future • The flood plain is our most important asset in managing flood • Development and urban regeneration provide a crucial opportunity to manage the risk. <p>The document states specifically that a major part of this will be through planning and development and that the location, layout and design of development can all reduce flood risk.</p>	<p>The document does not contain specific targets or indicators.</p>	<p>The SA framework should include objectives/indicators which seek to reduce the risk and manage flooding sustainably.</p> <p>The Local Plan should seek to reduce and manage the risk of all types of flooding, using best practice guidance. It will be important that the Local Plan serve to help minimise flood risk in the region, particularly given that the CFMP refers to the location, layout and design of development, which can be controlled through the Local Plan, being significant in reducing flood risk.</p>
<p>WASTE</p>		
<p>Waste Strategy for England (DEFRA, 2007)</p>		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>This plan supersedes the 2007 National Waste Management Strategy. The principal commitment of the Plan is to work towards a longer term vision of a zero waste economy in which material resources are reused, recycled or recovered wherever possible and only disposed of as the option of last resort.</p>	<p>Future of waste management – the government commitment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle the amount of waste produced, by breaking the link between economic growth and waste production. • Put waste which is produced to good use through substantial increases in re-use, recycling, composting, and recovery of energy. 	<p>SA objectives should seek to ensure waste is minimised and promote recycling and reuse.</p> <p>The Local Plan should encourage the minimisation of waste production and the maximisation of recycling and re-use of materials.</p>
National Planning Policy for Waste 2014		
<p>The NPPW sets out the Government's streamlined policy framework for waste, replacing PPS10.</p>	<p>It emphasise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive planning to deliver sustainable development and resource efficiency; • Consideration of waste management needs alongside other key spatial planning concerns such as transport and housing; • Providing a framework for stakeholder engagement; • Enabling waste to be disposed and recovered in line with the Proximity Principle; • Moving management up the Waste Hierarchy without endangering the environment or human health • Ensuring design of all developments contributes to the 	<p>SA objectives should reflect principles in sustainable waste management.</p> <p>Where appropriate the Local Plan should meet the key objectives of national policy.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	objectives of sustainable waste management and improved resource efficiency.	
COMMUNITIES		
The Egan Review – Skills for Sustainable Communities (2004)		
<p>“Sustainable communities meet the diverse needs of existing and future residents, their children and other users, contribute to a high quality of life and provide opportunity and choice. They achieve this in ways that make effective use of natural resources, enhance the environment, promote social cohesion and inclusion and strengthen economic prosperity.”</p> <p>The key components of sustainable communities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance – effective and inclusive participation, representation and leadership. • Transport and connectivity – Good transport services and communications linking people to jobs, schools, health and other services. • Services – a full range of appropriate, accessible public, private community and voluntary services. • Environmental – providing places for people to live in an environmentally friendly way. • Economy – A flourishing and diverse local economy. • Housing and the Built Environment – a quality built and natural environment • Social and cultural – vibrant, harmonious and inclusive communities 	<p>A series of indicators are defined for each of the key components to monitor progress. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of population who live in wards that rank within the most deprived 10% and 25% of wards in the country. • % of residents surveyed and satisfied with their neighbourhoods as a place to live. • % of respondents surveyed who feel they ‘belong’ to the neighbourhood (or community). • Domestic burglaries per 1000 households and % detected. • % of adults surveyed who feel they can influence decisions affecting their local area. • Household energy use (gas and electricity) per household. • % people satisfied with waste recycling facilities. 	<p>There are a number of objectives and indicators in the document that should be integrated into the SA Framework.</p> <p>The plan should include policies that support the principles of the Egan Review and seek to develop sustainable communities.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average no. of days where air pollution is moderate or higher for NO2, SO2, O3, CO or PM10. • % of listed building of Grade I and II* at risk of decay. • % of residents surveyed finding it easy to access key local services. • % of people of working age in employment (with BME breakdown). • Average life expectancy. • No. of primary care professionals per 100,000 population. 	
HEALTH		
Working for a Healthier Tomorrow – Dame Carol Black’s Review of the health of Britain’s working age population (2008)		
<p>This Review sets out the first ever baseline for the health of Britain’s working age population, seeking to lay the foundations for urgent and comprehensive reform through a new vision for health and work in Britain. Three principles lie at the heart of this vision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention of illness and promotion of health and well-being • Early intervention for those who develop a health condition • An improvement in the health of those out of work so that everyone with the potential to work has the support they need to do so <p>The Review recognises the human, social and economic costs of impaired health and well-being in relation to working life in Britain. The aim of the Review is not to offer a utopian solution for improved health in working life, but more to identify the factors that stand in the way of good health and to elicit interventions (including services, changes in attitudes, behaviours and practices) that can help to overcome them.</p>	<p>Although there are no relevant targets within the Review, it presents a number of indicators of working age, health which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life expectancy • Mortality during working age • % of the working age population being in good, fairly good or poor health • Proportion of people out of work due to sickness or disability • Sickness absence per annum • Sickness notes issued per medical 	<p>The SA should include objectives that seek to protect human health and reduce health inequalities.</p> <p>The Local Plan should consider issues relating to human health.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>Monitoring the baseline presented in this Review will be critical, together with a research programme to inform future action with a comprehensive evidence base and increased cross-government effort to ensure progress.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • condition • % of working time lost due to sickness • Proportion of the working age population on incapacity benefits • Employment rate • Employment rate for disabled people • Income rates • Economic inactivity and reasons for inactivity, split into those inactive who would like to work and those seeking work • Proportion of deviation from perfect health by social class (Quality Adjusted Life Year (QALY) health measure and work status. • Proportion of adult population who smoke • Work related illness by industry • Proportion of working age population with mental health conditions • Incapacity benefits claimants by primary medical condition • Costs of working age ill health 	
<p>Health Effects of Climate Change in the UK 2008 – An update of the Department of Health Report 2001/2002</p>		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>The 2001/2 Report and its update seek to provide quantitative estimates of the possible impacts of climate change on health. It is recognised that there could be significant long-term health effects as a result of climate change.</p> <p>Since the original report, the assessment of future climate change has been updated. A new generation of high-resolutions climate models has allowed for improved estimates future changes in the frequency, intensity and duration of extreme events in the UK. Some of the major areas of concern are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding • Vector-borne diseases • Food-borne diseases • The effects of climate change on drinking water supplies • The direct effects of high temperatures • The air pollution climate • Exposure to ultra-violet light 	<p>A number of indicators are presented in this Report.</p> <p>They key ones include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mean annual temperature • Number of days per year with daily mean exceeding 20oC • Number of days per year with daily mean below 0oC • Annual total rainfall • Seasonal rainfall • Maximum daily wind speed • Annual highest maximum daily wind speed • Annual cases of malaria 	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that address climate change issues including flooding and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It should also include an objective related to human health.</p> <p>The Local Plan should address the issues relating to climate change, and the need to encourage provision of high quality and flexible health services.</p>
Fair Society, Healthy Lives, The Marmot Review (2010)		
<p>Focuses on interventions that reduce both health inequalities and mitigate climate change, by: active travel; good quality open and green spaces; Improving the food environment in local; energy efficiency of housing; integrate the planning, transport, housing, environmental and health systems to address the social determinants of health; reduce social isolation.</p> <p>The six main recommendations of the review are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Giving every child the best start in life • Enabling all children, young people and adults to maximize their capabilities and have control over their lives • Creating fair employment and good work for all 	<p>This document does not contain specific targets or indicators</p>	<p>Include an SA Objective to address health inequalities.</p> <p>The Local Plan should help promote the aims set out in this report.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring a healthy standard of living for all Creating and developing sustainable places and communities Strengthening the role and impact of ill-health prevention 		

Urban White Paper 2000, Our Towns and Cities: The Future – delivering an urban renaissance (ODPM, 2000)

Regional and Sub-Regional Level Plans

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
PLANNING		
London Plan: Spatial Development Strategy For Greater London (Consolidated with alterations since 2011) (2015)		
<p>The London Plan provides a framework for land-use management, development and regeneration in London.</p> <p>The Strategy aims to further the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A city that meets the challenges of economic and population growth. An internationally competitive and successful city. A city of diverse, strong, secure and accessible neighbourhoods. A city that delights the senses. A city that becomes a world leader in improving the environment. 	<p>The Plan sets a range of targets and aims, which is reviewed and revised periodically. These include:</p> <p>The current London Plan proposes an annual minimum housing target of 3,931 for Tower</p>	<p>The SA framework must take account of the policies set out within the London Plan.</p> <p>The Local Plan must be in accordance with the policies set out within the London Plan. Careful consideration will have to be given about how to balance the London Plan requirements with local needs and</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A city where it is easy, safe and convenient for everyone to access jobs, opportunities and facilities. 	<p>Hamlets.</p> <p>The plan also sets a waste apportionment target which states what percentage of London's waste each borough is responsible for managing. In Tower Hamlets this is 3.8%.</p> <p>The Mayor proposes that as a long term strategic target 60 per cent of new affordable housing should be for social renting, especially for families, and that 40 per cent should be for the range of intermediate housing products outlined in the London Housing Strategy. Boroughs must prioritise maximising the number of affordable homes, and must avoid setting rental caps which may limit the numbers built.</p>	<p>aspirations, especially around housing quantify and affordability.</p>
<p>Accessible London: Achieving an inclusive environment (GLA, 2014)</p>		
<p>This Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) provides detailed advice and guidance on the policies which promote an inclusive environment in London. The SPG:</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators in this document</p>	<p>SA objectives should take the Accessibility Strategy into account.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides guidance on the policies contained in the London Plan regarding the promotion of an inclusive and accessible environment • Gives local planning authorities advice on how to implement these policies • Explains the principles of inclusive design and how these principles should be applied in London • Gives designers ideas on where to find good technical advice and guidance. • Provides disabled people, older people and others who experience barriers in the built environment with an understanding of what to expect from planning in London. • Identifies legislation and national planning policy guidance relevant to the promotion of an inclusive environment. • Provides signposts to other relevant London Plan SPG documents and Implementation Guides which impact on the delivery of an inclusive environment. 		<p>The advice given in the Mayor's SPG should be followed in developing policies and accessibility should form a strong Local Plan policy.</p>
The Mayor's Sustainable Design and Construction: SPG 2014		
<p>To support the policies in the London Plan this SPG includes guidance on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy efficient design • Meeting the carbon dioxide reduction targets • Decentralised energy • How to off-set carbon dioxide where the targets set out in the London Plan are not met • Retro-fitting measures • Support for monitoring energy use during occupation • An introduction to resilience and demand side response • Air quality neutral • Resilience to flooding • Urban greening • Pollution control 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators in this document</p>	<p>SA objectives should seek to promote sustainable design and construction.</p> <p>Sustainable design and construction principles should be taken forward in the Local Plan.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basements policy and developments • Local food growing 		
Shaping neighbourhoods: character and context (GLA, 2014)		
<p>The objectives of this SPG are to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • specific guidance on the attributes of character and context in London (physical, cultural, social, economic, perceptions and experience); • information on resources that inform an understanding of character and context in London; • an analysis of the interrelationships between different aspects of character, and how it can be articulated and presented to others; • examples of good practice in how an understanding of character and context can be used to help manage change in a way that sustains and enhances the positive attributes of a place. 	There are no specific targets or indicators in this document	<p>SA should include a framework to ensure that the character and context are protected and enhanced.</p> <p>The Local Plan should seek to protect character and context.</p>
Planning and Equality and Diversity in London (GLA, 2007)		
<p>This SPG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides guidance to boroughs, partners and developers on the implementation of policies in the London Plan which relate to equalities issues and addressing the needs of London's diverse communities; • sets out some of the tools for promoting equality and diversity in planning processes; • highlights the spatial impacts of wider socio-economic issues such as poverty and discrimination in the planning context; • sets out overarching principles and the key spatial issues for planning for equality; and 	There are no specific targets or indicators in this document	<p>SA objectives should reflect the equality and diversity issues contained within the SPG.</p> <p>Local Plan should include policies which relate to the specific equality and diversity needs and contexts of the borough.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> examines in greater detail the spatial needs of London’s diverse communities and identifies how spatial planning can be used to try and address these. 		
<p>London View Management Framework SPG (GLA, 2012)</p>		
<p>The London View Management Framework SPG provides guidance on the policies in the London Plan for the protection of strategically important views in London. The SPG explains how the views designated by the Mayor and listed in the London Plan are to be managed, and replaces the previous 2007 SPG</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators in this document</p>	<p>SA objectives should reflect the importance of protecting the setting of important buildings.</p> <p>Local plan policies should reflect the established strategically important view corridors which cross or impact on the borough.</p>
<p>HOUSING</p>		
<p>London Housing Strategy (GLA, 2014)</p>		
<p>The Strategy seeks to increase the supply of well-designed housing of all tenures and to ensure that these homes better support London’s continued economic success.</p>	<p>The Strategy contains a number of policies which range from improving existing stock to tackling rough sleeping; however, improving housing supply to 42,000 homes per annum (17,000 of these should be affordable) is at the core. The five key priorities of the Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing housing supply to 	<p>The SA Framework must consider the provision of and access to housing for all community groups.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take account of the priorities set out within the strategy, having specific regard to the proposed housing supply target.</p> <p>The Local Plan must ensure that land use and transport links are available to ensure</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>levels not seen since the 1930s</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better supporting working Londoners and helping more of them into home ownership • Improving the private rented sector and promoting new purpose-built and well managed private rented housing • Pushing for a new, long-term financial settlement for London Government to drive housing delivery • Bring forward land for development and accelerating the pace of housing delivery through Housing Zones and the London Housing Bank. 	<p>that Strategy's targets can be met.</p>
Draft Interim Housing Supplementary Planning Guidance (GLA, 2015)		
<p>This draft Interim Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) provides guidance on the implementation of housing policies in the 2015 London Plan.</p> <p>Boroughs should identify and seek to enable additional development capacity to be brought forward to supplement these targets having regard to the other policies of this Plan and in particular the potential to realise brownfield housing capacity through the spatial structure it provides including:</p>	<p>Maintains the targets established in the London Plan.</p>	<p>The SA Framework must consider the provision of and access to housing for all community groups.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take account of the guidance, having specific regard to the proposed housing supply target.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • intensification • town centre renewal, especially centres with good public transport accessibility • opportunity and intensification areas and growth corridors • mixed use redevelopment, especially of surplus commercial capacity and surplus public land, and particularly that with good transport accessibility • sensitive renewal of existing residential areas, especially in areas of good public transport accessibility <p>Boroughs must identify new, and review existing housing sites for inclusion in LDFs</p>		<p>The Local Plan must ensure that land use and transport links are available to ensure that Strategy's targets can be met.</p>
AIR		
The Mayor's Air Quality Strategy – Clearing the Air (GLA, 2010)		
<p>The Strategy sets out the Mayor's vision for air quality in London. This seeks to protect the health of Londoners and enhance their quality of life by improving the quality of air within London.</p>	<p>This will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make London a more pleasant place to live and work in; • Reduce the burden on health services in the capital; • Enhance London's reputation as a green city – making it more attractive to tourists and businesses; and • Make London cleaner whilst safeguarding its biodiversity. 	<p>Include SA objectives to maintain and enhance air quality.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take account of the Strategy and the vision and objectives within it.</p> <p>LBTH is an AQMA therefore the local plan should seek to reduce the need for travel and promote sustainable travel either through public transport or greater interlinkages with footpaths and cycle ways.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
TRANSPORT		
The Mayor's Transport Strategy (GLA, 2010)		
<p>The document sets out the Mayor's transport strategy for London for the period up to 2031.</p>	<p>The Strategy has six objectives which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support economic development and population growth; • Enhance the quality of life for all Londoners; • Improve the safety and security of all Londoners; • Improve transport opportunities for all Londoners; • Reduce transport's contribution to climate change, and improve its resilience; and • Support delivery of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and its legacy <p>Each objective has a number of sub-challenges and sub-outcomes which should be tackled and secured respectively.</p>	<p>Include SA objectives to cover the objectives of the Transport Strategy.</p> <p>The Local Plan should seek to tackle the challenges and secure the outcomes set out within the Strategy.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>The Mayor has a target to reduce London's CO2 emissions by 60 per cent by 2025, compared to 1990 levels.</p> <p>The Mayor has a legal obligation to meet national and European targets for reducing concentrations of particulates (PM) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx).</p>	
The Mayor's Vision for Cycling in London (GLA, 2013)		
The document sets out the Mayor's strategy for cycling within London.	<p>The Vision is underpinned by four key outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A tube network for the bike; • Safer streets for the bike; • More people travelling by bike; and • Better places for everyone 	<p>Include SA objective which seeks to promote cycling as a primary mode of transport.</p> <p>The Local Plan, where appropriate, should take account of the key outcomes set out within the Vision.</p>
Taking forward the Mayor's Transport Strategy Accessibility Implementation Plan: 2012		
Defines TfL's vision and priorities for the future of accessibility improvements on London's transport system. It spans the period beyond the committed programme of investment, within the 2031 time horizon considered by the	Contains details and expected dates for projects.	Take into account strategy and project timelines within the Local Plan.

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
Mayor's Transport Strategy (MTS). The report provides greater detail about the implementation and priorities contained within the MTS Accessibility Implementation Plan.		
Travel in London (Report 4 – Transport for London) (2011)		
<p>London's hosting of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games provided a major opportunity to enhance London's physical transport infrastructure, to promote positive changes to the ways in which people travel, and to contribute to the lasting wider regeneration of East and Southeast London. This physical transport legacy represents a step-change to levels of accessibility to, from and within East and Southeast London. Over the longer term this will facilitate the wider economic and social development and convergence sought by the Legacy Action Plans.</p> <p>As well as the physical transport legacy, the Action Plans identify a behavioural transport legacy.</p>	<p>The report includes the following example indicative monitoring baselines for the Games transport legacy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident population, employment and deprivation. • Travel intensity, mode shares and household car ownership for residents. • Perceptions of quality of life in the Olympic boroughs. • Local air quality. • Public transport accessibility in the vicinity of the Olympic Park. 	<p>The SA Framework should support sustainable transport alternatives and the modal shift away from the private car.</p> <p>The Local Plan should recognise that an integrated transport network aligned with this Transport for London document is necessary to promote sustainable development.</p>
CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY		
The Mayor's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (GLA, 2011)		
Takes a risk-based approach to understanding the climate impacts today, and how these are expected to change through the 21st century. Provides a	There are no specific targets or indicators in this document	Include objectives which seek to promote the implementation of adaptation

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>framework to identify and prioritise the key climate risks and then to identify who is best placed to deliver actions to reduce or manage these risks</p>		<p>measures to make the Borough more resilient to a changing climate.</p> <p>The Local Plan should incorporate adaptation measures which seek to improve the area's resilience to climate change.</p>
<p>The Mayor's Climate Change Mitigation and Energy Strategy (GLA, 2011)</p>		
<p>The Strategy sets out the strategic approach to limiting further climate change and securing a low carbon energy supply for London.</p> <p>Sets out the strategic approach to managing the climate risks now and in the future and increasing resilience to those risks by understanding who and what is vulnerable to extreme weather today.</p> <p>The overarching aim of the Strategy is to “assess the consequences of climate change on London and to prepare for the impacts of climate change and extreme weather to protect and enhance the quality of life of Londoners”.</p>	<p>The Mayor has set four objectives for this Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce London's CO2 emissions to mitigate climate change; • To maximise economic opportunities from the transition to a low carbon capital; • To ensure a secure and reliable energy supply for London; and • To meet, and where possible, exceed national climate change and energy objectives. 	<p>Include SA objectives relating to climate change mitigation and promote renewable energy.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take account of the objectives set out within the Strategy and contribute to the Mayor's CO2 emissions reduction targets for 2015, 2020, 2025 and 2050.</p>
<p>Green light to clean power: The Mayor's Energy Strategy (GLA February 2004)</p>		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>The Strategy sets out the Mayor's proposals for change in the way energy is supplied and used within London over the next ten years and beyond, against a long-term vision of a sustainable energy system in London by 2050.</p> <p>The strategy also sets out how objectives will be met through implementation of the London Plan policies.</p>	<p>Targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO2 emission reductions of 60% from 2000 levels by 2050, • one zero-carbon scheme in each Borough by 2010, • London to generate 665GWh of electricity and 280GWh of heat, from up to 40,000 renewable energy schemes by 2010. 	<p>SA Objectives should reflect the Mayors Energy Strategy and objectives to reduce emissions and use less energy and more renewable energy.</p> <p>The Local Plan should work towards achieving these carbon reduction targets and incorporate these into policies</p>
BIODIVERSITY		
The Mayor's Biodiversity Strategy (GLA, 2002)		
<p>The Strategy sets out 14 policies and 72 proposals which seek to protect and care for London's biodiversity.</p>	<p>Key aims include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing principles for the use and management of the water and land beside the River Thames; • Encourage the management, enhancement and creation of green space for biodiversity, and promote public access and appreciation of nature; • Promote the conservation and enhancement of 	<p>Include SA objectives which seek to protect and enhance the natural environment.</p> <p>The SA Framework needs to include objectives, indicators and targets that address the need to maintain biodiversity and enhance accessibility to such areas in a sustainable manner.</p> <p>The Local Plan should conform with the 14 policies set out within the Strategy and</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>farmland biodiversity;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage greening of the built environment and the use of open space in ecologically sensitive ways; and • Encourage business to play a major role in the programme for conserving London's biodiversity. <p>The success of the Mayor's Strategy is measured against two main targets: firstly, that there is no overall loss of wildlife habitats in London; and secondly, that more open spaces are created and made accessible, so that all Londoners are within walking distance of a quality natural space.</p>	<p>adhere to the aims of the Strategy.</p> <p>Local Plan should ensure that there is no overall loss in bio diverse land, any loss must be compensated for by land which is of equal or higher biological diversity.</p>
<p>London Biodiversity Action Plan (various)</p>		
<p>The London Biodiversity Partnership delivers the London Biodiversity Action Plan for important habitats and species within the Greater London area.</p> <p>Action Plans have been prepared for the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. acid grassland 2. chalk grassland 	<p>The London BAP contains targets to enhance and to increase the extent of priority habitats found in the capital by 2015 and by 2020. These targets have been incorporated into the</p>	<p>The SA Framework needs to include objectives, indicators and targets that address the need to maintain biodiversity and enhance accessibility to such areas in a sustainable manner.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
3. heathland 4. parks & urban greenspaces 5. private gardens 6. reedbeds 7. rivers & streams 8. standing water 9. tidal Thames 10. wasteland 11. woodland 12. bats 13. black poplar 14. house sparrow 15. mistletoe 16. reptiles 17. sand martin 18. stag beetle 19. water vole	London Plan.	The Local Plan should ensure that there is no overall loss in biodiversity resources, any loss must be compensated for by land which is of equal or higher biological diversity.
ECONOMY		
The Mayor's Economic Development Strategy (GLA, 2010)		
The Strategy sets out the vision with respect to the London economy, and how it can be realised, and be compatible with this Strategy.	It includes five economic objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote London as the world capital of business, the world's top international visitor destination, and the world's leading international centre of learning and 	Include a SA objective which seeks to promote employment and the economy of the area. The Local Plan should take into account the Mayor's vision for the London economy and the objectives which underpin it.

