

**SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL REPORT  
FOR THE  
'ACCESS FOR ALL'  
SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT**

**December 2007**

<b><u>CONTENTS</u></b>	<b>Page No</b>
List of abbreviations	ii
<b>Non-technical Summary</b>	iii
<b>Section 1 Introduction</b>	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Access for All SPD	1
1.3 Sustainability Appraisal	2
<b>Section 2 Appraisal Methodology</b>	3
2.1 Introduction	3
2.2 Sustainability Appraisal Objectives	3
2.3 Plan Options	5
<b>Section 3 Appraisal Outcomes</b>	6
3.1 Appraisal of the Plan Options	6
3.2 Appraisal of the Preferred Option	14
3.3 Mitigation Measures	22
<b>Section 4 Implementation and Monitoring</b>	23
4.1 Supplementary Planning Document Implementation	23
4.2 Monitoring	23
<b>Appendix 1 The SEA Directive's requirements</b>	24

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

DPD	Development Plan Document
LDF	Local Development Framework
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SCI	Statement of Community Involvement
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SF	Sustainability Framework
SR	Sustainability Report
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document

## **NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

The Council has prepared an 'Access for All' Supplementary Planning Document, which provides guidance on designing inclusive buildings and open spaces to ensure everyone, including disabled people and others with mobility issues, can participate fully in the community.

The Council is required to assess how they will apply the principles of sustainable development to the Supplementary Planning Document. This must be assessed by undertaking a Sustainability Appraisal. The purpose of a Sustainability Appraisal is to promote sustainable development through the integration of social, environmental and economic considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans.

The first stage of the appraisal process was the production of a Scoping Report which sets out the framework for assessing the sustainability of the effects the Supplementary Planning Document will have. The Scoping Report was published for consultation in June 2007 following earlier consultation on what issues needed to be addressed by the Supplementary Planning Document and the comments received have been incorporated into this report.

The second stage was the preparation of this Sustainability Appraisal Report. This includes the appraisal of the effects of the Access for All Supplementary Planning Document as well as the appraisal of the effects of not providing a Supplementary Planning Document and relying on existing planning policies.

The results showed that relying on existing planning policy does not have a negative effect on sustainability. However, providing a Supplementary Planning Document has a more significant positive effect. The positive effect of the Supplementary Planning Document is that it provides detailed guidance on the principles of inclusive design and advice on the preparation of Design and Access Statements that are required to accompany most planning applications, which the existing policies do not provide.

The Sustainability Appraisal Report was published for public consultation alongside the Draft Access for All Supplementary Planning Document in September 2007. No objections were raised in respect of the Sustainability Appraisal Report and one comment of support was received. For this reason the Sustainability Appraisal Report is unchanged.

The Supplementary Planning Document will be monitored through the Annual Monitoring Report to identify any unforeseen effects and to enable remedial action to be taken if necessary.

## **SECTION 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Background**

- 1.1.1 In June 2007, the Council published a Scoping Report for the Sustainability Appraisal of the 'Access for All' Supplementary Planning Document. The aim of the Scoping Report was to set out a framework for assessing the sustainability of the impacts of the Supplementary Planning Document in terms of potential social, environmental and economic impacts.
- 1.1.2 Consultation took place for the statutory five weeks and the comments received have been incorporated in the Scoping Report.
- 1.1.3 Subsequently, the Council carried out a Sustainability Appraisal to ensure the Supplementary Planning Document encourages sustainable development and a better quality of life, now and for future generations. This document forms the Final Sustainability Appraisal Report for the draft Supplementary Planning Document.

#### **1.2 The Access for All Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**

- 1.2.1 The Access for All SPD will form the standard for all access requirements in North East Derbyshire. It will set out further detail and guidance in support of the policies contained within the North East Derbyshire Local Plan (2005). When the final SPD is adopted by the authority it will form a material consideration in the determination of applications for planning permission made to the authority.
- 1.2.2 The main purpose of the SPD is to provide detailed guidance on design issues and technical requirements for access to and around development to provide for a fully inclusive environment so that nobody with a disability or mobility problems is precluded from playing a full part in their community. It also advises on the preparation of Design and Access Statements that now are required to accompany most planning applications to demonstrate the approach adopted towards access and design issues.
- 1.2.3 The draft objectives of the Supplementary Planning Document are:
- To ensure that people with access difficulties are not prevented from playing a full role in the life of the community as a result of the design of the environment.
  - To provide practical design guidance to ensure that all buildings and spaces are designed to be accessible for all people.
  - To provide guidance on the requirements of the access element of Design and Access Statements.
  - To integrate and clearly define the Council's aims for accessibility

- To clarify the distinction between the access requirements for new development at the Planning Application stage and Building Regulations stage.

