



*Knowsl@y Council*

**Core Strategy  
Development Plan Document**

**Sustainability Appraisal and  
Strategic Environmental Assessment**

**Scoping Report**

May 2009

Part of the **Local Development Framework** for Knowsley

## Contents

1. Introduction
2. Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)
3. Sustainability Appraisal Stage A1 – identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives
4. Sustainability Appraisal Stage A2 - collecting baseline information
5. Sustainability Appraisal Stage A3 - identifying sustainability issues and problems
6. Sustainability Appraisal Stage A4 - developing the sustainability appraisal framework

## Appendices

1. Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)
2. Baseline data and targets (Task A2)
3. Abbreviations and Glossary

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### **Background – role of Core Strategy**

- 1.1 The Core Strategy will be a Development Plan Document (DPD) within a portfolio of documents known as the Local Development Framework (LDF). The Local Development Framework together with the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) will form the development plan for the Borough.
- 1.2 The Local Development Framework will play a key part in the delivery of the Council's Sustainable Community Strategy. This will be achieved by setting out a vision, key objectives and strategic planning policies for the Borough. It will explain what sort of place Knowsley is today and what sort of place it will be in the future.
- 1.3 The LDF will include a number of Development Plan Documents which will progressively replace policies of the Knowsley Unitary Development Plan 2006. They Development Plan Documents will outline the key development goals of the LDF and will include:
  - the Core Strategy. This will be the main Development Plan Document and will set out the general spatial vision and specific delivery objectives. It will show the broad locations for land use but will not, in general, identify detailed site specific land allocations.
  - the Site Allocations DPD will allocate land for specific uses.
  - Area Action Plans provide the planning framework for areas where significant change or conservation is needed.
  - other Development Plan Documents will be produced and will include documents prepared jointly with other authorities as well as ones on specific topics.
- 1.4 Supplementary Planning Documents may also be produced to expand or add details to policies laid out in Development Plan Documents.
- 1.5 The Core Strategy will need to be in general conformity with the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) and the other Development Plan Documents should be in conformity with the Core Strategy.

### **Purpose of this Document**

- 1.6 Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Sustainability Appraisals (SAs) have to be produced for each level of development plan. The European Directive 2001/42/EC requires that an assessment be made of the effects that certain plans and programmes will have on the environment. This is known as a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and applies to a wide range of plans and programmes, including land use plans. The effect on the environment has to be significant before the Directive applies.

- 1.7 Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council has determined that the scale of environmental change, as a result of policies within the Core Strategy, will have a significant impact and therefore a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required.
- 1.8 The Core Strategy will therefore be the subject of a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in addition to a Sustainability Appraisal (SA).
- 1.9 The requirement to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal and a Strategic Environmental Assessment are distinct but it is possible to satisfy both through a single appraisal process if it considers social and economic factors as well as environmental issues. This is the approach that will be taken with the appraisal of the Core Strategy. It is therefore intended that a single process will be followed and a joint report produced.
- 1.10 This document is a scoping report for the joint report of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Core Strategy. The purpose of the scoping report is to define the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment with regard to the Core Strategy, and to define the important features of the baseline that will inform the plan. It will make use of baseline data to enable the identification of environmental, social and economic effects.
- 1.11 This document is the Scoping Report of the SA / SEA of the Core Strategy of the Knowsley Borough Council Local Development Framework. It has been prepared using the guidance contained within the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) document *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents* (November 2005).
- 1.12 The final SA / SEA report will need to be read alongside the Draft Core Strategy.
- 1.13 Section 2 of this report describes what is meant by SA and SEA. It outlines the method used to assess whether the Core Strategy is likely to promote a sustainable pattern of development.
- 1.14 Section 3 identifies plans, programmes, and strategies that are relevant to the Core Strategy and assesses their implications for the Sustainability Appraisal.
- 1.15 Section 4 assembles data on the current and likely situation that will enable the Core Strategy's effects to be adequately predicted.
- 1.16 Section 5 identifies the social, economic and environmental issues and problems facing Knowsley by reviewing relevant policies, plans and programmes together with an assessment of the baseline data.
- 1.17 Section 6 develops a Sustainability Appraisal Framework that will be used to assess the sustainability of the Core Strategy.

## Habitat Regulations Assessment

- 1.18 Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna - the 'Habitats Directive' - provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. It provides the legislative means to protect habitats and species through the establishment and conservation of a network of sites of nature conservation importance known as Natura 2000.
- 1.19 The Natura 2000 network provides ecological infrastructure for the protection of sites which are of exceptional importance in respect of rare, endangered or vulnerable natural habitats and species within the European Community. These sites, which are also referred to as European sites, consist of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Offshore Marine Sites (OMSs). Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (PPS9) notes that Ramsar sites are to be afforded the same level of consideration as SPAs and SACs.
- 1.20 Habitat Regulations Assessment is the name given to the overall process that considers the impacts that a plan or project may have on a European site. The requirement for the Assessment of plans or projects is outlined in Article 6(3) and (4) of the European Communities (1992) Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora ("Habitats Directive").
- 1.21 The Habitat Regulations Assessment will be conducted along side, but separate from, Sustainability Assessment and the Strategic Environmental Assessment.

## Timescale

- 1.22 The process for producing a Core Strategy has several statutory steps and stages and takes about 3 years to complete. Table 1.1 shows the process and proposed timescale for the production of the Core Strategy and makes the assumption that the proposed changes in the draft guidance will be implemented.

<b>Table 1.1 - Timescale</b>	
<u>Stage 1 - Initial community involvement stage</u>	
Consultants commissioned to complete evidence base (flood risk, shopping/town centres - studies to be completed by June 2009) NB housing and employment land studies being commissioned jointly with other authorities	January 2008
Initial engagement with Knowsley Partnership on vision, objectives and "initial cut" on issues and options	February/March 2008

Sustainability scoping report out to consultation with Statutory Bodies	May 2009
"Issues and Options" report presented to Cabinet	May 2009
Public consultation on issues and options	May / June 2009
Preferred "Issues and Options" report presented to Cabinet	January 2010
Public consultation on preferred issues and options	January / February 2010
Draft Core Strategy submitted to Secretary of State	August 2010
Examination in public held by government Inspector	April 2011
Inspectors report received	July 2011
Adoption of strategy	September 2011

### **Community Engagement**

- 1.23 Community engagement is a very important part of LDF processes. While involvement is welcome throughout the entire Core Strategy process, public engagement is particularly encouraged in the early part of its production. This will enable stakeholders to influence the form and content of the Core Strategy as it is being developed.
- 1.24 Consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment will occur at the same time as the public consultation stages on the Core Strategy. It will be conducted in accordance with the Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).
- 1.25 Community engagement will build up on contacts already established through production of the Unitary Development Plan, the Statement of Community Involvement and four Supplementary Planning Documents that have been produced. As part of an initiative to increase community engagement in decision making, the Council established six area partnership areas each with its own partnership board and director. Area Partnership Boards will also be an essential forum for community engagement in the LDF.

### **Consultation on the Scoping Report**

- 1.26 Comments are invited on the content of this Scoping Report and the proposed issues, objectives and indicators to be assessed during the full Sustainability Appraisal.
- 1.27 The consultation period will run for a period of five weeks in order to comply with SEA regulations. Responses should be made in writing by

letter, fax or e-mail to arrive no later than 5 pm on 29 June 2009 marked for the attention of:

Strategic Planning Manager,  
Directorate of Regeneration, Economy and Skills,  
PO Box 26 Archway Road  
Huyton  
Merseyside L36 9FB

or e-mail [forwardplanningteam@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:forwardplanningteam@knowsley.gov.uk)  
or Fax: 0151 443 2370

- 1.28 The three statutory environmental bodies to be consulted throughout the process are:
- The Environment Agency
  - English Heritage
  - Natural England
- 1.29 Following the period of consultation, comments on the scoping report will be analysed and a note produced summarising the key comments produced. A revised Scoping Report will then be produced. The revised Scoping Report will inform the subsequent production of the Core Strategy as well as the final SA/SEA report.

**Proposed Structure of Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment Report**

- 1.30 The proposed structure of the final Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment report is set out below:
1. Introduction.
  2. Background to Sustainability Appraisal.
  3. The Information Base and Policy Context.
  4. Options and Assessing the Effects.
  5. Quality Assurance.
  6. Next Steps.

## **2. Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment**

### **Sustainable Development**

- 2.1 Sustainable development has been described as development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- 2.2 The assessment of whether plans will compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs can be undertaken using two methods - Sustainability Appraisals and Strategic Environmental Assessments.

### **Sustainability Appraisals (SAs)**

- 2.3 A Sustainability Appraisal is a method of assessing a plan to find out whether it is likely to promote a sustainable pattern of development, and where possible, avoid or mitigate any significant social, environmental or economic effects. The key aim of the appraisal is to make the plan process more transparent, better documented and more clearly focused on sustainability.
- 2.4 The Sustainability Appraisal process requires that policies be appraised against a range of criteria representing the objectives of sustainable development in national policy.
- 2.5 A plan that promotes sustainable development will be one that embraces the Government's five sustainable principles set out in the publication *Securing the Future - Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy*, Defra, 2005. They are:
  - Living within environmental limits;
  - Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society;
  - Achieving a sustainable economy;
  - Using sound science responsibly; and
  - Promoting good governance.
- 2.6 The process of undertaking a Sustainability Appraisal is outlined in *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents - Guidance for Regional Planning Bodies and Local Planning Authorities*, ODPM, 2005
- 2.7 The document splits the process into key stages and tasks. These can be seen in table 2.1.



<b>Table 2.1: Stages of the Sustainability Appraisal process.</b>
<b>Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope.</b>
A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives.
A2: Collecting baseline information.
A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems.
A4: Developing the Sustainability Appraisal framework.
A5: Consulting on the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal.
<b>Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects.</b>
B1: Testing the DPD objectives against the Sustainability Appraisal framework.
B2: Developing the DPD options.
B3: Predicting the effects of the DPD.
B4: Evaluating the effects of the DPD.
B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects.
B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the DPD.
<b>Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report.</b>
C1: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report.
<b>Stage D: Consulting on the preferred options of the DPD and Sustainability Appraisal Report.</b>
D1: Public participation on the preferred options of the DPD and the Sustainability Appraisal Report.
D2: Appraising significant changes.
D3: Making decisions and providing information.
<b>Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the DPD.</b>
E1: Finalising aims and methods for monitoring.
E2: Responding to adverse effects.

- 2.8 Table 2.1 shows that the scoping report is completed during Stage A of the Sustainability Appraisal process and Table 2.2 shows where the tasks can be found in this document.

<b>Table 2.2: Stages of the Sustainability Appraisal process.</b>	<b>Where covered in the scoping report</b>
A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives.	Section 3 and appendix 1
A2: Collecting baseline information.	Section 4
A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems.	Section 5
A4: Developing the Sustainability Appraisal framework.	Section 6
A5: Consulting on the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal.	Paragraphs <b>Error!</b> <b>Reference source not found.</b>

### **Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs)**

- 2.9 In June 2004, the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations came into force, and transposed the European Union Directive on SEA into UK legislation. Office of the Deputy Prime Minister guidance *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents* states that, except in exceptional circumstances, all Local Development Documents will require a SEA. If a local authority believes that the assessment is not required it must clearly demonstrate this through a process called 'screening out'. When screening out, a local authority must provide sufficient evidence to prove that its plan will not have significant negative or positive environmental effects. This should be undertaken in accordance with the SEA guidance criteria.
- 2.10 Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council has determined that the Core Strategy will have significant environmental effects and will therefore require a SEA.

### **Defining the Scope**

- 2.11 The joint SA/SEA report will therefore evaluate the social, environmental and economic impact of the options contained within the draft Core Strategy. It will enable the options to be developed and refined thus ensuring that the most sustainable option is chosen and implemented. It will also identify measurable indicators that will enable effective monitoring of the Core Strategy to take place so that, if necessary, the Core Strategy can be amended.
- 2.12 The SA aspect of the joint report will cover the National Sustainability Objectives contained within *Securing the Future - Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, ODPM, November 2005*. They are:

- The maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment;
- The promotion of inclusive communities;
- The development and maintenance of an effective transport system;
- Enhancement of the natural environment;
- The protection and enhancement of cultural heritage; and
- The protection of natural resources.

2.13 The Strategic Environmental Assessment aspects of the joint report will consider the following:

- Biodiversity;
- Population;
- Human health;
- Fauna and flora;
- Soil;
- Water;
- Air;
- Climatic factors;
- Material assets;
- Cultural heritage; and
- Landscape.

2.14 Table 2.3 shows how the SA and the SEA can be brought together and what the Core Strategy should and can seek to achieve.

Table 2.3 – Sustainability Appraisal Objectives and Strategic Environmental Assessment Criteria		
National Sustainability Objectives	SEA Criteria Covered	What the Core Strategy should / can seek to achieve
The maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.	Population Material assets Human Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage increased economic activity.</li> <li>• Reduce high levels of unemployment.</li> </ul>
The promotion of inclusive communities.	Population Material assets Human health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve schools.</li> <li>• Improve housing mix.</li> <li>• Improve housing standards of all housing.</li> <li>• Promote healthy lifestyles.</li> <li>• Narrow the gap between the most deprived neighbourhoods in the Borough and the rest, and between Knowsley as a whole and other areas.</li> </ul>
The development and maintenance of an effective transport system.	Material assets Human health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase opportunities for walking, cycling and use of public transport.</li> <li>• Ensure that the location of new</li> </ul>

Table 2.3 – Sustainability Appraisal Objectives and Strategic Environmental Assessment Criteria		
National Sustainability Objectives	SEA Criteria Covered	What the Core Strategy should / can seek to achieve
	Population Climatic factors Water Air	<p>facilities is easily accessible by foot, cycle and public transport.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain high levels of bus usage.</li> </ul>
Enhancement of the natural environment.	Fauna and flora Soil Water Air Landscape Human health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance the natural environment, e.g. Sites of Biological Interest.</li> <li>• Improve the environmental quality of parks and open spaces.</li> <li>• Improve access to parks and open spaces.</li> <li>• Provide better quality and access to sporting, recreation and play facilities.</li> </ul>
The protection and enhancement of cultural heritage.	Cultural heritage Material assets Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an attractive built environment.</li> <li>• Protect and enhance character of the Borough.</li> <li>• Improve design quality of housing, open space and community facilities.</li> <li>• Protect and enhance listed buildings, Conservation Areas etc.</li> </ul>
The protection of natural resources.	Fauna and flora Soil Water Air Material assets Climatic factors Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance the landscape and townscape.</li> <li>• Protect the quantity and quality of surface and ground waters.</li> <li>• Manage flood risk.</li> <li>• Protect air quality.</li> <li>• Tackle climate change.</li> <li>• Protect high quality agricultural land.</li> </ul>

### **3. Sustainability Appraisal Stage A1 – Identifying Other Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes, and Sustainability Objectives**

- 3.1 The Core Strategy does not exist in isolation from other plans, programmes, and strategies. The purpose of task A1 is to identify plans, programmes, and strategies that are relevant to the Core Strategy and to assess their implications for the Sustainability Appraisal.
- 3.2 Appendix 1 lists the main documents that are relevant to the Core Strategy together with their relevant objectives and their implications for the SA. They will inform the development of the SA objectives and sub objectives in the Sustainability Appraisal framework in section 6 of this document. The objectives will provide the primary mechanism for the appraisal of the Core Strategy. A summary of selected key documents is outlined below.

#### **National and Regional Plans and Strategies**

- 3.3 The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the North West now forms part of Knowsley's Development Plan. One of its aims is to direct development to the North West Metropolitan Area, especially the Regional Poles and surrounding urban areas. This includes Knowsley.
- 3.4 The submitted draft of the replacement RSS aims to:
- improve sustainable economic growth;
  - reduce economic, environmental, educational, health and other social inequalities between North West communities;
  - protect and enhance the region's built and natural environmental assets, its coastal areas and unique culture and heritage;
  - actively manage and prudently use the natural and man made resources, with fewer emissions of key greenhouse gases, and the most efficient use of infrastructure;
  - introduce a safe, reliable and effective integrated transport network that supports opportunities for sustainable growth and provides better links with jobs and services; and
  - support the concentration of most new development in the region within the urban areas of the Regional Centres, and Regional Towns and Cities.

#### **Sub-regional and Local Plans**

- 3.5 The *Local Transport Plan for Merseyside 2006-2011* was produced by Merseytravel in conjunction with all of the Merseyside authorities. It seeks to provide 'a fully integrated safe transport network for Merseyside which supports economic and social regeneration and ensures good access for all, and which is operated to the highest standards to protect the environment and ensure quality of life'.

- 3.6 The Knowsley replacement Unitary Development Plan 2006 sets out 19 strategic objectives and policies for new development. These include:
- Identifying a range of sustainable locations to meet the housing and employment needs of the Borough,
  - Protecting the openness and character of the Green Belt,
  - Protecting the natural environment, and
  - Preserving and enhancing the historic environment.
- 3.7 The 2006 replacement Unitary Development Plan will itself be replaced by the Core Strategy. Some policies however, subject to Government Office North West approval, may be saved as part of the LDF.
- 3.8 The Sustainable Community Strategy *Knowsley the Borough of choice* sets a vision for how the Borough is likely to look to have in 15 years time. It is to have a sustainable and diverse population and Knowsley will be an area known for its successful suburban townships, providing a sense of place and community. Knowsley will also have:
- Attractive, sustainable neighbourhoods with a wide choice of housing and excellent community facilities;
  - Vibrant and vital town centres;
  - Residents and local communities who are able to make positive lifestyle choices;
  - High quality employment areas which help to drive economic growth in the Liverpool city region; and
  - "Narrowed the gap" in deprivation levels both between different parts of the borough and between Knowsley and elsewhere.
- 3.9 The Local Government White Paper 2006 identified the LDF, along with the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS), as being the primary "place shaping" strategies prepared by local authorities. The role of the SCS is to set the overall vision and priorities for the Borough whereas the role of the LDF is to translate this into a spatial vision and policy framework for development and land use.

