

Sustainability Appraisal of the Stafford Road Area Action Plan

Adoption Statement

September 2014



LEPUS CONSULTING

Sustainability Appraisal of the Stafford Road Corridor Area Action Plan

Adoption Statement

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Acronyms

AAP Area Action Plan
DCLG Department of Communities and Local Government
EC European Commission
PPP Plans, Policies and Programmes
SA Sustainability Appraisal
WCC Wolverhampton City Council
SEA Strategic Environmental Assessment
SFRA Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
WCC Wolverhampton City Council

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this Adoption Statement

- 1.1.1 This Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Adoption Statement has been prepared for the Stafford Road Area Action Plan (AAP) on behalf of Wolverhampton City Council (WCC).
- 1.1.2 SA is required during the preparation of an Area Action Plan. The local planning authority must carry out an appraisal of the sustainability of the proposals. This helps the authority to assess how the plan will contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.
- 1.1.3 According to European Directive 2001/42/EC, all plans, programmes and strategies with an impact on the environment require a Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA). In order to follow UK best practice, the approach to the SA has integrated the requirements of the SEA Directive.
- 1.1.4 A SEA involves the systematic identification and subsequent evaluation of the environmental impacts of strategic actions. An SA is an assessment considering the social, environmental and economic effects of implementing a plan or programme.
- 1.1.5 This SA Adoption Statement is the final stage of the integrated SA process for the AAP.

1.2 Background to the Plan

- 1.2.1 The Stafford Road Corridor Area Action Plan (the AAP) has been produced by Wolverhampton City Council and its public, private and voluntary sector partners as part of the planning strategy for the City, called the Development Plan. The Development Plan is the main consideration when guiding future development in the City.
- 1.2.2 The Stafford Road Corridor (see **Figure 1.1**), covering the area from the A449 at Junction 2 of the M54 to the outskirts of Wolverhampton City Centre, is one of the main 'gateways' into Wolverhampton and the Black Country. It contains important road, canal and rail infrastructure that links the City with Staffordshire, Shropshire, Telford and North-West England.
- 1.2.3 The area also covers a number of residential neighbourhoods totalling approximately 4000 homes with, a population of around 10,500 people, mainly concentrated in the Fordhouses and Park Village areas. Residential areas also border the AAP area to the east and west. Properties were typically built in the inter-war and post war periods, with a large proportion of 2/3 bedroom houses and pockets of popular high quality housing.

1.2.4 There are significant areas of open space, such as Fowlers Playing Fields, important heritage features, (including two monumental railway viaducts and lengths of two canals), and a range of shopping and other services at the Three Tuns District Centre.