1.2.4 The objectives are subject to the consultation process on the draft SPD and will be refined to reflect the input from consultees.

### **1.3 Sustainability Appraisal**

1.3.1 Sustainability Appraisals (SA) are a requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (Section 39(2)) and must be undertaken for new and revised Development Plans Documents (DPDs) or Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). The purpose of a Sustainability Appraisal is to promote sustainable development through the integration of social, environmental and economic considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans.

1.3.2 When preparing DPDs and SPDs Local Planning Authorities must also undertake an environmental assessment in accordance with the requirements of European Directive 2001/42/EC, 'Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment' (the Strategic Environmental Assessment or 'SEA Directive'). Appendix 1 outlines the requirements of the Directive and signposts relevant sections of the Sustainability Appraisal Report where these requirements are fulfilled. The Directive was transposed into UK law by the Environmental Assessment Regulations for Plans and Programmes, July 2004 (the SEA Regulations).

1.3.3 The SEA Directive is focused primarily on environmental effects, whilst the SA process encompasses the assessment of social, environmental and economic effects. Although the requirements of SA and SEA are distinct, it is possible to incorporate the requirements of SEA into the SA process. The Government has published the following guidance: 'Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents', ODPM (November 2005) which offers advice about how to undertake SA and meet the requirements of the 2004 Act and SEA Directive.

1.3.4 Throughout the remainder of this report where reference is made to Sustainability Appraisal (SA) or the SA Report, it denotes sustainability appraisal under the 2004 Act, incorporating the requirements of the SEA Directive.

## **SECTION 2**

### **APPRAISAL METHODOLOGY**

#### **2.1 Introduction**

- 2.1.1 The ODPM guidance “Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents, ODPM (November 2005)” provides detail on the process of carrying out a Sustainability Appraisal. The first part of this process (stage A) has been undertaken as part of the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report which was published for consultation in June 2007. This report also included the testing of the Supplementary Planning Document objectives with the Sustainability Appraisal objectives, which demonstrated that there is no conflict between the two.
- 2.1.2 The next stages require the assessment of alternative options for delivering the plan objectives against the sustainability framework, and the assessment of the sustainability effects of the preferred option. The Sustainability Appraisal must also include mitigation measures to prevent, reduce and offset significant adverse effects of implementing the Supplementary Planning Document.
- 2.1.3 The sustainability appraisal framework is set out in section 2.2 and the plan options in section 2.3. The assessment of the alternative plan options is set out in section 3.1 and the assessment of the effects of the preferred options in section 3.2. The mitigation measures can be found in section 3.3.

#### **2.2 Sustainability Appraisal Objectives**

- 2.2.1 During stage A of the sustainability appraisal process, a Sustainability Appraisal Framework was developed, consisting of objectives and criteria. The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report outlines stage A, during which nine sustainability objectives and 14 criteria have been defined. The Framework remains unchanged following consultation and is presented in Table 1 below. It reflects the sustainability objectives of the relevant plans and programmes, the relevant baseline information and the key issues apparent.