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>creativity;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that London has the most competitive business environment in the world; • To make London one of the world's leading low carbon capitals by 2025 and a global leader in carbon finance; • To give all Londoners the opportunity to take part in London's economic success, access sustainable employment and progress in their careers; and • To attract the investment in infrastructure and regeneration which London needs, to maximise the benefits from this investment and in particular from the opportunity created by the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and their legacy. <p>The strategy contains no specific economic targets or indicators but refers to targets in the London Plan and other</p>	

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	supporting documents.	
Draft Central Activity Zone Supplementary Planning Guidance (2015)		
<p>This draft Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) provides guidance on the implementation of policies in the 2015 London Plan related to London's Central Activities Zone and the North of the Isle of Dogs.</p> <p>It provides guidance on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promoting the CAZ as a competitive business location • promoting strategic clusters of culture, arts and entertainment uses/activities, • enhancing the distinct environment and heritage of the CAZ. • identifying capacity for residential development in the CAZ without compromising strategic functions • guidance on transport, movement and infrastructure including the implementation of essential new transport infrastructure schemes 	There are no specific targets and indicators in this document.	<p>Ensure SA Objectives reflect the range of objectives for the CAZ.</p> <p>The Local Plan will have to take into account the policies and guidance relating to the CAZ, as two key areas are in the borough: Broadgate and North of the Isle of Dogs.</p>
Town centres SPG (GLA, 2014)		
<p>The SPG includes guidance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote the vitality and viability of London's town centres, including neighbourhood and local centres; • support a vibrant mix of uses in town centres including retailing, leisure, culture, tourism, business, social infrastructure and housing; • accommodate growth in demand for new town centre floorspace within centres or in well integrated edge of centre sites; • bring back into use vacant or under-used properties; • promote inclusive access by public transport, shop mobility, walking and 	There are no specific targets and indicators in this document.	<p>The SA objectives should reflect the Mayors guidance on Town centres.</p> <p>The Local Plan should consider draft guidance on Town centres in connection with the London Plan</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>cycling to the range of goods and services in town centres sustainable neighbourhoods with quality design and public realm, now and for the future;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop the sense of place and identity of town centres, making them places that people will want to visit; • implement the Strategic Outer London Development Centre concept to enhance the distinct economic strengths of these locations whilst complementing growth in other centres. 		
<p>London Office Policy Review (GLA 2012)</p>		
<p>Assesses supply and demand issues in relation to office development and future prospects for future growth in a range of parts of London. Considers impact of the economic downturn on commercial property.</p> <p>Key points of note include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be demand for new office space and for new types of formats of office space and related employment space • The rate of growth in office jobs 2011-36 is forecast to be half that prevailed over the last two decades • Spatial policy should play the long game and provide a flexible framework within which Opportunity Areas and mega schemes can evolve and respond to changing market conditions. • London’s new villages and access to rapid and reliable public transport infrastructure. • A key strategic challenge for spatial policy will be to create the flexibility to respond to changes in the office market, while creating the certainty to attract investors 	<p>There are no specific targets and indicators in this document.</p>	<p>SA objectives should consider these findings.</p> <p>The Local Plan should consider these findings and implications in identifying priority uses in conjunction with local policies.</p>
<p>SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE</p>		
<p>Social Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Guidance (GLA, 2015)</p>		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>This SPG provides guidance to anyone engaged in development or plan-making to understand the quantity and types of social infrastructure needed to support growth.</p> <p>The document provides guidance on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for social infrastructure provision; • Health and social care considerations; • Education requirements; • Sports facilities; and • Faith requirements. 	<p>There are no specific targets and indicators in this document.</p>	<p>Include SA objectives relating to the provision of new and retention of existing social infrastructure, to meet future need.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take account of the guidance set out within SPG.</p>
<p>Shaping neighbourhoods – play and informal recreation SPG (GLA, 2012)</p>		
<p>This document updates and replaces the Mayor’s SPG on Providing for Children and Young People’s Play and Informal Recreation published in 2008. It provides benchmark standards that are flexible enough to meet the varying needs of children and young people across London and should be used as a reference guide for boroughs in the development of their local standards.</p> <p>This guidance sets out responsibilities of Local Authorities, Developers and Consultants in addition to providing guidance to neighbourhood forums in shaping their neighbourhood plans. Local authorities have the responsibility of ensuring robust play strategies and establishing the overall context for implementation of the Supplementary Planning Guidance, as well as detailed roles in determining requirements for specific sites.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets and indicators in this document.</p>	<p>Include SA Objectives to protect and increase play and informal recreation.</p> <p>The Local Plan should seek to protect and increase spaces for play, especially in dense and deprived areas of the borough.</p>
<p>CULTURE</p>		
<p>The Mayor’s Cultural Strategy (GLA, 2014)</p>		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>The Strategy sets out the Mayor's vision for developing and promoting cultural life in London.</p> <p>Sets out the following priorities for culture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining London's position as a world city for culture • Widening the reach to excellence - improve access and participation in high quality arts and cultural activities • Education, skills and careers - Increasing access to cultural education through a strategic approach that helps to coordinate existing activities, build links between cultural institutions, schools and local authorities and raise awareness of the high quality provision on offer. Supporting London's universities in providing a source of innovation and skills for the sector. • Working on the quality of internships and apprenticeships and encouraging volunteering, pathways into the sector will be improved. • Infrastructure, environment and the public realm – need for planning and development to encourage culture to flourish in the capital's venues and public spaces. Highlights importance of cultural and creative industries as factors in regeneration 	<p>It sets priorities and recommendations for how to strengthen the cultural life of Londoners.</p> <p>There are no specific targets and indicators in this document.</p>	<p>Include SA objectives which seek to promote and enhance cultural vitality.</p> <p>The Local Plan, where appropriate, should take account of the priorities and recommendations set out within the Strategy.</p>
HEALTH		
The London Health Inequalities Strategy (GLA, 2010)		
<p>The Strategy sets out a framework for partnership action to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the physical health and mental well-being of all Londoners; • Reduce the gap between Londoners with best and worst health outcomes; • Create the economic, social and environmental conditions that improve quality of life for all; and • Empower individuals and communities to take control of their lives, with a particular focus on the most disadvantaged. 	<p>The key objectives of the Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowering individuals and communities to improve health and well-being; • Improve access to high quality health and social care services particularly for Londoner who have poor 	<p>Include SA objective which seeks to reduce health inequalities and contributes to improved health and wellbeing.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take account of the framework and objectives outlined to address health inequality in London.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	health outcomes; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce income inequality and the negative consequences of relative poverty; • Increase the opportunities for people to access the potential benefits of good work and meaningful activity; and • Develop and promote London as a healthy place for all. 	
NOISE		
The Mayor's Ambient Noise Strategy (2004)		
<p>The overall vision of the Strategy is to minimise the adverse impacts of noise on people living and working in, and visiting London using the best available practices and technology within a sustainable development framework.</p> <p>The objectives underpinning this vision are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To minimise the adverse impacts of road traffic noise; • To encourage preferential use of vehicles which are quieter in their operating conditions; • To minimise the adverse impacts of noise from freight and servicing; • To promote effective noise management on rail networks in London; • To minimise the adverse impacts of aircraft noise in London, especially at night; 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators in this document</p>	<p>Include SA objectives to manage and reduce the adverse impacts of ambient noise.</p> <p>The Local Plan should seek to minimise adverse noise impacts taking into account the objectives and policies set out within the Strategy.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To minimise the adverse impacts of noise on or around London's rivers and canals, while retaining working wharves and boatyards, and enhancing water space tranquillity and soundscape quality; To minimise the adverse impacts of industrial noise, recognising the use of best practicable means/ best available techniques, and the need to retain a diverse and sustainable economy; To improve noise environments in London's neighbourhoods, especially for housing, schools, hospitals and other noise-sensitive uses; To protect and enhance the tranquillity and soundscape quality of London's open spaces, green networks and public realm 		
WASTE		
The Mayor's Municipal Waste Management Strategy (GLA, 2011)		
<p>The Strategy sets out an overarching framework of policy until 2031. Underpinning this framework there are four objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide Londoners with the knowledge, infrastructure and incentives to change the way they manage municipal waste: to reduce the amount of waste generated, encourage the reuse of items that are currently thrown away, and to recycle or compost as much material as possible; Minimise the impact of municipal waste management on our environment and reduce the carbon footprint of London's municipal waste; Unlock the economic value of London's municipal waste through increased levels of reuse, recycling, composting and the generation of low carbon energy from waste; Manage the bulk of London's municipal waste within London's boundary, through investment in new waste infrastructure. 	<p>Achieving the Mayor's net self-sufficiency targets set out in The London Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To achieve zero municipal waste direct to landfill by 2025. To reduce the amount of household waste produced from 970kg per household in 2009/10 to 790kg per household by 2031. This is equivalent to a 20 per cent reduction per household. To increase London's capacity to reuse or repair municipal waste from 	<p>Include SA objectives to minimise the environmental impact of waste and promote recycling.</p> <p>The Local Plan should promote the objectives of the Strategy.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>approximately 6,000 tonnes a year in 2008 to 20,000 tonnes a year in 2015 and 30,000 tonnes a year in 2031.</p> <p>To recycle or compost at least 45 per cent of municipal waste by 2015, 50 per cent by 2020 and 60 per cent by 2031.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To cut London's greenhouse gas emissions through the management of London's municipal waste, achieving annual greenhouse gas emissions savings of approximately: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 545,000 tonnes of CO₂eq in 2015 - 770,000 tonnes of CO₂eq in 2020 - One million tonnes of CO₂eq in 2031 • To generate as much energy as practicable from London's organic and non-recycled waste in a way that is no more polluting in carbon terms than the energy source it is replacing. 	
The Mayor's business waste strategy for London (GLA, 2011)		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>The overriding aims are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • focus on waste reduction and the more efficient management of resources to reduce the financial and environmental impact of waste • manage as much of London's waste within its boundaries as practicable, by taking a strategic approach to developing new capacity • boost recycling performance and energy generation to deliver environmental and economic benefits to London. 	<p>The Mayor's key targets for the management of business waste are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • achieve 70 per cent reuse, recycling and composting of C&I waste by 2020, maintaining these levels to 2031 • achieve 95 per cent reuse, recycling and composting of CDE waste by 2020, maintaining these levels to 2031. 	<p>Include SA objectives to minimise the environmental impact of waste and promote recycling.</p> <p>The Local Plan should promote the objectives of the Strategy.</p>
WATER		
The Mayor's Water Strategy – Securing London's Water Future (GLA, 2011)		
<p>The Strategy promotes increasing water efficiency and reducing water wastage to balance supply and demand for water, safeguard the environment and help tackle water affordability problems.</p> <p>The key objectives of the Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To use the water London already has more effectively and efficiently; • To minimise the release of untreated wastewater and diffuse pollution into the water environment; • To manage, and where possible reduce, the threat of flooding to people and their property; and • To reduce the greenhouse gas emissions produced from supplying water and treating wastewater. 	<p>Ofwat has introduced a mandatory water efficiency target from 2010 to 2015. The Base Service Water Efficiency (BSWE) target requires water companies to work with customers to save one litre of water per household per day per year.</p> <p>National planning policy states that all new social housing must be built to Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3 target of 105 litres per person per day (l/p/d) and from April 2011, all new private housing must be built to</p>	<p>The SA framework should include objectives which seek to promote water efficiency and reduce water wastage, and incorporation of SUDS and integrated urban drainage.</p> <p>The Local Plan must seek to promote and enforce the objectives set out within the Strategy, specifically the pursuit of more sustainable water resource use in new developments.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>125 l/p/d.</p> <p>The London Plan (Policy 5.15) states that all new homes in London should meet the 105 l/p/d standard, whilst the Mayor's Supplementary Planning Guidance on Sustainable Design and Construction encourages developers to aim for 80 l/p/d.</p>	
OPEN SPACE AND LANDSCAPE		
London Plan - All London Green Grid Supplementary Planning Document and Area Framework for Lee Valley and Finchley Ridge (GLA, 2012)		
<p>The concept of a 'green grid' i.e. an integrated network of green and open spaces together with the Blue Ribbon Network of rivers and waterways is at the centre of the London Plan's approach to the provision, enhancement and management of green infrastructure. This network of spaces functions best when designed and managed as an interdependent 'grid'. The ALGG SPG aims to promote the concept of green infrastructure, and increase its delivery by boroughs, developers, and communities, by describing and advocating an approach to the design and management of green and open spaces to deliver hitherto unrealised benefits. These benefits include sustainable travel, flood management, healthy living, and creating distinctive destinations; and the economic and social uplift these support</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators in this document</p>	<p>Include a SA objective which seeks to promote the network of open spaces within the Borough. The Local Plan should seek to promote a network of high quality open spaces as set out within the SPG.</p>
London's Natural Signature and Lea River Valley Natural Landscape Area (January 2011)		
<p>Since a lack of widespread awareness of the underlying nature of London has</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>been a major cause of the gradual erosion of London's natural character – through for example the culverting and canalising of rivers and the felling of native woodlands – as well as of the neglect of those remnants of natural landscapes which appear to have no obvious amenity value, there is a clear demand for a succinct and evocative way of distilling and expressing this essence. The Natural Signatures are a means of encapsulating and evoking the key natural characteristics of the Natural Landscape Areas</p>	<p>indicators in this document</p>	<p>objectives relating to preserving the quality of the natural environment and Natural Landscape Areas.</p> <p>The Local Plan should ensure the natural character of the area is preserved and enhanced.</p>
<p>The canopy – London's Urban Forest – A guide for designers, planners and developers (2011)</p>		
<p>The document provides detail on the challenges and city pressures as well as benefits, technical solutions and real value that trees have for city environments. Provides guidance on how to integrate trees into the city landscape.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators in this document</p>	<p>Include an SA Objective regarding improving addressing the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Local Plan should recognise the benefits trees can create for city environments including retention and net increase, and policies should address these issues.</p>
<p>RIVERS AND CATCHMENTS</p>		
<p>River Basin Management Plan, Thames River Basin District (2009 update imminent)</p>		
<p>The plan focuses on the protection, improvement and sustainable use of the water environment. River basin management is the approach the Environment Agency is using to ensure combined efforts from organisations and individuals in order to achieve the improvement needed in the Thames River Basin District. The plan addresses the main issues for the water environment and the actions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2015, 22% of surface waters (rivers, lakes, estuaries and coastal waters) are going to improve for at least one biological, chemical 	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that consider effects upon water quality and water resources.</p> <p>The Local Plan should consider how the</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>needed to deal with them. Measures to achieve good status for water bodies and to prevent deterioration may be carried out by a range of 'co-deliverers' including local planning authorities and developers. NB 2015 represents the start of the second phase of the River Basin Management Plan. 2027 is the final deadline for reaching good status under WFD.</p>	<p>or physical element.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25% of surface waters will be at good or better ecological status. • 17% of groundwater bodies will be at good overall status by 2015. • At least 30% of assessed surface waters will be at good or better biological quality by 2015. 	<p>water environment can be protected and enhanced.</p>
Thames Estuary 2100 Action Plan: Managing Flood Risk Through London and the Thames Estuary (EA, 2012)		
<p>Include SEA objectives relating to the provision of new/retention of existing social infrastructure.</p>	<p>For the first 25 years (2010-2035), the Strategy seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to maintain the current flood defence system – including planned improvements; • Ensure that effective floodplain management (emergency and spatial planning) is in place across the estuary; • Safeguard areas that will be required for future changes to the flood defences; • Monitor change indicators including sea level rise and 	<p>The SA framework should include objectives/indicators which seek to reduce the risk and manage flooding sustainably.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take into account the objectives set out within the Plan.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)	
	climate change and review the Plan as required.		
Thames Catchment Flood Management Plan (EA, 2009)			
<p>Catchment Flood Management Plans helps to understand the scale and extent of flooding now and in the future, and set policies for managing flood risk within the catchment. Catchment Flood Management Plans should be used to inform planning and decision making by key stakeholders.</p> <p>Catchment Flood Management Plans aim to promote more sustainable approaches to managing flood risk. The policies identified in the Catchment Flood Management Plan will be delivered through a combination of different approaches. Together with our partners, we will implement these approaches through a range of delivery plans, projects and actions.</p>	There are no specific targets or indicators in this document	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that promote reduction and management of flood risk.</p> <p>The Local Plan should consider how sustainable approaches to managing flood risk can be incorporated.</p>	
HERITAGE			

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
Archaeology and Planning in Greater London: A charter for Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (2011)		
<p>This Charter sets out how English Heritage will provide archaeological advice in Greater London in accordance with government policy as set out in Planning Policy Statement 5 –Planning for the Historic Environment, supported by the Historic Environment Practice Guide issued in March 2010.</p> <p>The charter sets out how the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS) should be consulted on archaeological issues during the planning process to ensure that there is consistency across London. It sets out the role of GLAAS and how it can work with the boroughs and other partners to sustain and manage the archaeological interest of London’s historic environment for future generations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheduled Ancient Monuments • Archaeological Priority Zones • Locally Important Remains • National Important Remains 	<p>The SA Framework should include an objective around protecting archaeological heritage.</p> <p>The Local Plan should include policies that relate to archaeological protection, including sufficient archaeological investigations as part of the planning process.</p>
Olympic Legacy Supplementary Planning Guidance (2012)		
<p>The core development principle that guides the legacy of the Olympics is convergence, meaning that 20 years on from the 2012 Olympics the area ‘will be one of the best places in London to live and work’.</p> <p>This is supported by five overarching development principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homes and communities • Business and employment • Connectivity and transport • Urban form • Open space and sustainable development. 	<p>The Mayor of London and leaders of the host boroughs identified seven core outcomes to test the success of the LLDC area which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a coherent and high quality city within a world city region • Improving educational attainment, skills and raising aspirations • Reducing worklessness, benefit dependency and child 	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives which reflect the employment, design, facilities and housing etc objectives in this guidance.</p> <p>The Local Plan should include policies that reflect the guidance in this document.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>poverty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homes for all • Enhancing health and wellbeing • Reducing serious crime rates and anti-social behaviour • Maximising sports legacy and increasing participation. <p>Targets align with those of the London Plan.</p>	

London Borough of Tower Hamlets Policy

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
PLANNING AND STRATEGY		
Tower Hamlets Core Strategy & Managing Development Plan Document 2025 (adopted 2010)		
<p>The Core Strategy sets out an ambitious and long-term spatial strategy to deliver the aspirations set out in the Community Plan. It sets out broad areas and principles, and where, how and when development should be delivered across the borough until 2025. It is also outcome-focused,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic target for affordable homes of 50% until 2025. • 35%-50% affordable homes on sites providing 10 new residential units or more (subject to viability). • An overall strategic tenure split for affordable homes 	<p>The SA Framework should use the evidence base and monitoring reports from the Core strategy and DPD to reflect ongoing and emerging issues.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>and does not solely relate to development decisions.</p> <p>It is not the role of the Core Strategy to set out detailed policies in relation to planning applications set out site specific policies and allocations set out defined boundaries on an OS-based map The Core Strategy seeks to understand the roles and opportunities of each place in the borough. It brings these opportunities together to enable shared success across the borough and deliver the vision of One Tower Hamlets.</p> <p>Tower Hamlets will reinvent, strengthen and transform the places that make the borough unique. It will continue to be a place for diverse communities, building on its strategic importance as a unique part of inner London.</p>	<p>from new development as 70% social rented and 30% intermediate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overall target of 30% of all new housing to be of a size suitable for families (three-bed plus), including 45% of new social rented homes to be for families. 	<p>The objectives and guidance within the Local Plan should update the Core Strategy and DPD.</p>
Tower Hamlets Community Plan to 2020 (2015)		
<p>The Community Plan is a strategic document which seeks to improve the lives of all those living and working in the Borough.</p> <p>The aim of the 2020 Community Plan is to “improve the quality of life for everyone who lives and works in the borough.”</p>	<p>The Plan has four key visions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A great place to live; • A prosperous and fair community; • A safe and cohesive community; and • A healthy and supportive community. <p>There are 4 new cross cutting priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowering residents and building resilience • Promoting healthier lives • Increasing employment • Responding to population growth 	<p>Include SA objectives to cover the key visions, as far as these issues are relevant to the Local Plan area.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take into account the issues raised in the Plan, ensuring the visions outlined can be met.</p>
TRANSPORT AND MOBILITY		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
Tower Hamlets Local Implementation Plan 2 2011-2031 (2011)		
<p>The Local Implementation Plan (LIP) 2 will help to deliver a better, more sustainable, transport system that contributes towards shaping the identity of Tower Hamlets and improving quality of life for all by meeting local priorities.</p>	<p>LIP2 contains nine transport objectives for the Borough:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote a transport environment that encourages sustainable travel choices for all; • To ensure the transport system is safe and secure for all in the borough; • To ensure the transport system is efficient and reliable in meeting the present and future needs of the borough's population and economy; • To reduce the impact of transport on the environment and wellbeing; • To ensure transport is accessible for all; • To encourage smarter travel behaviour; • To better integrate land use and transport planning policy and programmes; • To protect, celebrate and improve sustainable access to the borough's cultural, historical and heritage assets to enhance local distinctiveness, character and townscape views; and • To maximise the benefits and opportunities offered by the London 2012 Games and its legacy. <p>These objectives contribute to the overall transport vision for Tower Hamlets and are supported by a delivery plan and programme for investment.</p>	<p>Include SA objectives to improve the sustainability, efficiency and reliability of the transport network within the Borough.</p> <p>The Local Plan should seek to meet the transport objectives outlined in LIP2.</p>
The Cycling Plan for Tower Hamlets (2015)		
<p>The Cycling Plan aims to promote the use of bicycles as an</p>	<p>The Plan is underpinned by 32 pledges and four targets:</p>	<p>Include a SA objective which seeks to</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
effective and enjoyable means of transport and reduce the need to travel by car.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double the volume of cyclists in the borough • Increase the proportion of residents cycling to work to 15% • Reduce the risk of cyclist accidents by half • Double the number of children cycling to school 	<p>increase the use of travel by bicycle.</p> <p>The Local Plan should seek to promote cycling and take into account the objectives outlined within the Cycling Plan.</p>
Tower Hamlets Walking Plan 2011-2021 (2011)		
<p>The Walking Plan is part of Council's Sustainable Transport Strategy and is consistent with the borough's overarching transport objectives.</p> <p>The plan sets out a vision that by 2021, 'Tower Hamlets will offer a high quality pedestrian environment and be a place where walking is the clear choice for all who live in, work in and visit the borough.</p>	<p>The vision is supported by four objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhance the Walking Network 2. Improve Pedestrian Safety and Security. 3. Integrate Walking Across Policy Areas. 4. Promote Walking to the Community. <p>These objectives are further detailed with steps and priorities to meets these objectives.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets which address health issues and deprivation and seek to reduce health inequalities.</p>
HEALTH AND WELLBEING		
Tower Hamlets Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (2015)		
<p>The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) is a requirement under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. It stipulates that local authorities and Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) should work jointly to produce it, in order to produce a picture of the health and well-being needs of the local population.</p>	<p>The JSNA provides data and measures on a range of health indicators. These can be used where appropriate to develop SA Framework indicators.</p>	<p>Improving the population of the borough's health and wellbeing should be incorporated as an SA objective.</p> <p>This document should be considered within the Local Plan.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
Tower Hamlets Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2006 – 2016 (Refresh approved 2012)		
<p>Since the 2006: Improving Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the 2009: Refreshed Delivery Plan, significant progress has been made against the 5 strategic aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce inequalities in health and wellbeing • Improve the experience of people who use our services • Develop excellent integrated and more localised services • Promoting independence, choice and control • Invest resources effectively <p>The new strategy needs to build on what went before, be ambitious for the residents of Tower Hamlets and prioritize the areas for collective action.</p>	<p>The Strategy provides data and measures on a range of health indicators. These can be used where appropriate to develop SA Framework indicators.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets which address health issues and deprivation and seek to reduce health inequalities.</p> <p>The Local Plan needs to recognise the role that land use planning can play in enhancing quality of life and health. The pursuit of active travel and health lifestyles should be encouraged.</p>
Mental Health Strategy 2014 – 2019 (2014)		
<p>This Mental Health Strategy sets out the Tower Hamlets Health and Well-Being Board's vision for improving outcomes for people with mental health problems in Tower Hamlets.</p> <p>Three pillars, of building resilience in our population, ensuring high quality treatment and support, and supporting people to live well with a mental health problem</p>	<p>No specific targets of relevance</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets which address health issues and deprivation and seek to reduce health inequalities.</p> <p>The Local Plan needs to recognise the role that land use planning can play in enhancing quality of life and health and wellbeing, including mental health.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
COMMUNITY		
Tower Hamlets Community Safety Plan 2013 -16 (2014)		
<p>The Community Safety Plan is a key document, established by the Tower Hamlets Partnership to ensure that actions towards achieving the Community Plan Vision and Safe and Cohesive theme are delivered.</p> <p>To make Tower Hamlets a Safe and Cohesive Community the Partnership focus on achieving the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gangs and Serious Youth Violence • Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and Arson • Drugs and Alcohol • Violence (including Domestic Violence and Violence against Women and Girls) • Prostitution • Hate Crime and Community Cohesion • Killed or Seriously Injured on our roads • Property/Serious Acquisitive Crime • Public Confidence and Satisfaction • Reducing Re-offending • MOPAC 7 (Mayor's Office of Policing and Crime priority neighbourhood crimes) 	<p>Indicators included within this plan include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Arson incidents (all deliberate Fires) • Number of Deliberate Fires (Deliberate) • Number of Grass/open land fires – deliberate and unknown • Number of Rubbish Fires – deliberate and unknown • Number of 'Most serious violence' offences • Number of Gun Crimes and Gun Crime • Number of Knife Crimes and Knife crime • Number of Assaults with Injury • Number of Serious Acquisitive Crimes • Number of Personal Robberies • Number of Commercial Robberies • Total Robbery numbers • Number of Residential Burglaries • Number of thefts of Motor Vehicles • Number of thefts From Motor Vehicles • Number of Serious Youth Violence and Youth Violence offences • Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders • Number of domestic Violence Offences • Domestic Violence Rate • Domestic Offence Arrest Rate • Number of rapes • Number of other Serious Sexual Offences • Number of repeat incidents of domestic violence 	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that complement this plan.</p> <p>The local plan needs to take on board the key objectives of this plan which would contribute to the development of safe communities.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of drug intervention programme referrals that re-offend • Number of drug users recorded as being in effective treatment • Perception of drug use or drug dealing as a problem • Offenders under probation supervision living in settled and suitable accommodation at the end of their order or licence • Drug intervention programme referrals that re-offend • Offenders under probation supervision in employment at the end of their order or license • Rate of proven re-offending by adults under probation supervision • Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision • Racist Offences • Homophobic Offences • % of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area 	
<p>Statement of Community Involvement Tower Hamlets (2009)</p>		
<p>This Statement sets out how the Council will involve all elements of the community in the planning process, both in the preparation of planning policy and involvement in planning applications.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators in the statement.</p>	<p>Sufficient time should be provided for consultation on the SA documents.</p> <p>The Local Plan should be mindful of this statement as its development should be a transparent process.</p>
<p>HOUSING</p>		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
Tower Hamlets Strategic Housing Market and Needs Assessment (2009) NB 2015 draft awaited		
<p>The aim of the Strategic Housing Market and Needs Assessment aims to inform policy development and investment decisions across the study area. It should provide an evidence base to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ascertain the nature and level of current housing demand and need in the Borough. • Obtain an understanding of the likely characteristics of the future housing market. • Estimate the future number of households requiring market and affordable housing. • Inform policies aimed at providing the right mix of housing in the future – both market and affordable, including the size of affordable housing required. • Understand the housing requirements of particular groups. • Inform the Council’s Local Development Framework which will set out their spatial planning strategies. • Inform policy making and investment decisions locally and regionally. <p>A Tower Hamlets Housing Partnership was established to oversee the SHMA consisting of a multi-disciplinary team including housing, planning, economic development and regeneration expertise. The role of the Strategic Housing Market and Needs Assessment partnership is to consider housing needs and issues across the borough and included core representatives from Registered Social Landlords and the Housing Corporation, in addition to housing and planning</p>	<p>Targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National annual target is for at least 60 per cent of new housing to be provided on previously developed land. 	<p>This document provides contextual data which should be considered in the SA baseline.</p> <p>The SA Framework should include objectives that consider decent, high quality affordable housing.</p> <p>This document should be considered within the Local Plan.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
representatives.		
Tower Hamlets Housing Strategy 2009-2012 (2009) (NB Current strategy is also contained in the below statements*)		
<p>To accelerate positive change in housing issues the Council must maximise its use of powers, resources and people. It needs to effectively generate external resources and get the most from partnership working in meeting shared objectives.</p> <p>The key Strategic Objectives are centres around four main strategic housing themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering and Managing Decent Homes • Placemaking and Sustainable Communities • Managing Demand, Reducing Overcrowding • New Housing Supply 	<p>Tower Hamlets will seek a strategic target 50% affordable housing on all housing developed in the borough, applying 35% on individual sites.</p> <p>45% of the social rented element of new developments to be for large family purposes (i.e. three bedrooms or more) either provided onsite, or where delivery proves unsustainable, provided offsite; 25% of the intermediate and market homes should have three bedrooms or more.</p> <p>All new housing developments to meet the Government's national target of zero carbon housing by 2016.</p> <p>Maximise Lifetime Homes Standards in new housing stock and seek at least 10% of all new homes to be wheelchair accessible.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that consider decent, high quality affordable housing.</p> <p>This document should be considered within the Local Plan.</p>
*Tower Hamlets Homelessness Statement 2013 -17(2013)		
<p>4 central themes to form the basis of the 2013-17 strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeless prevention and tackling the causes of homelessness; • Access to affordable housing options; 	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The SA Framework should include objectives that address housing issues including homelessness.

