Wigan Local Development Framework
Communities
Evidence Review

June 2009

Wigan Council
Environmental Services
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

The document sets out a programme to tackle pressing problems in communities in England, through addressing the unbalance of housing markets and issues of affordability. The document aims to provide a driver to raise the quality of life in our communities through increasing prosperity, reducing inequalities, more employment, better public services, better health and education, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour, and much more. It reflects our key principles for public service reform: raising standards, devolving and delegating decision-making, providing greater flexibility over use of resources and choice for customers.

**Key messages, requirements & objectives**

Document highlights the need to have;

- A flourishing local economy to provide jobs and wealth;
- Strong leadership to respond positively to change;
- Effective engagement and participation by communities and stakeholders especially in the planning, design and long term stewardship of their community, and an active voluntary and community sector;
- A safe and healthy local environment with well-designed public and green space;
- Sufficient size, scale and density, and the right layout to support basic amenities in the neighbourhood and minimise use of resources (including land);
- Good public transport and other transport infrastructure both within the community and linking it to urban, rural and regional centres;
- Buildings – both individually and collectively – that can meet different needs over time, and that minimise the use of resources;
- A well-integrated mix of decent homes of different types and tenures to support a range of household sizes, ages and incomes;
- Good quality local public services, including education and training opportunities, health care and community facilities, especially for leisure;
- A diverse, vibrant and creative local culture, encouraging pride in the community and cohesion within it;
- A "sense of place”;
- The right links with the wider regional, national and international community.

**Opportunities**

- Availability of funding to improve housing, local parks and public spaces and communities.

**Issues and constraints**

- People do not have access to decent affordable housing in decent surroundings. Across the country there are still homes in poor condition occupied by vulnerable people.
- Other areas experiencing a shortage of housing. Homes are unaffordable for people on moderate incomes, including many of the key workers on whom our public services depend. Yet new house building has been in decline for decades. In particular private house building has not responded to increased demand for home ownership.
- Successive governments have failed to tackle the issues and the gap between the need for new housing and what is being provided is widening.
- In other parts of the country there are areas suffering the opposite problem of housing market collapse.
- New developments have often taken far more land than they need and locate in Green Field land. The full potential of previously developed land has not been exploited.
- People have moved out of our cities to seek a better life in suburbs, creating urban sprawl. There has been inadequate long-term planning of communities. Too much of what we have built has been poorly designed. The regeneration of our cities needs
A sustained effort to make them again preferred places to live.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

- Tackle the key issues of affordable housing, good public transport, well designed public and green space, good quality local services and a strong local economy.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

- Ensure sustainability appraisal framework covers these cross cutting issues.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cross references (General)</th>
<th>Cross references (Topic reviews)</th>
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### Table A1.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title</strong></th>
<th>Firm Foundations: The Governments Framework for Community Capacity Building</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proponent body</strong></td>
<td>Home Office</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Date produced</strong></td>
<td>2004</td>
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</table>

**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

The Government completed its review of support for community capacity building at the end of 2003 and consulted on its findings. This final report builds on the findings of the review and the responses to the consultation to set out a cross-Government plan of action to support community capacity building more effectively. It identifies six underlying principles and puts forward priority areas for Government action to bring about change.

The spatial layout of neighbourhoods and public spaces can help or hinder community capacity building.

**Key messages, requirements & objectives**

- The active involvement of citizens and communities with public bodies to improve their quality of life is crucial to the achievement of a wide range of Government objectives.
- Investing in successful efforts to build the skills, abilities, knowledge and confidence of people and community groups, to enable them to take effective action and play leading roles in the development of their communities.
- Need to recognise both geographical communities – neighbourhoods, parishes – and communities of people with a common interest or identity.
- Ensure that support is accessible at neighbourhood, parish or community level. This may mean buildings.
- Embrace diversity and recognise solutions are needed which respond to local circumstances, rather than taking a ‘one size fits all’ approach.
- The promotion of local action-planning as a way of providing the crucial link between ‘bottom up’ community participation and the range of planning processes based around the Community Strategy and the new Local Development Framework.

**Opportunities**

- It will help achieve specific objectives, such as improved levels of basic skills and increased community cohesion. Evidence shows that community development is also particularly important to the achievement of social inclusion.
- Helps to draw vulnerable and marginalised people and groups into the processes of change.
- Opportunities for community members to get together to improve their local environment. E.g. transforming a disused park into a garden, cleaning up areas, etc…
- Opportunities offered by Extended Schools.

**Constraints**

- Reaching some groups, particularly the most marginalised, will mean working with and supporting communities of interest and identity, rather than focusing entirely on geographical communities.
- Some groups within neighbourhoods may define themselves in ways that are divisive. Community development values and methods will help to counter this. Also, targeting support to the most disadvantaged geographical communities in an inclusive way may be the most effective method of ensuring the needs of marginalised groups are met.
- There will sometimes be disagreement about the preferred way forward.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

- Explore the potential links between local action-planning and the spatial planning processes being introduced following the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, particularly Local Development Frameworks and the Statement of Community Involvement.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

Framework should encourage strong communities. Equality and diversity, cohesion, involvement, capacity building should all form part of the framework.
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<tr>
<th>Cross references (General)</th>
<th>Cross references (Topic reviews)</th>
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Table A1.3

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Better Public Building</th>
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<tr>
<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>HM Government, The Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</td>
<td>Non statutory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date produced</td>
<td>2006</td>
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</table>

**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

Evidence reveals that good design improves public services; HM Treasury insists that good design can make service delivery more efficient. By providing buildings and spaces fit for purpose they are safe, healthy and sustainable. Good design makes services easier to deliver and attracts sectors of society who may previously have been excluded. It is clear that the most popular places to visit and do business offer a high quality environment.

### Key messages, requirements and objectives

- New buildings should be designed with the target of zero emissions. They need to make a contribution towards mitigating climate change in construction and in use.
- Buildings should maximise passive design taking advantage of natural lighting, heating and cooling.
- Greywater and rainwater recycling should be incorporated.
- End-users and stakeholders should be involved early and often in the design process.
- Public bodies with the responsibility of delivering and managing the built environment should appoint a design champion.
- Peckham library is an excellent example. Local usage has increased and the high quality design building has changed how the area is perceived. Two years after the library opened in 2000 annual visits increased from 171,000 to 500,000 and book loans also increased dramatically.
- Good design can also create an environment that is more attractive to investors.

### Opportunities

### Issues and constraints

### How could the Local Development Framework respond?

### Implications for the sustainability appraisal

Provides general background information.

### Cross references (General) | Cross references (Topic reviews)
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<th><strong>Table A1.4</strong></th>
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

This outlines the findings from a piece of research carried out by Paul Marriott for Community Matters.

There are at least 18,800 community buildings across England and Wales used by about 4.4 million people every week.

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

- Community buildings host a wide variety of activities catering for all sectors of the community. Often they are the only community facility available for public use.

- The research concludes that community buildings play a key role in strengthening local communities.

- A community building is a building managed by a voluntary management committee run for public benefit which hosts a range of activities for a range of users.

- This comprises village and community halls, community centres, church halls, faith based buildings and some buildings attached to schools.

- 4.4 million people in England and Wales use community buildings every week.

- 63% of buildings are more than 40 years old and many are in need of improvements and repairs.

- Community buildings play a major role in strengthening their local community, often providing the only public place where a range of local people can associate with their neighbours. Moreover, the potential for people to become involved in the management and running of their local community building can lead to a greater sense of pride in and responsibility for their local community.

- The fabric of the building needs to be attractive, flexible enough to encourage a variety of uses and in a good state of repair.

- The local community needs to have a stake in the building. Ideally, they should have a role in deciding what kind of community building they have, they should feel able to participate in the management of the building and they should have a very real sense that it is ‘their’ building.

**Opportunities**

**Issues and constraints**

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

Provides general background information.

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<tr>
<th><strong>Cross references (General)</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Strong and Prosperous Communities: The Local Government White Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date produced</td>
<td>October 2006</td>
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</table>

### Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

This White Paper is about creating better services and better places. It sets out the tools which will help all local areas tackle the challenges of the 21st century, capture the strength and talents of their citizens and communities, and achieve their full potential.

### Key messages, requirements and objectives

Aims to give local people and communities more influence and power to improve their lives.

- Neighbourhood working.
- One size does not fit all.
- Increased / improved community involvement and accountability.
- Strong cities, strategic regions.
- Promoting cohesion. - Stronger local leadership, greater resident participation in decisions and an enhanced role for community groups, can all help local areas to promote community cohesion.

### Opportunities

- Links between the Local Development Framework and the Local Area Agreement / Sustainable Community Strategy.
- Ambitious efficiency gains will be required as part of the 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review. (This could also be a constraint)

### Issues and constraints

### How could the Local Development Framework respond?

### Implications for the sustainability appraisal

Community involvement and cohesion to form part of the appraisal framework.

### Cross references (General) | Cross references (Topic reviews)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Place Matters</th>
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

Sets out the Government’s analysis of why place is increasingly important as a focus for policy and illustrates how the Department for Communities and Local Government is changing the way that it works to enhance that focus.

Spatial planning has a fundamental effect on how places develop.

**Key messages, requirements & objectives**

The vision for Communities and Local Government is of prosperous and cohesive communities, offering a safe, healthy and sustainable environment for all.

- There is no single definition and many different perceptions of place.
- As the impact of globalisation and climate change intensify, with significant implications for particular places, the spatial aspects of achieving prosperous and cohesive communities become increasingly important.
- Finding the right level for effective leadership and co-operation is essential to the prosperity of local communities.
- Economic success increasingly reflects the ability of different places to develop the high value-added, knowledge intensive services or niche manufacturing in which this country has a competitive advantage – and which tend to agglomerate in particular places.
- To secure investment and new people, places need to offer an attractive package of amenities across the full range of factors that make a sustainable community.
- The choices that have to be made in decisions affecting future quality of life and wellbeing make ownership of these issues by local communities and their political leadership all the more important.
- If places do not adapt successfully, the risks of decline, underperformance and increasing deprivation intensify.
- Strengthening the citizen voice to better meet the needs and aspirations of the enormous diversity of communities which make up contemporary Britain
- Supporting initiatives to improve the quality of place through well designed and managed neighbourhoods and public spaces and action to tackle deprivation.
- Challenge myths which can undermine cohesion.
- Providing an enhanced focus on place also means improving the citizen voice, giving local residents more say over what happens where they live.
- In line with place-focused principles, the framework for tackling neighbourhood renewal is based on the role of the LSP in bringing together the range of local partners across relevant sectors. Increasingly this will be a fundamental element of the LAA.

**Opportunities**

See key messages

**Constraints**

See key messages

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

**Cross references (General) | Cross references (Topic reviews)**
**Table A1.7**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Bill</th>
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<tr>
<td>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</td>
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<td>Date produced</td>
<td>December, 2008</td>
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

**Key messages, requirements & objectives**

- Strengthening local democracy, by passing more power and responsibility to local authorities, communities and citizens, including taking proposals forward from the White Paper: Communities in control: real people, real power.

- Implementing recommendations from the Review of Sub-National Economic Development and Regeneration to strengthen the role of local authorities in economic development and streamline regional decision making.

- Helping to implement one of the recommendations in the Cave Review of social housing regulation (“Every Tenant Matters”) that a National Tenant Voice should be established.

- Removing the electoral commission’s role in electoral boundary matters through the creation of an independent Boundary Committee for England.

- Implementing recommendations from Lord Sharman’s report to give the Audit Commission in England, and the Auditor General for Wales, in Wales, power to appoint an auditor to certain local government entities, and to issue a public interest report about those entities if appropriate.

- Improving cash flow and rights to adjudication in construction contracts.

**The main benefits of the Bill are:**

- Empowering citizens and communities new tools to become active citizens, involved in the design and delivery of local public services and improving their communities.

- Supporting improved economic decision making at every level by bringing together economic and spatial planning in the regions, empowering local authorities to work together on economic development and ensuring that each local area has a strong understanding of their economy.

- A new duty to promote democratic understanding will make local authorities the democrat hub making it easier for people to understand how to influence decisions, stand for office and take up other civic roles.

- A new duty to respond to petitions will give citizens greater power to hold local authorities to account and influence local services.

- Giving all social housing tenants, regardless of whether their landlord is a local authority or housing association, more choice, protection and influence over how their homes are managed. The new social housing regulator will reduce unnecessary regulation for good landlords and put in place a clearer system of standards.

- Increasing transparency and public accountability, and reducing the risk to public money by allowing the Audit Commission to appoint auditors to certain local government.

**Opportunities**

See key messages

**Constraints**

See key messages

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

**Cross references (General)**

**Cross references (Topic reviews)**
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

The Children’s Plan sets out Government plans for the next ten years. It aims to strengthen support for all families, take the next steps in achieving world-class schools, bring about change in parents’ involvement in their child’s learning and make sure that young people have exciting things to do outside school, and more places for children to play.

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

Five principles underpin the children’s plan:

- Government does not bring up children do – parents do – so government needs to do more to back parents and families;
- All children have the potential to succeed and should go as far as their talents take them;
- Children and young people need to enjoy their childhood as well as grow up prepared for adult life;
- Services need to be shaped by and responsive to children, young people and families, not designed around professional boundaries; and
- It is always better to prevent failure than tackle a crisis later.

**Opportunities**

The following broad aims are contained in the Children’s Plan:

- Secure the wellbeing and health of children and young people
- Safeguard the young and vulnerable
- Individual progress to achieve world class standards and close the gap in educational achievement for disadvantaged children
- System reform to achieve world class standards and close the gap in educational achievement for disadvantaged children
- Ensure that young people are participating and achieving their potential to 18 and beyond
- Keeping children and young people on the path to success

The list below is a selection of mechanisms to help deliver the above aims.

- Every local authority will be offered capital funding to rebuild or renew children’s playgrounds – making them accessible for all.
- The Government aims to tackle overcrowding, publishing an action plan in 2008
- Children’s needs will be prioritised in housing decisions, for example, the need to stay close to schools
- Local authorities will be encouraged to create more 20 miles per hour zones.
- The offer of free childcare will be extended to 20,000 2-year-olds in the most disadvantaged communities.
- The government want all those aged 18 or under in education or training from 2015 onwards.
- £160 million will be invested over the next two years to improve the quality and range of places for young people to go and things for them to do.

Amongst aims for 2020:

- Employers satisfied with young people’s readiness for work
- The proportion of overweight and obese children reduced to 2000 levels
- Child poverty to be eradicated
- The number of young offenders receiving a conviction, reprimand or final warning to be significantly reduced.
- All young people participating in positive activities that develop personal and social skills, promote wellbeing and reduce behaviour that puts them at risk
- Increased levels of educational attainment.

### Issues and constraints

### How could the Local Development Framework respond?

The Children's plan sets out Government priorities regarding Children and Young People for the next ten years. The Children’s Plan will undoubtedly influence the Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement and therefore the Local Development Framework will need to respond accordingly.

### Implications for the sustainability appraisal

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<tr>
<th>Cross references (General)</th>
<th>Cross Reference (Topic Reviews)</th>
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<td>Accessibility</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Housing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Open Space, Sport, Play and Recreation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Table A1.9</strong></td>
<td><strong>Living Places Prospectus</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Title</strong></td>
<td>Living Places Prospectus</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Proponent body</strong></td>
<td>Living Places</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Date produced</strong></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Living Places is an alliance of Arts Council England, CABE (Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment); English Heritage, MLA (Museums, Libraries and Archive), the Regional Cultural Consortiums and Sport England, along with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and Communities and Local Government.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The objective of Living Places is to ‘create thriving, vibrant communities through culture and sport.’</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Key messages, requirements and objectives</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The main objectives of Living Places it to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provide advice and support on the use of culture and sport to create better places</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Align investment from the sporting and cultural sectors with sustainable communities funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Make cultural and sporting activity part of the lives of communities.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>The case for Culture and Sport; Culture and Sport:</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Bring people together, through community involvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Help develop identity and a sense of place, through heritage-led regeneration and community-led design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Make places more attractive through accessible green space and attractive public realm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Make us healthier and happier, through doing things that increase wellbeing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Enhance people’s skills and help generate prosperity through contributions to employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Help building safer and stronger communities through community cohesion and combating anti-social behaviour.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Opportunities</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for increasing cultural activities, as well as participation in sport, are amongst the strategic objectives in the Core Strategy. An enhanced cultural offer can help make the borough a better place to live and particularly strengthen our town centres and economy. Increasing physical activity, through a more attractive public realm and increased sport facilities provision, can have significant health benefits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In terms of the economy, Wigan is over-represented in declining sectors such as manufacturing; emerging creative industries could play a part in Wigan’s economic renaissance.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Issues and constraints</strong></th>
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<tr>
<th><strong>How could the Local Development Framework respond?</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Further guidance from Living Places can look at how we can exploit opportunities to increase sporting and cultural activities should be considered.</td>
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</table>

<p>| <strong>Implications for the sustainability appraisal</strong>  |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Cross references (General)</th>
<th>Cross Reference (Topic Reviews)</th>
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<td>Accessibility</td>
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<td>Built Environment and Landscape</td>
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<td>Economy and Employment</td>
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<td>Housing</td>
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<td>Open Space, Sport, Play and Recreation</td>
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**Table A1.10**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title</strong></th>
<th>Sustainable Communities: People, Places and Prosperity (A Five Year Plan)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proponent body</strong></td>
<td>Office of the Deputy Prime Minister</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date produced</strong></td>
<td>January 2005</td>
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</table>

**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

This is the partner strategy for the Governments sustainable communities / housing strategy. It shows how, working across the whole of Government, prosperity for all will be promoted, helping local people create communities they feel proud of. The strategy is built on two main principles – the need to give communities more power and say in the decisions that affect them; and the importance of working at the right level to get things done.

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

Not all communities are the same – different places have different strengths and needs. But sustainable communities have many things in common: decent homes at prices people can afford; clean, safe, green environments; access to jobs and excellent services – schools, health services, shops and banks; and people having a say in the way their community is run.

Sustainable communities should be:

- **Active, inclusive and safe** – fair, tolerant and cohesive with a strong local culture and other shared community activities
- **Well run** – with effective and inclusive participation, representation and leadership
- **Environmentally sensitive** – providing places for people to live that are considerate of the environment
- **Well designed and built** – featuring a quality built and natural environment
- **Well connected** – with good transport services and communication linking people to jobs, schools, health and other services
- **Thriving** – with a flourishing and diverse local economy
- **Well served** – with public, private, community and voluntary services that are appropriate to people’s needs and accessible to all
- **Fair for everyone** – including those in other communities, now and in the future.

- Local people should have more power to improve their own areas, with greater influence over decisions about where money should be spent and the priorities for their own community. This is particularly true for the most deprived people and for those who have been sometimes neglected – such as those with disabilities, with care responsibilities or from minority group
- Give people more of a say in the way places (both urban and rural) are run, helping improve local services and make areas cleaner, safer and greener.
- Work through the Town, City or County Hall so that local government delivers excellent services and leads and enables community empowerment.
- Tackle disadvantage, so that people are not condemned to lives of poverty, poor services and disempowerment by accidents of birth or geography.
- Work through the regions to increase prosperity, and bring together services, funding and plans which need action at regional level.
- Increase levels of participation
- Promote effective and accountable leadership
- The need to move further and faster on our most deprived estates. Tackling key drivers such as worklessness and homelessness.