**Table 1 Sustainability Appraisal Framework**

SA Objective	Criteria
1. To ensure the housing stock meets the housing needs of the population	C1 Will the SPD help to increase the stock of housing suitable for occupation by people with disabilities? C2 Will the SPD help to increase the number of new homes built to Lifetime Homes Standard?
2. To improve health and reduce health inequalities	C3 Will the SPD help to promote healthy lifestyles? C4 Will the SPD reduce health inequalities?
3. To provide better opportunities for people to value and enjoy the district's heritage and participate in cultural and recreational activities	C5 Will the SPD help to improve ease of movement around historical, cultural and recreational facilities? C6 Will the SPD help to improve the accessibility of historical, cultural and recreational facilities by increasing the choice of mode of transport?
4. To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime	C7 Will the SPD help to create approaches to buildings where people feel safe?
5. To promote and support the development and growth of social interaction within the district	C8 Will the SPD promote more inclusivity and reduce the sense of isolation and separation of all members of the community?
6. To protect and enhance the rich diversity of the natural, cultural and built environmental and archaeological assets of the region	C9 Will the SPD promote greater participation in visiting and supporting the natural, cultural and built environmental and archaeological assets of the district?
7. To manage prudently the natural resources of the district including water, air quality, soil and minerals	C10 Will the SPD help to improve the district's air quality by assisting in the reduction of the use of the car?
8. To make efficient use of existing transport infrastructure, help reduce the need to travel by car and improve accessibility to jobs and services for all	C11 Will the SPD help to increase the number of bus passenger journeys? C12 Will the SPD help to reduce the percentage of people travelling to work by car? C13 Will the SPD help to increase the number of people living within 30 minutes public transport time of jobs and services?
9. To provide physical conditions for a modern economic structure, including infrastructure, to support the use of new technologies	C14 Will the SPD help to increase the number of business properties designed as inclusive buildings?



## 2.3 Plan Options

2.3.1 One of the requirements of a Sustainability Appraisal is to compare different plan options. This would highlight any potential implications for sustainability. The appraisal of the options also provides recommendations for the mitigation of negative impacts and suggestions for modifications to the preferred option.

2.3.2 To contribute to sustainable development, it is essential for the proposed Supplementary Planning Document to set out to improve upon the situation which would exist if there were no Supplementary Planning Document. Therefore the two different options that are identified are:

**Option 1: Provide additional planning guidance by means of an “Access for All” Supplementary Planning Document**

**Option 2: Rely on existing national, regional and local planning policy**

2.3.3 **Option 1** involves the preparation of an “Access for All” Supplementary Planning Document, which will provide additional guidance regarding the important principles in designing inclusive buildings and open spaces and advice on the preparation of Design and Access Statements.

2.3.4 The Supplementary Planning Document supplements policies in the North East Derbyshire Local Plan (2005). These policies include Policy GS1 Sustainable Development, Policy GS10 Crime Prevention, Policy GS12 Access for All, Policy BE1 General Design Principles, Policy BE7 Alterations and Works to Listed Buildings, Policy H10 Special Needs Housing, Policy H12 Design and Layout of New Housing, Policy T2 Highway Access and the Impact of New Development, Policy T3 Traffic Management, Policy T4 Travel Plans, Policy T5 Walking and Cycling , and Policy T6 Public Transport.

2.3.5 Adopting the Supplementary Planning Document will give it weight as a material consideration when determining planning applications.

2.3.6 **Option 2** is the ‘business as usual’ option, which would not involve a change from the current policy guidance. The Council would rely on existing national, regional and local planning policy to provide access guidance. This includes Planning Policy Guidance 1, Circular 05/2005 Planning Obligations and Circular 01/2006 Guidance on Changes to the Development Control System, Regional Spatial Strategy for the East Midlands and the North East Derbyshire Local Plan. Further assistance is provided by Part M of the Building Regulations and specialist technical publications.

## **SECTION 3**

### **APPRAISAL OUTCOMES**

#### **3.1 Appraisal of the Plan Options**

- 3.1.1 Each plan option should be assessed against the Sustainability Appraisal objectives. The findings of the appraisal will help to identify which option does not perform well and can be discarded, or where changes should be made to ensure that negative impacts are minimised and positive impacts enhanced. The likely performance of the options against the sustainability objectives has been recorded as being significantly positive, positive, significantly negative, negative and neutral.
- 3.1.2 Table 2 includes the results of the appraisal of the plan options. The sustainability appraisal of the two plan options indicates that although the performance of option 2 (Rely on existing national, regional and local planning policy) is quite positive, option 1 (Provide additional planning guidance by means of an 'Access for All' Supplementary Planning Document) scores significantly better.
- 3.1.3 Relying on existing planning policy does not have a negative effect on any of the sustainability objectives. However, the positive effects will be limited in some cases, such as for sustainability appraisal criteria 2 and 5 compared to if the Supplementary Planning Document was provided. Providing this document has a significant positive effect on six sustainability appraisal criteria and a positive effect on eight criteria. Option 2 has a neutral effect on three criteria, a positive effect on six criteria and a borderline effect between the two on five criteria. Table 3 provides a summary of the sustainability impacts of options 1 and 2.
- 3.1.4 The positive effect of option 1 in comparison to option 2 is that the Supplementary Planning Document provides further detailed guidance on what is required to create an inclusive environment. The Supplementary Planning Document also provides relevant design guidance regarding the specifications of the essential elements that contribute to an inclusive environment.
- 3.1.5 The Supplementary Planning Document proposed in option 1 has been selected as the Preferred Option and is subject to further assessment.

