

# Halsnead Masterplan SPD

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**Strategic Environmental Assessment**

**Draft Environmental Report**

January 2017



## 1 INTRODUCTION

### Background to the Masterplan

- 1.1 The Local Plan: Core Strategy (LPCS) (adopted in January 2016)<sup>1</sup> sets out the strategic spatial framework for the growth and development of Knowsley to 2028 and beyond, and seeks to ensure that the population and economic growth the borough needs is captured in an appropriate and sustainable way.
- 1.2 As part of the preparation of the LPCS it was clear that in order to ensure the borough had an adequate supply of housing and employment land to meet long-term development needs<sup>2</sup>, the Council would need to review of Green Belt boundaries. When the LPCS was adopted, nine sites across the Borough were removed from the Green Belt and allocated as *Sustainable Urban Extensions* (SUEs)<sup>3</sup> to provide additional land for development during and beyond the local plan period. The three largest and most complex of these - South Whiston and Land South of M62<sup>4</sup>; East of Halewood, and Knowsley Lane, Huyton— are anticipated to make the most significant contribution to delivering the local plan and growth objectives. A further large site at Knowsley Village was safeguarded for residential use after 2028.
- 1.3 Policy SUE2 in the LPCS identifies the three SUEs noted above as requiring additional planning guidance, due to their size and complexity. The South Whiston and Land South of M62 SUE site is the largest and most complex SUE site. It also has the most significant potential impact on biodiversity. Moreover, the site has multiple land owners, (including the Council), which presents a potential risk in the site coming forward in a piecemeal way.
- 1.4 For the three largest SUE sites, Policy SUE2 commits the Council to preparing a Supplementary Planning Document which will “...*provide a proposed spatial development framework for the site together with further details of development and infrastructure requirements*”. To account for this requirement, the Council has prepared a draft SPD for the South of

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<sup>1</sup> Available online via [www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan).

<sup>2</sup> More detail on the role of the Green Belt and its review is set out in Core Strategy Policy CS5: Green Belt and Policy SUE1 Sustainable Urban Extensions and Safeguarded Land.

<sup>3</sup> One of these sites, at Knowsley Village, is identified as ‘safeguarded land’ for beyond the plan period – in other words, it *may* be allocated as a housing site for development after 2028 in a future plan.

<sup>4</sup> Core Strategy Policy SUE1 identifies *South of Whiston* and *Land South of M62* as separate sites, but they are dealt with together by Policy SUE2c, and throughout this document.

Whiston and Land South of the M62 SUE site. The draft SPD refers to the site as Halsnead reflecting that a significant part of the site was formerly the Halsnead Estate Park. To ensure consistency, the draft SPD is hereafter referred to as the Halsnead Masterplan SPD or Masterplan SPD.

1.5 SUE2 in the LPCS states (at clause 4):

*“Proposals for development within each of these locations [i.e. the largest SUE sites] will only be granted planning permission where they are consistent with a single detailed master plan for the whole Sustainable Urban Extension which is approved by the Council. The master plan should accord with development plan policy and any associated Supplementary Planning Document, and may be submitted prior to or with the application. Planning permissions must be linked to any necessary legal agreements for the improvement, provision, management and maintenance of infrastructure, services and facilities, open spaces, or other matters necessary to make the development acceptable and which facilitate comprehensive delivery of all phases of development within the Sustainable Urban Extension in accordance with the single detailed master plan.”*

**Purpose of this Document**

- 1.6 This draft SEA report builds on the work undertaken for the screening and scoping exercises, previously consulted upon in October/November 2016. The screening and scoping reports set out the conclusion that the Halsnead Masterplan SPD will have significant environmental effects that go beyond matters already considered during the preparation of the LPCS.
- 1.7 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a statutory assessment process required under the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (England) Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations, Statutory Instrument 2004, No 1633) which provide the legislative mechanism for transposing European Directive 2001/42/EC ‘the (SEA Directive). The SEA Directive and Regulations require the formal assessment of plans and *on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment*’ programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. Annex II (2) of the SEA Directive sets out the criteria for determining what constitutes a significant effect.
- 1.8 The Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) identifies that supplementary planning documents may in exceptional circumstances require a SEA, “...if they are likely to have significant environmental effects that have not

*already been assessed during the preparation of the Local Plan.”* The PPG goes on to state, *“Before deciding whether significant environment effects are likely, the local planning authority should take into account the criteria specified in Schedule 1 to the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 and consult the consultation bodies.”* The consultation bodies referred to in the PPG include the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England. In addition, given the geographical location of Knowsley, Natural Resources Wales have also been consulted.

1.9 Consultation on a screening opinion and scoping report has been undertaken with the four statutory bodies<sup>5</sup>. Historic England and Natural England responded to consultation at both stages and their full responses are set out in Appendix 1. In summary, both agencies concurred that the Masterplan SPD required SEA and they provided some additional advice on the issues to consider. Their advice has been reflected in an updated version of the scoping report and relevant sections in this draft environmental report.

1.10 Table 1 set out the requirements for SEA reporting and how the information that is required has been set out in this draft Environmental Report.

**Table 1: The Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations requirements checklist**

<b>Information to be included in an Environmental Report under the SEA Regulations</b>	<b>Relevant sections in the Scoping Report and future stages</b>
An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan and its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes.	Section 1
The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan.	Section 4
The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.	Section 4
Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan, including in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as	Section 4

<sup>5</sup> Environment Agency, Historic England, Natural England and Natural Resources Wales

areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC.	
The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or national level, which are relevant to the plan and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.	Section 3 and Appendix 2
The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soils, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage, landscape, and the interrelationship between the above factors.	Section 5 and Appendix 3
The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan.	Section 5 and Appendix 3
An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties.	Section 2
A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring.	Section 5
A non-technical summary of the information provided above.	Provided as a separate document accompanying the draft Environmental Report
<p>Consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information which must be included in the Environmental Report</li> <li>• authorities with environmental responsibility and the public, shall be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the accompanying Environmental</li> </ul>	<p>The four main agencies (Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England/Natural Resources Wales) will be provided with the opportunity to comment on the scoping report, the draft Environmental Report and any final version of the Environmental Report</p> <p>The Masterplan SPD will not have any significant effects that impinge upon a neighbouring EU Member State</p>

<p>Report before the adoption of the plan or programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• other EU Member States, where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that country</li> </ul>	
<p>Provision of information on the decision:</p> <p>When the plan or programme is adopted, the public and any countries consulted under Art.7 must be informed and the following made available to those so informed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the plan or programme as adopted</li> <li>• a statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme and how the Environmental Report of Article 5, the opinions expressed pursuant to Article 6 and the results of consultations entered into pursuant to Art. 7 have been taken into account in accordance with Art. 8, and the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and</li> <li>• the measures decided concerning monitoring</li> </ul>	<p>This will be provided with the final Environmental Report and an adoption statement when the Masterplan SPD is adopted</p>
<p>Monitoring of the significant environmental effects of the plan's or programme's implementation</p>	<p>This will be provided with the final Environmental Report and an adoption statement when the Masterplan SPD is adopted</p>

1.11 The draft Environmental Report is structured in the following way:

- Section 2 sets out the methodology that was utilised in undertaking the SEA.
- Section 3 identifies plans, programmes, and strategies that are relevant to the Masterplan SPD and assesses their implications for the SEA.
- Section 4 provides a baseline assessment of the data relevant to the Masterplan SPD on the current and likely situation that will enable any identified effects to be adequately predicted.
- Section 5 provides a summary of the findings of the SEA of the Masterplan SPD, considering the options and policies/proposals developed by the consultants in formulating the draft SPD. Further detail is contained in the appraisal tables in Appendix 3.

### **Habitat Regulations Assessment**

1.12 Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) is the name given to the overall process that considers the impacts that a plan or project may have on a European site. Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna - the 'Habitats Directive' - provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. It provides the legislative means to protect habitats and species through the establishment and conservation of a network of sites of nature conservation importance known as Natura 2000.

1.13 The HRA has been conducted as a separate assessment from the SEA. However, any issues raised by the HRA that are pertinent have been considered alongside this SEA.

### **Consultation on the draft Environmental Report**

1.14 Comments are invited on the content of this draft Environmental Report that accompanies the draft Masterplan SPD.

- 1.15 The consultation period will run for a period of six weeks. Responses should be made in writing by letter or e-mail to arrive no later than 5 pm on 23 February 2017 marked for the attention of:

Halsnead Consultation  
Knowsley Council  
Ground Floor, Yorkon Building  
Huyton  
Merseyside  
L36 9FB

(N.B. postage required)

or e-mail: [discoverhalsnead@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:discoverhalsnead@knowsley.gov.uk)

- 1.16 The four statutory environmental bodies to be consulted throughout the process are:
- The Environment Agency
  - Historic England
  - Natural England
  - Natural Resources Wales
- 1.17 Following the period of consultation, comments on the draft Environmental Report will inform the production of a final version of the Environmental Report that will sit alongside the adopted Masterplan SPD.

## 2. Methodology

- 2.1 The approach for carrying out the SEA of the Masterplan SPD is based on current best practice and the following guidance:
- A Practical Guide to the SEA Directive, (September 2005) Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Scottish Executive, Welsh Assembly Government, Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland.
  - SEA guidance within National Planning Practice Guidance (<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/>).

### Defining the Scope

- 2.2 Table 1 identifies in detail the requirements for the SEA process. The scoping exercise sets out the key information that will be considered in the SEA and provides an assessment framework to be consulted upon with the consultation bodies and any other relevant organisations/individuals identified by the Council.
- 2.3 The key information includes the baseline data assessment of current conditions associated with the project (i.e. the Masterplan SPD area) and identification of relevant plans, policies and programmes and their impacts that need to be considered alongside the Masterplan SPD. The baseline data and review of plans, policies and programmes will assist in identifying the key local environmental and sustainability issues to be included in the assessment.
- 2.4 The SEA undertaken for the Masterplan SPD utilises previous work undertaken on the joint Sustainability Appraisal/ Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA) of the Local Plan: Core Strategy. A significant element of the previous SA/SEA work included assessing proposals for Green Belt release and the subsequent inclusion of the SUE sites (including South of Whiston and South of M62) as a result of proposed modifications to the plan. Where appropriate, the baseline data position featured in the scoping report and this draft Environmental Report has drawn upon the existing information from the previous SA/SEA work. Moreover, the review of plans, policies and programmes has incorporated information from the SA/SEA, subject to any necessary update.
- 2.5 The scoping exercise described the options or “reasonable alternatives” that were intended to be tested to inform the approach developed in the draft Masterplan SPD. The scoping report also derived a set of objectives and assessment framework intended to consider the impacts of the Masterplan SPD. The work undertaken for the previous SA/SEA

framework was also drawn upon to assist in developing the new assessment framework.

- 2.6 An additional important aspect is to derive suitable monitoring indicators to assess the effectiveness of the implementation of the Masterplan SPD. The primary manner of implementation will be through the submission of planning applications and subsequent development of the site. The nature of the development proposals will require the submission of project specific Environmental Impact Assessments that will in turn assess specific impacts arising from the various elements of development.

### **Options**

- 2.7 The SEA regulations require that reasonable alternatives are considered in the preparation of a relevant plan. This means that a number of options that could potentially deliver the intended development envisaged by the Masterplan SPD need to be identified. The following options have been derived by the consultancy team working on the Masterplan SPD:

- Approach 1 SPD Framework Adapted: around 1500 homes delivered, with development orientated towards access points around the edge of the site
- Approach 2 Urban Connection: '1500 plus' homes delivered, focussing on reinforcing the existing Lickers Lane facilities
- Approach 3 'Central focus': '1500 plus plus' homes delivered, orientated around a central hub.

- 2.8 The draft Environmental Report has appraised each of the options to inform the selection of a preferred option for the Masterplan SPD. The SEA has also appraised the draft key requirements and masterplan guidance contained within the Masterplan SPD. Consideration has been given to the baseline situation where a comparison is made with the current situation.

### **Assessment Approach**

- 2.9 A summary of the assessment undertaken of the draft Masterplan SPD is set out in section 5 of this report. This has utilised the assessment framework drawn up in the scoping report, with any necessary amendment made as a result of consultation feedback from the statutory agencies. The assessment has incorporated the following approach to recording

impacts (Table 2). Evidence for the predicted impact effect is primarily based on the data utilised for the baseline analysis plus any additional data produced in the development of the Masterplan SPD. The assessment of the impacts of the options and subsequent preferred option, plus the policies and proposals in the draft Masterplan SPD has enabled the identification of significant environmental impacts (positive and negative). This has enabled a commentary to be included in the environmental report on how significant positive impacts can be incorporated as opportunities into the Masterplan SPD; and provide mitigation measures that deal with any significant negative impacts.

**Table 2: Key for effects**

++	major positive
+	minor positive
0	neutral
-	minor negative
--	major negative
?	uncertain

2.10 The draft environmental report is being published alongside the draft Masterplan SPD to enable consultation to be undertaken on the findings and recommendations of the report; and for consultees to understand how the SEA process has influenced the development of the Masterplan SPD. A further version of the environmental report will provide the assessment of any revisions to the proposed final Masterplan SPD and will be published alongside the final agreed Masterplan SPD. A Post-Adoption Statement will be produced, which will explain how environmental and sustainability considerations have been integrated into the Masterplan SPD. It will also include the reasons for choosing the Masterplan SPD as adopted in light of other reasonable alternatives and will detail the monitoring measures chosen to ensure compliance with Article 9(1) of the SEA Directive.

### **Difficulties Encountered**

2.11 The SEA Directive requires the identification of any difficulties encountered; these may include technical deficiencies or lack of knowledge. Assessing the potential effects of the Halsnead Masterplan SPD does present some areas of uncertainty due to the stage that the SPD sits in the process of delivering development at the site. The purpose of the SPD is to set a framework for more detailed development proposals to be produced in the form of planning applications. It is therefore part of

an iterative process, whereby greater levels of detail will be presented as proposals are firmed up at the planning application stage

### **3. Identifying Other Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes**

- 3.1 The Masterplan SPD does not exist in isolation from other plans, programmes, and strategies. The purpose of this stage is to identify plans, programmes, and strategies that are relevant to the Masterplan SPD and to assess their implications for the Masterplan SPD and to inform the scope of the SEA.
- 3.2 Appendix 2 lists the main documents that are relevant to the Masterplan SPD. It is important to note that the primary relationship is between the Masterplan SPD and the LPCS, and that the LPCS has in the main accounted for the key issues raised in many of the policies, plans and programmes listed. The table indicates where there are specific issues that need to be further considered by the Masterplan SPD.

## 4. Baseline Information

### Introduction

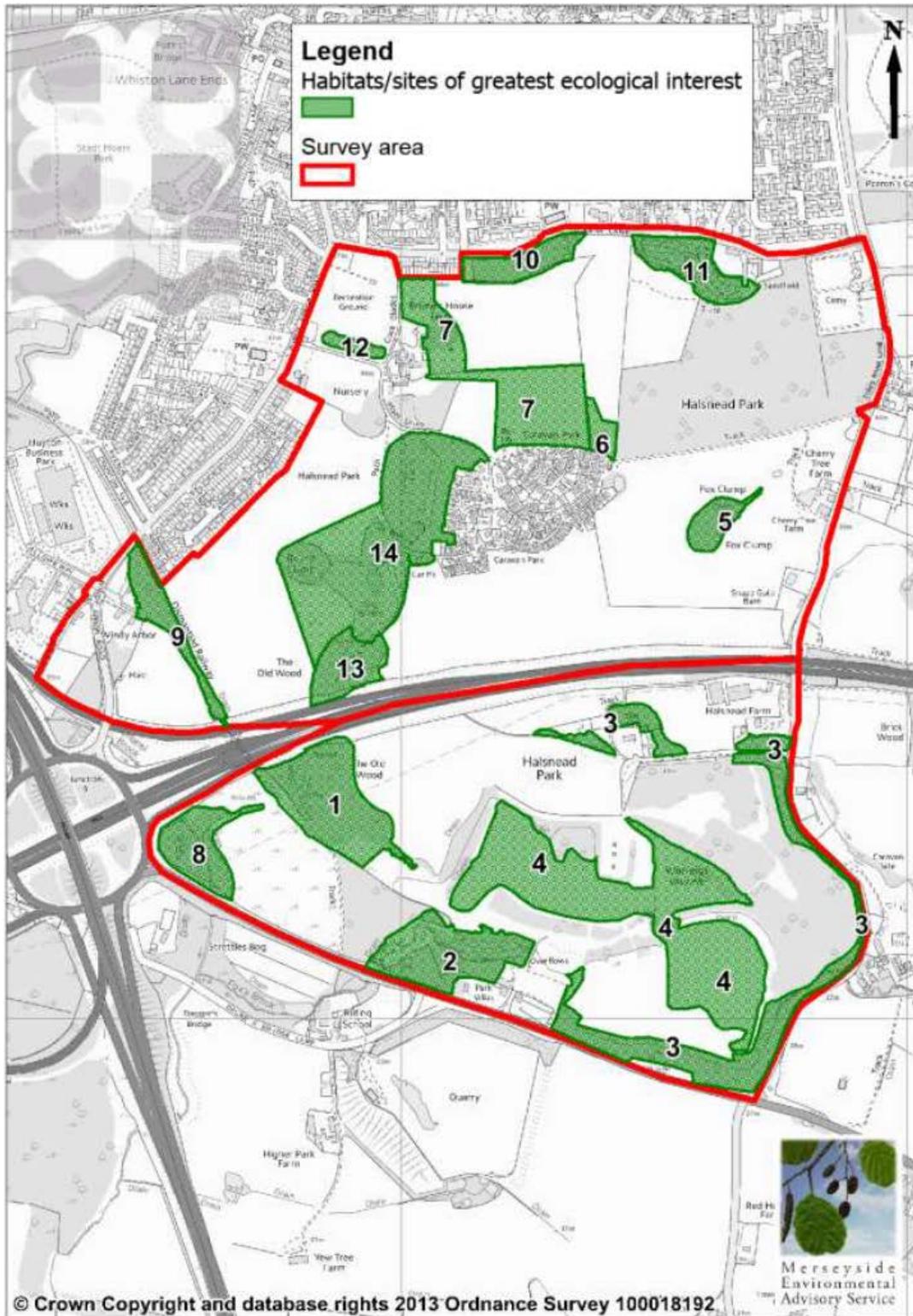
- 4.1 The collection of baseline information is a legal requirement of the SEA Directive. Assembling baseline information helps to identify sustainability issues and provide a basis for predicting and monitoring the effects that the Masterplan SPD will have. This section considers a range of baseline information including material prepared previously to inform the allocation of the site within the LPCS and the recent assembly of baseline material prepared for the Masterplan SPD.
- 4.2 The format of this section is as follows:
- A short summary of the baseline information for each aspect of the environmental factors that require consideration under the SEA Directive;
  - The relevant sustainability issues that arise with respect to the site from the review of baseline information;
  - A summary of how the sustainability issues may evolve in the absence of the Masterplan SPD. This is based on an assumption that development would come forward but without the benefit of a Masterplan to steer in a comprehensive manner.

### Baseline Position

#### ***Biodiversity (incorporating flora and fauna)***

- 4.3 The site has been subject to a Phase 1 Habitat Survey which provided a detailed description and analysis of the flora and fauna habitats across the site. This was followed by a Phase 2 Survey which looked at 14 specific areas within the site in more detail and recommended that particular habitats should be retained (Figure 1). In terms of specific species, the Habitats Regulations Assessment has considered the potential impacts of the Masterplan SPD and further detail can be found in that documentation.

Figure 1: Areas surveyed in Phase 2 Habitat Survey



Map reproduced from Phase 2 Ecology Survey and Habitat Assessment Report (Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service)

4.4 The Phase 2 survey concluded:

“Outcome of the surveys and confirmation of Priority Habitat and ecological value assessment inform the recommendations. Areas 1 and 13 are strongly recommended for retention as they are of national importance and are irreplaceable due to their age, size and/or complexity. Area 4 is also recommended for retention due to size, mosaic of habitats and difficulty in recreating this habitat type elsewhere within the Site. However, loss of small areas of habitat within the mosaic of Area 4 would be acceptable provided management of the area as a whole ensured retention of overall biodiversity value.