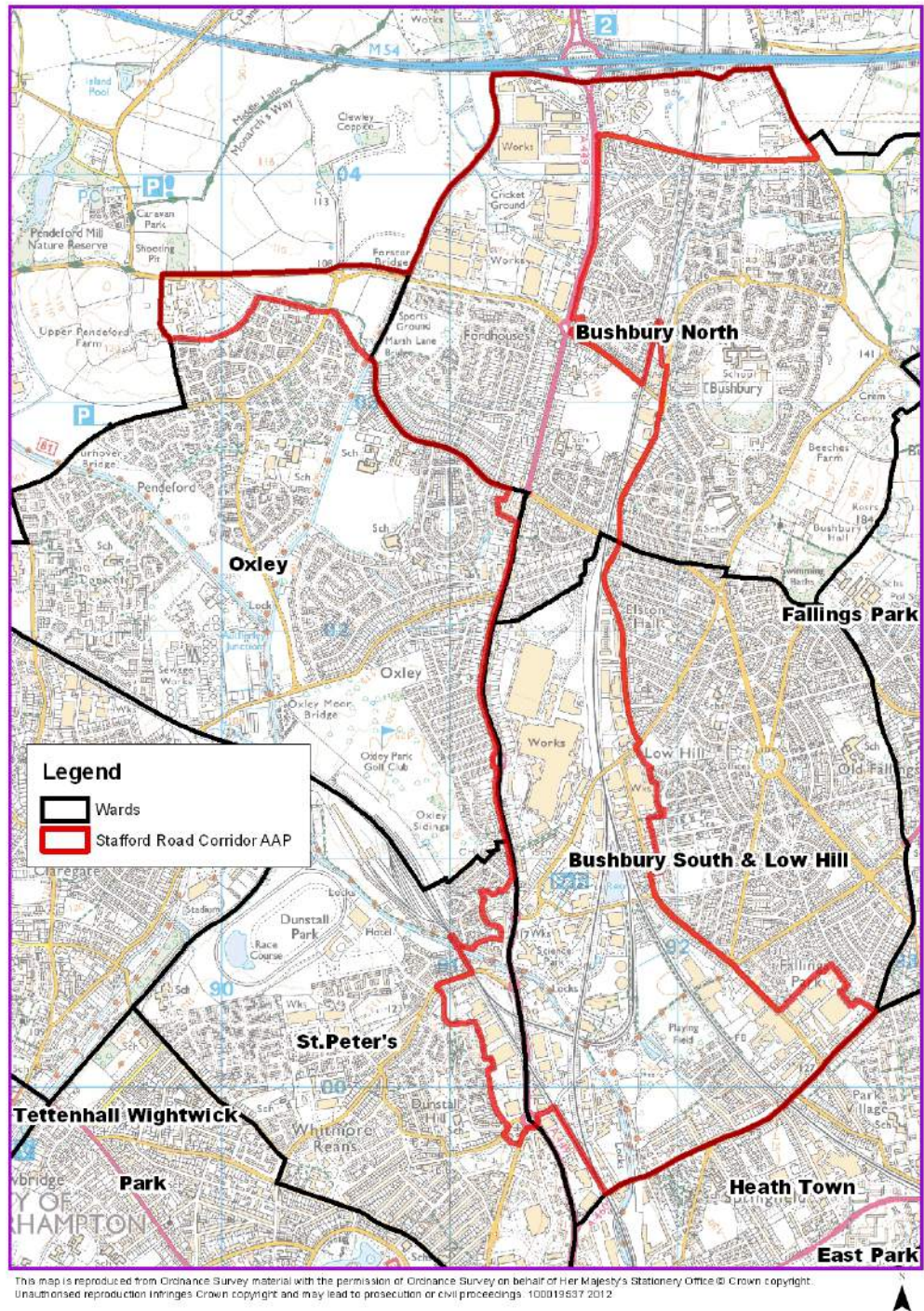


Figure 1.1: Stafford Road Corridor location map

1.2.5 There are a number of major features and developments taking place in the surrounding area which have an impact on the AAP. These include:

- Wolverhampton City Centre–The main shopping destination for the City, with proposals for retail expansion, major office development and further improvements to the transport interchange.
- i54–a major technology based business park (96ha), supported by the Wolverhampton element of the Black Country Enterprise Zone. The site is home to a new Jaguar Land Rover engine plant.
- North East Wolverhampton Academy–built under the Buildings Schools for the Future (BSF) programme.
- Wolverhampton Racecourse, Dunstall Park–Major leisure facility for the City, with planning permission for expansion and enhanced facilities, including the potential for a casino.
- Featherstone Prison, Brinsford
- Fordhouses Cricket Club and Rakegate School sites – new housing development.
- Aldersley Leisure Village–the City’s premier sports venue for national, regional and local events.
- Northycote Farm and Country Park – 36ha of parkland, woodland and pasture.
- The extensive canal network, including the Shropshire Union Canal, Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal and the Birmingham Canal.
- New Cross Hospital – the City’s main hospital
- New Primary and Community Care Centre at Showell Park.

1.3 Content of this SA Adoption Statement

1.3.1 SEA Regulations¹ 16.3c)(iii) and 16.4 require that a ‘statement’ be made available to accompany the plan, as soon as possible after the adoption of the plan or programme (see **Appendix A**).

1.3.2 The SEA Regulations highlight that the statement should contain the following information:

- The reasons for choosing the preferred strategy for the Plan as adopted in the light of other reasonable alternatives dealt with;
- How environmental considerations have been integrated into the Plan;
- How consultation responses have been taken into account; and
- Measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant environmental effects of the Plan.