## **4. Sustainability Appraisal Stage A2 - Collecting Baseline Information**

### **Introduction**

- 4.1 The Metropolitan Borough of Knowsley came into being on 1 April 1974. It is located between Liverpool to the west and St. Helens to the east. To the north is Sefton and West Lancashire and to the south is Halton. The M62, M57 and A580 (East Lancashire Road) and 4 rail lines pass through the Borough, whilst the M58 lies just outside the northern boundary of the Borough.
- 4.2 The Borough comprises a belt of towns, suburbs and countryside. The Borough covers an area of 8,620ha, of which 4,644ha is designated as Green Belt. The largest urban areas are Kirkby, Huyton, Prescot, Whiston and Halewood. Each of Knowsley's communities has its own quite different historical background and particular characteristics.
- 4.3 The communities within Knowsley are, probably more so than almost any other metropolitan area, a creation of the 20th century. With the exception of Prescot and a few other smaller older settlements, the majority of the existing development in the area now known as Knowsley took place between the 1920s and the mid 1970s. Much of this expansion was as a result of Liverpool over-spill development. The trend of increasing population, however, ceased in the early 1970s.
- 4.4 *The North West of England Plan Regional Spatial Strategy to 2021* (RSS) forms part of the development plan for Knowsley. It seeks to concentrate growth in the City regions of Liverpool, Manchester / Salford, and Central Lancashire. Within the city regions RSS gives the highest priority to the growth and regeneration of the two "Regional Centres" of Liverpool and Manchester / Salford, next to their surrounding inner areas, and thirdly to the larger suburban centres within the city region.
- 4.5 Although Knowsley falls outside the "Regional Centre" of Liverpool and its inner area, the RSS recognises the role larger and accessible suburban centres may have within the city region.
- 4.6 Knowsley contains the popular tourist attractions of Knowsley Safari Park and the National Wildlife Centre. The National Wildlife Centre has received the English Tourist Board Quality Assured Visitor Attraction and the North West Tourist Board Small Visitor Attraction of the Year awards.

### **Baseline Information**

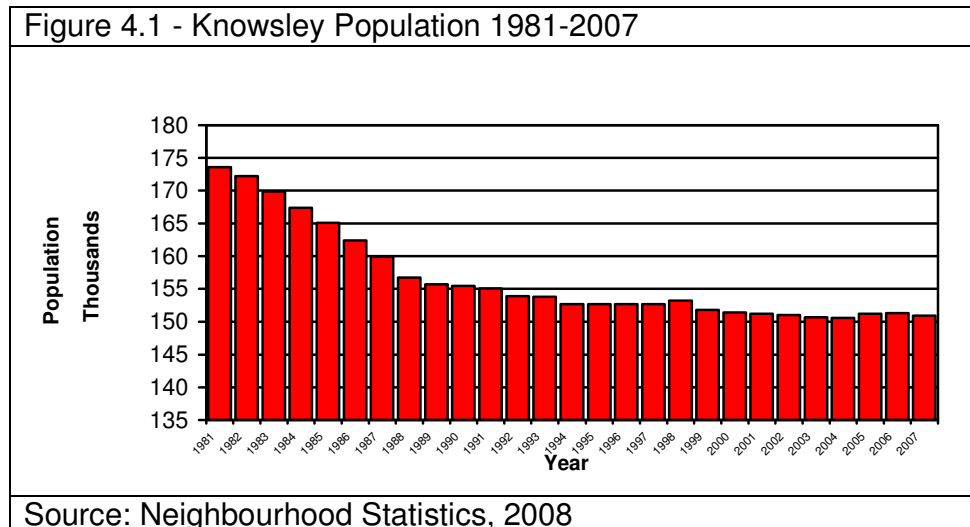
- 4.7 The collection of baseline information is a key part of the SA process. It is also a legal requirement of the SEA Directive. Assembling baseline information helps to identify sustainability problems and provide a basis for predicting and monitoring the effects that the Core Strategy will have. The aim of task A2 is to assemble sufficient data on the current and likely

situation that will enable the Core Strategy's effects to be adequately predicted.

- 4.8 Paragraph 4.2.9 of the ODPM document *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents* states that information collection needs to focus on the social, environmental and economic characteristics of the area that relate to the issues to be tackled in the Local Development Document.
- 4.9 Appendix 2 contains the baseline information that has been selected for predicting and monitoring the effects that the policies of the Core Strategy will have. Appendix 2 also gives a target for each indicator and details of where the information may be obtained.
- 4.10 The key current characteristics of Knowsley are set out below.

### Population

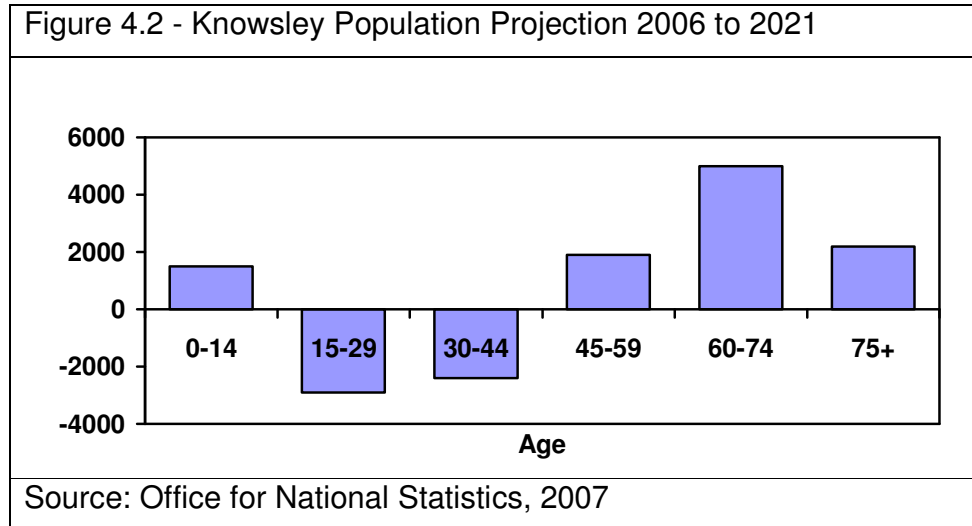
- 4.11 It is estimated that the population of Knowsley in June 2007 was 150,900. This is 400 less than in 2006 and follows the previous two years modest increase in population. Figure 4.1 shows that after 25 years of significant decline, the last two years has seen a modest increase in population.



- 4.12 The fall in population between 1981 and 2007 masks a significant change in the structure of the population. The number of persons aged under 20 fell by 33.4% while the number of persons aged 60+ rose by 21.7%. In 1981 34.6 % of the population was aged under 20. By 2007 this had fallen to 26.5%. The proportion of persons aged 60 plus rose from 14.4% to 20.1%.
- 4.13 The 2006 based population projection, shown in Figure 4.2, indicates what will happen if past population trends continue. It is projected that by 2021 the number of persons aged under 15 will increase by 1500. The number of persons age 15-59 is projected to fall by 3,400 while the number of



persons aged 60+ is projected to increase by 7,200. If past trends continue there will, therefore, be an overall population increase of 5,300.



- 4.14 If the population change to 2021 is as projected, the working age population will fall by 3,400. This will have serious implications for the size of the Borough's workforce.

## Health

- 4.15 *Life expectancy at birth by health and local authorities in the United Kingdom, 2005-2007* (ONS, 2008) gives the life expectancy for males as 74.9 and for females as 79.2. For males this was 0.5 years higher than for the previous year while for females it was 0.2 years higher than for the previous year. Knowsley is ranked 364 worst for males and 365 for females out of 374 districts in the England and Wales.
- 4.16 The main cause of death in the Borough between 2003 and 2005 was cancer when nearly 30% male deaths and 27% of female deaths were a result of the disease. Over three-quarters of all deaths in Knowsley are from the smoking related diseases of lung cancer, circulatory disease, and respiratory disease. An increasing number of people are dying prematurely from liver disease and digestive diseases.
- 4.17 *Public Health Annual Report 2006: Health & Care in Knowsley*, Knowsley NHS Primary Care Trust, 2007 estimates that smoking levels in Knowsley are significantly higher than the national average (35.4% compared with 25.8%). It also estimates that 25% of people in Knowsley 'binge drink' compared to 17.9% in England. Binge drinking is defined as "somebody having more than the recommended limit of alcohol (8 units for men and 6 for women) on any one day during the week prior to being interviewed. It

also states that 21.6% of people in Knowsley aged 16 or over are considered to be obese.

## Deprivation

- 4.18 The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is produced for the Government to identify distribution of deprivation across the nation. Information is analysed at Super Output Area (SOA) lower level. SOAs are subdivisions of wards.
- 4.19 In order to identify different types of deprivation, six measures of deprivation have been produced. For each measure, each district across England is given a rank, with a rank of 1 indicating that the district is the most deprived in the Country and 354 as the least deprived. Table 4.3 shows the ranking of the different measures.

Measure of Deprivation	2004 Rank	2007 Rank
Rank of employment scale - the number of people who are employment deprived.	30	45
Rank of income scale – the number of people who are income deprived.	38	50
Rank of SOA score - calculated by averaging the super output area scores in each district after they have been population weighted. This measure is useful because the more deprived neighbourhoods may have more extreme scores.	3	5
Rank of SOA rank - calculated by averaging the super output area ranks in each district after they have been population weighted. This measure is useful because it summarises the whole district, including both deprived and less deprived neighbourhoods.	8	8
Extent rank – is the proportion of a districts population living in the most deprived SOAs in the country and portrays how widespread high levels of deprivation are	8	8
Local Concentration rank – is an important way of identifying district's hotspots of deprivation and is derived from a population weighted average of the ranks of a district's most deprived SOAs containing exactly 10% of the district population	1	2
Source: Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 and 2007		

- 4.20 Knowsley ranked high in all categories especially in the Local Concentration, Rank of Super Output Area (SOA) score, Rank of SOA rank, and Extent rank categories. In the Local Concentration Category Knowsley was ranked second worst.
- 4.21 An important measure of deprivation is the percentage of the population who live in SOAs ranked in the upper ten percent most deprived nationally. In Knowsley's case 46.2 percent of the population live in the worst ten percent SOAs. This was an improvement on the 2004 figure of 52.2%.

### **Crime**

- 4.22 Knowsley had a total of 16,885 recorded crimes in 2006/7. This represented a rate of 108.5 crimes per 1000 population and is a decrease of 13.5% on the previous year. Recorded crime in Knowsley showed the largest decrease on Merseyside but Knowsley still has the second highest crime rate.
- 4.23 The greatest reduction in crime was violence against the person which fell from 20.5 to 13.0 per 1000 population. The only category of crime that saw an increase was sexual offences which rose from 0.7 to 1.0 per 1000 population.
- 4.24 The 2005 Knowsley Borough Council General Residents' Survey reported that 66% of respondents indicated that the level of crime is the most important factor making the Borough a good place to live. Nearly half of the respondents indicated that they do not feel safe in the Borough's parks and open spaces.

### **Education**

- 4.25 In 2001 27% of persons in the Borough aged 16-74 did not have any qualifications. This compares to 16% in the North West.
- 4.26 In 2008 Knowsley had the lowest level on Merseyside of students achieving 5 or more A\* to C grades at GCSE level (56.4%). This is 8.4% lower than the national average.

### **Employment Land**

- 4.27 There are currently 112.6 ha of land allocated for employment purposes that do not have planning permission. This is significantly below the 188.54 ha allocated in the 1998 Unitary Development Plan. There is, however, a further 18.3 ha of sites in the Primarily Industrial Areas that are appropriate locations for B1, B2 and B8 uses. There is currently 13.6 ha of land that has planning permission but where development has not commenced. Generally speaking, land that is available for employment

purposes are for a mix of employment types. Only 37.2% of land available for employment purposes is on Brownfield sites.

## Employees

- 4.28 In 2001, 53,102 people worked in Knowsley, of whom 44% also lived in the area, and 48% lived in the remainder of Greater Merseyside. 54,840 of the Borough's residents were in employment, of whom 43% worked in Knowsley, and 47% worked in the rest of Greater Merseyside. Knowsley had a large proportion of persons in employment (excluding home workers) who travel to work by car (66%); however, car ownership is low. In 2001 41.8 % of households did not have access to a car with Liverpool being the only district in Greater Merseyside to have a lower level of car ownership.
- 4.29 Table 4.5 shows that the most significant employment sector in Knowsley is the Public Administration, Education & Health sector (32.9%). This sector includes Council employees and employees of Whiston Hospital who make up a significant part of it. The manufacturing sector, including Jaguar, also makes a significant contribution to the local economy (22.2%).

	Knowsley	North West	GB
	%	%	%
Total employee jobs			
Full-time	68.8	68.9	68.9
Part-time	31.2	31.1	31.1
Manufacturing	22.2	12.5	10.9
Construction	4.1	5.0	4.8
Distribution, hotels & restaurants	17.6	23.9	23.5
Transport & communications	4.2	6.0	5.9
Finance, IT, other business activities	15.2	19.2	21.2
Public admin, education & health	32.9	27.8	26.9
Other services	3.5	4.7	5.3

Source: Annual Business Inquiry employee analysis (2006)

- 4.30 Table 4.6 shows that Knowsley is under represented in managerial and professional occupations. It has the lowest representation in Merseyside in these occupations. Professional occupations is at a level of just over half of the rate of Great Britain.

	Knowsley		North West (%)	Great Britain (%)
	Number	%		
Managers and senior officials	5,400	8.5	14.0	15.3
Professional occupations	3,800	6.1	11.9	13.0
Associate professional & technical occupations	8,900	14.1	13.8	14.6
Administrative and secretarial occupations	8,500	13.4	12.6	11.7
Skilled trades occupations	8,000	12.6	10.5	10.8
Personal service occupations	7,100	11.2	8.4	8.0
Sales and customer service occupations	6,300	9.9	8.3	7.6
Process, plant and machine operatives	6,700	10.6	8.3	7.2
Elementary occupations	8,100	12.8	12.0	11.4

Source: Annual Population Survey 2007 (Jan – Dec)

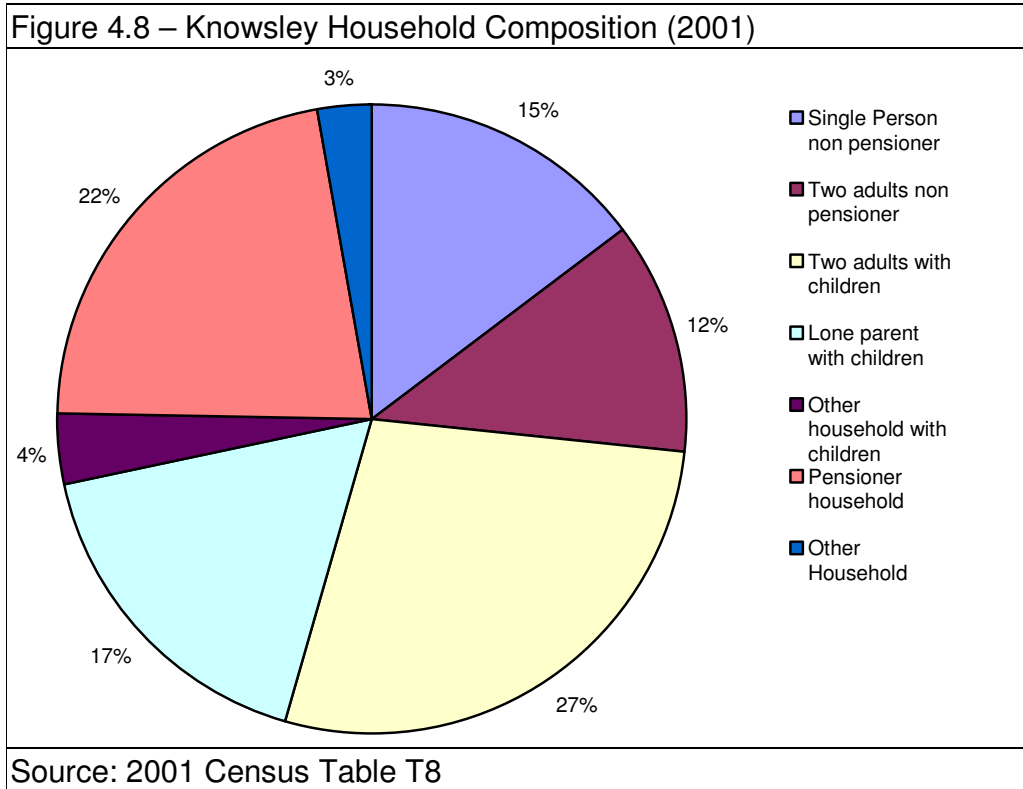
4.31 Table 4.7 shows the average weekly wage for residents in full-time employment (£23,720). This is the lowest in Merseyside.

	Knowsley (£)	North West (£)	Great Britain (£)
Gross weekly pay			
Full Time Workers	475.7	512.9	553.0
Male Full Time Workers	516.8	564.1	610.2
Female Full Time Workers	418.0	435.3	464.1
Hourly Pay			
Full Time Workers	12.03	13.06	14.04
Male Full Time Workers	12.56	13.90	15.01
Female Full Time Workers	11.21	11.68	12.42

Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings - resident analysis  
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## Households

- 4.32 Figure 4.8 shows the household composition of Knowsley in 2001. Knowsley had the highest proportion of households, in Greater Merseyside, with dependent children (35.4%) and lone parent households (17.3%).