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children, families and young people; and • Vulnerable adults. 		<p>The Local Plan should recognise the causes of homelessness and contribute to its prevention where possible (however its contribution may be limited).</p>
<p>*Older People’s Housing Statement 2013 -2015 (2013)</p>		
<p>The Statement has two key aims and six objectives:</p> <p>Aim 1: Provide a range of good quality accommodation and access to home adaptations and improvements that offers older people housing that meets their needs.</p> <p>Aim 2: Help older people to continue to remain active, independent and healthy in their homes supported by flexible inclusive and affordable services.</p> <p>Objective 1: ‘CHOICE’ Provide a range and choice of housing across all tenures for older people in Tower Hamlets.</p> <p>Objective 2: ‘QUALITY’ Ensure older people are able to access a mix of high quality, well designed housing suitable for their changing needs and aspirations.</p> <p>Objective 3: ‘INDEPENDENT’ Make sure older people are supported to remain independent, healthy and safe in their home.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that address housing issues for older people.</p> <p>The Local Plan should recognise the housing needs of older people and contribute towards meeting them.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>Objective 4: 'ACCESSIBLE' Increase access to information and advocacy services required by older people.</p> <p>Objective 5: 'INCLUSIVE' Promote equality, participation and engagement between older people.</p> <p>Objective 6: 'VALUE' Continue to provide flexible, well procured, affordable services for residents.</p>		
<p>*Overcrowding and Under occupation Statement 2013 – 2015 (2013)</p>		
<p>The three strategic aims for tackling and reducing overcrowding are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce overcrowding in existing housing stock, and put in place preventative measures to reduce future overcrowding • Continue to increase the overall supply of housing for local people including a range of affordable, family housing • Prevent overcrowding and homelessness by providing access to the right housing options at the right time including a set of measures designed to reduce under occupation. <p>There are four sets of actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property based actions • Lettings based actions • Advice and partnership based actions 	<p>Statement includes a number of targets, including:</p> <p>Increase supply of larger family sized social stock to help overcrowded households on the waiting list.</p> <p>Undertake knock-throughs</p> <p>Use empty properties to house overcrowded households and offer grants to overcrowded existing owner occupiers</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives to reduce overcrowding and under occupancy.</p> <p>The Local Plan should recognise the need for suitable affordable housing of a range of sizes to meet the population's diverse needs</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under occupation based actions. 		
BIODIVERSITY		
Tower Hamlets Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2014-19 (2014)		
<p>The plan identifies priority habitats and species in Tower Hamlets, and sets objectives and, where appropriate, targets for what needs to be done to ensure their conservation. This will inform the implementation of projects and actions by partner organisations. It also provides guidance to developers on the kinds of biodiversity enhancements expected in new developments.</p> <p>The LBAP contains four action plans based around the major land uses in the borough: the built environment; gardens and grounds; rivers and standing water; and parks, squares and burial grounds.</p>	<p>The Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) contains a range of objectives and targets for the promotion and protection of species and habitats.</p> <p>It also includes actions different partners can take to promote biodiversity.</p>	<p>Include SA objectives which seek to protect and enhance biodiversity and address areas of deficiency.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take into account the objectives and actions set out within the LBAP.</p>
WATER AND FLOOD		
Tower Hamlets Surface Water Management Plan (2011)		
<p>A SWMP outlines the preferred surface water management strategy in a given location. Surface water describes flooding from sewers, drains, groundwater, and runoff from land, small water courses and ditches that occurs as a result of heavy rainfall.</p> <p>The document also establishes a long-term action plan to manage surface water and will influence future capital investment, maintenance, public engagement and</p>	<p>The SWMP recommended the inclusion of the following policies to reduce flood risk:</p> <p><i>Policy 1: All developments across the borough (excluding minor house extensions less than 250m²) which relate to a net increase in impermeable area are to include at least one 'at source' SuDS measure (e.g. waterbutt, rainwater harvesting tank, bioretention planter box etc). This is to assist in reducing the peak volume of runoff discharging from the site.</i></p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that promote surface water management,</p> <p>The Local Plan should seek to prevent development that may exacerbate surface water flooding.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>understanding, land use planning, emergency planning and future developments.</p> <p>The objectives of the SWMP are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a robust understanding of surface water flood risk in and around the study area, taking into account the challenges of climate change, population and demographic change and increasing urbanisation in London. • Identify, define and prioritise Critical Drainage Areas, including further definition of existing local flood risk zones and mapping new areas of potential flood risk. • Make holistic and multifunctional recommendations for surface water management which improve emergency and land use planning, and enable better flood risk and drainage infrastructure investments • Establish and consolidate partnerships between key drainage stakeholders to facilitate a collaborative culture of data, skills, resource and learning sharing and exchange, and closer coordination to utilise cross boundary working opportunities • Undertake engagement with stakeholders to raise awareness of surface water flooding, identify flood risks and assets, and agree mitigation measures and actions • Deliver outputs to enable a real change on the ground whereby partners and stakeholders take ownership of their flood risk and commit to delivery and maintenance of the recommended measures and actions • Meet borough specific objectives as recorded at the outset of the development of the SWMP. 	<p>Policy 2: Proposed 'brownfield' redevelopments greater than 0.1 hectare are required to reduce post development runoff rates for events up to and including the 1 in 100 year return period event with an allowance for climate change (in line with PPS25 and UKCIP guidance) to 50% of the existing site conditions. If this results in a discharge rate lower than the Greenfield conditions it is recommended that the Greenfield rate (calculated in accordance with IoH124i) are used.</p> <p>Policy 3: Developments located in Critical Drainage Areas (CDAs) and greater than 0.5 hectare are required to reduce runoff to that of a predevelopment Greenfield runoff rate (calculated in accordance with IoH124). It is recommended that a SuDS treatment train is utilised to assist in this reduction.</p>	

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate discussions and report implications relating to wider issues falling outside the remit of this Tier 2 work, but deemed important by partners and stakeholders for effectively fulfilling their responsibilities and delivering future aspects of flood risk management 		
Tower Hamlets Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (2015 Consultation Draft)		
<p>The Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) is designed to provide guidance and information for residents, businesses and developers regarding Tower Hamlets strategy for dealing with flooding within the borough. The document is structured to outline the responsibility of the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), evaluate the risk of flooding and finally review and appraise methods for dealing with flooding in LBTH.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators within the plan.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that promote the reduction and management of flood risk.</p> <p>The Local Plan should consider potential flood risk, and prevent development within the floodplain.</p> <p>The Local Plan should not exacerbate current flood risk issues on the site.</p>
AIR AND LAND QUALITY		
Tower Hamlets Clean Air Zone Plan 2010 – 2015 (2010)		
<p>The Clear Zone covers an area of approximately 9km² in the west of the borough. It borders the City of London in the west and Cambridge Heath Road, Sidney Street, Watney Market, Watney Street, Dellow Street and Wapping Street in the east.</p>	<p>The following Clear Zones Measures are included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CZ2a Walking Corridor 1 CZ2b Walking Corridor 2 CZ3 Cyclist Crossing Priorities CZ4 Signage 	<p>Include SA objectives to maintain and enhance air quality.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take into account the objectives set out in the</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>Implement a phased package of sustainable transport interventions to improve the environment within the Clear Zone</p> <p>1) Reduce air pollution from transport sources to improve air quality in the Aldgate area and across the Clear Zone;</p> <p>2) Improve the urban realm and management of the road network to ensure better connections and increased accessibility within the Clear Zone;</p> <p>3) Reduce noise pollution from transport sources;</p> <p>4) Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport sources to help tackle climate change; and</p> <p>5) Ensure future development within the Clear Zone contributes to achieving the Council's Clear Zone objectives.</p>	<p>CZ5 Urban Design Guide</p> <p>CZ6 Emissions based P&D parking</p> <p>CZ7 Traffic Reduction Tools</p> <p>CZ8 Road Hierarchy</p> <p>CZ9 Awareness Campaigns</p> <p>CZ10 Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure</p> <p>CZ11 Electric Vehicle Car Clubs</p> <p>CZ12 Local LEZ</p> <p>CZ13 Low energy street lighting</p> <p>CZ14 No Idling Zone</p> <p>CZ15 d-NOx Paving</p> <p>CZ16 Out of hours operation</p> <p>CZ17 Freight Mapping</p> <p>CZ18 Drop Box Scheme</p> <p>CZ19 Consolidation Centre/s</p> <p>CZ20 Supplementary Planning Guidance</p> <p>CZ21 Construction Logistics Plans</p> <p>CZ22 Delivery and Servicing Plans</p> <p>CZ23 Travel Plan Toolkit</p> <p>CZ24 Travel Assessment Toolkit</p>	<p>Clean Air Zone, for that area of the borough.</p>
<p>Tower Hamlets Air Quality Action Plan (LBTH) (2003)</p>		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>The Air Quality Action Plan examines the various measures for improving air quality within the Borough.</p> <p>The Plan includes detailed modelling for two key pollutants within the Borough, nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter (PM10) which are mainly emitted from motorised vehicles.</p>	<p>The Plan sets out 10 key objectives which seek to improve air quality within the Borough:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor air quality to measure the success of our actions over time. • Use GIS to map trends and target areas for improvement and fully integrate this into the decision making process for the Council's key development strategies. • Actively support and take part in the London wide Vehicle Emissions Testing Scheme. • Use controlled parking mini-zones to target congested parking around tube stations and bordering the Central London Charging Zone. • Implement a comprehensive streetscene programme to improve the street environment in Tower Hamlets. This take a targeted approach to implementing Home Zones in residential areas, improving street signage and removing street clutter, improving safety for cyclists and improving the pedestrian environment. • Lead by example by using a fleet of elective vans for Pest Control within Environmental Health, Environmental Protection Division. • Develop Supplementary Planning Guidance for Planning Applications, requiring submission and approval of air quality assessments for major developments before development can commence. • Support and facilitate the development of major transport infrastructure improvements projects in the borough including Crossrail and the two to three car 	<p>Include SA objectives to maintain and enhance air quality.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take into account the objectives set out in the Air Quality Action Plan.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	<p>expansion of the Docklands Light Railway.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the development and implementation of a Low Emissions Zone for London. • Establish a Council Vehicle Register with a full emissions inventory for Council and Contractors' vehicles together with an emissions improvement programme. 	
<p>Tower Hamlets Contaminated Land Strategy (2013)</p>		
<p>The strategy aims to find and deal with the most seriously contaminated sites first. Contaminated land is where the land in its current condition is causing or is likely to cause significant harm to human health and/or the environment.</p> <p>Aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To comply with the requirements of Part 2a of the Environmental Protection Act (1990); • To ensure the effects of historic and present contamination are not causing significant risks to human health and/or the environment; • To encourage redevelopment of brownfield sites in accordance with government objectives and strategy; • To complement the planning control system that ensures that risks associated with contamination on a site are appropriately dealt with during redevelopment; • To provide information and respond to requests from the public, businesses and community organisations with increased efficiency and accuracy; • To provide accurate information to the Environment 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators within the plan.</p>	<p>Include SA objectives to enhance and maintain soil quality and to ensure contaminated land is identified and decontaminated.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take into account the need to decontaminate land for development.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>Agency for its National Report on contaminated land;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To compile accurate and up to date information on land contamination in a central location; • To facilitate and encourage information exchange between council departments and regulatory authorities thereby minimising duplication of work; and • To protect historic sites and the historic environment, especially 'designated historic sites' and areas of local importance. 		
WASTE		
Tower Hamlets Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2003-2018 (2003)		
<p>The Strategy outlines the waste handling arrangements in the Borough.</p>	<p>The Strategy is underpinned by the principles of the waste hierarchy by proposing to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the amount of waste generated; • Enhance the re-use of unwanted articles; • Provide recycling and composting services; • Recover energy from residual waste; • Minimise waste going to landfill; and • Transfer waste out of the Borough by river via the Northumberland Wharf Waste Transfer Station. 	<p>Include SA objectives which seek to manage municipal waste in a sustainable manner and in line with the waste hierarchy.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take into the account the targets which are set out within the Strategy.</p>
CONSERVATION		
A Conservation Strategy For Tower Hamlets (2010)		
<p>This Conservation Strategy aims to guide decision-making for Tower Hamlets' heritage over the next 5-10 years. It sets out the long term vision for the heritage, and the Strategy</p>	<p>The Strategy has six key priorities, which are reflected in the six Strategy Goals. These Goals address the key challenges facing Tower Hamlets' heritage. They also</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that seek to protect heritage assets.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>Goals and Work Plan Objectives to help deliver that vision.</p> <p>It provides strategic guidance at the Borough level – it is not a detailed assessment of individual heritage resources.</p>	<p>respond to government and statutory body guidance, and seek to actively support the Council’s broader social and economic regeneration priorities.</p> <p>The Goals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the significance of the heritage; • Increasing community pride, ownership and involvement in heritage to promote community cohesion; • Ensuring effective governance and management of the heritage; • Increasing heritage’s contribution to regeneration; • Improving the condition of the heritage; and • Ensuring effective protection of the heritage. 	<p>The Plan should seek to protect heritage assets within the plan area.</p>
OPEN SPACE		
Tower Hamlets Open Space Strategy 2006-2016 (2011 mid-point review and update)		
<p>The Open Space Strategy sets out the strategic vision and policy recommendations for the provision of open space arising from the needs assessment and open space audits.</p>	<p>The Strategy sets out a number of overarching outcomes, objectives and actions to address the findings of the assessment and open space audits, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve the overall quality of current provision of open space within the Borough by having no poor quality sites • To create wherever possible new publicly accessible open space by effective use of planning powers and obligations, especially in areas identified as deficient in open space • To improve accessibility to existing and new 	<p>Include SA objectives which seeks to protect and increase the provision of open space.</p> <p>The Local Plan, where appropriate should take into account the outcomes, objectives and actions set out within the Open Space Strategy.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
	open spaces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To prioritise public safety in parks • To maximise funding opportunities in order to support the action plan 	
Tower Hamlets Green Grid Strategy (2010)		
<p>The Green Grid Strategy seeks to “to create an interlinked network of high quality, multi-functional accessible, ‘green’ open spaces and waterways in Tower Hamlets which will encourage active lifestyles and improve quality of life”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain all existing open spaces and walking routes; • Enhance the quality of existing open spaces; • Create new publicly accessible open spaces; • Connect open spaces to local communities with enhanced and new walking routes; and • Manage the Green Grid to a high standard. 	<p>The Strategy’s targets are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No net loss of existing publicly accessible open space through development. • No net loss of walking routes through development. • 100% of Green Grid Open Spaces enhanced through measures to improve accessibility, safety, attractiveness, functionality as appropriate. • Significant increase in currently restricted or partially restricted existing open space made publicly accessible and managed. • Increase in new publicly accessible open space created, managed and protected. • Significant length of Green Grid network enhanced through measures to improve safety, accessibility and attractiveness as appropriate. • 100% of the Green Grid network and Green Grid Open Spaces with approved and resourced management plans. 	<p>Include SA objectives which seek to protect and enhance the provision of publicly accessible open spaces and walking routes.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take into account the objectives and targets set out within the Green Grid Strategy.</p>
POVERTY AND EXCLUSION		
Tower Hamlets Fuel Poverty Strategy and Action Plan: Providing Energy Efficiency and Affordability for All 2013-2016 (2013)		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<p>Aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To establish the Energy Co-operative to provide cheap energy to residents and to progress the Fuel Poverty Strategy as a Community Strategy, ensuring its development and implementation is a corporate priority. • Provide access to cheap energy for council tenants and residents living in the borough and ensure that homes in the borough are affordable to heat for all including those reliant on state benefits. • To Empower, Educate and Inform the resident about how to achieve Affordable Warmth • Actively seek and access funding to deliver energy efficiency projects • Promote Good practice demonstrations and deliver innovative pilot projects 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators within the plan.</p>	<p>Include SA objective on reducing Fuel Poverty.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take into account the aims of the Fuel Poverty Strategy and the needs highlighted in its evidence base.</p>
<p>Child Poverty Approach 2013 – 2015 (2013)</p>		
<p>The Approach’s Vision is that Tower Hamlets will be a place where no child or family is held back by poverty – a place where everyone has access to opportunities and the chance to achieve their potential.</p> <p>Four themes have been central to shaping our approach to child poverty locally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removing barriers to work • Developing pathways to success • Breaking the cycle of poverty • Mitigating the effects of poverty 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators within the plan.</p>	<p>Include SA objective to reduce poverty, especially child poverty.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take into account the key aims of the Child Poverty Approach and help tackle child poverty where possible.</p>
<p>ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT</p>		

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
Employment Strategy (2011) To be replaced by the Economic Growth Strategy		
<p>The aim is to achieve convergence with the London employment rate over time through five strategic objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make the mainstream services work better for residents 2. Engage those workless residents detached from the labour market and complement the work of the mainstream 3. Encourage increased aspiration toward engaging with the labour market, particularly for inactive groups 4. Ensure economic investment is co-ordinated and focused 5. Capture employment opportunities for Tower Hamlets residents within the Borough and wider London labour market 	<p>The overarching aim of the strategy is to achieve convergence with the London employment rate over time</p>	<p>Include SA objective to increase employment, especially for groups who are disproportionately unemployed.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take into account the need to increase employment rates in the borough.</p>
Enterprise Strategy (2011) To be replaced by the Economic Growth Strategy		
<p>The strategic aim is to encourage and support enterprise and entrepreneurial activity to increase opportunity, prosperity and mobility in Tower Hamlets.</p> <p>The six strategic objectives are:</p> <p>SO1 – A part of the Central London Economy: positioning Tower Hamlets as the borough to do business</p> <p>SO2 – New business : supporting enterprise start-ups and growth</p> <p>SO3 – Spreading the benefits of growth: developing a partnership with and between big businesses</p> <p>SO4 – A changing economy: growing emerging sectors</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators within the plan</p>	<p>Include SA objective to promote economic growth and enterprise in the borough.</p> <p>The Local Plan should seek to encourage business growth and enterprise.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
SO5 – A pioneering borough: fostering an entrepreneurial and innovation culture SO6 – A ‘place’ for business: ensuring Tower Hamlets has the right spaces and places to support a diverse, thriving economy		
COMMUNITY FACILITIES		
Idea Store Strategy (2009)		
Strategic Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the quality of core library and information services provided by Idea Stores and Libraries • Improve the quality and scope of core adult learning services • Expand the provision of high quality health information, advice and support in Idea Stores and Libraries • Expand the provision of high quality employment information, advice and support • Improve the provision of high quality, accessible ICT and ILT infrastructure, services, training and support in Idea Stores and Libraries • Strengthen inclusion and accessibility • Co-locate cultural, leisure and other council services where this will increase efficiency, effectiveness and value for money 	To deliver 4 x Anchor Idea Stores plus 2/3 Idea Stores Local providing targeted learning, information, library and advice services in partnership with other LSP agencies. Potential areas for future Idea Stores include Bethnal Green, Bromley by Bow and Crossharbour.	Include SA objective to promote community facilities. The Local Plan should seek to meet the needs for Libraries and Idea Stores identified in the strategy, through policy and site allocations.
Leisure Facilities Strategy 2009 – 2019 (2009)		
Strategic Objectives:	There are no specific targets or indicators	Include SA objective to promote

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address gaps in provision and provide facilities in areas of low participation Generate energy and economic efficiencies Improve the quality and suitability of leisure facilities <p>The strategy provides an evidence base of current and future need for leisure facilities in the borough.</p>		<p>community facilities.</p> <p>The Local Plan should seek to meet the needs for leisure facilities identified in the strategy, through policy and site allocations.</p>
CLIMATE CHANGE		
Carbon Management Plan 2009 - 2020 (Updated 2013)		
<p>This Carbon Management Plan sets out the ambition around becoming a low carbon Council and details its first steps, over an initial three year programme of investment. The council's carbon baseline in year ending April 2008 was 42,853 tCO₂ (tonnes CO₂) with associated energy costs of £3.4 million</p>	<p>The London Borough of Tower Hamlets will reduce CO₂ emissions from Council Operations by 25% reduction by 2012, 40% reduction by 2016, 60% by 2020 (from 2007 levels)</p>	<p>Include SA objective to reduce local carbon use.</p> <p>The Local Plan should seek to contribute towards the Council's ambition to be a low Carbon Council.</p>
PEOPLE		
Supporting People Strategy 2011 – 2016 (2011)		
<p>Sets out how the Council will support the needs of vulnerable people through housing support services.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting individuals to live as independently as possible Rebalancing services towards prevention and early intervention away from high cost less empowering longer term services; Expanding our commitment to personalised services; and 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators</p>	<p>Include SA Objective on meeting varied housing needs, including of vulnerable people.</p> <p>The Local Plan should contribute towards meeting the needs of vulnerable people, as identified in this strategy.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Driving up efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources 		
Children and Families Plan 2012 – 2015 (2012)		
<p>The Children and Families Plan sets a framework through which the council and key partners will work together to improve outcomes for children and families.</p> <p>Key themes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early help and responsive universal services: Working effectively together to identify needs early, at all ages, and put coordinated action plans in place to improve outcomes is an overarching principle of the new plan Prevention from harm: Safeguarding all children across all partner agencies remains a top priority Supporting positive family and wider social relationships: Improving pathways into parental engagement in order to support all parents/carers to achieve positive parenting becomes a key priority Promoting positive health and wellbeing: Keeping children healthy and responding effectively to health needs remains a priority, with a focus on emotional wellbeing and mental health Managing effective transition between services: We will focus on working in a coordinated way across services to support children and young people as they begin in a new school or enter further education or employment, and when they move from a specialist service into a targeted or universal service or from children's services into adult services. 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators</p>	<p>Include SA Objectives about meeting the health, education, housing, community facilities, open space and other needs of children and families, as identified in this plan.</p> <p>The Local Plan should take into account the needs of young people and families, as identified in this plan.</p>

Summary and Objectives	Key Targets and Indicators	Implications for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Local Plan (LP)
Planning for School Places 2015 (Updated Annually)		
Provides the annual review of school places.	<p>Primary Schools It is projected that there will be 625 more Reception aged pupils in 2024/25 than in 2014/15. This means in addition to plans for extra capacity already agreed there will be a need for 7FE of more primary capacity in the period.</p> <p>Secondary Schools It is projected that there will be 856 more 11 year olds in 2024/25 than in 2014/15. This means there will be a need for 20FE of more secondary capacity, with 7FE needed by 2021/22.</p>	<p>Include SA objective to meet the need for sufficient school places.</p> <p>The Local plan should meet the needs identified in the strategy, through policy and site allocations.</p>

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Appendix 2B: Baseline

Introduction

The baseline information consists of indicators that have been incorporated into the Sustainability Appraisal Framework. Other information that is contextually important but not included in the framework is noted as 'contextual characteristics'.

1. Population

1.1 Indicators

There are no population indicators included in the Sustainability Framework.

1.2 Contextual characteristics

The following were used to characterise current and future population.

- 1.3.1 Current and future population and growth rates (LBTH Borough Profile website based on 2011 Census and 2015 update on estimate; 2012-based Subnational Population Projections for England. ONS, 2014).
- 1.3.2 Population density (ONS 2012 MYE).
- 1.3.3 Age structure and sex (LBTH Borough Profile website).
- 1.3.4 Ethnicity and country of birth (LBTH Borough Profile website).

1.3 Description

1.3.1 Current and future population and growth rates

There were an estimated 284,000 people in Tower Hamlets in mid-2014. This represented an increase in population of 4.1 per cent or an additional 11,000 people from the previous year. This trend is also reflected in longer-term population growth. Over the 10 year period to 2011, the population increased by 34.5 per cent. This was the highest proportional increase of all local authorities across England and Wales.

According to the GLA's 2014 SHLAA population projections, the borough's population is projected to increase from 280,474 in 2014 to 364,804 in 2024, an increase of 23%. This large population growth will not be uniform across different elements of the population and will lead to changes in the demographics of our borough.

1.3.2 Population density

The population density in 2012 was estimated to be 13,235 residents per km². This made the borough the second densest borough in London after Islington. The population of Tower Hamlets is highly mobile with a high 'turnover' rate of 229 people per 1000 people moving to, from and within the borough each year.

1.3.3 Age structure and sex:

Tower Hamlets has a relatively young age structure. In particular there is a high proportion of young adults being those aged between 20-39 years old. This age group constitutes almost half of the boroughs population (48 per cent compared to 35 per cent for the London region). As such, Tower Hamlets has proportionately fewer older residents of those aged over 60 years old (9 per cent compared with 15 per cent for London overall).

The growth projections show that the borough's population will increase across all of the age groups, but that the greatest increases will be amongst the older working age population (ages 35 to 64).

Tower Hamlets has proportionately more males than females (51.7 per cent males and 46.4 per cent females). This is in contrast to broader trends in London and England which have slightly more females than males.

1.3.4 Ethnicity and country of birth:

43 per cent of residents in Tower Hamlets were born outside of the United Kingdom, as of 2011. This is comparative to the London average of 42 per cent. Tower Hamlets has a diverse migrant population including those who migrated decades ago to more recent arrivals. According to the 2011 Census, residents of Tower Hamlets were born in over 200 countries. Bangladeshis comprised the largest migrant group representing 15 per cent of the borough population. A further 20 migrant groups had significant populations of over 1,000 residents. The largest of which were from: India, China, Italy, France, Somalia, Ireland, Poland, Australia, Germany, the U.S.A., and Spain. Each of these groups comprised 1-2 per cent of the population. In recent years, the most significant population growth has been from European migrants.

The growth projections state that the increasing population will also create changes in the ethnicity of residents. The largest percentage increase will be in the 'other' category, which will increase by 49% from 10,600 in 2014 to 15,769 in 2024, reflecting the increasing 'hyper diversity' of the borough. The 'White' population is also due to increase by 33% over the next ten years, whilst the 'Bangladeshi' population is due to increase by a relatively smaller 16%.