**Opportunities**

See key messages
<table>
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<th>Issues and constraints</th>
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<td>See key messages</td>
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<tr>
<th>How could the Local Development Framework respond?</th>
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<th>Implications for the sustainability appraisal</th>
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Table A2.1

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Framework for the Future, Libraries, Learning and Information in the next Decade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>Department for Cultures, Media and Sport</td>
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<tr>
<td>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Date produced</td>
<td>February 2003</td>
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</table>

Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

This sets out the long term strategy for public library service. It provides the framework with which to enable innovation and operational effectiveness and efficiency. It will enable Local Authorities to provide a service that caters for a 21st century society. Libraries play a relevant role in civic life and are available to all the community.

This document illustrates the need to survey and review the needs of the community they serve.

The services a library has to offer should be available to all members of the community.

Key messages, requirements and objectives

- The framework focuses on the role of the library in developing reading and learning, digital skills and services, community cohesion and civic values.
- Libraries have a key strength as a community centre in that they are a neutral welcoming space offering a wide range of services. They offer ICT infrastructure, lending books and formal and informal learning and have a key role to play in ensuring everyone has access to these resources.
- Innovative and eye catching design of library buildings help to redefine the ways library services are delivered. Attractive and well used libraries offer an alternative to shopping and other commercial exploits.
- The following three areas of activity should be at the heart of the libraries mission: The promotion of reading and informal learning, access to digital skills and services including e-government and measures to tackle social exclusion, build community identity and develop citizenship.
- Reading is a pre-requisite for all cultural and social activities; even internet encourages reading as most pages are text based. This is why libraries are so important.

Opportunities

- Lottery funding from the New Opportunities Fund enabled almost all public libraries in England to establish online learning centres by December 2002 which has enabled universal access to the Internet and provision of e-government services.

Issues and constraints

- There is a tendency amongst libraries to focus on current users rather than non-users.
- One route to reaching non-users is to co-locate libraries with other services such as education, social services, health and leisure services.
- Participation rates in higher and further education are increasing so there will ultimately be more demand from students for study space and support materials.
- There is a need to renew the current building stock in many cases.

How could the Local Development Framework respond?

Implications for the sustainability appraisal

Provides general background information.

Cross references (General) | Cross Reference (Topic reviews)
### Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

The Public Library Standards were introduced in 2001 by the government. Their aim is to help create a clear definition of the Library Authority’s statutory duty in providing a comprehensive and efficient service and to set up a performance monitoring framework and ultimately to show if libraries are meeting the needs of local communities.

These standards reflect the aims of the Framework for the Future Strategy.

### Key messages, requirements and objectives

- The standards are targets that measure performance across core activities.
- The standards are as follows (figures in bold are for Wigan 2004/05):
  - Proportion of households living within a specified distance of the library: 1 mile = 73.6%, 2 miles = 99.5%
  - Aggregate scheduled opening hours per 1,000 population for all libraries: 106
  - % of static libraries (as defined by CIPFA) providing access to electronic information resources connected to the internet: 100
  - Total number of electronic workstations with access to the internet and the libraries catalogue (available for public use through both static and mobile libraries and other service outlets) available to users per 10,000 population: 6
  - Requests
    - % of requests met within 7 days: 68
    - % of requests met within 15 days: 83
    - % of requests met within 30 days: 92
  - Number of library visits per 1,000 population: 3669
  - % of library users 16 and over who view their library service as a) very good b) good c) adequate d) poor e) very poor: overall 98
  - % of library users under 16 who view their library service as a) good b) adequate c) bad: overall 87
  - Annual items added through purchase per 1,000 population: 195
  - Time taken to replenish the lending stock on open access or available on loan: 6.7

### Opportunities

- Impact measures are also being developed that will assess the impact libraries will have on contributing to achievements in priority areas.
- A Best Value Performance Indicator is to be piloted based on the library standards.

### Issues and constraints

### How could the Local Development Framework respond?

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**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

This document provides background information that may be useful at later stages of appraisal where further detail is required.

<p>| Cross references (General) | Cross Reference (Topic reviews) |</p>
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Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

Libraries are an extremely important resource that provide for the recreational, learning, information and social needs of the community. This needs to be recognized and the potential realized.

Key messages, requirements and objectives

- There are 3,600 public library service points with over 274m visits made in 2002-3.
- The Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964 is the legislation underpinning the statutory provision of public library services. It requires services provided to be comprehensive and efficient.
- Public Library Standards help define what is meant by comprehensive and efficient. There are 10 standards that were introduced on the 1 October 2004.
- The Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) have developed an Action Plan to help library services to achieve the Framework Vision. The strategic objectives of the Action Plan are **Building capacity to deliver transformation, Books, reading and learning, Digital Citizenship, Community and Civic Values**.
- The DCMS works in partnership in order to deliver the improvements outlined in the Framework for the Future.

Opportunities

- Private Finance Initiatives is a form of public private partnership that can go along way in improving the service provided by public libraries. They are long term contracts for services including the provision of facilities or properties. DCMS took over the responsibility for allocating PFI credits to cultural projects on 2000-01.
- Local Public Service Agreements are contracts between Central Government and Local Authorities offering reward grants for improved performance. This increases the chance for the delivery of better services.
- The Beacon authorities’ scheme also includes a theme entitled ‘libraries as a community resource’. Library authorities should aim to position library services at the centre of community life.

Issues and constraints

How could the Local Development Framework respond?

Implications for the sustainability appraisal

This document provides background information that may be useful at later stages of appraisal where further detail is required.

Cross references (General)       | Cross Reference (Topic reviews) |
Table A2.4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Proponent body</td>
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

School buildings should inspire learning but should also be a source of pride and a practical resource for the community. This document outlines the approach to capital investment in this area and outlines how school buildings will be developed in order to adapt to new learning styles; especially the infiltration of ICT. Education is vital to our prosperity and society and capital investment is essential if a good educational standard is to be provided.

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

- Building Schools for the Future will enable reform to take place in the way we allocate funding, the way in which schools are fundamentally organised, the way education transformation is achieved, the way schools are designed, and the way school buildings and facilities are procured.
- It is up to LEA’s to question how many schools are needed in an area, how they can embody the best of education reform and how LEA’s can build strong links with the wider community and employers.
- The process is a long term one carried out in waves with applications submitted and approved.
- Exemplar Designs are being launched to show high quality schools should be designed. The designs are arrived at by heads, teachers and pupils working with architects and they develop the educational vision that should deliver the education aspirations. Plans are generated locally.
- Partnerships for Schools is the delivery partner which together will coordinate the national delivery of the programme and provide support for LEA’s.
- The timescale is for the programme to be complete within 10-15 years of 2005-6.

**Opportunities**

- Government support for capital investment was proposed to reach £5.1 billion in 2005-06 for the rebuilding and renewing of secondary schools and primary schools.
- Primary schools will have greater access to the upgraded facilities of local secondary schools.
- The Partnerships for Schools supports the Government in selecting areas to receive investment and will establish best practice in delivery, nationally and locally.

**Issues and constraints**

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

Provides background information.
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

Schools and colleges have suffered from under investment in the past and new buildings are needed. There is need for an increase in capital investment and the educational capital budget is six times what it was in 1997.

The Government believe that better buildings are an essential part and contribute to rising standards and better than ever school results.

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

- A high standard of education is vital to create a prosperous and cohesive society.
- The design of nurseries, schools and colleges can help create a world class education system.
- The aim is to create extended schools which provide a range of services such as child care and after-school clubs to family support and training.
- The aim for Building Schools for the Future is to rebuild or refurbish all secondary schools and at least half of primary schools over the next 15 years.
- All schools are expected to provide access to extended services. Access to high quality child care, homework clubs, study support, music tuition, dance/drama/arts and crafts. Parenting support and family learning. Additionally there will be wider community access to ICT, sports and arts facilities including adult learning.

**Opportunities**

- Schools capital investment will rise from 6.4 billion in 2007-08 to 8 billion in 2010-11 which will be used to carry out that ambition.

**Issues and constraints**

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

Provides background information.

**Cross references (General)**

**Cross Reference (Topic reviews)**
Table A3.1

<table>
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Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?
The National Health Service LIFT programme will provide a modern, effective and well resourced primary care sector where GPs and other primary care health care professionals can deliver an extended range of services in the community. The LIFT programme will deliver an unprecedented level of investment in the primary care infrastructure - new surgeries, clinics, health centres and joint health and social care buildings and a figure of £210 million of public money has been made available with which to deliver the vision. It leads the way in healthcare provision and impacts upon transport, communities and deprivation.

Key messages, requirements and objectives
- Primary Care Trusts can invest in new premises in new locations providing modern integrated health services in high quality, fit for purpose primary care premises.
- The sorts of services to be provided in these new buildings are: re-provision of GP premises, one stop primary care centres, integrated health and local authority service centres, and community hospitals.
- A joint venture between the Department of Health and Partnerships UK has established the Partnerships for Health Company. This company delivers National Health Service LIFT, on behalf of Department of Health, in partnership with the local health economy through the establishment of a LIFT Company. This limited company owns and maintains the building and leases the premises to the Primary Care Trust, GPs, Local Authority Social Services, dentists, pharmacists, etc. This company is owned partly by the private sector and partly by the public sector participants. Not only will it deliver the Strategic Service Development Plan, it will also enter into a twenty or twenty-five year undertaking to deliver the Partnering Services. Simply put, it will build, maintain and operate primary care buildings and it will assist the local health economy to develop the best solutions to its service needs.
- Improved choice and access to services is a key constituent of LIFT, ensuring people are treated quickly and conveniently.

Opportunities
- Patients can be treated in their own locality and new resources are being targeted at the poorest communities.
- GP’s will be attracted to areas where they haven’t wanted to work before which will help tackle health inequalities.
- It establishes a long term sustainable relationship focused on delivering primary care investment and services; it will involve the private sector where they can add most value.
- It will provide investment in modern integrated primary care services in areas where patients most need it.

Issues and constraints
- Survey of primary care in inner cities has revealed that many of the deprived urban areas suffer from a disproportionately high number of sub standard premises. LIFT will help to alleviate this problem.
- only 40% of primary care premises are purpose built;
- almost half are either adapted residential buildings or converted shops;
- less than 5% of GP’s premises are co-located with pharmacy and around the same proportion are co-located with social services;
- around 80% are below the recommended size

How could the Local Development Framework respond?

Implications for the sustainability appraisal
Provides background information which is useful for:
- Establishing baseline position.
- Stages of appraisal requiring more detail.
Table A3.2

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Building on the Best</th>
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Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

Patients want a high quality service which meets the needs of every individual in a diverse population. A service which feels personal to each and every individual within a framework of equity and good use of public money. The NHS and the clinical skills of its staff are regarded very highly. But as public expectations move on and people look for more control and flexibility on the way they and their families are treated, the NHS needs to respond to that. New ways are needed to tackle the inequalities in health that still exist.

Key messages, requirements and objectives

- The NHS needs a culture change to make services more responsive to people’s needs, to treat people as a whole person rather than a collection of symptoms; a process of decentralisation to pass the power downwards and outwards to put patients in control. Only then will the NHS deliver the best possible care for everyone.

- People want the opportunity to share decisions about our health and health care, and to make choices about that care when appropriate.

- People want the right information at the right time, as well as being suited to their personal needs as possible, to enable this.

- Peoples health needs are personal, and they would like services to be shaped around their needs, instead of being expected to fit the system.

- The NHS needs to; carry on building capacity; maintain reform of healthcare delivery; work at ensuring choices and services genuinely reach everyone, including the most disadvantaged and marginalised groups: and above all listen to what patients and the public are telling the NHS and then act upon this.

- Increase choice of where, when and how to get medicines. Will continue to ease the bureaucracy around repeat prescriptions, free up restrictions on location of new pharmacies, expand the range of medicines that pharmacies can provide without a prescription.

- Enable people to book appointments at a time that suits them, from a choice of hospitals.

Opportunities

- Pharmacies will have more power in what they do.

Issues and constraints

How could the Local Development Framework respond?

Implications for the sustainability appraisal

Provides background information.

Cross references (General)  Cross Reference (Topic reviews)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Design and neighbourhood healthcare buildings</th>
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Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

Health depends upon care received but also upon the environment lived in. High quality healthcare buildings have a positive impact on health. A key principle of healthcare buildings should be to contribute positively to the neighbourhood.

Key messages, requirements and objectives

- More and more healthcare is to be delivered closer to home through primary care facilities in the heart of the neighbourhood.
- The government is implementing a major programme of capital development within the NHS. Expenditure will rise to £6 billion by 2006/7.
- A design champion should be appointed to ensure a focus on achieving the best possible design outcomes.

Opportunities

Issues and constraints

How could the Local Development Framework respond?

Implications for the sustainability appraisal

Provides background information.

Cross references (General) | Cross Reference (Topic reviews)
Table A3.4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Physical Activity and the Environment</th>
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

Five of the seven recommendations are relevant when developing Regional and Local planning policy and transport plans. As a whole, the recommendations are relevant when developing local authority strategies and for the management and planning of National Health Service facilities.

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

**Strategies, policies and plans:**

- Involve all local communities and experts at all stages
- Ensure planning applications for new developments always prioritise the need for people to be physically active as part of everyday life.
- Ensure local facilities and services are easily accessible on foot, by bicycle and other modes of transport involving physical activity.
- Assess in advance the impact that proposals are likely to have on physical activity levels, making the results publicly available and accessible.

**Transport:**

- Ensure pedestrians and cyclists are given the highest priority when developing or maintaining streets and roads, by:
  - Re-allocating road space to support physically active modes of transport
  - Restricting motor vehicle access
  - Introducing road charging
  - Introducing traffic calming to restrict vehicle schemes
  - Creating safe routes to schools.
- Planning and providing for a comprehensive network of routes for walking and cycling.

**Public open spaces:**

- Ensure public open spaces and public paths can be reached on foot, by bicycle and public transport.

**Buildings:**

- Ensure different parts of campus sites (for health or education) are linked by appropriate walking and cycling routes.
- Ensure new workplaces are linked to walking and cycling networks.

**Opportunities**

**Issues and constraints**

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

**Cross references (General)**

- Accessibility
- Built Environment and Landscape
- Open Space, Sport and Recreation

**Cross Reference (Topic Reviews)**

- Accessibility
- Built Environment and Landscape
- Open Space, Sport and Recreation
| **Table A3.5**
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| **Title** | **Tackling Obesities: The Foresight Report**
| **Proponent body** | Foresight
| **Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)** | Non-Statutory
| **Date produced** | May 2008

**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

The report looks at the potential role of local authorities in developing obesity strategies and how the Sustainable Community Strategy can play a critical part in developing these. As the Local Development Framework is the ‘spatial expression’ of the Sustainable Community Strategy and because of the impact that spatial planning can have on the courses of obesity, it is highly relevant.

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

**Obesity**

- It has been estimated that about 28 per cent of women and 33 per cent of men in the UK will be obese by 2010.
- Various factors create an ‘obesogenic environment’. This is defined as: ‘the total sum of influences in the environment on promoting obesity in individuals and populations’.

**Ten Tips for Local Action:**

1. Rise to the challenge. Get a better understanding of what obesity means for your residents locally.
2. Prioritise obesity prevention. Take a holistic approach to tackling obesity and the obesogenic environment.
3. Target children and vulnerable groups in raising obesity awareness and providing opportunities.
4. Don’t go it alone. Local strategic partnerships have been developed to bring partner agencies to work together on local issues such as obesity prevention.
5. Identify ‘obesity champions’. This might be the lead for public health or children’s health, or a local mayor or lead councillor.
6. Stay local. The sustainable community strategy is intended to generate local action and solutions to obesity prevention.
7. One size does not fit all. Work with individuals at grass roots level to find out what activity projects people would attend.
9. Don’t reinvent the wheel. There is a lot of evidence out there to show what works to combat and prevent obesity, this can be tailored to fit local circumstances.
10. Make information accessible. Help people understand practical examples of an unhealthy energy imbalance.

**Opportunities**

- There are numerous examples of good practice across the country where local government has demonstrated leadership in tackling obesity. Examples of which include obesity strategies which are implemented by a range of public, private and voluntary sector organisations.
- There is an opportunity for local government to take effective leadership. A wider strategic role taken by local government to tackle obesity forms part of its ‘place-shaping’ role.
- The Sustainable Community Strategies produced by local authorities can be critical planning tools to develop a local strategy to reduce obesity.
- An example from France: Ensemble Prévenons l’Obésité Des Enfants (EPODE) is cited. This is a multi-sector programme aimed at impacting on the planning system to create a ‘healthy town’. The project has seen to be a success in reducing the obesity rate in children.
- Emphasis on creating the ‘walkability’ and ‘cyclability’ of the built environment.

**Issues and constraints**

- The numbers of individuals who are overweight and obese have hit epidemic
proportions. The situation requires radical redress from all agencies in public and private services to halt a further rise in obesity.

- There is no example of anywhere in the world where the obesity trends has been reversed.
- There has been a significant change in lifestyle over the last few decades that have seen obesity rise. Towns have been planned around the car and large supermarkets prevail over small family stores.
- Unsurprisingly, the negative consequences of obesity are greatest for those who are the least well off.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

In the Local Development Framework, the Core Strategy can set general policies that seek to improve the health, wellbeing and opportunities for recreation for communities in the borough. General built environment and accessibility policies in the Core Strategy can also help achieve this.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

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Key messages, requirements and objectives

- The health of the UK population continues to improve, measured in terms of increasing life expectancy and decreasing infant mortality. However, the amount of time people are alive but not in good health is increasing.
- Health inequalities persist and obesity-related diseases are increasing. The relative gap in life expectancy between the fifth most-deprived areas and the national average continues to increase. It is estimated that by 2050; 60% of men and 50% of women will be obese.
- For people to be healthy, the environment around us must be health enhancing and provide opportunities to live a healthy life.
- The World Health Organisation believes that urban planning is a significant determinant of health.
- Interest is growing on how environments can be ‘obesogenic’. Changes such as transport infrastructure can be costly but they are more likely to reduce obesity levels in a sustainable way. It is considered that obesogenic environments are the primary cause of the recent increase in obesity.

Opportunities

- Studies have found that people with access to nearby nature are generally healthier than those without and that mental health is generally better in rural areas than urban areas.
- A study using data from the USA, Denmark, Netherlands and the UK found that increasing the number of people walking and cycling improves road safety.
- Making walking and cycling easy and attractive can have a significant impact on increasing physical activity and social interaction. Physical activity is a current focus of the Government’s fight against obesity.
- The design of the built environment can influence levels of crime and feelings of safety. People who feel safe in neighbourhoods are more likely to be physically active.
- Good street design can encourage people to walk and cycle more. Walkable neighbourhoods are likely to increase levels of physical activity and decrease the risk of obesity.

Issues and constraints

- Mental health disorders affect approximately one sixth of the UK adult population. Mental health has significant costs, £12 billion per annum for health and social care and £64 billion to the wider economy.
- Air Pollution, although generally decreasing, was estimated to reduce life expectancy by 7-8 months and cost up to £20.2 billion per annum. Air pollution is linked to mortality, asthma, rhinitis, cardiovascular disease, cancer, adverse pregnancy outcomes and lower male fertility.
- In England, the most deprived wards tend to have the highest levels of air pollution from vehicle emissions.
- Persistent environmental noise can contribute to heart disease, hearing impairment and poor mental health.
- Floods can have a wide range of negative impacts on health, such as stress, exposure to polluted flood water (stomach upsets and respiratory illness) and psychological distress.
- Climate change can impact on health through heat-related deaths, food poisoning, increased exposure to UV radiation, leading to skin cancer and cataracts.
• Land Use planning that isolates employment locations, shops and service from residential areas can reinforce social inclusion and discourage physical activity (i.e. walking to access shops and services).