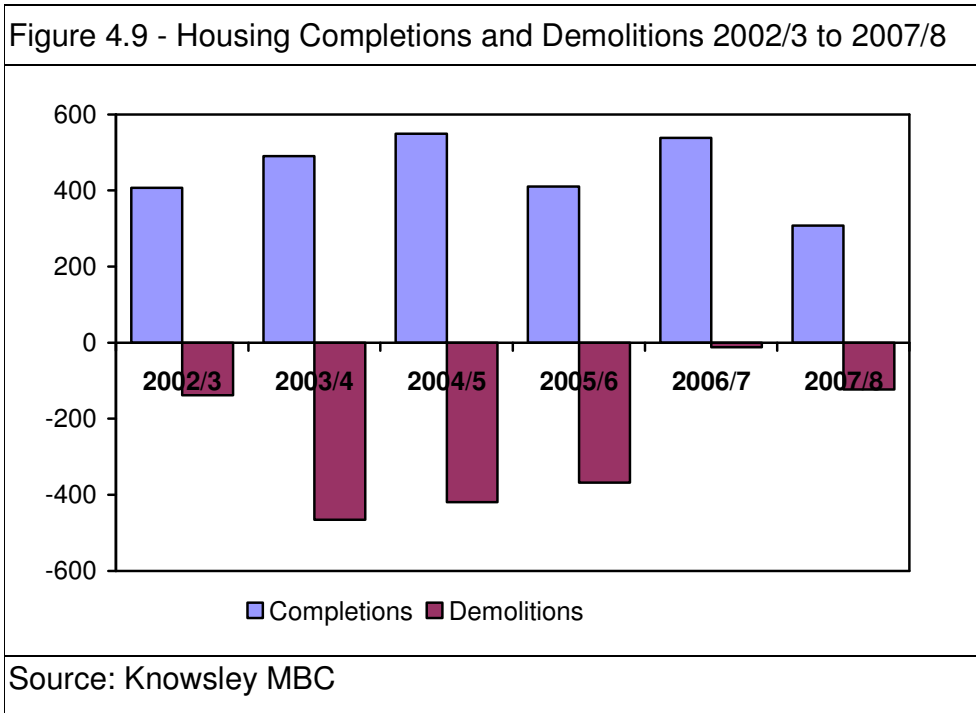


- 4.33 The number of households is projected to rise by 6,000 by 2021. This is due largely to the increase in the number of single-person households caused by elderly people living longer, higher rates of separation and divorce, and more young people forming single households of their own.

## Housing

- 4.34 In 2001 there were 61,972 dwellings of which 61.7% were owner occupied, 24.9% were rented from the Council, 6.6% were rented from a Registered Social Landlord (RSL), and 6.8% were privately rented or persons living rent free. Knowsley had the second lowest percentage of owner occupied dwellings in Greater Merseyside. In 2002 all Council rented stock was transferred to Knowsley Housing Trust.
- 4.35 Since 2001, the number of dwellings has increased by 1400. A large number of dwellings have been demolished in the North Huyton and Tower Hill (Kirkby) Action Areas but have yet to be replaced. It is therefore

expected that the numbers of additional dwellings resulting from this net change will increase in the coming years. It is fundamental to the success of these Action Areas that the building capacity released by demolition is preserved for future house building.



- 4.36 The RSS requires that at least 65% of dwellings be built on previously developed land. During the last year 95.5% of residential completions have been on land that was previously been developed.
- 4.37 In June 2008, the average house price was £133,040. Table 4.7 shows that the average annual pay for a full-time worker in Knowsley is £22,226. The average house price is therefore 6 times the average annual pay for a full-time worker suggesting that there may be a growing affordability issue.
- 4.38 The Council commissioned a housing needs study in 2007. It concluded that there is a strong indication of an affordability problem in Knowsley. The Study predicted that 826 units of affordable housing would be required annually and that this should be split 50% social rented and 50% intermediate housing. These units would not necessarily all be new build as a large proportion of units could come from the second hand market.
- 4.39 Future housing and planning policy will need to bring about a more sustainable tenure pattern in the Borough. Working with housing association partners, tenure diversification programmes could play an important part in this process. It is anticipated that opportunities for such “mixed communities” initiatives will be available in North Huyton, Tower Hill (Kirkby) and other existing residential areas.

- 4.40 Circular 1/2006 says that Regional Spatial Strategies should identify the number of pitches for Gypsies and Travellers required for each local planning authority. This should be in the light of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment undertaken by local authorities. A Merseyside Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment was undertaken by Salford Housing and Urban Studies Unit earlier this year. It concluded that four permanent pitches should be provided in the Borough before 2012 with a further pitch provided between 2012 and 2016. It further concluded that ten transit pitches should be provided across Merseyside before 2016. The number of pitches required in Knowsley will be identified in the partial review on the RSS currently being developed.

### **Waste**

- 4.41 Table 4.11 shows the amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type. 83.0% of municipal waste was disposed of by landfill. This is down from 84.1% last year.

Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type (W2) in tonnes		
	Municipal Waste 2007/8	
	Tonnes	%
Landfill	58101.84	82.99%
Incineration with EfW	-	-
Incineration without EfW	-	-
Recycled/ composted	11909.1	17.01%
Other	-	-
Total waste arisings	70010.94	100.00%

### **Minerals**

- 4.42 Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service contracted Greater Manchester Geological Unit to establish a Merseyside minerals evidence base that will support the development of a minerals policy framework. The survey indicates that current mineral activity across the sub region is limited. This is particularly reflected in Knowsley where there is only one operational mineral site - Cronton Clay Pit.
- 4.43 Existing mineral resources within the Borough includes several areas of lowland raised peat bogs, particularly in the northern parts of the Borough, and an extensive deposit of glacio-fluvial sand and gravel to the east of Prescot. Coal has historically been mined in the Borough and though this activity ceased some time ago, coal resources are still present. Although the prospect of renewed mining activity seems unlikely, there is some potential for the exploitation of coal bed methane as an energy source.



## **Green Belt**

- 4.44 Around half of the Borough is designated as Green Belt. Its quality varies significantly, ranging from high-grade agricultural land to scrub vegetation. The Regional Spatial Strategy states that a review of the Green Belt should not be undertaken before 2011. The Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) and the Employment Land and Premises Study that are currently being developed will give an indication of whether there is sufficient land within the urban area.

## **Greenspace and Recreation**

- 4.45 Open spaces, including parks, playgrounds, amenity green space, nature reserves and the countryside, provide opportunities for a range of formal and informal leisure, passive and active sport, recreation and play.
- 4.46 The *Knowsley MBC Open Space, Sport and Recreation Needs Assessment* was completed by PMP Consultants in 2005. The study recommended that each residential area have a quantity of each type of open space based on the population of that area. The audit shows that in many respects, the Borough is well endowed in quantitative terms, with parks and green spaces. However, while there is a comparatively positive picture of provision in overall quantitative terms, this belies two significant issues: the unevenness in the distribution and the poor condition of many of these spaces.
- 4.47 All areas within the Borough meet the minimum quantitative standard in terms of provision for parks and gardens and, while much of the provision is concentrated in a few major sites such as Knowsley Country Park and Stadt Moers Country Park, overall it is only the Kirkby area where minimum quantity standards are not achieved. There is however a significant under provision of facilities for children and young people throughout the Borough and a shortfall of allotments between Kirkby and Huyton and within Halewood. Whilst the audit established that there is a sufficient provision of natural and semi-natural open space, it concluded that this type of open space was amongst the least accessible in the Borough.
- 4.48 The quality of the sites is also important. The study established that there are significant issues in relation to the quality of amenity greenspaces and facilities for children and young people. The recurring themes of dog fouling, litter, overgrown pathways etc considered were identified as particular problems. The audit also ascertained that the majority of the six public leisure centres in the Borough are ageing and do not meet the needs of the local communities.

- 4.49 A Green Space Standards and New Development SPD was adopted in November 2007 to guide the protection and improvement of the quality and accessibility of public open spaces. Table 4.12 lists the open spaces that are managed to Green Flag Award standard. This represents 15.3% of the open space that is eligible for a Green Flag award. This year Knowsley Cemetery was successful in achieving the standard. Sawpit Park and McGoldrick Park, however, were not successful. Officers will be acting on the comments received from the judges and there is an expectation that both Sawpit Park and McGoldrick Park will be successful in gaining a green flag award in 2009/10.

Table 4.12 – Amount of open spaces managed to Green Flag Award standard in hectares.	
Court Hey Park	13.4
Henley Park	2.4
King George V Playing Fields	13.7
Knowsley Cemetery	2.2
Millbrook Park Millennium Green	13.9
St. Chad's Gardens	1.3
Source: Knowsley MBC - Directorate of Neighbourhood Services	

### **Historic Environment**

- 4.50 Despite its history of rapid development during the twentieth century, Knowsley contains a rich historic legacy of older buildings and spaces.
- 4.51 There are 120 buildings and structures in the Borough that are listed for their architectural or historic importance. One of these, the Church of St Mary in Prescott, is Grade I listed and a further three are Grade II\* listed – the Church of St Michael's, Huyton; Knowsley Hall; and St Chad's Church, Kirkby. The remaining 116 are Grade II listed. Knowsley currently has no listed buildings on the national Heritage at Risk register. Nevertheless, this register only covers Grade I and Grade II\* buildings and there is presently no equivalent list for Grade II buildings in Knowsley.
- 4.52 Fifteen conservation areas have been designated in Knowsley. Four of these are included on the most recent Heritage at Risk register – Prescott town centre; North Park Road, Kirkby; South Park Road, Kirkby; and Ribblers Lane, Kirkby. Whilst appraisals have been completed for each of Knowsley's conservation areas during the past five years, management plans are yet to be prepared for any of them, including those considered to be at risk. The appraisals prepared for the four conservation areas on the

Heritage at Risk register identify a range of issues that impact upon their special character and appearance, these include: infilling of modern development, vacant buildings, prominent gap sites, advertisement hoardings, unsympathetic alterations to properties and the erection of inappropriate boundary treatments.

- 4.53 Croxteth Country Park and Knowsley Hall Park are large areas of parkland associated with historic hall buildings. Both are Grade II listed Parks and Gardens of Historic Interest. Neither feature on the Heritage at Risk register.
- 4.54 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments in Knowsley. However, the National Monuments Record Excavation Index contains details of Roman, Medieval and post-Medieval remains found principally in the Halewood, Prescott and Tarbock areas.

### **River Quality**

#### Biological river water quality

- 4.55 Table 4.13 shows an assessment of the quality of biological life in rivers. It is produced by comparing the number of small animals and insects in a sample of water with water from an unpolluted river. It shows that, in 2005, no stretch of river in Greater Merseyside could be described as being in “Good” biological condition.

District	Good %	Fair %	Poor %	Bad %	Total km
Knowsley	0.0	50.1	49.9	0.0	26.1
Halton	0.0	13.2	79.4	7.4	11.6
Liverpool	0.0	21.5	78.5	0.0	10.2
Sefton	0.0	47.0	40.3	12.7	26.8
St. Helens	0.0	60.7	34.1	5.2	30.1
Wirral	0.0	34.9	65.1	0.0	31.0
North West	56.0	33.9	8.7	1.4	4705.4

Source: Environment Agency Biology General Quality Assessment 2006

- 4.56 In Knowsley, 26.1 km of river was tested of which 50.1% was in fair condition and 49.9% in poor condition. This is an improvement on the previous year when 41% was in fair condition and 59% was in poor or bad condition. This is a considerable improvement on two years ago when 25% was in fair condition and 75% was in poor or bad condition.

### Chemical river water quality

- 4.57 Table 4.14 shows an assessment of the amount of ammonia and oxygen in rivers.

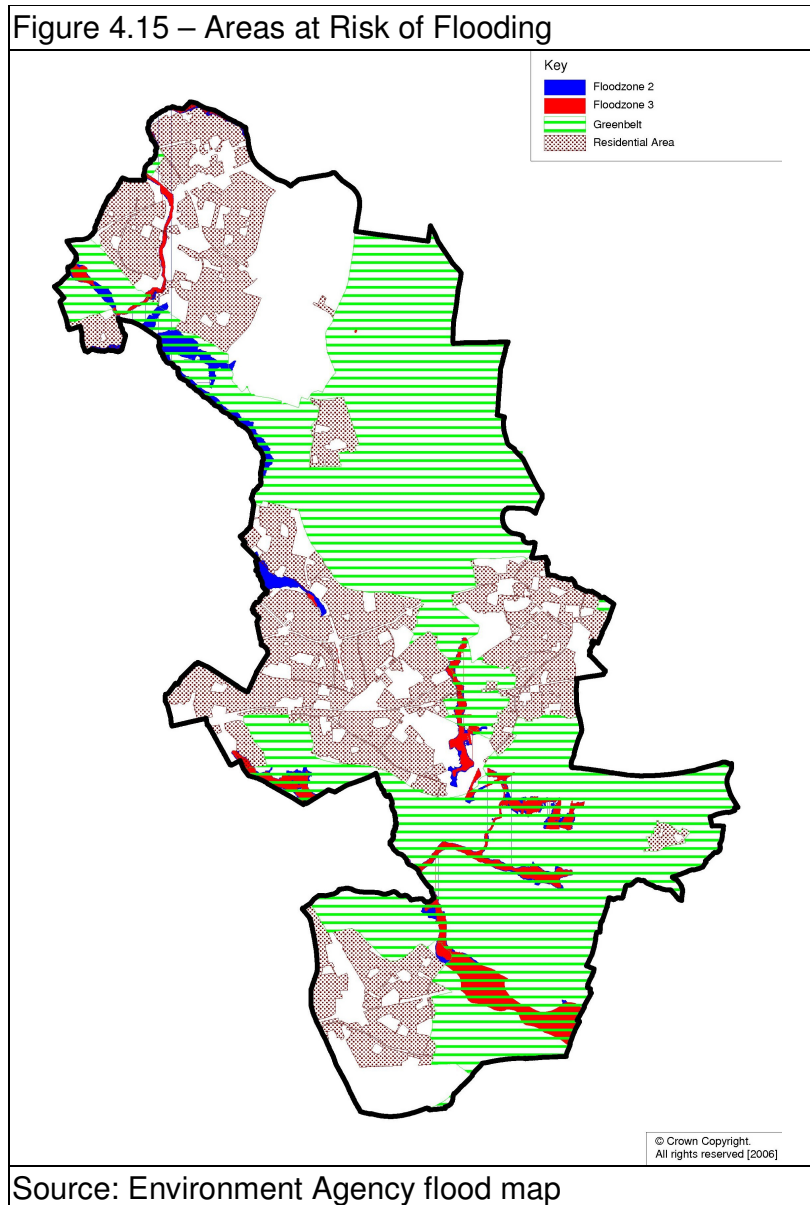
District	Good %	Fair %	Poor %	Bad %	Total km
Knowsley	7.5	57.4	8.5	26.6	28.1
Halton	11.0	54.6	26.4	8.0	29.2
Liverpool	6.7	75.9	11.6	5.8	12.7
Sefton	7.5	84.0	5.9	2.6	47.5
St. Helens	37.5	47.3	15.2	0.0	38.2
Wirral	0.0	13.5	61.2	25.3	31.0
North West	63.2	28.9	7.0	0.8	5424.5

Source: Environment Agency Biology General Quality Assessment 2006

- 4.58 In 2006, 7.5% of the length of rivers in Knowsley could be described as “Good”, 57.4% as “Fair” and 35.1% as either “Poor” or “Bad”. Overall the condition of the chemical content has continued to improve. Between 2005 and 2006 the “Bad” category reduced from 32.9% to 22.6% and increased in the “Good” category from 0.4% to 7.5%.

### **Land at Risk from Flooding**

- 4.59 Environment Agency mapping suggests that Knowsley has 472ha of land which has a medium probability of flooding (having between 1 in 100 and 1 in 1000 chance each year) of which 306ha has a high probability of flooding (1 in 100 or greater chance each year).
- 4.60 Figure 4.15 shows that the majority of land at risk of flooding is in the Green Belt. There are 557 properties with a medium probability of flooding and 263 with a high probability of flooding.
- 4.61 A Strategic Flood Risk assessment has been jointly commissioned by Knowsley and Sefton Councils and is currently at the final stage of development. Once the assessment is complete more up to date information on flooding within the Borough will be available.



### Sites of Environmental Importance

- 4.62 Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Communities Act (2006) introduced a duty for every planning authority to, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity.
- 4.63 Knowsley does not have any Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, or Ramsar sites. It does however have 64 Sites of Biological Interest, 4 Sites of Local Geological

Interest and 1 Local Nature Reserve. Table 4.16 shows a summary of their general location.

Table 4.16 - Sites of Environmental Importance		
Site Location:	Sites of Biological Interest	Local Nature Reserve
Sites in North Kirkby	6	1
Sites in South Kirkby	9	0
Sites in Prescot, Whiston and Cronton	18	0
Sites in North Huyton, Stockbridge Village and Knowsley Village	8	0
Sites in South Huyton	7	0
Sites in Halewood and Tarbock	16	0
Source: Replacement Unitary Development Plan, 2006		

**INSERT PLAN SHOWING LOCATION OF SBIs (if available)**

- 4.64 The Phase 1 Habitat Survey undertaken for the North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) identifies a total of 44 habitat types in Knowsley. The survey found that the habitats which cover the greatest area of Knowsley were arable land accounting for 23% of the land cover in the Borough, amenity grassland which accounts for 10% and improved grassland (613 ha) which accounts for approximately 7% of Knowsley's land cover.
- 4.65 A number of North Merseyside BAP priority habitats were particularly poorly represented within Knowsley. For instance, the Phase 1 Habitat Survey identified only 12 hectares of acid grassland in the Borough, 4.95 hectares of mire / bog habitat concentrated primarily around Kirkby Moss and just one lowland heath site, Pex Hill, which covers an area of 1.18 hectares.
- 4.66 The survey also established that species rich hedgerows in Knowsley are only found in short unconnected sections and are widely spaced across the Borough.
- 4.67 The 2008 North Merseyside BAP review contains action plans for twenty-eight species. A significant proportion of these species are found within Knowsley. However, their conservation status varies widely. For example,

water voles are known to be relatively common on canals, rivers, brooks and ditches in the Borough, arable farmland in Knowsley contains some of the highest densities of corn bunting in North Merseyside and there are notable densities of skylarks around Tarbock and on the farmland between St. Helens and Kirkby. On the other hand, species such as pipistrelle bats, brown hares, grey partridges and red squirrels are only found in very small numbers in Knowsley and there are only a handful of sites for common lizard and these are increasingly threatened by scrub encroachment on the under-management of grassland and heathland sites.