1.4 Issues

The main population issues in the borough are:

- LBTH was the second fastest growing borough in England and Wales for the year 2013/14 (based on proportion). High growth is predicted to continue.
- This has implications for planning, housing, and services amongst other matters.

1.5 Data gaps and updates

- No significant data gaps identified for this topic.
- Population trends and figures should be updated throughout the plan making process to reflect ONS's latest estimates.

2. Equality

2.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise equality in the borough and included in the Sustainability Appraisal Framework.

- 2.3.1 Indices of deprivation (*English Indices of Deprivation, 2010; and summarised in LBTH Indices of Deprivation Summary, 2011*).
- 2.3.2 Percentage of children living in deprived households (*English Indices of Deprivation, 2010; and summarised in LBTH Indices of Deprivation Summary, 2011*).
- 2.3.3 Percentage of older persons living in deprived households (*English Indices of Deprivation, 2010; and summarised in LBTH Indices of Deprivation Summary, 2011*).
- 2.3.4 80:20 pay ratio (*London's Poverty Profile, 2014*)

2.2 Contextual characteristics

There are no further contextual characteristics in this section.

2.3 Description

2.3.1 Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010: Local authority rankings

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is a composite index which has been built from 38 different indicators. These indicators are designed to capture different dimensions of the scale, severity and nature of multiple deprivations within an area.

The indices that comprise the IMD are:

- Income deprivation;
- Employment deprivation;
- Health deprivation and disability;
- Education, skills and training deprivation;
- Barriers to housing and services;
- Living environment; and
- Crime.

There are two additional indices of deprivation which are not part of the IMD. These are:

- The Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI); and
- The Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index (IDAOPI).

Tower Hamlets is ranked the third most relatively deprived area in London, following Hackney and Newham for IMD average score, rank and extent (LBTH, 2011). Figure 1 shows that there are notable geographic differences in relative levels of multiple-deprivation across the borough. There are notable concentrations of relative deprivation around parts of Spitalfields and Banglatown; Whitechapel; East India and Lansbury; Bromley By Bow; and southern Mile End East/north Limehouse. The relatively least deprived areas are located near St Katharine's and Wapping; Millwall; and Blackwall and Cubitt Town.

The borough is the most deprived area in London in terms of concentration of deprivation in small areas within the borough. 40 per cent of these smaller areas (called Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)), are in the top 10 per cent of the most deprived areas in England. This is an improvement from 2007 when 55 per cent of LSOAs were recorded for the same measure. Changes in IMD between 2007 and 2010 for LSOAs are shown in Figure 2.

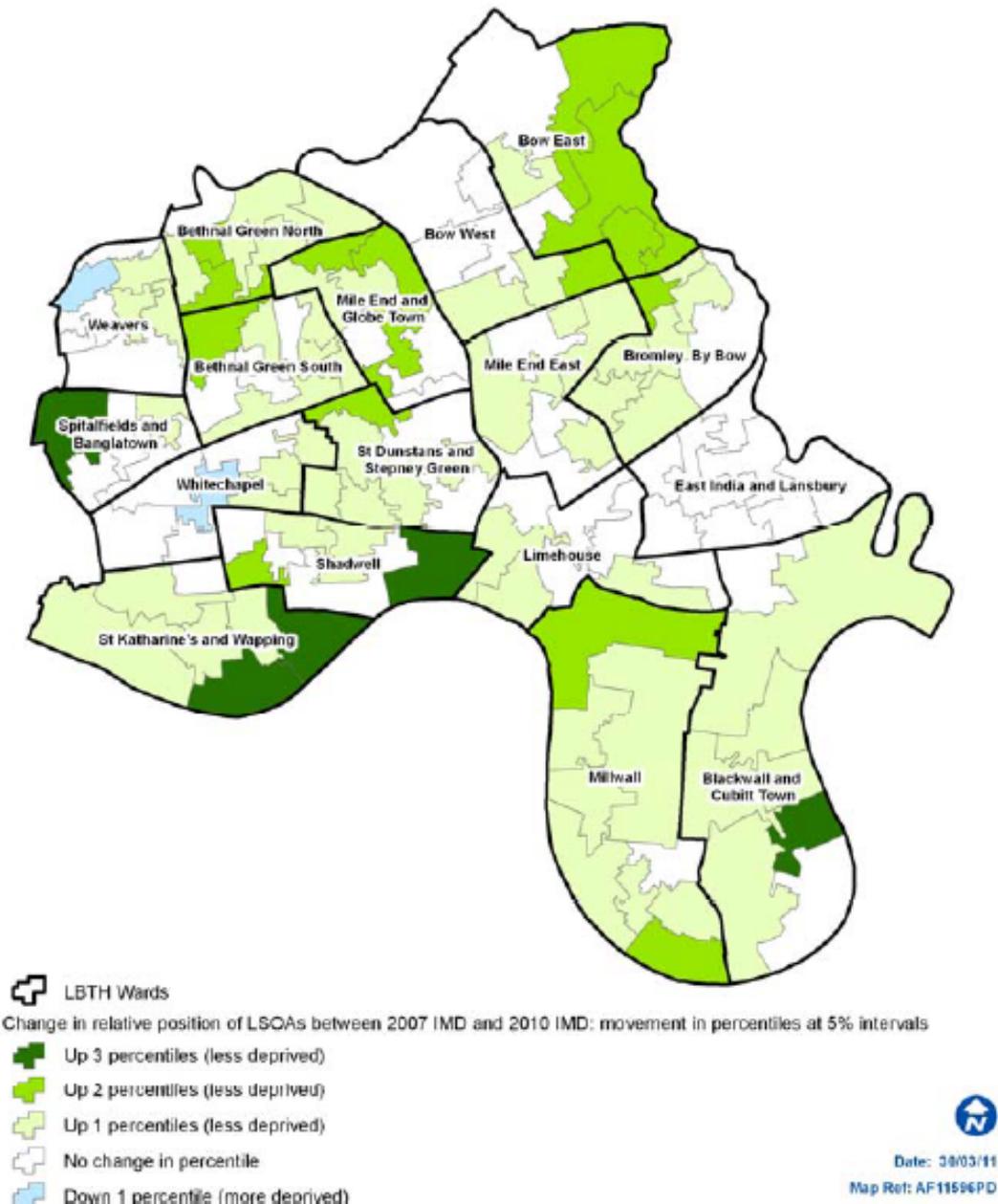


Figure 2: Change in IMD between 2007 and 2010. Source: Indices of Deprivation 2010, DCLG in LBTH, 2011.

Figure 3 shows the proportion of LSOAs in the most deprived 10 per cent and 20 per cent of all LSOAs in England. Of note, the indices with the highest proportion of LSOAs were barriers to housing and services; and income. 100 per cent of LSOAs were in the most 10-20 per cent of deprived areas in England in terms of barriers to housing and services. 78 per cent of these were in the 10 per cent most deprived LSOAs in England for this measure.

In terms of income, 76 per cent of the borough's LSOAs were in the worst 10-20 per cent of deprived LSOAs in England. 63 per cent of the borough's LSOAs were in the 10 per cent most deprived areas for income in England.

Relative to all other LSOAs in England, the borough's LSOAs are relatively least deprived in terms of education and skills; crime and employment. For education and skills only one LSOA is in the 10 per cent most deprived LSOAs in England, while another 12 were ranked within the top 10-20 per cent most deprived.

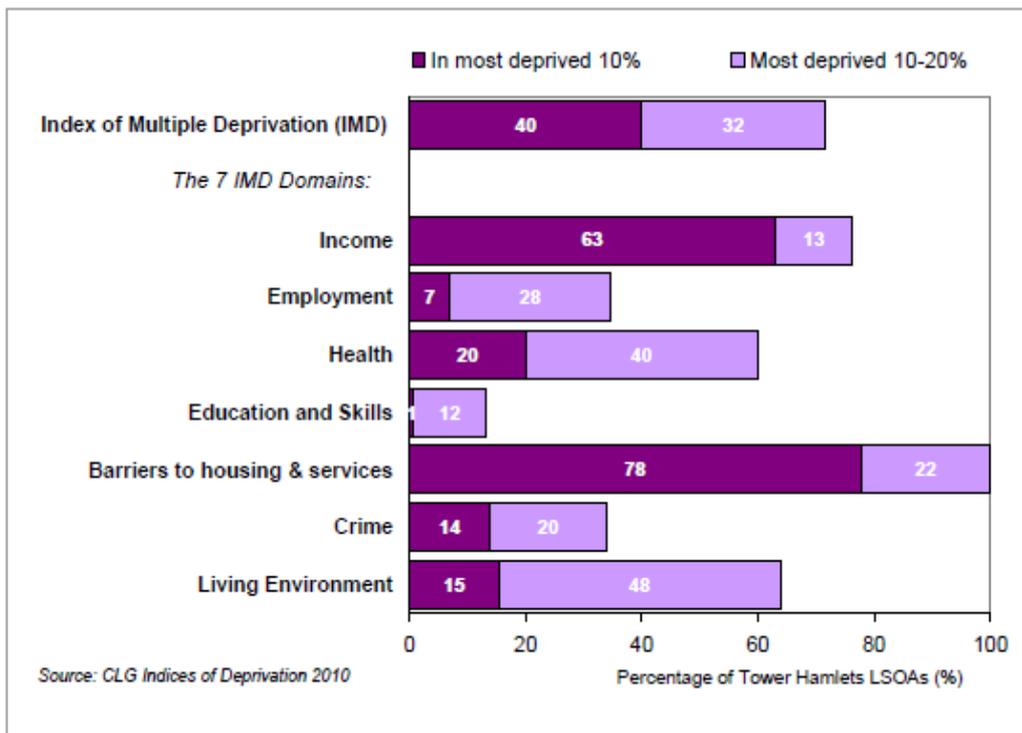


Figure 3: : Percentage of Tower Hamlets LSOAs among the most deprived in England for the IMD 2010 and the 7 domains. Source: CLG Indices of Deprivation in LBTH, 2011.

2.3.2 Children living in deprivation

Tower Hamlets had a relatively higher proportion of children aged 0-5 years old living in income deprived families (59 per cent in the borough, compared to 32 per cent across London). This was the highest rate for child deprivation across England. A significant 84 per cent of LSOAs in the borough fall into the most deprived 10 per cent of all LSOAs nationally. Figure 4 shows the geographic distribution of child deprivation across the borough.

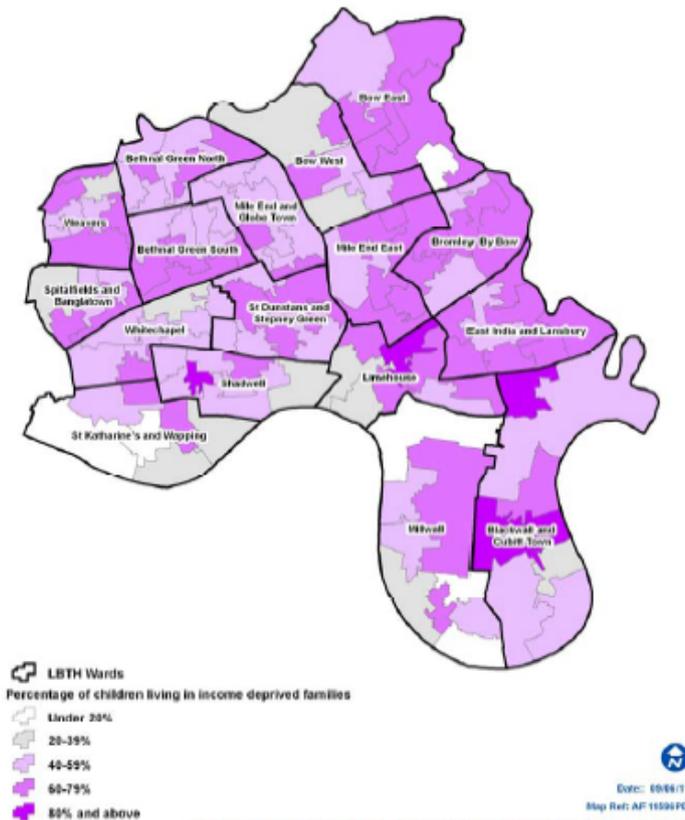


Figure 4: Percentage of children living in income deprived families, Source: Indices of Deprivation of Communities and Local Government, in LBTH, 2011.

2.3.3 Older persons living in deprivation

More than half of older persons (52.5 per cent) lived in income deprived families. This was more than double the London average of 23.8 per cent. 79 per cent of LSOAs in the borough fell into the most deprived 10 per cent of LSOAs nationally. Figure 5 shows the geographic distribution of older persons living in income deprived families. There are notable concentrations of more than 80 per cent of older persons living in income deprived households in areas near Spitalfields and Banglatown; Whitechapel; St Christopher's and Stepney Green; Mile End East and Millwall.

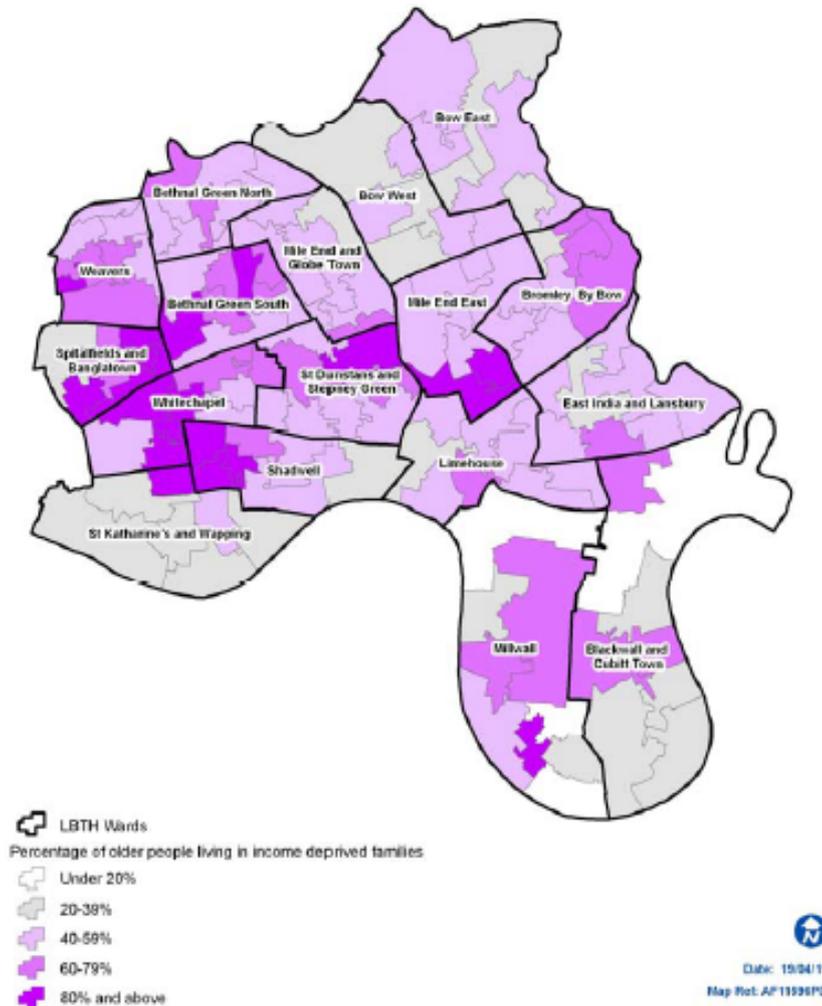


Figure 5: Percentage of older persons living in income deprived families. Source: Indices of Deprivation of Communities and Local Government, in LBTH, 2011.

2.3.4 80:20 pay ratio

Tower Hamlets has the highest pay ratio between the 80th and 20th income percentiles of all London Boroughs. In 2014 it was 3.2, up from 2.9 in 2009.

2.4 Issues

- The borough is one of the most relatively deprived areas in London and England for multiple deprivations.
- The levels of income and housing deprivations are particularly high.
- The proportion of children and older persons living in income deprived families is significantly high.
- There has been an improvement in relative deprivation since 2007.
- Pay inequality is high and increasing

2.5 Data gaps and updates

- The data presented here should be reviewed when an update is released. Any associated trends should be utilised to inform the Sustainability Appraisal and Local Plan evidence base.

3. Housing

3.1 Baseline indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise housing in the borough and included in the Sustainability Appraisal Framework.

- 3.3.4 Additional housing need (GLA London Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2013; LBTH Strategic Housing Market Assessment, 2014 (draft)).
- 3.3.5 Affordable housing need (GLA London Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2013; LBTH Strategic Housing Market Assessment, 2014 (draft)).
- 3.3.7 Demand for three or more bedroom dwellings (LBTH, Strategic Housing Market Assessment, 2014 (draft)).
- New housing that is carbon neutral (data not available).

3.2 Contextual characteristics

Households

- 3.3.1 Number of current and projected households (CRU, 2012 and LBTH Strategic Housing Market Assessment, 2014 (draft))
- 3.3.1 Average and variation in household size and composition (ONS Local Profiles 2013; LBTH Borough Profile)

Dwellings

- 3.3.2 Dwelling stock total (ONS Local Profiles 2013)
- 3.3.3 Number of vacant residential units (ONS Local Profiles 2013)

Housing Needs

- 3.3.4 Housing needs, targets and trajectories (GLA London Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2013; LBTH Strategic Housing Market Assessment, 2014 (draft))
- 3.3.5 Number and proportion of households needing affordable housing per annum (LBTH Housing Market Assessment, LBTH Strategic Plan 2015/16)

Ownership and tenure

- 3.3.6 Ownership and tenure (LBTH Borough Profile)

Bedrooms and overcrowding

- 3.3.7 Number of dwellings by bedrooms per dwelling (LBTH, Strategic Housing Market Assessment, 2014 (draft))
- 3.3.7 Overcrowding (LBTH Overcrowding and under occupation statement, 2013)

House prices and affordability

- 3.3.8 Average house price (LBTH-CRU Factsheet 2013-02 June 2013)
- 3.3.8 Ratio of relative housing affordability (ONS Local Profiles 2013)

Specialist housing

- 3.3.9 Older persons housing (LBTH Older Person Housing Statement 2013-2015)
- 3.3.10 Number of travellers' pitches (LBTH Managing Traveller Accommodation)

- 3.3.11 Demand for student accommodation (LBTH Student Accommodation Report 2009)
- 3.3.12 Number of homeless households (LBTH Homelessness Statement 2013-2017)

3.3 Description

3.3.1 Households, number, size, composition and projections

In 2011 there were 101, 257 households (with at least one usual resident¹). In the 10 years between 2001 and 2011, the number of households in Tower Hamlets grew by an additional 22,727 households or 28.9 per cent. This was the highest growth rate in London and represented 9.1 per cent of all additional households in London. The average household in Tower Hamlets had 2.5 people in 2011. Household size varied with an average of 2.07 persons in the ward of St Katherine's and Wapping; while Mile End East had the largest household size with 2.85 persons. Between 2011-2035 the number of households in Tower Hamlets is projected to rise by 53,086 equating to 2,212 additional households per year. Table 1 shows the estimated increases in the number of households at 2 year intervals between 2011 and 2021.

Year	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021
No of households predicted	102,100	109,500	116,500	123,000	129,100	134,800

Table 1 Household projections (interim 2011 based). Source: Department for Communities and Local Government in ONS, 2013.

3.3.2 Dwelling stock total

There were a total of 108,250 dwellings in the borough in 2012 (ONS, 2013). The majority of dwellings (85.9 per cent) were flats, maisonettes and apartments. The proportion of these dwellings increased by 2.3 per cent between 2001 and 2011; and is predicted to increase as the dominant type of dwelling stock in the borough.

3.3.3 Number of vacant residential units

There were 2,317 vacant dwellings in the borough in 2012. This equated to 2.14 per cent of all dwellings. Over a third of these (34.8 per cent) have been vacant for a long period of time. This is slightly higher than the rate (33 per cent) for long-term empty dwellings across London.

3.3.4 Housing needs, trajectories and targets

As stated above, it is predicted that Tower Hamlets will have 134,800 households by 2021. The Further Alterations to the London Plan (update March 2015) sets targets for additional housing for each borough. It has allocated a target of 3,931 new units per annum in Tower Hamlets. This equates to 94,300 additional dwellings over 25 years until 2035. Tower Hamlets has prepared a draft Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) 2014 to understand the local particulars of

¹ NB: A usual resident refers to a person who on census day, was in the UK and had stayed or intended to stay in the UK for a period of 12 months or more, or had a permanent UK address and was outside the UK and intended to be outside the UK for less than 12 months.

housing need in the borough. The purpose of this assessment is to contribute to the housing evidence base for the Local Plan 2016/17. Based upon objectively assessed need, it estimates that the borough requires 2,562 dwellings per annum or 58,300 over 24 years. There is therefore a discrepancy between the target set by the GLA and the assessed need calculated by LBTH of almost 2,000 dwellings per year.

3.3.5 Number and proportion of households needing affordable housing per annum [info based on LBTH SHMA, 2014 draft not published]

Currently, 38-39 per cent of housing stock in the borough is affordable. This includes all intermediate, social and affordable housing. In 2012, the Tower Hamlets Council's had a total dwelling stock of 12,517. In 2015, there was a waitlist of 19,810 households on Council's housing wait list. On average about 2,200 properties become available through the housing wait list per year.

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
No of affordable dwelling provided	1,380	1,250	1,990	1,260	1,800

Table 2 Number of affordable dwellings provided by local authority provided funding. Source: Department for Communities and Local Government from Homes and Community Agencies and local authorities in ONS Local Profiles, 2013

The Further Alterations to the London Plan has set a target of 52 per cent affordable housing for all additional housing until 2034/35. This figure includes: 20 per cent intermediate and social rent; and 32 per cent affordable rent.

Housing Type	Number	Per cent
Market Housing	19,400	32.8
Intermediate Housing	2,500	4.4
Social rented housing (including affordable rented housing)	36,300	62.8
TOTAL	58,300	100

Table 3 from SHMA, 2014 draft

3.3.6 Ownership and tenure

Table 4 shows that the most significant changes in tenure have been the reduction of council owned dwellings (a decrease of 16 per cent), and the rise in the private rental sector (PRS) (an increase of 19 per cent). The table also shows that shared ownership represents a small proportion of all tenure and that there has been a decline in owner occupation of 8 per cent over the past 11 years. To sum, there are proportionately more people living in private sector rentals, less people living in council housing and less owner occupiers.

Tenure	2003	%	2011	%	2014	%
Owner Occupied	27,308	31	25,339	23	27,179	23
Council Owned	24,200	26	12,500	12	12,087	10
Registered Provider	17,828	20	26,484	24	30,540	26
PRS	17,513	20	41,870	39	45,978	39
Shared	500	1	2000	2	2,340	2

Ownership					
Total	87,349		108,193		118,125

Table 4 Tenure Change 2003-2014. Source: LBTH SMHA 2014.

3.3.7 Bedrooms and overcrowding

The borough has a reported average of 3.9 bedrooms per household. This is a decline of from 4 bedrooms in 2001. In the 2011 Census, Tower Hamlets had an average of 2.1 bedrooms per household, for an average household size noted above of 2.5 with an average range of 2.07 to 2.85. The borough shared the lowest averages across the nation with 3 other Inner-London boroughs (LBTH, Overcrowding Statement, 2013). In terms of overcrowding, 32,235 households had too few rooms than what they required. This represented 34.8 per cent of all households in the borough and was an increase on the 2001 figure which found that 29 per cent of households did not have enough rooms (22,984 households). As such the borough is ranked second nationally, after Newham 34.5) for proportion of households that are over occupied. The Inner London average was 21.7 per cent and in London it was 21.7 per cent.

While households are reportedly getting smaller, the borough still needs more 3 and 4 bedrooms. This is particularly so in the socially rented sector. Of households on the social housing waitlist in 2012 (ONS, 2013), 68.9 per cent required up to and including 2 bedrooms, 23.1 per cent required 3 bedrooms and 8.0 per cent required more than 3 bedrooms. The need for 3 and 4 bedrooms is higher than the London average.

	Market	Intermediate	Social	TOTAL
1 Bedroom	1,800	1,400	11,500	14,700
2 Bedroom	5,400	300	9,900	15,600
3 Bedrooms	8,500	400	11,400	20,300
4 Bedrooms	3,700	500	3,400	7,600
TOTAL	19,400	2,500	36,300	58,300

Table 5 LBTH assessed for bedrooms per dwelling and per tenure type in LBTH. Source: LBTH SHMA, 2014.

	Market	Intermediate	Social	TOTAL
1 Bedroom	4,400	2,100	18,600	24,900
2 Bedroom	9,600	1,800	15,600	26,900
3 Bedrooms	14,200	1,200	16,100	31,400
4 Bedrooms	6,000	600	3,800	10,400
TOTAL	34,100	5,600	54,600	94,300

Table 6 GLA targets for bedrooms per dwelling and per tenure type in LBTH. Source: LBTH, SHMA, 2014.

3.3.8 Housing costs and ratio of relative housing affordability

The average housing price in Tower Hamlets in April 2013 was £370,500. This was slightly below the London average of £375,800. House prices saw a 4.2% rise over the previous 12 months. Between 2010 and 2015 House Prices rose 46%.

House prices have increased relative to incomes in the borough. This is particularly so for housing and incomes in the lowest 25%. The ratio for which has risen from 6.4 in 2003 to 9.32 in 2014². This is still amongst the most affordable in London, however the earnings data excludes self employed and unemployed residents – which may skew the result.

Key drivers that are expected to affect affordability and the housing market include: introduction of affordable rent, rent hikes in the private rental sector, buy to let scheme and overseas development³.

3.3.9 Specialist housing- older person's housing

The majority of older persons in Tower Hamlets tend to live in flats and in rented social housing. This is in contrast to wider London and national trends. In addition, Bangladeshi older persons often live in extended multigenerational households. LBTH has smallest proportion of older persons in the greater London region. There is a need to do more work on older person housing in the borough.

3.3.10 Specialist housing- traveller's accommodation

As of 2011 there was one traveller's site located in the borough at Eleanor Street. This site has capacity to accommodate 19 pitches. There is scope for a further 1 to 2 pitches if the site is redesigned by Crossrail. As of August 2015, there were no recorded traveller families in housing in LBTH. The LBTH Gypsies and Traveller Criteria 2009, provides criteria for developing new sites. Previous targets set for traveller accommodation in local areas have been removed and current provision is deemed to meet current demand.

