



Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal

Local Plan

DRAFT Scoping Report - January 2013

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London Legacy Development Corporation

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal

Local Plan

Scoping Report

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Abbreviations

AAP	Area Action Plan
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
BREEAM	Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
cSAC	Candidate Special Area of Conservation
DCLG	Department of Communities and Local Government
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
LLDC	London Legacy Development Corporation
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
LSOA	Lower Super Output Area
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NNR	National Nature Reserve
NO ₂	Nitrogen dioxide
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NVQ	National Vocational Qualification
PM ₁₀	Particulate Matter
pSPA	Potential Special Protection Area
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SAM	Scheduled Ancient Monument
SAP	Species Action Plan
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SINC	Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
SuDS	Sustainable Drainage Systems
VAT	Value Added Tax

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this Scoping Report

This Scoping Report has been prepared by Hyder Consulting Ltd on behalf of the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) as part of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of their emerging Local Plan. The Local Plan will eventually replace existing planning policy for the LLDC area (shown on Figure 1-1) which is currently covered by four adopted Core Strategies and associated Area Action Plans (AAPs) of the London boroughs of Hackney, Newham, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest. Section 2 of this report provides further information about the background to and the development of the LLDC Local Plan.

1.2 Background to the Area

On 1 October 2012, the LLDC Planning Functions Order came into force giving the LLDC the full range of planning functions that would normally be available to a local planning authority, including plan making powers. The LLDC is the planning authority for the Mayor's development corporation in east London which includes the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

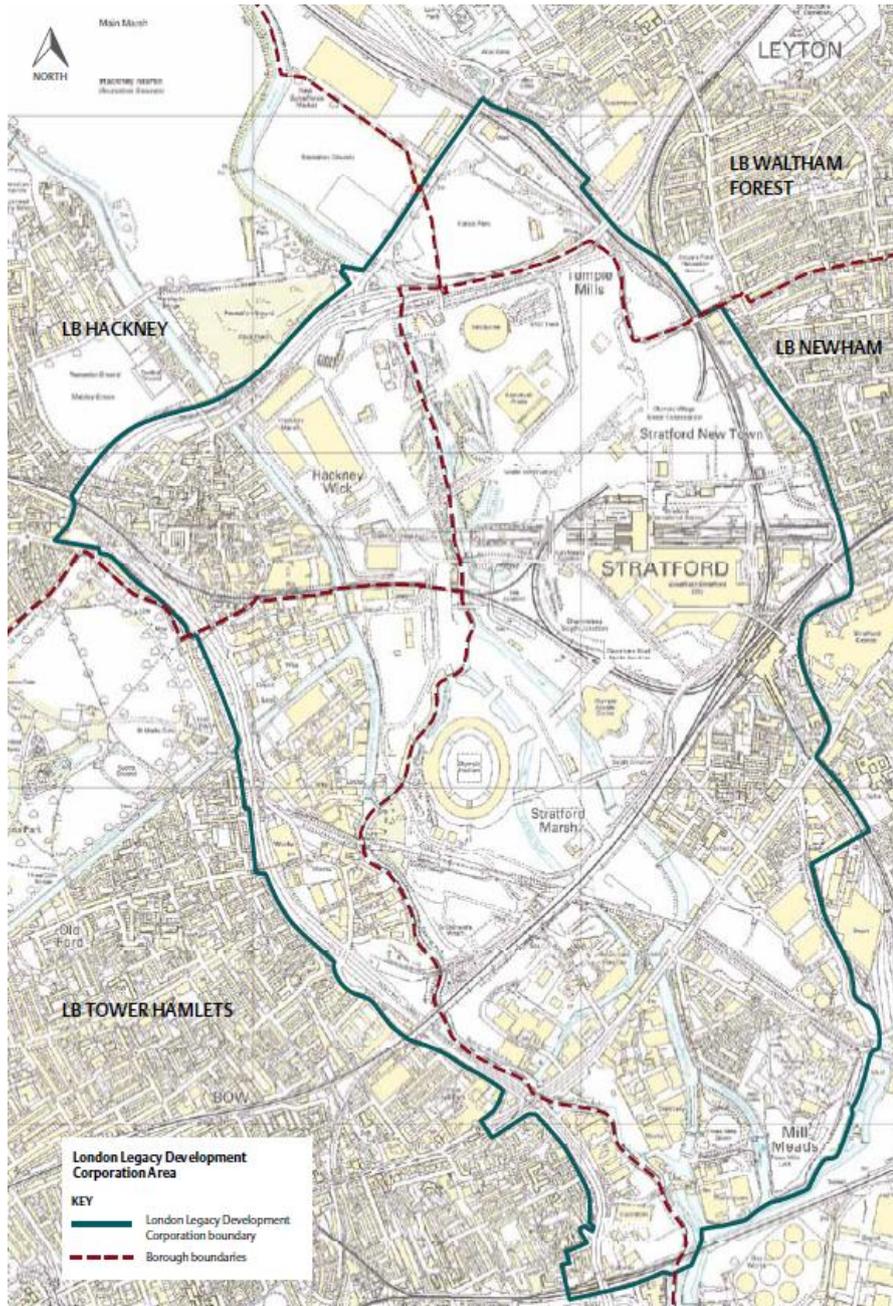
The precise area affected ('the Legacy Corporation planning boundary') includes parts of the London Boroughs of Hackney, Newham, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest and its location is presented on Figure 1-1.

The LLDC plans a £300m construction project to transform the Olympic site into the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. Legacy plans for the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park include:

- Venues and Sport - the future of six of the eight permanent venues has already been secured (Aquatics Centre, Orbit, Multi-Use Arena, Olympic Village, Velodrome, Eton Manor);
- Employment - up to 8,000 permanent jobs on the park by 2030 plus 2,500 temporary construction jobs along with training and apprenticeships with a focus on opportunities for local people;
- New Neighbourhoods - Five new neighbourhoods developed over 20 years;
- Transport - anticipated to be the most accessible and connected place in Europe;
- Visitor Attraction – anticipated to become one of London's top 10 visitor destinations by 2020 attracting local, regional, national and international visitors; and
- Green Space - Over 22 miles of interlinking pathways, waterways and cycle paths and 111 acres (45 hectares) of biodiverse wildlife habitat on the Olympic Park, including reedbeds, grasslands, ponds and woodlands, with 525 bird boxes and 150 bat boxes.

The emerging LLDC Local Plan will provide the planning policy framework to deliver the vision, goals and aspirations for the LLDC area.

Figure 1-1 Location of the LLDC Area



1.3 Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

SA is a process for assessing the social, economic and environmental impacts of a plan and aims to ensure that sustainable development is at the heart of the plan-making process. It is a legal requirement that the Local Plan is subject to SA, under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. This Act stipulates that the SA must comply with the requirements of the SEA Directive¹ which was transposed directly into UK law through the SEA Regulations².

¹ Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment, June 2001

SEA is a systemic process for evaluating the environmental consequences of plans and programmes to ensure that environmental issues are integrated and assessed at the earliest opportunity in the decision-making process. Article 1 of the SEA Directive states that the aim is to:

'provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development'.

It is possible to combine the processes of SEA and SA, as they share a number of similarities. Guidance³ published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) promotes a combined process (i.e. a process which assesses social, economic and environmental effects) and this is the approach that has been adopted for the Local Plan. Whilst there are formalised approaches for both SA and SEA, only SEA has a legal obligation to perform certain activities. These legal obligations have been and will continue to be adhered to throughout the combined SA and SEA for the Core Strategy. The combined SEA and SA is referred to as SA throughout the remaining sections of this Scoping Report. This Scoping Report includes a series of boxes which clearly identify the specific requirements of the SEA Directive that need to be fulfilled.