¹ The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (No.1633)

- 1.3.3 The Town and Country Planning Regulations (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 36a)(ii) similarly require that a SA Statement be produced at Adoption. This serves a very similar purpose to the SEA Adoption Statement. This document, the Sustainability Appraisal Adoption Statement, refers to both processes and addresses the requirements of both.
- 1.3.4 The SA Adoption Statement should incorporate:
- Sustainability considerations - how these have been integrated into the development plan document;
 - Options and consultation responses - how any received on the development plan document and sustainability appraisal reports (at all stages) have been taken into account;
 - Reasons for of the choice of alternatives in light of other reasonable alternatives considered; and
 - A programme for monitoring sustainability effects - measures to be taken to monitor the significant sustainability effects of implementing the development plan document.
- 1.3.5 In this context, the purpose of the SA Adoption Statement is to outline how the SA process has influenced and informed the Plan's development process and demonstrate how consultation on the SA has been taken into account.
- 1.3.6 **Chapter 2** of this SA Adoption Statement summarises how the SA has informed and influenced the AAP, including in light of the other alternatives dealt with. **Chapter 3** highlights how sustainability considerations (including environmental considerations) have been integrated into the Plan. **Chapter 4** discusses how consultation has been carried out and taken into account by the SA. The final chapter, **Chapter 5** sets out the proposed monitoring regime for the SA, which it is proposed will be carried out alongside monitoring for the Plan.

2 How the SA has informed the AAP

2.1 The SA Process and the Plan

2.1.1 The main aim of SA is to inform and influence the plan making process to maximise the Plan's sustainability value. In this context the SA process has fed into the AAP through providing information at each stage of its development process.

2.1.2 **Table 2.1** highlights the main outputs of the SA process in conjunction with those of the AAP. A more detailed description of how the respective stages of the Plan and SA have interlinked is presented in **Sections 2.2 to 2.6**. Details of consultation are presented in **Chapter 4**.

Table 2.1: Main outputs

Stage of the Stafford Road Corridor AAP	Stage of the SA process
Initial evidence gathering WCC	SA Scoping Report (November 2012)
Issues and Options (2009)	SA Technical Note (April 2009)
Options Report (June 2012)	Preferred Options Consultation SA Report (June 2012)
Publication Version of AAP (April 2013)	Publication SA Report (April 2013)
Focused changes (October 2013)	SA Technical Note (December 2013)

2.2 Scoping

2.2.1 The Scoping Report was originally prepared in 2010 and a new one was prepared by Lepus Consulting (November, 2012) and published for consultation with the statutory consultees. It included information about:

- Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes,
- Collecting baseline information;
- Identifying sustainability issues and problems; and
- A framework of sustainability appraisal objectives.

2.2.2 The SA Framework is the key instrument for preparing the assessment of the AAP. A summary of the SA objectives is presented in **Table 2.1**.

Table 2.2: SA Framework

SA Objective	Sustainability theme
1 To safeguard and improve community health, safety and wellbeing.	Health
2 To reduce traffic congestion and promote sustainable modes of transport.	Accessibility and transportation
3 To reduce waste and maximise opportunities for innovative environmental technologies in waste management.	Material assets
4 To plan for the anticipated levels of climate change.	Climate change
5 To minimise Wolverhampton's contribution to climate change.	Climate change
6 To provide environmentally sound, good quality affordable housing for all.	Housing
7 To encourage opportunities for investment in order to grow the local and sub-regional economy.	Economic factors
8 To reduce poverty, crime and social deprivation and secure economic inclusion.	Quality of life, population
9 To ensure easy and equitable access to services, facilities and opportunities.	Transportation and accessibility, quality of life
10 Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets, their setting and significance.	Historic environment
11 To protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the landscape and townscape, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place.	Historic environment
12 To use and manage land, energy, soil, mineral and water resources prudently and efficiently, and increase energy generated from renewables.	Material assets, water and soil
13 To protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and geodiversity	Biodiversity and geodiversity
14 To maintain, and where necessary, improve, the overall quality of the natural and built environment.	Air, water and soil