**Table 2: Appraisal of Plan Options**

**Option 1 – Provide additional planning guidance by means of an ‘Access for All’ Supplementary Planning Document**

Key for performance:  
 significantly positive: ++  
 positive: +  
 significantly negative: --  
 negative: -  
 neutral: =

<b>SA Criteria</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Comments/explanation</b>
C1 Will the SPD help to increase the stock of housing suitable for occupation by people with disabilities?	++	The SPD, by emphasising the benefits of considering access issues early in the development process and seeing Planning Permission and Building Regulations Approval as linked rather than separate regulatory regimes, should result in an increase in the housing stock suitable for people with disabilities. This is supported by specific advice and guidance on the physical requirements for accessible housing including the Lifetime Homes Standard.  The SPD also actively promotes the wider consideration of access issues to make the whole environment more inclusive, which will improve the opportunities for more housing to become accessible to people with disabilities.
C2 Will the SPD help to increase the number of new homes built to Lifetime Homes Standard?	++	The SPD provides specific advice on the 16 elements comprising the Lifetime Homes Standard. This will assist in achieving an increase.
C3 Will the SPD help to promote healthy lifestyles?	+	The SPD aims to promote a more accessible and inclusive environment encouraging travel on foot, by bicycle or public

SA Criteria	Performance	Comments/explanation
		transport and reduce the dependence on private cars.
C4 Will the SPD reduce health inequalities?	+	The SPD aims to ensure that community services and facilities are accessible for all in terms of physical accessibility and geographical accessibility.
C5 Will the SPD help to improve ease of movement around historical, cultural and recreational facilities	++	The SPD provides design advice for access to non-domestic buildings including sports, recreation, leisure and cultural facilities as well as landscaped areas and public open space.
C6 Will the SPD help to improve the accessibility of historical, cultural and recreational facilities by increasing the choice of mode of transport?	+	The SPD provides additional information about the design of dropping off or setting down points and the links to the building or facility they serve.
C7 Will the SPD help to create approaches to buildings where people feel safe?	++	The SPD provides specific advice on the design of access routes to buildings to remove potential hazards and to ensure that all people feel safe and secure when approaching buildings.
C8 Will the SPD promote more inclusivity and reduce the sense of isolation and separation of all members of the community?	++	The SPD aims to ensure that the built and natural environment is designed to maximise inclusivity by removing physical barriers precluding or segregating any members of the community that are disabled or have mobility problems from full involvement in their community.
C9 Will the SPD promote greater participation in visiting and supporting the natural, cultural and built environmental and archaeological assets of the district?	+	The SPD provides advice on the creation of a more fully accessible environment by designing out physical barriers that prevent disabled people or those with mobility problems from visiting all or part of the facilities in their local area. The removal of such barriers should encourage greater participation in the facilities and assets of the District.
C10 Will the SPD help to improve the	+	The SPD aims to encourage the use of alternative modes of

<b>SA Criteria</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Comments/explanation</b>
district's air quality by assisting in the reduction of the use of the car?		transport to reduce the use of the car.
C11 Will the SPD help to increase the number of bus passenger journeys?	+	The SPD supports Local Plan policies to ensure that wherever possible development should be within reasonable distance from a bus stop. Advice is also provided on providing safe and accessible pedestrian routes between buildings and bus stops or collection points.
C12 Will the SPD help to reduce the percentage of people travelling to work by car?	+	The SPD supports Local Plan policies to ensure that wherever possible development should be within reasonable distance from a bus stop. Advice is also provided on the creation of safe cycleways and footpaths to promote alternative modes of travel.
C13 Will the SPD help to increase the number of people living within 30 minutes public transport time of jobs and services?	+	The SPD supports Local Plan policies to ensure that wherever possible development should be within reasonable distance from a bus stop.
C14 Will the SPD help to increase the number of business properties designed as inclusive buildings?	++	The SPD aims to encourage the design of buildings that consider access issues from the outset so that they are inclusive.