1.4 Structure of the Scoping Report

This Scoping Report sets the framework and approach for the SA process and explains how it will be undertaken for the Local Plan. Subsequent sections of this report provide information about the proposed methods and provide background information about the existing conditions within the LLDC boundary (and the four London boroughs the area is located within where relevant). Section 2 provides important information about the development of the Local Plan to date and how the LLDC intend to progress the preparation of their Local Plan. Section 2 outlines the SA process. Section 4 and Appendix A provide information about the review of other relevant plans and programmes and Section 5 and Appendix B presents data about existing conditions across the borough.

1.5 Consultation

This Scoping Report is being consulted upon in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 12 (5) of the SEA Regulations. The Scoping Report has, therefore, been issued to the statutory consultation bodies (Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency) and other stakeholders identified by LLDC.

1.6 Habitats Regulations Assessment

European Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild flora and fauna (the 'Habitats Directive') requires that any plan or programme likely to have a significant impact upon a Natura 2000 site (Special Area of Conservation (SAC), candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSAC), Special Protection Area (SPA), potential Special Protection Area (pSPA) and Ramsar site), which is not directly concerned with the management of the site for nature conservation, must be subject to an Appropriate Assessment. The overarching process is referred to as Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).

² S.I. 2004 No. 1633: The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations, 2004

³ <http://www.pas.gov.uk>

A draft HRA Scoping report has been prepared and this will be consulted on during the scoping consultation for the SA.

A HRA screening exercise will commence when the options are developed for the Local Plan to determine whether the Local Plan (either in isolation and/or in combination with other plans or projects) would generate an adverse impact upon the integrity of a Natura 2000 site, in terms of its conservation objectives and qualifying interests. This process will be documented in a Screening Report that will be submitted to Natural England. At this stage in the Local Plan's development, evidence gathering for the HRA Screening Report has commenced and liaison will occur with Natural England during the process. If the Screening Report identifies that significant effects are likely then the Local Plan must be subject to Appropriate Assessment.

2 The LLDC Local Plan

2.1 Background

The emerging LLDC Local Plan will eventually provide the local planning authority's policies for meeting the economic, environmental and social aims of the area where this affects the development and use of land. The Local Plan together with the London Plan will guide development within the LLDC area. The LLDC area boundary is presented on Figure 1-1.

2.2 Development of the Local Plan

The development plan for the LLDC area currently comprises the London Plan and the Local Development Documents of the constituent London boroughs of Newham, Hackney, Waltham Forest and Tower Hamlets. Until the Legacy Corporation has prepared planning policy for the new local planning authority area, planning applications will be determined in accordance with the existing development plan.

However, the LLDC is currently preparing their Local Plan which will set out planning policies that will guide future development within its administrative boundary, and which will be used in the determination of future planning applications.

2.3 Previous Consultation on the Local Plan and Programme

The preparation of the LLDC Local Plan commenced in 2012 and an initial consultation on 'what the Local Plan should cover' ran between Monday 12th November and Monday 12th December 2012. Representations received from stakeholders and the public alike will be considered when drafting the Local Plan and the corresponding SA Report.

Table 2-1 presents an indicative programme for the emerging LLDC Local Plan and future consultation dates.

Table 2-1 Indicative Programme for the LLDC Local Plan

Stage / Element of the Local Plan	Date
Nov – Dec 2012	Consultation on what the Local Plan should cover
Jan – June 2013	Development of draft policies, proposals and designations that will form the Local Plan taking views and information provided into account
September 2013	Informal consultation on the draft Local Plan
February to April 2014	Formal publication and consultation period for the Local Plan
July to September 2014	Independent examination of Local Plan by a planning inspector
January 2015	Formal adoption of the Local Plan

2.4 Structure of the Local Plan

The Local Plan will include:

- An outline of the key issues facing the area i.e. a 'spatial portrait'.
- A vision for how the area should look in 2030, with strategic level supporting objectives.
- The strategic direction of future growth in the area, including the identification of strategic sites which are key to the delivery of the vision, and a suite of place-based policies which will describe how key locations will be expected to change over time.
- A set of issues-based policies which will be used in the determination of planning applications, covering issues such as design and affordable housing requirements.
- A delivery and monitoring strategy which will address implementation as well as the Legacy Corporation's approach to managing risks and contingencies.

When adopted, the LLDC's Local Plan will form part of the Development Plan for the area, alongside the London Plan.

3 Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal

3.1 Stages in the SA Process

Government Guidance subdivides the SA process into a series of stages. Whilst each stage consists of specific tasks, the intention should be that the process is iterative. Table 3-1 presents the key stages in the SA process and indicates where specific tasks have been addressed in this Scoping Report. The table also demonstrates how each of the SA stages is linked to the preparation and development of the LLDC Local Plan.

Table 3-1 Stages in the SA Process

SA Stage	Section of the Report	Application to the Local Plan
Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope		
A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives	Section 4	<p>Stage A corresponds to the scoping stage of the SA and the findings of this stage are presented in this Scoping Report.</p> <p>During this stage the scope of the Local Plan will be defined.</p> <p>The purpose of this Scoping Report is to seek feedback on the scope of the SA.</p>
A2: Collecting baseline information	Section 5	
A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems	Section 5	
A4: Developing the SA Framework	Section 6	
A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA	Purpose of this Scoping Report is to seek feedback on the scope of the SA.	
Stage B: Developing and Refining Options and Assessing Effects		
B1: Testing the Local Plan objectives against the SA Framework	<p>All of these stages will be documented in the SA Report.</p>	<p>Stage B of the SA process is linked to the overall production of the Local Plan which includes the development of options and the selection of the preferred option.</p> <p>There should be a considerable degree of interaction between the plan-making and SA teams during this stage in the process to enable potential adverse effects of the Local Plan to be avoided/minimised and potential sustainability benefits maximised.</p> <p>All of these stages will be documented in the SA Report.</p> <p>Proposed measures to monitor the Local Plan would be documented in the SA Report.</p>
B2: Developing the Local Plan Options		
B3: Predicting the effects of the Local Plan		
B4: Evaluating the effects of the Local Plan		
B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects		

SA Stage	Section of the Report	Application to the Local Plan
B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan		
Stage C: Preparing the SA Report		
C1: Preparing the SA Report	This will result in a SA Report documenting the effects of the Local Plan and will also include an assessment of the options considered during the Local Plan's development.	The draft Local Plan will be prepared ready for consultation. A SA Report and Non-Technical Summary (NTS) documenting the effects of the Local Plan will be prepared and will also include an assessment of the options considered during the Local Plan's development.
Stage D: Consultation on the draft Local Plan and the SA Report		
D1: Public participation on the proposed submission documents	-	The SA Report and the draft Local Plan will be consulted upon.
D2(i): Appraising significant changes resulting from representations	-	Following the receipt of representations, the SA Report and NTS will be updated to reflect comments received.
Examination in Public		
D2:(ii) Appraising significant impacts resulting from representations	-	Following the receipt of representations, the SA Report will be updated to reflect comments received.
D3: Making decisions and providing information	-	This stage will be undertaken by the LLDC
Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan		
E1: Finalising aims and methods for monitoring	Monitoring will commence once the Local Plan has been adopted.	Specific monitoring for the Local Plan will be undertaken by the LLDC.
E2: Responding to adverse effects		

4 Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Objectives

4.1 Introduction

The box below stipulates the SEA Directive requirements for this stage of the process.