3.3.11 Specialist housing- student accommodation

Students made up 1.9 per cent of all Tower Hamlets households in 2011 equating to 1,974 households. With three universities located in the borough and a number of others located nearby, there is a steady demand for student accommodation. However, the supply of student accommodation needs to be kept in perspective with council's other priorities and demands for land and development. For example, due to the strong demand and delivery of student housing, in the years leading up to 2007, up to a third of the borough's annual housing provision was met through student housing. Student housing delivery does not however contribute to increasing the number of affordable houses, or address the borough's other significant housing needs.

3.3.12 Specialist housing- homeless households

Tower Hamlets Council's homelessness services had 3,300 approaches by households in 2011/12 presenting as homeless or at risk of being homeless. 38 per cent of these households were families and 62 per cent were lone persons.

Reasons that persons and households gave for homelessness were:

- Parents no longer willing to accommodate (24 per cent)
- Other relatives and friends no longer willing to accommodate (22 per cent)

² <http://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/ratio-house-prices-earnings-borough>

³ LBTH SMHA, 2014

- Domestic violence (14 per cent)
- Termination of Assured Short hold Tenancy (11 per cent)

The number of decisions on homelessness has declined significantly since 2008/09, with a 30 per cent reduction in the 3 years between 2008/09 to 2011/12. This was partially due to prevention efforts such as housing advice and support. Numbers have been more stagnant post 2012.

3.4 Issues

- Housing is a key local challenge for Tower Hamlets. This is particularly true given the fast growing population, low income levels for many households and high house prices.
- Overcrowding is an issue, particularly in social housing. There is a need for more 3-4 bedroom dwelling stock.
- The borough is currently not building enough homes to meet locally assessed nor regionally assessed need.
- Housing has been getting less affordable in the borough. There are issues of who can afford to live in the borough, as well as setting and achieving the 'right' proportional mixture of housing tenures to meet the needs of all residents.
- The housing targets set by the GLA as well as other housing matters such as provision for travellers require cooperation with other local government authorities within London and also further afield. The processes and relations necessary to further operationalise the duty to cooperate on housing matters may need to be further developed.

3.5 Data gaps and updates

- There is a potential need to better understand the need and nature of older person housing in the borough as the characteristics of older person housing needs differ from the norm across the GLA.
- Data on the proportion of new dwellings that are carbon neutral is not available.

4. Economy and Employment

4.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise economic and employment conditions in the borough and inform the Sustainability Appraisal Framework.

- 4.2.1 Major industries of employment (BRES, 2012 in LBTH, 2014)
- 4.2.2 Number of jobs in the borough (BRES, 2012 in LBTH, 2014)

Employment and unemployment characteristics of residents

- Number and proportion of residents employed (NOMIS-Official Labour Market Statistics Local Authority Profile- Tower Hamlets, 2014)
- Number and proportion of residents unemployed (NOMIS-Official Labour Market Statistics Local Authority Profile- Tower Hamlets, 2014)
- Occupation and industries of employment of residents (NOMIS-Official Labour Market Statistics Local Authority Profile- Tower Hamlets, 2014)
- Average gross weekly pay (NOMIS-Official Labour Market Statistics Local Authority Profile- Tower Hamlets, 2014)
- Household income (LBTH Household Income in Tower Hamlets, 2014)

4.2 Description

4.2.1 Major industries and economy

Tower Hamlets' economy was worth over £6 billion per annum in 2009/10⁴. The major industries of employment located in the borough are:

- Financial and insurance industries (30 per cent)
- Administration and support (11 per cent)
- Professional services (11 per cent)
- Information and communication (9 per cent)
- Health and social care (7 per cent)
- Education (6 per cent)

4.2.2 Number of jobs in the borough

Tower Hamlets is the fourth largest employment location in London. In 2012, approximately 240,000 jobs were located in the borough. Just over half of these were concentrated in Canary Wharf and the Isle of Dogs which had 129,000 jobs. The majority of employment is undertaken by employees commuting from outside the borough (LBTH Employment Strategy, 2011). This is reflected in the estimated daytime population of 428,000 people, despite the resident population being 284,000 for the same period. Conversely, about a fifth of jobs in the borough are filled by residents. Around 20 per cent of all employment in the borough (about 48,000 jobs) are based in the 'low pay' sectors (BRS in LBTH, 2014).

4.2.3 Employment and unemployment of residents

As of 2014, there were 209,700 residents of working age in the borough (those aged between 16-64 years old). Tower Hamlets has a higher proportion of residents of working age (73.8 per cent) compared to London (68.2 per cent) and the U.K (63.5 per cent) (ONS mid-year population estimates). Table 7 shows that

⁴ ONS annual population survey

of working age residents, 159,400 (77.7 per cent) are economically active which is a similar proportion, but slightly higher than London (77.0 per cent) and the U.K (77.4 per cent). The proportion of residents in employment (69.7 per cent) however is slightly less than for London (71.7 per cent) and Great Britain (72.7 per cent). The proportion of unemployed persons was estimated to be 8.9 per cent. This is higher than that for London (6.7 per cent) and Great Britain (6.0 per cent).

	Tower Hamlets (Numbers)	Tower Hamlets (%)	London (%)	Great Britain (%)
Economically Active	159,400	77.7	77.0	77.4
In Employment	143,000	69.7	71.7	72.7
Employees	125,000	61.2	58.5	62.2
Self Employed	17,800	8.3	12.8	10.1
Unemployed	13,900	8.9	6.7	6.0

Table 7: Employment and unemployment of residents of Tower Hamlets for the period (April 2014 – March 2015). Source: NOMIS, 2015. (NB: unemployed data is model based).

Table 8 shows that about 45,400 (22.3 per cent) people of working age were economically inactive over the same time period. This was slightly less, but a comparative proportion to London (23.0 per cent) and Great Britain (22.6 per cent). Notable differences were the greater proportion in Tower Hamlets who were economically inactive due to looking after family and/or the home (41.9 per cent of economically inactive persons).

	Tower Hamlets (Numbers)	Tower Hamlets (%)	London (%)	Great Britain (%)
Total	45,400	22.3	23.0	22.6
Student	13,400	29.5	32.2	26.5
Looking after family/home	19,000	41.9	31.0	25.4
Long-term sick	6,600	14.5	16.1	21.6

Table 8: Economically inactive residents of Tower Hamlets for the period (April 2014 – March 2015). Source: NOMIS, 2015. (NB: samples for retired, temporary sick and discouraged were too small to include data).

4.2.4 Occupations of residents

Table 9 shows that of the 143,000 residents in employment, just over half (52.7 per cent) were classified as being managers, directors, senior officials; professional occupations; or associate professional and technical positions. This was slightly less than London overall (53.2 per cent) and substantially more than Great Britain (44.3 per cent).

	Tower Hamlets (Numbers)	Tower Hamlets (%)	London (%)	Great Britain (%)
Managers, Directors, Senior Officials; Professional Occupations; Associate Professional and Technical	75,300	52.7	53.2	44.3
Administrative & Secretarial	21,800	15.3	17.9	21.4

Skilled Trades and occupations				
Caring, leisure and other service occupations Sales and customer service occupations	25,100	17.5	14.8	17.1
Process Plant and machine operatives Elementary Occupations	20,800	14.5	14.1	17.2

Table 9: Occupations of residents of Tower Hamlets. Source: ONS Annual Population Survey, in NOMIS Official Labour Market Statistics, 2015.

4.2.5 Weekly earnings and household incomes

The average gross earnings of residents in Tower Hamlets in 2014 was £670.4 per week. This was notably higher than for London (£617.8) and Great Britain (£520.8). Male residents in Tower Hamlets (£713.0) earn more than the London average for males (£617.8), while female residents (£574.9) earn the same as the London average for females (£574.9).

	Tower Hamlets (£)	London (£)	Great Britain (£)
Full-time workers	670.4	617.8	520.8
Male full-time workers	713.0	661.3	561.5
Female full-time workers	574.9	574.9	463.0

Table 10: Gross weekly earnings of residents in Tower Hamlets in 2014. Source: NOMIS Official Labour Market Statistics, 2015.

The median household income in the borough in 2013 was £30,805. This was £900 lower than the Greater London average of £31,700. 17 per cent of households had an annual income greater than £60,000, while another 17 per cent of households had an annual income of £15,000. Figure 6 shows the spatial distribution of median households across the borough.

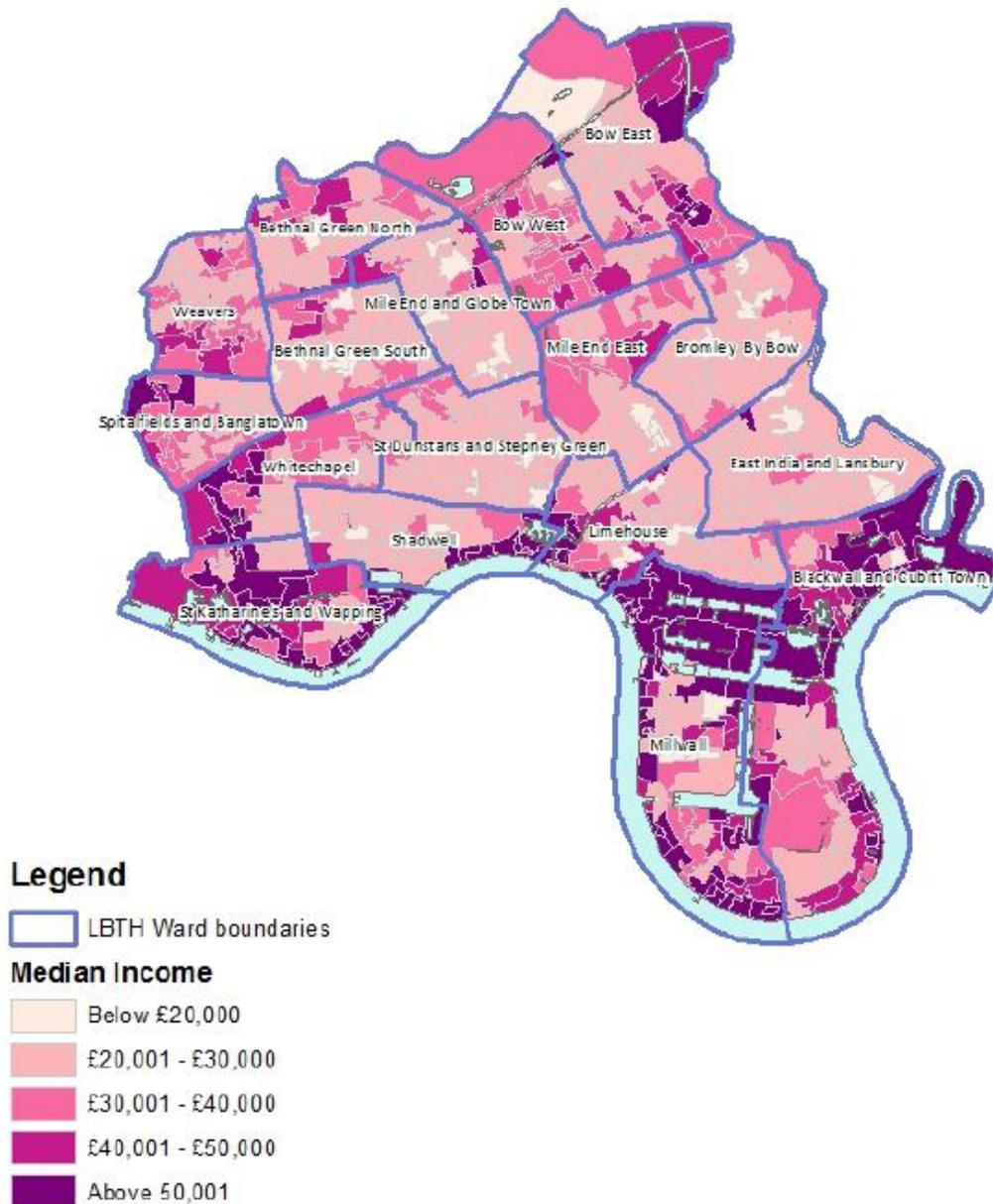


Figure 6: Median household income by area 2013. Source: CACI Paycheck, 2013 in LBTH Household Income Survey, 2013.

4.3 Issues

- Tower Hamlets is a major location for employment in London, attracting a large daytime population of employees.
- Compared to Greater London and Great Britain, Tower Hamlets has a larger proportion residents of working age, of which a similar amount are employed. Further employed residents in Tower Hamlets earn more.
- However there is a higher proportion of unemployed persons, while the median household income is less than that for Greater London and Great Britain. There are also significant differences in household incomes across the borough. This highlights that there is a need to focus on those that are

unemployed and households with incomes less than £20,000 to address income inequalities.

- This also highlights that there may be a need to diversify employment within the borough, particularly to match the skills of existing residents.
- It is important to continue to support the role of Tower Hamlets as a major attractor of employment and economic functioning.

4.4 Data gaps and updates

- There is minimal data about the number of people who work from home.
- There is minimal data on the need for different types of workspace and emerging industries.

5. Education

5.1 Indicators

The following indicators have been incorporated in the Sustainability Appraisal Framework:

- 5.2.1 Proportion of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEETs) (Department for Education).
- 5.5.2 Proportion of people aged 16- 64 years old who have attained a NVQ Level Four or higher (Office for National Statistics in NOMIS Labour Market Survey, 2014; ONS Annual Population Survey).
- 5.2.3 Proportion of residents with no qualifications (Office for National Statistics, in NOMIS Labour Market Survey, 2014)
- 5.2.4 Education and skills deprivation (CLG Indices of Deprivation 2010).

5.2 Contextual characteristics

- 5.3.5 Need for School Places
- 5.3.6 Need for Early Years Places

5.3 Description

5.3.1 Young people not in employment, education or training

In 2012, 4.9 per cent of 16 to 18 years olds in Tower Hamlets were not engaged in employment, education or training (NEET). This was an improvement of 0.1 per cent from 2011. On this measure, Tower Hamlets proportionally fares better than England, but not as well as the London average.

	2011 (%)	2012 (%)	Change 2011 to 2012
Tower Hamlets	5.0	4.9	- 0.1
London	4.5	4.7	+0.2
England	6.0	5.8	- 0.2

Table 11: Proportion of 16-18 year olds not in employment, education or training (NEET). Source: Department of Education.

5.3.2 Attainment of NVQ Level 4

44.2 per cent of residents aged between 16 and 64 years old in Tower Hamlets had achieved a NVQ4 and above recorded in the period of in 2014. This was proportionally less than London (49.1 per cent) but higher than Great Britain (36.0 per cent).

5.3.3 No qualifications

24,000 residents (12.1 per cent) in Tower Hamlets did not have a qualification in 2014. This was proportionally more than for both London (7.8 per cent) and Great Britain (8.8 per cent).

5.3.4 Education and skills deprivation

In terms of the seven indices of deprivation, Tower Hamlets is least deprived in education and skills with only 1 LSOA being in the top 10 per cent most deprived areas in England and an additional 12 in the 10-20 per cent deprived in England.

5.3.5 School Places:

Projections of the need for school places

Projections of the need for school places are provided by the GLA which uses a standard model for the majority of London LAs. The trends over the 10 year projection period can fluctuate in each annual round of projections. This can reflect the most recent birth data and variations to housing data.

The projections for 2015 show a continuing rise in need for places at both primary and secondary. The LA should continue to take a cautious approach to planning for additional school capacity. Whilst the projections of need are now showing a slower rate of increase at primary, it is possible that this could vary again either upwards or downwards in the future. For primary places, the projections beyond 2018/19 relate to projected rather than actual births so are less reliable than the short to medium term projections based on actual birth data.

Primary Schools

It is projected that there will be 625 more Reception aged pupils in 2024/25 than in 2014/15. This means in addition to plans for extra capacity already agreed there will be a need for 7FE of more primary capacity in the period.

Secondary Schools

It is projected that there will be 856 more 11 year olds in 2024/25 than in 2014/15. This means there will be a need for 20FE of more secondary capacity, with 7FE needed by 2021/22.

<http://modgov.towerhamlets.gov.uk/documents/g6200/Public%20reports%20pack%2008th-Sep-2015%2017.30%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10>

5.3.6 Statutory Early Years Provision:

In 2013 the Government introduced a new statutory duty on Councils to ensure adequate provision of 15 hours of childcare for disadvantaged two year olds. The borough's demographics mean that Tower Hamlets needs to provide the highest number of places. The Council is currently under providing by 1,398 places. In 2017 the duty will increase to 30 hours for disadvantaged 2 year olds and all 3 and 4 year olds, increasing the need to provide places.

5.4 Issues

- Fewer than London average adult residents hold higher qualifications or any qualifications.
- There are insufficient school places in the borough to meet current projected need.
- There are insufficient nursery places in the borough to meet current statutory duty for provision.

5.5 Data gaps and updates

- Future projections for Early Years Places, especially to meet future 3 and 4 year old requirements.

6. Safety

6.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise safety in the borough.

- Crime rates per 1000 of the population for key offences including burglary (Office for National Statistics Local Profiles).
- Percentage of people who thought crime was a problem in their local area (TNS-BMRB, Tower Hamlets Annual Residents Survey 2014).
- Crime deprivation (Indices of Deprivation for England 2010).
- Public Confidence in the Police (Tower Hamlets Community Safety Partnership, Strategic Assessment, 2013 – 2014)

6.2 Contextual characteristics

No further contextual characteristics were used in this section.

6.3 Description

6.3.1 Crime rates per 1000 people

In Tower Hamlets the overall crime rate in 2011-2012 was 63.3 crimes per thousand people compared to 57.4 crimes per thousand people in London and 38.4 crimes per thousand people in England⁴.

The type of crime with the highest rate in 2010-2011 in Tower Hamlets was violence against the person with 27 crimes per 1,000 persons; this was greater than the London region which had a rate of 21 crimes per 1,000 persons.

Over the period 2006-2007 to 2010-2011 violence against a person in Tower Hamlets decreased by 1,412 offences overall. Over the period 2006-2007 to 2010-2011, wounding or other acts endangering life in Tower Hamlets increased by 159 offences overall.

6.3.2 Perceptions of crime

31.0 per cent of people in Tower Hamlets thought that crime was a problem. This was the top personal concern for residents. Public confidence in the police currently stands at 60%

6.3.3 Crime deprivation

The crime deprivation measure records crime rates for burglary, violence, theft and criminal damage. The crime deprivation in Tower Hamlets shows that all except the three wards Millwall, St Katharine's and Wapping, Mile End and Globe Town have LSOAs in the bottom 20% for crime deprivation.

6.4 Issues

- The rate of crime is higher than that for London and England.

- Residents reported crime as the top concern in Tower Hamlets

6.5 Data gaps and updates

- A more nuanced understanding of the trends with regards to different types of crime is required.

7. Health and wellbeing

7.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise population in the borough:

- 7.2.1 Life expectancy at birth for males and females (Compendium of Population health Indicators (HSCIC), Life Expectancy at Birth, Jan 2015, 200-1993 to 2011-13, in LBTH Health JSNA, 2015).
- 7.2.2. Percentage of people participating in regular sport or exercise (Sport England Active People Survey 6) and Rates of physical inactivity amongst Adults (Public Health Outcomes Framework)
- 7.2.3 Health Deprivation and Disability (Indices of Deprivation for England 2010).
- 7.2.1 and 7.2.3 Health inequalities (London Health Programmes, Life expectancy at birth by sex and ward, 1999/03 - 2006/10, Jan. 2013, in LBTH Joint Strategic Needs Assessment: Life and Health in Tower Hamlets)
- 7.3.4 % of children achieving a good level of development at the end of reception year; % of children in reception who are obese; tooth decay; vitamin D deficiency. LBTH JSNA 2015
- 7.3.5 % of adult carers who have as much social contact as they would like, as a proxy measure for social isolation (Public Health Outcomes Framework) and reduce the number of people who experience common mental health disorders

7.2 Contextual characteristics

No further contextual characteristics were used in this section.

7.3 Description

7.3.1 Life expectancy

Life expectancy in Tower Hamlets remains lower than the rest of the country but continues to improve. In 2011-2013 in Tower Hamlets, the average life expectancy of females of 82.6 years was lower than the national average for females of 83.1 years. The average life expectancy for males in Tower Hamlets of 77.5 years was lower than the national average of 79.4 years.

However the life expectancy gap between Tower Hamlets and the national average has improved. Between 2000 and 2011, the gap between females in Tower Hamlets and nationally, improved from 1.8 years to 0.5 years; and for males improved from 3.3 years to 1.9 years.

Health inequalities in the borough persist and are responsible for the notable gaps between the least and most deprived residents. These inequalities result in a difference of 3.3 years between the most and least deprived females in the borough, and 6.9 years for males.

Compared to London, Tower Hamlets has the second highest premature death rate from circulatory disease (87 per 100,00), the second highest premature

death rate from cancer (128.5 per 1000) and the second highest premature death rate (36.9 per 100,00) from respiratory disease (these conditions typically constitute 75% of all premature deaths (LBTH JSNA 2015).

7.3.2 Participation in exercise

Proportionately more residents in Tower Hamlets (38.5 per cent) were engaged in taking part in physical activity at least three days a week, than for London (36.0 per cent) and nationally (35.7 per cent). However in 2014 30% of adults were physically inactive, above the London average rate of 27%.

7.3.3 Health and disability deprivations

Health and disability deprivation measures incorporate years of potential life lost; comparative illness and disability ratio; acute morbidity; mood and anxiety disorders. Health and disability deprivation in Tower Hamlets is higher than average. This is also compounded by health inequalities within the borough. Ward life expectancies for males varied by 10 years, while for females there was a variation of 15 years of life expectancy.

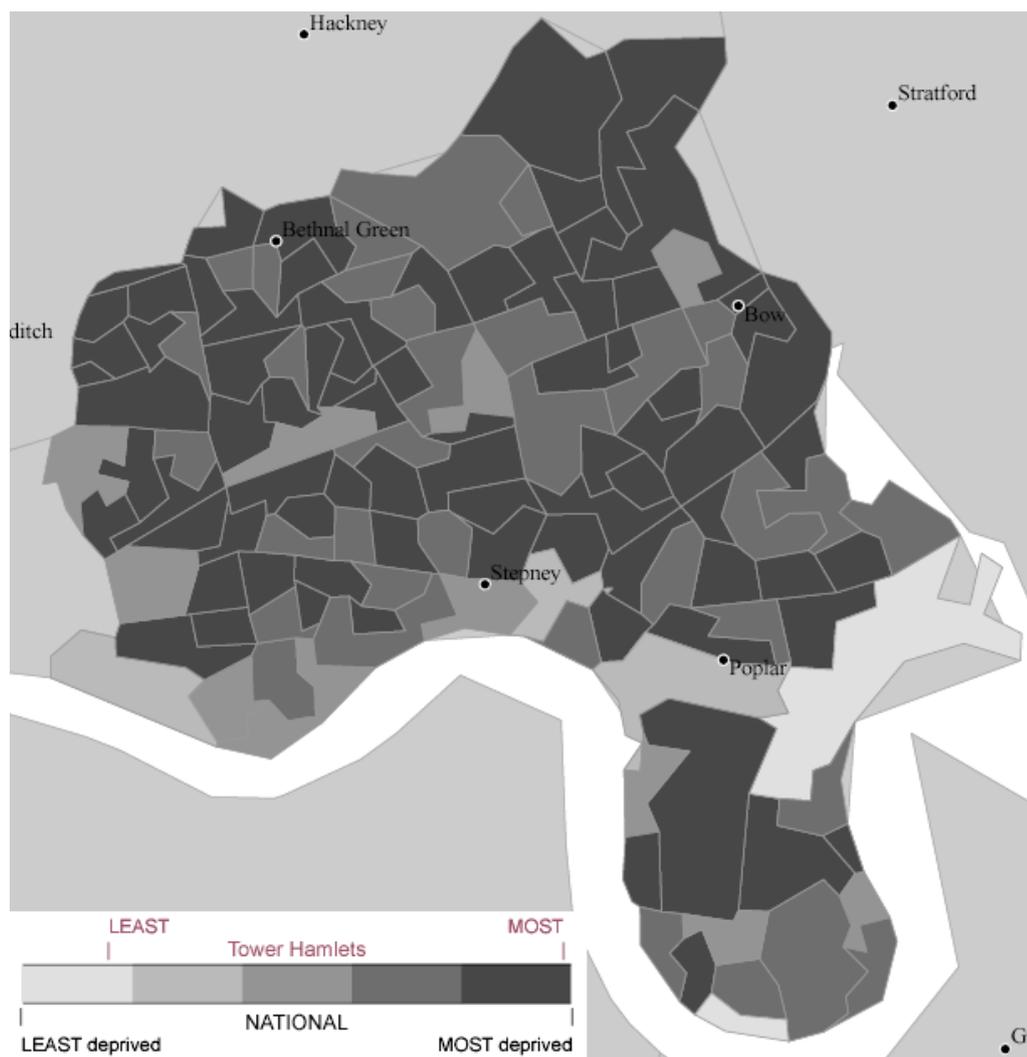


Figure 7: Geographic distribution of health and disability deprivation across Tower Hamlets. Source: Indices of Deprivation 2010 for England.

7.3.4 Children's Health Issues (LBTH JSNA 2015):

- Only 55% of children achieve a good level of development at the end of reception year at school. The London average is 62%. (2013/14)
- 12.2% of children in Reception Year (4-5 year old) are obese (Joint 10th highest in the country)
- 5% of 5 year old children have experience of tooth decay compared to 33% for London and 28% nationally compared to the previous study there is evidence of deterioration of child oral health
- Local evidence indicates particularly high levels of Vitamin D deficiency in both mothers and children.

7.3.5 Mental Health (Tower Hamlets Mental Health Strategy) and Isolation

- Tower Hamlets has a high prevalence of mental health problems: The fourth highest proportion of people with depression in London, the fourth highest incidence of first episode psychosis, and the highest incidence of psychosis in east London according to GP registers.
- In total there are approximately 30,000 adults estimated to have symptoms of a common mental health problem in the borough, with around 15,900 people known to their GP to have depression, and 3,300 known to have a serious mental illness, with a prevalence of c. 1150 people with dementia
- Using % of adult carers who have as much social contact as they would like, as a proxy measure for social isolation, in Tower Hamlets the figure is 29.8%, amongst the worst ten in London and below the London Average of 41.3%

7.4 Issues

- Residents in the borough have lower life expectancies than average, but life expectancies are improving.
- There are significant health inequalities amongst residents in the borough. This is reflected in the variation of life expectancies between the most and least deprived residents.
- Health incomes for children in the borough are particularly bad and under the London average.
- High prevalence of mental health issues and social isolation.