## Option 2 – Rely on existing national, regional and local planning policy

Key for performance:  
 significantly positive: ++  
 positive: +  
 significantly negative: --  
 negative: -  
 neutral: =

SA Criteria	Performance	Comments/explanation
C1 Will the existing policies help to increase the stock of housing suitable for occupation by people with disabilities?	+	Local Plan policy seeks to achieve a proportion of dwellings that are designed to mobility standards on appropriate sites where there is clear evidence of need.
C2 Will the existing policies help to increase the number of new homes built to Lifetime Homes Standard?	=/+	Local Plan policy aims to provide for the housing requirements of the whole community. Although there is a recognised requirement to negotiate for special needs housing where there is clear evidence of need there is no suggestion that this will be homes built to Lifetime Homes Standard.
C3 Will the existing policies help to promote healthy lifestyles?	=	The Local Plan contains a number of policies that seek to support the Council's vision of "to maintain and improve the quality of life and well-being of all our communities..."
C4 Will the existing policies reduce health inequalities?	=	The Local Plan in support of Regional and Structure Plan policies for regeneration seeks to attract economic investment to raise the prosperity of the District which in part

SA Criteria	Performance	Comments/explanation
		will contribute to a reduction in health inequalities.
C5 Will the existing policies help to improve ease of movement around historical, cultural and recreational facilities?	=/+	Local Plan policy aims to bring about more accessible environments to meet the needs of people with disabilities. However these are not specific guidelines for movement around facilities.
C6 Will the existing policies help to improve the accessibility of historical, cultural and recreational facilities by increasing the choice of mode of transport?	+	The Local Plan seeks to reduce the need to travel, especially by car, and to encourage the use of public transport, cycling and walking when identifying locations for development. It also sets out to improve public transport by negotiating Section 106 Obligations for financial contributions whenever appropriate opportunities arise.
C7 Will the existing policies help to create approaches to buildings where people feel safe?	+	The designing out of crime is encouraged in existing policy although no specific guidance is provided.
C8 Will the existing policies promote more inclusivity and reduce the sense of isolation and separation of all members of the community?	+	The Local Plan contains a policy which underlines the commitment of the Council to achieve an inclusive environment. It recognises the need for more detailed guidance and commits the Council to the preparation of the Access for All SPD.
C9 Will the existing policies promote greater participation in visiting and supporting the natural, cultural and built environmental and archaeological assets of the district?	=	Local Plan policies promote the conservation and enhancement of the district's natural and built environment and recognise the opportunity to develop the leisure and tourism economy.

<b>SA Criteria</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Comments/explanation</b>
C10 Will the existing policies help to improve the district's air quality by assisting in the reduction of the use of the car?	= / +	Existing policies have the aim of reducing the impact of transport on the environment and influencing the rate of traffic growth. They also seek to locate development so as to reduce the need to travel, especially by car, and promote more sustainable transport choices.
C11 Will the existing policies help to increase the number of bus passenger journeys?	=/+	Local Plan policies seek to reduce the need to travel, especially by car, and encourage the use of public transport. Opportunities to improve public transport provision through Section 106 Obligations where development proposals allow are sought by the Local Plan.
C12 Will the existing policies help to reduce the percentage of people travelling to work by car?	=/+	Local Plan policies have the broad aim of creating and sustaining employment opportunities in locations which reduce the need to travel and are accessible by public transport.
C13 Will the existing policies help to increase the number of people living within 30 minutes public transport time of jobs and services?	+	Existing policies seek to contribute to a sustainable pattern of development within defined settlement development limits.
C14 Will the existing policies help to increase the number of business properties designed as inclusive buildings?	+	Local Plan policies require that new development has regard for the needs of people with disabilities, as customers, visitors and employees but no detailed guidance is provided.