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

In the Local Development Framework, the Core Strategy can set general policies that seek to improve the health, wellbeing and opportunities for recreation for communities in the borough. General built environment and accessibility policies in the Core Strategy can also help achieve this.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Healthy Weight, Healthy Lives: A Cross Government Strategy for England</th>
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Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?
Planning is seen as one of several tools that the Government can use to help fight against obesity.

Key messages, requirements and objectives
- Britain is in the grip of an epidemic with two-thirds of adults and a third of children being either overweight or obese.
- Without clear action, by 2050, 9 out of 10 adults could be overweight or obese and two thirds of children.
- Using current trends, the overall cost to society of obesity would reach £50 billion per annum in 2050.
- At the root of the obesity problem is an imbalance between ‘energy in’ and ‘energy out’, this has mainly been brought about by lifestyle changes, such as the nature of food we eat, the built environment and the way children lead their lives.
- The Government’s approaches to early years, schools, food, sport and physical activity, planning, transport, the health service and other areas all need to support the creation of a society that fully supports health.
- The Government has set itself a new ambition to become the first major country to reverse obesity trends. The initial focus is on children and reducing overweight and obese children at 2020 down to 2000 levels.
- Building physical activity into our lives is one of five preventative measures identified in the foresight report, the others being related to children’s health, workplace health, effective treatment for obesity and healthy food.
- The Government’s future vision is where people are able to exercise regularly and stay healthy throughout life, with clear links between physical activity, exercise and health. There will be an increase in the amount of physical activity as part of everyday lives, especially for children.
- The Government’s vision will be supported by the Government, business, local communities and other organisations creating environments where walking, cycling and other forms of physical activity are accessible, safe and the norm.

Opportunities
- Investment will be made into improving cycling infrastructure and skills in areas where child weight is a problem, as part of the £140m funding pledged to Cycling England.
- There are plans to invest in a ‘Walking into Health’ campaign aiming to get a third of England walking a least 1,000 more steps daily by 2012.
- £30 million investment in ‘Healthy Towns’, building on the French example: ensemble prévenons l’obésité des enfants (EPODE), looking at whole-town approaches to promoting physical activity.

Issues and constraints

How could the Local Development Framework respond?
In the Local Development Framework, the Core Strategy can set general policies that seek to improve the health, wellbeing and opportunities for recreation for communities in the borough. General built environment and accessibility policies in the Core Strategy can also help achieve this.

Implications for the sustainability appraisal
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Table A4.1

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<th>Title</th>
<th>The Influence of Neighbourhood Deprivation on People’s Attachment to Places</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>Joseph Rowntree Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</td>
<td>Non-Statutory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date produced</td>
<td>May 2008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

The study considers factors that cause people to become attached to deprived neighbourhoods in England. Attachment to place can be important in deprived areas, it may encourage a more settled population, which can promote community ties and social networks and it may encourage people to engage positively in the area.

Key messages, requirements and objectives

- Attachment to a place tends to be highest in areas that have strong social networks or cohesion and places which have a low perception of crime.
- Older people and those who have lived in an area for a long time tend to have a strong attachment to neighbourhoods.
- People are less likely to be attached to more deprived neighbourhoods, but the factors that have an impact upon attachment to neighbourhoods are the same for both deprived and affluent neighbourhoods.
- Population turnover in deprived areas can undermine social networks, erode trust and increase feelings of insecurity.
- Strong connections to family and friends are important as these help a person live more successfully in a deprived area.
- A mix of family types and a mix of people with different levels of qualifications have a positive influence on attachment. Lower levels of housing tenure mix have a positive effect on attachment.
- Ethnic mix has a slight negative effect on attachment and mix of housing type has a significant effect on attachment.
- The importance of social networks, security, age and length of stay are the dominant factors for attachment.
- Policy needs to acknowledge the importance of social networks and social cohesion. Social and family networks and associated security from these were what helped retain people in deprived areas.
- Efforts to promote more ‘balanced’ or ‘mixed’ communities need to consider age profile, as well as income and tenure.
- A range of neighbourhood-level interventions could have a role to play in supporting social networks or cohesion.

Opportunities

- High levels of social mix do not have a much of a negative effect upon attachment.
- The positive impacts associated with high levels of attachment can lead to people engaging positively in an area.

Issues and constraints

- Levels of attachment are found to be higher in affluent areas, meaning that the positive impacts arising from high levels of attachment to neighbourhoods do not resonate in deprived areas.
- Attachment is a difficult thing to quantify, in order for it to be an important policy consideration.
- The most positive impact on attachment to place tends to be closeness to friends and family. This is something that is beyond the scope of planning policy.
- Areas with a high transient population (such as Eastern European migrant workers in Leigh) will have a low level of attachment.
- Although attachment to neighbourhoods may be positive in terms of creating stable communities and positive engagement in an area, the report does not consider the aspirations of a neighbourhood.
- Some neighbourhoods may be impacted by very low levels of worklessness, particularly mental health, which would suggest that levels of attachment are low, or at least not having a positive impact.

How could the Local Development Framework respond?
The Local Development Framework could acknowledge the importance of social networks and social cohesion to deprived neighbourhoods and their regeneration.

### Implications for the sustainability appraisal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cross references (General)</th>
<th>Cross Reference (Topic Reviews)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Housing</td>
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</table>
Title: Safer Places: The Planning System and Crime Prevention

Proponent body: Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory): Non statutory guidance

Date produced: 2004

Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

The guide’s aim is to show how good planning can contribute to crime prevention and the creation of safer places and hence to well-designed, sustainable communities. We need to create environments which people want to occupy and use, creating a strong and positive sense of communal identity.

The guide builds from an understanding of the principles of crime reduction and good design, and provides pointers to how these can be applied to suit different circumstances. The intention is to prompt innovative, flexible thinking and effective working between the developer, designers, police and local planning authority.

The guide is not a manual to be applied by rote or a substitute for using skilled designers. Rather, the aim is to equip the reader with a better understanding of the links between crime and the built environment, so that problems can be tackled in an imaginative and considered way.

Key messages, requirements and objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Conjunction of Criminal Opportunity</th>
<th>Interventions in causes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Causes of crime</td>
<td>Interventions in causes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short term influences on the readiness to offend due to current life circumstances (for example drug addiction, social exclusion, conflict, unemployment, poor housing and inadequate leisure facilities)</td>
<td>By changing these life circumstances to reduce immediate motivation for offending</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offenders’ perspective of the crime opportunity – their perceptions of the effort, risks and rewards from offending in relation to the resources</td>
<td>By influencing offenders’ immediate decision-making through deterrence and discouragement, including through conventional law enforcement and situational prevention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The offender’s presence in the crime situation</td>
<td>By excluding or deflecting them from crime situations whether keeping children from crowding streetfairs or attending rowdy youths to clubs and shelters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The presence of targets (persons, property etc) that are vulnerable, attractive or provoking</td>
<td>By increasing the crime resistance of targets (e.g. through redesign of cars, mobile phones etc), lowering their value and removing them altogether</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A target enclosure (such as buildings, cars or gated industrial estates) that contain valuable property or vulnerable people</td>
<td>By increasing the security of ‘enclosures’ (for example by design and construction of homes, vehicles, public areas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A wider environment (such as town centres, housing estates, transport interchanges) that does not attract or generate offending and which favours offenders over non-offenders</td>
<td>By designing the wider environment through layout of housing estates, city centres and transport interchanges, to avoid concentration of attractive targets, to reduce conflicts; and to make surveillance and pursuit of offenders easier, and concealment and escape harder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The absence of crime preventers (residents, employees, passers-by, police or security guards who are ready, willing and capable of surveillance and intervention)</td>
<td>By alerting, motivating and empowering crime preventers (for example through defensible space designs which facilitate detection and challenge of intruders; and by fostering surveillance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The presence of crime promoters (e.g. careless homeowners, deliberate ‘fences’ of stolen goods etc)</td>
<td>By discouraging, deterring and cracking down on promoters (e.g. converting careless homeowners and builders into crime preventers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offenders’ criminality (i.e. their general disposition to offend and the influences that bring this about)</td>
<td>By reducing their criminal predisposition by early action on children’s development at home and in school, perhaps targeted on well-known risk-factors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offenders’ lack of skills to avoid crime</td>
<td>By supplying resources to help them avoid crime (such as literacy or cognitive-behavioural programmes to reduce aggression)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offenders’ access to resources for committing crime ranging from weapons, to tools to know-how</td>
<td>By denying offenders resources for crime</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Designing out crime and designing in community safety should be central to the planning and delivery of new development. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires all local authorities to exercise their functions with due regard to their likely effect on crime and disorder, and to do all they reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder.

**Seven attributes of sustainable communities** that are particularly relevant to crime prevention form the focus of the guide. The attributes have emerged from in-depth research into crime prevention and urban design practice and theory.

1. **Access and movement**: places with well defined routes, spaces and entrances that provide for convenient movement without compromising security
2. **Structure**: places that are structured so that different uses do not cause conflict
3. **Surveillance**: places where all publicly accessible spaces are overlooked
4. **Ownership**: places that promote a sense of ownership, respect, territorial responsibility and community
5. **Physical protection**: places that include necessary, well-designed security features
6. **Activity**: places where the level of human activity is appropriate to the location and creates a reduced risk of crime and a sense of safety at all times
7. **Management and maintenance**: places that are designed with management and maintenance in mind, to discourage crime in the present and the future

**Policy writing**

- Over-elaborate plan-making and unnecessary policies should be avoided. Planning policies on crime prevention should not be mere words of encouragement but set precise expectations. It should be quite clear what is expected from developer’s proposals, both in terms of location and quality. Every core strategy should have at least one general policy to help deliver planning’s contribution to crime prevention and community safety.
- Outline specific measures to be taken to ‘design out crime’.
- If a general policy is robust enough to apply to the full range of place and development types, it should not be necessary to have additional policies.
- Topic-specific policies could be required to focus the planning response to particular aspects of crime or disorder. These may either be incorporated in a DPD or be the subject of a SPD.
- Area or site-specific policies may be required to focus the planning response to particular locations with specific crime or disorder concerns.

**Development control** is pivotal in implementing planning policies to prevent crime. The different stages of the planning application process should be managed effectively to deliver safe, sustainable development.

**Opportunities**

- Planning out crime makes sense financially. Once a development has been completed the main opportunity to incorporate crime prevention measures is lost. Costs involved in correcting or managing badly-designed development are much greater than getting it right first.
- SPDs provide an excellent opportunity to express expectations for crime prevention measures at the very local level. A good development brief will include an analysis of crime risk and patterns and specify the kinds of responses that would be expected.
- Develop partnerships with local police to identify new developments that may cause a particular concern. ‘Traffic light system of triggers’. E.g. development in a high crime area.

**Issues and constraints**

- The principles need to be applied with careful thought. They are not templates and there are no universally applicable solutions. What works in one place may not work in another.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

- Develop a core policy principle on community safety. Set out specific measures.
- Consider the development of area and topic based policies through Area Action Plans and Supplementary Planning Documents.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

- Supports the inclusion of community safety as a sustainability objective.
**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

This regional plan sets out proposals for implementing the national plan of action (*Sustainable communities: Building for the future*) in the North West. It does not attempt to cover all the issues of importance to communities. It highlights actions to address housing, planning and neighbourhood renewal issues. The Government Office for the North West will be working with regional and local partners over the coming months to build on these proposals, to link them with other relevant programmes, and to turn policies into action.

**Key messages, requirements & objectives**

- Ensure sustainability is enshrined in all aspects of the region’s regeneration and development.
- Ensure regional economic, housing strategies and planning policy as key vehicles for delivering sustainable development.
- Development and identification of specific areas for regeneration and piloting of schemes.
- Deliver a rural renaissance.
- Reinvigorate the region’s economy, providing more and better jobs to underpin sustainable communities, and provide better infrastructure.
- Restructure the rural economy, addressing the weaknesses highlighted by the 2001 Foot and Mouth outbreak, and make the most of what the countryside has to offer.

**Opportunities**

- We must build on the region’s tradition and strengths for innovation and inventiveness.
- To make the effective use of European funding streams.

**Issues and constraints**

- There are significant areas of deprivation in the region, often concentrated in parts of the older urban areas characterised by poor housing, though deprivation is also found in some rural communities.
- Need a joined up approach to tackling deprivation, involving better housing, urban regeneration, preventing crime, improving health, and improving the wider environment.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

- Local Development Framework to address key issues of housing and regeneration.
- Local Development Framework to tackle deprivation gap by framing policies that deliver greater improvements in priority neighbourhoods.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

Ensure sustainability appraisal framework covers all the relevant issues and encourages equity.

| Cross references (General) | Cross references (Topic reviews) |
**Table B2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title</strong></th>
<th>Health Evidence Paper</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Proponent body</strong></td>
<td>North West Regional Intelligence Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</strong></td>
<td>Non-Statutory</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Date produced</strong></td>
<td>July 2008</td>
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</table>

**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

The Regional Intelligence Unit has developed topic papers in preparation for a new regional strategy for the North West. Health is one of a series of topic papers that will inform the regional strategy, which will eventually become part of Wigan’s development plan. It is critical that there is consistency between the regional strategy and the local development framework.

The health of the region’s population impacts on the economy in terms of lost productivity, NHS costs and number of incapacity claimants.

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

**Headline progress on Regional Economic Strategy indicators:**

- Life expectancy rates for all persons in the North West have risen to 77.65 years. This is lower than the national average which is 79.03 years.
- The percentage of smokers in the North West has fallen to 24% and is the same as the national rate.
- The number of incapacity benefit claimants in the region continues to increase, now with 408,240.
- The number of days lost per employee per year through sickness absence is 8.3, which is a fall of 1.7 days between 2005 and 2007.

**Evidence Base:**

- There is a clear north-south divide, nationally, in terms of life expectancy with the North West and North East ranked lowest and the South West, South East and Eastern regions the highest.
- People living in rural areas are more likely to have a longer and healthier life than those in urban areas. There is also a clear correlation between deprivation and low life expectancy.
- There is a difference of 5.4 years between the highest and lowest male life expectancies (by local authority area) with Manchester at 71.4 years and South Lakeland and Eden both at 77.6 years.
- Wigan is amongst the local authorities with the highest number of alcohol attributable deaths in the region, with 97 in 2005.
- Wigan scores well for the percentage of people taking regular participation in moderate intensity sport and active recreation.
- Wigan has a relatively low prevalence of people hospitalised for mental health conditions. It is 30th out of 44 North West local authorities; Burnley, Halton and Rossendale have the highest prevalence.
- Wigan has the third highest percentage of incapacity benefit and severe disability allowance claimants in the region, with 11.1% of the working age population claiming those benefits.

**Opportunities**

- The percentage of people taking part in sport/recreation in Wigan is above average for the region.
- The prevalence of mental health hospital admissions in the borough is lower than the regional average.
**Issues and constraints**

- Disparities in health linked to where people live. Locally in terms of deprivation and nationally in terms of the north-south divide in health.
- High number of incapacity benefit claimants in Wigan.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

The health information can inform the evidence base for the Local Development Framework. The evidence paper signposts to other evidence which could be used to monitor policies.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

**Cross references (General) | Cross Reference (Topic Reviews)**
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Open Space, Sport, Play and Recreation
Economy and Employment
<table>
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<td><strong>Date produced</strong></td>
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</table>

**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

Sets out the strategic aims, policing priorities and key initiatives to improve policing in Greater Manchester over a 3 year period (reviewed yearly).

The Policing Strategy for 2005-08 sets out how the Force intends to reduce levels of crime and disorder and make communities safer over a three year period.

**Key messages, requirements & objectives**

- Reduce crime and disorder within Greater Manchester with our partners
- Build stronger and safer communities with our partners
- Reduce race inequalities and build community cohesion.
- Reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour, and building confidence in the Criminal Justice System without compromising fairness.
- Enable people to feel safer in their communities
- Neighbourhood focus.

**Opportunities**

- Increased use of high technology systems and equipment.
- Deployment of more officers and support staff in priority neighbourhoods.

**Issues and constraints**

None identified.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

Neighbourhood focus.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

Include criteria in the appraisal framework that ensure stronger and safer communities.

**Cross references**

Wigan Community Safety Strategy

Cross references (Topic reviews)
The report presents projections of the number of people with a limiting long term illness or disability in Greater Manchester and its districts; Bury, Bolton, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan between 2001 and 2026.

Whilst projections of the total population by and age and sex at local authority level are readily available from sources such as the Office of National Statistics, projections of more specialised demographic characteristics such as health are not available. This report seeks to address this gap, by analysing the changes in the relationship between age and levels of illness over time to predict how the relationship might change the future.

Wigan has one of the highest rates for limiting long term illness or disability in Greater Manchester and England.

Opportunities
Projections of health characteristics will enable local authorities to anticipate the likely levels of poor health in order that demand for services is efficiently and effectively allocated.

Increase in LLTI rates is smaller for younger ages

Issues and constraints
- LLTI rate in Greater Manchester districts (20.4%) is higher than in England (17.9) and the UK (18.4).
- Wigan (22.3%), Salford (22.7%) and Manchester (21.5%) have the highest limiting long term illness or disability rates in Greater Manchester and are in the top 20% of local authorities in terms of limiting long term illness or disability prevalence.
- Wigan is ranked 51 worst district in England for limiting long term illness or disability.
- Since 1991 the percentage increase in limiting long term illness or disability has increased by 38.2%. However this is only ranked as 366 out of 434 local authorities and therefore the rate is considerably lower than the rest of the country.
- Rise in people suffering from an illness or disability between 1991 ands 2001 is part of trend of last 30 years. Trend dictated by:
  1. Life expectancies are increasing and the proportion of elderly people have increased over this period and so there are higher levels of illness associated with old age (Office of National Statistics, 2006)
  2. Research suggests that health conditions associated with lifestyle choices such as poor diet, smoking and alcohol consumption are becoming increasingly prevalent.
  3. Public perceptions in good health have improved and consequently more people class themselves as ill who may not have previously done so.
  4. During 1980s policy shifted people on employment benefit to sickness benefits.

Projections identify that Wigan’s population will have a 9.1% increase from 301,172 in 2001 to 328,438 in 2006. Of that the proportion of people aged over 60 will increase from 19.7% in 2001 to 28.6% in 2026 (above the English and UK average)

All projections at five year intervals identify that Wigan has the highest projections for limiting long term illness or disability in Greater Manchester.

Projection A (Low) identifies 30.1% increase from 67,101 in 2001 to 87,296 by 2026. This is above GM (23%) below the English (32%) and UK (31.2)

Projection B (Medium) identifies 63.1% increase from 67,101 in 2001 to 109,923 by 2026. This is above GM (54.4%) below the English (67.2%) and UK (66.9)

Projection C (High) identifies 97.5% increase from 67,101 in 2001 to 132,550 by 2026. This is above GM (85.8%) below the English (102.5%) and UK (102.5%)

Prevalence rates are also based on 5 year intervals and identify Wigan to have the highest rate in Greater Manchester and in each instance to be higher than English and UK averages.

Projection A (Low) 26.6%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projection B (Medium) 33.5%</th>
<th>Projection C (High) 40.4%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>How could the Local Development Framework respond?</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Recognise that significant increases in limiting long term illness or disability may result in a need for increased health care facilities, specialist housing requirements throughout the borough.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Emphasis on open space provision associated to need well balanced throughout the borough to ensure people have access to leisure and health facilities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ensure high quality urban and landscape design of the built environment and individual buildings are accessible in accordance with Access for All Supplementary Planning Document.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Implications for the sustainability appraisal</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides useful background information for establishing baseline.</td>
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</table>

| Cross references (General) | Cross Reference (Topic reviews) |
Table D1.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Local Area Agreement 2008 - 2011</th>
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<tr>
<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>Wigan Borough Partnership</td>
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<td>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</td>
<td>Non-Statutory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date produced</td>
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</table>

Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

- Local Area Agreements set out the priorities for a local area agreed between central government and a local area (the local authority and Local Strategic Partnership) and other key partners at the local level.