Habitats in Areas 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, ‘Area 14 Pond’ and ‘Area 14 Wood’ are recommended to be retained as suitable mitigation or compensation for any loss is unlikely to be achievable through recreation. The habitats within areas 5, 6, 7, 12 and ‘Area 14 grassland A and B’ could be lost to development provided suitable mitigation or compensation was secured within the Site or district.

Management is advised for retained Priority Habitats on Site. Improving connectivity between retained habitats could also be considered. Control of invasive species is also advised. Updated surveys and ecological appraisal would be required to support future planning applications.”

4.5 There are seven Local Wildlife Sites within the site which correspond to a number of the survey areas undertaken in the Phase 2 Survey:

- South of Whiston Area
  - Lickers Lane Wood (Area 10)
  - Woodland, Sandfield Park (Area 11)
  - Big Water and Big Water Wood, Halsnead (within Area 14)
  - The Old Wood North (Area 13)
- South of M62 Area
  - The Old Wood South (Area 1)
  - Strettles Bog, Tarbock (Area 8)
  - Mine Waste, Cronton (Area 2)

### ***Population and Human Health***

- 4.7 The south of Whiston part of the site is dominated by agricultural fields and substantial areas of woodland, expanses of water and local wildlife sites. It is also has a number of important and more intensive land uses, including the Halsnead Park Mobile Home Park, a Council-owned cemetery, Sandfield House Private Day Nursery, and several farm building complexes (some occupied, some empty). The area to the south of the M62 parcel is dominated by the vacant former colliery site, agricultural fields, substantial areas of woodland, expanses of water and local wildlife sites. The site contains a handful of residential dwellings and small business premises. Reclamation work on the colliery site has led to the creation of two plateaus across the southern part of the land parcel. The site's allocation as a sustainable urban extension means it is in close proximity to existing developed areas which will experience potential positive and negative impacts as a result of the development proposals being implemented.
- 4.8 In terms of wider context, Knowsley's population at mid-2014 was 146,407 which was a fractional increase on the previous year's estimate. The 2012-based Sub-national Population Projections (Office for National Statistics, 2014) indicate that Knowsley's population will only increase marginally to 146,900 by 2022. This projected increase is driven by natural change (i.e. more births than deaths) with a degree of offsetting as a result of migration. The net impact on the population from migration is negative, as approximately 3,500 more people are expected to migrate out of the Borough between 2012 and 2022 than are expected to migrate in. Evidence suggests that out-migration is concentrated in people of working age.

### ***Soil***

- 4.9 The site is a mix of land uses including areas of woodland; scrub and cleared scrub; arable; unimproved grassland and grade 2 agricultural land ('best and most versatile'). The site and surrounding area has a history of extensive coal mining. The baseline assessment for the Masterplan SPD has considered the geo-technical aspects of the site. The analysis has identified a number of potential risks and impacts that will need to be accounted for including:

- Future site users and construction/maintenance workers from potential contamination in site soils and ground/mine gases;
- Users of adjacent sites from wind-blown dusts and migration of ground/mine gases off-site;
- Underlying aquifers given the sensitivity of the receptors, likelihood of leachate generation and the creation of engineered pathways;
- Surface watercourses and features across the site given that shallow groundwater is likely to be in continuity with surface waters;
- Buried and surface structures (including historic buildings) arising from chemical attack on buried concrete, migration of potentially explosive gases and the soil transmission of invasive species; and
- Future vegetation from contaminants in site soils.

## ***Water***

### ***Flood Risk***

- 4.11 The baseline assessment undertaken for the Masterplan SPD identifies that the majority of the south of Whiston part of the site is within Flood Zone 1 with a low probability of annual occurrences of flooding (less than 0.1 per cent or 1 in 1000 event chance). There are areas in flood zones 2 and 3 within the land south of the M62 part of the site. The north west corner of the site lies within Flood Zones 2 (1 in 100 to 1 in 1000 annual probability of flooding) and areas of Flood Zone 2 and 3 (less than 1 in 100 annual probability of flooding) occur adjacent to Fox's Bank Brook to the centre/west of the overall former Cronton Colliery site (including the possible country park area). These flood zones extend to cross Cronton Road A5080. The areas of Flood Zone 3 appear to lie outside the area proposed for development.
- 4.12 In terms of surface water flooding, the south of Whiston part of the site is affected by flooding from overland flow in depressions scattered around the site and adjacent to watercourses and ponds. Many of the areas are classified as high risk, particularly a large area north of Halsnead Park and south of Lickers Lane. Floodwater appears to derive from the housing areas north of Lickers Lane. The south of M62 part of the site has similar

issues of areas of high risk from surface water flooding - These generally lie close to watercourses with the largest area being aligned around the culvert beneath the M62 Motorway carrying flows from Big Water.

- 4.13 Groundwater flooding has not been analysed but it is noted that parts of the site lie within a high groundwater vulnerability zone over a major aquifer. No part of the site is identified as being at risk from other sources such as flooding from reservoirs.

### ***Air***

- 4.14 There has been no previous monitoring of air quality on the site. The baseline assessment undertaken by the Masterplan SPD consultants includes a review of background data which indicates that the main sources of pollution for the proposed development site will be local roads, particularly the M62 and the M57. The proposed development has the potential to cause air quality impacts during both the construction and operational phases. The suitability of the site for the introduction of new receptors also needs to be considered as if a site is likely to have poor air quality the design will need to account for this. Based on the monitoring data available it is likely that annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations at the proposed development site have the potential to be close to or above the annual mean objectives for NO<sub>2</sub> at locations close to the M62 and M57. These concentrations are likely to reduce with distance from these roads and be below the objectives across the majority of the proposed development site.

### ***Climatic Factors***

- 4.15 The delivery of the proposed development for the site will have implications for climate change in terms of additional contributions of greenhouse gases. The Council's latest authority monitoring report reports that total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per person in Knowsley in 2013 were 6.3 tonnes per person, down from 6.6 tonnes per person the previous year. The largest single component was the 2.9 tonnes per person contributed by industry. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per person are lower in Knowsley than regionally and nationally, and have fallen slightly since 2010 (6.7 tonnes per person).

**Material Assets**

- 4.16 The proposals for the Masterplan SPD include the delivery of around 1,600 dwellings within the south of Whiston part of the site; and employment land amounting to at least 22.5 hectares and a country park within the south of M62 part of the site.
- 4.17 A key challenge in delivering the Masterplan SPD will be ensuring the successful integration of the traffic generated by the residential and employment development into the wider transport network. Previous work has been undertaken for transportation, with the surrounding highway network tested against the development proposals and a series of access points and highway mitigation locations identified. A Transport Assessment (Mott MacDonald, 2016) has been produced which provides further technical information on the proposed access junctions and mitigation location and design, drawing upon modelling result.
- 4.18 The delivery of these proposals contributes to the overall strategy in the LPCS. The most recent Local Plan monitoring report produced by the Council highlights there has been a recent improving situation with respect to the delivery of new housing and employment land in Knowsley. However, that is set within the context of previous years within the plan period (2010 onwards) where delivery was less robust, primarily as a result of the impacts of recession (Tables 3 and 4).

**Table 3: Net Dwelling Completions in Knowsley**

2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
160	252	195	360	533	293

**Table 4: Employment Land Delivery in Knowsley**

	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2010-2016
Developed	3.4	3.5	4.1	0.76	11.04	2.1	24.9
Annual Target	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	54.6

- 4.19 The baseline assessment for the Masterplan SPD considers open space noting that the site lies within the Prescot, Whiston, Cronton and Knowsley Village Community Area and Substantial Residential Area 30 (defined by the Council’s Greenspace Audit). It is noted that whilst there is a

significant surplus in the overall provision of Community Area, there are deficiencies with respect to :

- Parks and Gardens
- Provision for Children and Young People
- Allotments

4.20 Policy SUE2c identifies the need for public open space as well as the specific requirement for the provision of the country park. In addition to the country park, the masterplan SPD proposes an additional 36 hectares of green space; as well as just over 3 hectares for sports provision and space for an expansion of the existing cemetery.

### ***Cultural Heritage***

4.21 There are seven grade II listed buildings or structures within the site: six within the south of Whiston part of the site and the seventh located in the south of M62 area. In addition, three non-designated heritage assets sit within the south of Whiston site.

4.22 Archaeological potential within the proposed development areas has been assessed as moderate to high with a high potential for medieval and post-medieval remains across both development areas, relating to Halsnead Park and a moderate potential for prehistoric or roman remains. In addition a high potential for modern remains was predicted for the Land South of the M62 development area relating the use of the site as a colliery. There are however, large areas within both development areas that have undergone significant development which will have truncated or removed archaeological remains. It is therefore considered that these areas have a low to negligible potential for remains from all but the modern period. These areas include the location of the dismantled colliery branch line, Knowsley Cemetery, Big Lake, sports pitches within the north-west corner of the development area, the footprints of existing and former buildings including Halsnead and Prince's House and the Cronton Colliery site.

### ***Landscape***

4.23 The Landscape Character of the site is dominated by the historical remnants of the former Halsnead Park Estate, centred on Halsnead Hall - now demolished - with its main house and gardens replaced by the current

mobile home park. The key characteristics of the estate are its many large groups of woodland, significant lengths of estate boundary stone walling, lodge and gate houses.

- 4.24 The M62 and M57 motorways now dominate the visual and physical character of the area. The former Cronton Colliery and its spoil area now dominate the southern part of the old estate parcel, south of the M62.
- 4.25 The two halves of the site are visually contained to a great extent. There are only a few isolated locations from where the sites can be seen, and from which any future proposed development may be seen.

### **Sustainability Issues**

- 4.26 It is clear that there are a number of sustainability issues that arise from the analysis of the baseline data:
- Need to consider impacts on identified ecological resources (habitats and species) and ensuring Local Wildlife Sites are carefully integrated with the development proposed. There needs to be consideration of potential opportunities for the restoration or enhancement of biodiversity. Moreover, the Masterplan SPD could identify how improving people's access to nature (either through linear routes or open space) could be incorporated.
  - Need to consider geo-technical impacts as a result of delivering the development proposed for the site. The delivery of the development proposals will lead to the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land.
  - Parts of the site are in Flood Zones 2 and 3, and areas have been identified where surface water flooding presents potential high risks.
  - Initial assessment of air quality suggests some potential issues with respect to NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations given the proximity to the M62 and M57.
  - Delivery of housing to assist in meeting the Borough's housing needs as set out in the Local Plan – Core Strategy.
  - Delivery of employment land to assist in meeting the Borough's economic needs as set out in the Local Plan – Core Strategy.

- Ensuring the transport implications of the development are successfully integrated into the wider transport network.
- Need to consider impacts on listed buildings and other heritage assets identified in the baseline assessment. Also need to assess impact on archaeological potential of the site.
- Need to consider impacts on landscape assets and features identified in the baseline assessment.
- Some deficiencies in open space identified within the wider area that contains the site.

### **Evolution without Masterplan SPD**

4.27 The site could come forward as a number of planning applications that are not informed by a Masterplan SPD. This would run contrary to the policy intention of Policy SUE2 and SUE2c. Nonetheless, if it did occur, it is likely that there could be potential negative impacts on the various sustainability issues as a result of piecemeal development proposals that did not deliver the comprehensive approach envisaged as a result of the Masterplan SPD.

## **5 Strategic Environmental Assessment – Summary of Findings**

- 5.1 A summary of the assessment of the draft Halsnead Masterplan SPD is set out in the following tables (Tables 5 to 8).
- 5.2 The assessment considered the three approaches in developing the SPD. The analysis suggests that approach 2 is likely to deliver the greatest positive environmental benefits (Table 5). Table 6 identifies potential mitigation that can be considered in any potential further draft of the SPD to further improve the environmental benefits that may accrue from developing the site.
- 5.3 Table 7 sets out the summary of the assessment of the key requirements and masterplan guidance contained in the draft SPD. Table 8 then repeats the process undertaken in Table 6.
- 5.4 The SEA Framework has focussed on the key issues that are pertinent to the assessment of the emerging Masterplan SPD. The key question posed in the assessment is whether the Masterplan SPD will help to achieve the SEA objective in question, utilising the assessment scale set out in Table 2 (Section 2).

**Summary of Strategic Environmental Assessment (full detail in Appendix 3)**

**Table 5: Options – Masterplan Approaches Considered**

	SEA Objectives									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Approach 1: SPD Framework Adapted	0	-	0	-	0	-/--	-	+/++	++	+
Approach 2: Urban Connection	0	0	0	-	+	-/--	0	+/++	++	++
Approach 3: Central focus	+	-	0	-	0	-/--	-	+/++	++	+

**Table 6: Potential Mitigation (Approaches)**

Sustainability Objective	Mitigation
2. To protect, enhance and manage the local character and accessibility of the landscape and countryside across Knowsley.	<p>Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and the Masterplan SPD should ensure the retention of existing trees.</p> <p>Approach 3 specifically identifies the opportunity for reinterpretation of the historic Halsnead Park features.</p>
3. To protect, enhance and manage biodiversity, the viability of protected and endangered species, habitats, geodiversity and sites of geological importance.	<p>Utilise appropriate ecological surveys.</p> <p>Consideration as to how the LWS and areas of priority habitat will be integrated with the development proposals.</p> <p>Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that appropriate measures to mitigate the impact of the development are implemented, such as the provision of on-site habitats, the creation of a buffer around the LWSs and the retention of areas of woodland.</p>
4. To adapt to climate change including flood risk.	<p>Apply the sequential and exception test to the development proposals and, if necessary, exclude parts of the site at greatest risk of flooding from the developable area.</p>

	<p>Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that appropriate measures are taken to mitigate flood risk, such as the use of SuDS.</p>
<p>5. To provide, conserve, maintain and enhance green infrastructure.</p>	<p>Secure the provision of appropriate on-site open space and green corridors through the site.</p> <p>Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure the retention of areas of woodland and the provision of a substantial, high quality and connected green infrastructure network.</p>
<p>6. To protect, manage and restore land and soil quality</p>	<p>Ensure development is built to an appropriate density to ensure efficient use of land and minimise the need to release further greenfield sites.</p>
<p>7. To protect, and where necessary, improve local air quality.</p>	<p>Secure improvements to the public transport network and ensure that the development is accessible by a choice of means of transport.</p> <p>Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and the “Ensuring a Choice of Travel” SPD should support the aim of ensuring that new development caters for an appropriate range and choice of transport options.</p> <p>Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should seek to retain trees and areas of woodland, and provide appropriate air quality attenuation for the site from the M62.</p>
<p>8. To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing.</p>	<p>Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that new dwellings achieve high standards of design and resource</p>

	efficiency.
10. To reduce the need to travel and improve choice and use of more sustainable transport mode	<p>Secure improvements to the public transport network and ensure that the development is accessible by a choice of means of transport.</p> <p>Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and the “Ensuring a Choice of Travel” SPD should support the aim of ensuring that new development caters for an appropriate range and choice of transport options.</p>

**Table 7: Key Requirements and Masterplan Guidance**

	SEA Objectives									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Key Requirements</b>										
HSPD1 (Strategic Objectives); HSPD2 (Framework Plan); and HSPD3 (Use and amount)	+	0	0	+	+	-/--	0	+/+++	+/+++	+
HSPD4 (Residential Development); HSPD5 (Employment Development); and HSPD8 (Community Facilities)	0	0	0	0	+	-/--	0	+/+++	+/+++	+
HSPD6 (Heritage response); HSPD11 (Open Space); and HSPD12 (Ecology)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0
HSPD7 (Movement); HSPD9 (Strategic utilities); and HSPD10 (Ground conditions)	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	+	+	+
<b>Masterplan Guidance</b>										
Placemaking Vision	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+/+++	+	+
Placemaking Pillars	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	+/+++	+	+
Design Framework	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+/+++	+/+++	+

**Table 8: Potential Mitigation (Key Requirements and Masterplan Guidance)**

Sustainability Objectives	Mitigation
<b>Key Requirements</b>	
<b>HSPD1 (Strategic Objectives); HSPD2 (Framework Plan); and HSPD3 (Use and amount)</b>	
6. To protect, manage and restore land and soil quality.	<p>Ensure development is built to an appropriate density to minimise the need to release further greenfield sites.</p> <p>Ensure the approach to the provision of open space</p>

	including the country park maximises the opportunities to negate the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land; and enables any further improvements to areas of contaminated land can be addressed.
8. To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing.	Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that new dwellings achieve high standards of design and resource efficiency.
<b>HSPD4 (Residential Development); HSPD5 (Employment Development); and HSPD8 (Community Facilities)</b>	
1. To preserve, enhance and manage Knowsley’s rich diversity of cultural, historic and archaeological buildings, areas, sites and features.	Heritage matters covered by HSPD6. Consider the inclusion of additional wording specifically covering heritage matters in HSPD4 and HSPD8.
2. To protect, enhance and manage the local character and accessibility of the landscape and countryside across Knowsley.	Heritage matters covered by HSPD6. Consider the inclusion of additional wording specifically covering landscape matters in HSPD4 and HSPD8.
3. To protect, enhance and manage biodiversity, the viability of protected and endangered species, habitats, geodiversity and sites of geological importance.	Ecology matters covered by HSPD12. Consider the inclusion of additional wording specifically covering ecological matters in HSPD4 and HSPD8.
4. To adapt to climate change including flood risk.	Consider the inclusion of additional wording specifically covering flood risk matters in the three key requirements.
5. To provide, conserve, maintain and enhance green infrastructure.	Consider the inclusion of additional wording specifically covering green infrastructure in HSPD4 and HSPD8.
6. To protect, manage and restore land and soil quality.	Ensure development is built to an appropriate density to minimise the need to release further greenfield sites.  Ensure the approach to the provision of open space including the country park maximises the opportunities to negate the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land;

	and enables any further improvements to areas of contaminated land can be addressed.
8. To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing.	Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that new dwellings achieve high standards of design and resource efficiency.
<b>HSPD6 (Heritage response); HSPD11 (Open Space); and HSPD12 (Ecology)</b>	
8. To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing.	Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that new dwellings achieve high standards of design and resource efficiency.
<b>Masterplan Guidance</b>	
<b>Placemaking Vision</b>	
6. To protect, manage and restore land and soil quality.	Ensure development is built to an appropriate density to minimise the need to release further greenfield sites.
8. To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing.	Consider the inclusion of wording that captures in the vision the intention to deliver a choice of housing thereby contributing to the sub-objective in this sustainability objective.  Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy should ensure that new dwellings achieve high standards of design and resource efficiency.
9. To improve the competitiveness and productivity of business, exploit the growth potential of business sectors and increase the number of new businesses.	Consider additional wording in the vision to make specific reference to the employment opportunity on the site.