**Table 3: Summary of Appraisal of Plan Options**

SA Criteria	SPD (Option1)	No SPD (Option2)
C1 Will the SPD help to increase the stock of housing suitable for occupation by people with disabilities?	++	+
C2 Will the SPD help to increase the number of new homes built to Lifetime Homes Standard?	++	=/+
C3 Will the SPD help to promote healthy lifestyles?	+	=
C4 Will the SPD reduce health inequalities?	+	=
C5 Will the SPD help to improve ease of movement around historical, cultural and recreational facilities?	++	=/+
C6 Will the SPD help to improve the accessibility of historical, cultural and recreational facilities by increasing the choice of mode of transport?	+	+
C7 Will the SPD help to create approaches to buildings where people feel safe?	++	+
C8 Will the SPD promote more inclusivity and reduce the sense of isolation and separation of all members of the community?	++	+
C9 Will the SPD promote greater participation in visiting and supporting the natural, cultural and built environmental and archaeological assets of the district?	+	=
C10 Will the SPD help to improve the district's air quality by assisting in the reduction of the use of the car?	+	=/+
C11 Will the SPD help to increase the number of bus passenger journeys?	+	=/+
C12 Will the SPD help to reduce the percentage of people travelling to work by car?	+	=/+
C13 Will the SPD help to increase the number of people living within 30 minutes public transport time of jobs and services?	+	+
C14 Will the SPD help to increase the number of business properties designed as inclusive buildings?	++	+
<p><b>Key for performance:</b>            significantly positive: ++            positive: +            significantly negative: --            negative: -            neutral: =</p>		

## **3.2 Appraisal of the Preferred Option**

3.2.1 Table 4 includes the assessment of the preferred option in greater detail, looking at the baseline situation, predicted effects and providing a justification for the assessment on the likelihood, scale, permanence and timing of the effects. It also provides recommendations for mitigation measures. The Council's preferred option is to provide additional planning guidance by means of an 'Access for All' Supplementary Planning Document.

3.2.2 The sustainability appraisal of the preferred option (table 4) clearly demonstrates that the Supplementary Planning Document makes an overall positive contribution to the Sustainability Objectives. The following significantly beneficial effects of the draft SPD were identified:

- Increase in the stock of housing suitable for people with disabilities
- Increase in number of new homes built to Lifetime Homes Standard
- Improvement to ease of movement around historical, cultural and recreational facilities
- Creation of approaches to buildings where people feel safe
- Promotion of more inclusivity and reduction in sense of isolation and separation of all members of the community
- Increase in the number of business properties designed as an inclusive building

3.2.3 This option performs better overall in sustainability terms. The effects will be permanent, district wide and particularly evident in the medium to long term, as implementation will take place over time. The likelihood that the effects will happen is high or medium.

**Table 4: Appraisal of the Preferred Option: Provide additional planning guidance by means of an ‘Access for All’ Supplementary Planning Document**

Key for performance:

- significantly positive: ++
- positive: +
- significantly negative: --
- negative: -
- neutral: =

SA Criteria (see table 1)	Summary of baseline situation	SA Indicator	Predicted Effects		Justification for assessment including: Likelihood of effect occurring; Geographical scale of effect; Permanence; Timing; Recommendation for mitigation
			Nature of effect	Performance	
C1 Will the SPD help to increase the stock of housing suitable for occupation by people with disabilities?	<p>27% of households in the District have a member with a disability.</p> <p>10.6% of the homes in the District meet the needs of disabled people.</p> <p>1.7% of dwellings in the District are adapted for wheelchair use.</p> <p>32% of dwellings in the District adapted for wheelchair use are occupied by wheelchair users.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual housing completion surveys</li> <li>• Number of adaptations completed annually</li> </ul>	The SPD will provide specific advice on what is required for a house to be suitable for occupation by people with disabilities.	++	<p>The SPD includes guidance to make houses suitable for people with disabilities.</p> <p>Likelihood: high Scale: district wide Permanence: permanent Timing: medium/long term Recommendation: None required</p>

		<b>Predicted Effects</b>			
<p>C2 Will the SPD help to increase the number of new homes built to Lifetime Homes Standard?</p>	<p>27% of households in the District have a member with a disability.</p> <p>10.6% of the homes in the District meet the needs of disabled people.</p> <p>1.7% of dwellings in the District are adapted for wheelchair use.</p> <p>32% of dwellings in the District adapted for wheelchair use are occupied by wheelchair users.</p> <p>7.4% of the District's population have a blue badge indicating a level of access difficulty.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual housing completion surveys</li> </ul>	<p>The SPD will provide specific advice on the 16 elements comprising the Lifetime Homes Standard.</p>	<p>++</p>	<p>The SPD includes guidance as to what comprises the Lifetime Homes Standard.</p> <p>Likelihood: high Scale: district wide Permanence: permanent Timing: short/medium/long term Recommendation: None required</p>
<p>C3 Will the SPD help to promote healthy lifestyles?</p>	<p>There are issues in relation to the age profile and the general health of the resident population.</p> <p>21.7% of the District's population have limiting long-term illness.</p> <p>The general health of 11.1% of the resident population is not good.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General health of population</li> <li>% of people travelling to work by bicycle or on foot</li> </ul>	<p>The SPD will indirectly provide for healthy lifestyles through the provision of well designed footpaths and cycle ways to increase their use as a means of travel around the District and providing the</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>The SPD includes guidance on providing safe footpaths and cycle ways.</p> <p>Likelihood: medium Scale: district wide Permanence: permanent Timing: medium/long term Recommendation: None required</p>