2.3 Reasonable Alternatives

- 2.3.1 In summer 2009, WCC prepared and consulted on an Issues Paper for the AAP. The purpose of the Issues Paper was to set out the broad issues which it was considered should be addressed through the preparation of the AAP, and to highlight the vision for the Stafford Road Corridor area. It also outlined the types of changes that are likely to be required to achieve this vision.
- 2.3.2 Prior to consultation on the Issues Paper, the SA team prepared a technical note to contribute to the development of Issues for the Stafford Road Corridor. This comprised a set of recommended additions to the text to be included in the Issues Paper and a number of suggested updates. The SA technical note also included text for inclusion in the Issues Paper. The purpose of this exercise was to inform the development of the AAP at this early stage of preparation and to highlight where potential sustainability issues may arise. This exercise served to usefully identify key issues for the plan making process.
- 2.3.3 Alternatives were identified through the Options Report (June, 2012).
- 2.3.4 The AAP Options Report contained twelve Policy Areas for the Stafford Road Corridor. These were structured around three “Directions of Change”, as follows:
- Supporting Economic Prosperity;
 - Creating Sustainable Communities; and
 - Transforming the Environment and addressing Climate Change.
- 2.3.5 Two further policy areas were put forward under an Infrastructure and Delivery category.
- 2.3.6 A number of alternative options were proposed for the Policy Areas. These represented a range of reasonable alternatives for guiding new development in the Stafford Road Corridor. The Options Report states that under circumstances whereby constraints limited the scope of creation of alternatives, ‘reasonable alternatives’ were not put forward.
- 2.3.7 In the UK, reasonable alternatives are commonly referred to as ‘options’. The Options Report was assessed by the SA process and the findings were presented in the SA Report dated July 2012.
- 2.3.8 Assessment findings from the Options stage revealed that several of the 41 policy options performed well or had no effect in sustainability terms. The following policy areas were considered to have uncertain or negative sustainability effects in some way:
- Policy Area 1, New Office Development uncertain SA11
 - Policy Area 2, Better Highway Management

- Policy Area 2, Adding capacity to the network
- Policy Area 4, Housing Option 2, High Intervention
- Policy Area 4, Housing Option 3a, Bee Lane Playing Fields
- Policy Area 4, Housing Option 3b, Fowlers Playing Fields
- Policy Area 6, Permanent Residential Pitches: Option 1
- Policy Area 6, Permanent Residential Pitches: Option 3
- Policy Area 6, Transit Pitches: Option 1
- Policy Area 8, Encouraging distinctive new development: Option 3
- Policy Area 11, Local Infrastructure Requirements and Delivery Priorities
- Policy Area 12, Option 2: Provide information in the AAP and Delivery Plan.

2.3.9

The full assessment results for these policies can be accessed in the Options SA report. The tables with results of the assessment process have been reproduced in **Table 2.3**.

Table 2.3: SA findings at the Options Stage concerning adverse or uncertain findings

SA of Options	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14
Policy Area 1 - Delivering High Quality and Local Employment Opportunities														
New Office Development	+	++	0	0	++	0	++	++	++	0	+/-	+	0	+
Policy Area 2 - The Stafford Road Corridor Transport Strategy														
Better Highway Management	+/-	+/-	0	+/-	--	0	++	+	++	+/-	+/-	0	+/-	+/-
Adding Capacity to the Network	+/-	+/-	0	0	-	0	++	++	++	+/-	+/-	0	0	+/-
Policy Area 4 – Delivering Sustainable Levels of Housing														
Housing Option 2 – High Intervention	0	0	0	0	0	++	-	+	0	0	0	+	0	0
Housing Option 3a – Bee Lane Playing Fields	0	0	0	0	0	++	-	+	0	0	0	+	0	0
Housing Option 3b – Fowlers Playing Fields	-	0	0	-	0	+	+/-	+/-	0	--	-	0	--	-
Policy Area 6 - Addressing the Needs of the Gypsy and Traveller Communities														
Permanent Residential Pitches: Option 1	+/-	+/-	0	0	0	+	0	+/-	0	+/-	+/-	0	0	+/-
Permanent Residential Pitches: Option 3	0	0	0	0	0	--	0	0	+/-	0	0	0	0	0
Transit Pitches: Option 1	+/-	+/-	0	0	0	-	0	+/-	-	+/-	+/-	0	+/-	0
Policy Area 8 - Strengthening Local Character and Identity														
Encouraging distinctive new development: Option 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	0	+/-	+/-	0	0	0
Policy Area 11 – Local Infrastructure Requirements and Delivery Priorities														
Local Infrastructure Requirements and Delivery Priorities	++	++	0	++	+/-	0	++	++	++	+	++	0	++	++
Policy Area 12 – Supporting Infrastructure Provision														
Option 2: Provide information in the AAP and Delivery Plan	0	0	0	+/-	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	+/-	0	+/-	+/-
Key:														
Likely strong positive effect	++													
Likely positive effect	+													
Neutral/no effect	0													
Likely adverse effect	-													
Likely strong adverse effect	--													
Uncertain effects	+/-													