## **Landscape**

- 4.68 The landscape in Knowsley ranges from urban centres to rural landscapes containing many important features such as areas of mossland landscape, ponds, streams and small lakes, and other areas of ecological importance. The Countryside Character Appraisal concludes that the landscapes in Knowsley fall into 4 different typologies, summarised below.
- 4.69 *The Merseyside conurbation*, which includes Kirkby and Huyton, comprises principally of urban landscapes associated with growth that has taken place in several phases. There is a limited amount of open countryside within this area. Knowsley's urban settlements of Kirkby, Huyton and Halewood are included in this Character Area. The remaining areas within Knowsley tend to be concentrated along the M57 to the north of Huyton and consist mainly of Grade 2 agricultural land. The topography of this area is flat and low-lying and there is limited tree cover.
- 4.70 The southern part of the Borough is classified as *the Mersey Valley*, which comprises principally of a broad, flat linear valley with limited trees and woodland. The landscape in this area tends to be badly degraded at the periphery of urban development. The area of Knowsley around Tarbock falls within the Mersey Valley. This area is heavily influenced by mixed agricultural activity with a regular and large field pattern. Main transport routes, such as the Knowsley Expressway and the A562, sever the landscape and have a greater negative impact.
- 4.71 The east of the Borough is classified as *the Lancashire Coal Measures*, which consists primarily of a fragmented landscape created by a complex pattern of mining and industrial activity intermixed with housing. Tree cover in this area is largely restricted to isolated trees, small woodland clumps and tree planting along tracks and the boundaries of dwellings.
- 4.72 The final landscape character area within Knowsley is the *Lancashire and Amounderness Plain*. This is a relatively flat and rolling plain in the north east of the borough. It is predominantly highly productive arable land with large fields and woodland cover is generally sparse outside of the historic

estates such as Knowsley Park. The main area of settlement with influence on the plain within Knowsley is the large inland town of Kirkby and smaller village of Knowsley.

- 4.73 The national Countryside Quality Counts survey published in 2007 classified the landscape in Knowsley as diverging, meaning that the character of the area is being transformed so that either its distinctive qualities are being lost or significant new patterns are emerging.

### **Geodiversity and Geological Conservation**

- 4.74 There are four Sites of Local Geological Interest in Knowsley - Stadt Moers Park Quadrant 4, Knowsley Park, Knowsley Brook and Kirkby Brook.
- 4.75 Eastern parts of Knowsley contain some of the oldest rocks in Merseyside. These are represented by Carboniferous Pennine Coal Measures (Westphalian), alternating sequences of mudstones, siltstones, sandstone and extensive coal seams laid down some 300 million years ago.
- 4.76 Knowsley lies predominantly within the South Lancashire Coalfield and remaining coal resources are potentially extensive. However, future extraction is likely to be restricted to opencast mining methods and overlying thick drift deposits further reduces the future potential for such sites.
- 4.77 There are several areas of lowland raised peat bogs in the northern parts of Knowsley that represent the southern end of the southwest Lancashire peat plain. Clay is currently extracted from the Carboniferous Etruria Formation at the Cronton pit for use in brickworks in St Helens.

### **Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

- 4.78 Table 4.17 shows the Borough's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per capita for energy use in domestic properties, industrial / commercial premises and transport (excluding motorways). Emissions decreased in Knowsley from 2005 to 2006. The majority of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Knowsley are from energy use in the industrial / commercial sector (54%).

2005	7.5 Tonnes
2006	7.4 Tonnes
Source: Defra, 2008	



### **Data Collection Limitations of Tasks A1 - A3**

- 4.78 Issues such as open space have no regular monitoring systems in place. This makes it more difficult to gain reliable baseline data. Isolated 'one off' studies and surveys can be useful but the fact these studies are single snap shots of data should be taken into account when monitoring takes place. Any future work should use similar data collection and analysis methods to ensure that the data can be compared.

## 5 Sustainability Appraisal Stage A3 - Identifying Sustainability Issues and Problems

### Introduction

- 5.1 Identifying the sustainability issues facing Knowsley gives the opportunity to decide what the key issues should be for the Core Strategy. It also helps to identify the sustainability objectives for the plan and a number of options for meeting the objectives.
- 5.2 Knowsley Council has produced an Integrated Appraisal Toolkit based on the Sustainability Appraisal Toolkit developed by the North West Regional Assembly (NWRA). The toolkit aims to assess the economic, social and environmental impacts of policies, projects and development proposals to highlight where improvements can be made to make the initiative more sustainable. The toolkit consists of a series of audit questions covering economic, social and environmental issues. There are also supplementary questions which allow each issue to be assessed in more detail.

<b>Table 5.1 - Integrated Appraisal Toolkit</b>	
<b>Audit Point</b>	<b>Supplementary Questions</b>
<b>Biodiversity and Landscape Enhancement</b>	
Will the core strategy protect, enhance and manage biodiversity, geodiversity and the local character of landscapes and the countryside Knowsley?	Will the core strategy help to protect any designated wildlife sites or landscape areas in Knowsley?
	Will it conserve and enhance wildlife habitats and biodiversity?
	Will it conserve and enhance the character and quality of all landscapes and townscapes?
	Will it improve the amount and quality of, and access to, local green space in Knowsley?
	Will it conserve and enhance geodiversity and sites of geological importance?
	Will the core strategy protect and enhance protected species and habitats and provide opportunities for new habitat creation in Knowsley?
<b>Buildings &amp; Heritage</b>	
Will the initiative protect places of historic, cultural and archaeological value?	Will the initiative protect and sustainably manage designated heritage sites?
	Will the initiative be based on high-quality design that respects local character and enhances local distinctiveness?

<b>Table 5.1 - Integrated Appraisal Toolkit</b>	
<b>Audit Point</b>	<b>Supplementary Questions</b>
	Will the initiative help to reduce the number of vacant buildings, through re-use as well as redevelopment?
<b>Climate Change and Energy</b>	
Will the core strategy develop or deliver local, regional and national policies to tackle climate change?	Will the core strategy help to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions in Knowsley?
	Will the core strategy help to adapt to climate change in Knowsley?
	Will the core strategy address the social and economic, as well as environmental impacts, of energy use in Knowsley?
<b>Sustainable Communities</b>	
Will the core strategy contribute to developing and maintaining sustainable communities in Knowsley?	Will the core strategy enhance the lives of ALL members of communities in Knowsley within its scope?
	Will the core strategy reduce child poverty in the Borough?
	Will the core strategy engage all members of the community in the development and delivery of the project/ programme/ plan?
	Will the core strategy improve and ensure local accessibility of jobs, community goods and services, as well as amenities in Knowsley?
	Will the core strategy reduce crime, disorder and the fear of crime whilst offering opportunities for rehabilitation of offenders?
	Will the core strategy value diversity, improve equity and equality of opportunity in Knowsley? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure fair access to and distribution of resources across the community?</li> <li>• Assess and address the impacts upon diverse communities including cultural, racial, economic, generational, social (including disabilities) and religious mixes?</li> <li>• Promote equality and diversity in the workplace?</li> </ul>

<b>Table 5.1 - Integrated Appraisal Toolkit</b>	
<b>Audit Point</b>	<b>Supplementary Questions</b>
	<p>Will the core strategy develop strong and positive relationships in Knowsley between people from different backgrounds and communities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a sense of belonging and wellbeing for all members of the community?* Support local community and voluntary action and volunteering?</li> <li>• Support community development?</li> <li>• Promote active citizenship?* Preserve and enhance local distinctiveness in both rural and urban areas e.g. local culture, heritage skills and traditions?</li> <li>• Promote cultural diversity and equality by encouraging all sections of the community to become involved?</li> <li>• Facilitate social interactions between communities?</li> </ul>
	<p>Will the core strategy improve access to recreational opportunities and maximise the contribution of arts, culture and sport to the quality of life in Knowsley?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure access to appropriate recreational opportunities for all parts of the community and support where it is needed (disabilities)?</li> <li>• Provide for non-car based recreation?</li> <li>• Increase provision of recreation, leisure and culture opportunities?</li> <li>• Maintain and improve access to open spaces and wildlife sites?</li> <li>• Recognise the importance of developing a sustainable tourism industry and its value to the economy?</li> <li>• Provide accessible and affordable sporting and leisure facilities and opportunities?</li> <li>• Recognise the role that local people can play in delivering complementary activities in rural areas?</li> <li>• Ensure access to appropriate recreational opportunities for all parts of the community and support where it is needed (disabilities)?</li> </ul>

<b>Table 5.1 - Integrated Appraisal Toolkit</b>	
<b>Audit Point</b>	<b>Supplementary Questions</b>
<b>Sustained Economic Growth</b>	
Will the core strategy encourage sustainable economic growth and employment in Knowsley?	Will the core strategy encourage innovation as well as research and development together with knowledge transfer in Knowsley?
	Will the core strategy encourage the formation, survival and growth of sustainable enterprise schemes in Knowsley?
	Will the core strategy make linkages to ensure vacancies are accessible to all communities and locations, especially disadvantaged areas?
<b>Improving Health</b>	
Will the core strategy improve health and/or improve access to health care in Knowsley, particularly deprived areas?	Will the core strategy improve income levels in deprived areas?
	Will the core strategy encourage up-take of exercise opportunities in Knowsley?
	Will the core strategy promote opportunities for gaining knowledge of and achieving a healthier diet?
	Will the core strategy protect mental health and promote wellbeing of communities, particularly those in deprived areas?
<b>Housing Availability</b>	
Will the core strategy improve access to good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing in Knowsley?	Will the core strategy contribute to high quality, well-designed living environments in Knowsley?
	Will the core strategy deliver affordable housing with planned access to local services, amenities and employment?
<b>Local Environmental Quality</b>	
Will the core strategy contribute to the provision of cleaner, safer, greener communities in Knowsley?	Will the core strategy reduce the amount of litter, fly-tipping or graffiti in Knowsley?
	Will the core strategy protect or enhance soils and/or land whilst promoting the re-use or regeneration of previously developed land in Knowsley?
	Will the core strategy protect or improve watercourses in Knowsley?
	Will the core strategy protect or improve Knowsley's air quality?
	Will the core strategy reduce exposure to high noise levels?

<b>Table 5.1 - Integrated Appraisal Toolkit</b>	
<b>Audit Point</b>	<b>Supplementary Questions</b>
<b>Natural Resources</b>	
Will the core strategy encourage sustainable consumption in Knowsley?	Will the core strategy encourage sustainable consumption in Knowsley?
	Will the core strategy promote sustainable production in Knowsley?
<b>Skills and Behaviour</b>	
Will the core strategy bring intermediate or higher level skills into the current workforce or develop skills required to bring people back into the labour market	Will the core strategy support skills development important to growth for key regional sectors?
	Will the core strategy promote the take up of training and/or further education opportunities?
	Will the core strategy promote sustainable living and/or working in Knowsley?
<b>Transport</b>	
Will the core strategy reduce the need to travel or the distances needed to travel?	Will the core strategy encourage walking, cycling and/or travelling by public transport in Knowsley?
	Will the core strategy reduce unnecessary freight movements in Knowsley?
	Will the core strategy reduce traffic congestion in Knowsley?
	Will the core strategy improve road safety for all users in Knowsley?
<b>Waste</b>	
Will the core strategy ensure the sustainable management of waste in Knowsley?	Will the core strategy reduce the generation of hazardous waste in Knowsley?
	Will the core strategy encourage disposal of waste as close to its origin as possible?
	Will the core strategy encourage re-using, recycling and/or recovery?
	Will the core strategy reduce waste generation in Knowsley?

5.3 Table 5.2 identifies the social, economic and environmental issues and problems facing Knowsley. These issues and problems have been identified through reviewing relevant policies, plans and programmes together with the baseline data.

<b>Table 5.2: Sustainability Issues and Problems in Knowsley</b>	
	<b>Policies, Plans Programmes and baseline information.</b>
<b>Social Issues</b>	
<b>Deprivation</b>	Sustainable Development Strategy. UK Sustainable Development Strategy- securing the future. Sustainable Communities Plan. Building for the future. PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Communities. RPG 13. Knowsley MBC Economic Development Plan Baseline data shows that Knowsley is among the most deprived districts in England.
<b>Poor mixture of housing</b>	Sustainable Communities Plan. Building for the future. PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Communities. PPG3 Housing. Regional Planning Guidance 13. Regional Housing Strategy. Knowsley UDP. Knowsley MBC Housing Strategy. Baseline data indicates poor housing mix.
<b>Poor quality of housing</b>	Sustainable Communities Plan. Building for the future. PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Communities. PPG3 Housing. Regional Planning Guidance 13. Regional Housing Strategy. Knowsley UDP. Knowsley MBC Housing Strategy.
<b>Educational achievement</b>	Knowsley MBC Building Schools for the Future programme. Knowsley Replacement UDP (June 2006). Baseline data: Over half of persons aged 16 to 74 have no qualifications (2001 Census).
<b>Health</b>	Investment for Health Action plan for the North West. The North West Plan for Sport and Physical Activity, 2004-2008. Baseline data shows that there are serious health issues particularly those influenced by lifestyle choices.
<b>Crime</b>	Knowsley Community Plan, 2002-2012.

<b>Table 5.2: Sustainability Issues and Problems in Knowsley</b>	
	<b>Policies, Plans Programmes and baseline information.</b>
	Knowsley UDP Knowsley MBC Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2005. General Residents' Survey indicates that nearly half of the respondents do not feel safe in parks and open spaces.
<b>Transport</b>	Merseyside Local Transport Plan, Merseyside local authorities, 2001. PPG13: Transport. PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Communities.
<b>Community facilities</b>	Knowsley Community Plan, 2002-2012. Knowsley MBC Building Schools for the Future programme. PPG17: Planning for Sport, Open Space and Recreation.
<b>Economic Issues</b>	
<b>Unemployment</b>	UK Sustainable Development Strategy- securing the future. Knowsley Community Plan, 2002-2012. Knowsley Replacement UDP (June 2006). Knowsley MBC Economic Development Plan. Unemployment Statistics (NOMIS).
<b>Economic inactivity</b>	Sustainable Communities Plan. Building for the future. Sustainable Development Strategy. Baseline data demonstrates that more of the population are economically inactive than active (2001 Census).
<b>Low income levels</b>	Sustainable Communities Plan. Building for the future. Sustainable Development Strategy. High unemployment and low economic activity lead to low levels of income.
<b>The commercial vitality of shopping areas</b>	PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Communities. PPS6: Planning for Town Centres. Knowsley Replacement UDP (June 2006). The above documents encourage creating vibrant, sustainable communities by supporting local shopping areas.
<b>Environmental Issues</b>	
<b>Built Environment</b>	Sustainable Communities Plan. Building for the



<b>Table 5.2: Sustainability Issues and Problems in Knowsley</b>	
	<b>Policies, Plans Programmes and baseline information.</b>
	<p>future.  PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Communities.  PPS3: Housing.  By Design, Urban Design in the Planning System: Towards a Better Practice.  Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan (June 2006).  Knowsley Guide to Development.  Knowsley MBC Housing Strategy.  Knowsley Community Plan, 2002-2012.  Knowsley MBC Building Schools for the Future programme.  Energy efficiency  The Knowsley Development Guide states that rapid suburban growth during the 1960s and 1970s has resulted in large mono-functional housing estates, some of which present an indistinct monotonous landscape with poor legibility and bland, poorly situated open spaces. It also notes that some of the purpose built shopping parades, constructed in the 1960's, are not sustainable.</p>
<b>Historic Environment</b>	<p>PPG15: Planning and the Historic Environment  PPG16: Archaeology and Planning  The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future  Heritage Protection for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  Heritage Works: The use of historic buildings in regeneration  Merseyside Heritage Investment Strategy  Knowsley MBC Conservation Area Appraisals  Knowsley Guide to Development  Baseline data shows that 4 of the 15 conservation areas in Knowsley are included on the latest Heritage at Risk register.</p>
<b>Quality of, and access to, local open space.</b>	<p>PPG17: Planning for Sport, Open Space and Recreation.  Knowsley Replacement UDP (June 2006).  The North West Plan for Sport and Physical Activity, 2004-2008 Sport England in the North West.  Open Space, Recreation &amp; Sport Needs Assessment and Strategy (PMP, April 2005.)</p>

<b>Table 5.2: Sustainability Issues and Problems in Knowsley</b>	
	<b>Policies, Plans Programmes and baseline information.</b>
	Knowsley has three local standards for public open space, quality, quantity and accessibility. There are areas where provision is either in surplus or deficit. However it is noted that access to areas of natural and semi-natural open space is often poor. The Greenspace Standards and New Development SPD seeks to address each of these standards by directing resources to areas of need'. The Council's General Residents' Survey highlighted the issue of the quality of open space.
<b>Quality of Sites of Biological Interest, Sites of Local Biological Interest, and Sites of Local Geological Interest.</b>	EC Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. Natural Environment and Communities Act (2006) Biodiversity Strategy for England. 2002. PPS9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan.
<b>Conservation and Enhancement of local landscape character and quality</b>	European Landscape Convention PPS7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas The Countryside In and Around Towns Countryside Character Volume 2: North West
<b>Flooding</b>	PPS25: Planning and Flood Risk. Small parts of the Borough fall within the floodplain (Environment Agency flood map). Draft Knowsley and Sefton Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2009)
<b>Amount and type of car use</b>	Merseyside Local Transport Plan 2001. A large proportion of households in Knowsley do not own a car. Economic growth often increases car ownership and the provision of sustainable transport is suggested to counter this trend.
<b>Waste</b>	PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management Merseyside Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, MWDA, 2005 Merseyside Joint Waste Development Plan Document
<b>Climate Change - Mitigation and Adaptation</b>	PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development Knowsley Council has signed up to the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change. Council Climate Change Strategy produced

<b>Table 5.2: Sustainability Issues and Problems in Knowsley</b>	
	<b>Policies, Plans Programmes and baseline information.</b>
	(October 2008). Climate Change Strategy for LSP in development. NI 186 Per capita CO <sub>2</sub> emissions in the local authority area NI 188 Planning to adapt to climate change

## 6 Sustainability Appraisal Stage A4: Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

- 6.1 Using the Council's Integrated Appraisal Toolkit's Audit Points and Supplementary Questions in table 5.1 together with the sustainability issues and problems identified in table 5.2, the Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal objectives were identified.
- 6.2 Table 6.1 shows the Sustainability Appraisal objectives that will be used in determining the sustainability of Core Strategy objectives.