Box 1: SEA Directive Requirements for the Review of Plans Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives

The SEA Directive requires that the SEA covers:

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

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

A review of other plans and programmes that may affect the preparation of the Local Plan was undertaken in order to contribute to the development of both the SA and the Local Plan. This included:

- Identification of any external social, environmental or economic objectives, indicators or targets that should be reflected in the SA process.
- Identification of any baseline data relevant to the SA.
- Identification of any external factors that might influence the preparation of the plan, for example sustainability issues.
- Identification of any external objectives or aims that would contribute positively to the development of the Local Plan.
- Determining whether there are clear potential conflicts or challenges between other identified plans, programmes or sustainability objectives and the emerging Local Plan.

The review included documents prepared at international, national, regional and local scale. A brief summary of the documents reviewed and the main findings are summarised below with further details presented in Appendix A.

4.2 International Plans and Programmes

A review was undertaken of key International Conventions and European Directives that could potentially influence the development of the Local Plan and the SA. European Directives are transposed into national legislation in each individual Member State and, therefore, there should be a trickle-down effect of the key principles and an application to the relevant national, regional and local circumstances in other planning documents.

4.3 National Plans and Programmes

A review was undertaken of relevant White Papers, plans and strategies. One of the most important documents reviewed was the UK Sustainable Development Strategy⁴ which outlines

⁴ UK Sustainable Development Strategy: Securing the Future (2005) and the UK's Shared Framework for Sustainable Development, One Future – Different Paths (2005)

the over-arching Government objective to raise the quality of life in our communities.

Central Government establishes the broad guidelines and policies for a variety of different topics which are now brought together in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The NPPF streamlines national planning policy into a consolidated set of priorities to consider when planning for and deciding on new development.

It sets national priorities and rules only where it is necessary to do so. It aims to ensure that planning decisions reflect genuine national objectives - such as the need to safeguard the natural environment, combat climate change, and to support sustainable local growth - while allowing for local authorities and communities to produce their own plans, reflecting the distinctive needs and priorities of different parts of the country. The principle of sustainable development is at the heart of the NPPF.

The NPPF guidance is structured around the following sections:

- Building a strong, competitive economy;
- Ensuring the vitality of town centres;
- Supporting a prosperous rural economy;
- Promoting sustainable transport;
- Supporting high quality communications infrastructure;
- Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes;
- Requiring good design;
- Promoting healthy communities;
- Protecting Green Belt land;
- Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change;
- Conserving and enhancing the natural environment;
- Conserving and enhancing the historic environment;
- Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals;
- Plan-making; and
- Decision-taking.

4.4 Regional and Sub-Regional Level Plans

A wealth of different plans and strategies have been produced at the regional (London) and sub-regional (East London / North London) level covering a variety of topics including; housing; economic development and performance; climate change (including flood risk); renewable energy; innovation; rural development; waste management; accessibility; equality and diversity; health; waste; cultural provision and diversity; and physical activity. All of the objectives of these plans as well as some of the challenges they raise need to be taken on board and driven forward by the borough as appropriate. However, it must be noted that the overarching goals of some of these plans and strategies may be outside the remit of the Local Plan which forms only an individual part of a number of different vehicles trying to deliver regional and sub- regional targets.

The Localism Act was granted Royal Assent on 15th November 2011. This Act seeks to rescind some regional planning documents. However, regional level plans such as the London Plan (2011) have been included within the review along with relevant objectives and targets, as the Plan remains in force.

4.5 Local Policy

Plans produced at the local level specifically address issues relating to the economy; health; safety; tourism; sustainable communities; housing; employment; and physical activity. The Local Plan and the SA should draw from these documents and transpose their aims in their policies and proposals. These local policy plans have been instrumental in the development of the SA Framework (refer to Section 6). These plans should in theory have included the main influences of international, national, regional and county level plans through the 'trickle-down effect'. They should also provide more of a local focus for the LLDC area. It is, through identifying these themes and incorporating them into the Local Plan that synergies can be achieved with other relevant documents.

4.6 Key Results from the Review

There were many common themes emerging through the review of plans, programmes and environmental protection objectives. Whilst specific results relating to each document are presented in Appendix A, the list below provides a summary of the main themes and issues identified:

- The need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency.
- The need to ensure that new housing development meets local needs (for all sections of society). This is a particularly important issue in London where affordable housing issues are particularly prevalent (refer to Section 5 for further details).
- The need to protect and enhance vibrancy.
- Promoting convergence and community participation.
- The need for the protection and enhancement of the quality and character of urban areas.
- Recognising the need for the townscape to evolve and for development to be appropriate to townscape setting and context.
- The need to conserve and enhance biodiversity as an integral part of economic, social and environmental development.
- The need to protect and enhance the historic environment.
- The need to promote sensitive waste management.
- The need to promote more sustainable transport choices and to improve accessibility.
- The need to promote the use of renewable energy and renewable technologies in appropriate locations.
- Recognising the importance of open spaces, sport and recreation and the contribution that they make to enhancing quality of life.
- The need for prudent use of natural resources.
- The need to promote and protect the water environment including issues such as quality and resource use.
- To need to protect and enhance air quality.
- The need to promote community cohesion and to establish communities where individuals want to both live and work.
- The need to adapt to the threat posed by climate change.
- The need to protect and enhance biodiversity resources.

- The need for long-term sustainable patterns of development that provide for the economic and social needs of all populations.
- The need to reduce crime and fear of crime.
- The need to protect and enhance ecosystem functions and services.
- Raising levels of health and well-being and promoting greater levels of physical activity.
- Establishing a housing market that meets the needs of all residents.
- Promoting sustainable economic development and a range of employment opportunities that meet the needs of all sectors of the population and all skills levels.
- Promoting high levels of equality and inclusion.
- Promoting higher levels of design quality.

The European Spatial Development Perspective identified a potential conflict that is likely to prevail in all countries, irrespective of their location and this concerns balancing the social and economic claims for spatial development with an area's ecological and cultural functions to ensure that the most sustainable patterns of development are achieved. Through the SA process and the inclusion of suitable sustainability objectives, indicators and targets, it should be possible to identify where potential issues and conflicts may arise and to develop suitable policy modifications and mitigation measures.

Consultation Question (a)

Are there any key emerging plans, initiatives and environmental protection objectives that you consider should be identified as part of the assessment process?

5 The Sustainability Baseline and Key Sustainability Issues

5.1 Introduction

Box 2 defines the SEA Directive requirements for this element of the process.

Box 2: SEA Directive Requirements for Baseline Data Collation

The SEA Directive requires that the SEA covers:

'the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected' (Annex 1 (c))

'any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme, including, in particular, those relating to any areas of particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EC' (Annex 1 (d)).

5.2 Methodology

Characterising the environmental and sustainability baseline, issues and context is an essential part of developing the SA Framework. It comprises the following key elements:

- Characterising the current state of the environment of the borough including social and economic aspects; and
- Using this information to identify existing problems and opportunities that could be considered in the Local Plan.

The environmental, social and economic baseline was characterised through the following methods:

- Review of relevant local, regional and national plans, strategies and programmes; and
- Data research based around a series of baseline indicators developed from the SEA Directive topics (biodiversity, population, human health, flora, fauna, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage and landscape), Government Guidance, previous consultation recommendations from other SAs and the data available for the borough. Data was also collated for additional socio-economic topic areas including deprivation, housing and employment to ensure that a broad range of environmental, social and economic issues were considered.