<b>Placemaking Pillars</b>	
3. To protect, enhance and manage biodiversity, the viability of protected and endangered species, habitats, geodiversity and sites of geological importance.	<p>HSPD7 specifically identifies the requirements to deal with ecological matters on site. HSPD6 includes specific requirements for the retention and enhancement of existing ecological features.</p> <p>Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD also provide further direction on the need to protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and geodiversity assets.</p>
5. To provide, conserve, maintain and enhance green infrastructure.	<p>Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and the additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD will ensure that there is appropriate on-site open space and green corridors through the site.</p>
6. To protect, manage and restore land and soil quality.	<p>Ensure development is built to an appropriate density to ensure an efficient use of land and to minimise the need to release further greenfield sites.</p>
8. To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing.	<p>Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that new dwellings achieve high standards of design and resource efficiency.</p>
<b>Design Framework</b>	
6. To protect, manage and restore land and soil quality.	<p>Ensure development is built to an appropriate density to ensure an efficient use of land and to minimise the need to release further greenfield sites.</p>
8. To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing.	<p>Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that new dwellings achieve high standards of design and resource efficiency.</p>

**Table 9: SEA Framework**

Sustainability Issue	SEA Objective	Sub Objective	SEA Topic	Suggested Indicators
Need to consider impacts on listed buildings identified either on site or in close proximity to the site. Also need to assess impact on archaeological potential of the site.	<b>To preserve, enhance and manage Knowsley’s rich diversity of cultural, historic and archaeological buildings, areas, sites and features.</b>		Cultural Heritage	Number of listed buildings on the Heritage at Risk Register
Need to consider impacts on landscape assets and features identified in the baseline assessment  Some deficiencies in open space identified within the wider area that contains the site.	<b>To protect, enhance and manage the local character and accessibility of the landscape and countryside across Knowsley</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide the required amount of open space.</li> </ul>	Landscape Material Assets	Hectares of open space per 1000 population by type of open space

Sustainability Issue	SEA Objective	Sub Objective	SEA Topic	Suggested Indicators
<p>Need to consider impacts on identified ecological resources and ensuring Local Wildlife Sites are carefully integrated with the development proposed.</p> <p>There needs to be consideration of potential opportunities for the restoration or enhancement of biodiversity. Moreover, the Masterplan SPD could identify how improving people’s access to nature (either through linear routes or open space) could be incorporated.</p>	<p><b>To protect, enhance and manage biodiversity, the viability of protected and endangered species, habitats, geodiversity and sites of geological importance</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To conserve and enhance the natural environment, including species and habitat diversity.</li> <li>• Ensure current ecological networks are not compromised, and future improvements in habitat connectivity are not prejudiced.</li> </ul>	<p>Biodiversity</p>	<p>Number of local sites in ‘active conservation management’</p>

<b>Sustainability Issue</b>	<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Sub Objective</b>	<b>SEA Topic</b>	<b>Suggested Indicators</b>
Parts of the site are in Flood Zones 2 and 3, and areas have been identified where surface water flooding presents potential high risks	<b>To adapt to climate change including flood risk.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce flood risk</li> </ul>	Climatic Factors Flood Risk	Percentage of development within flood zones 2 and 3; and areas of high risk with respect to surface water
Some deficiencies in open space identified within the wider area that contains the site.	<b>To provide, conserve, maintain and enhance green infrastructure.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve the size and quality of the green infrastructure network.</li> <li>• To improve the size and quality of the Ecological Framework</li> <li>• Avoid impacts on the quality and extent of existing recreational assets, such as formal or informal footpaths</li> </ul>	Biodiversity Material Assets	Performance of area relative to adopted greenspace standards

<b>Sustainability Issue</b>	<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Sub Objective</b>	<b>SEA Topic</b>	<b>Suggested Indicators</b>
<p>Need to consider geo-technical impacts as a result of delivering the development proposed for the site.</p> <p>The delivery of the development proposals will lead to the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land.</p>	<p><b>To protect, manage and restore land and soil quality</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the amount of derelict land.</li> <li>• Direct new housing to previously developed land.</li> <li>• Reduce the amount of contaminated land</li> <li>• Ensure avoidance of the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land</li> </ul>	<p>Soil</p>	<p>Amount of previously developed land that is derelict.</p> <p>New build on previously developed land.</p>
<p>Initial assessment of air quality suggests some potential issues with respect to NO2 concentrations given the proximity to the M62 and M57</p>	<p><b>To protect, and where necessary, improve local air quality</b></p>		<p>Air</p>	<p>Area of site subject to air quality mitigation measures</p>

Sustainability Issue	SEA Objective	Sub Objective	SEA Topic	Suggested Indicators
<p>Delivery of housing to assist in meeting the Borough’s housing needs as set out in the Local Plan – Core Strategy</p>	<p><b>To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a wider choice of accommodation to create a greater tenure mix.</li> <li>• Minimise resource and energy use when developing housing and the energy efficiency of housing.</li> </ul>	<p>Material Assets</p>	<p>Housing by tenure type and size</p>
<p>Delivery of employment land to assist in meeting the Borough’s economic needs as set out in the Local Plan – Core Strategy</p>	<p><b>To improve the competitiveness and productivity of business, exploit the growth potential of business sectors and increase the number of new businesses</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase number of local and new businesses</li> <li>• Increase industrial / commercial floorspace</li> </ul>	<p>Material Assets</p>	<p>Amount of land taken up / floorspace developed for employment purposes</p>

<b>Sustainability Issue</b>	<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Sub Objective</b>	<b>SEA Topic</b>	<b>Suggested Indicators</b>
Ensuring the transport implications of the development are successfully integrated into the wider transport network.	<b>Reduce the need to travel and improve choice and use of more sustainable transport modes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage sustainable transport use</li> </ul>	Material Assets	Traffic volumes at key junctions

## **Appendix 1 – Responses to the screening and scoping report stages**

Date: 26 September 2016  
Our ref: 196358  
Your ref: SEA Screening Assessment Consultation



Knowsley Council  
Planning Policy  
Yorkon Building  
Archway Road  
Huyton  
L36 9FB  
**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Customer Services  
Hornbeam House  
Crewe Business  
Park  
Electra Way  
Crewe  
Cheshire  
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Miss Apter,

**Screening consultation: South of Whiston and Land South of M62 SUE SPD (SEA Screening)**

**Location:** Knowsley

Thank you for your consultation on the above application, which was received by Natural England on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

**Screening Request: Strategic Environmental Assessment**

It is our advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that, in so far as our strategic environmental interests are concerned (including but not limited to statutory designated sites, landscapes and protected species, geology and soils), that there are likely to be significant environmental effects from the proposed plan.

We agree with the conclusion contained in the SPD that states the Masterplan SPD may lead to additional significant environmental effects and that a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Masterplan SPD will be required.

A Statement of Reasons for Determination indicates the following: *“5.1 In reviewing these criteria the Council has concluded that the Masterplan SPD may lead to addition significant environmental effects. It is therefore of the view that a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Masterplan SPD will be required.”*. We agree with the above conclusion that a SEA of the Masterplan SPD is required.

We particularly note that: *“A separate screening exercise to determine whether the SPD requires a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) is being undertaken by MEAS.”*. We welcome the above steps.

We have checked our records and based on the information provided, we can confirm that in our view the proposals contained within the plan will not have significant effects on sensitive sites that Natural England has a statutory duty to protect.

We are not aware of significant populations of protected species which are likely to be affected by the policies / proposals within the plan. It remains the case, however, that the responsible authority should provide information supporting this screening decision, sufficient to assess whether protected species are likely to be affected.

Notwithstanding this advice, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all potential environmental assets. As a result the responsible authority should raise environmental issues that we have not identified on local or national biodiversity action plan species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites or local landscape character, with its own ecological and/or landscape advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local landscape and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by this plan, before determining whether an SA/SEA is necessary.

Please note that Natural England reserves the right to provide further comments on the environmental assessment of the plan beyond this SEA/SA screening stage, should the responsible authority seek our views on the scoping or environmental report stages. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Alex Rowe on 020 822 56312. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

We really value your feedback to help us improve the service we offer. We have attached a feedback form to this letter and welcome any comments you might have about our service.

Yours sincerely

Alex Rowe  
Lead Advisor  
Cheshire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside & Lancashire Area Team



Historic England

Rachel Apter  
Planning Policy Manager  
Knowsley Council  
Yorkon Building  
Archway Road  
Huyton  
L36 9FB

Our ref: PL00038830  
Your ref: E-mail 16<sup>th</sup> Sept  
Telephone: 07500 121974

21<sup>st</sup> Sept 2016,

Dear Rachel,

Re: Knowsley SUE Masterplan SPD Screening Consultation

Thank you for consulting Historic England

Your documentation is accompanied by a request for a formal Screening Opinion from Historic England in compliance with the EU Directive 2001/42/EC and Associated Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. The draft Opinion prepared by your Council concludes that Strategic Environmental Assessment is required. We observe that the Plan appears to propose site allocations/policies which may have significant environmental effects upon the historic environment and as such we concur that in this regard, Strategic Environmental Assessment is required.

Historic England's advice on "*Strategic Environmental Assessment, Sustainability and the Historic Environment*" can be downloaded at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/strategic-envirn-assessment-sustainability-appraisal-historic-environment/>

Yours Sincerely



Darren Ratcliffe RIBA  
Historic Places Adviser



Historic England, Suite 3.3, Canada House, 3 Chepstow Street, Manchester M1 5FW  
Telephone 0161 242 1416 [HistoricEngland.org.uk](http://HistoricEngland.org.uk)  
Please note that Historic England operates an access to information policy.  
Correspondence or information which you send us may therefore become publicly available.



Date: 09 October 2016  
Our ref: 199306  
Your ref: SEA Scoping Report Consultation



Rachel Apter  
Planning Policy Manager  
Knowsley Council  
Planning Policy  
Archway Road  
Huyton  
L36 9FB  
**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Customer Services  
Hornbeam House  
Crewe Business Park  
Electra Way  
Crewe  
Cheshire  
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Ms Apter

**Planning consultation:** Knowsley Local Plan - Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report of the South of Whiston and Land South of M62 Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) Masterplan SPD  
**Location:** Knowsley

Thank you for your consultation on the above Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Scoping Report, which was received by Natural England on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

#### **Scoping Report: Strategic Environmental Assessment**

We are pleased to see that your Scoping Report has covered most of the key areas required in order to inform the South Whiston and Land South of M62 SUE Masterplan SPD. We have set out below our specific comments.

#### **Biodiversity and Geology**

Natural England notes your baseline position on biodiversity and support this approach. In addition, Natural England would advise that the SEA takes account of Species protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. The Scoping Report has not assessed these species and Natural England could advise that they are assessed as part of any future versions of the SEA.

#### **Plans, programmes and strategies**

Natural England has not reviewed the plans listed. However, we advise that the following types of plans relating to the natural environment should be considered where applicable to your plan area;

- Green infrastructure strategies
- Biodiversity plans
- Rights of Way Improvement Plans
- Shoreline management plans
- Coastal access plans
- River basin management plans
- AONB and National Park management plans.
- Relevant landscape plans and strategies.

Please see Annex 1 below for our advice on sources of Local Plan - SPD evidence on the natural environment.

## **Schedule of baseline assessment**

We note that there is no reference to the restoration or enhancement of biodiversity, with the issues referring only to avoiding damage. We recommend that the restoration or enhancement of biodiversity is included in line with the National Planning Policy Framework. There is no specific reference to the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land. We also note that there is no reference to improving people's access to nature (be that to linear routes or open space), which should be included as a key issue.

## **SEA Framework**

### ***Health and Green infrastructure***

There should be questions relating to enhancing provision of recreational resources, as well as questions relating to impacts on existing recreational assets (quality and or extent). We suggest adding additional wording to Table 4 SEA Framework, which seeks to 'avoids impacts on the quality and extent of existing recreational assets, such as formal or informal footpaths'.

### ***Soils and agricultural land***

We welcome the soil related sub-objective, but we recommend that additional wording is added to ensure 'avoidance of the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land' is fully considered.

### ***Ecological connectivity***

There is a risk that in some situations, development on land of limited biodiversity value in its own right can lead to the creation of islands of biodiversity, permanently severed from other areas. We suggest that additional wording is included that 'ensures current ecological networks are not compromised, and future improvements in habitat connectivity are not prejudiced'.

## **Monitoring and Indicators**

The indicators contained in the SEA Framework Table 4, are welcomed. However, we would like to see additional wording to strengthen these objective, so it provides an effective framework for monitoring the performance of the plan.

As set out in [Planning Practice Guidance](#), you should be monitoring the significant environmental effects of implementing the current local plan. This should include indicators for monitoring the effects of the plan on biodiversity (NPPF para 117).

The natural environment metrics in the baseline information are largely driven by factors other than the plan's performance. They are thus likely to be of little value in monitoring the performance of the Plan. It is important that any monitoring indicators relate to the effects of the plan itself, not wider changes. Bespoke indicators should be chosen relating to the outcomes of development management decisions.

Whilst it is not Natural England's role to prescribe what indicators should be adopted, the following indicators may be appropriate.

### ***Biodiversity:***

- Number of planning approvals that generated any adverse impacts on sites of acknowledged biodiversity importance.
- Percentage of major developments generating overall biodiversity enhancement.
- Hectares of biodiversity habitat delivered through strategic site allocations.

### ***Landscape:***

- Amount of new development in AONB/National Park/Heritage Coast with commentary on likely impact.

### ***Green infrastructure:***

- Percentage of the city's population having access to a natural greenspace within 400 metres of their home.
- Length of greenways constructed.
- Hectares of accessible open space per 1000 population.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Alexander Rowe on 020 822 56312. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

We really value your feedback to help us improve the service we offer. We have attached a feedback form to this letter and welcome any comments you might have about our service.

We also welcome your feedback on Natural England's revised standing advice in terms of its usability (ease of access, presentation), quality of content and, its clarity and effectiveness as a tool in guiding decision-making. Please provide this, with any suggested improvements, by filling in the attached customer feedback form or by emailing your feedback direct to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

Yours sincerely

Alexander Rowe  
Lead Advisor  
Cheshire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside & Lancashire Area Team

## Annex 1:

Planning Consultation: Knowsley Local Plan - Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report of the South of Whiston and Land South of M62 Sustainable Urban Extension Masterplan SPD  
Location: Knowsley

The following sources of evidence may be useful in ensuring Local Plans- SPDs are evidence based, in line with paragraph 165 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and assist in meeting Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) requirements. A range of additional locally specific evidence is also likely to be needed to underpin plan preparation.

### General natural environmental evidence

Natural England has published downloadable [natural capital maps](#). These are a suite of ten maps, of different aspects of natural capital, contributes to our understanding of where our natural capital is. The [Magic](#) website will provide you with much of the **nationally held natural environment data** for your plan area in downloadable GIS format. Specific data sets are listed under the environmental topics below.

[Local environmental record centres](#) may hold a range of additional information on the natural environment, principally ecological. The following local organizations may also hold environmental information where applicable: Local Nature Partnerships, Wildlife trusts, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and [Nature Improvement Areas](#).

### Landscape

Most areas have local **landscape character assessments**. These are tools to help understand the character and local distinctiveness of the landscape and identify the features that give it a sense of place. It can help to inform, plan and manage change in the area. Data on **tranquillity** is held by [CPRE](#). They also hold mapping data on [light pollution](#).

### Biodiversity and geodiversity

The most relevant layers on [Magic](#) for you to consider are **Ancient Woodland, Local Nature Reserves, Priority Habitat Inventory, Sites of Special Scientific Interest** (including their **impact risk zones**), **Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, and Ramsar Sites** (including, where relevant, marine designations).

You may also wish to draw on more detailed information on specific [Sites of Special Scientific Interest](#) and the [Conservation Objectives](#) and [Site Improvement Plans](#) for **Special Areas of Conservation** and **Special Protection Areas**.

[Priority habitats and species](#) are those listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act, 2006 and UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP). Larger areas of priority habitat will usually be mapped either as **Sites of Special Scientific Interest** on the Magic website or as **Local Wildlife Sites or Local Geological Sites**. **Local wildlife site** data is usually held by local planning authorities themselves as is **local geological site** data. Local Environmental Record Centres and local wildlife and geoconservation groups are also a source of information on Local Sites.

Natural England maintains the **Open Mosaic Habitat on Previously Developed Land Inventory** (a priority habitat dataset currently not integrated into the Priority Habitat Inventory on [Magic](#)) and is available on request from Natural England via email; [NaturalEnglandGIDataManagers@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:NaturalEnglandGIDataManagers@naturalengland.org.uk).

**Local Biodiversity Action Plans** (LBAPs) identify the local action needed to deliver UK targets for habitats and species. They also identify targets for other habitats and species of local importance and can provide a useful blueprint for biodiversity enhancement in any particular area. Local Geodiversity Action Plans (LGAPS) identify agreed local action for geodiversity, a list of active LGAPs can be found at [UK Geodiversity Action Plan](http://www.ukgap.org.uk/getting-involved/lgaps.aspx) (<http://www.ukgap.org.uk/getting-involved/lgaps.aspx>).

Some areas have identified **Biodiversity Opportunity Areas** or similar for spatially targeting biodiversity restoration work.

**Protected species** are those species protected under domestic or European law. [Local environmental record centres](#) are likely to hold much of the available data on such species.

[APIS](#) holds data on air pollution in particular in relation to protected nature conservation sites.

### **Access**

The [Magic](#) website holds the following access related data: **National Trails, Public Rights of Way (on the Ordnance Survey base map), Open Access Land (the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 layer), together with national and local nature reserves, country parks and the England Coast Path.**

Locally held data will include the **definitive Public Rights of Way**, and may include **Rights of Way Improvement Plans** where they exist, and any locally mapped **open space audits or assessments**.

Natural England's work on [Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards \(ANGSt\)](#) may be of use in assessing current level of accessible natural greenspace and planning improved provision.

### **Green infrastructure**

Green infrastructure strategies may comprise or contain useful evidence sources where they exist.

### **Soils**

A provisional Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) map is on [Magic](#), and the GIS layer 'Likelihood of Best and Most Versatile Land' is available on request from Natural England via email; [NaturalEnglandGIDataManagers@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:NaturalEnglandGIDataManagers@naturalengland.org.uk).

Some areas already have detailed ALC maps. The coverage of existing detailed MAFF post 1988 ALC surveys is shown on [Magic](#). The MAFF post 1988 ALC survey reports and maps themselves are available from [Natural England](#) or from [Gov.UK](#).

Our publication [Agricultural Land Classification: protecting the best and most versatile agricultural land](#) may also be of help.

General mapped information on **soil types** and **Agricultural Land Classification** is available (under 'landscape') on the Magic website and also from the [LandIS website](#), which contains more information about obtaining soil data.

### **Climate change**

The [Climate Change Adaptation Manual](#) provides evidence to support nature conservation in a changing climate.

The [National Biodiversity Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment Model](#) provides a spatially explicit assessment of the relative vulnerability of priority habitats. The data files can be accessed here: [National Biodiversity Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment](#) data.

The [LWEC Climate Change Impacts Report Cards](#) present the latest evidence on how climate change is affecting different aspects of our environment, economy and society.

### **Water Quality and Resources and Flood Risk Management**

The Planning Practice Guidance provides guidance on [information sources for the water environment](#).



Historic England

Rachel Apter  
Planning Policy Manager  
Knowsley Council  
Yorkon Building  
Archway Road  
Huyton  
L36 9FB

Our ref: PL00038830  
Your ref: E-mail 19<sup>th</sup> Oct  
Telephone: 07500 121974

7<sup>th</sup> Nov 2016,

Knowsley MBC  
Direct Regeneration  
- 9 NOV 2016  
Planning & Building Control

Dear Rachel,

Re: Knowsley SUE Masterplan SPD Scoping Consultation

Thank you for consulting Historic England, we provided advice on the need for a screening opinion on the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016.

We generally concur with the scoping report including the SEA framework at Table4; please note we have a record of 7 grade II listed buildings and structures within the area, not 6 as set out at 4.21 (p18). For the avoidance of doubt I have attached a list of designated assets. The scoping report might also usefully include a map to show both designated and undesignated heritage assets (as provided in Figure 1, page 13, Habitat Survey).

Historic England's advice on "*Strategic Environmental Assessment, Sustainability and the Historic Environment*" can be downloaded at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/strategic-environ-assessment-sustainability-appraisal-historic-environment/>

Yours Sincerely



Darren Ratcliffe RIBA  
Historic Places Adviser



Historic England, Suite 3.3, Canada House, 3 Chepstow Street, Manchester M1 5FW  
Telephone 0161 242 1416 HistoricEngland.org.uk

Please note that Historic England operates an access to information policy.  
Correspondence or information which you send us may therefore become publicly available.