2.3.10

The council's planning policy team used the information from the SA report along with other evidence including consultation responses to prepare a preferred suite of options for the AAP.

- 2.3.11 In the case of these 12 policy options, recommendations for improving their sustainability performance are made in the SA Options report (July 2012). As can be seen from **Table 2.1** only SA Objectives 3 “To reduce waste and maximise opportunities for innovative environmental technologies in waste management” and 12 “To use and manage land, energy, soil, mineral and water resources prudently and efficiently, and increase energy generated from renewables” are thought to be positively (or neutrally) impacted by all of the policies. The SA Options Report includes suggestions for strengthening particular policy influences rather than introducing new ones. The report also contains recommendations to help reduce adverse effects within a particular policy option if appropriate.
- 2.3.12 In summary, the identification of options was a thorough and inclusive approach which lead to a good range of policy variations. For full details and individual assessment of policy options, please see the SA Report on Options (2012).
- 2.3.13 The findings from the options process did not recommend that any policy option be abandoned; rather the SA process sought to provide plan makers with information about how each policy option performed and made recommendations about enhancing the policy where appropriate. No new policies were suggested as a result of the options process during the options phase.

2.4 Preferred Options

- 2.4.1 The preferred options document (October, 2013) included 12 preferred policy options each of which were assessed by the SA process. The results of the SA process are presented in **Table 2.4**.

2.5 Accessing the documents linked to the Plan and SA process

- 2.5.1 All documents and background information associated with the AAP, including those linked to the SA process, can be accessed on the Wolverhampton City Council website at: www.wolverhampton.gov.uk.

Table 2.4: SA results at preferred options stage

Supporting Economic Prosperity	SA Objectives													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
SRC1. Employment	0	0	+	-	0	0	++	+	+	0	0	+	-	+
SRC2. Transport	++	++	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	+
SRC3. Three Tuns District Centre	+	+/-	0	0	0	0	++	0	++	+	+	0	0	0
SRC4. Housing	+	0	0	0	0	++	+	+	0	0	0	+	-	+
SRC5. Park Village	0	0	0	+/-	+/-	++	0	++	+	+	++	+/-	0	0

SRC6. Masterplan and Design Framework	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	++	0	0	0
SRC7. Heritage Assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	+	0	0
SRC8. Locks Conservation Area	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	++	++	0	+	+
SRC9. Environmental Infrastructure	+	0	0	++	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	++	0
SRC10. Local Renewable and Low Carbon Energy	0	0	0	+	++	0	+	+	0	0	0	++	0	0
SRC11. Local Infrastructure	++	+	0	++	++	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	++	+

3 Integrating findings from the SA process into the Plan

3.1 Sustainability considerations and the Plan

3.1.1 As discussed in **Chapter 2**, the SA process has informed and influenced the AAP throughout its preparation process. The SA has highlighted at different stages the sustainability issues which had the potential to arise as a result of the implementation of earlier and later versions of the Plan's policies and proposals.

3.1.2 The Plan has addressed many of these potential sustainability issues by taking into account the findings of the SA process. In this context most minor impacts relating to specific policies or groups of policies and proposals have been addressed by other components of the Plan. Where this has taken place, it was noted in the analysis undertaken during the SA.