- The Local Area Agreement is effectively the delivery plan of the Sustainable Community Strategy, with the Local Development Framework acting as the other main delivery mechanism for the Sustainable Community Strategy.

The Wigan Story

- Accompanying the Local Area Agreement is the local story of how the Local Area Agreement was developed.

- The story acknowledges that people in Wigan are generally living longer, are better educated and more likely to be in work than they were 20 years ago.

- A number of challenges are set out in the story. These challenges provide the context to the Local Area Agreement and will need to be considered in the production of the Core Strategy.

- In developing the Local Area Agreement, the Wigan Partnership have re-visited the long term vision (Community Plan vision). This has lead to three ‘cross-cutting’ themes.

The Local Area Agreement Outcomes and Associated Priorities

- Outcome 1: An ambitious community: strong skills that meet business needs and supports sustainable local economy ….where people can get round more easily (and more sustainably) – and live in affordable homes. Priorities:
  - Improve access to sustainable transport, support independence and reduce traffic congestion
  - Reduce the level of worklessness
  - Increase levels of enterprise and inward investment
  - Increase skill levels with reference to business need
  - Increase the overall supply of affordable housing to meet the needs of all its residents and the local economy
  - To strengthen our weaker housing markets by increasing the choice and quality of the housing offer in these localities
  - Improving participation and attainment in education, employment and training for 14-19 year olds

- Outcome 2: A strong community that provides positive activities for all with improved community confidence, participation and cohesion, safe and sustainable neighbourhoods
  - Improve the cleanliness and greenness of the borough
  - Reduce children and young people’s involvement in anti-social behaviour and offending
  - Improving the range of things to do and accessibility of positive activities for all
  - To increase participation in community and cultural activities that improve the well being of individuals, and community cohesion
  - Reduce drug and alcohol related harm
  - Reduce re-offending
  - Improve community confidence / perceptions in relation to crime, drugs and environmental issues
  - Reduce local priority crime

- Outcome 3: Living longer with a better quality of life: addressing inequality
- Reduce early deaths and disability due to CHD, stroke and cancer
- Safeguarding, respect and dignity for vulnerable adults
- Provide care closer to home for people with long term conditions
- Reduce social exclusion for older people and other vulnerable adults
- Increase people’s and community’s perception of control over own lives or where they live
- To better meet the needs of vulnerable and homeless people by investing in better prevention and support services

- Outcome 4: Improved aspirations, attainment and life chances for children and young people (especially those in most disadvantaged communities)
  - Reduce teenage pregnancy and improve access to sexual health services
  - Enhancing children and young people’s well-being with a particular focus on obesity, alcohol abuse and emotional resilience
  - Safeguard children and young people through improved prevention, early intervention and community engagement
  - Improve outcomes for Children in Care
  - Narrow the attainment gap between our most disadvantaged communities and the population as a whole

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

**‘Cross-Cutting’ Themes**

- **Tackling Inequalities**
  - Closing the gap between the most deprived and least deprived neighbourhoods
  - The example of 400 babies, with half born in the most deprived neighbourhoods and half born in the least deprived neighbourhoods show stark contrasts in terms of health, education, work, home and family, experience of crime and life expectancy.
  - Local information systems are being developed with key partners that will help services to be commissioned effectively.
  - The Local Area Agreement can play a part in delivering improved health and life chances, affordable homes and clean and sustainable neighbourhoods.
  - Being pro-active and using the opportunities of an early intervention led approach can help address overlapping problems.

- **Raising Aspirations and Ambition**
  - One of the Borough Partnership’s biggest challenges is to create a new climate of ambition and personal aspiration.
  - The Local Area Agreement should support young people to be ambitious and make informed life choices, in terms of work and personal and social life.
  - The Local Area Agreement should promote a wider range and choice of positive activities that are easy to access.

- **Promoting a Sense of Community and Identity**
  - To address broader issues such as traffic congestion, the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities is producing a Multi Area Agreement for Greater Manchester.
  - The Local Strategic Partnership has been working with the third sector (primarily voluntary sector) to develop a collective approach to enable the sector to play a full and active role in serviced delivery and community engagement.
  - The borough is currently undergoing significant demographic change, which means that the Local Strategic Partnership needs to be pro-active in ensuring all local communities can feel confident and welcomed where they live.
  - There are formal and informal arrangements in place for working with the Black and Minority Ethnic sector but further work is still needed to ensure the changing needs of those communities can be addressed.

**Emerging Priorities**

- The principles that underpin the work of the Local Strategic Partnership:
  - A preventative approach to stop problems developing within communities
  - Targeting within priority neighbourhoods and groups that enables effective early intervention
Development that enables us to meet our local needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own.

**Opportunities**

- The Local Area Agreement is strongly based on early intervention and pro-activeness.
- It has been produced through collaboration with organisations, stakeholders, people and collective partners and partnerships.

**Baseline Data:**

- The borough has a stable population base.
- Results from the most recent Citizen’s Panel in 2007 are generally positive:
  - A good place to live (87%)
  - Strong public services (79%)
  - Real community spirit (61%)
  - Dynamic and forward thinking (60%)
  - A good place for business (59%)

**Issues and constraints**

The following issues are derived from the main challenges facing the Wigan Partnership, presented in the context of the topic paper areas:

**Health and Recreation**

- Male and female life expectancy are less than the national average by 1.8 and 1.7 years respectively
- Coronary heart disease, digestive disease, stroke, lung cancer and respiratory diseases are biggest causes of shortened life expectancy
- Deaths from heart disease, strokes and smoking are all above the national average
- The number of obese people in Wigan is increasing more than the national average.
- By 2015 there will be in excess of 6,000 more older people (over 65) who have a limiting long term illness than now, increasing to 12,000 more by 2025.
- The number of people drinking over the recommended weekly alcohol level increased, particularly for women.
- The number of under-18 conceptions increased in Wigan at 2005, whilst nationally this decreased.
- The rate of benefit claimants with a mental health problem is 35.2 per 1,000 people of working age – significantly higher than the national rate.
- Satisfaction with Wigan’s parks and open spaces decreased from 65% to 62% between 2004 and 2007, whereas the national figure increased.

**Education and Skills**

- Pupils from more disadvantaged groups have a lower attainment than the borough average at every key stage. This is particularly true for boys in the most deprived areas of the borough.
- Wigan has fewer residents qualified at NVQ level 4 than national and regional averages.
- Wigan has less full-time entrants to higher educations when compared to regional and national levels. People in deprived areas are less likely to enter higher education.

**Economy and Employment**

- In the most deprived 3% of Super Output Areas, people only have a 50% chance of being in work.
- Nearly 20% of people in the 3% most deprived Super Output Areas have not worked since before 1991, which is double the national average. 8.4% have never worked
- 30% of people in the most deprived Super Output Areas have a registered longstanding illness – almost twice the national average.
- The median weekly gross pay for a Wigan resident is £52 lower than England and £27 lower than the North West.
- The number of incapacity benefit claimants in Wigan is 11.13%, up to 22.89% in the most deprived Super Output Areas. This is against a national average of 7.13%.
- Economic activity amongst people with a disability is lower in Wigan than nationally, 43.1% compared to 55.3%.

**Accessibility**
• 57% of those in the 3% most deprived areas have no access to a private vehicle.
• Only 14% of people travel by bus or train, the lowest in Greater Manchester and still declining.
• A survey in 2006 found 80% of all car journeys were to local destinations within the borough.

Housing
• Wigan is the 7th highest for homelessness in England, 14th per head of population.
• The housing affordability ratio has worsened in recent years, to 5.45, but is still favourable to the national ratio, 7.12.

Community Safety and Neighbourhood Quality
• The crime gap between the borough average and 10% most deprived Lower Super Output Areas has increased from 67.4% to 82.3% between 2005/6 and 2006/7.
• It is estimated that 50% of all crime is committed by 10% of repeat offenders.
• A disproportionate number of the borough’s 1700+ offenders live within the most deprived neighbourhoods.
• 20% of Wigan’s land and highways had unacceptable levels of litter and detritus in 2006/7.

Natural Resources and Pollution
• The ecological footprint of the average Wigan resident is estimated at 5.35 global hectares. This is similar to the England average but more than the sustainable global allowance of 1.88 per person.
• Wigan’s overall natural environment ranking in 2005 was 264th out of 345 authorities.
• Poor air quality from traffic pollution is a problem as 10% of the population live near major roads and 82% travel to work by car.
• Wigan residents emit 6.1 tonnes of CO2 per year, similar to most Greater Manchester boroughs, but much higher than the global average.

Waste
• Around 9% of total waste arisings come from domestic households.
• Levels in Wigan (523 kg per person) and the local recycling/composting rate (2.19%) are much worse than the national averages.

The following issues are linked to the cross-cutting themes in the Local Area Agreement:

Tackling Inequalities
• The example of 400 babies shows some stark contrasts between different parts of the borough:
• The gap between the most disadvantaged and most affluent neighbourhoods does not seem to be narrowing. The gaps have been a persistent feature for many years and are multi-dimensional.

Raising Aspirations and Ambitions

• Wigan has a relatively poor performance in skill levels in terms of the emerging knowledge report, being ranked 297th out of 408 districts nationally.

• The proportion of working age people with ‘higher end’ skills in Wigan is well below the national, regional and sub-regional averages.

• Binge drinking, teenage pregnancy and sexual health remain considerable issues for young people.

Promoting a Sense of Community and Identity

• The Citizen’s Panel found the top 3 issues for the next generation to be:
  o Standard of living
  o Education
  o Health

• The 2006 General Survey found the issues that needed most improvement were:
  o Activities for teenagers
  o Traffic congestion
  o Crime
  o Street cleanliness

• 51 languages other than English are spoken as a first language by pupils in Wigan schools

• Since the census in 2001, Wigan has received approximately 6,400 migrants.
How could the Local Development Framework respond?

Implications for the sustainability appraisal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cross references (General)</th>
<th>Cross Reference (Topic Reviews)</th>
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<td>Local Futures</td>
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<td>Community Plan</td>
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<td>Sustainable Community Strategy</td>
<td>Environment, Natural Resources and Pollution</td>
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<td>Citizen’s Panel</td>
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<td>Open Space, Sport, Play and Recreation</td>
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<td>Waste</td>
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</table>
This plan sets out how the Council will continue to contribute to achieving the Council’s Vision: **Building the future together – A place where people matter and you can afford to live the life you want.**

The Corporate Plan will link directly with the new Sustainable Community Strategy. It is important that the Local Development Framework reflects what is in the Corporate Plan, as the Local Development Framework will form the ‘spatial expression’ of the Sustainable Community Strategy.

Much of the Corporate Plan is about how the Council delivers its services and the Council’s levels of income and expenditure. But underlying this are key principles and priorities of the Council, which the Local Development Framework must also embrace.

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

- Wigan is fast becoming a place of multiple opportunities undergoing ambitious transformation. There are a number of exciting projects underway that are beginning the process of transforming the borough.

- The Council hopes to exploit opportunities to overcome challenges that face the borough, the council hopes to improve:
  - Life expectancy and health
  - Aspirations, skills and employment opportunities
  - The ability for people to move safely and easily around the borough
  - The supply of affordable housing
  - Responses to climate change
  - The way communities participate in decision making

- Wigan is part of the single largest growth pole in the North (Manchester City Region) and is therefore in a position to reap benefits of economic growth.

- There has been signals from the Government about the role and agenda of local government:
  - Stronger cities and region
  - Local government as the lead for ‘place shaping’
  - Increased housing requirement, including affordable housing.
  - Strengthening employment opportunities for local people
  - Tackling the effects of climate change
  - Responsive services and empowered communities

- The Council has 5 main aims, working to:
  - Help people reach their full potential
  - Enable stronger community leadership
  - Provide places people want to live in
  - Set high standards of accountability
  - Provide effective support for services

**Helping People Reach their Full Potential:**

- There is a need to tackle the causes of poor health and reduce areas of concern such as obesity, low physical activity and reducing smoking and alcohol intake.

- Access to public services in the borough is set for a transformation over the next four years; the Joint Service Centre will act as a public service hub and will be linked to a network of contact points in each of the borough’s ten townships.

- The approach to adult care will become more personalised

- The Building Schools for the Future programme will need to be developed as part of the wider spatial strategy and all parts of the local authority and its partners will need to be
Stronger Community Leadership

- There is a need to improve resident satisfaction with cultural facilities, such as museums, galleries and theatres. Plans are in pace for projects at Wigan Pier, Wigan and Leigh College, the History Shop and Mesnes Park.

Places People Want to Live

- There is a need to improve road safety and accessibility in town centres.
- The council is aiming to improve information provision on recycling and plans an enhance kerbside collection service.
- The Working Neighbourhoods Fund and Deprived Areas fund will enable innovation in reducing worklessness.
- To provide affordable housing the Council aims to create 530 additional affordable housing lettings in the next 5 years.

Capital Expenditure

- The Council spent over £95 million on capital projects. Wigan and Leigh Housing had £25.6m improving housing stock, £17.5m was spent on school buildings and sure start projects and Leigh Sports Village received £17.6m of expenditure.

Opportunities

Helping People Reach their Full Potential:

- Exam results and employment rates for young people have increased, particularly for disadvantaged groups
- 8 Sure Start centres have been created, mainly in ‘priority neighbourhoods’, with a further 9 in development.
- 90% of schools have achieved the healthy schools standard.
- Initiatives such as skills shop and mental health worklessness projects have started to impact on worklessness in the most deprived neighbourhoods.

Stronger Community Leadership

- The 2007 Citizens panel found 87% agree Wigan was a good place to live.
- Work through the Local Area Agreement has seen a reduction in the number of burglaries and an increase in encouraging adults to take part in more physical activity.
- PACT (Partnerships and Communities Together) is a process of joining up community engagement and service delivery, to identity and respond to issues that matter most to local people.
- The structure of the Local Strategic Partnership has been reviewed to enable better participation with partners and communities.

Places People Want to Live

- Land surveys have shown a significant improvement in the cleanliness of the borough.
- Performance on homelessness has improved, but this still remains at a high level.
- The Council has made improvements to how they deliver their road safety function.
- The Council signed the Nottingham declaration on climate change, which is a commitment to reduce their carbon footprint. The Council has a Carbon Management Strategy and Implementation plan in place with a target to reduce emissions by 15%.
## Issues and constraints

Issues are identified here in the key messages, requirements and objectives sections. In the document itself, they are identified in the ‘what we need to do’ sections, which identify ways to overcome issues and challenges.

## How could the Local Development Framework respond?

## Implications for the sustainability appraisal

## Cross references (General) | Cross Reference (Topic Reviews)
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

This is Wigan Council’s first Comprehensive Equality Policy. It has been developed to ensure compliance with the Equality Standard for Local Government and all relevant legislation and codes of practice, and builds on the previous Equal Opportunities Policy.

This policy provides a framework for developing and implementing best practice in equality and diversity in the Council’s workforce and in relation to the services the Council provides to the local community.

The purpose of this policy is to make certain that in everything the Council does it supports diversity, equality of opportunity and the elimination of discrimination.

**Key messages, requirements & objectives**

- To champion equality of opportunity; address issues of diversity; challenge all forms of discrimination and contribute to making Wigan a place where people live together safely, in respect and friendship.
- As a service provider, to deliver high-quality services which meet the particular needs of individuals, families and communities.
- Treat everyone fairly, and with respect for their culture, values and beliefs;
- Encourage and enable the involvement of people in decisions which affect them.
- To promote policies and actions which acknowledge and respond to the needs of specific social groups, e.g. disabled people, when considering the design, practicality and delivery of all service provision.
- To promote non-discriminatory practice in the acquisition and provision of services;
- To promote equality of access for all in all development opportunities and regeneration schemes;

**Opportunities**

- The Council will ensure that there are appropriate resources for the efficient and effective delivery of the Equality & Diversity agenda that leads to systematic improvement.
- The Council is committed to identifying groups within the community whose needs/requirements are less well met by Council services than those of other groups.

**Issues and constraints**

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

Operate in an open and accountable fashion

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

Appraisal framework to incorporate equality and diversity assessment.

**Cross references (General)** | **Cross references (Topic reviews)**
# Table D1.4

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## Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

Community centres are an important part of Borough-wide community development and regeneration initiatives. They promote community development and are locations for services. The strategy proposes to determine which places or groups will or will not have the support of Wigan Borough Partnership and its constituent organisations and groups, to establish and or sustain a community centre.

## Key messages, requirements and objectives

- Building survey work is being undertaken to determine both the physical condition of the buildings and the suitability and sufficiency i.e. whether they can serve need. This is currently being carried out by Township teams but needs to take place in the context of a Borough–wide strategic framework.

- Challenges that face community buildings currently include:
  - Buildings (location, condition, use, accessibility)
  - People (volunteers, numbers)
  - Funding
  - Sustainability (absence of joined up approach to planning for provision, funding allocated on competitive bidding basis as opposed to addressing identified need).

- The strategy seeks to address issues surrounding need and development of centres. It should be feasible to seek organisations to provide the buildings where they are needed but not in existence, in return for revenue funding.

## Opportunities

## Issues and constraints

## How could the Local Development Framework respond?

## Implications for the sustainability appraisal

Provides general background information.

## Cross references (General) | Cross references (Topic reviews)
### Table D1.6

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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

This is an update of the previous strategy for neighbourhood renewal which incorporates the effects of changes that have occurred at the local and national level.

Positives include the fact that work in the ten Township areas has developed strongly in the past two years and we have a much stronger framework of local partnerships in all areas of the Borough. These are likely to become increasingly important in supporting our neighbourhood work in the coming years.

The National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal in 2001 set the aim that over the next 10 to 20 years “no one will be seriously disadvantaged by where they live”. One way to achieve this is the long term improvement of mainstream services and outcomes in deprived areas and neighbourhood renewal is about improving outcomes in a number of key thematic areas: crime, education, employment, health, housing and the local environment.

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

- Over the next 10 to 20 years “no one will be seriously disadvantaged by where they live”.
- Focus on and narrow the gap between the most deprived neighbourhoods and the rest of the borough/country.
- Improve the way mainstream services work in deprived areas.
- People should have a role in making changes and improvements to their areas.
- Recognition of the importance of improving housing and the physical environment of neighbourhoods as a catalyst for renewal;
- Increased emphasis on the economic development and renewal of neighbourhoods, with more emphasis on providing opportunities to involve the private sector in regeneration;
- Spatial priorities are: Wigan urban core, Leigh urban core. 10% most deprived areas (32 SOAs are covered – with 3% most deprived receiving more attention)

**Opportunities**

- Community safety allocated a large share of funding.
- Wigan has made good progress against a number of important floor targets.
- Wigan has hundreds of good community organisations and the development of the Community Networks has been an important step in bringing many of the groups and issues together in a structured way.
- The Township programme has made real progress in providing a structure for local co-ordination and forward planning. It has also helped to galvanise our work in engaging with communities in local areas.

**Issues and constraints**

To date there has been limited involvement of private sector partners in neighbourhood renewal. We need to include work to revitalise local economies within our overall approach to neighbourhood renewal.