<b>Table 6.1 - Core Strategy SA objectives</b>	
Audit Point	Core Strategy SA objectives
<b>Biodiversity and Landscape Enhancement</b>	
Will the core strategy protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and the local landscape character of Knowsley?	To protect, enhance and manage the local character and accessibility of the landscape and countryside across Knowsley
	To protect, enhance and manage biodiversity, the viability of protected and endangered species, habitats, geodiversity and sites of geological importance
<b>Buildings and Heritage</b>	
Will the core strategy protect places of historic, cultural and archaeological value?	To preserve, enhance and manage Knowsley's rich diversity of cultural, historic and archaeological buildings, areas, sites and features.
<b>Climate Change and Energy</b>	
Will the core strategy develop or deliver local, regional and national policies to tackle climate change?	To adapt to climate change including flood risk
	To mitigate climate change including using energy prudently and efficiently and increasing energy generated from renewable sources.
<b>Sustainable Communities</b>	
Will the core strategy contribute to developing and maintaining sustainable communities in Knowsley?	To reduce poverty and social deprivation and secure economic inclusion
	To improve local accessibility of goods, services and amenities and reduce community severance
	To improve safety and reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime
	To support voluntary and community networks, assist social exclusion and ensure community involvement in decision making.
<b>Sustained Economic Growth</b>	

<b>Table 6.1 - Core Strategy SA objectives</b>	
<b>Audit Point</b>	<b>Core Strategy SA objectives</b>
Will the core strategy encourage sustainable economic growth and employment in Knowsley?	To improve the competitiveness and productivity of business, exploit the growth potential of business sectors and increase the number of new businesses
	To enhance the vitality and viability of town and local centres
	Maintain high and stable levels of employment and reduce long-term unemployment
<b>Improving Health</b>	
Will the core strategy improve health and/or improve access to health care in Knowsley, particularly deprived areas?	To improve health and reduce health inequalities
<b>Housing Availability</b>	
Will the core strategy improve access to good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing in Knowsley?	To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing
<b>Green Infrastructure</b>	
Will the core strategy help contribute to the provision of a range of natural environmental components and green spaces that provide multiple social, economic and environmental benefits?	To provide, conserve, maintain and enhance green infrastructure
<b>Local Environmental Quality</b>	
Will the core strategy contribute to the provision of cleaner, safer, greener communities in Knowsley?	To protect, manage and restore land and soil quality
	To protect, improve and where necessary, restore the quality of inland, and estuarine waters
	To protect, and where necessary, improve local air quality.
<b>Natural Resources</b>	
Will the core strategy encourage sustainable consumption in Knowsley?	To use water and mineral resources prudently and efficiently.
<b>Skills and Behaviour</b>	

<b>Table 6.1 - Core Strategy SA objectives</b>	
<b>Audit Point</b>	<b>Core Strategy SA objectives</b>
Will the core strategy bring intermediate or higher level skills into the current workforce or develop skills required to bring people back into the labour market	To improve educational attainment, training and opportunities for lifelong learning and employability
<b>Transport</b>	
Will the core strategy reduce the need to travel or the distances needed to travel?	To reduce the need to travel and improve choice and use of more sustainable transport modes
<b>Waste</b>	
Will the core strategy ensure the sustainable management of waste in Knowsley?	To minimise the production of waste and increase reuse, recycling and recovery rates.

6.3 The Sustainability Appraisal Framework has been described as a `toolkit' that can assess the sustainability of plans like the Core Strategy. The `toolkit' can be found in table 6.2.

6.4 The `toolkit' includes the following elements:

- Sustainability Appraisal objectives
- Sustainability Appraisal sub-objectives
- Indicators
- Evidence Base
- Targets

### **Sustainability Appraisal Objectives**

6.5 The Core Strategy proposals will be appraised by the Sustainability Appraisal objectives to decide how sustainable the proposals are.

### **Sustainability Appraisal Sub-Objectives and Indicators**

6.6 Sub-objectives have been identified for each Sustainability Appraisal objective. This has been done to assist in determining how the plan objectives are to be achieved and which baseline indicators should be used.

6.7 The sustainability objectives and sub-objectives can be found, together with the indicators, in table 6.2.

<b>Table 6.2 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework</b>					
<b>SA objectives</b>	<b>SA Sub objectives</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Figure</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Source</b>
To protect, enhance and manage the local character and accessibility of the landscape and countryside across Knowsley	To provide the required amount of open space.	Parks and gardens	1.01 ha per 1000 population	0.8 ha per 1000 population	Knowsley Open Space, Recreation and Sport Needs Assessment & Strategy, PMP, 2005  OS3 & OS4
		General Amenity	1.32 ha per 1000 population	0.5 Ha per 1000 population	
		Children's Play	0.02 ha per 1000 population	0.2 Ha per 1000 population	
		Playing pitches and other sporting facilities	1.45 ha per 1000 population	1.85 Ha per 1000 population	
		Allotments	0.02 ha per 1000 population	0.05 Ha per 1000 population	
	To provide open space in accessible locations	Parks and gardens		All residents within 1.2 km (15 minutes walk)	
		General Amenity		All residents within 800m (10 minutes walk)	
		Children's Play		All residents within 800m (10 minutes walk)	

<b>Table 6.2 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework</b>					
<b>SA objectives</b>	<b>SA Sub objectives</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Figure</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Source</b>
		Playing pitches and other sporting facilities		All residents within 6 km (15 minutes by car)	
		Allotments		All residents within 1.6 km (20 minutes walk)	
	To improve the quality of open space.	Allotments		All open space to be good quality.	Open Space, Sport & Recreation Needs Assessment & Strategy. Resident's views.
	Improve the cleanliness of open areas.	% of space that is of a high or acceptable standard of horticultural maintenance	73%	90%	KMBC corporate plan DEOS CO1 and DEOS.
	Increase number of parks with green flag award	Number of parks with green flag award	6		Directorate of Neighbourhood Services
To protect, enhance and manage biodiversity, the viability of protected species, habitats,	To conserve and enhance the natural environment, including	Number and area (ha) of Local Wildlife Sites (Sites of Biological Interest)	64		AMR 2007



<b>Table 6.2 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework</b>					
<b>SA objectives</b>	<b>SA Sub objectives</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Figure</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Source</b>
geodiversity and sites of geological importance	species and habitat diversity.	Progress against Biodiversity Action Plan targets	4		Replacement UDP, 2006
		NI 197 'No of local sites in active conservation management'			?
	To improve the delivery of the biodiversity targets as shown in the Ecological Framework	Number and area (ha) of Local Nature Reserves	1		Replacement UDP, 2006
		Number of Sites of Local Geological Interest	4		
		Area (ha) of new habitats created			
To preserve, enhance and manage Knowsley's rich diversity of cultural, historic and archaeological buildings, areas, sites and features.		Number of listed buildings on the Heritage at Risk Register	0		Knowsley MBC – Forward Planning section
		Number of conservation areas with current character appraisals	15		Knowsley MBC – Forward Planning section

<b>Table 6.2 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework</b>					
<b>SA objectives</b>	<b>SA Sub objectives</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Figure</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Source</b>
		Number of conservation areas with management plans.	0	To produce a management plan for each conservation area.	Knowsley MBC – Forward Planning section
		Number of Conservation Areas on the Heritage at Risk register	4	0	Knowsley MBC – Forward Planning section
		Number of Historic Parks and Gardens on the Heritage at Risk register	0	0	Knowsley MBC – Forward Planning section
To adapt to climate change including flood risk	To reduce flood risk	Number of planning permission proceeding against EA advice to refuse on flood risk grounds	0	0	Environment Agency
		Percentage of new developments containing SuDS		100%	
		NI 188 Planning to adapt to climate change	Level 0	Level 4	Knowsley MBC Environmental Sustainability
To mitigate climate change including using energy prudently and efficiently	Reduce CO2 emissions	NI 186 Per capita CO2 emissions	7.5 Tonnes (2005)	10.1% reduction from 2005 baseline by 2011	Knowsley MBC Environmental Sustainability

Table 6.2 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework					
SA objectives	SA Sub objectives	Indicator	Baseline Figure	Target	Source
and increasing energy generated from renewable sources					
To reduce poverty and social deprivation and secure economic inclusion		District Earnings	£22,226		Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings - resident analysis
	To improve the overall IMD rating of Borough	Borough ranking	Rank out 354 local authorities Average Rank 8 Extent 8 Local Concentration 2 Income Scale 50 Employment Scale 45 Rank of SOA 5	To improve the overall IMD rating of Borough	Index of Multiple Deprivation.
	To reduce the percentage of lower level Super Output Areas that are in the top 10% most deprived in England.	Lower SOA ranking	47.5%		Index of Multiple Deprivation.
	Reduction in proportion of children living in poverty	Proportion of children in poverty (NI 16)	34.3%	29% by 2011	Chief Executive's Directorate
		% children living in workless households			
			No. %		

<b>Table 6.2 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework</b>					
<b>SA objectives</b>	<b>SA Sub objectives</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Figure</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Source</b>
	To improve health, reducing long term illness.		37,103      24.7	To decrease the % of those who are long term ill.	
	Economic Activity.	Overall employment rate (NI 151)	65.7%	71.0% by 2011	Chief Executive's Directorate
To improve local accessibility of goods, services and amenities and reduce community severance	To improve community facilities.	The amount of new or renovated facilities.	-	To create or renovate facilities.	
To improve safety and reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime	To improve road safety	Numbers of people killed/seriously injured in traffic accidents (NI 47)	53 per annum (2007)		Knowsley Transport Section
		Numbers of children killed/seriously injured in traffic accidents (NI 48)	9 per annum (2007)		Knowsley Transport Section
	To reduce crime and the fear of crime.	Domestic burglaries per 1,000 dwellings	5 (2006/7)	To reduce crime and the fear of crime.	Mott MacDonald MIS.
		Serious violent crime rate per 1000 population (NI 15)	13.0 (2006/7)	Reduction of 7% by 2011	Mott MacDonald MIS.

<b>Table 6.2 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework</b>					
<b>SA objectives</b>	<b>SA Sub objectives</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Figure</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Source</b>
		Theft of a vehicle per 1000 population.	5 (2006/7)		Mott MacDonald MIS.
		% of residents surveyed who say that they feel fairly safe or very safe outside during the day.	95.8%		Audit commission / Place Survey
		% of residents surveyed who say that they feel fairly safe or very safe outside after dark.	62.7%	To reduce crime and the fear of crime.	Audit commission / Place Survey
To improve the competitiveness and productivity of business, exploit the growth potential of business sectors and increase the number of new businesses	To increase local and new businesses	Number of VAT registrations	205 per annum	Net increase of 233 registrations per year.	Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform
		Number of VAT de-registrations	165 per annum		Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform
	Increase industrial/commercial	Amount of floorspace developed for employment purposes	Floorspace sq.m. B1(a) 8130 B1(b) 0 B1(c) 0 B2 2054 B8 44233		

<b>Table 6.2 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework</b>					
<b>SA objectives</b>	<b>SA Sub objectives</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Figure</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Source</b>
To enhance the vitality and viability of town and local centres	Increase the vitality of shopping areas	Amount of floorspace developed for retail use	0		Annual Monitoring Report
		Number of vacant shops			
	To improve community facilities.	Amount of new or renovated facilities		To create or renovate facilities	
Maintain high and stable levels of employment and reduce long-term unemployment	To reduce unemployment.	Working age people on out of work benefits (NI 153)	35.2%	31.0% by 2011	Chief Executive's Directorate
		Number of persons claiming job seekers allowance for twelve months or more.	555 (February 2009)		NOMIS
To improve health and reduce health inequalities	To increase life expectancy	Life expectancy of males	74.9 years		Public Health Annual Report
		Life expectancy of females	79.2 years		Public Health Annual Report
	To reduce mortality rate	All age all cause mortality (males) (NI 120)	905	801 by 2011	Chief Executive's Directorate
	All age all cause mortality (females) (NI 120)	645	558 by 2011		

Table 6.2 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework																																
SA objectives	SA Sub objectives	Indicator	Baseline Figure	Target	Source																											
		Mortality rate from all circulatory diseases at ages under 75 (NI 121)	119	98 by 2011																												
	To reduce levels of obesity	Levels of obesity	21.6%		Public Health Annual Report																											
		Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6 (NI 56)	21%	20%.	Chief Executive's Directorate																											
		Children and young people's participation in high-quality PE and sport. (NI 57)			To be set in Local Area Agreement.																											
To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing	Provide a wider choice of accommodation creating a greater mix of tenure.	Dwelling stock by council tax band.	Total dwellings 62,783 <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Band</th> <th>No.</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>37911</td> <td>60.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>11793</td> <td>18.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>8122</td> <td>12.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D</td> <td>3221</td> <td>5.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>1368</td> <td>2.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F</td> <td>236</td> <td>0.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G</td> <td>113</td> <td>0.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H</td> <td>17</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Band	No.	%	A	37911	60.4	B	11793	18.8	C	8122	12.9	D	3221	5.1	E	1368	2.2	F	236	0.4	G	113	0.2	H	17	0.0		Valuation Office Agency Data.
		Band	No.	%																												
A	37911	60.4																														
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F	236	0.4																														
G	113	0.2																														
H	17	0.0																														
		Net additional homes provided. (NI 154)		600	Annual Monitoring Report																											

Table 6.2 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework						
SA objectives	SA Sub objectives	Indicator	Baseline Figure		Target	Source
		Number of affordable homes delivered (gross) (NI155)	37		259 by 2011	Directorate of Regeneration, Economy and Skills
		Tenure type	Total dwellings 60,553			National Statistics: Tenure Households (UV63).
			Number	%		
		Owned houses	37,372	61.7		
		Social rented	19,089	31.5		
		Private rented	2,558	4.2		
		Other	1,534	2.5		
	To increase the quality of housing by improving housing amenities.	Amenities	Total dwellings 60,553			National Statistics Dataset: Amenities (UV60).
			No.	%		
		Central heated	46,209	76.3		
		Without CH	14,344	23.7		
	To minimise resource and energy use when developing housing and the energy efficiency of housing.	Percentage of non-decent council homes (NI 158)			100% of new social housing must be 'decent' by 2010.	
		Percentage of new homes meeting Building for Life Assessments Good / Very Good.			100% of new properties	



<b>Table 6.2 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework</b>					
<b>SA objectives</b>	<b>SA Sub objectives</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Figure</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Source</b>
		Percentage of new affordable / public homes achieving a level 3 or more code rating under the Code for Sustainable Homes.		100% of new properties	
To provide, conserve, maintain and enhance green infrastructure	To improve size of the green infrastructure network	Percentage change in the green infrastructure network			Knowsley MBC – Forward Planning
To protect, manage and restore land and soil quality	To reduce derelict land.	Amount of PDL that is derelict.	40.7%	To assist in reducing the amount of PDL that is derelict.	
	To build new homes on previously developed land	New build on PDL.		65%	Knowsley MBC – Forward Planning
	Contaminated Land	Amount of contaminated land			Environmental Health
To protect, improve and where necessary, restore the quality of inland, and estuarine waters	Increase length of rivers in “Good” or “Fair” biological condition	Percentage of rivers in “Good” or “Fair” biological condition	50.1%	100% good	Environment Agency

<b>Table 6.2 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework</b>						
<b>SA objectives</b>	<b>SA Sub objectives</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Figure</b>		<b>Target</b>	<b>Source</b>
	Increase length of rivers in “Good” or “Fair” chemical condition	Percentage of rivers in “Good” or “Fair” chemical condition	64.9%		100% good	Environment Agency
To protect, and where necessary, improve local air quality.		Number and total area of Air Quality Management Areas and population living in AQMAs	0		0	
To use water and mineral resources prudently and efficiently.		Daily domestic water use (per capita consumption, litres)	148 litres			Audit Commission
		Use of mineral aggregates and proportion of primary aggregates used				
To improve educational attainment,	To increase educational achievement.	Residents with no qualifications	No. 23,600	% 26.6		NOMIS

Table 6.2 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework						
SA objectives	SA Sub objectives	Indicator	Baseline Figure		Target	Source
training and opportunities for lifelong learning and employability		Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths (NI 75)	29.7%		40% by 2011	Dept for Children, Schools, and Families.
		Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19 (NI 80)	32%		36% by 2011	Dept for Children, Schools, and Families.
		Working age population qualified to at least Level 2 or higher (NI 163)	54.2%		63.5% by 2011	Dept for Children, Schools, and Families.
To reduce the need to travel and improve choice and use of more sustainable transport modes	To encourage sustainable transport use.	Method of travel to work	No.	%	To maintain or increase the % of those using alternative methods of transport other than car.	ONS: Travel to Work
		Work at home	2,966	5.5		
		Metro or tram	108	0.2		
		Train	2,204	4.1		
		Bus	7,200	13.2		
		Taxi	1,055	1.9		
		Driving	29,320	53.9		
		Passenger	4,886	9.0		
		Motorbike	417	0.8		
		Bike	904	1.7		
		On foot	5,037	9.3		
		Total	54,351	100.0		
		Car ownership	All households 60,548			Office for

<b>Table 6.2 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework</b>						
<b>SA objectives</b>	<b>SA Sub objectives</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Figure</b>		<b>Target</b>	<b>Source</b>
		No car or van	No. 25,287	% 41.8		National Statistics
		1 Car	24,745	40.9		
		2 Cars	8,946	14.8		
		3 Cars	1,274	2.1		
		4 Cars	296	0.5		
To minimise the production of waste and increase reuse, recycling and recovery rates.		Household waste recycled and composted (NI 192)	11909 Tonnes	17%	35% by 2011	
		Household waste arisings which have been used to recover heat, power and other energy sources.	0	0%		
		Household waste arisings which have been landfilled.	58,102 Tonnes	83%		

### **Appraisal and Monitoring**

- 6.8 The baseline situation provides an analysis of the social, environmental and economic conditions of the Borough and acts as the benchmark with which to inform and appraise individual Core Strategy options and provide a mechanism with which to measure the success of the Core Strategy overall.
- 6.9 The baseline data provides a database that will act as an appraisal mechanism of current and future social, environmental and economic condition of the Borough.
- 6.10 The information contained within the baseline has been collected and collated from a number of sources that include:

- National, regional and local planning and regeneration guidance and strategies;
  - Information and statistics from service areas within Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council;
  - Authorities with environmental responsibility; and
  - National, regional, local and statistics from the Office of National Statistics.
- 6.11 The source for each piece of baseline data is given in the far right column of the Framework. Further work will be undertaken on the baseline as part of the Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment process.