The collation of baseline data also enabled the identification of key sustainability issues and opportunities affecting the LLDC area.

Appendix B summarises the key baseline trends across the borough. Each section is subdivided to present the following:

- The baseline indicators that have been used (some are also contextual indicators and may not actually form part of the SA Framework).
- Descriptive text, graphs and statistics about the borough.
- Key data gaps.

Key sustainability issues and opportunities identified from the baseline review are detailed in Section 5.3.

The SEA Directive requires 'material assets' to be considered within the SA. Material assets refer to the stock of valuable assets within a study area and can include many things from valuable landscapes, natural and cultural heritage through to housing stock, schools, hospitals and quality agricultural land. It is considered that the material assets of the borough are appropriately covered in the following baseline sections, and consequently will not be repeated as a separate section:

- Biodiversity, flora and fauna.
- Soil and land quality.
- Cultural heritage.
- Landscape.
- Housing.
- Transportation.

5.3 Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

5.3.1 Population

- Tower Hamlets showed the highest growth in population observed within England and Wales between 2001 and 2011 and the third highest population density in London in 2010.
- Newham had the second highest population growth of all the boroughs within England and Wales.
- Hackney had the fourth highest population growth within England and Wales in 2011 and was the fourth most densely populated borough in 2010. Between 2010 and 2035; the population of the borough is projected to increase by 30.0%.
- The high level of growth anticipated within Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest are an indication why large numbers of new homes will be considered necessary within the boroughs.
- The 2011 Census revealed the population of all four boroughs continues to be heavily skewed towards the 25-29 age cohort.
- It should be ensured that the needs of all including ethnic minorities such as Black or Black British and Asian or Asian British (main ethnic minorities within Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest) are met in new development such as appropriate services provision, education, housing etc.
- The 65+ group is projected to see the greatest increase in the next 25 years in the four boroughs therefore opportunities to provide appropriate housing for the elderly should be sought.

5.3.2 Education and Qualifications

- Educational attainment across Hackney and Waltham Forest is below the regional and national average. However, educational attainment across Newham and Tower Hamlets is higher than England averages although lower than the London average.
- The percentage population holding National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Level 4 or above in Hackney and Tower Hamlets is higher than both regional and national levels and for Newham and Waltham Forest, levels are lower than the regional percentage but higher than the national percentage.

- There is a need to improve educational attainment across all four boroughs. By improving levels of educational attainment there could be wider social benefits and improvements to the local economy.
- Those not in education, employment, or training (NEETs) % of 16 – 18 year olds in Hackney and Waltham Forest is lower than that for Newham and Tower Hamlets, however, higher than that for London.
- It should be ensured that any new residential development on the LLDC area does not put pressure on existing educational establishments.
- Opportunities to incorporate work based learning / training should be incorporated into the LLDC development where possible. These opportunities could also be linked to the colleges and universities within the four boroughs the LLDC area is located within.
- It should be ensured that new high quality educational establishments are developed on the LLDC area if there are capacity problems with existing schools.

5.3.3 Health

- Life expectancy from birth for males in 2008-2010 in Hackney is lower than the national average and life expectancy from birth for females is slightly higher than national averages. Life expectancy from birth for males and females in 2008-2010 in Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest are all lower than the national average.
- Levels of teenage pregnancy (15-17) in Hackney, Newham and Waltham Forest are higher than regional and national levels and which has implications for health service provision, housing and educational attainment.
- The percentage of people engaging in regular sport or exercise in Tower Hamlets is higher than regional and national averages; however, the percentage of people engaging in regular sport or exercise in Hackney, Newham and Waltham Forest is lower than regional and national averages.
- It should be ensured that new development does not lead to capacity issues with existing local health care facilities and gaps in health care provision are identified.
- There is a need to reduce the incidence of diseases and health inequalities. There are opportunities to contribute to reducing this through the Plan and thus creating a happy, healthy sustainable community on the LLDC area.
- Opportunities should be incorporated into design guidelines for LLDC developments to encourage people to lead healthy lifestyles and participate in regular exercise.
- Sustainable transport such as the use of buses, the DLR, walking and cycling should be maximised within the LLDC area in order to access employment, nature, essential services and facilities.
- New health care facilities should be developed on the LLDC area if new development leads to pressure on existing facilities although it should be noted that proposed large developments are providing facilities.

5.3.4 Crime

- The overall crime rate in Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest have decreased by 1.6, 7.8 and 3.1 crimes per thousand respectively from 2009-2010 to 2011-2012.
- The type of crime with the highest rate in 2010-2011 in Hackney, Tower Hamlets Newham and Waltham Forest was violence against a person.
- The number of wounding or other acts endangering life offences overall increased significantly across all four boroughs in 2010-2011.

- There is a need to tackle anti-social behaviour across all four boroughs.
- Opportunities to reduce fear of crime should be incorporated into the design of new development at the LLDC area through promoting social inclusion, permeability and increasing natural surveillance.
- Secured by design principles should be incorporated into any new development at the LLDC area.

5.3.5 Water

- There are two main water features within the LLDC boundary the River Lee and the Lee Navigation along with smaller watercourses and ponds which may impose constraints on future development.
- There are large areas within the area that are at risk of flooding from both the River Lee Navigation and the River Lee (that pass through the site). There may be a risk of tidal flooding.
- New development can further intensify water run-off rates due to the uses of impermeable surfaces such as concrete and tarmac during construction. Predicted increases to the level of rainfall received, and intensity along with levels of new development could thus combine to potentially increase the risk of flooding in future.
- New developments and households within the LLDC area should be encouraged to minimise water use and to re-use rainwater where possible i.e. grey water recycling systems. Discussions regarding water resources availability for new developments should be undertaken with Thames Water.
- Areas at risk from flooding should be protected from development that would increase that risk. New development should be encouraged to use Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) to manage runoff and further reduce flood risk.
- It should be ensured that groundwater quality is protected particularly during any construction works.

5.3.6 Soil and Land Quality

- The LLDC area is largely located on non- agricultural urban land. However, the Agricultural Land maps appear to show part of the north east of the area is located on Grade 4 Agricultural land (poor quality).
- There are four historic landfill sites located within the LLDC boundary.
- Development on the LLDC area represents development on brownfield land and therefore a sustainable use of land resources.
- Any contaminated land encountered on the LLDC area prior to development should be remediated – which would offer benefits to soil and land resources.

5.3.7 Air Quality

- Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) are designated in the four London boroughs, where the LLDC area is located, for exceedences in both particulate matter (PM₁₀) and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂).
- Encouraging the use of sustainable modes of transport to access the LLDC area would only benefit local air quality over the long term.

5.3.8 Energy and Climate Change

- New developments should be encouraged to include sustainable design principles, energy efficiency and the incorporation of renewables e.g. the inclusion of solar panels, PV technology and low carbon technologies. The carbon footprint of new development should also be reduced.
- There is a need to expand Heat Networks in the area.
- New development should seek to contribute to the London carbon dioxide (CO₂) reduction targets.