7.5 Data gaps and updates.

- There is a gap in evidence of the actual health impacts of new developments. Post-occupancy surveys would assist in filling this gap.
- There is an evidence gap regarding access to health facilities and their capacity with regards to population increase.

8. Air Quality

8.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise air quality in the borough and included in the Sustainability Appraisal Framework.

- 8.3.1 Levels of carbon dioxide (CO₂), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), and dust and particulate matter (PM₁₀) emissions (London Air Quality Network, 2015; LBTH Clear Zone Plan, 2010)

8.2 Contextual characteristics

- 8.3.2 Air quality impacts (King's College London, 2015)

8.3 Description

Tower Hamlets has three monitoring sites within the borough. These sites are operated and maintained by the London Air Quality Network (LAQN) and data is reported in real-time. In addition, the council also has 26 mini monitoring stations collecting data used to identify trends and hotspots, predict future pollutant levels, and monitor the success of the implementation of their quality action plan.

8.3.1 Levels of emissions

The borough exceeds air quality objectives for Oxides of Nitrogen (NO + NO₂-collectively referred to as NO_x) and particulate matter (PM₁₀). As of 2015, the Council has a duty to monitor PM_{2.5}. Table 12 shows pollution levels in 2014 measured against targets set by the Government's Air Quality Strategy, 2014.

		Was target achieved?		
		Blackwall	Mile End	Victoria Park*
Ozone	100 ug/m ³ as an 8 hour mean, not to be exceeded more than 10 times a year	Yes	-	-
Nitrogen Dioxide	200 ug/m ³ as a 1 hour mean, not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nitrogen Dioxide	40 ug/m ³ as an annual mean	No	No	Yes
	Overall are objectives met?	No	No	Yes

Table 12 Air pollution levels in 2014 measured against targets set by the Government's Air Quality Strategy 2014. *Victoria Park data is for 2015 as insufficient data available for 2014. Source: London Air Quality Network.

The borough has been declared an Air Quality Management Area. This is due to the high concentration of NO_x and PM₁₀ caused largely by traffic on major roads in the borough. Road transport has been identified as the largest source of

emissions in Tower Hamlets⁵. Air quality hotspots as of 2010 were Aldgate, Limehouse and Bromley-by-Bow. There are a number of interventions to reduce sources of air pollution from transport such as encouraging more sustainable mode splits and supporting active transport and trip reduction⁶.

8.3.2 Air quality impacts

Research undertaken at KCL studied the impacts of pollutants in the air on school children's respiratory health in Tower Hamlets. Small particulates (PM 2.5) alone are estimated to contribute to 102 deaths per year in Tower Hamlets.

8.4 Issues

- Air pollution levels for the borough overall exceed targets set by the Government's Air Quality Strategy, 2014.
- Transport contributes to the majority of pollution in the borough. This is particularly so, near large arterial roads throughout the borough and increased exposure to populations living within proximity to major roads, especially vulnerable groups such as children, the elderly and those with existing medical conditions. Air pollution has significant implications on health and life expectancy and is said to be the second largest contributor to deaths after smoking.
- Major hotspots for poor air quality are on the Transport for London Road Network, over which the borough has limited direct control. This reduces the borough's ability to improve air quality from vehicular traffic.
- Measures taken to reduce pollution, particularly targeting transport will have wider benefits to health, wellbeing and open spaces.

8.5 Data gaps and updates

- No data gaps have been identified.
- The LBTH air quality assessment may need to be revised to reflect recent data and trends.

⁵ Defra (2007). The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

⁶ LBTH. (2010). Clear Zone Plan.

9. Energy and Climate Change

9.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise energy and climate change in the borough and incorporated into the Sustainability Appraisal Framework.

- 9.3.1 Energy consumption by sector
- 9.3.2 Average consumption of domestic electricity (Neighbourhood Statistics, ONS, 2013)
- 9.3.4 Local carbon dioxide emissions per capita (Department of Energy and Climate Change, in ONS, Environment Profile 2013)
- 9.3.5 Number of households experiencing fuel poverty (Department of Energy and Climate Change, Fuel poverty sub-regional statistics 2013)

9.2 Contextual characteristics

- 9.3.3. Consumption of domestic gas
- 9.3.6 Decentralised energy
- 9.3.7 Urban Heat Island

9.3 Description

9.3.1 Energy consumption by sector

In 2011, a total of 5,262gWh of energy was consumed in the borough. Industry and commerce consumed the largest amount of energy per sector with 3,132gWh. This was almost double the usage of the domestic sector which consumed 1,156gWh. The transport sector consumed 972gWh.

9.3.2 Efficiency and consumption of domestic energy

The average domestic electricity use for Tower Hamlets was 3,269kWh per meter point in 2011. This was lower than London (3,714kWh per meter point). Between 2009 and 2011 there was a reduction in domestic electricity usage of 19kWh per meter point in Tower Hamlets which was a greater reduction than the London average of 11kWh per meter point.

9.3.3 Consumption of domestic gas

In 2011, the average consumption of domestic gas for the borough was 9,853kWh per meter point. This was lower than London which had an average of 14,038kWh per meter point. In the two years between 2009 and 2011 there was a reduction in domestic gas usage of 812kWh per meter point in the borough which was a smaller decrease than the London average of 1,090kWh per meter point.

9.3.4 Local carbon dioxide emissions

The estimate of carbon dioxide emissions was 7.5 tonnes per person in the borough in 2011. While this represents a decrease of 1.2 tonnes over the preceding two years, Tower Hamlets still has a higher rate than the London average of 4.9 tonnes and England at 6.7 tonnes. The higher rate per capita in Tower Hamlets, can be somewhat accounted for by the high number of people that commute to the borough each day such as Canary Wharf, but are not

resident in the borough and therefore there is a discrepancy in the amount of CO2 per resident.

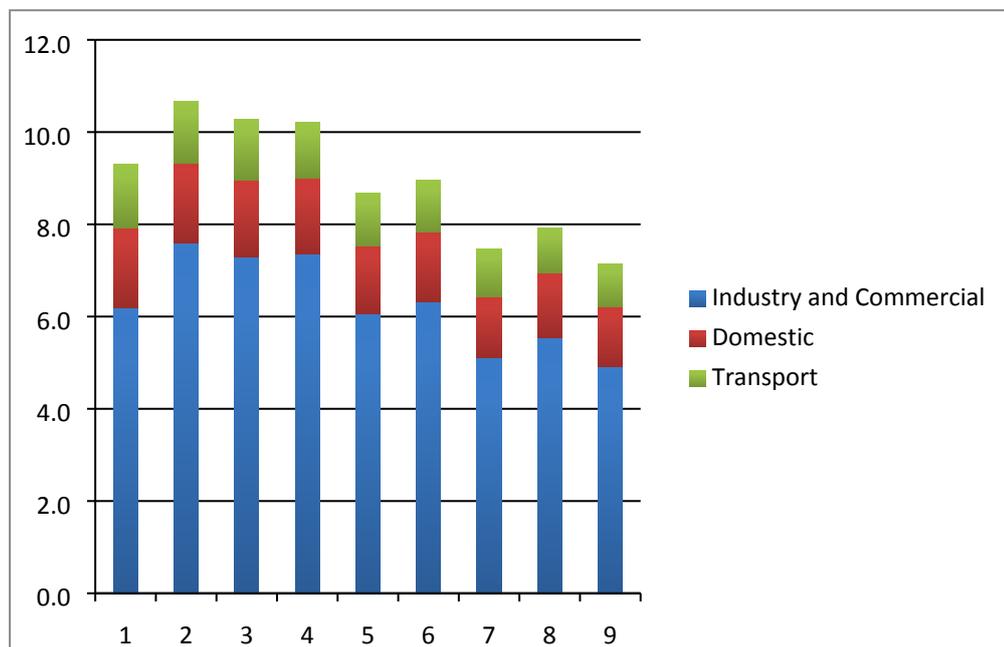


Figure 8: Per capita Local CO2 emission estimates; industry, domestic and transport sectors 2005-2013 (t CO2 per person). Source: UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics: 2005-2013.

9.3.5 Fuel poverty

Fuel poverty is defined as spending more than 10 per cent of disposable income on heating to a minimal standard. In 2013, 7,813 households in Tower Hamlets were estimated to be experiencing fuel poverty. This equated to 7.6 per cent of all households. This was an increase from the previous year, in which 7,075 households experienced fuel poverty, equating to 7.3 per cent of all households in the borough.

9.3.6 Decentralised energy

There are limited opportunities for decentralised energy and heating within the borough. Besides lack of suitable sites, efforts are constrained by governance and logistical challenges of supply and demand between multiple stakeholders, high land prices for which energy facilities provide a relatively lower return than other uses. Incentives pursue implementation are also constrained, particularly against a broader policy landscape and uncertainty in meeting regional and national targets. There is also commercial uncertainty surrounding the lag time between planning and developing an energy supply; and having an adequate demand. Otherwise this risks increasing prices for end uses including residents.

9.3.7 Urban Heat Island ⁷

Our average summer temperatures are predicted to keep rising, such that by the middle of this century, we can expect what are now considered heatwave temperatures (32 degrees daytime, 18 degrees nighttime) in most summers.

⁷ <http://climatelondon.org.uk/lccp/>

London also generates its own microclimate, known as the Urban Heat Island (UHI), which can result in the centre of London being up to 10°C warmer than the rural areas around London. This can aggravate the effects of hot weather.

Summer heatwaves may make our homes, workplaces and public transport uncomfortable, and can have an effect on health, particularly of vulnerable people.

The 2003 summer heatwave resulted in about 600 excess deaths in London. The hot temperatures in 2006 resulted in extremely high demands on London's power supply network and subsequent 'brown outs', due to the high cooling demand. Future increases in electricity demand for cooling could affect London's sustainability.

Identified ways to adapt to increase temperatures include London Mayoral targets:

- Increase tree cover by 5% by 2025 (from a baseline of 20% in 2008)
- Increase green cover in central London by 5% by 2030 and a further 5% by 2050 (this equates to c.30 hectares of new green cover if the boundary of the Central Activities zone is taken as a proxy for central London)

In addition there is a necessity to ensure heat is considered as part of new development proposals and energy saving or refurbishment retrofits of domestic properties, particularly within the social housing sector. Measures could include – restriction of glazing on south/west facades, appropriate wall insulation, ventilation and cooling, green roofs, walls and climbing plants, installation of water efficient taps.

9.4 Issues

- High levels of energy related emissions contribute to poor air quality in the borough.
- Fuel poverty remains a significant issue in the borough.
- There are barriers to delivering decentralised energy which are still to be overcome.
- CO₂ tends to dominate the direction of clean energy policy and actions. On the other hand the impacts of NO_x are proportionately underrated in decisions.
- Predominance of the Urban Heat Island will increase as development increases

9.5 Data gaps and updates

- There is a lack of understanding of post-occupancy energy use and demand. Current decisions surrounding energy are based upon modelling of expected demand; however there is a discrepancy between modelling and real data. This understanding would provide more certainty to and build a stronger case for implementing decentralised and cleaner energy in the borough.
- Data needs to be updated with 2015 release for energy consumption which covers 2013 data.
- Need a better understanding of the effects of climate change and adaptation measures at the local Tower Hamlets level.

- Data is needed to measure the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources.
- Data is needed to quantify energy efficiency and adaptation of existing building stock as per DECC, 2012.
- Need a better understanding of the local heat island effects and whether there are particular local areas of heat concentration.

10. Transport and mobility

10.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise transportation in the borough.

- 10.3.1 Number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents (LBTH Health Profile, 2014)
- 10.3.2 Length of cycle routes in the borough (LBTH Cycling Plan, 2009)
- 10.3.3 Journey to work by mode (2011 Census)

10.2 Contextual characteristics

There are no contextual characteristics in this section.

10.3 Description

10.3.1 Reduction of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents

There were 121 incidences of serious injuries and death on roads in Tower Hamlets in 2010-2011. This rate was worse than the English value.

10.3.2 Length of cycle routes in the borough

There are currently 53.3km of dedicated cycle routes in Tower Hamlets and 32.5km of pedestrian walkways. The Tower Hamlets Cycling Strategy 2015 outlines further improvements and growth in cycle routes – both segregated and on quietways.

10.3.3 Journey to work by mode

Tube, light rail and metro are the most popular modes to travel to work for residents of Tower Hamlets (37.32 per cent). This is significantly higher than for London (11.8 per cent). Conversely a lot less residents drive to work in Tower Hamlets (16.54 per cent) than for London (33.50 per cent). Similarly, car ownership is relatively low in the borough compared to London.

Mode of Journey to Work	Tower Hamlets (%)	London (%)
Underground, light rail, metro or tram	37.32	11.8
Driving a van or car	16.54	33.50
On foot	15.78	8.42
Bus, minibus or coach	10.39	11.12
Train	5.10	12.18
Bicycle	2.99	2.33
Passenger of van or car	1.38	2.51
Motorcycle, scooter or moped	1.13	1.42
Taxi or minicab	1.08	0.65
Other	0.64	0.42

Table 13: Journey to work by mode. Source: ONS Census 2011.

10.4 Issues

- There is a need to alleviate current and future capacity on trains, DLR, buses and local roads.
- 'Pinch points' around the borough need to be addressed, particularly those identified in the Isle of Dogs.
- Parking is an on-going issue. There is a need to reduce parking as a disincentive to drive and subsequently alleviate congestion and improve air quality. This may include reviewing parking hours and parking associated with developments.
- There is a need to further encourage active modes of transport, particularly for local trips.
- There is a need to address road space conflicts between cyclists, pedestrians and motorists. This is particularly pertinent for 'pinch points' which have been identified through modelling.
- Locations of end of trip facilities such as bicycle parking and electric vehicle recharge points is also another issue given space constraints.
- Out of a total of 68 Public Health Outcome Framework measures of the health of the local population, certain transport related measures are estimated to contribute to a third of them. Therefore interventions to enhance sustainable and cleaner transport could also have significant health benefits.

10.5 Data gaps and updates

- A number of plans and strategies are currently being updated. These should be reviewed and incorporated in the SA and Local Plan evidence base. These include: The Road Safety Strategy and Parking Policy.
- There is no data for CO2 emissions from transport in the borough. This is required to be able to measure the reductions in line with EU and London targets.

11. Biodiversity

11.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise biodiversity in the borough and inform the biodiversity target for the Sustainability Appraisal Framework.

- 11.3.1 Protected species
- 11.3.2 Protected sites including SAC, SPA, and Ramsar sites (Tower Hamlets Biodiversity website).
- 11.3.3 Local natural sites (Tower Hamlets Biodiversity Action Plan, 2009).

11.2 Contextual characteristics

- 11.3.4 Areas of deficiency in access to nature (2011 review of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation).

11.3 Description

11.3.1 Protected species

There are a number of nationally protected and priority species in the borough. These include the Black Redstart, bats, and various more common wild plants and animals.

11.3.2 Protected sites

There are no sites of European significance within the borough. There are no SACs, SPAs, Ramsar sites, SSIs or NNRs in the borough. The closest such sites are:

- Walthamstow Reservoir (SPA)
- Epping Forest (SAC)
- Lower Thames Marshes (SPA)

The HRA scoping identified possible impacts that the direction of the Local Plan and its development could theoretically have on these sites are:

- Walthamstow Reservoir (SPA)- possible impact from increase in population.
- Epping Forest (SAC) – possible impact from air pollution as a by-product of increased/certain developments in LBTH.
- Lower Thames Marshes (SPA) – Possible impact if water pollution were to increase from LBTH or as a result of increased population.

The HRA screening identifies the impacts are negligible considering the distance between the sites and the borough.

11.3.3 Local natural sites

There are three Local Nature Reserves which are: Mudchute Park Farm, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park and Ackroyd Drive.

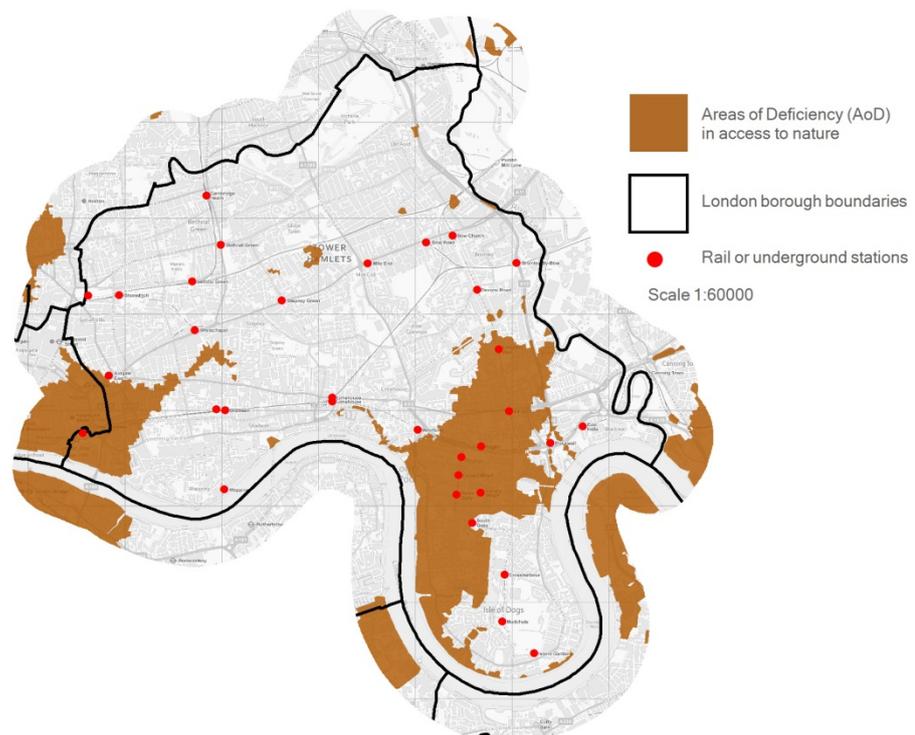
There are 46 Sites of Importance for Natural Conservation. Under the Tower Hamlets Biodiversity Action Plan, 2009, there are Habitat Action Plans for gardens and grounds; parks, squares and burial grounds; rivers and standing water; and the built environment. The Biodiversity Action Plan also identifies areas within Tower Hamlets that have deficient access to nature sites. There are

two large areas considered to have deficient access to Sites of Importance for Natural Conservation.

11.3.4 Areas of Deficiency in access to nature

The Areas of Deficiency in access to nature (AODs) are defined in the London Plan Implementation Report *Improving Londoners' Access to Nature* as areas more than 1 kilometre walking distance from an accessible wildlife site of at least Borough importance.

The AODs in Tower Hamlets were mapped by Greenspace Information for Greater London around the wildlife sites identified in the 2011 review of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation:



Areas of Deficiency in Access to Nature in Tower Hamlets

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Produced by Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC www.gigl.org.uk

11.4 Issues

- There are significant areas of the borough without sufficient access to nature.
- Increased development in the borough poses both problems and opportunities for wildlife.

11.5 Data gaps and updates

- No data gaps identified.

12. Soil

12.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise soil and land quality in the borough.

- 12.3.1 Extent of soil sealing (LBTH Biodiversity Action Plan, 2014-2019)

12.2 Contextual characteristics

- 12.3.2 Contaminated Land (Tower Hamlets Contaminated Land Strategy, 2013)

12.3 Description

12.3.1 Extent of soil sealing

Soil sealing refers to the covering of the ground by an impermeable material. It is one of the main causes of soil degradation. It can put biodiversity at risk, increase the risk of flooding and water scarcity and contribute to an urban heat island effect. It is an irreversible process.

While there is no specific indicator for amount of ground covered by impermeable surfaces in Tower Hamlets, land coverage provides a proxy. Over a third of Tower Hamlet's surface area is covered by buildings, roads and car parks; almost 40% is covered by gardens and landscaped areas around housing estates, schools, businesses etc; almost 15% is covered by water surface. 13% of the borough consists of parks and other public open spaces.

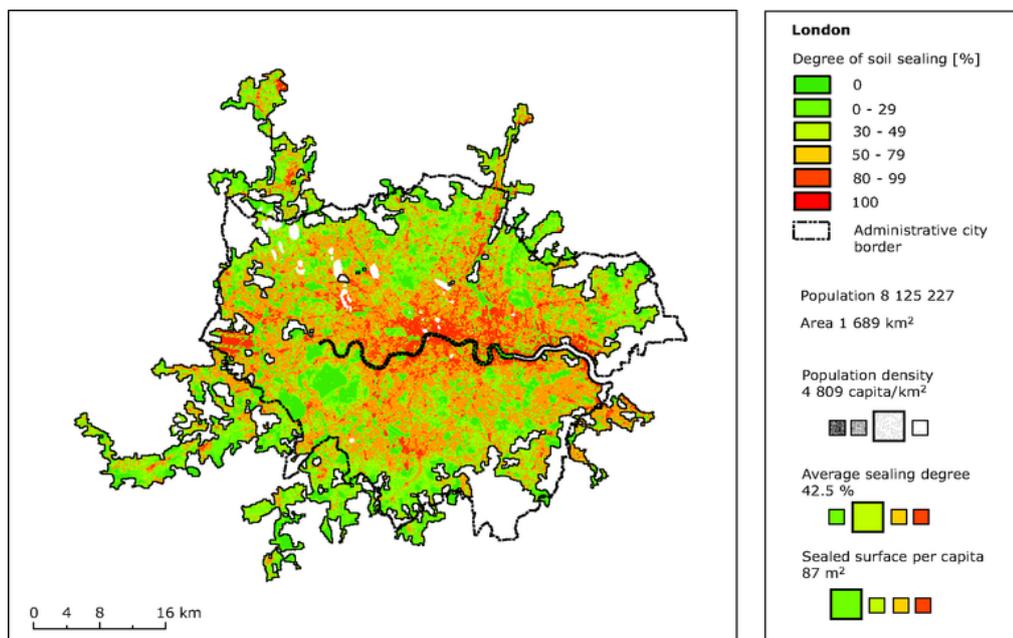


Figure: degree of soil sealing in London. Source: European Environment Agency.

12.3.2 Contaminated Land

In 1994, a study of former industrial land in Tower Hamlets identified over 900 sites, many, as expected were located along the River Thames, particularly along the periphery of the Isle of Dogs. Other areas identified were the banks of the Limehouse Cut and Bow, particularly the area spreading south from Hampton Wick. The latter is the historic centre of the British chemical industry.

The extensive brownfield development in the borough, means that more development is taking place on contaminated land. The opportunity areas in the borough, especially the South Poplar Housing Zone, are in areas with high levels of contaminated land. Proper remediation will be required to enable development to take place.

12.4 Issues

- Remediation of land from industrial uses and other polluting uses where there is a change of use.
- Soil Sealing will have an impact on surface water flooding (see section 13).

12.5 Data gaps and updates

There is little local data soil quality.

13. Flood risk reduction and management

13.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise flooding and river catchments in the borough.

- 13.3.3 Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding and water quality grounds (Environment Agency reported in LBTH AMR 2014/15)

13.2 Contextual characteristics

- 13.3.1 Areas at risk of flooding (LBTH Level 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, 2012).
- 13.3.2 Areas at risk of surface flooding (LBTH Local Flood Risk Strategy)

13.3 Description

13.3.1 Areas at risk of flooding

The main risks of flooding events are posed from fluvial flooding from the Lea Valley and the Thames River. Figure 9 shows that the lower portion of the borough, most specifically the Isle of Dogs is within Flood Zone 3. This demarcates that this zone has a high probability of flooding if the existing flood defences, particularly the Thames Barrier were not managed in accordance to procedures.

Flood Zone 2 as also shown in Figure 9 covers the area around Tower Hamlets' council offices and East India. This area in Flood Zone 2 is at risk of flooding in an extreme fluvial event on the River Lee.

Tower Hamlets Surface Water Management Plan predicts that if a 1 in 100 year rainfall event was to occur, 11,500 residential properties and 3,800 non-residential properties could be at risk of surface water flooding of a depth greater than 0.03m.

13.3.2 Surface Water Flooding:

Surface water flooding was thought to pose the most significant risk of flooding within the borough. Through urbanisation, most of the surfaces in the borough are paved and surface water runoff from rainfall is drained away via piped systems and into the combined sewer system. The sewer system was built in the Victorian period and even though surface water helps keep the sewer clear, its capacity for rainwater is limited. Furthermore topographical low points and underground infrastructure, such as tunnels pose a further risk to surface water flooding.

There is one critical drainage area identified in Tower Hamlets Plevna Street and Launch Street however the Isle of Dogs is also considered at risk from Surface Level Flooding, especially the potential to exceed the capacity of the drainage network

13.3.3 Planning permissions granted contrary to flooding advice

In 2013/14, 1 application was granted contrary to flood advice from the Environment Agency. In the previous year 2012/13, 3 such applications were granted. In the past 6 years, all approved planning applications have met the sequential test for managing flood risk.