The most deprived Super Output Areas in the Borough can be allocated into three areas: Wigan West/Wigan East and Leigh/Atherton (mainly the urban cores of Leigh and Wigan).

Norley / Scholes / Hag Fold / Westleigh are amongst the most deprived 3% nationally of Super Output Areas and specific area based initiatives are to be developed and implemented for these areas.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

Resources and regeneration activity should be focused in the areas of highest need.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

- Local Area Agreement provides the monitoring framework for the neighbourhood renewal strategy. A number if floor targets may be relevant to sustainability appraisal.
- Ensure appraisal framework encourages a reduction in the “gap” between the most deprived areas and the rest of the borough / country.

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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

Funding from the Community Buildings Programme gives communities a chance to improve their quality of life through buildings that are economically, socially and environmentally sustainable. Funding from this program ensures a wide range of services are available to a broad range of local people.

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

- It is a capital funding program that covers the cost of building, not running the project.
- The programme aims to achieve these outcomes:
  - broadening access to, and more use of, existing services
  - creating a greater number and wider range of new services
  - improving opportunities for the community to access a wide range of learning
  - improving the skills, knowledge and capacity to respond to community needs
  - increasing participation by the community in decision-making processes that affect the community
  - improving community relationships and networks
  - improving financial viability of community premises
  - premises that use less energy, pollute less, create less waste and have a reduced contribution to climate change.
- The building should be accessible to as many people as possible and the local community should be involved in using and managing it.

**Opportunities**

**Issues and constraints**

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

Provides general background information.

**Cross references (General)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cross references (Topic reviews)</th>
<th>Cross references</th>
<th>(Topic reviews)</th>
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</table>
This Action Plan has been produced by the Township Forum for Atherton. It explains what the Forum is working on locally and what it would like to encourage others to do.

Township Forums are part of the Local Strategic Partnership for the Borough, Wigan Borough Partnership (WBP).

### Key messages, requirements and objectives

**Neighbourhood Development**
- Encourage involvement in the local community.

**Health**
- Encourage good quality effective services.
- Remove barriers to health.
- Encourage more participation in physical exercise.

**Education & Training**
- Deal with social problems that get in the way of education.
- Increase the number of adult learning opportunities.

**Economy**
- Create a stronger enterprise culture;
  - seek ways to support local residents to become self-employed.
  - identify sites suitable for business start ups.
- Create more local employment opportunities;
  - identify land for retail/industrial uses.
  - increase opportunities for local training.
- Make the area more attractive to existing business;
  - explore ways to bring the market back into use.

**Leisure & Recreation**
- Raise awareness about facilities and opportunities available locally.
- Review the provision of play facilities for under 12s.

**Transport**
- Improve pedestrian safety.
- Improve the flow of traffic through the township.

**Environment**
- Develop a greater community awareness and sense of responsibility for and pride in the environment.
- Encourage better and more recycling.
This Action Plan has been produced by the Township Forum for Bryn and Ashton. It explains what the Forum is working on locally and what it would like to encourage others to do.

Township Forums are part of the Local Strategic Partnership for the Borough, Wigan Borough Partnership (WBP).

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

**Community Safety**
- Improve police/community partnership working.
- To provide multi-agency solutions to Anti Social Behaviour hotspots.
- Reduce the fear of crime and actual crime in residential areas.

**Education & Training**
- Encourage schools to work closely with local community groups and other agencies.

**Neighbourhood Development**
- Develop community pride and involvement of local people in their community.
  (via developing a Township-wide approach to Community development).

**Health**
- Improve access to advice in schools and across the community.
- Better understanding of health matters across the Township.

**Environment**
- To create high visibility neighbourhood gateway/signs/entrance features.
- Support environmental rejuvenation of Bryn Cross shopping centre.
- To make Ashton Town Centre more attractive.

**Leisure, Culture & Recreation**
- Develop potential of local parks and establish flagship scheme at Jubilee Park.
- Improve existing and consider the development of new, play facilities for the under 12’s.
- Develop local footpath/cycle/bridle way networks in and around the Township.
- Promote Township events, facilities and activities.
- Investigate the potential of organising a local carnival.

**Economy**
- Maintain and improve the commercial viability of Ashton Town Centre.

**Transport**
- Reduce levels of through traffic particularly in Ashton Town Centre.
- Encourage use of public transport and other alternatives to the car.
- Improve safety levels for pedestrian along main road corridors.

**Opportunities**

**Issues and constraints**

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**
Provides general background information for community development.
Table D1.10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Golborne and Lowton Township Action Plan</th>
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

This Action Plan has been produced by the Township Forum for Golborne and Lowton. It explains what the Forum is working on locally and what it would like to encourage others to do. Each forum has been working on the same eight themes – Community Safety, Economy, Education, Environment, Health, Leisure and Recreation, Neighbourhood Development, Traffic and Transport. Each forum has tackled this work in the way that works for them and that reflects the needs and opportunities of their area – not all townships are the same.

Township Forums are part of the Local Strategic Partnership for the Borough, Wigan Borough Partnership (WBP).

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

- consider ways of improving transport for residents in the Golborne and Lowton area and its effects on the environment
- encourage people to take pride and responsibility for their environment, whilst promoting community involvement in working towards a cleaner and more pleasant township

**Opportunities**

The Action Plan sets out a number of ‘visions/ statements’ to improve the area that can be used to inform the approach to spatial planning in the borough.

**Transport**

- **Accessibility**
  - Improve bus services across Golborne and Lowton
  - Review outcome of CANGo Study
  - Establish a Park and Ride service between Golborne Library car park and Newton Railway Station
  - Potential for re-opening of Golborne Railway Station

- **Reduce congestion and improve air quality**
  - the development of a bypass for the Lane Head area

- **Improve road safety**
  - safety schemes and ‘Safe Routes' to school:
  - External footpath improvements to St. Mary's and St Lukes schools
  - Puffin Crossings at Golborne High School and the junction of Crow Wood Road and Slag Lane
  - Encourage schools to develop and implement 'School Travel Plans’
  - Reduce the speed limit on the A580

- **Improve pedestrian facilities**
  - Improve pedestrian crossing facilities in the Newton Road and Kenyon Lane area
  - Improve and construct new footpath and cycleway along the A580 from Heath Lane to junction 23 of the M6 (Haydock round-about)

- **Restrict traffic and deal with ‘rat runs’**
  - Investigate the ‘rat runs’ and devise a scheme to reduce or stop the problem between:
    - Bradwell Road to Norwich Avenue
    - Church Lane to both Slag Lane and Stone Cross,
    - Barn Lane and Park Road

**Environment**

- **Increase awareness of recycling**
  - Encourage new recycling points
  - Encourage composting

- **Increase ‘Street Cleaning Index’ score of township**
  - Support fast food/take-away establishments to encourage their customers to dispose of their waste responsibly
  - Increase number of litter bins in township
Leisure and Recreation

**Vision/ Statement:** research being undertaken to determine vision and actions.

- Improve 12 year olds facilities within the township

Education

**Vision/ Statement:** research being undertaken to determine vision and actions.

**Issues and constraints**

- Information ‘gaps’ in following areas for Leisure and Recreation and Education.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

- For the Township Action Plan to be used to inform the ‘Spatial Portrait’ of the borough and ensure the action plan contributes to the emphasis of ‘place’ in the Local Development Framework.
- For the Core Strategy and Allocations and Infrastructure DPD to have regard to the site specific requirements of the action plan.
- Strengthen Partnership Working.
- Identify funding.
- Provide monitoring indicators.
- Involve local stakeholders in spatial issues.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

Provides general background information for community development.

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Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

This Action Plan has been produced by the Township Forum for Hindley and Abram. It explains what the Forum is working on locally and what it would like to encourage others to do. Each forum has been working on the same eight themes – Community Safety, Economy, Education, Environment, Health, Leisure and Recreation, Neighbourhood Development, Traffic and Transport. Each forum has tackled this work in the way that works for them and that reflects the needs and opportunities of their area – not all townships are the same.

Township Forums are part of the Local Strategic Partnership for the Borough, Wigan Borough Partnership (WBP).

Key messages, requirements and objectives

The following have been identified as necessary in the local community.

- Identifying areas suitable to provide safe meeting places for teenagers
- Help to schools with travel plan preparation
- Encourage schools to raise pupils awareness of the environment
- Develop potential of parks for the benefit of the local community
- Improve existing and consider the development of, new play facilities for under 12s
- Encourage access to open countryside and key local facilities - community groups to identify foot, bridle and cycle networks and seek external funding in support of their improvement if necessary
- Improving Hindley and Platt Bridge shopping centres and regenerate the Borsdane shopping precinct
- Support improvements to traffic flows along main highway corridors
- Improve levels of safety for pedestrians on main road corridors and in residential areas subject to ‘ratrunning’.
- Encourage use of public transport, cycling and other alternatives to the car

Opportunities

The Action Plan sets out a number of visions and statements to improve the area that can be used to inform the approach to spatial planning in the borough and these are listed above.

In particular the following improvements have been identified:

Work to improve bus services (reliability, frequency, attractiveness) particularly between:-
Ashton an Leigh via Bamfurlong
Ashton and Bolton via Hindley
Abram and Robin Park
Hindley and Robin Park

Support the provision of a Quality Bus Route between:-
Wigan and Leigh via Hindley/Hindley Green Wigan to Golborne/Lowton via Abram village

Promote use of rail services by improving Hindley station including provision of cycle stands and linking bus and rail time tables

Encourage provision of public transport access to relocated Doctor’s surgery on Ladies Lane

Lobby for the provision of cycle lanes where practical between Hindley Green and Wigan town centre along main A5227. Support Council with implementing off road cycle strategy particularly through Hindley and across Amberswood.

Issues and constraints
**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

- For the Township Action Plan to be used to inform the ‘Spatial Portrait’ of the borough and ensure the action plan contributes to the emphasis of ‘place’ in the Local Development Framework.
- For the Core Strategy and Allocations and Infrastructure DPD to have regard to the site specific requirements of the action plan.
- Strengthen Partnership Working.
- Identify funding.
- Provide monitoring indicators.
- Involve local stakeholders in spatial issues. Identify important Town Centre environmental improvements and raise profile of Business centres.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

Provides general background information for community development.

| Cross references (General) | Cross references (Topic reviews) |
### Table D1.12

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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

This Action Plan has been produced by the Township Forum for Leigh. It explains what the Forum is working on locally and what it would like to encourage others to do.

Township Forums are part of the Local Strategic Partnership for the Borough, Wigan Borough Partnership (WBP).

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

**Transport**
- Support the Guided Bus Way and campaign for its provision as an integral part of the Local Transport Plan.
- Encourage the development of Park & Ride schemes for Leigh, utilising the Guided Bus Way and Leigh Sports Village.
- To encourage schools to promote alternative travel methods to school, through the development of School Travel Plan – ‘Safe Routes to School’.

**Environment**
- Enhance the Civic Square & adjacent road.
- Reduce litter on the streets and increase Leigh’s Cleanliness Index Score.
- Launch the Annual Cleaner & Greener Leigh award scheme.
- Reduce the negative impact of vacant property and land on the image of Leigh.
- Improve air quality.

**Leisure & Recreation**
- Improve under 12’s play facilities.

**Opportunities**

**Issues and constraints**

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

Provides general background information for community development.

**Cross references (General)**

**Cross references (Topic reviews)**
### Table D1.13

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title</strong></th>
<th>Orrell Billinge Winstanley Action Plan</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proponent body</strong></td>
<td>Orrell, Billinge and Winstanley Township Forum</td>
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<td><strong>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Date produced</strong></td>
<td>February 2006</td>
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

This Action Plan has been produced by the Township Forum for Orrell, Billinge and Winstanley. It explains what the Forum is working on locally and what it would like to encourage others to do. Each forum has been working on the same eight themes – Community Safety, Economy, Education, Environment, Health, Leisure and Recreation, Neighbourhood Development, Traffic and Transport. Each forum has tackled this work in the way that works for them and that reflects the needs and opportunities of their area – not all townships are the same.

Township Forums are part of the Local Strategic Partnership for the Borough, Wigan Borough Partnership (WBP).

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

- Neighbourhood development through the creation of opportunities for residents to play an active role.
- To ensure the health and well being of the communities within the Township through quality and accessible healthcare facilities.
- To provide better, cleaner, and safer transport and routes.
- To create a cleaner and greener Township.
- To support the long term economic future of village centre shopping areas.
- Ensure a smooth transition to working life.
- To provide accessible leisure and recreational facilities that meet the needs of local people.
- To ensure access for all residents to educational and training opportunities.

**Opportunities**

- Proposals for a multi-use community complex in Winstanley.
- Proposals for a new community health centre for Orrell Billinge residents.
- Strong Partnership working with key partners identified.
- Proposals to develop land at Greenslate Farm as a community leisure area.
- Identifies funding.
- Sets out monitoring indicators.
- Involves local stakeholders in spatial issues

**Issues and constraints**

Provides general background information for community development.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

**Cross references (General)** | **Cross references (Topic reviews)**
### Table D1.14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Standish, Aspull and Shevington Township Action Plan</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>Local Strategic Partnership – Township Forum</td>
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<td>Non-statutory</td>
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<td>Date produced</td>
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</table>

**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

This Action Plan has been produced by the Township Forum for Standish, Aspull and Shevington. It explains what the Forum is working on locally and what it would like to encourage others to do. Each forum has been working on the same eight themes – Community Safety, Economy, Education, Environment, Health, Leisure and Recreation, Neighbourhood Development, Traffic and Transport. Each forum has tackled this work in the way that works for them and that reflects the needs and opportunities of their area – not all townships are the same.

Township Forums are part of the Local Strategic Partnership for the Borough, Wigan Borough Partnership (WBP).

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

- Improve leisure and recreation Facilities within the township (*Shevington Village Centre Recreation Ground Plan)*
- Support and promote activities held at local community centers
- Encourage residents to explore local neighborhoods and to walk cycle and horsehide more.
- Encourage schools, local businesses and other organisations to adopt Travel Plans.
- Reduce the number of road traffic casualties and congestion on the townships roads
- Encouraging and promoting healthy lifestyles for all township residents.
- Promoting and enabling community involvement.
- Promote village centres as shopping destinations.

**Opportunities**

- Identifies partner agencies and planned actions to make improvements. Also identifies some projects that have been implemented already.
- Incentives for residents within the township to use public transport between routes from Standish/Aspull/ Shevington and Wigan.
- Install bins in areas identified by residents Identify litter hotspots.
- Support /recognise local schools and groups organising litter picks, best kept garden competitions township anti litter campaign
- Improve the look of areas with artwork, tree planting, bulb planting, Gateway signing etc
- Promote village centres as shopping destinations.
- ‘Extended’ schools to develop in order to maximise schools as a community resource
- Reducing congestion – proposed MOVA scheme at Standish crossroads.
- Exploiting Leeds / Liverpool canal, Haigh Hall and Douglas valley for leisure tourism opportunities.

**Issues and constraints**

- Maximising accessible parking particularly in Standish and Shevington.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

Indicators and reporting measures could be useful for building up baseline information and monitoring. Provides general background information for community development.

| Cross references (General) | Cross references (Topic reviews) |
Table D1.15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Tyldesley and Astley Township Action Plan</th>
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<tr>
<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>Local Strategic Partnership – Township Forum</td>
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<td>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</td>
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<td>Date produced</td>
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Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

This Action Plan has been produced by the Township Forum for Standish, Aspull and Shevington. It explains what the Forum is working on locally and what it would like to encourage others to do. Each forum has been working on the same eight themes – Community Safety, Economy, Education, Environment, Health, Leisure and Recreation, Neighbourhood Development, Traffic and Transport. Each forum has tackled this work in the way that works for them and that reflects the needs and opportunities of their area – not all townships are the same.

Township Forums are part of the Local Strategic Partnership for the Borough, Wigan Borough Partnership (WBP).

Key messages, requirements and objectives

- Improve the provision of local community facilities.
- Improve the partnership between the police and the local community – neighbourhood policing.
- Identify and take steps to overcome barriers to employment for local people.
- Support the formation of new businesses.
- Take actions to improve road safety.
- Improve the Forum’s understanding of the causes of Traffic Congestion and take steps to reduce it and address the consequences.
- Create a safer, more reliable and flexible public transport system.
- Promote ‘Greener’ and ‘Healthier’ transport alternatives.
- Improve access to playing fields and other outdoor recreational facilities.
- Seek to retain and improve the provision of indoor sport and recreation facilities to serve the local community.
- Improve access to and links between local green spaces.
- Encourage and support the provision of new recycling locations.

Opportunities

- Remodel and revitalise Tyldesley Town Centre to encourage future investment and balance retail, commercial and residential interests.
- Develop a regeneration scheme to link the Leigh-Manchester guided busway bus interchange area on Astley Street with the town centre and maximise the potential benefits of this key transport link.
- Pursue improvements to public transport between key residential areas and employment sites. Identify and market the potential for leisure/tourism activities around green spaces and heritage sites (e.g. Astley Green Colliery, Canal. Dam House, Gin Pit village).
- Encourage and support schools in creating School Travel Plans.
- Seek improvements to Astley Street Park to create a ‘flagship’ park to serve the township.
- Work in partnership with external and regional agencies to develop new countryside facilities.

Issues and constraints

- Actions for health issues are missing, although this is acknowledged. Information is being gathered.
- Actions for education and training are missing, although this is acknowledged. Information is being gathered.

How could the Local Development Framework respond?

- Ensure that funds for play improvements from funding contributed by housing developers are distributed to the areas of greatest need.

Implications for the sustainability appraisal
- Indicators and reporting measures could be useful for building up baseline information and monitoring. Provides general background information for community development.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cross references (General)</th>
<th>Cross references (Topic reviews)</th>
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### Table D1.16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Wigan North Township Action Plan</th>
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### Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

This Action Plan has been produced by the Township Forum for North Wigan. It explains what the Forum is working on locally and what it would like to encourage others to do.

Township Forums are part of the Local Strategic Partnership for the Borough, Wigan Borough Partnership (WBP).

### Key messages, requirements and objectives

#### Neighbourhood Development
- Work with Partners to promote current events and to encourage an increase in community activities in neighbourhoods and Wigan Town Centre.
- Encourage a good level of community activity and participation in community events across the Township.

#### Health
- Need for appropriate and accessible healthcare facilities across the township for all residents.

#### Traffic and Transport
- Travel Plan trial project for public sector workers between Standish and Wigan town centre.
- Improve transport links across the Borough to key facilities.

#### Environment
- Address derelict/unsightly Town Centre buildings.

#### Economy
- Increase visitor numbers to Wigan town centre and create an environment for business to Invest.
- Create a safe environment for visitors and workers in the town.

#### Leisure, Culture and Recreation
- Provision of appropriate, quality play facilities across the township for all children and young people.
- Raise awareness locally of leisure facilities and activities.
- Improve events and festivals across the township.
- Mesnes Park to be restored and residents across the Borough encouraged to use it.

#### Opportunities
- Support development of interlinking theme/Township Motif.
- Investigate the feasibility of and encourage the introduction of a bus from Platt Bridge to Robin Park.
- Enter the Township into Northwest in Bloom 2006.
- Undertake an environmental audit of existing facilities in the town centre and create a schedule of faults that can be undertaken by private/public sector.
- Investigate the possibility of Sunday trading.