5.3.9 Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

- London itself and the surroundings of the LLDC area are surprisingly green city (approximately 48% of London is surfaced in vegetation, rivers and still waters). Red Path Wood and the Lee Valley Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) are located immediately north of the area boundary.
- Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park is located approximately 720m southwest. However, the closest nationally important ecological site is Walthamstow Marshes Site of Special Scientific interest (SSSI), which is approximately 2.2km northwest and the closest internationally important site is Epping Forest SAC located approximately 3.1km northeast.
- The London Borough of Newham's Biodiversity Action Plan identifies two areas within the LLDC area considered to have deficient access to nature; therefore opportunities to maximise accessibility to nature should be incorporated into any new development.
- There is a need to consider Biodiversity Action Plan commitments
- Opportunities to enhance biodiversity habitats should be maximised. Opportunities, where possible, should be sought to develop and enhance a network of public open space, green grid infrastructure and the blue ribbon network within the LLDC area. In addition, other opportunities should be sought to retaining existing habitats, such as water features, as they provide habitats for local species

5.3.10 Cultural Heritage

- Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest are home to a wealth of heritage assets including those of a national importance. These include Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas within the area boundary and Registered Historic Parks and Gardens and Scheduled Ancient Monuments located within close proximity to the LLDC area.
- The LLDC area located within Newham is considered to be within an archaeological priority area.
- Opportunities should be sought to conserve the setting of Listed Buildings within and adjacent to the LLDC boundary. In addition, it is important to ensure that the wider historic landscape is protected and that cultural heritage issues are taken into consideration.
- Cultural heritage features should be conserved and enhanced where possible. In addition measures to protect / enhance heritage assets identified to be 'at risk' should be included within the Local Plan where possible.

5.3.11 Landscape

- There are no designated landscape assets (i.e. AONBs or National Parks) within 20km of the LLDC area.
- It is essential that townscape character and quality is maintained / enhanced through high quality design, careful siting, and the incorporation of soft landscaping.
- There are opportunities to incorporate open green corridors and attractive green areas within the LLDC area.
- Locally protected views ((i) from Stratford City and (ii) from the Athletes' Village to Cobham Farm to the Velodrome) should be protected.

5.3.12 Minerals and Waste

- The residual waste per household in Hackney, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest was less than the regional average.
- Recycling rates saw an overall increase in all four boroughs from 2001-2011.
- Opportunities should be sought to enhance reuse, recycling and composting performance. Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting needs to be increased for all the boroughs, particularly in Newham where the rate for 2010-2011 was 14.9%.
- Opportunities should be sought to reuse materials and incorporate recycled construction materials into new development.

5.3.13 Transportation

- The LLDC area appears to be well connected by transport infrastructure and public transport links, making the area relatively accessible.
- Stratford regional and international, DLR, Hackney Wick stations are located within the LLDC area.
- Hackney has one of the highest rates of cycling in London, having increased by 70% in recent years.
- A significant proportion of the population within the four boroughs drive to work via car / van.
- Opportunities should be sought to reduce reliance on the private car to reduce current issues with congestion.
- Opportunities should be sought to promote cycling / walking through new development delivered on the LLDC area as this would also indirectly benefit health. This could be achieved through developing a network of high quality cycle / footpath routes that connect the area to the surrounding areas.
- There are opportunities to significantly promote rail travel on the LLDC area due to the presence of a range of stations within the area.
- There are opportunities to promote the use of bus services within the local travel context.

5.3.14 Economy

- The economic activity rates for Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest are all lower than regional and national levels.

- Levels of economic inactivity within all four boroughs are lower than regional and national levels.
- There are opportunities to enhance the role of Stratford City as a sub-regional centre and Hackney Wick as a neighbourhood centre.
- There are opportunities to increase employment opportunities through other employment hubs (such as the International Broadcasting Centre) in the area. The good transport links to the LLDC area should be exploited as accessibility is a key issue when attracting new residents / inward investment / creating employment opportunities.

5.3.15 Deprivation and Living Environment

- There are a number of wards within Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest that are considered to be in the bottom 20% most deprived nationally.
- Deprivation is a very complex issue and a number of different issues will need to be addressed for noticeable improvements to be realised. Enhancements on the LLDC area that deliver employment opportunities, high quality new housing, improved public realm, access to nature would all benefit deprivation.

5.3.16 Housing

- House price inflation alongside the recent recession has impacted significantly on housing affordability across London.
- Overcrowding is a key problem in Hackney with 10% of households being officially overcrowded.
- With the projected increase in population and a large projected increase in the 65+ age group in Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest, there will be a need for appropriate housing for the elderly.
- If new housing is to be delivered on the LLDC area, consideration should be given to the considerable need within all four boroughs of affordable housing.
- Housing regeneration (if incorporated on to the LLDC area) presents a significant opportunity both to revitalise the housing stock and to improve quality of life.
- The population growth in London and need for housing should be considered when providing housing in the LLDC area.

Consultation Question (b)

Can you recommend any important information sources to supplement the baseline data we have collated?

Consultation Question (c)

Do you agree with the sustainability issues we have identified? Are there additional issues that both the assessment and the Local Plan should consider?

Consultation Question (d)

Are there any particular topics or geographical areas of specific concern to your organisation?

6 The SA Framework

6.1 Background to the SA Framework

The SA Framework underpins the assessment methodology and comprises a series of Sustainability Objectives (covering social, economic and environmental issues) that are used to test the performance of the plan being assessed. Whilst the SEA Directive does not require the use of Sustainability Objectives, they are a recognised tool for undertaking the assessment and are aspirations/goals that an authority/organisation should work towards achieving.

The Sustainability Objectives are separate from the Local Plan Objectives, although there may be some overlaps between them. To help measure the performance of the Local Plan components against the Sustainability Objectives, it is beneficial if they are supported by a series of indicators and targets. Baseline data should be collated to support each of the indicators, as this provides a means of determining current performance across the LLDC area and gauging how much intervention or the extent of work needed to achieve the targets that have been identified. The following sections provide further details about the development of the SA Framework.

6.2 Development of the Sustainability Objectives

The Sustainability Objectives should be developed using the review of other relevant plans, programmes and environmental objectives, the baseline data and the key issue and opportunities.

Table 6-1 presents the proposed objectives, indicators and targets that will be used in the assessment of the Local Plan and its options. Where possible, the indicators selected link to those used to describe the baseline conditions across the LLDC area, as an understanding of the existing conditions is needed to inform the assessment. Each of the Sustainability Objectives is supported by a series of sub-objectives to add further clarity and to assist the assessment process.

Targets included in Table 6-1 will need to be reviewed throughout the SA process to take account of updates and the development of new, more challenging targets.

It should be noted that quantitative targets have been developed for very few indicators for the borough. Table 6-1 also draws from many targets identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy which are largely directional targets. Throughout the course of the SA, quantified targets should be identified where possible to supplement this framework in liaison with the LLDC.

Table 6-1 SA Objectives, Indicators and Targets

SA Objective and Sub-Objectives	Indicators	Targets	Source
1. To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To reduce levels of crime ▪ To reduce the fear of crime ▪ Improve environmental safety (street lighting, visibility etc) ▪ To avoid the creation of isolated places during day and night ▪ To reduce levels of anti-social behaviour and improve safety for children and young people ▪ To encourage secured by design 	<p>Crime rates per 1,000 of the population for key offences.</p> <p>Number and distribution of wards with Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the bottom 10% most deprived for crime deprivation.</p> <p>Percentage of residents feeling safe after dark</p>	<p>To reassure the public, reduce the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>To reduce anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>To improve community safety for young people both as victims and offenders.</p> <p>Reduce the number of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 10% most deprived.</p> <p>Improve levels of satisfaction with the way the Police and local Council deal with antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>44,000 fewer people are affected by reported burglaries.</p>	<p>Hackney Safer Cleaner Community Safety Partnership Plan 2011 – 2014</p> <p>Tower Hamlets Community Safety Plan 2012/2013</p> <p>Safer Newham Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Strategic Assessment 2011-2012</p> <p>Waltham Forest Safety Net Strategic Assessment (2010)</p> <p>2010 Indices of Multiple Deprivation</p> <p>In addition to individual authorities Place Surveys.</p> <p>Olympic Legacy Supplementary Planning Guidance (2012)</p>
2. To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society ▪ Set mechanisms in tackling lower levels of attainment and specific barriers to certain disadvantaged groups pursuing higher education 	<p>Percentage of 15 year old pupils in local authority schools achieving five or more GCSEs at Grades A* - C or equivalent.</p> <p>Number of wards in the bottom 10% for education, skills and training deprivation.</p> <p>Percentage of people aged 16-74 achieving NVQ level 4/5.</p>	<p>Reduce number of 16-18 year olds who are NEET.</p> <p>To have the same proportion of the population with no qualifications as the England average, and to eliminate major sub-regional variations and variations between key groups.</p> <p>To improve basic training, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of employers.</p>	<p>Office for National Statistics</p> <p>Department for the Environment</p> <p>Olympic Legacy Supplementary Planning Guidance (2012)</p>