Listed Buildings - Grade II

HA Uid	Name	Grade
1253249	NORTH EAST LODGE TO HALSNEAD PARK	II
1253250	BARN AT SNAPE GATE	II
1253251	SANDFIELD COTTAGE	II
1253429	GATE PIERS BESIDE NORTH EAST LODGE TO HALSNEAD PARK	II
1253441	CARR HOUSE FARMHOUSE	II
1253505	THE PADDOCKS AND THE STABLES	II
1261787	OLD HALSNEAD	II

## Appendix 2 - Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives

Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives		
Plans / Policies and Programmes	Key Objectives	Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA
<b>International</b>		
Paris Agreement (2015) and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992)	UN Convention, and related instruments, which seek to achieve the stabilisation of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous interference with the climatic system.	Masterplan – proposals for development will consider impacts with respect to climate change  SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to climate change
The Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (2002)	Framework for a range of global actions to tackle poverty and climate issues leading towards more sustainable development including measures to address unsustainable patterns of consumption and production, protecting and managing the natural resource base; and health and education issues.	Masterplan – proposals for development will consider impacts with respect to sustainable development  SEA - include objectives to consider impacts resulting from consumption and production of resources; and the protection and management of the natural resource base.
Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat  UN 1971, amended 1982 and 1987	Ramsar is the first of the modern global intergovernmental treaties on conservation and wise use of natural resources. Its original emphasis is on the conservation and wise use of wetlands to provide habitat for water birds. Over time it has broadened its scope to cover all aspects of wetland conservation and	Masterplan – no specific sites within the SPD area; HRA will consider any potential impacts with identified sites in the Mersey Estuary

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
Adopted	wise use, recognizing wetlands as ecosystems that are extremely important for biodiversity conservation in general and for the well-being of human communities.	SEA - issues covered by Habitats Regulation Assessment and hence any recommendations/ conclusions from that work will be considered by the SEA.
The Convention on Biological Diversity. Rio de Janeiro (1992)	UN Convention which, under Article 6A, requires each Contracting Party to develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	Masterplan - areas will be identified with respect to biodiversity importance with reference to baseline assessment  SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to biodiversity
Aarhus Convention (1998)	Establishes a number of rights of the public (individuals and their associations) with regard to the environment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the right of everyone to receive environmental information that is held by public authorities</li> <li>• the right to participate in environmental decision-making</li> <li>• the right to review procedures to challenge public decisions that have been made without respecting the two aforementioned rights or environmental law in general</li> </ul>	Masterplan/SEA - Ensure public involvement in the consultation process with respect to the draft Masterplan and accompanying SEA reporting
<b><u>EU</u></b>		

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
Habitats Directive (1992) on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. (92/43/EEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conserve flora and fauna of EU importance.</li> <li>• Establish a network of protected areas to maintain distribution and abundance of threatened species and habitats.</li> </ul>	<p>Masterplan – no specific sites within the SPD area; HRA will consider any potential impacts with identified sites in the Mersey Estuary</p> <p>SEA - issues covered by Habitats Regulation Assessment and hence any recommendations/ conclusions from that work will be considered by the SEA.</p>
Birds Directive 2009 (2009/147/EC)	The Directive provides a framework for the conservation and management of, and human interactions with, wild birds in Europe. It sets broad objectives for a wide range of activities, although the precise legal mechanisms for their achievement are at the discretion of each Member State	<p>Masterplan – no specific sites within the SPD area; HRA will consider any potential impacts with identified sites in the Mersey Estuary</p> <p>SEA - issues covered by Habitats Regulation Assessment and hence any recommendations/ conclusions from that work will be considered by the SEA.</p>
Floods Directive 2007 on the assessment and management of flood risk (2007/60/EC)	The Directive which applies to all kinds of floods (river, lakes, flash floods, urban floods, coastal floods, including storm surges and tsunamis), on all of the EU territory requires Member States to approach flood risk management in a three stage process::	<p>Masterplan – small area identified at risk of flooding and SPD will account for this</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider</p>

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Member States will by 2011 undertake a preliminary flood risk assessment of their river basins and associated coastal zones; to identify areas where potential significant flood risk exists.</li> <li>2. Where real risks of flood damage exist, they must by 2013 develop flood hazard maps and flood risk maps</li> <li>3. Finally, by 2015 flood risk management plans must be drawn up for these zones. These plans are to include measures to reduce the probability of flooding and its potential consequences.</li> </ol>	impacts with respect to flood risk
Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2010 (2010/31/EU)	The legislation aims to improve the energy performance of buildings in the EU, taking into account various climatic and local conditions. It sets out minimum requirements and a common methodology. It covers energy used for heating, hot water, cooling, ventilation and lighting	<p>Masterplan – proposals for development will consider design aspects and potential energy performance</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to energy performance in buildings</p>
The Waste Framework Directive 2008 (2008/98/EC)	The Directive establishes essential requirements for the management of waste, notably an obligation for waste management operations to have a permit or to be registered and an obligation for Member States to draw up waste management plans. It also establishes major principles such as an	Masterplan – proposals for development will consider efficient resource utilisation and waste minimisation

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
	obligation to handle waste in a way that does not have a negative impact on the environment or human health, an encouragement to apply the waste hierarchy and, in accordance with the polluter- pays principle, a requirement that the costs of disposing of waste must be borne by the holder of waste, by previous holders or producers of the product from which the waste came.	SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to resource efficiency and sustainable waste management
Landfill Waste Directive 1999 (99/31/EC)	The Directive is intended to prevent or reduce the adverse effects of the landfill of waste on the environment, in particular on surface water, groundwater, soil, air and human health. It defines the different categories of waste (municipal waste, hazardous waste, non-hazardous waste and inert waste) and applies to all landfills, defined as waste disposal sites for the deposit of waste onto or into land.	Masterplan – proposals for development will consider efficient resource utilisation and waste minimisation  SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to resource efficiency and sustainable waste management
Water Framework Directive 2000 (2000/60/EC)	To establish a framework for the protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater, in order to prevent and reduce pollution, promote sustainable water use, protect the aquatic environment, improve the status of aquatic ecosystems and mitigate the effects of floods and droughts.	Masterplan – a number of watercourses on site which will need consideration of how development is located to manage impacts  SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to the

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
		protection and enhancement of water quality
Urban Waste Water Directive 1991 (91/271/EEC)	<p>Its objective is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of urban waste water discharges and discharges from certain industrial sectors (see Annex III of the Directive) and concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic waste water</li> <li>• Mixture of waste water</li> <li>• Waste water from certain industrial sectors (see Annex III of the Directive)</li> </ul>	<p>Masterplan – a number of watercourses on site which will need consideration of how development is located to manage impacts</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to the protection and enhancement of water quality</p>
Industrial Emissions Directive 2010 (2010/75/EU)	<p>The IED sets out the main principles for the permitting and control of installations based on an integrated approach and the application of best available techniques (BAT). BAT is the most effective techniques to achieve a high level of environmental protection, taking into account the costs and benefits.</p>	<p>Masterplan – air quality issues considered in the baseline data review. Issues dependent on nature of employment uses brought forward.</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to reducing pollution</p>
Air Quality Directive 2008 on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe	<p>The Directive includes the following key elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The merging of most of existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter</li> </ul>	<p>Masterplan – air quality issues considered in the baseline data review. Issues dependent on</p>

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
(2008/50/EC)	<p>directive) with no change to existing air quality objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New air quality objectives for PM2.5 (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives – exposure concentration obligation and exposure reduction target</li> <li>• The possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values</li> <li>• The possibility for time extensions of three years (PM10) or up to five years (NO2, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission.</li> </ul>	<p>nature of residential and employment uses brought forward.</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to improving air quality</p>
<p>Environmental Noise Directive 2002 relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise (2002/49/EC)</p>	<p>The main EU instrument to identify noise pollution levels and to trigger the necessary action both at Member State and at EU level.</p> <p>To pursue its stated aims, the Environmental Noise Directive focuses on three action areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the determination of exposure to environmental noise</li> <li>• ensuring that information on environmental noise and its effects is made available to the public</li> <li>• preventing and reducing environmental noise where necessary and preserving environmental noise quality where it is good</li> </ul>	<p>Masterplan – noise issues considered in the baseline data review. Issues dependent on layout and relationship to existing road network (in particular motorway network).</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to managing and reducing impacts of noise</p>

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice: The Sixth Environment Action Programme of the European Community European Union, 2002	<p>Gives strategic direction to the commission's environmental policy and identifies four environmental priority areas for action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change;</li> <li>• Nature and Biodiversity;</li> <li>• Environment and Health and quality of life; and</li> <li>• Natural Resources and Waste.</li> </ul>	<p>Masterplan – issues picked up under specific topics noted elsewhere in this table</p> <p>SEA – objectives picked up under specific topics noted elsewhere in this table</p>
European Landscape Convention	<p>Provides a basis for recognising the importance of landscapes and sharing experience across Europe. The Convention aims to promote the protection, management and planning of all landscapes, including natural, managed and urban landscapes. It requires landscape to be integrated into town planning, cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policies.</p>	<p>Masterplan – landscape and visual impact assessment will be produced to inform proposals in the SPD.</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to protecting and managing landscapes.</p>
European Spatial Development Perspective	<p>The overarching spatial development principles are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The development of a balanced and polycentric urban system and a new urban-rural relationship;</li> <li>▪ Securing parity of access to infrastructure and knowledge; and</li> <li>▪ Sustainable development, prudent management and the protection of the natural and cultural heritage</li> </ul>	<p>Masterplan – natural and cultural heritage aspects will be considered in developing proposals for the SPD</p> <p>SEA - include objectives to consider impacts with respect to the protection of natural and</p>

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
		cultural heritage
<b><u>National</u></b>		
Localism Act 2011 Planning Act 2008 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 Planning and Compensation Act 1991 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning Act 1990	These Acts constitute the primary legislative framework for town and country planning.	Implications that flow from the Planning Acts feature in this table under the various topic specific Plans, Policies and Programmes
Self Build and Custom House Building Act 2015	The Act requires local authorities to establish a register of those interested in developing a self-build or custom build house in an area.	Masterplan – consideration of any opportunities for self-build in the SPD  SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to the provision of a choice of housing
National Described Space Standards 2015 (and amended 2016)	The standards provide internal space requirements for dwellings. Local Authorities wishing to apply the standards will need to include a policy within their Local Plans with accompanying evidence as to the local circumstances and viability impacts that occur from producing the policy.	Masterplan – Local Plan Core Strategy does not contain standards as policy and therefore no specific requirement for the SPD to consider.

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
		SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to the provision of a choice of housing
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2012	<p>NPPF sets out the following objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Building a strong, competitive economy</li> <li>2. Ensuring the vitality of town centres</li> <li>3. Supporting a prosperous rural economy</li> <li>4. Promoting sustainable transport</li> <li>5. Supporting high quality communications infrastructure</li> <li>6. Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes</li> <li>7. Requiring good design</li> <li>8. Promoting healthy communities</li> <li>9. Protecting Green Belt land</li> <li>10. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change</li> <li>11. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment</li> <li>12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment</li> <li>13. Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals</li> </ol>	<p>Masterplan – SPD will pick up themes at appropriate points in the document.</p> <p>SEA - include objectives to consider impacts with respect to the relevant NPPF’s objectives (N.B. – it is considered Objective 3 is not relevant)</p>

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
National Planning Policy for Waste 2014	Sets out a national statement of planning policies dealing with waste.	<p>Masterplan – proposals for development will consider efficient resource utilisation and waste minimisation</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to resource efficiency and sustainable waste management</p>
Climate Change Act 2008	The Act sets out legally binding targets for the UK. It gives the Secretary of State the power to set-up carbon trading schemes including the Carbon Reduction Commitment.	<p>Masterplan – proposals for development will consider impacts with respect to climate change</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to climate change</p>
Flood and Water Management Act 2010	The Act seeks to improve flood risk management and ensure the security of water supplies in England and Wales. The Act updates legislation to ensure better protection from flooding, manage water more sustainably, improve public services and secure water resources during periods of drought. The Flood and Water Management Act imparts significant new roles and responsibilities on local authorities. County or unitary authorities are now classed as lead local flood authorities (LLFAs) who have responsibilities for managing local flood risk.	<p>Masterplan – small area identified at risk of flooding and SPD will account for this</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to flood risk</p>

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) 1981	<p>This Act is the principle legislative mechanism for the protection of wildlife in Great Britain. It requires any land that is identified as being of special interest by reason of any of its flora, fauna, geological or physiographical features to be afforded certain protection against damaging measures. The Act makes it an offence to kill or injure a range of species and contains measures for preventing the establishment of non-native species which may be detrimental to non-native wildlife. The Act is divided into four parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part I is concerned with the protection of wildlife;</li> <li>• Part II relates to the countryside and national parks (and the designation of protected areas);</li> <li>• Part III covers Public Rights of Way; and</li> <li>• Part IV deals with miscellaneous provisions of the Act.</li> </ul>	<p>Masterplan - areas will be identified with respect to biodiversity importance with reference to baseline assessment</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to biodiversity</p>

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (Volume 1) (Defra, 2007)	<p>The Air Quality Strategy sets out a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues by setting out the air quality standards and objectives to be achieved. It introduces a new policy framework for tackling fine particles, and identifies potential new national policy measures which modelling indicates could give further health benefits and move closer towards meeting the Strategy's objectives.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further improve air quality in the UK from today and long term.</li> <li>• Provide benefits to health, quality of life and the environment.</li> </ul> <p>The strategy is accompanied by The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (Volume 2) (2007)</p>	<p>Masterplan – air quality issues considered in the baseline data review. Issues dependent on nature of residential and employment uses brought forward.</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to improving air quality</p>
Natural Environment White Paper (UK Government, 2011)	The White Paper outlines the government's vision for the natural environment over the next 50 years. It also describes the actions that will be taken to deliver that goal.	Masterplan/SEA - Issues and objectives suggested in other parts of this review are pertinent including impacts with respect to biodiversity and landscape
Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem	A biodiversity strategy for England which builds on the Natural Environment White Paper and demonstrates	Masterplan - areas will be identified with respect to

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
Services (Defra, 2011)	<p>how international and EU commitments are being implemented</p> <p>It sets out the strategic direction for biodiversity policy for the next decade on land (including rivers and lakes) and at sea.</p>	<p>biodiversity importance with reference to baseline assessment</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to biodiversity</p>
Creating growth, cutting carbon: making sustainable local transport happen (DfT, 2011)	<p>The local transport white paper sets out the government's vision for a sustainable local transport system that supports the economy and reduces carbon emissions. It explains how the government is placing localism at the heart of the transport agenda, taking measures to empower local authorities when it comes to tackling these issues in their areas. The white paper also underlines central government's direct support to local authorities, including through the Local Sustainable Transport Fund.</p>	<p>Masterplan – transport issues both on site and in relation to surrounding areas will be addressed in the SPD</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to sustainable transport</p>
Safeguarding our soils: A strategy for England (Defra, 2009)	<p>Sets out the policy context on soils and a number of core objectives for policy and research.</p>	<p>Masterplan – proposals for development will consider impacts with respect to soil</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to soil quality</p>
Laying the foundations: a housing strategy for England (DCLG, 2011)	<p>The housing strategy sets out a package of reforms to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• get the housing market moving again</li> <li>• lay the foundations for a more responsive, effective and stable housing market in the future</li> </ul>	<p>Masterplan – proposals for development will consider mix and layout for housing</p>

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support choice and quality for tenants</li> <li>• improve environmental standards and design quality</li> </ul>	SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to the provision of a choice of housing
UK Renewable Energy Strategy (DECC, 2009)	Sets out the commitment to increase the use of renewable energy with an aim of building a low carbon economy; promoting energy security; and helping to take action on climate change.	<p>Masterplan – proposals for development will consider opportunities for renewable energy and low carbon design solutions</p> <p>SEA - include objectives to consider impacts with respect to renewable energy and climate change</p>
National Adaptation Programme – Making the Country Resilient to a Changing Climate (Defra, 2013)	The National Adaptation Programme (NAP) sets out what government, businesses and society are doing to adapt better to the changing climate. The NAP report was published on 1 July 2013 and will be reviewed every 5 years.	Include objective to consider impacts with respect to climate change
Climate Change and Biodiversity Adaptation: the role of the spatial planning system (Natural England, 2009)	<p>Adaptation to climate change should be a key strategic priority for spatial planning alongside securing more energy efficient development and renewable energy generation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green infrastructure should be viewed as a vital element of achieving more sustainable communities;</li> <li>• Spatial planning should facilitate species'</li> </ul>	<p>Masterplan – proposals for development will consider impacts with respect to climate change and biodiversity</p> <p>SEA - include objectives to consider impacts with respect to biodiversity and climate change</p>

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
	<p>movement and enhance the amount and distribution of suitable habitat;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Core Strategies should highlight climate change pressures on biodiversity and land use measures for improved species adaptation.</li> </ul>	
<p>Future water: The government’s water strategy for England (Defra, 2008)</p>	<p>Sets out the Government’s vision on how the water industry sector could look by 2030, and outline the key steps to deliver the vision including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sustainable delivery of secure water supplies;</li> <li>• an improved and protected water environment;</li> <li>• fair, affordable and cost-reflective water charges;</li> <li>• reduced water sector greenhouse gas emissions; and</li> <li>• more sustainable and effective management of surface water.</li> </ul>	<p>Masterplan – a number of watercourses on site which will need consideration of how development is located to manage impacts</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to resource efficiency and sustainable water management</p>
<p>Water for People and the Environment: Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales (Environment Agency, 2009)</p>	<p>The water resource strategy includes a series of actions that we believe need to be taken to deliver a secure water supply and to safeguard the environment in the future. The strategy will enable us to reconcile the sometimes conflicting needs for water, and manage water resources so that there is enough water for people and the environment in the decades to come. The strategy aims for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• adaptation to and mitigation of climate change;</li> <li>• a better water environment;</li> </ul>	<p>Masterplan – a number of watercourses on site which will need consideration of how development is located to manage impacts</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to resource efficiency and sustainable water management</p>

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sustainable planning and management of water resources;</li> <li>• people valuing water and the water environment.</li> </ul>	
National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England (Environment Agency, 2011)	<p>The strategy encourages more effective risk management by enabling people, communities, business, infrastructure operators and the public sector to work together to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensure a clear understanding of the risks of flooding and coastal erosion, nationally and locally, so that investment in risk management can be prioritised more effectively;</li> <li>• set out clear and consistent plans for risk management so that communities and businesses can make informed decisions about the management of the remaining risk;</li> <li>• manage flood and coastal erosion risks in an appropriate way, taking account of the needs of communities and the environment;</li> <li>• ensure that emergency plans and responses to flood incidents are effective and that communities are able to respond effectively to flood forecasts, warnings and advice;</li> <li>• help communities to recover more quickly and effectively after incidents.</li> </ul> <p>The strategy shows how communities can be more</p>	<p>Masterplan – small area identified at risk of flooding and SPD will account for this</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to flood risk</p>

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
	involved in local flood and coastal erosion risk management. It also emphasises the need to balance national and local activities and funding.	
Waste Management Plan for England (Defra, 2013)	<p>The waste management plan for England (WMPE) provides an analysis of the current waste management situation in England and fulfils the mandatory requirements of article 28 of the revised Waste Framework Directive.</p> <p>The plan does not introduce new policies or change the landscape of how waste is managed in England. Its core aim is to bring current waste management policies under the umbrella of one national plan.</p>	<p>Masterplan – proposals for development will consider efficient resource utilisation and waste minimisation</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to resource efficiency and sustainable waste management</p>
Green Infrastructure Guidance (Natural England, 2009)	<p>This guidance promotes the contribution of green infrastructure to ‘place making’. Green infrastructure networks should be established to help achieve a range of economic, social and environmental policy priorities. Green infrastructure should be retrofitted into urban environments through green roofs, green walls, swales and new tree planting.</p>	<p>Masterplan – SPD will include consideration of how the site can contribute to green infrastructure with particular reference to the country park proposal</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to green infrastructure</p>
Heritage 2020: strategic priorities for England’s historic environment 2015-2020	<p>The Heritage 2020 Framework sets out how heritage organisations across England can work together in the coming years to add value to the work of individual</p>	<p>Masterplan –proposals for development will account for impacts on heritage assets within</p>

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
	bodies. The new initiative, which follows on from the National Heritage Protection Plan from 1 April 2015, has five key themes: discovery, identification and understanding; constructive conservation and sustainable management; public engagement; capacity building; and advocacy. Key strategic priorities are identified which will be taken forward through working groups linked with each theme.	the site  SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to cultural and historic assets
<b><u>Regional</u></b>		
North West river basin district river basin management plan: 2015 (Defra/ Environment Agency, 2015)	A river basin district covers an entire river system, including river, lake, groundwater, estuarine and coastal water bodies. The North West river basin management plan is designed to protect and improve the quality of the region's water environment. Good quality water is essential for wildlife, agriculture and business to thrive and is one of the means for boosting regeneration (both structural and economic), recreation and tourism.	Masterplan – a number of watercourses on site which will need consideration of how development is located to manage impacts  SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to sustainable water management
The Green Infrastructure Guide for the North West (The North West Green Infrastructure Think Tank, 2008)	Sets out a widely agreed definition of green infrastructure for the NW region and provide guidance on the region's experience in developing an approach to green infrastructure planning.	Masterplan – SPD will include consideration of how the site can contribute to green infrastructure with particular reference to the country park proposal  SEA - include objective to consider