### **Options appraisal against Sustainability Appraisal objectives**

- 6.12 Likely issues for inclusion in the Core Strategy are currently emerging from relevant policies, plans, and programmes, together with their baseline information. It is considered useful to include in this report these probable key issues as they currently stand. They are:
- Regeneration priority areas - Where should the future regeneration priority areas be? What should the priorities be within these areas? What should be the phasing of development within the currently identified Action Areas?
  - Town centres - What should be the scale and role of the town centres compared to each other and other centres in the Liverpool City Region? What should the vision be for each of the townships?
  - Is additional land for retail or other town centre uses needed? Is there a need for more residential uses in town centres?
  - What is the role of local shopping parades? Are all of them needed or can they be rationalised?
  - Green Belts - Can Knowsley meet all its development needs (for housing, economic development, etc.) through to 2025 without encroaching into the Green Belt? If not, when will new development need to take place in the Green Belt and where?
  - Where should the priorities be for locating new housing development? Should there be an affordable housing policy and if so how should this operate?
  - Is additional land needed for employment development of all types? Is there a case for expansion of industrial estates or rely increasingly on provision in adjacent boroughs?
  - What key transport infrastructure projects should be shown in our LDF? Should the Merseytram system be shown?
  - What are the key environmental assets of Knowsley and how should the LDF help enhance them?
  - How should the Core Strategy ensure that greenspace and the natural and semi-natural environment should be conserved and enhanced?

- How should the Core Strategy ensure that built heritage is conserved and enhanced?
  - What new policies are needed to tackle climate change? Should sustainable homes standards be enforced? Should the requirement of 10% of the energy needs coming from renewable sources be increased for major developments? How can renewable energy projects in the Borough be encouraged?
- 6.12 The finalised issues will be articulated in the Sustainability Appraisal report together with options for addressing the issues. Each option will be appraised against the Sustainability Appraisal objectives. Impacts on the sustainability objectives will be scored. Positive, negative, neutral and uncertain contributions to the sustainability objectives will be noted.

## Appendix 1 - Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)

Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)		
Plans / Policies and Programmes	Key Objectives	Implications for Core Strategy
<b>EU</b>		
European Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. European Union, 1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conserve flora and fauna of EU importance.</li> <li>• Establish a network of protected areas to maintain distribution and abundance of threatened species and habitats.</li> </ul>	To identify and conserve relevant habitats and species.
Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice: The Sixth Environment Action Programme of the European Community European Union, 2002	<p>Gives strategic direction to the commission's environmental policy and identifies four environmental priority areas for action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change;</li> <li>• Nature and Biodiversity;</li> <li>• Environment and Health and quality of life; and</li> <li>• Natural Resources and Waste.</li> </ul>	It sets the priorities for sustainable development and the priority areas for action.
Sustainable Development Strategy EU, May 2001.	<p>The strategy identifies unsustainable trends on which action needs to be taken. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limit climate change and increase the use of clean energy.</li> <li>• Improve public health while combating poverty and social exclusion.</li> <li>• Deal with economic and social implications of an ageing society.</li> <li>• Manage our natural resources responsibly.</li> <li>• Improve the transport system and land use management.</li> </ul>	Emphasises that action to promote sustainable development must be taken by all at all levels.
European Council Directive 2000/60/EC- Integrated river basin management for Europe	<p>A single system of water management by river basin. Protection of aquatic ecology, specific protection of unique and valuable habitats, protection of drinking water resources, and protection of bathing water.</p> <p>A general requirement for ecological protection, and a general minimum chemical standard, introduced to cover all surface waters".</p>	To take a holistic approach to water management, preventing deterioration of aquatic ecology and restoration of surface and ground waters to good status.

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Core Strategy</b>
European Council Directive 75/442/EEC on waste	To ensure that all necessary measures will be taken so that waste is recovered or disposed of without endangering human health and without using processes / methods which could harm the environment.	To ensure that waste material is recovered or disposed of in an appropriate manner.
Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC	To establish a framework for the protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater, in order to prevent and reduce pollution, promote sustainable water use, protect the aquatic environment, improve the status of aquatic ecosystems and mitigate the effects of floods and droughts.	The Core Strategy should minimise the risk of pollution and damage to surface and ground waters through careful location of infrastructure, roads and new development. It should also mitigate the effects of floods and droughts and seek to restore surface waters and groundwaters to "good status".
European Landscape Convention	Provides a basis for recognising the importance of landscapes and sharing experience across Europe. The Convention aims to promote the protection, management and planning of all landscapes, including natural, managed and urban landscapes. It requires landscape to be integrated into town planning, cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policies.	Need to adopt policies and measures for protecting, managing and planning landscapes.
European Spatial Development Perspective	The overarching spatial development principles are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The development of a balanced and polycentric urban system and a new urban-rural relationship;</li> <li>▪ Securing parity of access to infrastructure and knowledge; and</li> <li>▪ Sustainable development, prudent management and the protection of the natural and cultural heritage</li> </ul>	Sustainable development, prudent management and protection of nature and cultural heritage is seen as key environmental objectives for promoting sustainable development.
<b>National</b>		
Securing the future - delivering UK sustainable development strategy. Defra 2005	Has five guiding principles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living within environmental limits;</li> <li>• Ensuring a strong healthy just society;</li> <li>• Achieving a sustainable economy;</li> <li>• Promoting good governance; and</li> <li>• Using sound science responsibly.</li> </ul> Four shared priorities:	For the guiding principles to shape policy at a local level and the priorities to be reflected in the appraisal.



<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Core Strategy</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable consumption and production;</li> <li>• Climate change and energy;</li> <li>• Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement; and</li> <li>• Sustainable communities.</li> </ul>	
Sustainable Communities Plan. Building for the future. ODPM 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure tenants have decent homes to live in;</li> <li>• To ensure communities have a clean safe attractive environment to live in;</li> <li>• Focus on bringing back to life areas of low demand and abandoned houses;</li> <li>• Housing to be addressed by local partnerships;</li> <li>• Encourage environmental enhancement; and</li> <li>• Encourage restoration and enhancement of brown field land and green space networks.</li> <li>• A flourishing local economy that provides jobs and wealth;</li> <li>• Good quality local public services, including education and training opportunities, health care and community facilities, especially for leisure;</li> <li>• A good public transport and other transport infrastructure;</li> </ul>	Creating a sustainable community involves considering more than just housing: It is also about creating; safe, clean, green areas that local people can feel proud of. It includes education, training, and employment.
Biodiversity Strategy for England. Defra 2002.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure biodiversity considered in all main sectors of public policy;</li> <li>• Sets out a programme for the next five years to enhance nature and ecosystems; and,</li> <li>• Sets targets at a local level through Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitats and species plans.</li> </ul>	BAP habitat and species plans to inform indicators for biodiversity.
Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) 1981	This Act is the principle legislative mechanism for the protection of wildlife in Great Britain. It requires any land that is identified as being of special interest by reason of any of its flora, fauna, geological or physiographical features to be afforded certain protection against damaging measures. The Act makes it an offence to kill or injure a range of species and contains measures for preventing the establishment of non-native species which may	Core Strategy will need to enhance biodiversity and landscape. Special protection should be provided to areas designated for their nature conservation value and protected species.

Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)		
Plans / Policies and Programmes	Key Objectives	Implications for Core Strategy
	<p>be detrimental to non-native wildlife. The Act is divided into four parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part I is concerned with the protection of wildlife;</li> <li>• Part II relates to the countryside and national parks (and the designation of protected areas);</li> <li>• Part III covers Public Rights of Way; and</li> <li>• Part IV deals with miscellaneous provisions of the Act.</li> </ul>	
Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW)	<p>The Act seeks to provide increased public access on foot to areas of open land. It encourages the creation of new access routes and the clarification of uncertainties about existing routes. The Act places a duty of public bodies to further the conservation and enhancement of SSSIs and strengthens the legal protection for endangered species.</p> <p>In addition, it requires local highway authorities to prepare Public Rights of Way Improvement Plans for their areas.</p>	Core Strategy should seek to ensure improved access to open space and countryside, where this is consistent with maintaining and enhancing biodiversity.
PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Communities, ODPM, 2005	<p>Sets out the Government's overarching policies on the delivery of sustainable development through the planning system. Planning should facilitate and promote sustainable and inclusive patterns of urban and rural development by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making suitable land available for development in line with economic, social and environmental objectives;</li> <li>• Contributing to sustainable economic development;</li> <li>• Protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment, the quality and character of the countryside, and existing communities;</li> <li>• Ensuring high quality development through good and inclusive design; and</li> <li>• Ensuring that development supports existing communities and contributes to the creation of safe, sustainable, liveable and mixed communities with good access to jobs and key services for all members of the community.</li> </ul>	<p>Forms the basis for creating sustainable communities.</p> <p>Need to ensure Core Strategy delivers high quality design, in appropriate locations, which respects its context and is helps meets the needs of communities.</p>

Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)		
Plans / Policies and Programmes	Key Objectives	Implications for Core Strategy
	<p>PPS1 emphasises the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve community facilities;</li> <li>• Deliver high quality and safe development;</li> <li>• Deliver well integrated mixed use developments;</li> <li>• Focus development in accessible locations;</li> <li>• Increase vitality and viability through promoting existing centres of commerce;</li> <li>• Reduce social inequalities;</li> <li>• Support the promotion of health and well being by making provision for physical activity;</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the historic environment and landscape and townscape character; and</li> <li>• Promote design that is appropriate to its context.</li> </ul>	
<p>Planning and Climate Change - Supplement to PPS1, DCLG, 2007</p>	<p>Sets out how planning, in providing for the new homes, jobs and infrastructure, should help shape places with lower carbon emissions and which are resilient to the climate change. It emphasises that spatial strategies should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secure the highest viable resource and energy efficiency in new developments;</li> <li>• Deliver patterns of urban growth and sustainable rural developments that help secure the fullest possible use of sustainable transport and reduce the need to travel, especially by car;</li> <li>• Secure new development and shape places that minimise vulnerability, and provide resilience, to climate change;</li> <li>• Conserve and enhance biodiversity; and</li> <li>• Encourage competitiveness and technological innovation in mitigating and adapting to climate change.</li> </ul>	<p>Core Strategy should seek to ensure that new development does not contribute to climate change and helps Knowsley adapt to the consequences of climate change.</p> <p>Seek to deliver patterns of development that help secure the fullest possible use of sustainable transport.</p>
<p>PPG2: Green Belts</p>	<p>Aims to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open. Objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide access to the open countryside for people living in</li> </ul>	<p>Core Strategy key diagram will need to include the Green Belt designation.</p>

Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)		
Plans / Policies and Programmes	Key Objectives	Implications for Core Strategy
	<p>urban areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation</li> <li>• near urban areas</li> <li>• Retain attractive landscapes and enhance landscape close to where people live</li> <li>• Improve damaged and derelict land around towns contributing to urban regeneration</li> <li>• Protect and enhance nature conservation resource</li> <li>• Retain land in agriculture, and forestry uses.</li> </ul>	
PPS3: Housing, ODPM, 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritise the use of previously developed land;</li> <li>• Meet the housing needs of the whole community;</li> <li>• Provide choice through mix of type and tenure;</li> <li>• Encourage a good density of housing; and</li> <li>• Encourage development near transport links.</li> </ul>	To ensure that the right mix and density of housing is provided.
Draft PPS4: Planning for Sustainable Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise productivity of the economy;</li> <li>• Maximise job opportunities for all</li> <li>• Improve the economic performance of all English regions and reduce the gap in economic growth rates between regions;</li> <li>• Deliver sustainable development;</li> <li>• Build prosperous communities by promoting regeneration and tackling deprivation.</li> </ul>	<p>Plan to encourage economic growth by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing a good range of sites identified for economic development and mixed-use development;</li> <li>• Providing a good supply of land and buildings which offers a range of opportunities for creating new jobs in large and small businesses as well as start-up firms;</li> <li>• Avoiding adverse impacts on the environment, but where these are unavoidable, providing mitigation; and</li> <li>• Shaping travel demand by promoting sustainable travel choices wherever possible.</li> </ul>
PPS6: Planning for Town Centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Locate retail, leisure and employment uses in accordance with the sequential test, giving priority first to existing centres, then edge of centre sites, then out of centre sites</li> </ul>	Ensure that retailing, leisure, employment and community facilities are located in accessible locations

Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet the retailing, leisure and employment needs of the whole community;</li> </ul>	
PPS7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas, ODPM, 2004.	<p>PPS7 sets out the policies on sustainable development in rural areas. Its objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas;</li> <li>To promote more sustainable patterns of development in rural areas;</li> <li>To promote sustainable, diverse and adaptable agricultural sectors;</li> <li>To secure environmental improvements to the countryside around urban areas, maximise beneficial use of this land and improve public access; and</li> <li>To support countryside-based enterprises, including, where appropriate, farm diversification schemes and activities that contribute to the rural economy, such as tourism, leisure and recreation.</li> </ul>	<p>Core Strategy should seek to promote sustainable development and sustainable communities in rural areas. It should also recognise the importance of the countryside as an important natural resource and provide support for rural enterprises, including appropriate farm diversification, sustainable recreation and tourism.</p> <p>Secure environmental improvements to countryside around urban areas and improve public access to this land.</p>
PPS9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation, ODPM, 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To integrate biodiversity and geodiversity with other considerations;</li> <li>Conserve, restore and enhance diversity;</li> <li>Policies on the form and location of development should take a strategic approach to the conservation, enhancement and restoration of biodiversity and geology, and recognise the contributions that sites, areas and features, both individually and in combination, make to conserving these resources;</li> <li>Promote opportunities for the incorporation of beneficial biodiversity and geological features within the design of development;</li> <li>Maintain networks of natural habitats by avoiding or repairing fragmentation and isolation; and</li> <li>Recognise the wider benefits of both social and economic biodiversity.</li> </ul>	<p>Take into account the benefits of biodiversity for building a sense of well being in the community.</p> <p>Recognise the importance of maintaining and enhancing a network of green infrastructure.</p>
Planning for Biodiversity and Geological Conservation: A Guide to Good Practice,	Provides complimentary guidance on the application of PPS9. It emphasises:	Take into account the benefits of biodiversity for building a sense of well

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<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Core Strategy</b>
ODPM, 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need for an up-to-date evidence base on the environmental characteristics of the area, including information on geodiversity issues;</li> <li>• The need to embrace an integrated approach to biodiversity and geological conservation by adopting a spatial planning approach to biodiversity and geological Conservation and ensuring that all policies and allocations are consistent with the strategic objectives for biodiversity and geological conservation;</li> <li>• The need to provide criteria-based policies that address biodiversity and geological conservation; and</li> <li>• The importance of considering how local nature conservation sites can be protected and enhanced.</li> </ul>	<p>being in the community.</p> <p>Ensure Core Strategy is based upon a robust understanding of Knowsley's biodiversity and geodiversity.</p>
PPS 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management, ODPM, 2005	To protect human health and the environment by producing less waste and by using it as a resource wherever possible. Through more sustainable waste management, moving the management of waste up the 'waste hierarchy' of reduction, reuse, recycling and composting, using waste as a source of energy <sup>5</sup> , and only disposing as a last resort.	More sustainable waste management, moving the management of waste up the 'waste hierarchy' of reduction, reuse, recycling and composting, using waste as a source of energy, and only disposing as a last resort.
Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Spatial Planning, DCLG, 2008	It sets out what the key ingredients of local spatial plans are and the key government policies on how they should be prepared.	Ensure plan fully integrates SA and SEA in line with the directive.
PPG13: Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide more sustainable transport choice; and</li> <li>• Promote accessibility to amenities through public transport walking and cycling.</li> </ul>	Develop policies that support sustainable transport through the reduction in the need to travel by car.
PPG 15: Planning and the Historic Environment	Lays out Government policies for the identification and protection of historic buildings, conservation areas, and other elements of the historic environment.	Ensure that new development protects or enhances conservation areas and listed buildings, and that the setting for adjoining conservation areas is protected.
PPG 16: Archaeology and Planning	Sets out the Government's policy on archaeological remains on land and how they should be preserved or recorded both in an urban setting and in the countryside.	Investigation should be undertaken prior to commencement of development.
PPG17: Planning for Sport, Open Space	Emphasises the importance of open space and sports and	Recognise the contribution open space

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and Recreation, ODPM, 2002.	<p>recreational facilities for improving quality of life, supporting urban renewal and promoting social inclusion and cohesion. The guidance therefore emphasises the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid any erosion of recreational function and maintain or enhance the character of open spaces;</li> <li>• Ensure that open spaces do not suffer from increased overlooking, traffic flows or other encroachment;</li> <li>• Protect and enhance those parts of the rights of way network that might benefit open space; and</li> <li>• Consider the impact of any development on biodiversity and nature conservation.</li> </ul> <p>New areas of open space, sports and recreational facilities should, inter alia, be accessible by walking, cycling and public transport; add to and enhance the range and quality of existing facilities; improve the quality of the public realm through good design; avoid any significant loss of amenity to residents, neighbouring uses or biodiversity; and meet the regeneration needs of areas, using brownfield in preference to greenfield sites.</p>	and sport has to urban renaissance, rural renewal, social inclusion, community cohesion, health and wellbeing and sustainable development.
PPS22: Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target to generate 10% of all electricity by 2010 and 20% by 2020.</li> <li>• Develop renewable energy from renewable resources alongside improving energy efficiency of development.</li> <li>• Encourage small scale on site renewable energy production where viable.</li> </ul>	Ensure renewable energy objectives and targets are included within LDDs and SA. Erection of energy efficient houses and other buildings.
PPS23: Planning and Pollution Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air Quality;</li> <li>• Protecting the water environment;</li> <li>• Water Quality; and</li> <li>• Carbon dioxide emissions.</li> </ul>	The Core Strategy will set out the criteria against which applications for potentially polluting developments will be considered. Pollution should be minimised.
PPG24: Planning and Noise	Provide for separation of noise-sensitive development from major sources of noise.	The sensitivity of development in relation to noise should be taken into account.