3.1.3 Besides the various SA Reports that were prepared as part of the SA process, the SA team attended regular project meetings with the Plan making team. This served to keep abreast of proposals and provide direct input to the plan making process.

3.2 Recommendations

3.2.1 The SA suggested measures to prevent, reduce or offset significant adverse effects of implementing the AAP throughout Chapter 6 of the main SA Report (April, 2013). These measures were collectively referred to as 'mitigation measures'.

3.2.2 The SA suggested measures to prevent, reduce or offset significant adverse effects of implementing the AAP throughout Chapter 5. These measures are collectively referred to as 'mitigation measures'. It suggested a number of strategic mitigation proposals to help the AAP further improve its sustainability performance through implementation.

3.2.3 Adverse effects were discovered due to:

- Flood risk (see SA Objective 4); and
- Development on SLINCs (see SA Objective 13).

3.2.4 The SA recommended that if possible development should not take place in areas which are at risk from flooding or could damage important biodiversity habitats. Increases in parking facilities should also be avoided.

3.2.5 The SA Report noted that uncertainty might be present due to a lack of information available to fully assess the policy; because the effect of the policy depends upon the design and layout; or an ambiguity in how a policy could be interpreted.

3.2.6 The SA Report recommended that those opportunities identified as uncertain should be monitored in order to establish early on in the process whether they will become negative, as well as provide time to compensate for and mitigate these potential negative effects. Together they represent opportunities to help address any potential adverse effects and simultaneously serve to maximise sustainability performance of the policy.

3.3 How did the AAP incorporate SA findings?

3.3.1 The AAP has responded to the issue of flooding by recognising within the requirements for character areas that the SFRA includes recommendations and information which will need to be considered as part of detailed design at the relevant locations where flood might affect the corridor. These locations are in the northern and southern extremes of the site. Implementation of the SFRA and associated flooding monitored.

3.3.2 The recommendations for biodiversity protection at locations associated with policy SRC4 where development is proposed is likely to be reasonably addressed by policy SRC9, Environmental Infrastructure.

4 Consultation stages

4.1 Consultation on the SA

4.1.1 The SEA Directive requires consultation responses to be taken into account during the preparation of the plan or programme and before its adoption or submission to a legislative procedure.

4.1.2 Consultation has been an integral part of the SA of the AAP. In addition to enabling the opinions of the statutory environmental bodies and other stakeholders to be taken into account, it has provided an opportunity for the public to be informed as to how decisions are made.

4.2 Consultation on the Scoping Report

4.2.1 The SA process involved the preparation of two scoping reports. A previous SA Scoping Report was prepared for the Stafford Road Corridor AAP in 2010. Consultation on previous scoping ran from 24th August 2010 until 28th September 2010. Following changes to national planning policy, notable the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Wolverhampton City Council commissioned a new SA Scoping Report as an update to previous SA work.

4.2.2 The new Scoping Report was published in November 2012, Consultation on this Scoping Report ran for a period of five weeks from Wednesday 12th September until Wednesday 17th October. Invitations were submitted to English Heritage, Natural England and Environment Agency. Representations were received from Natural England and the Environment Agency in support of the Scoping Report.

4.3 Consultation during subsequent stages of the SA

4.3.1 There were three further SA outputs linked to the SA process following the Scoping Report. These included the Issues and Options Paper, the Options Paper and Publication Version of the Plan. Following Publication a small number of modifications were also assessed by the SA process.

4.3.2 Consultation was carried out by Wolverhampton City Council at each stage for a period of six weeks. Comments were managed by WCC and distributed to the SA team as necessary. The SA team received no SA specific comments but discussed consultation findings that affected any of the SA topics listed in Annex 1(f) of the SEA Directive.

5 Monitoring the effects of the Plan

5.1 Monitoring proposals

5.1.1 The SEA Directive states that 'member states shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans and programmes...in order, inter alia, to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects, and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action' (Article 10.1). In addition, the Environmental Report (or SA Report) should provide information on a 'description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring' (Annex I (i)).

5.1.2 The monitoring requirements typically associated with the SA process are recognised as placing heavy demands on authorities with SA responsibilities. For this reason, the proposed monitoring framework should focus on those aspects of the environment that are likely to be negatively impacted upon, where the impact is uncertain or where particular opportunities for improvement might arise.