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
		impacts with respect to green infrastructure
<b><u>Merseyside-wide</u></b>		
Liverpool City Region Growth Deal (Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership and UK Government, 2014)	The Liverpool City Region Growth Deal aims to re-establish its reputation as a first tier global city, building on the success of the International Festival for Business. It focuses on transport and skills projects which will support the city region's ambitions to create a freight and logistics hub serving an expanded Port of Liverpool.	Masterplan – proposals in the SPD will contribute to economic growth and seek to deliver sustainable transport solutions  SEA - include objectives to consider impacts with respect to economic growth; and sustainable transport
Liverpool City Region Growth Strategy (Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership, 2016)	Strategy focuses on three primary strands of Productivity, People and Place to deliver economic growth and associated benefits to the city region.	Masterplan – proposals in the SPD will contribute to economic growth and providing additional housing  SEA - include objectives to consider impacts with respect to economic growth; and the provision of a choice of housing
A Transport Plan for Growth (Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, 2015)	Sets out the City Region's strategic vision and delivery plan for transport and also looks to foster greater collaborative working across the Combined Authority.	Masterplan – transport issues both on site and in relation to surrounding areas will be addressed in the SPD  SEA - include objective to consider

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
		impacts with respect to sustainable transport
The third Local Transport Plan for Merseyside (Merseyside Integrated Transport Authority, 2011)	The LTP provides the statutory framework for the policies and plans that will guide the future provision of transport in Merseyside.	Masterplan – transport issues both on site and in relation to surrounding areas will be addressed in the SPD  SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to sustainable transport
Liverpool City Region Ecological Network (MEAS, 2015)	The Liverpool City Region Ecological Network is an evidence base which comprises ecological and biodiversity information on the City Region’s natural assets. It also identifies opportunities to enable better protection and management of those natural assets and at the same time, describes opportunities to create new natural assets.	Masterplan - areas will be identified with respect to biodiversity importance with reference to baseline assessment  SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to biodiversity
North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan (Merseyside Biodiversity Group, 2008)	The North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan comprises of 44 habitat and species action plans. It identifies priority habitats and species and sets actions for their preservation and enhancement.  The Business Plan, which accompanies the Biodiversity Action Plan, identifies seven core services, the most relevant of which is integrating BAP into policy. This service pledges to actively promote the inclusion of	Masterplan - areas will be identified with respect to biodiversity importance with reference to baseline assessment  SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to biodiversity

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
	biodiversity objectives into local plans.	
National Character Areas – Merseyside Conurbation (Natural England, 2013)	National Character Areas divide England into 159 distinct natural areas. Each is defined by a unique combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity, history, and cultural and economic activity. Their boundaries follow natural lines in the landscape rather than administrative boundaries.	<p>Masterplan - areas will be identified with respect to biodiversity and landscape importance with reference to baseline assessment</p> <p>SEA - include objectives to consider impacts with respect to biodiversity; landscape; and cultural heritage</p>
RESOURCES Merseyside 2011 – 2041 (Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority, 2011)	Provides the headline strategic route map to deliver sustainable waste management on Merseyside, transform the waste agenda and move towards greater resource efficiency. The strategic focus is to move waste management higher up the Waste Hierarchy by supporting activities on waste prevention, re-use, recycling and composting whilst recognising the impact these actions have on the amount of residual waste requiring treatment or disposal. This programme of work will be cost effective, affordable and deliver value for money whilst optimising environmental benefits.	<p>Masterplan – proposals for development will consider efficient resource utilisation and waste minimisation</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to resource efficiency and sustainable waste management</p>
Merseyside Joint Waste Local Plan	The Waste Local Plan deals with all aspects of Waste	Masterplan – proposals for

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
(Halton Council, Knowsley Council, Liverpool City Council, Sefton Council, St.Helens Council and Wirral Council, 2013)	Management from Waste Prevention to Energy from Waste facilities. The Plan covers the period from 2013 to 2027.	development will consider efficient resource utilisation and waste minimisation  SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to resource efficiency and sustainable waste management
<b>Local</b>		
Local Plan: Core Strategy (Knowsley Council, 2016)	The Core Strategy part of the Local Plan sets the strategic framework for the growth and development of Knowsley up to 2028 and beyond.	Masterplan – provides further elaboration of specific policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy  SEA – objectives covered by specific topic areas considered elsewhere in this table
A Strategy for Knowsley 2016-2020 (Knowsley Partnership and Knowsley Council, 2016)	To establish Knowsley as a place where people and families choose to live and businesses choose to locate and invest.	Masterplan – provides further reinforcement for specific policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy which have in turn provided the spatial expression of the strategy for Knowsley  SEA – objectives covered by specific topic areas considered elsewhere in this table

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
Knowsley Corporate Plan 2015-2019 (Knowsley Council, 2016)	<p>This Plan forms the Council’s delivery plan to support achievement of the partnership’s vision to make Knowsley the Borough of Choice and the outcomes the Council wants to deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A thriving and diverse economy;</li> <li>• Healthy, safe and financially secure residents; and</li> <li>• Attractive and sustainable neighbourhoods, towns and green spaces.</li> </ul>	<p>Masterplan – provides further elaboration of specific policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy which have in turn provided the spatial expression of the Corporate Plan</p> <p>SEA – objectives covered by specific topic areas considered elsewhere in this table</p>
Knowsley Housing Strategy 2016-2021 (Knowsley Council, 2016)	<p>Identifies eight priorities for housing including the delivery of the sustainable urban extensions featured in the Local Plan: Core Strategy.</p>	<p>Masterplan – provides further elaboration of specific policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy which have in turn provided the spatial expression of the Housing Strategy</p> <p>SEA – objectives covered by specific topic areas considered elsewhere in this table</p>

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
Knowsley Economic Growth Plan 2016-2021 (Knowsley Council, 2016)	Economic Growth Plan brings together the aspirations of the public and private sector to clearly document the vision, priorities and targets for growth in the coming years. .	<p>Masterplan – provides further elaboration of specific policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy which have in turn provided the spatial expression of the Economic Growth Plan</p> <p>SEA – objectives covered by specific topic areas considered elsewhere in this table</p>
Ensuring Choice of Travel SPD (Knowsley Council, 2010)	The main objective of the SPD is to ensure a good choice of travel modes to all new developments in Knowsley.	<p>Masterplan – SPD will need to demonstrate compatibility with the Ensuring Choice of Travel SPD</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to sustainable transport</p>
Design Quality and New Development SPD (Knowsley Council, 2016)	The SPD identifies the overarching context for design in the Borough, and highlights Borough-wide issues which should be taken into account in designing new development. This includes guidance relating to placing buildings, density and form, accessibility, landscaping, public open space, sustainable design, minimising crime, and preserving the built heritage.	<p>Masterplan – SPD will need to demonstrate compatibility with the Design Quality and New Development SPD</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to achieving well designed residential development</p>

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
New Residential Development SPD (Knowsley Council, 2016)	The SPD provides detailed guidance to developers on specific design issues related to residential development. This includes requirements relating to integration with existing development, defining the residential mix, layout and access, parking requirements, property security, public realm, waste management and adaptability to climate change. This SPD would be considered alongside the overarching design guidance in the Design Quality in New Development SPD.	Masterplan – SPD will need to demonstrate compatibility with the New Residential Development SPD  SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to achieving well designed residential development
Developer Contributions SPD (Knowsley Council, 2016)	SPD supplements the Core Strategy policies by providing detailed guidance on how developer contributions will operate in Knowsley.	Masterplan – SPD will need to demonstrate compatibility with the Developer Contributions SPD  SEA – objectives covered by specific topic areas considered elsewhere in this table
Trees and Development SPD (Knowsley Council, 2016)	SPD explains the Council’s approach in relation to Trees and Development setting out guidance relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting best practice for proposals incorporating trees and landscaping within new developments;</li> <li>• Development proposals affecting existing trees, woodlands and other vegetation;</li> </ul>	Masterplan – SPD will need to demonstrate compatibility with the Trees and Development SPD  SEA – objectives covered by specific topic areas considered elsewhere in this table

<b>Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives</b>		
<b>Plans / Policies and Programmes</b>	<b>Key Objectives</b>	<b>Implications for Masterplan SPD / SEA</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requirements for detailed survey of all existing trees; and</li> <li>• Requirements for provision of replacement trees</li> </ul>	
Climate Change Strategy for the Knowsley Partnership 2012-2016	The strategy sets out a vision for addressing climate change in Knowsley, along with a set of underlying objectives. The strategy represents Knowsley’s overarching document on climate change, referring to other relevant action plans where appropriate, to avoid duplication.	<p>Masterplan – proposals for development will consider impacts with respect to climate change</p> <p>SEA - include objective to consider impacts with respect to climate change</p>

### Appendix 3 – SEA Appraisal Tables

#### Options

- Approach 1 SPD Framework Adapted: around 1500 homes delivered (estimated density of 28 dwellings per hectare), with development orientated towards access points around the edge of the site
- Approach 2 Urban Connection: ‘1500 plus’ homes delivered (estimated density of 32.5 dwellings per hectare), exploring how the masterplan could potentially put more emphasis on sustainable urban extension characteristics (integrating with the existing surrounding communities)
- Approach 3 ‘Central focus’: ‘1500 plus plus’ homes delivered (estimated density of 37.5 dwellings per hectare), orientated around a central hub and based on a Garden Village concept.

SA Objective	SA Sub Objective	Option	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
			0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
1. To preserve, enhance and manage Knowsley’s rich diversity of cultural, historic		Approach 1	0	0	0	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on perceptions of the area and sense of place.	
		Approach 2	0	0	0	Medium	Local	Long term		
		Approach 3	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		

SA Objective	SA Sub Objective	Option	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
			0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
and archaeological buildings, areas, sites and features.		<p><u>Comments:</u> The baseline survey notes there are seven Grade II listed buildings/structures within the site. Approaches 1 and 2 are considered to have a neutral impact with respect to the setting and significance of these heritage assets. This is based on an assumption that mitigation measures are developed that provides an adequate buffer around these assets to protect their setting. Approach 3 notes the opportunity to fully integrate the current Halsnead Park Mobile Home Park into the development proposals thereby allowing for a reinterpretation of the historic Halsnead Park features. Approach 2 also suggests this approach but notes that this may only be a partial redevelopment of the mobile home park.</p>								
2. To protect, enhance and manage the local character and accessibility of the landscape and countryside across Knowsley.	Provide the required amount of open space.	Approach 1	-	-	-	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on perceptions of the area.	Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and the Masterplan SPD should ensure the retention of existing trees.  Approach 3 specifically identifies the opportunity for reinterpretation of the historic Halsnead Park features.
		Approach 2	0	0	0	Medium	Local	Long term		
Approach 3	-	-	-	Medium	Local	Long term				
		<p><u>Comments:</u> Approaches 1 and 3 identify negative impacts on woodland assets within the site as a result of proposed road layouts whilst Approach 2 specifically avoids this impact. All three approaches will change the landscape character of the area and this has been previously assessed as part of the SA of the Local Plan Core Strategy which noted that directing development to this location would have a negative impact on the objective that relates to protecting landscape character.</p>								
3. To protect, enhance and manage biodiversity, the	To conserve and enhance the natural environment,	Approach 1	0	0	0	Low	Long term	Long term		Utilise appropriate ecological surveys. Consideration as to how the LWS and areas of
		Approach 2	0	0	0	Low	Long term	Long term		

SA Objective	SA Sub Objective	Option	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
			0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
viability of protected and endangered species, habitats, geodiversity and sites of geological importance.	including species and habitat diversity.  Ensure current ecological networks are not compromised, and future improvements in habitat connectivity are not prejudiced.	Approach 3	0	0	0	Low	Long term	Long term		priority habitat will be integrated with the development proposals.  Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that appropriate measures to mitigate the impact of the development are implemented, such as the provision of on-site habitats, the creation of a buffer around the LWSs and the retention of areas of woodland.
		<p><u>Comments:</u> The site contains/adjoins a number of features of nature conservation interest, including seven Local Wildlife Sites and areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland and Priority Habitat (woodland, grassland, tall herb fen and marshland). Each of the approaches is informed by the proposed core development objectives which include an intention to deliver a range of multi-functional green spaces that connect within and outside the site, enhancing ecology, drainage, recreation, connectivity, health and sustainability. The level of detail available at the options stage provides a low level of certainty with respect to impacts which will need to be addressed in the proposals for the Masterplan SPD.</p>								
4. To adapt to climate change including flood risk.	Reduce flood risk	Approach 1	-	-	-	Medium	Local	Long term		Apply the sequential and exception test to the development proposals and, if
		Approach 2	-	-	-	Medium	Local	Long term		

SA Objective	SA Sub Objective	Option	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
			0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
		Approach 3	-	-	-	Medium	Local	Long term		necessary, exclude parts of the site at greatest risk of flooding from the developable area.  Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that appropriate measures are taken to mitigate flood risk, such as the use of SuDS.
		<p><u>Comments:</u>                      The baseline assessment undertaken for the Masterplan SPD identifies that the majority of the south of Whiston part of the site is within Flood Zone 1 with a low probability of annual occurrences of flooding (less than 0.1 per cent or 1 in 1000 event chance). There are areas in flood zones 2 and 3 within the land south of the M62 part of the site. In terms of surface water flooding, the south of Whiston part of the site is affected by flooding from overland flow in depressions scattered around the site and adjacent to watercourses and ponds. Many of the areas are classified as high risk, particularly a large area north of Halsnead Park and south of Lickers Lane. Floodwater appears to derive from the housing areas north of Lickers Lane. The south of M62 part of the site has similar issues of areas of high risk from surface water flooding. These generally lie close to watercourses with the largest area being aligned around the culvert beneath the M62 Motorway carrying flows from Big Water.                      The proposals would also result in the loss of a greenfield site that has the potential to provide habitat for species and help mitigate higher summer temperatures associated with climate change.</p>								
5. To provide, conserve, maintain and enhance green	To improve the size and quality of the green infrastructure	Approach 1	0	0	0	Medium	Long term	Long term		Secure the provision of appropriate on-site open space and green corridors through the
		Approach 2	+	+	+	Medium	Long term	Long term		

SA Objective	SA Sub Objective	Option	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
			0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
infrastructure.	network.  To improve the size and quality of the Ecological Framework  Avoid impacts on the quality and extent of existing recreational assets, such as formal or informal footpaths	Approach 3	0	0	0	Medium	Long term	Long term		site.  Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure the retention of areas of woodland and the provision of a substantial, high quality and connected green infrastructure network.
		<u>Comments:</u> Each of the approaches identifies positive contributions to green infrastructure. The delivery of the country park in the southern part of the site (south of the M62) provides a significant benefit for each approach. Approaches 1 and 3 highlight negative impacts on woodland assets within the site as a result of proposed road layouts whilst Approach 2 specifically avoids this impact.								
6. To protect, manage and restore land and soil quality	Reduce the amount of derelict land.  Direct new housing to	Approach 1	-	--	--	Medium	Local	Long term		Ensure development is built to an appropriate density to ensure efficient use of land and minimise the need to release further greenfield sites.
		Approach 2	-	--	--	Medium	Local	Long term		
		Approach 3	-	--	--	Medium	Local	Long term		

SA Objective	SA Sub Objective	Option	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
			0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
	<p>previously developed land.</p> <p>Reduce the amount of contaminated land</p> <p>Ensure avoidance of the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land</p>	<p><u>Comments:</u>                      The nature of the site - previously designated as Green Belt with the majority of the area consequently undeveloped – inevitably means that each approach is considered to have a significant negative impact on this objective. The increase in density and resultant uplift in dwelling numbers in Approaches 2 and 3 can provide a small degree of mitigation (thereby reducing the potential need for additional dwellings elsewhere) compared to Approach 1. It is also noted that the majority of the site is classified as Grade 2 Best and Most Versatile agricultural land and that parts of the site are presently within agricultural use. There are opportunities for further remediation of contaminated land building on the work undertaken with respect to this matter in the south of the M62 part of the site.</p>								
7. To protect, and where necessary, improve local air quality.		Approach 1	-	-	-	Medium	Local	Long term	Potential secondary impacts on health, particularly among those who suffer	Secure improvements to the public transport network and ensure that the development is
		Approach 2	0	0	0	Medium	Local	Long term		

SA Objective	SA Sub Objective	Option	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
			0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
		Approach 3	-	-	-	Medium	Local	Long term	from respiratory illnesses.	<p>accessible by a choice of means of transport.</p> <p>Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and the “Ensuring a Choice of Travel” SPD should support the aim of ensuring that new development caters for an appropriate range and choice of transport options.</p> <p>Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should seek to retain trees and areas of woodland, and provide appropriate air quality attenuation for the site from the M62.</p>

SA Objective	SA Sub Objective	Option	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
			0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
		<p><u>Comments:</u> The baseline assessment undertaken by the Masterplan SPD consultants includes a review of background data which indicates that the main sources of pollution for the proposed development site will be local roads, particularly the M62 and the M57. Based on the monitoring data available it is likely that annual mean NO2 concentrations at the proposed development site have the potential to be close to or above the annual mean objectives for NO2 at locations close to the M62 and M57. These concentrations are likely to reduce with distance from these roads and be below the objectives across the majority of the proposed development site.</p> <p>There are a range of local facilities and amenities that are readily accessible from sections of the site including primary schools, a GP and health centre and a local shopping centre on Greene’s Road. There are existing employment areas located in close proximity to the site; and proposals for employment in the southern part of the site. Moreover, it is intended that there will on-site facilities, the provision of new bus routes through the site and development would be designed to encourage walking and cycling. Approach 2 seeks to be better integrated with existing neighbouring development by virtue of its sustainable urban extension concept which could lead to a better integration of sustainable transport connections compared to Approaches 1 and 3 that are more inward looking and self-contained.</p>								
8. To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing.	Provide a wider choice of accommodation to create a greater tenure mix.	Approach 1	+	++	++	Medium	More than local	Long term	Cumulative impact with other housing sites on the provision of a balanced housing market.	Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that new dwellings achieve high standards of design and resource efficiency.
		Approach 2	+	++	++	Medium	More than local	Long term		
		Approach 3	+	++	++	Medium	More than local	Long term		
	Minimise resource and energy use when developing housing and the energy efficiency of housing.	<p><u>Comments:</u> Each of the approaches is considered to have a major positive impact on the objective of providing good quality housing. Approaches 2 and 3 seek to deliver an increasing quantum of housing but the difference in numbers is relatively minor. Each approach will assist in providing a wider choice of accommodation to create a greater tenure mix and the large capacity of the site is also likely to have a positive influence the financial viability of affordable housing on site. The impact of each option upon this objective would become more significant in the longer term as the development is built out. Resource and energy efficiency will be dictated by the design approach and issues with respect to the viability of the development.</p>								
9. To improve the competitiveness	Increase number of local	Approach 1	++	++	++	Medium	More than	Long term	Contribution to overall pool of jobs	

SA Objective	SA Sub Objective	Option	Timescale			Nature of Effect			Mitigation	
			0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence		Secondary, cumulative, synergistic
and productivity of business, exploit the growth potential of business sectors and increase the number of new businesses.	and new businesses Increase industrial / commercial floorspace						local		in the Borough	
		Approach 2	++	++	++	Medium	More than local	Long term		
		Approach 3	++	++	++	Medium	More than local	Long term		
		<u>Comments:</u> Each of the approaches includes proposals for the provision of high quality employment premises that would provide accommodation for new businesses and stimulate investment in the area. It is therefore considered that each approach has the potential to have a significant positive impact on the objective and the sub-objectives of increasing the number of new businesses and increasing the amount of industrial / commercial floorspace.								
10. To reduce the need to travel and improve choice and use of more sustainable transport mode.	Encourage sustainable transport use	Approach 1	+	+	+	Medium	Long term	Local	Secondary impacts on air quality and greenhouse gas emissions	Secure improvements to the public transport network and ensure that the development is accessible by a choice of means of transport.  Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and the "Ensuring a Choice of Travel" SPD should support the aim of ensuring that new development caters for an appropriate range and choice of transport options.
		Approach 2	++	++	++	Medium	Long term	Local		
		Approach 3	+	+	+	Medium	Long term	Local		

SA Objective	SA Sub Objective	Option	Timescale			Nature of Effect			
			0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic
		<p><u>Comments:</u>                      There are a range of local facilities and amenities that are readily accessible from sections of the site including primary schools, a GP and health centre and a local shopping centre on Greene’s Road. There are existing employment areas located in close proximity to the site; and proposals for employment in the southern part of the site. Moreover, it is intended that there will on-site facilities, the provision of new bus routes through the site and development would be designed to encourage walking and cycling. Approach 2 seeks to be better integrated with existing neighbouring development by virtue of its sustainable urban extension concept which could lead to a better integration of sustainable transport connections compared to Approaches 1 and 3 that are more inward looking and self-contained.</p>							

SEA Summary – Approaches

Approach 2 is considered to deliver the greatest positive impacts on the sustainability objectives considered in the SEA. It is predicted that Approach 2 will have significant positive impacts with respect to sustainability objectives 8 (housing delivery); 9 (business growth) and 10 (sustainable transport options) and a positive impact for sustainability objective 5 (Green Infrastructure). Approaches 1 and 3 are also identified to have significantly positive impacts for sustainability objectives 8 (housing delivery) and 9 (business growth). Approach 2 seeks to be better integrated with existing neighbouring development by virtue of its sustainable urban extension concept which could lead to a better integration of sustainable transport connections compared to Approaches 1 and 3 that are more inward looking and self-contained. In terms of Green Infrastructure, approaches 1 and 3 highlight negative impacts on woodland assets within the site as a result of proposed road layouts whilst Approach 2 specifically avoids this impact.