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<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Core Strategy</b>
PPS25: Planning and Flood Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the vulnerability of the country to the risk of flooding;</li> <li>• Guide development away from areas of flood risk; and</li> <li>• The use of a Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) is promoted.</li> </ul>	The plan should make provision for a Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS). Development should be guided away from areas at risk from flooding and not increase the risk of flooding. Development will require a flood risk assessment to be undertaken prior to a planning application being submitted.
Code for Sustainable Homes	Introduced to drive a step-change in sustainable home building practice. It is a standard for key elements of design and construction which affect the sustainability of a new home.	It will become the single national standard for sustainable homes, used by home designers and builders as a guide to development.
Circular 01/06 Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites	Everyone should have an opportunity of living in a decent home, and gypsy and traveller communities should have the same rights and responsibilities as every other citizen.	Policies should take into account the needs of gypsy and traveller communities.
Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006	<p>Section 40 of the Act states that:  “Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity”.</p> <p>The aim of the duty is to raise the profile of biodiversity across the public sector to ensure that it becomes a natural consideration in all relevant policies and decisions.</p>	The SA should inform the Core Strategy of the effect that proposed development may have on biodiversity. The SA will need to take account of “Guidance for Local Authorities on Implementing the Biodiversity Duty” (Defra 2007).
The Conservation (Natural Habitats & C.) Regulations, 2004	These Regulations provide for the designation and protection of European sites and the protection of European protected species.	Policies should take into account the need to protect European protected species.
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990	Protect and conserve the historic environment, manage change in historic areas, and protect locally important features and local heritage for future generations.	Ensure that new development protects or enhances conservation areas and listed buildings, and that the setting for adjoining conservation areas is protected.
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979	Protect existing archaeology and enable protection of prospective archaeological sites.	Investigation should be undertaken prior to commencement of development.
The Historic Environment: A Force for Our	Sets out how the historic environment holds the key to:	Ensure that the economic and educational



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<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Core Strategy</b>
Future, Department of Culture, Media and Sport, 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An inspiring education resource</li> <li>• More attractive towns and cities</li> <li>• A prosperous and sustainable countryside</li> <li>• World class tourist attractions</li> <li>• New jobs</li> </ul>	potential of historic resources is recognised.
Heritage Protection for the 21st Century, a joint England and Wales White Paper	Sets out a vision of a unified and simpler heritage protection system, which will have more opportunities for public involvement and community engagement.	Improve the heritage protection system by raising the profile of the historic environment.
Accessible Natural Green Space Standards in Towns and Cities: A Review and Toolkit for their Implementation: English Nature Research Reports Report Number 526, 2003	Sets out recommendations for access to green space as well as a method for approaching provision through assessment, analysis and response.	Need to take into account of the health and natural environment implications of future open space development.
By All Reasonable Means: Inclusive access to the outdoors for disabled people, Countryside Agency, 2005.	This guidance seeks to improve the accessibility of sites, routes and facilities in the countryside. Accessibility should be considered in the widest sense, including physical, sensory or intellectual impairments and mental health problems.	Core Strategy should seek to improve access to the countryside for all members of the community.
The Countryside In and Around Towns – A Vision for Connecting Town and County in Pursuit of Sustainable Development, Countryside Agency and Groundwork, 2005	<p>This guidance recognises that urban and rural renewal can be underpinned by strengthening the environmental, social, economic and physical links between town and country. Well-managed and accessible countryside is key to achieving this. It is noted that the countryside in and around towns can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be made more readily accessible to most people;</li> <li>• contribute towards health, wealth and well-being;</li> <li>• underpin more sustainable living; and</li> <li>• strengthen biodiversity in both town and country.</li> </ul> <p>The need to respects local character and distinctiveness is emphasised.</p>	Need to take into account the importance of improving access to the countryside
Guidance for Local Authorities on Implementing the Biodiversity Duty, Defra, 2007.	The guidance emphasises that all local authorities in England and Wales now have a duty to have regard to the conservation of biodiversity in exercising their functions.	Take into account the benefits of biodiversity for building a sense of well being in the community.

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<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Core Strategy</b>
	<p>Conservation of biodiversity is seen as vital in our response to climate change. Biodiversity also provides substantial economic, local and environmental benefits to local communities. It is emphasised that biodiversity should be conserved in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• tackle climate change;</li> <li>• sustain local economies;</li> <li>• contribute to health and well being;</li> <li>• protect our cultural heritage and identity; and</li> <li>• provide us with essential products and materials.</li> </ul> <p>Incorporating green infrastructure into development plans will help deliver many of the social, economic and environmental benefits required for sustainable communities.</p>	<p>Ensure Core Strategy is based upon a robust understanding of biodiversity in Knowsley.</p>
Biodiversity by Design, TCPA, 2004	<p>Increasing the network of green infrastructure and building biodiversity into developments should be pursued in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide a carbon sink;</li> <li>• attenuate noise and filter air pollution;</li> <li>• provide microclimate control;</li> <li>• flood prevention;</li> <li>• improve health and well-being;</li> <li>• encourage social interaction and cohesion; and</li> <li>• improve the image of neighbourhoods.</li> </ul> <p>Masterplans can enable new green infrastructure to be designed to realise the social, economic and environmental benefits of biodiversity.</p>	<p>Recognise the importance of maintaining and enhancing a network of green infrastructure and building biodiversity into new developments.</p>
Green Infrastructure Guidance, Natural England, 2009	<p>This guidance promotes the contribution of green infrastructure to 'place making'.</p> <p>Green infrastructure networks should be established to help achieve a range of economic, social and environmental policy priorities.</p>	<p>Core Strategy should recognise that green infrastructure can help contribute to a sense of place and improve neighbourhood quality.</p> <p>Green infrastructure can also deliver a range of economic, social and</p>

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	Green infrastructure should be retrofitted into urban environments through green roofs, green walls, swales and new tree planting.	environmental objectives.
Climate Change and Biodiversity Adaptation: the role of the spatial planning system, Natural England, 2009	Adaptation to climate change should be a key strategic priority for spatial planning alongside securing more energy efficient development and renewable energy generation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green infrastructure should be viewed as a vital element of achieving more sustainable communities;</li> <li>• Spatial planning should facilitate species' movement and enhance the amount and distribution of suitable habitat;</li> <li>• Core Strategies should highlight climate change pressures on biodiversity and land use measures for improved species adaptation.</li> </ul>	Policies on biodiversity should take into consideration the impacts of climate change.
Heritage Works: The use of historic buildings in regeneration, English Heritage	Guidance recognises that heritage assets can play a central role in achieving successful regeneration. There is a strong economic case for regenerating historic buildings. The benefits relate not only to the individual building but also to the wider area and community.	Core Strategy must seek to conserve and enhance Knowsley's historic assets.
<b><u>Regional</u></b>		
North West of England Plan Regional Spatial Strategy to 2021, DCLG, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved, sustainable economic growth</li> <li>• The reduction of economic, environmental, educational, health and other social inequalities between North West communities;</li> <li>• The protection and enhancement of the region's built and natural environmental assets, its coastal areas and unique culture and heritage;</li> <li>• The active management and prudent use of our natural and man made resources, with fewer emissions of key greenhouse gases, and the most efficient use of infrastructure; and</li> <li>• The introduction of a safe, reliable and effective integrated transport network that supports opportunities for sustainable growth and provides better links with jobs and services.</li> <li>• Support the concentration of most new development in the region within the urban areas of the Regional Centres, and Regional Towns and Cities.</li> </ul>	Consult with indicators reported in RSS AMR. Focus on housing renewal and the contribution that the plan will make to the RSS target. Although the target is 450 dwellings per year, because the start date is 2003 and known demolitions, it is likely that the gross completions figure will be approximately 600, To provide an average of 65% housing on previously developed land.

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Core Strategy</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sets a target of 450 dwellings per year (net of demolition replacements) to be constructed in Knowsley from 2003, at least 65% of which should be on Brownfield land.</li> </ul>	
North West Plan Regional Spatial Strategy Partial Review 2008 - 2009	<p>The Partial Review will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gypsies &amp; Travellers;</li> <li>• Travelling Showpeople; and</li> <li>• Regional Parking standards.</li> </ul>	To provide a sufficient site(s) to accommodate at least partial review requirement.
Regional Sustainable Development Framework 'Action for Sustainability' (AfS)	<p>This contains a set of priorities and long term goals to deliver sustainability across the region. It includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable transport, production and consumption; and</li> <li>• An emphasis on social equity and biodiversity.</li> </ul>	Indicators should reflect the long term goals of this document.
Regional Housing Strategy 2005. North West Regional Housing Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turn around declining demand by 2010;</li> <li>• Reduce vacancy levels to 3% by 2021;</li> <li>• Ensure 30% homes are affordable; and</li> <li>• Ensure all social housing meets decency standards by 2010.</li> </ul>	Contribute to meeting the target of reducing the amount of unfit homes and increasing decency standards.
Investment for Health - Action plan for the North West. North West Regional Development Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce health inequalities between groups and areas in the North West. Priority groups include children and young people, older people, ethnic minorities and disabled people.</li> </ul>	Specific health indicators should be included.
The North West Plan for Sport and Physical Activity, 2004-2008. Sport England in the North West.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognises the part sport can play in social, mental, and physical well being. Key target of the plan is to increase participation in sport and physical activity.</li> </ul>	Should consider how the plan will contribute to increasing opportunity for sport by improving facilities.
The Green Infrastructure Guide for the North West, The North West Green Infrastructure Think Tank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aims to articulate and provide guidance on the implementation of the Regional Spatial Strategy policy for green infrastructure.</li> <li>• Sets out a widely agreed definition of green infrastructure for the NW region and provide guidance on the region's experience in developing an approach to green infrastructure planning.</li> </ul>	Should influence how the greenspace is protected and/or developed.
The Countryside in and around Towns – a Vision for Connecting Town and Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presents a new vision for the countryside in and around towns and cities that respects local character and distinctiveness.</li> </ul>	Should influence how the greenspace is protected and/or developed.

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Core Strategy</b>
in Pursuit of Sustainable Development, The Countryside Agency & Groundwork		
Streets for All	Set out principles of good practice for street management - such as reducing clutter, coordinating design and reinforcing local character.	Should influence how streets are managed.
Rising to the Challenge – A Climate Change Action Plan for England's North West 2007-09	<p>Reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to those effects of climate change which are now unavoidable are highlighted as a key regional priority. The Action Plan establishes a vision of a low carbon and adapted North West by 2020. A series of outcomes are set out to achieve this vision, which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing a safe, reliable and efficient transport network;</li> <li>• Ensuring that strategies and programmes take full account of sustainable energy consumption and production issues and facilitate adaptation to climate change;</li> <li>• Effective communication of the issues to ensure that the region's businesses, organisations and population understand the value of energy and the nature of expected climate changes; and</li> <li>• Encourage property owners and developers to install low-carbon micro-generation infrastructure.</li> </ul>	To ensure that development does not add to climate change and mitigates and adapts to it.
Countryside Character Volume 2: North West, Natural England (Countryside Commission)	<p>The Countryside Character appraisal divides the region into a series of landscape character areas. The Knowsley Local Authority area falls within 4 different areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Merseyside conurbation;</li> <li>• Mersey Valley;</li> <li>• Lancashire Coal Measures; and</li> <li>• Lancashire and Amounderness Plain.</li> </ul>	Ensure that the Core Strategy conserves and enhances local landscape character and quality.
Regional Biodiversity Targets	The North West Regional Biodiversity Targets establish aims for maintaining the extent, achieving condition, restoration and expansion of a full range of habitats	Core Strategy must respond to local biodiversity issues and support improvement plans.

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Core Strategy</b>
		Include relevant objectives and indicators from species and habitat action plans.
<b>Merseyside-wide</b>		
Second Local Transport Plan for Merseyside 2006 - 2011. Merseyside local authorities, 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that transport supports sustainable economic development; and</li> <li>• Moderate upward trend in car use and secure a shift to more sustainable forms of transport such as walking, cycling and public transport.</li> </ul>	Enable the transport needs of the local community to be met in the most sustainable way.
Merseyside "New Heartlands" Housing Market Renewal Initiative 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A major programme, set up under the Government's Sustainable Communities Plan, which aims to renew and regenerate housing in the "pathfinder" areas of inner Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral.</li> </ul>	The aims and objectives of this initiative should contribute to the SA.
North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan	<p>The North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan comprises of 44 habitat and species action plans. It identifies priority habitats and species and sets actions for their preservation and enhancement.</p> <p>The Business Plan, which accompanies the Biodiversity Action Plan, identifies seven core services, the most relevant of which is integrating BAP into policy. This service pledges to actively promote the inclusion of biodiversity objectives into local plans.</p>	<p>Core Strategy must respond to local biodiversity issues and support improvement plans.</p> <p>Include relevant objectives and indicators from species and habitat action plans.</p>
Merseyside Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, MWDA, 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To optimise waste reduction</li> <li>• To optimise waste recovery where actions higher up the waste hierarchy are not practicable</li> </ul>	Need to ensure approach to waste in Core Strategy is consistent.
Merseyside Joint Waste Development Plan Document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce the amount of waste generated and move waste management away from landfill disposal.</li> <li>• Reduce the need for waste to travel unnecessary distances for disposal.</li> </ul>	Need to ensure approach to waste in Core Strategy is consistent with the emerging Waste LDD.
Action Plan for the City Region 2002-2005, Mersey Partnership, 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is to identify the region's major economic development priorities</li> <li>• To help shape the medium-term investment strategy of the</li> </ul>	

Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)		
Plans / Policies and Programmes	Key Objectives	Implications for Core Strategy
	North West Development Agency	
Draft Liverpool City Region Housing Strategy, The Mersey Partnership, 2007	The Liverpool City Region Housing Strategy will provide a framework for housing investment to support regeneration and economic growth in the City Region.	It will provide context for Local Development Frameworks.
Merseyside Heritage Investment Strategy, Culture North West, 2005	This strategy aspires to ensure that all heritage investment should achieve improvements in our physical and economic surroundings and contribute to the daily lives of citizens irrespective of whether they are directly connected with heritage.	Core Strategy must seek to conserve and enhance Knowsley's historic assets.
Towards a Green Infrastructure Framework for the Liverpool City Region: Draft Discussion Document, 2009	<p>A Framework will be prepared to highlight the role that green infrastructure interventions can play in delivering a range of thematic and strategic objectives more effectively than is currently the case. It is proposed that the following five areas should be the priorities for the GI framework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Setting the Scene for Growth</b> - where can green infrastructure support economic development by providing attractive settings, increasing environmental quality and attracting/retaining people in the city region;</li> <li>• <b>Adapting to and mitigating climate change</b> – where and how can GI help to prepare the City Region for projected climate change;</li> <li>• <b>Providing access to high quality recreation</b> – specifically looking at the provision of strategic routes;</li> <li>• <b>Safeguarding and enhancing the ecological framework of the city region</b> – how can GI planning help to maintain, restore, expand habitats and species populations; and</li> <li>• <b>Supporting the Rural Economy of the City Region</b> - how will green infrastructure planning help to support the Rural Economy Action Plan.</li> </ul>	<p>Core Strategy should recognise that green infrastructure can help contribute to a sense of place and improve neighbourhood quality.</p> <p>Green infrastructure can also deliver a range of economic, social and environmental objectives.</p>
<b>Local</b>		
Knowsley the Borough of Choice: Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2023	To make Knowsley the Borough of choice. It will be an area known for its successful suburban townships, providing a sense of place and community. It will have:	Will translate the overall vision and priorities of the SCS into a spatial vision and policy framework for development

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Core Strategy</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attractive, sustainable neighbourhoods with a wide choice of housing and excellent community facilities;</li> <li>• Vibrant and vital town centres;</li> <li>• Residents and local communities who are able to make positive lifestyle choices;</li> <li>• High quality employment areas which help to drive economic growth in the Liverpool city region; and</li> <li>• "Narrowed the gap" in deprivation levels both between different parts of the borough and between Knowsley and elsewhere.</li> </ul>	and land use.
Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan (2006)	<p>Unitary Development Plan sets out 19 strategic objectives and policies for new development. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifying a range of sustainable locations to meet the housing and employment needs of the Borough,</li> <li>• Protecting the openness and character of the Green Belt,</li> <li>• Protecting the natural environment, and</li> <li>• Preserving and enhancing the historic environment.</li> </ul>	
Ensuring Choice of Travel SPD (Draft)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sets out the access and transport requirements for new development.</li> </ul>	Development proposals will have to demonstrate that they are accessible by a realistic choice of transport, including cycling, public transport and car as well as on foot.
Greenspace Standards and New Development SPD	To guide the protection and improvement of the quality, quantity and accessibility of public open spaces.	
Householder Development SPD	To advise householders and their agents of the guidelines for house extensions.	
North Huyton SPD	To create a viable and sustainable suburban neighbourhood for existing and future generations, where people will choose to live in a high quality residential environment and work to achieve their potential, and in doing so establish North Huyton as a place to be	



<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Core Strategy</b>
	proud of.”	
Tower Hill (Kirkby) SPD	To ‘put the heart back into Tower Hill’ with the core objective of delivering a high quality, secure environment that has unique identity.	
Knowsley Annual Monitoring Report	The Annual Monitoring Report 2008 establishes a baseline of data for the borough.	Will feed into baseline information.
Knowsley MBC Corporate Plan	Explains how the delivery of Council services will be prioritised to help deliver the Community Plan vision.	The corporate plan will inform objectives and indicators
Knowsley MBC Housing Strategy	Identifies housing needs and priorities and influences planning decisions relating to housing development.	The plan will inform objectives and indicators
Knowsley MBC Economic Development Plan	Aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote opportunity and social prosperity;</li> <li>• Foster enterprise, sustainable economic and environmental development; and</li> <li>• Encourage life-long learning.</li> </ul>	The plan will inform objectives and indicators
Knowsley Economic Regeneration Strategy (currently being prepared)	Aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capitalise on economic opportunities; and</li> <li>• Tackle significant challenges which hamper the Borough’s performance.</li> </ul>	The plan will inform objectives and indicators
Knowsley MBC Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2005-2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies a range of actions to be taken by the Council and its partners to encourage citizenship and reduce incidences of crime and disorder in the Borough.</li> </ul>	The plan will inform objectives and indicators
Knowsley MBC Building Schools for the Future programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government funded programme under which seven new learning centres will replace Knowsley’s existing 11 secondary schools.</li> </ul>	The programme will inform objectives and indicators
Knowsley Guide to Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aims to ensure that new developments meet certain design standards. That new development takes into account the surrounding landscape, considers transport issues and creates a range of housing to meet people’s needs.</li> <li>• Rapid suburban growth during the 1960s and 1970s has</li> </ul>	To cover the main aspects of this guide in its objectives.