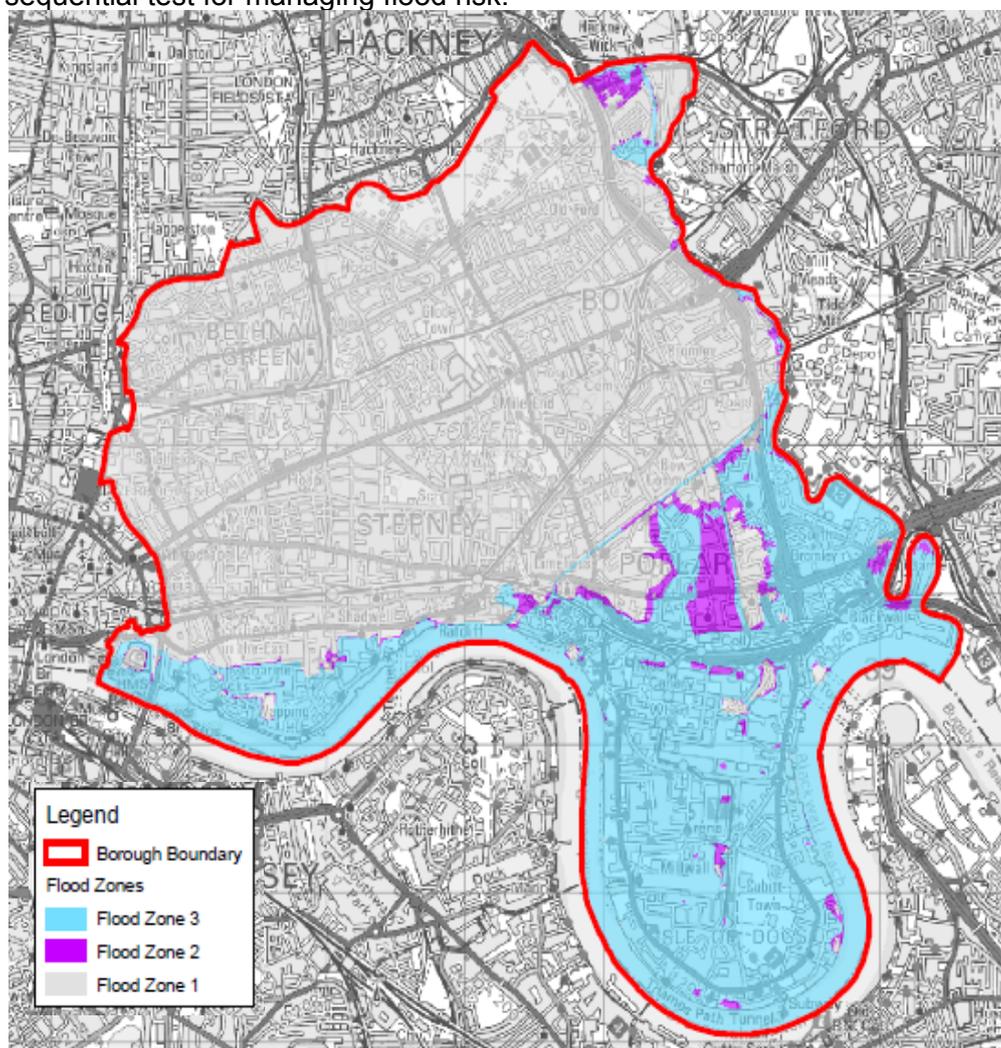


Figure 9: Tower Hamlets Strategic Flood Assessment. Source Capita Symonds for LBTH.

13.4 Issues

- A considerable proportion of the borough is within flood zones.
- The Isle of Dogs is at significant risk of surface water flooding
- Management of river ways and flood management require cooperation from multiple boroughs and tiers of government.

13.5 Data gaps and updates

- Flood impacts on people and property may need to be revised to take account of new developments and any associated and accumulated change in exposure to flooding.

14. Water resources and use

14.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise water use and quality in the borough.

- 14.3.1 Biological river quality (LBTH, AMR, 2013/14).

14.2 Contextual characteristics

No further contextual characteristics in this section.

14.3 Description

14.3.1 Biological water quality

Canals and rivers in Tower Hamlets have little marginal vegetation and suffer at times from poor water quality and invasive non-native species. For the 3 years between 2011/12 to 2013/14 the quality of the Lower Lea has remained unchanged. The quality of the water is reported as moderate, its chemical status is moderate and ecology is poor.

14.4 Issues

- Water quality is poor and not improving.

14.5 Data gaps and updates

No data set found pertaining to per capita or household consumption of daily water use.

15. Waste

15.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise waste in the borough:

- 14.3.1 Amount of residual water per household (DEFRA in ONS, 2013)
- 14.3.2 Proportion of household waste recycled or composted (DEFRA)

15.2 Contextual Characteristics

There are no contextual characteristics in this section.

15.3 Description

15.3.1 Residual waste

	2012/1 3	2013/1 4	2014/1 5
	418.22	418.05	438.66

Table 14 Residual household waste per household. Source: Waste Data Flow.

15.3.2 Household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting

	2012/1 3	2013/1 4	2014/1 5
% Dry Recycling	25.78	26.07	26.43
% wet recycling	1.60	1.63	1.7

Table 15 % of recycled waste. Source: Waste Data Flow.

The Tower Hamlets dry recycling rates are amongst the highest in London, however the wet recycling rate is the third lowest in London, with some authorities reaching 22%. However this is due to the relatively small number of gardens in the borough and therefore low levels of garden waste.

15.4 Issues

- The Council's recycling rates are below the London average, but rising steadily. The wet recycling rate is particularly low
- Our current safeguarded waste sites are both in areas transitioning away from industrial use and into residential use through their inclusion within the Poplar Riverside Housing Zone and the Fish Island area of the LLDC. The resulting increasing land values, as well as regional and local housing targets, creates pressure for alternative use for these sites.

15.5 Data gaps and updates

- There is minimal data pertaining to waste post-2011.

16. Noise

16.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise noise in the borough:

- 16.3.1 The rate of complaints about Noise (Public Health Outcomes Framework)

16.2 Contextual characteristics

- 16.3.1 Number of noise complaints received by the borough

16.3 Description

16.3.1 Noise Complaints

The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health calculates the rate of noise complaints per thousand of population for all London boroughs. In 2013/14 in Tower Hamlets this was 22%, amongst the highest in London and above the London average of 17.4%.

The below table provides details of the noise complaints the Council has received over the last 5 years. The majority of which are from construction noise.

	Nov 10 - Oct 11	Nov 11 - Oct 12	Nov 12 - Oct 13	Nov 13 - Oct 14	Nov 14 - Oct 15	
Category	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Noise - commercial premises	237	147	166	162	146	858
Noise - construction/demolition sites	415	312	318	354	329	1728
Noise - industrial, warehousing/distribution premises	6	4	1	20	17	48
Noise - leisure/recreation premises	66	31	72	45	24	238
Noise - other residential premises	0	0	0	0	2	2
Noise - single family houses	0	0	0	0	1	1
OOH noise - commercial premises	52	62	41	41	52	248
OOH noise - industrial, warehousing/distribution premises	2	4	2	5	7	20
OOH noise -	92	49	92	36	44	313

leisure/recreation premises						
OOH noise - on-licensed premises	0	0	0	0	8	8
OOH noise - vehicles machinery equipment including buskers	0	0	0	0	37	37
OOH noise construction/demolition sites	294	85	70	47	115	611
Total	1164	694	762	710	782	4112

16.4 Issues

- High complaints indicates a higher than average level of noise in the borough.

16.5 Data gaps and updates

- This comparative indicator data is calculated, not hard data.

17. Town Centres

17.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise town centres in the borough:

- 17.3.3 Number of junk food outlets per secondary school (LBTH Health JSNA, 2015)
- 17.3.1 Town Centre Vacancy Rates

17.2 Contextual characteristics

- 17.3.2 Description of town centres and retail

17.3 Description

17.3.1 Town Centre Vacancy Rates:

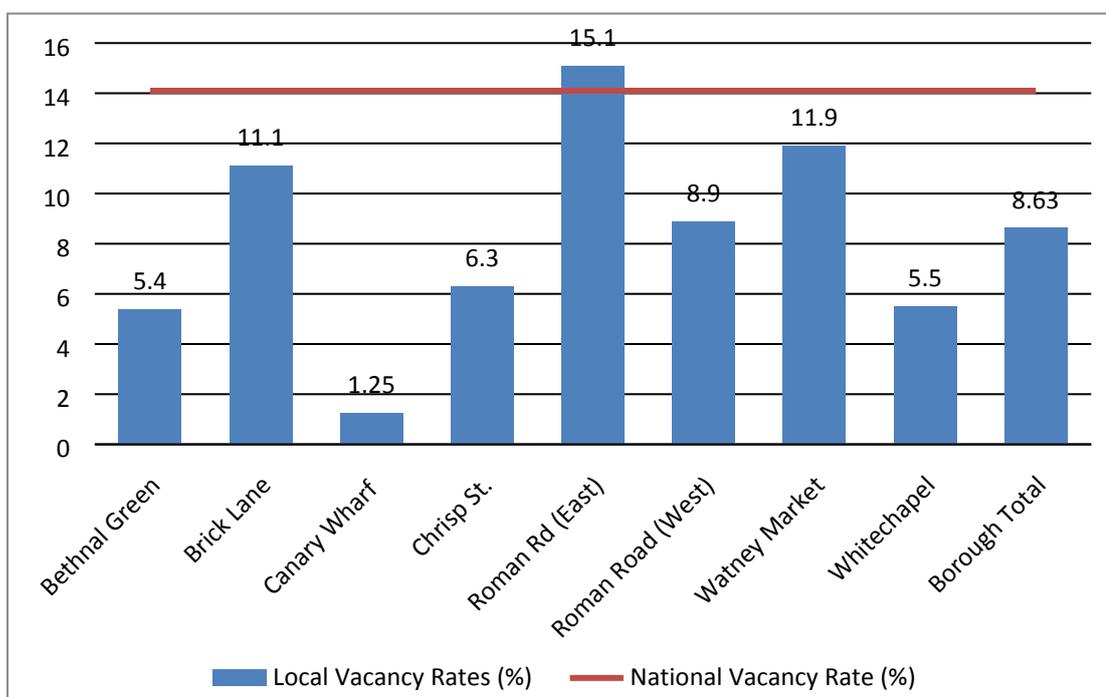


Table 16 2014/15 Town Centre Vacancy Rates. Source: LBTH Survey

17.3.2 Description of town centres and retail

There were 14,945 businesses trading in the borough in 2014. Since 2010, this was an increase of 28.9 per cent in the number of businesses trading compared to a decline of 17.4 per cent in London. Beyond Canary Wharf, retail in Tower Hamlets is not characterised so much by anchor stores. Retail in town centres tends to be characterised by independent retail including: convenience stores, beauty salons, takeaways and local businesses.

17.3.3 Takeaways, betting and loan shops

There is a high density of 'junk food' outlets. There are 42 junk food outlets per secondary school which is the second highest in London.

17.4 Issues

- Levels of fast-food outlets, betting shops and payday loan stores are higher than ideal and have socio-economic and health implications.
- The consequences of pursuing higher residential in town centres is unknown. This relates particularly to active street frontages and retaining a mix of viable uses within town centres. This also relates to how to protect general shops of less than 150m² as such spaces can also be converted into residential.
- There is an increasing demand for restaurants and there is also potential for more leisure and community services to be located in town centres.

17.5 Data gaps and updates

- No known data gaps.

18. Heritage, Archaeology and Design

18.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise population in the borough.

- 18.3.1 Number of Heritage Listed Buildings (LBTH Conservation website)
- 18.3.2 Number of Scheduled Ancient Monuments (LBTH Conservation website)
- 18.3.3 Number of war memorials (LBTH Conservation website)
- 18.3.4 Number of Conservation Areas and Registered Historic Parks and Gardens (MAGIC)
- 18.3.5 Number of sites and aspects on the Heritage at Risk register (Historic England's Heritage at Risk register).

18.2 Contextual characteristics

- 18.2.1 Archaeology
- 18.2.2 Views
- 18.2.3 Daylight, sunlight and wind

18.3 Description

18.3.1 Heritage Listed Buildings

Within the borough there are over 2,000 Listed Buildings a list of these can be found on the LBTH conservation website. There are:

- 13 Grade I Buildings that are of exceptional national interest. These include the Tower of London, Tower Bridge and Christ Church Spitalfields.
- Approximately 40 Grade II* buildings of special interest. These include Wapping Hydraulic Pumping Station.
- Around 2,000 Grade II buildings of special interest.

18.3.2 Scheduled Achievement Monuments (SAMs)

Brunel's Great Eastern ship slipway in Millwall has recently been declared a SAM. Other SAMs are Three Colt Bridge SAM and Parnell Road Bridge SAM. An up to date map of these can be found on the LBTH Conservation website

18.3.3 War memorials

As of August 2015, there were 44 war memorials in the borough. A list of these can be found on the LBTH Conservation website.

18.3.4 Conservation Areas

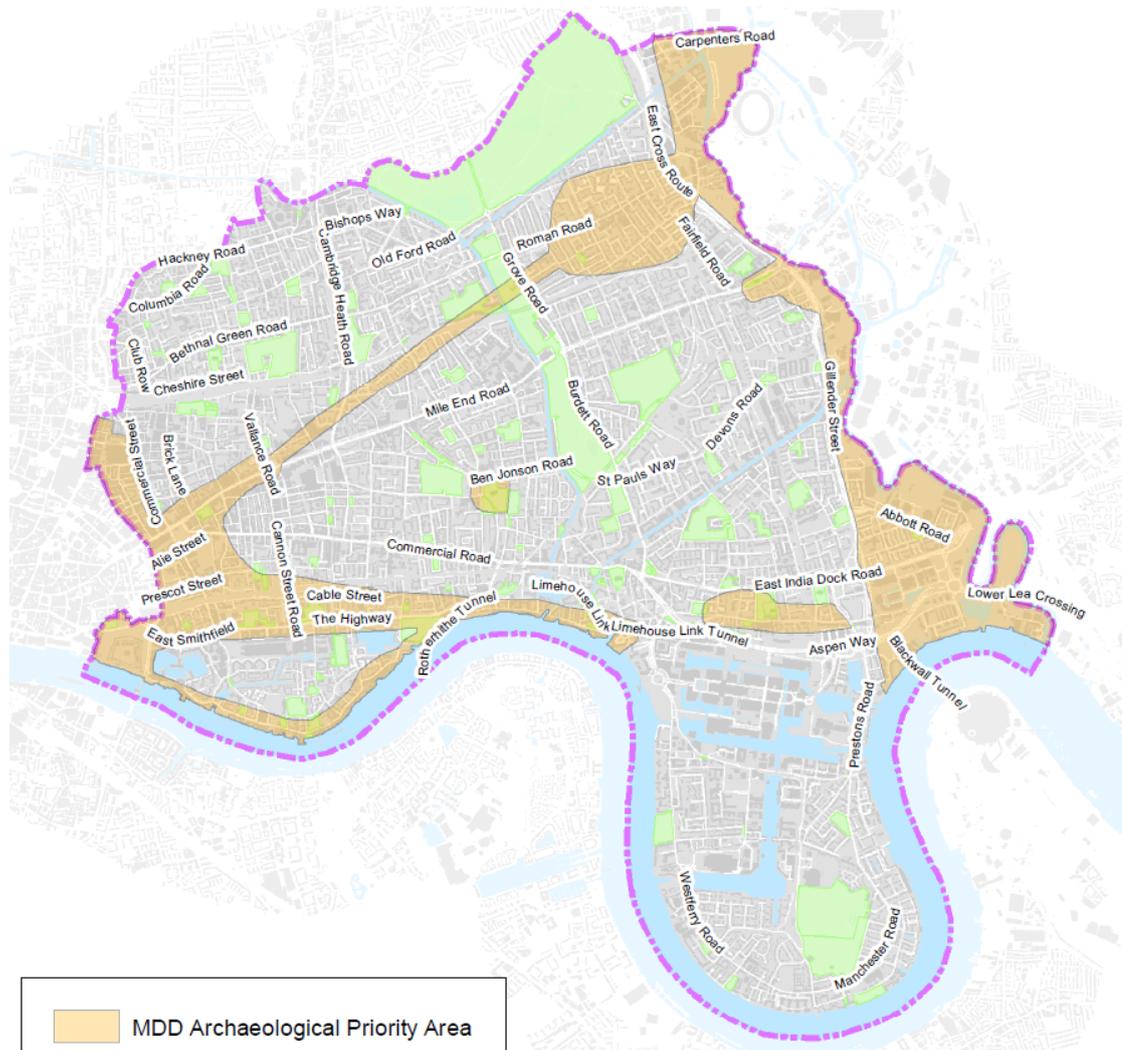
As of August 2015, there were 58 Conservation Areas within the borough. A list of these and respective character appraisals and guidelines about how the character can be conserved can be found on the LBTH Conservation website.

18.3.5 Heritage at Risk

35 heritage sites and aspects are registered on Historic England’s Heritage at Risk Register. These include 28 listed buildings, 6 conservation areas and 1 SAM.

18.3.6 Archaeology:

The borough has large areas of Archaeological Priority. These are highlighted on the map below. Many of the areas of Archaeological Priority coincide with opportunity areas and consideration will have to be given as to how to preserve the archaeological heritage alongside supporting development.



18.3.7 Views:

The London Plan designates 27 views across London. Tower Hamlets regularly responds to planning applications which could impact on four of these views:

- View 5: Greenwich Park to Central London
- View 10: Tower Bridge
- View 24: Island gardens, Isle of Dogs to Royal Naval College
- View 25: The Queen’s Walk to Tower of London

18.3.8 Daylight, Sunlight and Wind

Modelling on individual sites has indicated increasing sunlight, daylight and wind effects with new development sites. A number of rights to light issues have also prevented development from coming forward. However the borough has no borough wide modelling of these factors or the potential impact from development.

18.4 Issues

- High levels of development and associated drivers of land prices and population growth, place pressure on heritage conservation. This pressure is compounded by the borough's location on the city fringe which has a mass of tall buildings. To some extent this may set a precedent for further tall buildings nearby in Tower Hamlets. The demand for development can result in less consideration to the impact of appropriate scale of new buildings on the wider area.
- Conserving the use of building uses that are in decline such as public houses being converted for other uses such as residential is also a matter that needs to be noted.
- Trans-boundary matters should be noted and the impact that development in Tower Hamlets may have on heritage in other boroughs. Such examples include sight lines from General Wolfe in Greenwich and Island Gardens which form part of the Greenwich world heritage site, and protecting the background of the Tower of London are such examples.

18.5 Data gaps and updates

- There should be clearer strategic understanding of where tall buildings should be located in the borough to minimise impacts on heritage.
- The LBTH Conservation Strategy 2009 was last updated to align with the Local Development Framework and Core Strategy. No necessary updates are foreseen.
- Further borough wide data is required on the sunlight, daylight and wind effects of proposed development, especially in high density development.
- The London Plan evidences views of strategic importance to London, however Tower hamlets has no local evidence on locally important views.

19. Open space

19.1 Indicators

The following indicators were used to characterise open space and landscape in the borough.

- 19.3.1 Number of open spaces classified as Green Flag standard (LBTH Annual Monitoring Review 2014/15)
- Open space (hectares) per 1,000 people (LBTH, Local Monitoring Report, 2012/13)

19.2 Contextual characteristics

There are no contextual characteristics in this section

19.3 Description

19.3.1 Green Flag standards

There are over 120 parks and green spaces in Tower Hamlets. The following eight have received Green Flag Awards.

- Mile End Park
- Millwall Park
- Island Gardens
- King Edward Memorial Park
- Victoria Park
- Trinity Square Gardens
- Weavers Fields
- St George's Gardens

19.3.2 Open space standards

There were a total of 264.98 ha of open space in the borough in 2012/13. This equated to a total of 1.04 ha per 1,000 residents which was an increase from the previous year. The national average is 2.4 ha per 1,000 residents. Tower Hamlets Council has prepared a previous Green Grid which together with the Open Space Strategy guides the direction of open space provision and quality.

19.4 Issues

- With increasing density, development and population conserving and creating new open space is a challenge.

19.5 Data gaps and updates

- An update is being prepared for the Open Space Strategy.

20. Trans-boundary matters

20.1 Indicators

- No indicators were included in the Sustainability Appraisal Framework.

20.2 Description

A number of the above elements of sustainability are trans-boundary in nature and require cooperation across boroughs and authorities. These include:

- Housing
- Flooding
- Waste- sites

The duty to cooperate was created in the Localism Act 2011, and amends the Planning and Compulsory Act 2004. It places a legal duty on local planning authorities.

20.3 Issues

- Sustainability issues can be trans-boundary in nature.
- Addressing sustainability issues may require trans-boundary cooperation as per the duty to cooperate.
- The Local Plan and actions taken within the borough, may affect areas outside of the borough.

20.4 Data gaps and updates

- Information may need to be collected from other boroughs, if an issue or the Local Plan may potentially affect areas outside of Tower Hamlets, most notably in neighbouring boroughs.

Appendix 2C: Method for developing the Sustainability Objectives

SEA/ Sustainability Dimension	Sustainability Appraisal Objectives of Core Strategy (Section 2.6)	Summary of policy, plans, and programmes (Section 2.7)	Sustainability issues (Section 3.4)	South Quay Masterplan SEA	Suggested Sustainability Objectives for Local Plan (section 4.3)
<i>Population</i>	-	Plan for and meet the challenges of population growth.	Planning effectively in the context of high growth and population turn over.	-	Liveability: Promote liveable, safe, high quality neighbourhoods with good quality services
<i>Equality and deprivation</i>	To reduce poverty and ensure equality of opportunity for all residents. To ensure that the plan does not negatively affect existing residents of Tower Hamlets, and particularly disempowered groups.	Improve the quality of life for everyone and reduce deprivations.	High levels of multiple deprivations, particularly for income, housing, children and older persons. Fuel poverty. Income inequality	-	Education: Increase and improve the provision of and access to childcare, education and training facilities and opportunities for all age groups and sectors of the local population.
<i>Housing</i>	To give all residents quality, affordable housing.	Facilitate a wide choice of housing supply and affordability that caters for all.	Housing needs and targets. Overcrowding Affordability. Achieving the right mix of tenures and bedrooms to meet needs.	To ensure that all residents have access to good quality, well-located, affordable housing that promotes liveability.	Education: Increase and improve the provision of and access to childcare, education and training facilities and opportunities for all age groups and sectors of the local population.

SEA/ Sustainability Dimension	Sustainability Appraisal Objectives of Core Strategy (Section 2.6)	Summary of policy, plans, and programmes (Section 2.7)	Sustainability issues (Section 3.4)	South Quay Masterplan SEA	Suggested Sustainability Objectives for Local Plan (section 4.3)
<i>Economy and employment</i>	To give all residents the opportunity of an occupation providing self-worth and a good livelihood, particularly in deprived areas.	Support a robust, low carbon and competitive economy that creates shared prosperity and helps all residents reach their full potential.	Differences between jobs available in TH and those of residents. Continue to support local access to employment and economic opportunities. Income deprivation.	To provide all residents with the opportunity of employment, particularly in deprived areas.	Employment: Reduce worklessness and increase employment opportunities for all residents. Economic Growth: Create and sustain local economic growth across a range of sectors and business sizes.
<i>Education</i>	-	Increase opportunities for residents to get into training, access lifelong learning opportunities and acquire skills for employment to benefit from job opportunities.	Pressure on School Places: The expected housing and population growth in the borough increase the need for school places. Lack of Early Years / Childcare places: In 2013 the Government introduced a new statutory duty on Councils to ensure adequate provision of 15 hours of childcare for disadvantaged two year olds. The borough's demographics mean that Tower Hamlets needs to	To protect existing, make provision for new, and maximise accessibility to education facilities to meet the needs of all sectors of the population.	Education: Increase and improve the provision of and access to childcare, education and training facilities and opportunities for all age groups and sectors of the local population.

SEA/ Sustainability Dimension	Sustainability Appraisal Objectives of Core Strategy (Section 2.6)	Summary of policy, plans, and programmes (Section 2.7)	Sustainability issues (Section 3.4)	South Quay Masterplan SEA	Suggested Sustainability Objectives for Local Plan (section 4.3)
			provide the highest number of places. Major skills gap between local residents and the jobs available		
<i>Safety</i>	To create safe and secure environments and reduce crime.	Improve the safety and security of all.	Rates of crime are higher than average. Residents perceive anti-social behaviour and crime as a problem.	-	Liveability: Promote liveable, safe, high quality neighbourhoods with good quality services
<i>Health and wellbeing</i>	To improve health, promote healthy lifestyles and reduce health inequalities. To maximise the accessibility to key services and amenities.	Protect human health and reduce health inequalities.	High levels of health inequality Life expectancy, mortality rates are worse than average, but improving. Environmental factors contribute to poor health ie. air, take-way shops. Poor child health Poor mental health	To maximise the health and well-being of the population and reduce health inequalities.	Health and wellbeing: Improve the health and wellbeing of the population and reduce health inequalities.
<i>Air quality</i>	To improve air quality.	Improve air quality.	Air pollution levels exceed targets. Significant effects on human health. Transport is a huge contributor to air	To reduce pollution to air (and reduce disruption from noise and vibration through direct action and mitigation measures); to seek to improve the	Natural Resources: Ensure sustainable use and protection of natural resources, including water, land and air, and reduce waste.