SA Objective and Sub-Objectives	Indicators	Targets	Source
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To improve the provision of education and training facilities, particularly for young people and the long term unemployed 	<p>Percentage of resident population aged 16-74 with no qualifications.</p> <p>Number of educational establishments within the LLDC area.</p> <p>Percentage of people aged 16-74 who have attained either a Level 4 or Level 5 qualification.</p> <p>Percentage of people aged 16-74 who have attained NVQ Levels 1-4.</p>	<p>99,000 fewer residents have no qualifications at all.</p> <p>185,000 more residents have degree-level qualifications.</p> <p>1,800 more children achieve 5 A*-C GCSEs, including Maths and English.</p>	
3. To improve physical and mental health and wellbeing for all and reduce health inequalities			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To reduce health inequalities ▪ To improve access to health and social care ▪ To reduce health inequalities amongst different groups in the community ▪ To promote healthy lifestyles and provide the necessary facilities to promote this, such as open space, sport facilities and active travel (walking and cycling). ▪ To maximise crosscutting opportunities to deliver health gains through better informed and health focused partnership working i.e. through better housing, better environment, higher educational attainment and skills. ▪ To help reduce obesity. ▪ Encourage the development of strong, cohesive communities 	<p>Number of wards in the bottom 10% for health deprivation and disability.</p> <p>Percentage resident population who consider themselves to be in good health.</p> <p>Life expectancy at birth for males and females</p> <p>Distribution of GPs.</p> <p>Percentage of households with one or more person with a long-term limiting illness.</p> <p>Distribution of sports facilities.</p> <p>Percentage of people participating in regular sport or exercise (defined as taking part on at least 3 days a week in moderate intensity sport and active recreation for at least 30 minutes continuously in any one session).</p> <p>Conception rate of under-18 year olds (per 1,000 15-17 year olds).</p>	<p>Improve the accessibility of health information and advice.</p> <p>Improve accessibility of health and health promoting services especially for the hard to reach and vulnerable people.</p> <p>Reduce rate of teenage conception.</p> <p>Reduce the number of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 10% most deprived for health deprivation.</p> <p>Ensure that there is at least one 20 ha natural green space site within 2km of people's homes.</p> <p>Fewer people with a chronic health condition.</p> <p>25,000 more adults will do weekly physical activity.</p>	<p>2010 Indices of Multiple Deprivation</p> <p>Sport England</p> <p>Office for National Statistics</p> <p>Olympic Legacy Supplementary Planning Guidance (2012)</p>

SA Objective and Sub-Objectives	Indicators	Targets	Source
4. To ensure housing provision meets local needs			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure that there is sufficient housing to meet identified needs in all areas i.e. increase the amount of family housing ▪ Ensure that housing meets acceptable standards ▪ Increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups within the LLDC area boundary ▪ Meet the needs of the older and vulnerable ▪ To reduce homelessness and overcrowding ▪ To reduce the number of households in temporary accommodation ▪ To ensure that appropriate social and environmental infrastructure is in place for new residents 	<p>Percentage split of dwelling types. Average house price. Ratio of relative housing affordability. Percentage of homes deemed unfit. Dwelling Stock by Tenure. Number of reposessions. Number of Homeless presentations. Number of households accepted as homeless. Number of affordable housing completions. Percentage of new dwellings meeting BREEAM/Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4 standards. Amount of social housing meeting Decent Homes Standard. Number of wards in bottom 10% of most deprived in terms of barriers to housing and services provision.</p>	<p>Contributing to the London Plan's target of building a minimum of 32,210 net additional new homes per year. Reduce the number of households living in fuel poverty. To reduce the number of LSOAs in the bottom 10% most deprived for barriers to housing and services deprivation. More affordable family homes are available – 45% of the social rented element of new developments to be for large family purposes (i.e. three bedrooms or more) either provided onsite, or where delivery proves unsustainable, provided offsite; 25% of the intermediate and market homes should have three bedrooms or more. Tower Hamlets will seek a strategic target 50% affordable housing on all housing developed in the borough, applying 35% on individual sites. Maximise Lifetime Homes Standards in new housing stock and seek at least 10% of all new homes to be wheelchair accessible. All new affordable homes to meet or exceed the Code for Sustainable Homes minimum Level 4 requirement. Required tenure mix for new affordable homes will be 60% social rented and 40% intermediate. Ensure all new homes are built to the Lifetime Standard and 10% of new homes to wheelchair standard.</p>	<p>Tower Hamlets Housing Strategy 2009-2012 Hackney Housing Strategy 2010-2015 Olympic Legacy Supplementary Planning Guidance (2012) Hackney Council Annual Monitoring Report 2010 – 2011 2010 Indices of Multiple Deprivation</p>
5. To improve sustainable access to jobs, basic goods, services and amenities for all groups			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure that public transport services meet people's needs ▪ Ensure that highways infrastructure meets people's needs (including walking and cycling routes) 	<p>Journey to work by mode. Number of wards in bottom 10% of most deprived in terms of barriers to housing and services provision. Percentage of usually resident population</p>	<p>Increase activities and opportunities for young people to contribute to society. Reduce isolation/promote inclusion for all older people. Reduce growth in congestion. To reduce the number of LSOAs in the bottom 10% most</p>	<p>Olympic Legacy Supplementary Planning Guidance (2012) Hackney Council Annual Monitoring Report 2010 –</p>

SA Objective and Sub-Objectives	Indicators	Targets	Source
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote the use of sustainable travel modes (rail and buses) and reduce dependence on the private car ▪ Improve accessibility to work and services by public transport, walking and cycling ▪ Improve access to cultural and recreational facilities ▪ Improve access to open space ▪ Increase the amount of wheelchair accessible buildings ▪ Facilitate the efficiency in freight distribution ▪ Encourage a modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel as well as encouraging greater efficiency (i.e. through car-sharing) ▪ To reduce road traffic accidents 	<p>within 1km of five basic services.</p> <p>Average journey time per mile during morning peak.</p>	<p>deprived for barriers to housing and services deprivation.</p>	<p>2011</p> <p>2010 Indices of Multiple Deprivation</p>
6. To reduce poverty and social exclusion whilst promoting social inclusiveness and equality			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce multiple deprivation and social exclusion in those most affected. ▪ Improve social cohesion. ▪ Foster a sense of pride in local neighbourhoods ▪ Set mechanisms for local people not to lose out on the benefits of the legacy ▪ Encourage engagement in community activities ▪ Tackle barriers to participation 	<p>Number of wards in bottom 10% of most deprived in terms of the Index of Multiple Deprivation.</p> <p>Number of racist offences.</p> <p>Number of homophobic offences.</p> <p>% of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area.</p>	<p>To reduce the number of LSOAs in the bottom 10% most deprived according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation.</p> <p>Approximately 21,000 fewer children living in poverty.</p> <p>To reduce the numbers of racist and homophobic offences.</p> <p>To increase the % of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area.</p>	<p>Olympic Legacy Supplementary Planning Guidance (2012)</p> <p>2010 Indices of Multiple Deprivation</p> <p>Place Surveys for London Boroughs of Hackney, Waltham Forest, Newham and Tower Hamlets.</p>