5.1.3 The SA process has identified some areas which would benefit from being monitored due to their uncertain effects. The areas specified for monitoring include:

- Flood risk and responding to the SFRA guidelines; and
- Implementation of policy SRC9 at housing development sites.

5.1.4 Monitoring is particularly useful in answering the following questions:

- Were the assessment's predictions of sustainability effects accurate?
- Is the Management Plan contributing to the achievement of desired sustainability objectives?
- Are mitigation measures performing as well as expected?
- Are there any unforeseen adverse effects? Are these within acceptable limits, or is remedial action required?

5.1.5 The purpose of monitoring is to measure the environmental effects of a plan, as well as to measure success against the plan's objectives. It is beneficial if the monitoring strategy builds on monitoring systems which are already in place. It should also be noted that monitoring could provide useful information for future plans and programmes.

5.2 Links with the Annual Monitoring Report

- 5.2.1 The SA guidance suggests that SA monitoring and reporting activities can be integrated into the regular forward planning cycle. As part of the monitoring process for their Local Plan, WCC will be required to prepare monitoring reports. It is anticipated that elements of the SA monitoring programme for the Management Plan could be incorporated into these processes.
- 5.2.2 The monitoring of individual schemes/proposals should also be addressed at project level.

References

Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) National Planning Practice Guidance web-based resource, 12 September 2014. Available at:
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal/what-is-a-sustainability-appraisal-and-how-does-it-relate-to-strategic-environmental-assessment/>

Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment

The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, Statutory Instruments 2004 No. 1633

Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004, Statutory Instruments 2004 No. 2204

Stafford Road AAP Publication Document (June 2013) Planning Policy Regeneration and Environment Wolverhampton City Council Civic Centre St Peter's Square
Wolverhampton WV1 1RP

APPENDIX A

SEA Post Adoption Procedures

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2004 No. 1633

**The Environmental Assessment of Plans
and Programmes Regulations 2004**

PART 4

POST-ADOPTION PROCEDURES

Information as to adoption of plan or programme

16. (1) As soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of a plan or programme for which an environmental assessment has been carried out under these Regulations, the responsible authority shall—

- (a) make a copy of the plan or programme and its accompanying environmental report available at its principal office for inspection by the public at all reasonable times and free of charge; and
- (b) take such steps as it considers appropriate to bring to the attention of the public—
 - (i) the title of the plan or programme;
 - (ii) the date on which it was adopted;
 - (iii) the address (which may include a website) at which a copy of it and of its accompanying environmental report, and of a statement containing the particulars specified in paragraph (4), may be viewed or from which a copy may be obtained;
 - (iv) the times at which inspection may be made; and
 - (v) that inspection may be made free of charge.

(2) As soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of a plan or programme—

- (a) the responsible authority shall inform—
 - (i) the consultation bodies;
 - (ii) the persons who, in relation to the plan or programme, were public consultees for the purposes of regulation 13; and
 - (iii) where the responsible authority is not the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State; and
- (b) the Secretary of State shall inform the Member State with which consultations in relation to the plan or programme have taken place under regulation 14(4),

of the matters referred to in paragraph (3).

(3) The matters are—

- (a) that the plan or programme has been adopted;
- (b) the date on which it was adopted; and
- (c) the address (which may include a website) at which a copy of—
 - (i) the plan or programme, as adopted,

- (ii) its accompanying environmental report, and
 - (iii) a statement containing the particulars specified in paragraph (4),
may be viewed, or from which a copy may be obtained.
- (4) The particulars referred to in paragraphs (1)(b)(iii) and (3)(c)(iii) are —
- (a) how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme;
 - (b) how the environmental report has been taken into account;
 - (c) how opinions expressed in response to—
 - (i) the invitation referred to in regulation 13(2)(d);
 - (ii) action taken by the responsible authority in accordance with regulation 13(4),
have been taken into account;
 - (d) how the results of any consultations entered into under regulation 14(4) have been taken into account;
 - (e) the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and
 - (f) the measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the plan or programme.

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