Approach 2 is also likely to deliver a neutral impact in terms of sustainability objectives 1 (heritage assets); 2 (landscape); 3 (biodiversity); and 7 (air quality). Approach 3 notes the opportunity to fully integrate the current Halsnead Park Mobile Home Park into the development proposals thereby allowing for a reinterpretation of the historic Halsnead Park features. Approach 2 also suggests this approach but notes that this may only be a partial redevelopment of the mobile home park. In terms of landscape impacts, approaches 1 and 3 identify negative impacts on woodland assets within the site as a result of proposed road layouts whilst Approach 2 specifically avoids this impact. When air quality is considered, approach 2 seeks to be better integrated with existing neighbouring development by virtue of its sustainable urban extension concept which could lead to a better integration of sustainable transport connections compared to Approaches 1 and 3 that are more inward looking and self-contained.

All three approaches are identified to have either a negative impact on sustainability objective 4 (climate change) or significantly negative impact with respect to sustainability objective 6 (soil quality).

### Key Requirements – Framework Plan

Section 5 of the Masterplan SPD establishes 12 key requirements that arise from the strategic objectives identified at the start of section 5 of the draft SPD. This is followed by section 6 that details Masterplanning Guidance for future planning applications. The two sections provide complementary guidance whereby section 5 sets out specific requirements that must be adhered to; and section 6 provides additional guidance where greater flexibility can be applied in the preparation of future planning applications.

Strategic Objectives Key Requirements HSPD1 (Strategic Objectives); HSPD2 (Framework Plan) and HSPD3 (Use and amount)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
1. To preserve, enhance and manage Knowsley's rich diversity of cultural, historic and archaeological buildings, areas, sites and features.	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on sense of place.	
	<p><u>Comments:</u>                      The baseline survey notes there are seven Grade II listed buildings/structures within the site. The strategic objectives identify the potential for the retention and enhancement of existing features including historic assets – the fifth objective specifically states, "Positively use and integrate the built and landscape heritage of the site to create high quality and locally distinctive development, and to preserve key features of the historic Halsnead Park Estate as part of Knowsley's heritage."                      Policies SUE2 and SUE2c in the Local Plan Core Strategy require new development to protect and enhance historic and architectural assets. It is considered that the impact of the strategic objectives and associated key requirements are therefore likely to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective with a medium degree of certainty.</p>							
2. To protect, enhance	0	0	0	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on perceptions of the area.	

Strategic Objectives								
Key Requirements HSPD1 (Strategic Objectives); HSPD2 (Framework Plan) and HSPD3 (Use and amount)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
and manage the local character and accessibility of the landscape and countryside across Knowsley. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide the required amount of open space.</li> </ul>	<u>Comments:</u> Inevitably, the introduction of significant new development on to the site will change the landscape character of the area and this has been previously assessed as part of the SA of the Local Plan Core Strategy which noted that directing development to this location would have a negative impact on the objective that relates to protecting landscape character. The Landscape Character Assessment (2006) notes that the former Halsnead Estate is defined by the existence of remnants of the former Estate, including long sections of the sandstone boundary wall, a gate house, and small woodland clumps. It is considered that these remnants of the Halsnead Hall Parkland make a positive contribution to the landscape. It is acknowledged that the fifth element of the strategic objectives states, "Positively use and integrate the built and landscape heritage of the site to create high quality and locally distinctive development." Moreover, HSPD6 sets out requirements with respect to various historic landscape character features of the site. The proposed approach is considered to deliver a neutral impact with respect to this objective based on the balance between the requirements for enhancement and retention of landscape features and the impact that will result from the scale of development planned for the site.							
3. To protect, enhance	0	0	0	Medium	Local	Long term		

Strategic Objectives								
Key Requirements HSPD1 (Strategic Objectives); HSPD2 (Framework Plan) and HSPD3 (Use and amount)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p>and manage biodiversity, the viability of protected and endangered species, habitats, geodiversity and sites of geological importance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve and enhance the natural environment, including species and habitat diversity.</li> <li>Ensure current ecological networks are not compromised, and future improvements in habitat connectivity are not prejudiced.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The site contains/adjoins a number of features of nature conservation interest, including seven Local Wildlife Sites and areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland and Priority Habitat (woodland, grassland, tall herb fen and marshland). The strategic objectives include the requirement for development to deliver an approach that enhances ecology with the fourth objective stating, "Deliver well-connected, multi-functional green spaces to provide a high-quality and distinctive setting whilst enhancing the value of green and blue infrastructure to ecology, drainage, recreation, connectivity, health and sustainability." The proposed approach is considered to deliver a neutral impact with respect to this objective.</p>							
<p>4. To adapt to climate change including flood risk.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce flood risk</li> </ul>	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		
	<p><u>Comments:</u> A portion of the site is within Flood Zones 2 and 3. The strategic objectives refer to the need to "Deliver well-connected, multi-functional green spaces to provide a high-quality and distinctive setting whilst enhancing the value of green and blue infrastructure to ecology, <b>drainage</b>, recreation, connectivity, health and <b>sustainability</b>." (emphasis added). It is therefore considered that the approach in the strategic objectives and associated key requirements will deliver a positive impact with respect to this sustainability objective.</p>							
5. To provide, conserve,	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		

Strategic Objectives								
Key Requirements HSPD1 (Strategic Objectives); HSPD2 (Framework Plan) and HSPD3 (Use and amount)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p><b>maintain and enhance green infrastructure.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve the size and quality of the green infrastructure network.</li> <li>To improve the size and quality of the Ecological Framework</li> <li>Avoid impacts on the quality and extent of existing recreational assets, such as formal or informal footpaths</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> It is acknowledged that the development of the site will inevitably lead to the loss of elements of green space. However, the fourth strategic objective identifies the intention to “Deliver a range of multi-functional green spaces...” and the specific delivery of the country park on the former Cronton Colliery part of the site is highlighted in the eighth strategic objective. Improved connectivity over the M62 for pedestrians and cyclists is also envisaged. It is therefore considered that the approach in the strategic objectives and associated key requirements will deliver a positive impact with respect to this sustainability objective.</p>							
<p><b>6. To protect, manage and restore land and soil quality.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce the amount of derelict land.</li> <li>Direct new housing to previously developed land.</li> </ul>	-	-	--	Medium	Local	Long term		<p>Ensure development is built to an appropriate density to minimise the need to release further greenfield sites.</p> <p>Ensure the approach to the provision of open space including the country park maximises the opportunities to negate the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land; and enables any further improvements to areas of contaminated land can be addressed.</p>

Strategic Objectives								
Key Requirements HSPD1 (Strategic Objectives); HSPD2 (Framework Plan) and HSPD3 (Use and amount)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce the amount of contaminated land</li> <li>Ensure avoidance of the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The current site is largely a greenfield site that contains large areas of Grade 2 Best and Most Versatile agricultural land. Whilst the strategic objectives and associated key requirements seek to deliver an improved offer in terms of public open space and a country park, it is considered that there would be a negative impact on this sustainability objective and also on the sub-objectives of directing new housing to previously developed land and ensuring the avoidance of the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land. This impact would become increasingly significant as the development is built out.</p>							
7. To protect, and where necessary, improve local air quality.	0	0	0	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on health	
	<p><u>Comments:</u> The strategic objectives include elements that seek to deliver a development that is well connected to existing neighbouring areas. Moreover, it is intended that the site will deliver a new primary school and significant new employment opportunities. The scale of the development will inevitably generate additional traffic which is likely to contribute to a potential adverse impact on local air quality. It is therefore considered that the approach in the strategic objectives and associated key requirements will deliver a neutral impact with respect to this sustainability objective.</p>							
8. To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing.	+	++	++	Medium	Local	Long term		Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that new dwellings achieve high standards of design and resource efficiency.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide a wider choice of accommodation to create a greater tenure mix.</li> <li>Minimise resource and energy use when developing housing and the energy efficiency of housing.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> HSPD3 refers to the specific requirements set out in HSPD4 to HSPD13: HSPD4 notes that the site will yield approximately 1,600 dwellings. The strategic objectives include an expectation that the site will, “Diversify and enhance the quality of the housing stock at a Borough-wide and local level, providing a sustainable range and mix of homes in walkable neighbourhoods with diverse and distinct character” It is therefore considered that the approach in the strategic objectives and associated key requirements will deliver a positive impact which will be increasingly significant with respect to this sustainability objective.</p>							

Strategic Objectives								
Key Requirements HSPD1 (Strategic Objectives); HSPD2 (Framework Plan) and HSPD3 (Use and amount)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p><b>9. To improve the competitiveness and productivity of business, exploit the growth potential of business sectors and increase the number of new businesses.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase number of local and new businesses</li> <li>• Increase industrial / commercial floorspace</li> </ul>	+	++	++	Medium	Local	Long term	Contribution to the overall availability of jobs.	
<p><u>Comments:</u> HSPD3 refers to the specific requirements set out in HSPD4 to HSPD13: HSPD4 notes that the site will yield approximately 22.5 hectares of employment land. The strategic objectives include an expectation that the site will “Create significant new employment development at a strategic location adjacent to the intersection of the M62 and M57, meeting market demand for distribution and logistics space or other appropriate employment uses within the Liverpool City Region key economic sectors” It is therefore considered that the approach in the strategic objectives and associated key requirements will deliver a positive impact which will be increasingly significant with respect to this sustainability objective.</p>								
<p><b>10. To reduce the need to travel and improve choice and use of more sustainable transport mode.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage sustainable transport use</li> </ul>	+	+	+	Medium	More than local	Long term	Secondary impacts on congestion, air quality and carbon emissions.	
<p><u>Comments:</u> The third strategic objective identifies the intention to “Create a legible movement framework that links the existing and new community and improves connections across the M62, capitalising on existing infrastructure and public transport and improving pedestrian, equestrian and cycle connectivity, creating access for all.” It is expected that the site will deliver an integrated approach linking the new development with existing neighbouring communities. It is therefore considered that the approach in the strategic objectives and associated key requirements will deliver a positive impact with respect to this sustainability objective.</p>								
Sustainability Summary								
<p>The strategic objectives and associated key requirements are likely to deliver significant positive impacts with respect to sustainability objectives 8 (housing delivery) and 9 (business growth). Positive impacts are also identified for objectives 1 (heritage assets); 4 (climate change); 5 (Green Infrastructure); and 10 (sustainable transport options). Neutral impacts are likely to occur for sustainability objective 2 (landscape); 3 (biodiversity); and 7 (air quality). It is predicted that there will be a negative impact, that is likely to be significantly negative as the site is built out, for sustainability objective 6 (soil quality).</p>								

Key Requirements HSPD4 (Residential Development); HSPD5 (Employment Development); and HSPD8 (Community Facilities)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
1. To preserve, enhance and manage Knowsley's rich diversity of cultural, historic and archaeological buildings, areas, sites and features.	0	0	0	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on sense of place.	Heritage matters covered by HSPD6. Consider the inclusion of additional wording specifically covering heritage matters in HSPD4 and HSPD8.
	<p><u>Comments:</u> The baseline survey notes there are seven Grade II listed buildings/structures within the site. HSPD5 specifically includes a statement to "Ensure there is no harmful impact on the listed building at Old Halsnead Hall or its setting." HSPD4 and HSPD8 do not include any specific reference to heritage assets. It is acknowledged that there is a specific key requirement (HSPD6) covering heritage matters. Consideration could be given to whether any additional detail with respect to heritage matters is required in HSPD4 and HSPD8. Currently, it is concluded at present that the impacts may be neutral given the potential need for more specific wording in HSPD4 and HSPD8.</p>							
2. To protect, enhance and manage the local character and accessibility of the landscape and countryside across Knowsley. • Provide the required amount of open space.	0	0	0	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on perceptions of the area.	Heritage matters covered by HSPD6. Consider the inclusion of additional wording specifically covering landscape matters in HSPD4 and HSPD8.
	<p><u>Comments:</u> Inevitably, the introduction of significant new development on to the site will change the landscape character of the area and this has been previously assessed as part of the SA of the Local Plan Core Strategy which noted that directing development to this location would have a negative impact on the objective that relates to protecting landscape character. The Landscape Character Assessment (2006) notes that the former Halsnead Estate is defined by the existence of remnants of the former Estate, including long sections of the sandstone boundary wall, a gate house, and small woodland clumps. It is considered that these remnants of the Halsnead Hall Parkland make a positive contribution to the landscape. There are some references to landscape elements in HSPD5, but no specific references in HSPD4 and HSPD8. It is acknowledged that HSPD11 covering Open Space makes reference to various landscape elements. Consideration could be given to whether any additional detail with respect to landscape matters is required in HSPD4 and HSPD8. Currently, it is concluded that the impacts may be neutral given the potential need for more specific wording in HSPD4 and HSPD8.</p>							

Key Requirements HSPD4 (Residential Development); HSPD5 (Employment Development); and HSPD8 (Community Facilities)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p><b>3. To protect, enhance and manage biodiversity, the viability of protected and endangered species, habitats, geodiversity and sites of geological importance.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve and enhance the natural environment, including species and habitat diversity.</li> <li>Ensure current ecological networks are not compromised, and future improvements in habitat connectivity are not prejudiced.</li> </ul>	0	0	0	Medium	Local	Long term		Ecology matters covered by HSPD12. Consider the inclusion of additional wording specifically covering ecological matters in HSPD4 and HSPD8.
<p><u>Comments:</u> The site contains/adjoins a number of features of nature conservation interest, including seven Local Wildlife Sites and areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland and Priority Habitat (woodland, grassland, tall herb fen and marshland). HSPD4 makes a specific reference to the need for employment development to “Demonstrate how the development will minimise impact on retained natural habitats including ancient woodland, protected trees, designated Local Wildlife Sites, including the ecological network connections between these.” There are no specific references in HSPD4 and HSPD8 covering ecological matters. It is acknowledged that HSPD12 covering ecology makes reference to various requirements for enhancement and mitigation. Consideration could be given to whether any additional detail with respect to ecology is required in HSPD4 and HSPD8. Currently, it is concluded that the impacts may be neutral given the potential need for more specific wording in HSPD4 and HSPD8.</p>								
<p><b>4. To adapt to climate change including flood risk.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce flood risk</li> </ul>	0	0	0	Medium	Local	Long term		Consider the inclusion of additional wording specifically covering flood risk matters in the three key requirements.
<p><u>Comments:</u> A portion of the site is within Flood Zones 2 and 3. None of the three key requirements specifically deal with flood risk issues – HSPD9 and HSPD11 pick up elements of flood risk including the need to manage surface water and SUDS integration. Consideration could be given to whether any additional detail with respect to flood risk is required in the three key requirements. Currently, it is concluded that the impacts may be neutral given the potential need for more specific wording in the three key requirements.</p>								

Key Requirements HSPD4 (Residential Development); HSPD5 (Employment Development); and HSPD8 (Community Facilities)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p><b>5. To provide, conserve, maintain and enhance green infrastructure.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve the size and quality of the green infrastructure network.</li> <li>To improve the size and quality of the Ecological Framework</li> <li>Avoid impacts on the quality and extent of existing recreational assets, such as formal or informal footpaths</li> </ul>	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		Consider the inclusion of additional wording specifically covering green infrastructure in HSPD4 and HSPD8.
<p><u>Comments:</u>                      HSPD5 specifically identifies "...development will minimise impact on retained natural habitats..." and requires "...a semi-natural landscaped boundary to the proposed Country Park." HSPD4 and HSPD8 have no specific references to green infrastructure elements. It is acknowledged that there is a specific key requirement (HSPD11) covering open space which incorporates green infrastructure. Consideration could be given to whether any additional detail with respect to green infrastructure is required in HSPD4 and HSPD8. Notwithstanding that suggestion, it is concluded at present that the impacts are likely to be positive given the approach set out in the Masterplan SPD.</p>								
<p><b>6. To protect, manage and restore land and soil quality.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce the amount of derelict land.</li> <li>Direct new housing to previously developed land.</li> </ul>	-	-	--	Medium	Local	Long term		<p>Ensure development is built to an appropriate density to minimise the need to release further greenfield sites.</p> <p>Ensure the approach to the provision of open space including the country park maximises the opportunities to negate the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land; and enables any further improvements to areas of contaminated land can be addressed.</p>

Key Requirements HSPD4 (Residential Development); HSPD5 (Employment Development); and HSPD8 (Community Facilities)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce the amount of contaminated land</li> <li>Ensure avoidance of the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The current site is largely a greenfield site that contains large areas of Grade 2 Best and Most Versatile agricultural land. The three key development requirements inevitably focus on the delivery of the various built elements intended for the site, with HSPD5 providing some details on the need to consider ecological, heritage and landscape matters. It is considered that there would be a negative impact on this sustainability objective and also on the sub-objectives of directing new housing to previously developed land and ensuring the avoidance of the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land. This impact would become increasingly significant as the development is built out.</p>							
7. To protect, and where necessary, improve local air quality.	0	0	0	Low	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on health	
	<p><u>Comments:</u> The three key requirements seek to deliver a development that is well connected to existing neighbouring areas. Moreover, it is intended that the site will deliver a new primary school and significant new employment opportunities providing local services and employment for residents living on the site. This is further amplified in the strategic opportunities. The scale of the development will inevitably generate additional traffic which is likely to contribute to a potential adverse impact on local air quality. It is therefore considered that the approach set out in the three key requirements will deliver a neutral impact with respect to this sustainability objective.</p>							
8. To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing.	+	++	++	Medium	Local	Long term		Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that new dwellings achieve high standards of design and resource efficiency.

Key Requirements HSPD4 (Residential Development); HSPD5 (Employment Development); and HSPD8 (Community Facilities)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a wider choice of accommodation to create a greater tenure mix.</li> <li>• Minimise resource and energy use when developing housing and the energy efficiency of housing.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> HSPD4 sets out the expectation that the site will yield approximately 1,600 dwellings. The accompanying text to HSPD4 expands on the key requirement noting the expectation to deliver a mix of housing and the need for affordable housing as per policy requirements from the Local Plan Core Strategy. The delivery of residential development will produce a positive impact with respect to this sustainability objective which will be increasingly significant over time as the quantum of development increases.</p>							
<p><b>9. To improve the competitiveness and productivity of business, exploit the growth potential of business sectors and increase the number of new businesses.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase number of local and new businesses</li> <li>• Increase industrial / commercial floorspace</li> </ul>	+	++	++	Medium	Local	Long term	Contribution to the overall availability of jobs.	
	<p><u>Comments:</u> HSPD5 sets out the expectation that the site will yield approximately 22.5 hectares of employment land. The accompanying text to HSPD5 identifies that the employment development areas shown are intended primarily for large format logistics / storage and distribution (B8 Use Class). It goes on to note that uses in the Liverpool City Region economic growth sectors (e.g. advanced manufacturing) may also be appropriate. It is therefore considered that the HSPD4 will deliver a positive impact which will be increasingly significant with respect to this sustainability objective.</p>							
<p><b>10. To reduce the need to travel and improve choice and use of more</b></p>	+	+	+	Medium	More than local	Long term	Secondary impacts on congestion, air quality and carbon emissions.	