SA Objective and Sub-Objectives	Indicators	Targets	Source
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Respond to community needs and desires ▪ To ensure that the Local Plan ensures equitable outcomes for all communities, particularly those most liable to discrimination, poverty and social exclusion. 			
7. To encourage sustainable economic growth, inclusion and business development			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage indigenous business ▪ Encourage inward investment ▪ Make land and property available for business development ▪ Encourage new and improve business development and opportunities ▪ Improve the resilience of business and the economy ▪ Promote growth in key sectors or clusters ▪ Enhance the image of the areas as a business location ▪ Improve job density ▪ Reduce skill shortages ▪ Reduce poverty and help improve earnings ▪ Provide job opportunities and improve quality of life to the most deprived sections of the community ▪ Improve business development and resilience, and enhance business competitiveness 	<p>Location of key industries and major employers.</p> <p>Visitor numbers and tourist revenue data.</p> <p>Average number of employees per VAT registered company.</p> <p>Number and value of inward investment projects.</p> <p>Number of new jobs created within the LLDC area.</p> <p>Number of new business start-ups.</p> <p>Number of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 10% most deprived for employment deprivation.</p> <p>Number of new businesses offering apprentice opportunities.</p>	<p>To reduce number of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 10% for employment deprivation.</p> <p>To have the same proportion of the population with no qualifications as the England average, and to eliminate major sub-regional variations and variations between key groups by 2026.</p> <p>The planning foundations are laid for public and private investment that will lead to the creation of over 200,000 new jobs.</p> <p>To increase the number of apprentices opportunities available for local people.</p>	<p>Olympic Legacy Supplementary Planning Guidance (2012)</p> <p>Office for National Statistics</p> <p>2010 Indices of Multiple Deprivation</p>

SA Objective and Sub-Objectives	Indicators	Targets	Source
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Help to diversify the economy ▪ To prevent the loss of local businesses ▪ To encourage business start-ups and support the growth of businesses ▪ Reduce levels of deprivation ▪ Support the development of green industries and a low carbon economy ▪ Help maintain London as an internationally competitive city 			
8. To increase employment opportunities for all residents in the local area			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve the range of employment opportunities ▪ Provide employment opportunities for the local community and stimulate regeneration ▪ Help to improve earnings ▪ Help improve learning and the attainment of skills ▪ Reduce unemployment, including long-term unemployment ▪ Provide jobs at higher skill levels ▪ Promote adjacency of employment, recreation and residential areas in urban areas 	<p>Economic activity rate. Employment by sector. Employment by occupation. Number of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 10% most deprived for employment deprivation. Percentage of floor space developed in defined town, borough and local centres Number and location of Conservation Areas. Percentage of working age population claiming Jobseekers' Allowance in 2010.</p>	<p>To reduce number of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 10% for employment deprivation. Remove the barriers which prevent people accessing employment. To increase the economic activity rate.</p>	<p>2010 Indices of Multiple Deprivation Olympic Legacy Supplementary Planning Guidance (2012) Office for National Statistics</p>
9. To protect and enhance biodiversity			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect and enhance sites of nature conservation importance ▪ Protect and enhance wildlife 	<p>Number and distribution of non-statutory designated sites. Key Biodiversity Action Plan species and</p>	<p>Box and Harrison Nature Conservation Area standard (1ha per 1,000 population). Increase the amount of open space / habitat creation</p>	<p>Natural England - Nature on the Map London Borough of</p>

SA Objective and Sub-Objectives	Indicators	Targets	Source
<p>especially rare and endangered species</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect and enhance habitats and wildlife corridors ▪ Provide opportunities for people to access wildlife and open green spaces ▪ Protect and enhance the area's water bodies to achieve a good ecological status ▪ Promote, educate and raise awareness of the enjoyment and benefits of the natural environment ▪ Encourage the protection of trees 	<p>habitats present within the borough.</p> <p>Amount of open space lost to development (ha).</p> <p>Area and connectivity of wildlife corridors.</p> <p>Areas considered to be deficient with access to nature within the LLDC area.</p> <p>Percentage wards meeting Box and Harrison Nature Conservation Area standard (1 ha per 1000 population).</p>	<p>within the LLDC area boundary.</p> <p>To increase the number of wildlife corridors within the LLDC area boundary.</p> <p>To improve access to nature within the LLDC area.</p>	<p>Newham's Biodiversity Action Plan</p>
10. To protect and enhance townscape character and quality (including open space, public realm improvements and urban design)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To protect and enhance townscape character and quality ▪ To promote sensitive design in development ▪ To promote local distinctiveness ▪ To minimise noise pollution (including ambient noise pollution) ▪ To minimise light pollution ▪ To protect and enhance neighbouring park open space areas ▪ Create a variety of functional open space to meet community and environmental needs ▪ Improve opportunities for recreation and play ▪ Promote a clean well – maintained 	<p>Townscape characterisation.</p> <p>Percentage of eligible open spaces managed to Green Flag standards.</p> <p><i>Also see SA Objective 11</i></p>	<p>Ensure the townscape character is maintained or enhanced.</p> <p>An additional £155 million pounds is invested in the local public realm.</p>	<p>Olympic Legacy Supplementary Planning Guidance (2012)</p>

SA Objective and Sub-Objectives	Indicators	Targets	Source
public realm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote a high quality of sustainable urban design 			
11. To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To protect and enhance historic buildings, sites and assets along with their setting ▪ To protect and enhance historic townscape value including Conservation Areas 	Number and distribution of Listed Buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs), Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens. Number of Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas on English Heritage's Risk Register. Townscape characterisation. Historic Landscape Characterisation. Number of locally Listed Buildings within the LLDC area.	To ensure there are no Conservation Areas within the LLDC area added to English Heritage's at risk register and no further Listed Buildings are added to the register. To protect important historic assets within the LLDC area that are not statutory designated assets.	English Heritage's Annual At Risk Register
12. To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources and reduce the risk of flooding			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To protect and enhance ground and surface water quality ▪ Encourage sustainable use of water resources ▪ Encourage the inclusion of flood mitigation measures such as SuDs ▪ Reduce and manage flooding ▪ Reduce discharges to surface and groundwater ▪ Improve water systems infrastructure ▪ Improve the quality of water bodies ▪ To improve the quality of nearby water and indirectly affected waters 	River catchment areas. Occurrence of flooding events. Distribution of areas at risk of fluvial flooding. Daily domestic water use (per capita consumption, litres). Number of planning applications granted permission contrary to EA advice.	Prevent deterioration of the status of all surface water and groundwater bodies. Protect, enhance and restore all bodies of surface water and groundwater with the aim of achieving 'Good' Ecological / Chemical status by 2015. No planning applications permitted contrary to EA advice on flooding.	Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest 2010 / 2011 Annual Monitoring Reports The Environment Agency