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives (Task A1)</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Core Strategy</b>
	<p>resulted in large mono-functional housing estates, some of which present an indistinct monotonous landscape with poor legibility and bland, poorly situated open spaces.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some of the purpose built shopping parades, constructed in the 1960's, are not sustainable.</li> </ul>	
Conservation Area Character Appraisal for each of the 15 conservation areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appraise the conservation areas and identify potential improvements.</li> </ul>	Ensure that the setting for conservation area is protected.
An Environmental Policy for Knowsley Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor the environmental impacts of its policies and services, set specific targets and seek continuous improvement towards the development of an effective environmental management system.</li> <li>• Encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport and to develop and implement 'Green Transport Plans'</li> <li>• Promote the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources and a reduction in the consumption of non-renewable resources.</li> <li>• Promote measures to discourage waste, to recover, reuse and recycle waste material and to ensure that the remainder is disposed of responsibly.</li> <li>• Promote good designs and measures to protect and enhance the quality of town centres, residential and commercial areas and to improve the visual appearance and image of the borough.</li> <li>• Promote biodiversity by enriching and protecting landscapes and open spaces and developing environmentally sustainable methods of land management which maximise opportunities for wildlife.</li> </ul>	To ensure that development is consistent with the Environmental Policy.
Knowsley Council's Climate Change Strategy 2008 - 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce CO2 emissions in the Borough</li> <li>• Adapt to climate change</li> <li>• Opportunities in a low carbon economy</li> </ul>	Core Strategy will need to support the objectives of the Climate Change Strategy



## Appendix 2 – Baseline data and targets (Task A2)

Baseline data and targets (Task A2)						
Indicator	Knowsley		North West		Target	Source
<b>Health</b>						
Life Expectancy	Males 73.9	Females 78.4				Public Health Annual Report
SMR for All Causes	Males 130	Females 126	Males 112	Females 110		Public Health Annual Report
SMR for All Circulatory Diseases	130	117	114	110		
SMR for Coronary Heart Disease	142	139	117	116		
SMR for Stroke	116	92	115	109		
SMR for Cancer	130	128	110	108		
SMR for Lung Cancer	160	199	119	128		
SMR for Cervical Cancer	-	145	-	123		
SMR for Breast Cancer	-	101	-	98		
SMR for Prostate Cancer	83	-	96	-		
SMR for Respiratory Disease	156	158	117	119		
SMR for Pneumonia	128	98	109	105		
SMR for Chronic Liver Disease	86	189	136	144		
SMR for Accidents	128	131	117	119		
Residents with a limiting long term illness	All persons No. 37,103	150,459 % 24.7	All persons No. 1,394,609	6,729,764 % 20.7	To decrease the % of those who are long term ill.	ONS: Limiting long term illness UV22.

Baseline data and targets (Task A2)				
Indicator	Knowsley	North West	Target	Source
<b>Deprivation</b>				
To improve the overall IMD rating for Knowsley	Ranking (out of 354 local authorities) Rank Average Rank 8 Extent 8 Local Concentration 2 Income Scale 50 Employment Scale 45 Rank of SOA 5	N/A	To improve the ranking in the index of multiple deprivation of the SOAs.	Index of Multiple Deprivation for Super Output Areas.
To reduce the % of LSOAs in the top 10% most deprived in England.	47.5%		To decrease the % of LSOAs in the top ten % of most deprived in England.	Index of Multiple Deprivation for Super Output Areas.

Baseline data and targets (Task A2)				
Indicator	Knowsley	North West	Target	Source
<b>Education</b>				
	No.	% of working age	% of working age	NOMIS
No qualifications	23,600	26.6	15.8	
Other qualifications	5,500	6.1	5.8	
NVQ1 level	15,100	16.9	14.8	
NVQ2 level	17,200	19.4	19.8	
NVQ3 level	15,500	17.5	18.9	
NVQ4 level and above	12,100	13.5	24.8	
Percentage of students obtaining five or more A* - C GCSEs	50.8%			Department for Children, Schools, and Families

<b>Baseline data and targets (Task A2)</b>				
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Knowsley</b>	<b>North West</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Source</b>
<b>Crime</b>				
All Crime per 1,000 population	108.5%		To reduce crime and the fear of crime.	Home Office: Crime Statistics 2006/7
Violence Against the person per 1,000 population	13.0%		To reduce crime and the fear of crime	Home Office: Crime Statistics 2006/7
Sexual Offences per 1,000 population	1.0%		To reduce crime and the fear of crime.	Home Office: Crime Statistics 2006/7
Robbery per 1,000 population	1.0%		To reduce crime and the fear of crime.	Home Office: Crime Statistics 2006/7
Burglary Dwelling per 1,000 population	5.0%		To reduce crime and the fear of crime.	Home Office: Crime Statistics 2006/7
Theft Of a Motor Vehicle per 1,000 population	5.0%		To reduce crime and the fear of crime	Home Office: Crime Statistics 2006/7
Theft From a Motor Vehicle per 1,000 population	15.0%		To reduce crime and the fear of crime.	Home Office: Crime Statistics 2006/7
% of residents surveyed who say that they feel fairly safe or very safe outside during the day.	95.8%		To reduce crime and the fear of crime.	Audit commission.
% of residents surveyed who say that they feel fairly safe or very safe outside after dark.	62.7%		To reduce crime and the fear of crime.	Audit commission.

<b>Baseline data and targets (Task A2)</b>	
Employment land available by type.	
Employment Type	Area (ha)
Allocation without Planning Permission	
B1 or B2	7.9
B1 or B2 or B8	70.4
Sub Total	78.3
Sites with Planning Permission, not started	
B1	2.1
B1(a)	0.5
B1(c) or B2 or B8	1.1
B1 or B2 or B8	6.3
B2	1.8
Sub Total	11.8
Grand Total	90.1
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2007, Knowsley MBC	

<b>Baseline data and targets (Task A2)</b>				
Indicator	Knowsley	North West	Target	Source
<b>Employment</b>				
Number of VAT registrations	205			Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform
Number of VAT de-registrations	165			Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform
Amount of floorspace developed for employment purposes	Floorspace sq. m. B1(a) 4244 B1(b) 0 B1(c) 0 B2 0 B8 0 Mixed B1/B2 8639			Annual Monitoring Report

Baseline data and targets (Task A2)						
Indicator	Knowsley		North West		Target	Source
<b>Employment</b>						
Amount of floorspace developed for retail use	0					

Baseline data and targets (Task A2)						
Indicator	Knowsley		North West		Target	Source
<b>Employees</b>						
Economic Activity	All persons aged 16-74 Count: 107,330		All persons aged 16-74 Count: 4,839,669		Increase the % of economically active people to North West rate.	ONS Economic Activity UV28.
	No	%	No	%		
active	61,157	57.0	3,093,186	63.9		
inactive	46,173	43.0	1,746,483	36.1		
Claimant count of persons of working age.	No.	%		%	Reduce unemployment rate to North West level.	National On-line Manpower Information System
	5,937	6.4 (February 2009)		4.3 (February 2009)		

Baseline data and targets (Task A2)						
Indicator	Knowsley		North West		Target	Source
<b>Transport</b>						
Method of travel to work	All working people		All working people.		To maintain or increase the % of those using alternative methods of transport other than car.	ONS: 2001 Census
	No.	%	No.	%		
Work at home	2,966	5.5	242,474	8.4		
Metro or tram	108	0.2	15,955	0.6		
Train	2,204	4.1	54,356	1.9		
Bus	7,200	13.2	248,267	8.6		
Taxi	1,055	1.9	23,400	0.8		
Driving	29,320	53.9	1,694,380	58.4		
Passenger	4,886	9.0	217,559	7.5		
Motorbike	417	0.8	26,731	0.9		
Bike	904	1.7	65,961	2.3		
On foot	5,037	9.3	297,720	10.3		
Other	254	0.5	13,217	0.5		
Total	54,351	100.0	4,839,669	100.0		
Numbers of people killed/seriously injured in traffic	53					Knowsley Transport Section



Baseline data and targets (Task A2)				
Indicator	Knowsley	North West	Target	Source
accidents				
Numbers of children killed/seriously injured in traffic accidents	9			Knowsley Transport Section

Baseline data and targets (Task A2)				
Indicator	Knowsley	North West	Target	Source
<b>Households</b>				
Car ownership	All households Count: 60,548	All households Count: 2,812,789		ONS: Cars or Vans (KS17)
	No. %	No. %		
No car or van	25,287 41.8	849,769 30.2		
1 Car	24,745 40.9	1,224,554 43.5		
2 Cars	8,946 14.8	605,586 21.5		
3 Cars	1,274 2.1	104,120 3.7		
4 Cars	296 0.5	28,760 1.0		

Baseline data and targets (Task A2)				
Indicator	Knowsley	North West	Target	Source
<b>Housing</b>				
Dwelling stock by council tax band.	Total dwellings 62,783	Total dwellings 3,011,128		Valuation Office Agency Data.
	Band No. %	Band No. %		
	A 37911 60.4	A 1318643 43.8		
	B 11793 18.8	B 567827 18.9		
	C 8122 12.9	C 517736 17.2		
	D 3221 5.1	D 290057 9.6		
	E 1368 2.2	E 170426 5.6		
	F 236 0.4	F 83488 2.8		
	G 113 0.2	G 57190 1.9		
	H 17 0.0	H 5729 0.2		
Tenure type	Total dwellings 60,553	Total dwellings 2,812,789	To increase the % of houses privately owned to the same as North West.	National Statistics: Tenure Households (UV63).
	Number %	Number %		
Owned houses	37,372 61.7	1,948,010 69.3		
Social rented	19,089 31.5	564,573 20.1		
Private rented	2,558 4.2	240,037 8.5		
Other	1,534 2.5	60,169 2.1		

Baseline data and targets (Task A2)						
Indicator	Knowsley		North West		Target	Source
<b>Housing</b>						
Amenities	Total dwellings 60,553		Total dwellings 2,812,789		To improve the % of houses with central heating to same as North West.	National Statistics Dataset: Amenities (UV60).
	Number	%	Number	%		
Central heated	46,209	76.3	2,480,143	88.2		
Without CH	14,344	23.7	332,646	11.8		
Percentage of homes meeting decent homes standard.					100% of social housing must be 'decent' by 2010.	
Percentage of homes meeting Eco Homes Standard Good / Very Good.					100% of new properties.	
New dwellings on PDL.					65%	
% of new developments containing SuDS					100%	

Baseline data and targets (Task A2)						
Indicator	Knowsley		North West		Target	Source
<b>Built Environment</b>						
Number of listed buildings on the Heritage at Risk Register	0				0	Annual Monitoring Report Heritage at Risk register
Number of conservation areas with current character appraisals	15				15	Annual Monitoring Report
Number of conservation areas with management plans.	0				15	Annual Monitoring Report
Number of Conservation Areas on the Heritage at Risk register	4		137		0	Heritage at Risk register
Number of Historic	0		5		0	Heritage at

Baseline data and targets (Task A2)				
Indicator	Knowsley	North West	Target	Source
<b>Built Environment</b>				
Parks and Gardens on the Heritage at Risk register				Risk register

Baseline data and targets (Task A2)				
Indicator	Knowsley	North West	Target	Source
<b>Energy &amp; Water</b>				
NI 186 Per Capita CO2 emissions	7.5 Tonnes (2005)		10.1% reduction from 2005 baseline by 2011	Knowsley Council Environmental Sustainability
Renewable energy generation in mws	0.17 mw			Audit Commission
Daily domestic water use (per capita consumption, litres)	148 litres			Audit Commission

Baseline data and targets (Task A2)				
Indicator	Knowsley	North West	Target	Source
<b>Waste</b>				
Landfill	Tonnes 58,102	% 83.0		Directorate of Neighbourhood Services
Incineration with Energy from Waste	-	-		Directorate of Neighbourhood Services
Incineration without Energy from Waste	-	-		Directorate of Neighbourhood Services
Recycled/composted	11,909	17.0		Directorate of Neighbourhood Services
Other	-	-		Directorate of Neighbourhood Services
Total waste	70,011	100.0		

Baseline data and targets (Task A2)				
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Indicator	Knowsley	North West	Target	Source
<b>Urban Greenspace</b>				
Parks and gardens	1.01 ha per 1000 population		0.8 ha per population	Knowsley Open Space, recreation and Sport Needs Assessment & Strategy, PMP,2005
General Amenity	1.32 ha per 1000 population		0.5 Ha per 1000 population.	
Children's Play	0.02 ha per 1000 population		0.2 Ha per 1000 population.	
Playing pitches and other sporting facilities	1.45 ha per 1000 population		1.85 Ha per 1000 population.	OS3 & OS4
Allotments	0.02 ha per 1000 population		0.05 Ha per 1000 population.	
% of space that is of a high or acceptable standard of horticultural maintenance	73%		90%	KMBC corporate plan DEOS CO1 and DEOS.
% of open space managed to Green Flag Award standard	15.0%			KMBC Directorate of Neighbourhood Services

<b>Baseline data and targets (Task A2)</b>				
Indicator	Knowsley	North West	Target	Source
<b>River Quality</b>				
Percentage of rivers in "Good" or "Fair" biological condition	50.1%		100%	Environment Agency
Percentage of rivers in "Good" or "Fair" chemical condition	64.9%		100%	Environment Agency

<b>Baseline data and targets (Task A2)</b>				
Indicator	Knowsley	North West	Target	Source
<b>Air Quality</b>				

<b>Baseline data and targets (Task A2)</b>				
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Knowsley</b>	<b>North West</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Source</b>
Air Quality Management Areas	0		0	Environmental Health

<b>Baseline data and targets (Task A2)</b>				
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Knowsley</b>	<b>North West</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Source</b>
<b>Sites of Environmental Importance</b>				
Number of Sites of Biological Interest	64			Annual Monitoring Report
Number of Sites of Local Geological Interest	4			Annual Monitoring Report
Number of locally designated nature conservation sites	1			Annual Monitoring Report

<b>Appendix 3 - Abbreviations and Glossary</b>	
Affordable Housing	Low cost market and subsidised housing that will be available to people who cannot afford to rent or buy houses generally available on the open market.
Annual Monitoring Report	A document produced annually that assesses the extent to which the policies in Local Development Documents are being achieved.
Local Development Framework (LDF)	A portfolio of documents that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a Local Development Scheme,</li> <li>• a Statement of Community Involvement,</li> <li>• a Core Strategy,</li> <li>• Development Plan Documents, for example housing and employment land allocations,</li> <li>• Supplementary Planning Documents,</li> <li>• a Proposals Map, and</li> <li>• an Annual Monitoring Report.</li> </ul>
Office of the Deputy Prime Minister	The government department which has responsibility for planning and local government.
Output Areas (OAs)	This is the smallest area for which tables of results are published in the 2001 Census. Output Areas have an average of 125 households.
Scoping Report	A report that describes the scope and the methodology to be used in the Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment.
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	The European Directive 2001/42/EC requires that an assessment be made of the effects that certain plans and programmes will have on the environment.
Super Output Areas (SOAs)	Super Output Areas (SOAs) were created by the Office for National Statistics to provide an improved basis for comparison of statistics across the country. There will be three sizes of Super Output Area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lower level built up of 4 to 6 Output Areas. This level will be used for most purposes.</li> <li>▪ Middle level – built up of 4 to 6 Lower level SOAs</li> <li>▪ Upper level – boundaries not yet determined but will comprise 4 to 6 Middle level SOAs.</li> </ul>
Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)	Supplementary Planning Documents cover a wide range of issues on which the council wishes to provide policy guidance to supplement the policies and proposals in development plan documents.

<b>Appendix 3 - Abbreviations and Glossary</b>	
Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	A document produced to ensure that development proceeds in a sustainable manner through the improved integration of sustainability issues into the plan making process. At the heart of the idea of sustainable development is the principle of ensuring a better quality of life for everyone, now and for future generations.
Unitary Development Plan (UDP)	A borough-wide statutory development plan which that Council was required to prepare under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. It sets out the Council's proposals for the development and use of the land. The current UDP was adopted on 14 June 2006.