Key Requirements HSPD4 (Residential Development); HSPD5 (Employment Development); and HSPD8 (Community Facilities)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
sustainable transport mode. • Encourage sustainable transport use	<u>Comments:</u> It is expected that the site will deliver an integrated approach linking the new development with existing neighbouring communities. The accompanying text to HSPD4 notes the intention is for the new development to function as an extension to existing communities and link into existing services and facilities. The provision of new employment opportunities and the new school on site will also potentially deliver opportunities for local trips by foot and cycle as well as the potential to provide an improved public transport offer. It is considered that the three key requirements covering development aspects will deliver a positive impact with respect to this sustainability objective.							
Sustainability Summary								
The three key requirements dealing with the various development elements are likely to deliver significant positive impacts with respect to sustainability objectives 8 (housing delivery) and 9 (business growth). Positive impacts are also identified for objectives 4 (climate change); 5 (Green Infrastructure); and 10 (sustainable transport options). Neutral impacts are likely to occur for sustainability objective 1 (heritage assets); 2 (landscape); 3 (biodiversity); and 7 (air quality). It is predicted that there will be a negative impact, that is likely to be significantly negative as the site is built out, for sustainability objective 6 (soil quality).								

Key Requirements HSPD6 (Heritage response); HSPD11 (Open space); and HSPD12 (Ecology)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
1. To preserve, enhance and manage Knowsley's rich diversity of cultural, historic and archaeological buildings, areas, sites and features.	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on sense of place.	
	<p><u>Comments:</u> The baseline survey notes there are seven Grade II listed buildings/structures within the site. HSPD6 provides specific requirements for the submission of future planning applications and subsequent development. It is considered that HSPD6 is likely to deliver positive impacts for this sustainability objective.</p>							
2. To protect, enhance and manage the local character and accessibility of the landscape and countryside across Knowsley. • Provide the required amount of open space.	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on perceptions of the area.	
	<p><u>Comments:</u> Inevitably, the introduction of significant new development on to the site will change the landscape character of the area and this has been previously assessed as part of the SA of the Local Plan Core Strategy which noted that directing development to this location would have a negative impact on the objective that relates to protecting landscape character. The Landscape Character Assessment (2006) notes that the former Halsnead Estate is defined by the existence of remnants of the former Estate, including long sections of the sandstone boundary wall, a gate house, and small woodland clumps. It is considered that these remnants of the Halsnead Hall Parkland make a positive contribution to the landscape. HSPD6 and HSPD11 make specific reference to various landscape elements which leads to a conclusion that the impacts may be positive from these key requirements.</p>							
3. To protect, enhance	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		

Key Requirements HSPD6 (Heritage response); HSPD11 (Open space); and HSPD12 (Ecology)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p>and manage biodiversity, the viability of protected and endangered species, habitats, geodiversity and sites of geological importance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve and enhance the natural environment, including species and habitat diversity.</li> <li>Ensure current ecological networks are not compromised, and future improvements in habitat connectivity are not prejudiced.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The site contains/adjoins a number of features of nature conservation interest, including seven Local Wildlife Sites and areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland and Priority Habitat (woodland, grassland, tall herb fen and marshland). HSPD12 specifically deals with the need for impact assessments and mitigation with respect to ecological matters to be identified in any planning applications submitted for the site. Moreover, HSPD11 incorporates references to ecological assets present on the site and the role they can play in delivering/maintaining open space. It is therefore concluded that these key requirements will lead to a positive impact on this sustainability objective.</p>							
<p>4. To adapt to climate change including flood risk.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce flood risk</li> </ul>	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		
<p><u>Comments:</u> The three requirements include measures that will potentially deliver benefits for climate change resilience including opportunities to manage any flood risk issues, and in particular surface water flooding – HSPD11 specifically identifies the opportunities for the provision of SUDS. As such, it is considered that the key requirements could have a positive effect on adapting to climate change.</p>								
5. To provide, conserve,	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		

Key Requirements HSPD6 (Heritage response); HSPD11 (Open space); and HSPD12 (Ecology)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p><b>maintain and enhance green infrastructure.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve the size and quality of the green infrastructure network.</li> <li>• To improve the size and quality of the Ecological Framework</li> <li>• Avoid impacts on the quality and extent of existing recreational assets, such as formal or informal footpaths</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> It is acknowledged that the development of the site will inevitably lead to the loss of elements of green space. HSPD11 provides the key requirement that specifically deals with green infrastructure and includes a number of specific clauses that will deliver positive impacts in terms of green infrastructure. Moreover, HSPD12 will deliver ecological opportunities that can contribute to green infrastructure. It is therefore considered that HSPD11 and HSPD12 will deliver positive impacts for this sustainability objective.</p>							
<b>6. To protect, manage</b>	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		

Key Requirements HSPD6 (Heritage response); HSPD11 (Open space); and HSPD12 (Ecology)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p>and restore land and soil quality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the amount of derelict land.</li> <li>• Direct new housing to previously developed land.</li> <li>• Reduce the amount of contaminated land</li> <li>• Ensure avoidance of the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The current site is largely a greenfield site that contains large areas of Grade 2 Best and Most Versatile agricultural land. HSPD11 and HSPD12 focus on the opportunities to maintain and enhance green infrastructure/open space and ecological resources which will potentially benefit the retention of some of the best and most versatile agricultural land; and provide opportunities to improve aspects of any derelict or contaminated land. In this respect, a positive impact is therefore identified for this sustainability objective.</p>							
7. To protect, and where necessary, improve local air quality.	+	+	+	Low	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on health	
	<p><u>Comments:</u> HSPD11 and HSPD12 can contribute a potential positive contribution to air quality through the provision of green infrastructure/open space and ecological sites. The certainty of the impact is considered to be low given the significant amount of development that is set to occur on the site which will lead to potential negative impacts on air quality.</p>							
8. To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing.	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that new dwellings achieve high standards of design and resource efficiency.

Key Requirements HSPD6 (Heritage response); HSPD11 (Open space); and HSPD12 (Ecology)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a wider choice of accommodation to create a greater tenure mix.</li> <li>• Minimise resource and energy use when developing housing and the energy efficiency of housing.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The provision of green infrastructure/open space and maintenance/enhancement of the various wildlife sites can contribute a positive benefit to the delivery of new housing on the site and the residents that will live on the site. It provides an opportunity to market the site for its diversity of green spaces and nature conservation value that any potential residents may see as an additional benefit for moving to the site.</p>							
<p><b>9. To improve the competitiveness and productivity of business, exploit the growth potential of business sectors and increase the number of new businesses.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase number of local and new businesses</li> <li>• Increase industrial / commercial floorspace</li> </ul>	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term	Contribution to the overall availability of jobs.	
<p><u>Comments:</u> The provision of green infrastructure/open space and maintenance/enhancement of the various wildlife sites can contribute a positive benefit to the delivery of employment space on the site. It provides an opportunity to market the site for its diversity of green spaces and nature conservation value that any potential employer may see as an additional benefit for locating to the site.</p>								
<p><b>10. To reduce the need to travel and improve choice and use of more sustainable transport mode.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage sustainable transport use</li> </ul>	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A		
<p><u>Comments:</u> There are no significant effects identified with respect to this sustainability objective.</p>								

Key Requirements HSPD6 (Heritage response); HSPD11 (Open space); and HSPD12 (Ecology)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<b>Sustainability Summary</b>								
The three key requirements dealing with heritage, open space and ecology are considered to have no significant positive impacts with respect to any of the sustainability objectives. Positive impacts are identified for objectives 2 (landscape); 3 (biodiversity); 4 (climate change); 5 (Green Infrastructure); 6 (soil quality); 7 (air quality); 8 (housing delivery); and 9 (business growth) Neutral impacts are likely to occur for sustainability objective 1 (heritage assets); and 10 (sustainable transport options).								

Key Requirements HSPD7 (Movement); HSPD9 (Strategic utilities); and HSPD10 (Ground conditions)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
1. To preserve, enhance and manage Knowsley's rich diversity of cultural, historic and archaeological buildings, areas, sites and features.	0	0	0	Medium/Low	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on sense of place.	
	<p><u>Comments:</u> The baseline survey notes there are seven Grade II listed buildings/structures within the site. The proposed access point at Fox's Bank Lane (North) is in close proximity to the Grade II listed Gate Piers and North East Lodge to Halsnead Park. The other listed buildings are not directly affected by the proposed access points and network of transport routes within the site. Detail with respect to utilities and ground conditions is expressed in more general terms and further detail will become apparent as development proposals are worked up for the site. It is considered that the impact of the three key requirements is likely to be neutral with respect to this sustainability objective. The level of certainty is considered to be medium for the highways and access matters given the detail available in the SPD, but is low for the strategic utilities and ground conditions issues given the indicative detail set out in the SPD.</p>							
2. To protect, enhance and manage the local character and accessibility of the landscape and countryside across Knowsley. • Provide the required amount of open space.	0	0	0	Medium/Low	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on perceptions of the area.	
	<p><u>Comments:</u> Inevitably, the introduction of significant new development on to the site will change the landscape character of the area and this has been previously assessed as part of the SA of the Local Plan Core Strategy which noted that directing development to this location would have a negative impact on the objective that relates to protecting landscape character. The Landscape Character Assessment (2006) notes that the former Halsnead Estate is defined by the existence of remnants of the former Estate, including long sections of the sandstone boundary wall, a gate house, and small woodland clumps. It is considered that these remnants of the Halsnead Hall Parkland make a positive contribution to the landscape. The introduction of additional development through highways/access works and requirements for additional utilities and potential ground works remediation will have impacts on the landscape elements within the site. It is considered that the impact of the three key requirements is likely to be neutral with respect to this sustainability objective. The level of certainty is considered to be medium for the highways and access matters given the detail available in the SPD, but is low for the strategic utilities and ground conditions issues given the indicative detail set out in the SPD.</p>							
3. To protect, enhance	0	0	0	Medium/Low	Local	Long term		

Key Requirements HSPD7 (Movement); HSPD9 (Strategic utilities); and HSPD10 (Ground conditions)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p>and manage biodiversity, the viability of protected and endangered species, habitats, geodiversity and sites of geological importance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve and enhance the natural environment, including species and habitat diversity.</li> <li>Ensure current ecological networks are not compromised, and future improvements in habitat connectivity are not prejudiced.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The site contains/adjoins a number of features of nature conservation interest, including seven Local Wildlife Sites and areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland and Priority Habitat (woodland, grassland, tall herb fen and marshland). The introduction of additional development through highways/access works and requirements for additional utilities and potential ground works remediation will have impacts on the ecological elements within the site. It is considered that the impact of the three key requirements is likely to be neutral with respect to this sustainability objective. The level of certainty is considered to be medium for the highways and access matters given the detail available in the SPD, but is low for the strategic utilities and ground conditions issues given the indicative detail set out in the SPD.</p>							
<p>4. To adapt to climate change including flood risk.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce flood risk</li> </ul>	0	0	0	Medium/Low	Local	Long term		
	<p><u>Comments:</u> Parts of the site are within Flood Zones 2 and 3 and surface water flooding issues have been identified. The introduction of additional development through highways/access works and requirements for additional utilities and potential ground works remediation will have impacts on flood risk and surface water management within the site. The flood risk issues are generally contained to the southern part of the site and can be mitigated by careful location of highways/access points plus any necessary utilities and ground conditions requirements. Surface water issues will need careful design of any infrastructure to ensure known issues are mitigated – this is recognised in HSPD9 as a component of the design of strategic utilities infrastructure. It is considered that the impact of the three key requirements is likely to be neutral with respect to this sustainability objective. The level of certainty is considered to be medium for the highways and access matters given the detail available in the SPD, but is low for the strategic utilities and ground conditions issues given the indicative detail set out in the SPD.</p>							

Key Requirements HSPD7 (Movement); HSPD9 (Strategic utilities); and HSPD10 (Ground conditions)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p><b>5. To provide, conserve, maintain and enhance green infrastructure.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve the size and quality of the green infrastructure network.</li> <li>• To improve the size and quality of the Ecological Framework</li> <li>• Avoid impacts on the quality and extent of existing recreational assets, such as formal or informal footpaths</li> </ul>	0	0	0	Low	Local	Long term		
<p><u>Comments:</u>                      It is acknowledged that the development of the site will inevitably lead to the loss of elements of green space. The introduction of additional development through highways/access works and requirements for additional utilities and potential ground works remediation will have impacts on the green infrastructure elements within the site – the approach to movement networks within the site touches on opportunities to incorporate landscaping that will contribute to the green infrastructure of the site. It is considered that the impact of the three key requirements is likely to be neutral with respect to this sustainability objective. The level of certainty is considered to be medium for the highways and access matters given the detail available in the SPD, but is low for the strategic utilities and ground conditions issues given the indicative detail set out in the SPD.</p>								
<b>6. To protect, manage</b>	-	-	-	Medium	Local	Long term		

Key Requirements HSPD7 (Movement); HSPD9 (Strategic utilities); and HSPD10 (Ground conditions)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p>and restore land and soil quality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the amount of derelict land.</li> <li>• Direct new housing to previously developed land.</li> <li>• Reduce the amount of contaminated land</li> <li>• Ensure avoidance of the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The current site is largely a greenfield site that contains large areas of Grade 2 Best and Most Versatile agricultural land. Whilst the land take required for the highways and utilities infrastructure is relatively small compared to the overall development requirements, it is likely to have a contributory negative impact, alongside the impact from the overall development. This is considered to be of minor negative significance.</p>							
7. To protect, and where necessary, improve local air quality.	0	0	0	Low	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on health	
	<p><u>Comments:</u> The highways infrastructure will lead to some negative impacts in terms of the traffic that will utilise the roads. HSPD7 notes the provision for buses, pedestrians and cyclists which will potentially reduce the impact on air quality. It is therefore considered that the key requirements will have a neutral impact on air quality.</p>							
8. To provide good	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		

Key Requirements HSPD7 (Movement); HSPD9 (Strategic utilities); and HSPD10 (Ground conditions)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p>quality, affordable and resource efficient housing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a wider choice of accommodation to create a greater tenure mix.</li> <li>• Minimise resource and energy use when developing housing and the energy efficiency of housing.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The provision of good connections within the site and to neighbouring areas is expected to deliver a positive impact in terms of ensuring a residential environment that is attractive to new residents.</p>							
<p>9. To improve the competitiveness and productivity of business, exploit the growth potential of business sectors and increase the number of new businesses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase number of local and new businesses</li> <li>• Increase industrial / commercial floorspace</li> </ul>	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term	Contribution to the overall availability of jobs.	
<p><u>Comments:</u> The provision of good connections within the site and to neighbouring areas is expected to deliver a positive impact in terms of ensuring a commercial offer that is attractive to employers looking to locate within the site.</p>								
<p>10. To reduce the need to travel and improve choice and use of more</p>	+	+	+	Medium	More than local	Long term	Secondary impacts on congestion, air quality and carbon emissions.	

Key Requirements HSPD7 (Movement); HSPD9 (Strategic utilities); and HSPD10 (Ground conditions)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
sustainable transport mode. • Encourage sustainable transport use	<u>Comments:</u> It is expected that the site will deliver an integrated approach linking the new development with existing neighbouring communities. HSPD7 notes the provision for buses, pedestrians and cyclists which will provide a choice of travel modes and encourage sustainable transport use.							
<b>Sustainability Summary</b>								
The three key requirements dealing with movement, strategic utilities and ground conditions are considered to have no significant positive impacts with respect to any of the sustainability objectives. Positive impacts are identified for; 8 (housing delivery); 9 (business growth) and 10 (sustainable transport options). Neutral impacts are likely to occur for objectives 1 (heritage assets); 2 (landscape); 3 (biodiversity); 4 (climate change); 5 (Green Infrastructure); and 7 (air quality). A negative impact is likely for objective 6 (soil quality).								

Placemaking Vision								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
1. To preserve, enhance and manage Knowsley's rich diversity of cultural, historic and archaeological buildings, areas, sites and features.	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on sense of place.	
	<p><u>Comments:</u> The baseline survey notes there are seven Grade II listed buildings/structures within the site. The vision identifies the importance of the historic character of the site noting the "...historic parkland with a special sense of distinctiveness..." and the importance of Lickers Lane with respect to the former Halsnead Hall and Park. It is considered therefore that the vision is likely to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective with a medium degree of certainty.</p>							
2. To protect, enhance and manage the local character and accessibility of the landscape and countryside across Knowsley. • Provide the required amount of open space.	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on perceptions of the area.	
	<p><u>Comments:</u> Inevitably, the introduction of significant new development on to the site will change the landscape character of the area and this has been previously assessed as part of the SA of the Local Plan Core Strategy which noted that directing development to this location would have a negative impact on the objective that relates to protecting landscape character. The Landscape Character Assessment (2006) notes that the former Halsnead Estate is defined by the existence of remnants of the former Estate, including long sections of the sandstone boundary wall, a gate house, and small woodland clumps. It is considered that these remnants of the Halsnead Hall Parkland make a positive contribution to the landscape. The vision seeks to capture elements of the landscape qualities of the site and how they can positively contribute to the new development proposals. It is considered therefore that the vision is likely to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective with a medium degree of certainty.</p>							
3. To protect, enhance	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		

Placemaking Vision								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p>and manage biodiversity, the viability of protected and endangered species, habitats, geodiversity and sites of geological importance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve and enhance the natural environment, including species and habitat diversity.</li> <li>Ensure current ecological networks are not compromised, and future improvements in habitat connectivity are not prejudiced.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The site contains/adjoins a number of features of nature conservation interest, including seven Local Wildlife Sites and areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland and Priority Habitat (woodland, grassland, tall herb fen and marshland). The vision includes recognition of the various elements of the site's biodiversity noting "It is a place of rich, diverse landscapes; woodland and water, pockets of intrigue and beauty, environments for exploration." It is considered therefore that the vision is likely to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective with a medium degree of certainty.</p>							
<p>4. To adapt to climate change including flood risk.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce flood risk</li> </ul>	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		
<p><u>Comments:</u> The vision draws out various positive elements in terms of the existing landscape and natural features that will provide a positive contribution to the quality of the proposed development including opportunities to ensure the development responds to climate change challenges. It is considered therefore that the vision is likely to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective with a medium degree of certainty.</p>								
5. To provide, conserve,	+	+	+	Low	Local	Long term		

Placemaking Vision								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p><b>maintain and enhance green infrastructure.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve the size and quality of the green infrastructure network.</li> <li>• To improve the size and quality of the Ecological Framework</li> <li>• Avoid impacts on the quality and extent of existing recreational assets, such as formal or informal footpaths</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The vision includes recognition of the positive contribution green infrastructure can make to the site and its future development. Specific reference is made to "...new living environments that are in touch with nature and help people live more, making the most of outdoor life. A place to relax and recharge..." It is considered therefore that the vision is likely to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective with a medium degree of certainty.</p>							
<b>6. To protect, manage and restore land and soil quality.</b>	0	0	0	Low	Local	Long term		Ensure development is built to an appropriate density to minimise the need to release further greenfield sites.