SEA/ Sustainability Dimension	Sustainability Appraisal Objectives of Core Strategy (Section 2.6)	Summary of policy, plans, and programmes (Section 2.7)	Sustainability issues (Section 3.4)	South Quay Masterplan SEA	Suggested Sustainability Objectives for Local Plan (section 4.3)
			pollution.	quality of the air as far as possible.	
<i>Climate change and energy</i>	To combat fuel poverty, reduce energy consumption, and promote renewable forms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	Promote energy security and increase proportion of energy use from renewable sources. Minimise the contribution to climate change and promote mitigation and adaptation measures to address negative effects of climate change.	Logistics and governance of delivering decentralised energy supplies. Effects on air quality. Meeting energy targets. Mitigating the Urban Heat Island Effect	To ensure that the Masterplan adapts to the effects of climate change (both now and in the future) and contributes to climate change mitigation, achieves greater energy efficiency and reduces its reliance on fossil fuels.	Climate change: Ensure the Local Plan incorporates mitigation and adaptation measures to reduce and respond to the impacts of climate change.
<i>Transport</i>	To reduce the need to travel, reduce private vehicular transport and encourage the use of public transport, cycling and walking.	Promote accessible, safe and sustainable transport and reduce transport related contributions to climate change.	Meeting increased travel demand associated with population growth and development. Providing for and influencing behaviour change towards utilising more sustainable travel choices. High CO2 levels from transport.	To increase the proportion of journeys made by walking and cycling followed by bus or train (relative to those taken by car).	Transport and mobility: Create accessible, safe and sustainable connections and networks by road, public transport, cycling and walking.
<i>Biodiversity</i>	To conserve, enhance and where appropriate create species, habitats,	Maintain biodiversity; conserve natural	Increased development poses problems and opportunities for	To protect, conserve and enhance the biodiversity (within the Masterplan)	Biodiversity: Protect and enhance biodiversity, natural habitats, water

SEA/ Sustainability Dimension	Sustainability Appraisal Objectives of Core Strategy (Section 2.6)	Summary of policy, plans, and programmes (Section 2.7)	Sustainability issues (Section 3.4)	South Quay Masterplan SEA	Suggested Sustainability Objectives for Local Plan (section 4.3)
	green spaces and watercourses.	habitats, water bodies and landscapes of importance.	biodiversity. Areas with deficient access	Area and wider borough) and where appropriate create habitats, green and open spaces and water courses.	bodies and landscapes of importance.
<i>Soil</i>	-	Safeguard and enhance the quality of soil.	Soil sealing impact on flooding. Remediation of land from industrial uses and other polluting uses where there are changes in land use.	To reduce pollution to land through direct action or mitigation; to seek to improve the quality of the land as far as possible.	Natural Resources: Ensure sustainable use and protection of natural resources, including water, land and air, and reduce waste. Contaminated Land: Improve land quality and ensure mitigation of adverse effects of contaminated land on human health.
<i>Flood risk reduction and management</i>	To minimise flood risk within the borough and elsewhere, and promote the use of sustainable urban drainage systems.	Reduce and manage the risk of floods.	Significant proportion of the borough at risk of flood. Measures in place to reduce risk. On-going risk reduction requires co-operation among boroughs and authorities.	To minimise flood risk to people and property within the Masterplan Area and wider borough and elsewhere, and promote the use of sustainable urban drainage systems.	Flood risk reduction and management: To minimise and manage the risk of flooding

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<i>Water resources and use</i>	To improve the quality of water and to achieve the wise management of sustainable use of water resources.	Encourage reduced and more efficient use of water.	Quality of water bodies is moderate, while their ecology is poor.	To improve water quality and reduce water use.	Natural Resources: Ensure sustainable use and protection of natural resources, including water, land and air, and reduce waste. Flood risk reduction and management: To minimise and manage the risk of flooding
<i>Waste</i>	To minimise waste requiring disposal and to increase recycling and recovery.	Reduce waste, enhance recycling and reuse, and promote sustainable waste management.	No additional sites available in borough for land fill. Low recycling rates, especially of wet waste	To minimise the production of waste across all sectors and increase reuse, recycling, remanufacturing and recovery rates.	Natural Resources: Ensure sustainable use and protection of natural resources, including water, land and air, and reduce waste.
<i>Noise</i>	To reduce the impact of noise.	Avoid, prevent and reduce adverse effects due to the exposure to environmental noise.	With increased development, need to reduce noise impacts of adjacent land uses. Aircraft noise from flight paths of London City Airport.	To reduce disruption from noise and vibration through direct action and mitigation measures.	Liveability: Promote liveable, safe, high quality neighbourhoods with good quality services
<i>Town centres</i>	-	Support the vitality of diverse, inclusive and secure town centres and neighbourhoods.	Uses that support the vitality and wellbeing of communities (ie healthy high streets). Ensuring profits benefit	To enhance local townscape/landscape character and improve the quality of the built environment and public	Town Centres: Promote diverse and economically thriving town centres.

SEA/ Sustainability Dimension	Sustainability Appraisal Objectives of Core Strategy (Section 2.6)	Summary of policy, plans, and programmes (Section 2.7)	Sustainability issues (Section 3.4)	South Quay Masterplan SEA	Suggested Sustainability Objectives for Local Plan (section 4.3)
			the community by enabling local businesses and employment opportunities.	open spaces.	
<i>Heritage and archaeology</i>	To promote good quality in urban design, and the conservation and appreciation of the historic environment.	Protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment.	Pressure from development. Building use. Trans-boundary matters. The opportunity areas in the borough are located in areas of high archaeological importance	To enhance and protect the significance of heritage assets and archaeological heritage.	Design and Heritage: Enhance and protect heritage and cultural assets; distinctive character and an attractive built environment..
<i>Open space</i>	-	Increase open spaces that are high quality, networked and multi-functional	Borough has various quality open spaces. Challenges arise from competing needs for space in the borough and the impact of increased population on open and recreational spaces. A key challenge is to provide sufficient open space for an increasing population given existing restriction of space.	To provide accessible social and community facilities and open spaces.	Open space: Enhance and increase open spaces that are high quality, networked and multi-functional.
Trans-	-	Foster trans-boundary	Governance and	-	An important issue but

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boundary cooperation		cooperation and co-delivery of strategies and services to address issues where appropriate.	<p>coordination of trans-boundary matters is significant in addressing (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing • Waste • Heritage • Water • Flood risk • Transport • Energy <p>Conversely, Local Plan may affect areas outside of the borough. Duty to cooperate</p>		not so relevant for a sustainability objective. Should be taken account of in Local Plan.
Skyline and Views and amenity	<p>To promote good quality in urban design, and the conservation and appreciation of the historic environment.</p> <p>To promote good quality in urban design, and the conservation and appreciation of the historic environment.</p>	<p>The London Plan designates 27 views across London. Tower Hamlets regularly responds to planning applications which could impact on four of these views:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • View 5: Greenwich Park to Central London • View 10: Tower Bridge • View 24: Island gardens, Isle of Dogs to 	The borough may wish to undertake local view assessments to understand whether there are local views which should be protected.	<p>To achieve a planned and aesthetically balanced skyline, as seen in protected views.</p> <p>To protect views and the visual amenity of people living and working in and visiting the area and surroundings.</p>	Design and Heritage: Enhance and protect heritage and cultural assets; distinctive character and an attractive built environment.

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		Royal Naval College • View 25: The Queen's Walk to Tower of London			
Daylight, Sunlight and Wind			Increasing development is raising issues around sunlight, daylight and wind effects.		Design and Heritage: Enhance and protect heritage and cultural assets; distinctive character and an attractive built environment.

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Appendix 2D Compatibility test of Sustainability Objectives

1	Equality																		
2	Housing	•																	
3	Economy	•	•																
4	Education	•	•	•															
5	Security	•	•	•	•														
6	Health	•	•	•	•	•													
7	Air	•	•	•	•	•	•												
8	Energy CC	•	•	•	-	•	•	•											
9	Transport	•	•	•	-	•	•	•	•										
10	Biodiversity	-	?	•	-	-	•	•	•	•									
11	Soil	-	?	?	-	-	•	•	•	•	•								
12	Flood	-	?	•	-	•	•	•	•	•	•	•							
13	Water	-	?	•	-	-	•	•	•	•	•	•	•						
14	Waste	-	?	•	-	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
15	Noise	-	?	?	-	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				
16	Town Centre	-	?	•	-	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			
17	Heritage	-	?	-	-	-	-	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
18	Open Space	•	•	?	-	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		Equalit y	Housin g	Econo my	Educat ion	Securit y	Health	Air	Energy CC	Transp ort	Biodiv ersity	Soil	Flood	Water	Waste	Noise	Town Centre	Herita ge	Open Space

Table 1: Compatibility test of Sustainability Objectives.

NB: • denotes positive compatibility; - denotes the effect is neutral; ? denotes potential for conflict if not managed

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Appendix 2F

HUDU Planning for Health

Rapid Health Impact Assessment Tool

Second Edition
June 2015

Section 1 – HUDU Rapid Health Impact Assessment Matrix

The assessment matrix is designed to rapidly assess the likely health impacts of development plans and proposals, including planning frameworks and masterplans for large areas, regeneration and estate renewal programmes and outline and detailed planning applications. It should be used prospectively at the earliest possible stage during plan preparation, or prior to the submission of a planning application to inform the design, layout and composition of a development proposal.

The matrix does not identify all issues related to health and wellbeing, but focuses on the built environment and issues directly or indirectly influenced by planning decisions. It is generic and should be localised for specific use. Not all the issues or assessment criteria may be relevant and the user is encouraged to prioritise specific actions which focus on key impacts.

The assessment matrix identifies eleven topics or broad determinants. Under each topic, Section 2 of the tool identifies examples of planning issues which are likely to influence health and wellbeing and the section also provides supporting information and references.

Health impacts may be short-term or temporary, related to construction or longer-term, related to the operation and maintenance of a development and may particularly affect vulnerable or priority groups of the population. Where an impact is identified, actions should be recommended to mitigate a negative impact or enhance or secure a positive impact.

Name of assessor / organisation: **LBTH – Tim Madelin and Sarah Brennan**

Name of project (plan or proposal): **Sustainability Appraisal for Local Plan**

Planning reference (if applicable):

Location of project: **LBTH Council Officers**

Date of assessment: **18/08/2015**

1 Housing quality and design

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Details/evidence	Potential health impact?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the proposal seek to meet all 16 design criteria of the Lifetime Homes Standard or meet Building Regulation requirement M4 (2)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>SP10 CS p.82 addresses this</p> <p>SP02 Design Standards p.47 (policy desired outcomes)</p> <p>Urban living for everyone p.44</p> <p>DM4 and DM5 Housing standards and amenity4.3 p.31 requires homes to come up to date with latest 'Lifetime Homes Standards'</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	<p>Have we got evidence from past few years? How do we measure this?</p> <p>Are standards minimal?</p> <p>Check for updates ie London Plan requirements.</p>
Does the proposal address the housing needs of older people, ie extra care housing, sheltered housing, lifetime homes and wheelchair accessible homes?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>SP02 addresses this</p> <p>DM4 and DM5 Specialist Housing re: sheltered housing</p> <p>SHMA 2014 has assessed demand/need</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	<p>Actual number of elderly people will go up. Will the policy deliver?</p> <p>Review progress from recent years- speak to team.</p>
Does the proposal include homes that can be adapted to support independent living for older and disabled people?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>SP02 addresses this.</p> <p>DM4 and DM5 Specialist Housing re: sheltered housing</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	<p>Does the London Plan still require 10% accessible housing? Is this the right target for us?</p> <p>How do we assess 'easy adaptability'?</p>
Does the proposal promote good design through layout and orientation, meeting internal space standards?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>DM4 space standards.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	<p>Harder to regulate/measure, balancing with other developer requirements to maximise space etc.</p> <p>Do we want to ask for higher standards? Given higher density.</p>

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Details/evidence	Potential health impact?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the proposal include a range of housing types and sizes, including affordable housing responding to local housing needs?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Affordable housing is the priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Definition of affordable homes for the majority of residents. Targeted rents.
Does the proposal contain homes that are highly energy efficient (eg a high SAP rating)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Does not appear to specify in terms of SAP rating. DM29 Zero carbon borough.	<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Don't have evidence of energy efficient homes for past years. Discrepancy between existing policy and what is actually happening- need to address.

2 Access to healthcare services and other social infrastructure

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Details/evidence	Potential health impact?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the proposal retain or re-provide existing social infrastructure?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>SP03 Creating healthy and liveable communities (pt 3 'how we going to get there'), p50 specific about new and old facilities.</p> <p>DM8 Community infrastructure- will be protected where meet local need.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	<p>Local Plan should assist to retain or re-provide existing social infrastructure in line with the general direction of SP03.</p> <p>In consultation with NHS, location of facilities needs to be updated and demand for new facilities associated with new developments and population growth. Address in detailed area plans.</p>
Does the proposal assess the impact on healthcare services?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>SP03 Creating healthy and liveable communities (pt 3 'how we going to get there'), p50 specific about new and old facilities.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	<p>Update assessment of impact on health care services in line with growth model and updated populations and developments. Currently being updated, due end of 2015.</p>
Does the proposal include the provision, or replacement of a healthcare facility and does the facility meet NHS requirements?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>SP03 Creating healthy and liveable communities (pt 3 'how we going to get there'), p50 specific about new and old facilities.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	<p>Local Plan will foresee provision of health care services in line with growth model and updated populations and developments. Currently being updated, due end of 2015.</p>
Does the proposal assess the capacity, location and accessibility of other social infrastructure, eg schools, social care and community facilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>SP07 new schools and how going to be provided.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	<p>Local Plan will assess the capacity, location and accessibility of other social infrastructure, eg schools, social care and community facilities.</p> <p>Need to find out if being updated. (ask Tom)</p>

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Details/evidence	Potential health impact?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the proposal explore opportunities for shared community use and co-location of services?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	SP03 co-location and integration of health services.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	<p>Only speaks about health, may want to consider more broadly to also include social services etc.</p> <p>Do we have a delivery model?</p>
Does the proposal contribute to meeting primary, secondary and post 19 education needs?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	SP07	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Update to reflect for future need.

3 Access to open space and nature

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Details/evidence	Potential health impact?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the proposal retain and enhance existing open and natural spaces?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	DM10 in accordance with open space strategy and green grid.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Green grid needs updating to remove proposals that have been delivered to date, and highlight new opportunities.
In areas of deficiency, does the proposal provide new open or natural space, or improve access to existing spaces?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	As per above	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	As per above
Does the proposal provide a range of play spaces for children and young people?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	As per above	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Open Space strategy and green grid.
Does the proposal provide links between open and natural spaces and the public realm?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	As per above	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	As per above
Are the open and natural spaces welcoming and safe and accessible for all?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	DM10 refers to Green Grid.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	As per above
Does the proposal set out how new open space will be managed and maintained?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	As per above	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Need to clarify maintenance strategically.

4 Air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Details/evidence	Potential health impact?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the proposal minimise construction impacts such as dust, noise, vibration and odours?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	DM9 (pt. 9.5) improving air quality talks about minimising construction air pollution. SP03 noise and air pollution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	
Does the proposal minimise air pollution caused by traffic and energy facilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	DM9 states minimising traffic DM20 Supporting a sustainable transport network. Requires transport impact assessment and transport plan for all major developments. Clear Zone Policy deals with air pollution.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Local Plan should continue on No foreseen updates/changes required
Does the proposal minimise noise pollution caused by traffic and commercial uses?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	SP03 in identified hot spots.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Is there a gap in policy direction and what has actually happened? Local Plan should reflect. Not clear how going to minimise noise-opportunity to carry through more clearly in Local Plan.

5 Accessibility and active travel

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Details/evidence	Potential health impact?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the proposal prioritise and encourage walking (such as through shared spaces?)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>SP03 to provide high quality walking and cycling routes.</p> <p>Speaks to new developments- so that contribute to strategic network.</p> <p>Sp04 pt. g creates green corridors to join things up.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	<p>Does the walking plan need to be updated to reflect delivery of projects, and new opportunities to strengthen the walking network.</p> <p>Local Plan needs to refer to Walking and Cycling Plans (as these were developed after).</p>
Does the proposal prioritise and encourage cycling (for example by providing secure cycle parking, showers and cycle lanes)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<p>SP03 to provide high quality walking and cycling routes.</p> <p>Speaks to new developments- so that contribute to strategic network.</p> <p>Sp04 pt. g creates green corridors to join things up.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	<p>Not sure if requiring end of trip facilities of developments?</p> <p>Does cycling plan reflect super-highways and London Mayor's strategic cycle network.</p>
Does the proposal connect public realm and internal routes to local and strategic cycle and walking networks?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	DM23 Streets and the public realm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Check that this is reflected in Green Grid.
Does the proposal include traffic management and calming measures to help reduce and minimise road	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	DM23 Streets and the public realm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	<p>Check whether it reflects traffic management and calming measures?</p> <p>Not clear in DM- potential gap. Perhaps should be considered with</p>

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Details/evidence	Potential health impact?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
injuries?				streets and public realm.
Is the proposal well connected to public transport, local services and facilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	DM23 Streets and public realm Green Grid corridors Principle objective that underpins much of the plan.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	No gaps identified in policy. May need to update proposals and opportunities.
Does the proposal seek to reduce car use by reducing car parking provision, supported by the controlled parking zones, car clubs and travel plans measures?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Clear Zone policy aims to reduce car parking provision. DM22 requires complying with car parking standards. SP09 promotes car free developments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Does parking policy need to be revised to reflect any changes in policy?
Does the proposal allow people with mobility problems or a disability to access buildings and places?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	DM23 reflects accessibility for all through inclusive design.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Whether go extra mile so that its practical and compliant for bigger developments? To reflect future needs.

6 Crime reduction and community safety

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Details/evidence	Potential health impact?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the proposal incorporate elements to help design out crime?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	SO20 and S021 objectives to promote safety Dm23 (pt 3) secure by design without compromising good design. Refers to Secured by Design Guidance.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	No foreseen updates or changes required.
Does the proposal incorporate design techniques to help people feel secure and avoid creating 'gated communities'?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	SO20 and S021 objectives to promote safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Currently doesn't mention not creating 'gated, closed' communities. More emphasis on inclusive, balanced communities. May need to address issue of 'separate entrances' as a more relevant issue of 'gated communities' in TH.
Does the proposal include attractive, multi-use public spaces and buildings?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	SO20 public spaces	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Flexible community spaces ie Ideas Stores. As for co-location.
Has engagement and consultation been carried out with the local community?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	This is being prepared to engage with diversity of community.

7 Access to healthy food

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Details/evidence	Potential health impact?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the proposal facilitate the supply of local food, ie allotments, community farms and farmers' markets?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	SP01 supports local food growing and urban agriculture.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	No foreseen updates required.
Is there a range of retail uses, including food stores and smaller affordable shops for social enterprises?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	DM2 addresses local shops. Check CS	<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Local plan could go further to local shop diversity.
Does the proposal avoid contributing towards an over-concentration of hot food takeaways in the local area?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	SP03 seeks to reduce uses that detract from a healthy lifestyle. Followed through in DM1 talks about actual rules and refers to study.	<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Do we need to look at tackling the takeaways to assess whether it is still a reasonable approach?

8 Access to work and training

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Details/evidence	Potential health impact?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the proposal provide access to local employment and training opportunities, including temporary construction and permanent 'end-use' jobs?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	SO15 promoting employment uses- from a planning perspective.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Clarify can still use S106 for local employment? Check contributions SDP for details.
Does the proposal provide childcare facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	SP07 states co-location of services, nothing specific about childcare facilities.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	May need to address this more strongly and affordable childcare. Particularly given future increase in children and demand for childcare.
Does the proposal include managed and affordable workspace for local businesses?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	DM17 Local industrial locations about providing smaller units. Could be addressed more clearly and strongly.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Addressing space for local business may need to be strengthened in local plan if it is deemed an important direction for business and local employment in the future.
Does the proposal include opportunities for work for local people via local procurement arrangements?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	TH Council is strong on this. Not specifically in CS.	<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Check SPD for requirements for local procurement.

9 Social cohesion and lifetime neighbourhoods

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Details/evidence	Potential health impact?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the proposal connect with existing communities, ie layout and movement which avoids physical barriers and severance and land uses and spaces which encourage social interaction?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	SO10 and SO11	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	<p>Policy direction appears to be sound and still relevant.</p> <p>Spatial outcomes and priorities may need to be updated.</p>
Does the proposal include a mix of uses and a range of community facilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Yes throughout plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	-
Does the proposal provide opportunities for the voluntary and community sectors?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Not addressed	<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	This could be considered for inclusion-if deemed applicable.
Does the proposal address the six key components of Lifetime Neighbourhoods?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	Not sure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	This could be considered for inclusion if deemed applicable.

10 Minimising the use of resources

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Details/evidence	Potential health impact?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the proposal make best use of existing land?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Yes this underpins the whole plan.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	-
Does the proposal encourage recycling (including building materials)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	No clear evidence.	<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Clarify position on this.
Does the proposal incorporate sustainable design and construction techniques?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	Doesn't specifically address this and how going to do it. Refers to BREEAM.	<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Clarify position on this.

11 Climate change

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Details/evidence	Potential health impact?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the proposal incorporate renewable energy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	SP11 refers to onsite renewable energy efficiency.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Needs to be updated to reflect changes and ensure durability of local policy and objectives in an uncertain/changing landscape at broader levels.
Does the proposal ensure that buildings and public spaces are designed to respond to winter and summer temperatures, ie ventilation, shading and landscaping.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	SO 3 Addresses from climate change adaptation perspective, but not from an occupancy comfort perspective (would expect to find this in housing section).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Need to clarify this and decide upon inclusion whether this should be included under housing (in DM).
Does the proposal maintain or enhance biodiversity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	SO4 Green Grid (pt. 3) DM11 requires major developments to submit ecology assessment, and links back to LBTH Local Biodiversity Action Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Continue on with policy and seek opportunities to strengthen further. Link in with revision of Green Grid.
Does the proposal incorporate sustainable urban drainage techniques?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	SP04 SUDS DM13 Sustainable Drainage very clear direction for SUDS.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Uncertain	Updated to reflect lessons learned from installation and maintenance of SUDS.

Appendix 2E: EQUALITY ANALYSIS QUALITY ASSURANCE CHECKLIST

Name of 'proposal' and how has it been implemented (proposal can be a policy, service, function, strategy, project, procedure, restructure/savings proposal)	Our Borough, Our Plan: A New Local Plan First Steps
Directorate / Service	Strategic Planning - Plan Making Team Directorate of Development & Renewal
Lead Officer	Hong Chen
Signed Off By (inc date)	Adele Maher (23/09/2015)
Summary – to be completed at the end of completing the QA (using Appendix A)	<p> Proceed with implementation</p> <p>Based on the QA a Full EA will not be undertaken at this stage. Rather steps will be taken to ensure due regard for the nine protected groups is embedded in the process to produce and the policies of the Local Plan.</p> <p>As a result of performing the QA checklist, the Local Plan Engagement Document does not appear to have any adverse effects on people who share <i>Protected Characteristics</i> and no further actions are recommended at this stage.</p>

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Stage	Checklist Area / Question	Yes / No / Unsure	Comment (If the answer is no/unsure, please ask the question to the SPP Service Manager or nominated equality lead to clarify)
1	Overview of Proposal		

a	Are the outcomes of the proposals clear?	Unsure	As the Local Plan is in preliminary stages, it is unclear what the outcomes will be. More information will be gathered after the initial engagement and consultation (scheduled in winter 2015/2016).
b	Is it clear who will be or is likely to be affected by what is being proposed (inc service users and staff)? Is there information about the equality profile of those affected?	Yes	<p>The council's Borough Profile (2014) provides an overview of the equality groups. The information has informed the engagement version of the Local Plan at this stage. It is clear that the production of the Local Plan seeks to engage all communities within Tower Hamlets. It does not appear to have any adverse effects on the equality profile of those affected.</p> <p>The next stage will involve production of the detailed Local Plan policies. Officers will work with Equalities team to make sure that actions will be undertaken to mitigate the likely impacts on the equality profile of those affected by the draft Local Plan.</p>
2	Monitoring / Collecting Evidence / Data and Consultation		
a	Is there reliable qualitative and quantitative data to support claims made about impacts?	Yes	There is adequate demographic data and other data sets that can be used to support claims about impacts. More information will be gathered after the initial engagement and consultation (scheduled in winter 2015/2016).
	Is there sufficient evidence of local/regional/national research that can inform the analysis?	Yes	There is adequate demographic data and other data sets that can be used to support claims about impacts. More information will be gathered after the initial engagement and consultation (scheduled in winter 2015/2016).
b	Has a reasonable attempt been made to ensure relevant knowledge and expertise (people, teams and partners) have been involved in the analysis?	Yes	Forthcoming public engagement activities are currently being designed and the results from this will inform the next stage of the Local Plan. Public engagement is a mechanism for incorporating public and minority points of view into local policy and plan making. Design of engagement will seek to be as accessible to different groups of people as possible. This includes a range of media types (i.e. print, online, social media), accessible venues, holding events across a range of days and times, and making sure there are no clashes with

			<p>religious days/periods of significance.</p> <p>There is an internal stakeholder group which serves to coordinate efforts and inputs across council, as part of the Local Plan project.</p> <p>There is an external stakeholder group which engages our statutory consultates.</p>
c	Is there clear evidence of consultation with stakeholders and users from groups affected by the proposal?	Yes	<p>There is a draft program of consultation and engagement document. There will be two rounds of consultations. Inclusive design of consultation in accordance with the Statement of Community Involvement has been incorporated into a consultation and engagement strategy and detailed consultation programme. Consultations will be documented as best as possible. Collecting information on stakeholders may pose ethical issues.</p>
3	Assessing Impact and Analysis		
a	Are there clear links between the sources of evidence (information, data etc) and the interpretation of impact amongst the nine protected characteristics?	Yes	<p>The next stage will involve production of the detailed Local Plan policies. Officers will work with Equalities team to make sure that actions will be undertaken to mitigate the likely impacts on the equality profile of those affected by the draft Local Plan.</p>
b	Is there a clear understanding of the way in which proposals applied in the same way can have unequal impact on different groups?	Yes	<p>The next stage will involve production of the detailed Local Plan policies. Officers will work with Equalities team to make sure that actions will be undertaken to mitigate the likely impacts on the equality profile of those affected by the draft Local Plan.</p>
4	Mitigation and Improvement Action Plan		
a	Is there an agreed action plan?	Yes	<p>The next stage will involve production of the detailed Local Plan policies. Officers will work with Equalities team to make sure that actions will be undertaken to mitigate the likely impacts on the equality profile of those affected by the draft Local Plan.</p>
b	Have alternative options been explored	No	<p>The potential impacts of alternative options on different protected characteristics will need to be assessed, when</p>

			options are developed in the next stage.
5	Quality Assurance and Monitoring		
a	Are there arrangements in place to review or audit the implementation of the proposal?	Yes	An Equality Monitoring Form will be distributed during the consultation stage and the feedback received will be analysed by officers. This will inform a full EA for the next stage of the Local Plan.
b	Is it clear how the progress will be monitored to track impact across the protected characteristics??	Yes	A Full EA will be prepared alongside the draft Local Plan in autumn 2016. Officers will work with Equalities team to make sure that actions will be undertaken to mitigate the likely impacts on the equality profile of those affected by the draft Local Plan.
6	Reporting Outcomes and Action Plan		
a	Does the executive summary contain sufficient information on the key findings arising from the assessment?	Yes	Officers will work with Equalities team to make sure that actions will be undertaken to mitigate the likely impacts on the equality profile of those affected by the draft Local Plan.

Appendix A

(Sample) Equality Assessment Criteria

Decision	Action	Risk
As a result of performing the QA checklist, it is evident that due regard is not evidenced in the proposal and / or a risk of discrimination exists (direct, indirect, unintentional or otherwise) to one or more of the nine groups of people who share <i>Protected Characteristics</i> . It is recommended that the proposal be suspended until further work	Suspend – Further Work Required	Red 

<p>or analysis is performed – via a the Full Equality Analysis template</p>		
<p>As a result of performing the QA checklist, the policy, project or function does not appear to have any adverse effects on people who share <i>Protected Characteristics</i> and no further actions are recommended at this stage.</p>	<p>Proceed with implementation</p>	<p>Green:</p> 

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