### Issues and constraints

### How could the Local Development Framework respond?

### Implications for the sustainability appraisal
Provides general background information for community development.

| Cross references (General) | Cross references (Topic reviews) |
### Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

This Action Plan has been produced by the Township Forum for South Wigan. It explains what the Forum is working on locally and what it would like to encourage others to do. Each forum has been working on the same eight themes – Community Safety, Economy, Education, Environment, Health, Leisure and Recreation, Neighbourhood Development, Traffic and Transport. Each forum has tackled this work in the way that works for them and that reflects the needs and opportunities of their area – not all townships are the same. Township Forums are part of the Local Strategic Partnership for the Borough, Wigan Borough Partnership (WBP).

### Key messages, requirements and objectives

- Generate community spirit and create opportunities for residents to play an active role in shaping their neighbourhoods
- Ensure the health and well being of the communities within the Township
- Promote safe, congestion free roads in the Township
- To create pleasant and green communities
- A strong local economy with high levels of well being amongst residents
- Access to quality and affordable leisure and recreational facilities which meet the needs of local people
- To ensure all residents have access to opportunities to allow them to reach their full potential

### Opportunities

- Identifies all partners involved in local issues
- Identifies funding and other opportunities for projects in local area.
- Involves local stakeholders in spatial issues
- Sets out baseline position for certain variables.

### Issues and constraints

- Education and community safety themes have not been developed to any extent.

### How could the Local Development Framework respond?

- Promoting public transport improvement
- Encouraging Travel Plan adoption.
- Public art and planting schemes
- Promotion of employment opportunities
- Play facilities in new development

### Implications for the sustainability appraisal

Provides general background information for community development.
Table D1.18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Embracing Change: A report of the Wigan Borough Partnership Community Cohesion Commission</th>
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<td>Wigan Borough Partnership</td>
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<td>Date produced</td>
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

The Wigan Borough Partnership Board formed a Cohesion Commission to allow a more in depth analysis of the state of cohesion in Wigan, to gather the views of key stakeholders on what a cohesive Wigan would look like and to make recommendations on how the Local Strategic Partnership takes forward a new cohesion strategy. The Local Development Framework presents an opportunity to improve cohesion through spatial planning.

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

The borough is clearly undergoing significant and rapid demographic change. The school census for 2007 suggests that 51 languages other than English are now spoken as a first language by pupils in Wigan schools. The latest figures of national insurance registrations by non-UK nationals in Wigan show that the number has increased 170% since 2002/3 and by 20% since last year.

There is anecdotal evidence that the borough demographic is changing in other ways too, with some estimates suggesting that the overall population is increasing and growing older.

**key messages**

- **Race** is significant, although there is disagreement as to whether it is pivotal.
- Persistent and unacceptable **inequality** goes to the heart of integration and cohesion.
- We need to improve our knowledge and **monitoring** of who our communities are.
- Visible and audible **leadership** is needed to ensure that our shared values are understood and acted on.
- Cohesion is a **mainstream** issue and we need a community plan that recognises this.
- We need to encourage, if not provide, more opportunities for interaction and **participation**.

**Opportunities**

- Tackling cohesion through the Local Area Agreement / and better monitoring.
- Also key messages box above.

**Issues and constraints**

- A lack of aspiration continues to be cited as a most significant issue needing resolution in most, if not all, our strategic plans.
- Also see key messages box above.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

Community development to be a part of the sustainability appraisal framework. ‘Cohesion’ is a part of this. Links to equality and diversity impact assessments.

**Cross references (General) | Cross References (Topic reviews)**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Wigan Local Education Authority Access Initiative and Strategy</th>
</tr>
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<td>Wigan Council</td>
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</table>

**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

LEAs and schools also have a planning duty, under which they are required to prepare accessibility strategies and accessibility plans in order to increase the accessibility for disabled pupils over time. This planning duty requires both the LEA and schools to improve access for disabled pupils in a planned and strategic way.

**Key messages, requirements & objectives**

- To improve education accessibility by increasing access to the physical environment; the curriculum and to written communication.
- Improvement of the physical environment of schools to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and related services.
- Improve ongoing support to all schools in order to raise awareness of access issues and to develop curriculum policies on disability equality within the framework of the Foundation Stage, National Curriculum and Wigan LEA’s Curriculum Statement.
- Will provide ongoing support in order to improve the range and quality of written materials available to disabled pupils.

**Opportunities**

- See key messages above.

**Issues and constraints**

- None identified.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

- To ensure that DPDs such as the Core Strategy and Allocations & infrastructure DPD provision of education facilities.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

- Access to facilities and educational attainment should be considered by sustainability objective.

**Cross references (General)**

- Economy and Employment.
- Community Facilities
- Demographics and Social inclusion

**Cross references (Topic reviews)**

- Community Facilities
- Demographics and Social inclusion
Table D2.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Wigan’s Strategy For School Places and Buildings 2005/06 - 2009/10</th>
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<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>Wigan Council</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2005</td>
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</table>

**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

The document outlines Wigan’s strategy for planning its number and location of school places and its capital and planning priorities for school buildings for the 2005/06 academic year, through to 2009/10.

The document removes duplication from the current School Organisation Plan (covering the period 2003/04-2007/08) and some of the Statement of Priorities (from the Asset Management Plan) in order to create an annually produced operational document relating to the planning of school places. This document therefore provides a clearer focus for capital decision making.

**Key messages, requirements & objectives**

- To provide greater spatial planning of locality of schools in relation to residential areas and commuter patterns.
- Education of the borough’s population and provision of high quality facilities is central to delivering sustainable development.
- Promote high standards of achievement and excellence in learning by ensuring that education providers are well motivated and encourage aspiration;
- Reduce the number of children and young people ‘at risk’
- Promote and achieve inclusion for our pupils
- Maintain diversity of provision, with reference to the denominational profile of schools within an area;
- Deploy resources effectively to meet local and national priorities including providing sustainable and energy-efficient buildings that are consistent with Local Agenda 21 strategies;
- Develop high quality leadership and management
- Develop partnership working with service users, providers and other stakeholders
- Secure reasonable access to a range of provision for all our pupils and
- Extend and enhance community facilities.

**Opportunities**

See key messages above.

**Issues and constraints**

- Areas or schools with a significant amount of surplus accommodation (over 25%);
- Areas where demand exceeds the number of school places;
- Schools which are overcrowded;
- Schools which fall below an appropriate size; and
- Schools whose accommodation seriously hinders the learning environment.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

To ensure that DPDs such as the Core Strategy and Allocations & infrastructure DPD ensure provision of easily high quality education facilities.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

For the sustainability appraisal framework to consider accessibility and the provision of high quality community facilities (including schools).

**Cross references (General)** | **Cross references (Topic reviews)**
---|---
School Organisation Plan | |
Asset Management Plan | |
Community facilities | |
Table D2.3

Title | Wigan’s Strategy for School Places and Buildings 2007/8
---|---
Proponent body | Children and Young People’s Services
Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory) | 
Date produced | 2007

Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

In order to achieve the key outcomes of the Children and Young People’s Services (which are to help children: Be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution and achieve economic well-being) the Authority needs to:

- Provide services that children, young people and their families need;
- Encourage their participation in what we provide for them and respond to what they tell us about our services;
- Locate services in places where children, young people and their families can easily get to;
- Provide support as soon as it is needed and in a way that the child or young person is comfortable with;
- Ensure that agencies providing services for children, young people and their families do so in a co-ordinated, joined up way.

The provision planning role of the authority is to:

- Balance the supply and demand of school places in all areas of the Borough;
- Take cost effective measures to ensure that high quality school buildings enhance the learning environment; and
- Provide viable and stable schools that will survive intact for a considerable period of time.

By doing this they will be able to promote and achieve inclusion for pupils, maintain diversity of provision, secure reasonable access to a range of provision and extend and enhance community facilities including out of school childcare and parental support services.

Key messages, requirements and objectives

- The following National Initiatives are in place to support LA’s:
  - Building Schools for the Future (BSF). This aims to ensure the right facilities are in the right places.
  - Primary Schools Capital Programme. The rebuilding or remodeling of up to 50% of the country’s primary schools.
  - Extended Schools. Planning more integrated services with partners such as Health and Social Services to support the needs of the community.
- The BSF and PSCP are to provide the catalysts for improved facilities and learning opportunities and are an integral part of the Community Plan for the Borough.
- WC believe that the quality of school buildings play a key role in raising educational standards. The size, suitability and condition of school buildings plays a role in determining how effectively schools can deliver the curriculum.
- Around 45,200 children attend schools maintained by the LA.
- Primary rolls have been falling in the past few years due to a fall in the birth rate.
- Secondary rolls increased between 1990 and 2005/06 but have now started to decline. There are now 20,561 mainstream pupils aged 11-16 compared to 20,796 in 2005/06. Roll projections indicate that numbers in the secondary sector will continue to decline (by an estimated 17% by 2015).
- There are 6441 on roll at colleges of further education/sixth form colleges.
- In January 2007 there were 665 pupils on roll at special schools.

Surplus places will now occur and can be removed by amalgamating schools, rationalisation of building stock and using the premises for alternative uses. The situation in Wigan at 2006/7 is as follows:

- % of primary schools with 25% or more places unfilled 8.57%
- % of secondary schools with 25% or more places unfilled **9.52%**
- The Authority needs to work with the planning dept in order to ensure that sufficient places are available in areas where housing developments are taking place.

### Opportunities

- After a general review of secondary place provision in Sept 2004 the LA is aiming to establish secondary schools of around 1000 pupils under BSF.
- The Authority has been awarded funding for one new secondary school in advance of BSF. It is hoped to build this within the next three years.
- If Wigan's BSF bid is successful, £250m of government funding will be available to implement Wigan's strategy for change. This includes a radical programme of new school building and refurbishment of existing schools.

### Issues and constraints

### How could the Local Development Framework respond?

### Implications for the sustainability appraisal

This document provides background information that may be useful at later stages of appraisal where further detail is required.

### Cross references (General) | Cross Reference (Topic reviews)
Table D2.4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Wigan Schools for the Future Consultation Conference – 2nd October 2008</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>Wigan Council</td>
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<td>Date produced</td>
<td>October 2008</td>
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</table>

Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

As a joint procurement with Salford City Council, Wigan Council is to submit an expression of interest to the Government on 30th November 2008 to be included in the Building Schools for the Future Programme in 2009.

At the Consultation Conference, officers in the Children and Young People's Services department outlined the submission process, the Council’s strategy for change, and the roll projections of the non-catholic secondary schools in the Borough.

Key messages, requirements and objectives

Expression of Interest:

Wigan Council to submit an expression of interest to the Government on 30th November 2008 to be included in the Building Schools for the Future Programme in 2009.

Strategy for Change

Schools for the future:

- Drive reform of the Secondary system and improvements in education standards;
- Are world class places for teachers to teach and pupils to learn;
- Are 21st Century Schools which support the aims of the Children’s Plan; which increase choice and diversity; are well used by the community; offer extended services and collocation of other services where appropriate.

Wigan Council in collaboration with schools, parents and partners must develop a strategy for change and address the following key questions:

- Where is the authority now in terms of attainment, fair access and choice?
- What added value will Building Schools for the Future investment provide to local educational outcomes – within and beyond the school day?
- How does the authority propose to ensure choice, diversity, and access for all parents and pupils in its schools?
- How will the authority ensure robust challenge to schools including strategies for early intervention in the case of underperforming or failing schools?
- How will the authority deliver personalised learning to ensure that every pupil is fully stretched and can access a broad curriculum that best suits other needs and talents?
- How will the authority and partners ensure the effective delivery of the 14-19 entitlement?
- To what extent is the authority entering effective integration of education and other services through Every Child Matters?
- How does the authority propose to champion the need of all pupils, including those with Special Educational Needs?
- What change management strategies are in place to achieve the authority’s BSF vision?

The Council is proposing 2 new 14-19 Centres which will offer diploma courses. In addition to school leavers, these centres will offer diplomas to Year 10 and 11 secondary school pupils as an alternative to certain non-core subject GCSEs.
The council is considering school closures, school mergers, and new school building as part of the strategy for change.

**Opportunities**
- A successful submission would result in the Council being given £250m of Government funding to fulfil the strategy for change and improve education in the Borough.

**Issues and constraints**
Numerous secondary schools in the Borough have too few pupils to operate viably. The tables below indicate the projected annual roll numbers of all non-Catholic secondary schools in the Borough for the period 2008-2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>West</th>
<th>Standish</th>
<th>Shevington</th>
<th>Abraham Guest</th>
<th>Hawley</th>
<th>PEMBEC</th>
<th>Rose Bridge</th>
<th>The Deanery</th>
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<tr>
<td>2008-2009</td>
<td>1255</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>926</td>
<td>864</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>1383</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>1257</td>
<td>674</td>
<td>873</td>
<td>837</td>
<td>426</td>
<td>596</td>
<td>1357</td>
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<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>1278</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>812</td>
<td>819</td>
<td>393</td>
<td>548</td>
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<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>1301</td>
<td>633</td>
<td>776</td>
<td>797</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>1325</td>
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<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>1333</td>
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<td>709</td>
<td>803</td>
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<td>2013-2014</td>
<td>1307</td>
<td>567</td>
<td>667</td>
<td>782</td>
<td>331</td>
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<td>2014-2015</td>
<td>1307</td>
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<td>667</td>
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West of the Borough:
- Currently 7 non-Catholic schools, to become 6 in 2011 when PEMBEC closes.
- Anticipated 5,750 non-Catholic secondary school age living in area by 2017/18.
- The option is for 6 schools to serve West of Borough as follows:
  - 1 school for 1250 children
  - 1 school for 1025 children
  - 4 schools for 1000 children
  - Option includes the establishment of a 14-19 centre at PEMBEC.

Centre of the Borough:
- Currently 5 non-Catholic schools serving the centre of the Borough
- Anticipated 3,650 non-Catholic secondary school age children living in area by 2017/18
- The option is for 3 schools to serve the centre of the Borough as follows:
  - 3 schools for 1250 children

East of the Borough:
- Currently 4 non-Catholic schools serving the east of the Borough
- Anticipated 3,800 non-Catholic secondary school age children living in area by 2017/18
- The option is for 3 schools to serve the east of the Borough as follows:
  - 1 school for 1500 children
  - 2 schools for 1250 children
  - The option includes the establishment of a 14-19 centre in the area.

How could the Local Development Framework respond?
To support the strategy for change in the Core Strategy and site allocations document.

Implications for the sustainability appraisal

Cross references (General) | Cross Reference (Topic reviews)
Table D2.6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

This is an update of the 2006-2009 Children and Young People’s Plan, and forms a blueprint for improving the lives of all children and young people in the Borough. The Plan has not been created overnight or by a small group of people. Rather, it has grown and taken shape as the result of much deliberation, consultation and no little challenge.

The five key outcomes listed below form the basis for the strategic priorities around which the plan is focused, namely:

- Being healthy
- Staying safe
- Enjoying and achieving
- Making a positive contribution
- Achieving economic well-being

The first part of the plan describes the way in which children and young people were consulted and what they said was important to them. They provided a wide range of responses in relation to the five key outcomes and the kind of messages they sent out have been a major influence on the shaping of the plan.

It is important to recognise that:

- as a single plan, replacing many of the current plans and drawn up in consultation with all key agencies, it reduces the chances of confusion and duplication;
- it shows quite clearly how the Children, Young People and their Families Strategic Partnership’s vision, aims and principles are being put into practice;
- it highlights the areas where improvement is most needed – the strategic priorities above;
- it demonstrates how agencies are working together on the ground to improve outcomes for children and young people.

Key messages, requirements, objectives

The following 8 partnership priority objectives have been agreed:

1. Reduce teenage pregnancy and improve access to sexual health services
2. Enhance children and young people’s wellbeing, with a particular focus on obesity, alcohol abuse and emotional resilience
3. Safeguard children and young people though improved prevention, early intervention and community engagement
4. Improve outcomes for Children in Care
5. Narrow the attainment gap between our most disadvantaged communities and the population as a whole
6. Reduce children and young people’s involvement in anti-social behaviour and offending
7. Improve the range and accessibility of positive activities for all children and young people
8. Increase participation and attainment in education, employment and training for 14-19 year olds

Opportunities

Wigan already has a strong track record of Partnership working to draw on.

Issues / Constraints

Important challenges remain in Wigan, including:

- High levels of teenage conceptions, especially in the most deprived areas of the Borough
• Some teenage sexual health issues, including high levels of sexually transmitted infections
• A legacy of poor health locally, which this generation of young people needs to leave behind by developing lifestyles that are physically and emotionally healthy
• A need to consolidate the existing robust and responsive arrangements for safeguarding – especially in terms of timeliness of assessments
• As corporate parents, ensuring outcomes for children in care are as good as we would wish for our own children – meaning that health and educational outcomes in particular need to improve.
• Poor educational attainment by young people – and especially boys - from the most deprived communities in the Borough
• Making sure that there are lots of constructive things for children and young people to do, and places for them to go
• A need for improved access to leisure and informal learning opportunities for children and young people with learning difficulties and disabilities
• Reducing young people’s involvement in anti-social and offending behaviour, to keep them on the right track, improve their wellbeing and strengthen the community
• Full implementation of the 14-19 strategy to ensure the planned entitlement of 14-19 pathways and specialised diplomas is delivered on time, and with high quality, to all groups of young people, so that outcomes for young people improve and educational/training standards are raised.

Other issues and constraints include:
• Amongst children and young people dental health, mental health and teenage conceptions remain a concern.
• 6% of primary and 16% secondary pupils went to school without having breakfast
• Wigan's economy is reliant on traditional industries, like manufacturing and engineering with a relatively low proportion of high value, knowledge driven employment and businesses. The knowledge economy is the route to full employment, better jobs and other attributes in the workforce.
• Only 17% of the working population is qualified to National Vocational Qualification (NVQ)4 and above - the second lowest proportion in Greater Manchester.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond**

To ensure that planning policy and the preparation process addresses the needs of young people and the objectives of the plan. We need to liaise with the Director of Children and Young People’s Services to ensure they have proper ownership of the Local Development Framework process.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

A range of baseline data and indicators are available in the document.

Ensure the framework promotes health and wellbeing of children and young people and supports facilities for play and leisure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

The Community Strategy ‘Vision 2026’ replaces the Community Plan 2005-2010, and sets out key issues and priorities for the borough towards 2026. The Community Strategy is based on a long term vision for the kind of Borough that we all want to develop over the next 18 years. The Strategy is founded on 4 principles which are set out below.

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

**Where are we now?** We know that in simple terms people in the borough are better educated, living longer, and more likely to be in work. However, the borough also faces a range of challenges including:

- Life expectancy is still 2 years below the national average for men and women
- Wigan is ageing: In 2015 there will be 5300 more women and 6000 more men over 65 than in 2008
- High teenage pregnancy rate – higher than national and regional averages
- Low level of skills and qualifications
- 67th most deprived local authority in England with 29 (14.5%) Super Output Areas within the 10% most deprived in England.
- High levels of people out of work
- Levels of crime lower than regional average but still major problems in disadvantaged neighbourhoods
- 7th highest for homelessness in England
- More than a quarter of men and women drink more alcohol than the recommended weekly level.

**Vision 2026 priorities:**

**Ambitious Communities** – Opportunities exist that allow people to fulfil their ambitions within a local and regional economy that provides ease of access to jobs and services. People will have increased income levels and will be able to access better quality, affordable homes in safe neighbourhoods. Our communities will look to the future and protect our environment for future generations.

**Living Healthier and Longer** – Providing opportunities that help support people to make choices that improve quality of life and enable people to live longer particularly for those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

**Realising Aspirations** – The people of the borough have raised aspirations for what they as individuals can achieve, particularly young people and people from disadvantaged communities. People of all ages are equipped with the right life skills and the qualifications employers need to achieve their ambitions and which enable them to participate.