Placemaking Vision								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce the amount of derelict land.</li> <li>Direct new housing to previously developed land.</li> <li>Reduce the amount of contaminated land</li> <li>Ensure avoidance of the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The vision has no specific reference to soil quality or the protection of best and most versatile agricultural land. It does seek to deliver a development that incorporates green infrastructure and ecological elements which potentially will protect and manage soil quality and conserve the best and most versatile agricultural land. However, the scale of development will have negative impacts upon this sustainability objective. It is therefore considered that with respect to the vision there is likely to be a neutral impact with a low level of certainty.</p>							
7. To protect, and where necessary, improve local air quality.	0	0	0	Low	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on health	
	<p><u>Comments:</u> The vision has no specific reference to air quality. It does seek to deliver a development that incorporates green infrastructure and ecological elements which potentially deliver positive impacts with respect to air quality. However, the scale of development will have negative impacts upon this sustainability objective. It is therefore considered that with respect to the vision there is likely to be a neutral impact with a low level of certainty.</p>							
8. To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide a wider choice of accommodation to create a greater tenure mix.</li> </ul>	+	++	++	Medium	Local	Long term		<p>Consider the inclusion of wording that captures in the vision the intention to deliver a choice of housing thereby contributing to the sub-objective in this sustainability objective.</p> <p>Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy should ensure that new dwellings achieve high standards of design and resource efficiency.</p>

Placemaking Vision								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise resource and energy use when developing housing and the energy efficiency of housing.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The vision sets out the expectation that the development will deliver an integrated garden suburb that connects with Whiston. The delivery of a significant quantum of housing on the site will contribute a positive impact which will be increasingly significant with respect to this sustainability objective. It is worth considering some additional text that captures in the vision the intention to deliver a choice of housing thereby contributing to the sub-objective in this sustainability objective.</p>							
<p><b>9. To improve the competitiveness and productivity of business, exploit the growth potential of business sectors and increase the number of new businesses.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase number of local and new businesses</li> <li>Increase industrial / commercial floorspace</li> </ul>	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term	Contribution to the overall availability of jobs.	Consider additional wording in the vision to make specific reference to the employment opportunity on the site.
<p><u>Comments:</u> The vision does not specifically reference the employment opportunities although it notes the links to other employment areas. Nonetheless the site will have a significant component of employment land which will deliver a positive impact with respect this sustainability objective. It could be useful to include a specific reference in the vision to the employment opportunity on the site.</p>								
<p><b>10. To reduce the need to travel and improve choice and use of more sustainable transport mode.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage sustainable transport use</li> </ul>	+	+	+	Medium	More than local	Long term	Secondary impacts on congestion, air quality and carbon emissions.	
<p><u>Comments:</u> The vision identifies that the site will be a "...connected community..." and notes the links to various destinations within the Liverpool City Region. It also highlights the link to South Whiston station. It is therefore envisaged that the policy could have a positive impact on the objective.</p>								
<b>Sustainability Summary</b>								

Placemaking Vision								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p>The placemaking vision is considered to have a significant positive impact with respect to objective 8 (housing delivery). Positive impacts are identified for 1 (heritage assets); 2 (landscape); 3 (biodiversity); 4 (climate change); 5 (Green Infrastructure); 9 (business growth) and 10 (sustainable transport options). Neutral impacts are likely to occur for objectives 6 (soil quality) and 7 (air quality).</p>								

Placemaking Pillars								
Masterplanning Guidance 3 (Rediscovering Halsnead Estate); Masterplanning Guidance 4 (Garden Villages); Masterplanning Guidance 5 (Integrated with Whiston); and Masterplanning Guidance 6 (Facilitating delivery of the whole site)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
1. To preserve, enhance and manage Knowsley's rich diversity of cultural, historic and archaeological buildings, areas, sites and features.	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on sense of place.	
<p><u>Comments:</u> The placemaking pillars include specific guidance (Masterplanning Guidance 3) with respect to Halsnead Park Estate and the various listed buildings that are within the site. It is considered that the placemaking pillars are likely to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective with a medium degree of certainty.</p>								
2. To protect, enhance and manage the local character and accessibility of the landscape and countryside across Knowsley. • Provide the required amount of open space.	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on perceptions of the area.	
<p><u>Comments:</u> Inevitably, the introduction of significant new development on to the site will change the landscape character of the area and this has been previously assessed as part of the SA of the Local Plan Core Strategy which noted that directing development to this location would have a negative impact on the objective that relates to protecting landscape character. The Landscape Character Assessment (2006) notes that the former Halsnead Estate is defined by the existence of remnants of the former Estate, including long sections of the sandstone boundary wall, a gate house, and small woodland clumps. It is considered that these remnants of the Halsnead Hall Parkland make a positive contribution to the landscape. Three of the four pillars make reference to aspects of the existing landscape character of the site that need to be maintained and enhanced (the exception is Masterplanning Guidance 6 which is an implementation oriented policy). It is considered therefore that the placemaking pillars are likely to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective with a medium degree of certainty.</p>								

Placemaking Pillars								
Masterplanning Guidance 3 (Rediscovering Halsnead Estate); Masterplanning Guidance 4 (Garden Villages); Masterplanning Guidance 5 (Integrated with Whiston); and Masterplanning Guidance 6 (Facilitating delivery of the whole site)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p><b>3. To protect, enhance and manage biodiversity, the viability of protected and endangered species, habitats, geodiversity and sites of geological importance.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve and enhance the natural environment, including species and habitat diversity.</li> <li>Ensure current ecological networks are not compromised, and future improvements in habitat connectivity are not prejudiced.</li> </ul>	0	0	0	Low	Local	Long term		HSPD7 specifically identifies the requirements to deal with ecological matters on site. HSPD6 includes specific requirements for the retention and enhancement of existing ecological features. Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD also provide further direction on the need to protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and geodiversity assets.
	<p><u>Comments:</u> The site contains/adjoins a number of features of nature conservation interest, including seven Local Wildlife Sites and areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland and Priority Habitat (woodland, grassland, tall herb fen and marshland). Masterplanning Guidance 4 provides a generic characterisation of garden villages noting the opportunities to incorporate biodiversity into any settlement proposals. It is considered therefore that the placemaking pillars are likely to deliver a neutral impact on this sustainability objective with a low degree of certainty.</p>							
<p><b>4. To adapt to climate change including flood risk.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce flood risk</li> </ul>	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		
	<p><u>Comments:</u> The placemaking pillars draw out various positive elements in terms of the existing landscape and natural features that will could provide a positive contribution to the quality of the proposed development including opportunities to ensure the development responds to climate change challenges. It is considered therefore that the placemaking pillars are likely to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective with a medium degree of certainty.</p>							

Placemaking Pillars								
Masterplanning Guidance 3 (Rediscovering Halsnead Estate); Masterplanning Guidance 4 (Garden Villages); Masterplanning Guidance 5 (Integrated with Whiston); and Masterplanning Guidance 6 (Facilitating delivery of the whole site)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<b>5. To provide, conserve, maintain and enhance green infrastructure.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve the size and quality of the green infrastructure network.</li> <li>To improve the size and quality of the Ecological Framework</li> <li>Avoid impacts on the quality and extent of existing recreational assets, such as formal or informal footpaths</li> </ul>	+	+	+	Low	Local	Long term		Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and the proposed additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD will ensure that there is appropriate on-site open space and green corridors through the site.
	<u>Comments:</u> The placemaking pillars (Masterplanning Guidance 3) include some reference to the historic landscape of the site which could contribute to green infrastructure. Masterplanning Guidance 4 provides a generic characterisation of garden villages noting the opportunities to incorporate various elements that would contribute to the delivery of green infrastructure within the site. It is considered therefore that the placemaking pillars are likely to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective with a low degree of certainty.							
<b>6. To protect, manage and restore land and soil quality.</b>	0	0	0	Low	Local	Long term		Ensure development is built to an appropriate density to ensure an efficient use of land and to minimise the need to release further greenfield sites.

Placemaking Pillars								
Masterplanning Guidance 3 (Rediscovering Halsnead Estate); Masterplanning Guidance 4 (Garden Villages); Masterplanning Guidance 5 (Integrated with Whiston); and Masterplanning Guidance 6 (Facilitating delivery of the whole site)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the amount of derelict land.</li> <li>• Direct new housing to previously developed land.</li> <li>• Reduce the amount of contaminated land</li> <li>• Ensure avoidance of the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The placemaking pillars have no specific reference to soil quality or the protection of best and most versatile agricultural land. They do seek to deliver a development that incorporates green infrastructure and ecological elements which potentially will protect and manage soil quality and conserve the best and most versatile agricultural land. However, the scale of development will have negative impacts upon this sustainability objective. It is therefore considered that with respect to the vision there is likely to be a neutral impact with a low level of certainty.</p>							
7. To protect, and where necessary, improve local air quality.	0	0	0	Low	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on health	
	<p><u>Comments:</u> The placemaking pillars have no specific reference to air quality. They do seek to deliver a development that incorporates green infrastructure and ecological elements which potentially deliver positive impacts with respect to air quality. However, the scale of development will have negative impacts upon this sustainability objective. It is therefore considered that with respect to the vision there is likely to be a neutral impact with a low level of certainty.</p>							
8. To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing.	+	++	++	Medium	Local	Long term		Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that new dwellings achieve high standards of design and resource efficiency.

Placemaking Pillars								
Masterplanning Guidance 3 (Rediscovering Halsnead Estate); Masterplanning Guidance 4 (Garden Villages); Masterplanning Guidance 5 (Integrated with Whiston); and Masterplanning Guidance 6 (Facilitating delivery of the whole site)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a wider choice of accommodation to create a greater tenure mix.</li> <li>• Minimise resource and energy use when developing housing and the energy efficiency of housing.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The placemaking pillars set out the expectation that the development will deliver an integrated garden suburb that connects with Whiston. The delivery of a significant quantum of housing on the site will contribute a positive impact which will be increasingly significant with respect to this sustainability objective.</p>							
<p><b>9. To improve the competitiveness and productivity of business, exploit the growth potential of business sectors and increase the number of new businesses.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase number of local and new businesses</li> <li>• Increase industrial / commercial floorspace</li> </ul>	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term	Contribution to the overall availability of jobs.	
<p><u>Comments:</u> The placemaking pillars identify the employment opportunities although it notes the links to other employment areas. Masterplanning Guidance 4 provides a generic characterisation of garden villages noting the opportunities to promote job opportunities within easy commuting distance. It is considered therefore that the placemaking pillars are likely to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective with a medium degree of certainty.</p>								
<p><b>10. To reduce the need to travel and improve choice and use of more</b></p>	+	+	+	Medium	More than local	Long term	Secondary impacts on congestion, air quality and carbon emissions.	

Placemaking Pillars								
Masterplanning Guidance 3 (Rediscovering Halsnead Estate); Masterplanning Guidance 4 (Garden Villages); Masterplanning Guidance 5 (Integrated with Whiston); and Masterplanning Guidance 6 (Facilitating delivery of the whole site)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
sustainable transport mode. • Encourage sustainable transport use	<u>Comments:</u> The placemaking pillars include specific Masterplanning Guidance 5 that deals with the intention for the site to integrate with the existing surrounding community. It is therefore envisaged that the policy could have a positive impact on the objective.							
Sustainability Summary								
The placemaking pillars are considered to have a significant positive impact with respect to objective 8 (housing delivery). Positive impacts are identified for 1 (heritage assets); 2 (landscape); 4 (climate change); 5 (Green Infrastructure); 9 (business growth) and 10 (sustainable transport options). Neutral impacts are likely to occur for objectives 3 (biodiversity); 6 (soil quality) and 7 (air quality).								

Design Framework								
Masterplanning Guidance 7 (Strategic design objectives); Masterplanning Guidance 8 (Green Infrastructure); Masterplanning Guidance 9 (Public Open Space); Masterplanning Guidance 10 (Movement and Urban Design); and Masterplanning Guidance 11 (Sustainability)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
1. To preserve, enhance and manage Knowsley's rich diversity of cultural, historic and archaeological buildings, areas, sites and features.	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on sense of place.	
<p><u>Comments:</u>                      The baseline survey notes there are seven Grade II listed buildings/structures within the site. The design framework seeks to integrate the former Halsnead Park Estate into the new development, highlighted in Masterplanning Guidance 7 where it states "...landscapes of the former Halsnead Park Estate and the existing site conditions help to define four strategic landscape character areas which can shape and characterise new development..." Further guidance notes the need for the "Employment development towards the east, in proximity to Fox's Bank Lane, will integrate appropriate response to the listed Old Halsnead Hall, its setting and curtilage." It is considered that the design framework is likely to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective with a medium degree of certainty.</p>								
2. To protect, enhance and manage the local character and accessibility of the landscape and countryside across Knowsley. • Provide the required amount of open space.	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on perceptions of the area.	
<p><u>Comments:</u>                      Inevitably, the introduction of significant new development on to the site will change the landscape character of the area and this has been previously assessed as part of the SA of the Local Plan Core Strategy which noted that directing development to this location would have a negative impact on the objective that relates to protecting landscape character. The Landscape Character Assessment (2006) notes that the former Halsnead Estate is defined by the existence of remnants of the former Estate, including long sections of the sandstone boundary wall, a gate house, and small woodland clumps. It is considered that these remnants of the Halsnead Hall Parkland make a positive contribution to the landscape. The design framework includes a number of aspects that seek to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective, principally Masterplanning Guidance 9 which covers in some detail the requirements for open space and how this will integrate new elements with the existing landscape assets. It is considered that the design framework is likely to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective with a medium degree of certainty.</p>								
3. To protect, enhance	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		

Design Framework								
Masterplanning Guidance 7 (Strategic design objectives); Masterplanning Guidance 8 (Green Infrastructure); Masterplanning Guidance 9 (Public Open Space); Masterplanning Guidance 10 (Movement and Urban Design); and Masterplanning Guidance 11 (Sustainability)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p>and manage biodiversity, the viability of protected and endangered species, habitats, geodiversity and sites of geological importance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve and enhance the natural environment, including species and habitat diversity.</li> <li>Ensure current ecological networks are not compromised, and future improvements in habitat connectivity are not prejudiced.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The site contains/adjoins a number of features of nature conservation interest, including seven Local Wildlife Sites and areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland and Priority Habitat (woodland, grassland, tall herb fen and marshland). The design framework includes a number of aspects that seek to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective, including a specific objective that highlights the opportunity to connect natural and semi-natural habitats. Moreover, Masterplanning Guidance 8 covers in some detail the requirements for various ecological aspects and how development needs to integrate with the existing biodiversity. It is considered that the design framework is likely to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective with a medium degree of certainty.</p>							
<p>4. To adapt to climate change including flood risk.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce flood risk</li> </ul>	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		
<p>5. To provide, conserve,</p>	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term		

Design Framework								
Masterplanning Guidance 7 (Strategic design objectives); Masterplanning Guidance 8 (Green Infrastructure); Masterplanning Guidance 9 (Public Open Space); Masterplanning Guidance 10 (Movement and Urban Design); and Masterplanning Guidance 11 (Sustainability)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<p><b>maintain and enhance green infrastructure.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve the size and quality of the green infrastructure network.</li> <li>• To improve the size and quality of the Ecological Framework</li> <li>• Avoid impacts on the quality and extent of existing recreational assets, such as formal or informal footpaths</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The design framework includes Masterplanning Guidance 8 which sets out key aspects of green infrastructure stating "...landscapes of the former Halsnead Park Estate and the existing site conditions help to define four strategic landscape character areas which can shape and characterise new development, spanning both sides of the M62. The design and implementation of green spaces and landscapes can be subtly distinct within each character area." It is considered therefore that the design framework is therefore likely to deliver a positive impact on this sustainability objective with a medium degree of certainty.</p>							
<p><b>6. To protect, manage and restore land and soil quality.</b></p>	0	0	0	Low	Local	Long term		Ensure development is built to an appropriate density to ensure an efficient use of land and to minimise the need to release further greenfield sites.

Design Framework								
Masterplanning Guidance 7 (Strategic design objectives); Masterplanning Guidance 8 (Green Infrastructure); Masterplanning Guidance 9 (Public Open Space); Masterplanning Guidance 10 (Movement and Urban Design); and Masterplanning Guidance 11 (Sustainability)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the amount of derelict land.</li> <li>• Direct new housing to previously developed land.</li> <li>• Reduce the amount of contaminated land</li> <li>• Ensure avoidance of the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The design framework has no specific reference to soil quality or the protection of best and most versatile agricultural land. It does include detail on how future development needs to incorporate green infrastructure and ecological elements which potentially will protect and manage soil quality and conserve the best and most versatile agricultural land. However, the scale of development will have negative impacts upon this sustainability objective. It is therefore considered that with respect to the vision there is likely to be a neutral impact with a low level of certainty.</p>							
7. To protect, and where necessary, improve local air quality.	+	+	+	Medium	Local	Long term	Secondary impacts on health	
	<p><u>Comments:</u> The design framework identifies in Masterplanning Guidance 8 the opportunity to utilise green infrastructure as a means to mitigate the effects of potential noise and air pollution from the M62. It identifies the application of earth bunding as a particular measure to reduce the impacts from the motorway network. It is therefore considered that with respect to the vision there is likely to be a positive impact with a medium level of certainty.</p>							
8. To provide good quality, affordable and resource efficient housing.	+	++	++	Medium	Local	Long term		Policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and additional guidance in the Masterplan SPD should ensure that new dwellings achieve high standards of design and resource efficiency.

Design Framework								
Masterplanning Guidance 7 (Strategic design objectives); Masterplanning Guidance 8 (Green Infrastructure); Masterplanning Guidance 9 (Public Open Space); Masterplanning Guidance 10 (Movement and Urban Design); and Masterplanning Guidance 11 (Sustainability)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a wider choice of accommodation to create a greater tenure mix.</li> <li>• Minimise resource and energy use when developing housing and the energy efficiency of housing.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Comments:</u> The design framework sets out as its first strategic design objective “Exemplary, residential-led development immediately south of and integrated with Whiston. Attractive well designed homes that meet needs of local people, and attract new residents to the area, through a coherent mix of family, detached, semi-detached, terraced houses, and apartments.” The delivery of a significant quantum of housing on the site will contribute a positive impact which will be increasingly significant with respect to this sustainability objective.</p>							
<p><b>9. To improve the competitiveness and productivity of business, exploit the growth potential of business sectors and increase the number of new businesses.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase number of local and new businesses</li> <li>• Increase industrial / commercial floorspace</li> </ul>	+	++	++	Medium	Local	Long term	Contribution to the overall availability of jobs.	
<p><u>Comments:</u> The design framework includes within its strategic objectives the expectation that development proposals will deliver “High quality employment development to the south of the M62 which balances market demand for large scale buildings and plots, with the need to maximise the attractiveness of the proposed Country Park and other greenspaces and corridors, and maintain access to these.” It is considered therefore that the design framework is likely to deliver a positive impact which will be increasingly significant for this sustainability objective with a medium degree of certainty.</p>								
<p><b>10. To reduce the need to travel and improve choice and use of more</b></p>	+	+	+	Medium	More than local	Long term	Secondary impacts on congestion, air quality and carbon emissions.	

Design Framework								
Masterplanning Guidance 7 (Strategic design objectives); Masterplanning Guidance 8 (Green Infrastructure); Masterplanning Guidance 9 (Public Open Space); Masterplanning Guidance 10 (Movement and Urban Design); and Masterplanning Guidance 11 (Sustainability)								
SA Objective	Timescale			Nature of Effect				Mitigation
	0 – 5 years	5 – 10 years	10+ years	Certainty	Scale	Permanence	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	
sustainable transport mode. • Encourage sustainable transport use	<p><u>Comments:</u>                      The design framework includes a specific strategic objective that seeks to deliver “Attractive ‘main streets’ and residential avenues flanked by trees providing a welcoming and high quality public realm experience, forming the clear and legible primary routes that connect key locations within the site to adjacent highways (Windy Arbor, Lickers Lane and Fox’s Bank Lane), and enable sustainable modes of transport.” There is detailed design guidance in Masterplanning Guidance 10 covering the hierarchy of streets and design principles that seek to encourage a sustainable approach to transport use. It is therefore envisaged that the policy is likely to have a positive impact on the objective.</p>							
Sustainability Summary								
The design framework is considered to have a significant positive impact with respect to objective 8 (housing delivery); and objective 9 (business growth). Positive impacts are identified for 1 (heritage assets); 2 (landscape); 3 (biodiversity); 4 (climate change); 5 (Green Infrastructure); 7 (air quality); and 10 (sustainable transport options). Neutral impacts are likely to occur for objective 6 (soil quality).								