SA Objective and Sub-Objectives	Indicators	Targets	Source
13. To limit and adapt to climate change			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To reduce greenhouse gas emissions ▪ To require the inclusion of SuDs in new development ▪ To reduce the demand for energy and increase energy efficiency ▪ To increase the use of renewable energy ▪ To reduce CO₂ emissions from the transport sector ▪ Contribute towards helping London meet its emission targets 	<p>Total CO₂ emissions.</p> <p>Annual average domestic gas and electricity consumption per consumer.</p> <p>Annual gas and electricity consumption in the commercial/industrial sector.</p> <p>Number of applications for renewable energy developments.</p> <p>Per capita reduction in CO₂ emissions in the within the LLDC area.</p>	<p>No planning applications permitted contrary to EA advice on flooding.</p> <p>Requiring all major developments to achieve a target of at least 15% of their energy requirements to be provided through decentralised renewable or low carbon energy sources where feasible and viable.</p> <p>The Climate Change Act 2008 calls for at least 26% reductions from 1990 levels to be achieved by 2020.</p>	<p>Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest 2010 / 2011 Annual Monitoring Reports</p> <p>Climate Change Act 2008</p>
14. To protect and improve air quality			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To protect and improve local air quality 	<p>Number and distribution of AQMAs.</p> <p>Local air quality monitoring results for NO₂ and PM₁₀.</p>	<p>No new AQMAs to be designated.</p> <p>Reduce levels of pollution from transport.</p> <p>Achievement of UK Air Quality Strategy objectives for specific pollutants.</p>	<p>Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham and Waltham Forest Air Quality Action Plans</p> <p>UK Air quality Strategy</p>
15. To ensure sustainable use of natural resources			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce the demand for raw materials ▪ Promote the use of recycled and secondary materials in construction ▪ Reduce the amount of derelict and vacant land ▪ Ensure that contaminated land will be guarded against ▪ Encourage development of brownfield 	<p>Percentage of housing completions on previously developed land.</p> <p>Percentage of employment development on previously developed land.</p> <p>Key sources of contaminated land.</p> <p>Area of previously developed vacant land, vacant buildings and derelict land and buildings.</p> <p>Area of land currently in use but with planning</p>	<p>To increase the amount of construction aggregates to be recycled or secondary materials.</p> <p>The national annual target is that at least 60% of new housing should be provided on previously developed land.</p>	<p>PPG3: Housing (2010) (now obsolete)</p>

SA Objective and Sub-Objectives	Indicators	Targets	Source
land where appropriate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain and enhance soil quality ▪ Increase the proportion of waste recycling and re-use ▪ Reduce the production of waste ▪ Reduce the proportion of waste landfilled 	allocation/permission for redevelopment and with other known redevelopment potential.		

Consultation Question (e)

Are there any changes you consider should be made to the proposed assessment objectives and indicators?

6.3 The Appraisal Process

6.3.1 Geographical Scope of the SA

The geographical scope of the SA will be driven by the geographical scope of the Local Plan. The SA will therefore assess the LLDC area and will consider the spatial extent of its likely impacts. In some cases this may be only local to the area in question whereas in other cases the impacts may be felt over a wider area including within the four adjacent London boroughs and potentially beyond. Similarly, the cumulative effects of development within the LLDC area may result in impacts occurring over a wider area (i.e. in-combination with other development within the four adjacent boroughs). This will also be considered in the SA.

6.3.2 Assessment of Alternatives

It is a requirement of the SEA Directive that alternatives are assessed and, therefore a series of Local Plan options will be assessed using the SA Framework. The purpose of the assessment will be to determine the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of each option such that this information can be used by the plan-makers to inform their decision to select the preferred spatial option for the Local Plan. It is proposed that a matrix based approach will be used for this assessment that enables the options to be easily compared.

Consultation Question (f)

Do you have any comments regarding the approach to assessing the strategic alternatives?

6.3.3 Assessment of the Local Plan

Once the draft Local Plan has been developed, each of its components will be assessed to determine sustainability performance and to provide recommendations for sustainability improvements. At this stage in the Local Plan's development it is anticipated that the following elements of the Local Plan will need to be assessed:

- The Vision;
- The Strategic Objectives;
- The strategic direction of future growth in the area including strategic sites; and
- A set of Issue-based Policies.

The intention will be to ensure that the process is iterative with regular feedback occurring between the plan-makers and the SA team.

The method adopted to assess each element of the Local Plan will be slightly different, for example, an objective compatibility exercise to determine if there are any key conflicts between the Strategic Objectives of the Local Plan and the SA Objectives will be carried out. This will enable any recommendations to be made to adapt the objectives or will highlight any areas which will require special attention, perhaps through mitigation, during the appraisal of the Local Plan.

It is expected that a more detailed assessment of the Strategic Direction / Strategic Sites and Issue –based Policies will be undertaken using a more detailed compatibility matrix. The matrix will assesses each appropriate element against the SA Objectives and will determine the following:

- Impact – whether the impact will be positive, negative or neutral when assessed against the SA Objectives.
- Temporal scale – whether the impact will be short-term (within 5 years), occur in the medium term (5 – 10 years) or occur in the long-term (10 years +).
- Spatial scale – whether the impact will be realised at a local or wider scale. Any transboundary effects outside of the study area would also be considered.
- Permanent – whether effects will be permanent or temporary.
- Level of uncertainty – the level of uncertainty in the prediction will be classified as low, medium or high.
- Cumulative and synergistic effects.

In addition to assessing the LLDC area individually, cumulative effects will also be assessed. This will consider how the Local Plan may result in cumulative impacts in-combination with other developments across the area / adjacent boroughs. This may include the receptor topic of biodiversity for example at a borough level, or specific ecological features or designations within the LLDC area.

Where negative impacts are identified, measures will be proposed to offset, avoid or otherwise mitigate for the impact. In addition, measures which may further enhance benefits will also be identified as appropriate.

Consultation Question (g)

Do you have any further suggestions regarding the scope of the SA and the proposed approach to appraise the Local Plan?

7 Next Steps

7.1 Provision of Consultation Responses

This Scoping Report has outlined how we intend to undertake the SA of LLDC's Local Plan. Throughout this report we have included a series of questions we would like you to answer when providing your consultation responses. A list of the questions is provided below:

- a** Are there any key emerging plans, initiatives and environmental protection objectives that you consider should be identified as part of the assessment process?
- b** Can you recommend any important information sources to supplement the baseline data we have collated?
- c** Do you agree with the sustainability issues we have identified? Are there additional issues that both the assessment and the Local Plan should consider?
- d** Are there any particular topics or geographical areas of specific concern to your organisation?
- e** Are there any changes you consider should be made to the proposed assessment objectives and indicators?
- f** Do you have any comments regarding the approach to assessing the strategic alternatives?
- g** Do you have any further suggestions regarding the scope of the SA and the proposed approach to appraise the Local Plan?

Responses to this consultation should be sent to:

Director of Planning Policy and Decisions
London Legacy Development Corporation
Planning Policy and Decisions Team
Level 10, 1 Stratford Place
Montfichet Road
London E20 1EJ

Or:

planningpolicy@londonlegacy.co.uk

7.2 Next Stages in the SA Process

Following the receipt of the consultation comments, they will be reviewed and modifications made to the scope of the SA as necessary. These will be taken forward to the SA. Stage B of the SA process comprising the appraisal of the Local Plan will commence following refinement of the scope. It is expected that the next consultation on the SA Report will be undertaken alongside the consultation on the Draft Local Plan.

Appendix A

Review of Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives

Appendix B



Baseline Data