**Strong Community** – Communities are at the heart of all we do, where people support and care for the wellbeing of others and the future. A community with a strong sense of what it is capable of achieving and where there are opportunities to get involved, particularly for young people, in shaping the future.

**What Action is Needed?**
• Long term commitment and investment is needed to achieve the 4 key priorities, together with the support of local people and a huge range of services and organisations.

• There will be a regular programme of 3 year action plans setting out what is going to happen in practical terms to help move towards long term ambitions. The current plan is the Local Area Agreement. The action plans are led by one of the new delivery partnerships:
  o Children, Young People and Families
  o Economy, Environment, Culture and Housing
  o Building Stronger Communities
  o Adults, Health and Wellbeing

How Will We Work Together?

The COMPACT sets out the terms on which we expect partners and organisations to work together and is a key element of the Community Strategy:

• Work collaboratively to help improve services
• Maintain high standards in partnership working
• Actively encourage the participation of the voluntary / community sector issues
• Implement policies that promote best practice and equal rights in activities
• Respect and value different roles and contributions
• Promote good relationships between the Council, public services, voluntary, community and private sectors
• Ensure consistency and fairness in funding community and voluntary sectors.

Opportunities

Issues and constraints

How could the Local Development Framework respond?

The LDF must have regard to the Community Strategy. The Core Strategy will be the main DPD for providing a delivery vehicle for the aims and objectives of the Community Strategy and provide the “spatial expression” of the document.

The preparation process for the LDF will involve extensive consultation with the Wigan Borough Partnership, Township Forums and ECOMPASS.

Implications for the sustainability appraisal

The Community Strategy and related monitoring documents contain many objectives, targets, indicators and baseline information that will be utilised for the sustainability appraisal. In particular, we will identify relevant indicators to ensure the appraisal & LDF processes are linked closely with the efforts, strategies and plans of the Local Strategic Partnership.

Cross references (General) | Cross references (Topic reviews)
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Cuts across all areas
Table D2.6

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A range of baseline data and indicators are available in the document.

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- Every Child Matters
- Wigan Community Plan
- Wigan Corporate Plan
- Ashton, Leigh and Wigan Primary Care Trust's Local Delivery Plan
- Wigan Local Area Agreement
- SHAPE (Sport, Health and Physical Education in Wigan Borough)
- Building Schools for the Future

**Cross Reference (Topic Reviews)**

- Education
- Health
- Training
- Community Safety
- Environment
- Economy
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

Participation and access to Lifelong Learning is key in addressing some of the prevalent social and economic issues facing Wigan, particularly in terms of educational attainment and achievement, raising aspirations, tackling worklessness, and gaining the necessary skills to enter employment. Lifelong Learning will contribute to achieving a number of spatial objectives set out in the Core Strategy.

**Key messages, requirements, objectives**

The aims and objectives of the strategy are to:

- Increase learning opportunities for all, seeking to stimulate new opportunities where gaps exist
- Remove barriers to learning thereby improving access
- Raise aspirations and self-belief
- Encourage community involvement and participation
- Promote the enjoyment of learning for all
- Secure the learning and skills essential to engage and support a strong and diverse base in Wigan.

**Current position:**

- In 2007, Wigan was ranked as the 67th most deprived local authority in England.
- Norley East, Worsley Hall, Marsh Green, Worsley Mesnes and Hag Fold are in the top 3% of most deprived areas in England.
- 29 Super Output Areas fall within the 10% most deprived in the country for education and skills.
- Only 20% (26,364) of Wigan workforce is qualified at level 4
- 38% (50,092) of the Wigan workforce is below level 2
- 1/4 (32,956) of the workforce has poor literacy and numeracy
- 12% of those economically inactive have no qualifications

To tackles these issues lifelong learning is key (as illustrated in progression triangle below) in initially engaging with participants, then providing the pathway for gaining confidence, skills, experience and qualifications.

**Local Area Agreement**

The Local Area Agreement has a number of priorities where Lifelong Learning could contribute to achievement:

- To increase participation in community and cultural activities that improve the wellbeing of individuals, and community cohesion
  - Provision of Community learning activities available and promoted to all
  - Using leisure and cultural activities to promote participation achieving learning outcomes.

- Narrow the attainment gap between our most disadvantaged communities and the population as a whole.
  - Ensuring a wide variety of education and skills training is on offer in accessible local and community venues across the borough.
  - Targeted projects aimed specifically at disadvantaged people in SOAs.
  - Increased Skills for Life provision and Family Learning delivered from a range of venues in SOAs and other deprived areas.

- Improving the range of things to do and accessibility of positive activities for all Children and Young People.
Facilities provided that support Young Peoples learning and Family learning e.g. Play Grounds, IT facilities, homework clubs
- Sessions targeted at Teenagers to encourage participation and engagement in structured out of school activities.

- Reduce social exclusion for older people and other vulnerable adults
  - Provision of Community learning and activities available and promoted to all.
  - Targeted projects to certain groups e.g. Carers and vulnerable adults.

- Reduce the level of worklessness.
  - Embedding IAG into Adult and Community learning provision enables progression from engagement in informal learning to a more structured pathway with employment as a potential long-term outcome.
  - PCDL and ACL provision available to 50 +.

- Increasing skill levels with reference to business need.
  - Provision of Skills for Life and national vocational qualifications across the borough.
  - Provision of Skills Shop (development of 2/3 Skills Shops by end of 2008).
  - Access to LSC Train to Gain funding supports learners in employment to gain Skills For Life, Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications.
  - Through the Wigan Learning Partnership access to a wide range of Adult Community learning programmes.
  - Support the higher level skills needs within the locality.
  - Access to adult information, advice and guidance re careers and employment, which will be launched as adult careers service in 2009 / 10.

Strategic Priorities for Lifelong Learning in Wigan Borough:

**Priority 1** Increasing learning and engagement opportunities within the community, raising participation, confidence and aspirations.

**Priority 2** Ensuring that people have the basic skills needed to enable participation in economic, social and community life.

**Priority 3** Targeting disadvantaged communities, vulnerable adults and those furthest from the workplace, supporting them to achieve their full potential and opportunities to lift themselves and their families out of poverty.

**Priority 4** Helping people to achieve skills for current sustained employment and future career opportunities.

**Priority 5** To develop skills, qualification and experience progression pathways that support and develop a wide range of ability levels.

**Priority 6** To provide positive activities for children and young people and families, that encourage participation, develop basic and work related skills.

Opportunities

Successful implementation of this strategy will help in:

- Removing worklessness
- Narrowing the attainment gap between our most disadvantaged communities and the population as a whole
- Reducing social exclusion

Issues / Constraints

There are a range of challenges facing Wigan Local Strategic Partnership which include:

**Attainment:** On average, pupils from the more disadvantaged groups have a lower attainment than the Borough average at every key stage. This is particularly true of boys living in the most deprived areas of the Borough.

**Skills & Qualifications:** Only 20.4% of Wigan’s residents are qualified to NVQ level 4 and above compared with 24.8% in the North West and 27.1% in England.

**Accessing higher education:** Between 1999/2000 and 2005/06 Wigan has seen a 14% increase in the number of full-time entrants to higher education compared with the North West at 17% and England at 18%. People living in deprived areas are still less likely to
enter higher education.

Employment: In the most deprived 3% Super Output Areas people only have a 50% chance of being in work. Nearly 20% of people in these areas have not worked since before 1991 – twice as high as the national average. 8.4% have never worked, and 30% of people in these areas have a registered longstanding illness – almost twice the national average.

How could the Local Development Framework respond

By setting policies which:

- Help to remove barriers to education and learning
- Help to raise the motivation and aspirations of young people and adults in the Borough
- Help to encourage participation in higher and further education.
- Help to reduce worklessness

Implications for the sustainability appraisal

Cross references (General) | Cross Reference (Topic Reviews)
----------------------------|-------------------------------
Economy and Employment     | Education and Learning
Table 2.8  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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**Key messages, requirements, objectives**

A Childcare Sufficiency Assessment was undertaken in Wigan between April 2007 and March 2008. The assessment report was produced as part of Wigan Council’s statutory responsibilities to undertake an assessment and secure sufficient childcare for children aged 0-14 and for children with disabilities aged 15, 16, and 17. The assessment involved a number of stages:

- Investigating childcare provision
- Investigating childcare demand
- Mapping of supply to demand at sub-local authority level
- Identification of gaps in provision

**Investigation of Childcare Provision**

The information on the provision of childcare was obtained locally from the Children’s Information Service (CIS) and Ofsted (Office for Standards in Education) and through a postal questionnaire sent to all childcare providers from the private, voluntary and independent sectors. In addition the need for crèche provision was investigated amongst Sure Start commissioned services operating from the borough’s Children Centres. Key findings included:

- According to Children’s Information Service data, Wigan has 551 providers of childcare (childminders and other settings), offering a total of 8264 early years (0-8yr) places.
- 51% of childminders and 78% of settings currently have vacant childcare places as at November 2007.
- Childminders and settings both experience obstacles in meeting the specific needs of children with disabilities.
- 63% of childminders and 82% settings are planning to increase their charges over the next 12 months and over 70% indicated the increases would be across all childcare services.
- 37% of childminders and 78% of settings indicated that they would not be able to meet the requests for evenings and weekend care.
- 50% of Sure Start service providers said they required additional crèche provision to support the delivery of their services.

**Investigation of the Demand for Childcare**

The information about the demand for childcare over the next 12 months was obtained through a postal questionnaire to a random stratified sample of parents taken from across the Wigan Borough and sampled for disability, ethnicity, age group and geographic location. In addition a number of focus groups were held with key target groups such as parents in work, parents with disabled children and black minority ethnic groups in order to inform and enhance the assessment. Key findings included:

- Informal childcare was the most used form of childcare.
- Barriers to organising childcare were a lack of provision; a lack of flexibility and the cost of childcare.
- Parents with disabled children felt there was limited childcare that could meet their specific needs.
- Personal preference determined whether parents wanted care close to home, close to work or close to the place of study/training.
• 80% of parents required childcare in the holidays between 7am and 6pm.
• Working patterns affected parents childcare needs the most.

Mapping of Supply to Demand

The provision of childcare and the demand for childcare was mapped down to sub local authority area. These areas were based on Children’s Centre and Extended Schools clusters, using Super Output Area boundaries (SOA). The demand for childcare places by each age category of child was calculated for each sub local authority area and compared against the number and type of childcare places vacant whilst considering other influencing factors. Key findings included:

• The need for more out of school care for 8-11yr olds in certain areas of the Borough
• There are very few gaps in provision for children aged 0-8yrs
• Gaps in provision exist in all areas of the Borough for 11-14 year olds, but further work is necessary to confirm the likely uptake of additional places created
• More out of school care including holiday care is required
• More provision for disabled children over 11 yrs old is needed

Opportunities

The assessment found that in many areas of the Borough there is currently sufficient childcare provision to meet the needs of most families. This represents excellent progress in developing local arrangements over the last 10 years through Early Years and Sure Start programmes.

Issues / Constraints

However, there are some areas where there may be a shortage of provision, particularly in future when changes in benefit arrangements are likely to increase demand for childcare.

Throughout the Borough, it is clear from families’ responses that we should work with partners and providers to develop a childcare market which is increasingly flexible and responsive to children’s needs, family circumstances and modern work patterns.

Although the market for early year’s childcare is well developed there is less clarity about what provision is available for later years and how extensively provision is used. Responses to the assessment suggest that parents would like more systematic arrangements to be put in place for 8 -14 year olds, before and after school and during school holidays. Plans are now being considered to promote development in this respect.

It is apparent from the assessment that further development is needed in relation to provision for children and families with specific needs. Parents of children with disabilities, for example, identified a number of ways in which provision could be developed to meet their children’s needs, and a number of providers outlined what support they would need to meet such children’s needs effectively and sustainably. There are issues of cost, flexibility and expertise for parents and providers alike. Plans currently in preparation will include action designed to ensure progress in this area.

How could the Local Development Framework respond

Ensuring that the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies support necessary childcare provision to meet local demand.

Implications for the sustainability appraisal

Cross references (General) | Cross Reference (Topic Reviews)
Table D2.9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Wigan Schools for the Future Newsletter – Issue 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>Wigan Council</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Date produced</td>
<td>January 2009</td>
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Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

Wigan Schools for the Future is the phrase the Council use to cover the government’s capital building programmes for schools in Wigan. These are the Building Schools for the Future programme for secondary schools and the Primary Strategy or Change for primary schools.

This newsletter is a guide to what these programmes are and sets out the Council’s plans and proposals. These proposals have obvious spatial implications on the borough which will need to be addressed through the Local Development framework process.

Key messages, requirements, objectives

- As part of the BSF programme, the Council will receive about £250 million over the period 2009-2021 to fund the rebuilding and modernisation of its secondary schools.
- The Primary School for Change will provide around £60 million over the period 2009-2023 to rebuild and modernise Wigan’s primary schools.

Proposals

West of the Borough

- Creation of a 14-19 Centre on the PEMBEC site
- A new school to replace Standish and Shevington High schools

Centre of the Borough:

- A new school to replace Golborne and Lowton High Schools
- A new school to replace Cansfield and The Byrchall High Schools

East of the Borough

- Replacement of Hesketh Fletcher High School with a 14-19 Centre

All other secondary schools will be rebuilt or modernised on their current sites and some will alter in size.

Will this definitely happen?

The Council are awaiting a decision from the government as to whether the Council can implement the programme. This is likely to be decided in Spring 2009.

When will the changes to secondary schools be made?

They will be made over 3 phases. The government will decide the start date of each.

What are Wigan’s plans for primary schools?

Current proposals are:

- To rebuild Leigh Central Primary School and Leigh Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School on their current sites with a Children’s Centre;
- To rebuild Beech Hill Primary School on its current site with a Children’s Centre and a Pupil Referral Unit.
- Plans for later years have not yet been considered.

Opportunities

The Building Schools for the Future programme and Primary Strategy For Change will tackle key issues relating to education and learning in the borough and will address a number of the spatial issues identified in the Core Strategy.
## Issues / Constraints

### How could the Local Development Framework respond
Ensure that the Wigan Schools for the Future proposals are addressed in the Core strategy and other Development Plan Documents

### Implications for the sustainability appraisal

### Cross references (General) | Cross Reference (Topic Reviews)
Table D3.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Community Safety Strategy 2005 - 2008</th>
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<tr>
<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>Wigan &amp; Leigh Community Safety Partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</td>
<td>Non Statutory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date produced</td>
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</table>

Why is it relevant to the LDF?

This is the Community Safety Partnership’s third plan. Since 1998 positive results in tackling crime and drugs misuse have been accelerating. Currently, recorded crime is reducing fast. The plan is based on a growing evidence base which is helping partnership understand the causes of crime, disorder and drug misuse and how best to address them.

This plan contributes to the Borough’s overall Community plan. The regeneration goal that is at the heart of that plan can only be achieved by each Partnership delivering their part of the "bargain".

Key messages, requirements & objectives

Priorities identified are:

- Priority neighbourhoods (tackling deprivation “gap”)
- Resettling prolific offenders
- Tackling vehicle crime
- Tackling house burglary
- Tackling anti-social behaviour
- Drugs
- Cleaner, safer, greener

Crime lowest in the region but fear of crime is a big problem for local people

Opportunities

- Increasing numbers of Police and Community support staff.
- Increasing resources to treat drug users.
- Fewer young people getting trapped into offending careers.
- Successful targeting of prolific offenders.
- Improving the delivery of actions.

Issues and constraints

- Waiting for drugs treatment Although great progress on getting drug users into treatment, there is a need to get more into better treatment, and it quicker.
- Housing and work for ex-offenders - The two most important elements in the resettlement of ex offenders and chaotic drug users are stable housing and work. This requires a lot of support and real care not to damage or overload communities.
- Reducing Domestic Violence The Partnership needs to build on and develop a much sharper focus on the prevention and reduction of this crime.
- Communicating and convincing the Public that crime is reducing It seems that where recorded crime is reducing there is a delay before the public believes this to be true.

How could the Local Development Framework respond?

Ensure existing DPDs (Core Strategy and Allocations & Infrastructure DPD) can help deliver living and working conditions that help reduce drug abuse and instances of crime and ASB. Further SPDs may be required to address issues such as designing out crime etc.

Implications for the sustainability appraisal

- Relevant targets have been listed below. A number of indicators accompany these in a separate report. Reduce recorded crime by 22%
- Produce cleaner streets, better green spaces and better homes in safer neighbourhoods by achieving improvements in 3/4 of the measures set.

Cross references (General) | Cross references (Topic reviews)
--- | ---
- Wigan Community Plan
- Wigan Drug Action Plan
- Hate Crime Action Plan
- Greater Manchester Policing Plan
- Home Office Strategic Plan
Table D3.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>What’s Your Issue? Consultation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</td>
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<td>Date produced</td>
<td>Summer 2008</td>
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</table>

Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

“What’s Your Issue?” is an open ended consultation process run by the Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust. The consultation is aimed at young people (secondary school age?) and the forms can be found in libraries and connexions centres. The consultation has produced a number of issues, with transport and things to do, places to go being the most prevalent.

Key messages, requirements and objectives

- Being afraid of neighbourhood,stray dog and dog dirt.
- ID cards (from GMPTE) for under-16s
- Not enough low-floor buses
- Bus and taxi drivers smoking and talking on mobile phones
- The conditions of trains.
- Road works in Hindley
- Speeding on the roads.
- Not having enough places to hang out with mates
- No skate park in the Wigan North area
- Stuff to do for young people in Winstanley
- Older people spoiling play equipment for younger children
- More entertainment needed in Golborne
- No leisure facilities in Beech Hill and things to do for young people in Worsley Mesnes.
- Other issues included rubbish and litter in Borsdane Brook
- Vandalism and antisocial behaviour including; noisy neighbours, drug users and alcoholics on the streets
- Litter and chewing gum on pavements/roads

Opportunities

- The issues have been forwarded on to the relevant people in Council and Police.

Issues and constraints

- This was only the first summary of consultation – as the initiative began earlier in the year. It would be beneficial if the consultees received feedback and how their comments had been dealt with, i.e. if action had been taken as a result of their comments.

How could the Local Development Framework respond?

The Local Development Framework can have an influence on some of the issues identified and these can help inform our evidence base.

Implications for the sustainability appraisal

Cross references (General) | Cross Reference (Topic Reviews)
--------------------------|----------------------------------
Accessibility
Open Space, Sport, Play and Recreation
Table D4.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Health Select Committee Report - Inequalities in Health in Wigan Borough</th>
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<tr>
<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>Wigan Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</td>
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<td>Date produced</td>
<td>August 2004</td>
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Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?

In January 2003, Wigan Council was given new responsibilities to scrutinise health services as part of its wider role in health improvement and in reducing health inequalities in the area. This was the Council’s second review, begun in December 2003. The aim was to understand the inequalities in health in Wigan Borough and explore the steps the Primary Care Trust, Council and other partners are taking to address them. It focused primarily on the effectiveness of local plans to achieve national health inequality targets.

Key messages, requirements and objectives

Our findings:

- Reducing health inequality is a national and local priority.
- There is no one single issue that leads to inequalities in health – it is a multi-faceted problem. Social status, wealth, the place you live or work, your access to shops, leisure and health services, your own behaviour and physical health also all play a part. The better off still live several years longer than their poorer counterparts. People’s lifestyles and the conditions in which they live and work strongly influence their lives and the length of their lives.
- We also find that those areas with the greatest need often have poorest supply or quality of health care provision.
- The prevalence of overweight and obesity has increased dramatically in the developed world in the last 20 years the World Health Organisation (1998)
- Physical activity is essential in maintaining a healthy lifestyle. The estimated costs of people not taking physical activity in Britain are £8.2 billion per annum.
- There is a massive range of activity underway locally to address the Borough’s health inequalities. We found it difficult to see how all this work will actually lead to the achievement of some of the national targets or how health improvement activity is delivering better health for local people.

Recommendations

- The Director of Public Health to lead the development of an effective and integrated strategic plan that reduces health inequality in the Borough.
- The Director of Public Health to lead the development of an inter-agency performance management system
- The Primary Care Trust to implement their existing proposals for service redesign in primary care settings
- Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust is to lead a review of the Physical Activity Strategy
- The development of a strategic approach to planning for the health of children and young people across the Borough would appear an appropriate outcome.
- Wigan Council through Children and Young People’s Services and Elected members as governors to obtain the commitment of all schools to have healthy schools action plans in place (currently 43%).
- We found no evidence of a joined up strategy for physical education, sport and physical activity in schools.
- The Primary Care Trust to develop more accurate and local information and research to identify need now and in the future.
- The Primary Care Trust needs to lead the development of more effective mechanisms to ensure that health improvement schemes are concentrated in areas of greatest need.

Opportunities

Issues and constraints

How could the Local Development Framework respond?
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<tr>
<th>Implications for the sustainability appraisal</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cross references (General)</td>
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<td>Cross Reference (Topic reviews)</td>
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### Table D4.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Ashton, Leigh and Wigan Primary Care Trust’s Response to Health Select Committee’s Review of Inequalities in Health in Wigan Borough</th>
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<tr>
<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>Ashton, Leigh and Wigan Primary Care Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</td>
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<td>October 2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?</td>
<td>The Ashton, Leigh &amp; Wigan Primary Care Trust welcomes the report and recommendations which come from the Health Select Committee’s review of Inequalities in Health in Wigan Borough – What are Ashton, Leigh &amp; Wigan Primary Care Trust, Wigan Council and their partners doing to reduce inequality and encourage people to stop smoking, eat healthier, and take more exercise?’  This report sets out the Primary Care Trust’s response to the recommendations.</td>
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</table>

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

**An effective and integrated strategic plan:** A strategy to counter health inequalities will require changes to reduce other inequalities in society far beyond the remit of the health services. The appropriate plan is the evolving Community Plan. Goal 2 “similar chances of staying healthy” is the most focused expression of the work on health inequalities, but progress on most of the other goals has potential to impact on inequalities.

**An inter-agency performance management system:** The Director of Public Health has already been supported by staff at Wigan Council in the use of Performance Plus software which will assist in the performance management of the whole Community Plan.

To better monitor how we are addressing inequalities within the borough, we are developing subsets of the areas of greatest health need, and for as many of the indicators as data allow, to compare this group with the remaining wards. As this is new activity it will require quite a lot of analyst time in the early stages. It has not yet been agreed and allocated between the Primary Care Trust and Council which officers will perform this task.

**Proposals for service redesign in primary care settings:** The Primary Care Trust received and supported the recommendations within the Director of Public Health’s Annual Report 2003 Coronary Heart Disease Equity Audit in March 2004. Among these was “Acknowledge that the clinics, practices and services serving the wards with highest deprivation need more resource than those at national average level.” The national mechanisms for allocating funds however, have not been designed with this policy aim in mind. Despite this, the Primary Care Trust is endeavouring to deliver better access to primary care with some specific project work.

**Review of the Physical Activity Strategy:** The Trust is involved in this review, and will work very closely with Wigan Leisure & Culture Trust to ensure the health gain from this strategy and its implementation are maximised.

**A strategic approach to planning for the health of children and young people:** As the lead agency for designing and delivering the survey, in addition to being an active partner in the Children, Young People 7 Families partnership, the Trust will ensure that the results are fed in to the planning process at appropriate intervals, and will hold other partners to account for the implementation of actions to address areas of concern. The Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2004 will present focus on health of children and young people, and will present these results to a wide audience.

**Healthy schools action plans:** The Trust has funded an additional member of staff to work in the Healthy Schools team from our dedicated inequalities budget.

**Strategy for physical education, sport and physical activity in schools:** The Trust will be a willing partner in this inter-agency work.

**Accurate and local information and research:** The Trust is too small, and too focussed on delivery to undertake research on its own. However, we have some very promising developments in this area, including:

- Our work with Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust to encourage physical activity in the over-50s – with our Local Exercise Action Pilot programme. A large element is evaluation, both with staff and through Salford University helping to inform how to take this work forwards.
- Our own research & development strategy, with partners. So far 7 departments from 5 higher education institutions have expressed an interest.
- We hope the White Paper on Public Health, expected soon, will identify more resource at the national level for public health research.

**Areas of greatest need:** We acknowledge that it is not sufficient to simply give more
resources; that we need to actively collect and use the data, so we will be establishing a regular reporting framework with service providers.

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<th>Opportunities</th>
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<th>Issues and constraints</th>
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<th>How could the Local Development Framework respond?</th>
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<th>Cross Reference (Topic Reviews)</th>
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<td>Open Space, Play, Sport and Recreation</td>
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Table D4.3

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Wigan Borough Health and Lifestyle Survey (2005-2006)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>Ashton, Wigan &amp; Leigh Primary Care Trust (2005-06)</td>
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<td>Survey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date produced</td>
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

A Health and Lifestyle Survey was carried out in 2001. The information contained therein provided an assessment of the state of health, highlighted needs, and suggested areas where action needed to be taken. This information has been used by countless individuals and organisations – from the key policy makers and decision takers in the borough, to students doing projects, to voluntary organisations in their bids to funding Agencies. Five years on, as planned, the population was re-surveyed to see what new issues arose, and assess progress.

A 33% response rate was achieved – 4,786 questionnaires were returned out of 14,600. The data was then weighted to reflect the profile of Wigan residents.

**Key messages, requirements & objectives**

- Residents living in more deprived areas are more likely to report poorer health, including dental health. Ince, Norley, Newtown and Whelley consistently reported higher than average poor health across a spectrum of areas (e.g. mental, physical pain, general wellbeing).
- Looking at mental health, around one in five residents are distressed or have severe problems and psychological distress.
- The majority of residents have smoked at some point, but only a quarter are current smokers. Most people drink alcohol (82%) and a significant proportion binge drink (34%). Few have taken illegal drugs (14%). Among those who have, cannabis is most common – albeit less so than is the case across England and Wales as a whole.
- Physical activity is fairly infrequent in Wigan. Three in five only take part in a low level or no physical activity.
- In terms of access to services, residents think leisure facilities and the nearest hospital with a casualty department are hardest to access (a particular issue in Leigh Central).
- Smoking is more prevalent in Wigan than is the case across Britain as a whole. In Britain, 52% say they have never smoked, compared with 40% in Wigan.

**Opportunities**

- Prevalence of smoking, and related, chronic respiratory disease, have dropped since last survey in 2001.
- Residents feel their homes are well placed to access public transport and schools (78% and 77% respectively say their homes are very or fairly well placed for these).

**Issues and constraints**

- See key messages.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

Provides background information which is useful for:

- Establishing baseline position.
- Stages of appraisal requiring more detail.

**Cross references (General)**

Accessibility
Open Space, Play, Sport & Recreation

**Cross references (Topic reviews)**
This strategy outlines the problems caused by alcohol locally and the actions being taken to reduce these problems. These actions have been put together with the help of a range of Partner Agencies. These agencies will be working together over the next three years to combat alcohol related problems in the Borough. To guide the work of the Partner Agencies an action plan has been written. This plan lays out in detail how we will be tackling specific issues, who will be undertaking the work and when it will happen.

Key messages, requirements & objectives

Strategy aims to increase health and reduce the harm caused by alcohol to individuals, their families, and communities.

Key aims of the strategy are:

- Providing health information to individuals and communities most at risk of having problems with alcohol;
- Helping those having problems with their drinking;
- Reducing alcohol related crime, disorder and anti social behaviour;
- Working with alcohol retailers;
- Monitoring and developing the strategy through a key group of people.

Opportunities

- Violent crime is falling; Wigan has the lowest levels of violent crime in Greater Manchester.

Issues and constraints

In Wigan:

- More than one in five of primary school children had an alcoholic drink in the last week and that this rose to two in five of secondary school children.
- Two in five of this older group said that they were drunk at least once last week.
- One in ten thought that their drinking was harmful to their health.
- Half of those aged over 16 drank, with most saying that people their age drank to get drunk.
- About nine in every thousand deaths are due to chronic liver disease and cirrhosis.
- Wigan and Leigh Town Centres have been identified as hotspots for violent crime and that these offences occur most often between Friday and Sunday, between the hours of 6pm and 3am. It has been recorded that alcohol use featured in one in five domestic violence offences.

Nationally:

- More than three in ten people who misuse alcohol have a mental health problem.
- Alcohol is involved in more than three in five of all suicide attempts and a high proportion of suicides each year.
- Alcohol has been found to play a major part in unprotected, unplanned, regretted or abusive sexual activity.

How could the Local Development Framework respond?

Ensure existing DPDs (Core Strategy and Allocations & Infrastructure DPD) can help deliver living and working conditions that help reduce alcohol abuse.

Implications for the sustainability appraisal

Ensure objectives in the appraisal framework to increase health and well being and reduce alcohol abuse.

Cross references (General)

- Wigan Community Pan
- Wigan Community Safety Plan
- Wigan Health & Lifestyle Survey 2004
- National Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2004

Cross references (Topic reviews)
Table D4.5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Living Well in Wigan Borough: Joint Public Health Strategy</th>
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<tr>
<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>Wigan Borough Partnership</td>
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<td>Date produced</td>
<td>December 2007</td>
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**Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?**

This is the first Joint Public Health Strategy for the borough, produced by the Primary Care Trust and the Council. The document fits in well with the spatial planning agenda as it focuses on the wider determinants of health, such as lifestyle and deprivation issues. There are major health inequalities in the borough that need tackling.

**Key messages, requirements and objectives**

- The document looks at the stark contrasts between the least and most deprived areas of the borough.
- The new Local Area Agreement has 4 ‘cross-cutting’ themes: Aspirations/Ambition, Sense of Place and Identity, Address Inequalities and Promoting health, preventing illness. The latter of which is the central theme.
- A vision for the future of ‘living well in Wigan Borough’ is set out in the document: Wigan is a Borough where:
  - People are able to live life to the full
  - Everyone has an equal chance of being healthy
  - People choose to live healthy lives
  - Life expectancy across the whole Borough is higher than the national average
  - Workplace health is important
  - Health problems are detected early and treated promptly
  - More people are in work with a future
  - People feel in control of their lives
  - The most vulnerable will get the services they need

The broad priority areas most relevant to the strategy have been identified as:

- **Length of life:** Reduce early deaths due to heart disease, strokes and cancer and promote healthier lifestyles through supporting people to manage their own health and well-being.
- **Quality of life:** Improving access and mobility for disabled and older people, a transport infrastructure that supports independence of all, reduction in drug and alcohol related harm. Reduced worklessness, improved sexual health and reduced teenage conception.
- **Community capacity building:** reducing isolation in older people, increasing people’s perception of control over their lives or where they live, increase children and young people’s involvement in decision making that affects them and provide care closer to home for children/young people with complex conditions.

**Opportunities**

The strategy details a list of projects that are currently on going that offer opportunities to help deliver a healthier borough:

- The Joint Service Centre: New Leisure and Health Facilities
- Sport, Health and Physical Education (SHAPE): Strategy encouraging people to be more active
- Sure Start Children’s Centres: support for families of children under 5
- Extended Schools: provide a range of activities beyond the school day.
- NHS Local Improvement Finance Trust (LIFT): improved provision of primary and community care facilities
- Healthy Schools: Programme focusing on emotional, physical, social and community health in schools.
- Leigh Sports Village: Provision of new sports facilities
- Healthy Workplaces: Improving working conditions to reduce causes of work-related ill
**Issues and constraints**

The strategy outlines a large number of health issues that the borough currently faces in terms of health being much worse than the national average:

- Wigan is in the worst 20% nationally in terms of:
  - Male life expectancy at birth;
  - Female life expectancy at birth;
  - Cancer mortality rates in under 75s;
  - Cardiovascular disease mortality rates in under 75s; and
  - Average score for the 2004 index of multiple deprivation.

- The gap in life expectancy between Standish and Newtown is over 7 years
- Over 70% of over 65s report difficulty with day-to-day activities as a result of long-term health problems or disabilities.
- The incapacity benefit claimant rate for the borough is 11%, compared to 7% in England

Unhealthy lifestyles in the borough are also identified:

- 26% of adults smoke, though this was 30% five years ago
- Over 20% of the population are obese
- Only 3 out of 5 people take part in even a low level of physical activity such as walking.
- Activity is lower in older residents and those living in the more deprived areas.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

The Local Development Framework, as the spatial expression of the Sustainable Community Strategy, needs to take account of the health agenda. The problems highlighted in this strategy such as lifestyle, quality of life and deprivation can all be addressed through the Local Development Framework.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

| Cross references (General) | Cross Reference (Topic Reviews) |
Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?
The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment is a partnership endeavour between the Council, Primary Care Trust, as well as the wider Local Strategic Partnership. It will be used to identify the future health, care and well-being needs of the local population.

The findings and recommendations of the assessment will feed into the strategic planning process within the borough. The data is shown for the borough as a whole or spatially (i.e. at ward level).

The document provides important evidence which can be utilised as part of the Local Development Framework evidence base.

Key messages, requirements and objectives

• Improving Wigan life is about ‘adding life to years and years to life’, improving the life chances of young people, improving lifelong learning, improving the street scene and putting life into the Wigan economy. Wigan is ‘a place where people matter and you can afford to live the life you want’

• There are six critical issues that will have been addressed in the borough by 2013, relating to cancer mortality rates, cardiovascular disease mortality, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease death, alcohol misuse rates, under 18 conceptions and obesity.

• There is expected to be a 3,500 increase in over 85’s at 2025, mixed with a 6,400 decrease in under 19’s.

• Overall deprivation is worse in central wards such as Abram, Pemberton, Leigh West, Ince, Hindley and Douglas. 35 (17.5%) Super Output Areas in the Borough fall within the most deprived 10% for health deprivation.

• Life expectancy in Wigan is below the national average, -2.02 years for males and -1.95 years for females. It is concerning that this gap has grown wider over the last ten years. It has doubled for males.

• Deaths from strokes and coronary heart disease in Wigan are much higher than the national average.

• Alcohol attributable hospital admissions are higher than the national average for both males and females.

• The rate of Under 18 conceptions is highest in the Norley, Newtown, Ince, Hindley, Abram, Atherton and Leigh East wards.

• Mental health problems are more prevalent in deprived areas, with Ince, Whelley and Norley wards having worse than average mental health. There is a link between poor mental health and worklessness.

• There is a strong link between deprivation and educational achievement. GCSE results for pupils eligible for free school meals are much lower than those who are non-eligible.

Opportunities

• The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment will ensure joined up working between the Primary Care Trust, the Council, Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust, Wigan and Leigh Housing, the wider Local Strategic Partnership and voluntary groups.
- The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment sets a timeline of five years for meeting 6 key challenges. This timeline is a lot shorter than the Core Strategy Development Plan Document.
- Wigan suffers from significant health inequalities that are intrinsically linked with other deprivation. This will be a significant challenge for the Local Development Framework to respond to.

**How could the Local Development Framework respond?**

The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment provides data at ward level, which can help inform the Core Strategy preferred option. The other borough wide health indicators can also be used in the monitoring of the Local Development Framework, although these are dependent on many other external factors.

**Implications for the sustainability appraisal**

Monitoring/Health?

| Cross references (General) | Cross Reference (Topic Reviews) |
**Table D5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Improving our understanding of neighbourhoods and inequalities (Wigan Council Committee Report, 27th September 2007)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proponent body</td>
<td>Wigan Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status (e.g. statutory, non-statutory)</td>
<td>Non Statutory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date produced</td>
<td>September 27th 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Why is it relevant to the Local Development Framework?</strong></td>
<td>As part of the development phase for the current Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) programme the Council’s senior management team and the LSP’s strategic management group (including partners from all key public sector agencies) considered again how we might introduce some form of step change in our approach to tackling inequality. The result of this discussion was the SMART Neighbourhoods Programme. This committee report provides an update of recent work to improve our local / neighbourhood level data collection and analysis, to review some of the key lessons emerging and to highlight possible issues for further development / consideration. The information is relevant to the LDF because it outlines some of the issues facing the borough, particularly in the most deprived neighbourhoods. It will help us understand how we can provide the best infrastructure and environment to help narrow the inequality “gaps” that exist in the borough.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key messages, requirements and objectives</strong></td>
<td>Does better information lead to better outcomes?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The gap between most and least deprived parts of the Borough is wide, multi-dimensional, persistent and transmitted from generation to generation. Need to focus on reducing these inequalities.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Dimensions of disadvantage interlock and take a cumulative toll on health</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Children are now the group most at risk of poverty</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Deprivation in Wigan is concentrated on Council estates</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• There are both practical and intangible barriers to accessing work and services</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The gap is persistent</strong></td>
<td>The gap persists in both place and time, and in some aspects seems to be worsening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The gap is transmitted between generations</strong></td>
<td>Social mobility is decreasing.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Some specific issues for priority neighbourhoods</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Children under 15 are 5 times more likely to die from unintentional injury and 15 times more likely to die in house fire</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Less than half the chance of getting 5 good GCSEs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• 10 times risk of becoming teenage parent</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Less than 50% as likely to stay on at school after 16</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Five times more likely to be very obese</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Only 60% as likely to work full time</td>
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<td>• 12 times as likely to suffer domestic violence</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• 5 times as likely to claim incapacity benefit</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• 6 times as likely to claim pension credit in retirement</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• 3 times death rate from coronary heart disease</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Live 7 years less</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Making changes</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• There are tensions between improving beneficiary neighbourhood and improving life chances of those living in it. Place-based measures encourage people to stay;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Person-based measures stimulate out-migration as people gain skills and work and are able to move away.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Opportunities
- Improved information reporting at neighbourhood / ward/ township level
- Coordination of data sources – efficiency savings – and improved focus on analysis rather than just data collection (intelligence not information) and presenting it in a way most valuable to inform decisions
- Improved capacity / skills to use analysis / intelligence
- Exploring potential to create a local information system readily accessible to all partners and to the community
- Have built up a substantial database of statistical information about the priority neighbourhoods. And also qualitative information from 3 major surveys.
- Looking to establish a repeatable set of indicators for priority neighbourhoods so we can “track the gap”.

### Issues and constraints
- Lack of a shared information repository accessible to all partners tends to promote wasteful duplication of effort
- Insufficient attention is paid to evaluation of initiatives and to learning from what has been successful elsewhere.
- Many residents in priority neighbourhoods rely upon “unreliable” public transport.

### How could the Local Development Framework respond?
- Hard to reach groups are concentrated on priority neighbourhoods – need to understand the needs of and engage with these groups better.
- Private car use on priority neighbourhoods is not high (which is good in environmental terms, but affects their life chances). Many residents rely on public transport, therefore, we need to improve accessibility and encourage active travel. Car ownership does not necessarily have to be an indicator of Deprivation.
- Help improve the liveability of “places” to encourage those in deprived estates to stay there as their circumstances improve.

### Implications for the sustainability appraisal
Reducing the inequalities that exist in the borough is a priority. This theme should be integrated into the appraisal framework in a holistic manner.

### Cross references (General) | Cross Reference (Topic Reviews)