				<b>Predicted Effects</b>	
	21% of adults participate in at least 30 minutes moderate intensity sport and active recreation on 3 or more days a week.			means to exercise.	
C4 Will the SPD reduce health inequalities?	<p>There are more obese adults in the district than nationwide.</p> <p>21.7% of the District's population have limiting long-term illness.</p> <p>7.9% of the District's working age population are on invalidity benefit.</p> <p>The general health of 11.1% of the resident population is not good.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of population in 20% most deprived SOA's</li> </ul>	The SPD will indirectly reduce health inequalities by providing an accessible and inclusive environment.	+	<p>The SPD includes guidance for an inclusive environment removing physical barriers that can lead to a sense of isolation. It also promotes walking and cycling by reducing the reliance on cars as well as improving overall standards of accessibility.</p> <p>Likelihood: low Scale: district wide Permanence: permanent Timing: medium/long term Recommendation: None required</p>
C5 Will the SPD help to improve ease of movement around historical, cultural and recreational facilities	<p>There are issues in relation to geographical access.</p> <p>The Disability Discrimination Act obliges service providers or any provider of a building or place open to the public to make all reasonable efforts to make it accessible to all.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality assessments</li> <li>• Quality opinions</li> <li>• Quality of life</li> </ul>	The SPD will directly support the creation of a more accessible and inclusive environment.	++	<p>The SPD includes design guidance to make new facilities physically accessible.</p> <p>Likelihood: medium Scale: district wide Permanence: permanent Timing: medium/long term Recommendation: Reference needs to</p>

			<b>Predicted Effects</b>		
					be made to ensure that opportunities to consider biodiversity are taken when making improvements to the accessibility and inclusiveness of open spaces and the grounds of buildings.
C6 Will the SPD help to improve the accessibility of historical, cultural and recreational facilities by increasing the choice of mode of transport?	There are issues in relation to geographical access given the rural nature of the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality opinions</li> <li>• Annual visitor numbers</li> <li>• Quality of life</li> </ul>	The SPD will contribute to ensuring issues of accessibility are fully considered when proposals and initiatives for these facilities are being developed.	+	<p>The SPD provides guidance about the issues to be addressed in ensuring maximum inclusivity.</p> <p>Likelihood: medium Scale: district wide Permanence: permanent Timing: medium/long term Recommendation: None required</p>
C7 Will the SPD help to create approaches to buildings where people feel safe?	<p>The Council has adopted the county wide Design Out Crime Protocol.</p> <p>In 2005/6 54% of residents surveyed felt fairly/very safe outside after dark in the District.</p> <p>The perception of crime is greater than the reality with the District below its “family” average for all recorded crime.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality assessments</li> <li>• Quality opinions</li> <li>• Number of developments awarded Secure by Design award</li> </ul>	The SPD helps to create an inclusive user friendly environment.	++	<p>The SPD provides guidance about the design of the internal and external circulation spaces of buildings.</p> <p>Likelihood: high Scale: district wide Permanence: permanent Timing: short/medium/long term Recommendation: None required</p>

		<b>Predicted Effects</b>			
C8 Will the SPD promote more inclusivity and reduce the sense of isolation and separation of all members of the community?	<p>27% of households have one or more member affected by a disability</p> <p>21.7% of the District's population have limiting long-term illness.</p> <p>7.9% of the District's working age population are on invalidity benefit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quality opinions</li> <li>Quality assessments</li> <li>Quality of life</li> </ul>	The SPD will help to promote the removal of physical barriers to enable all members of the community to take a full part in their community.	<p><b>++</b></p>	<p>The SPD provides additional guidance on what is required to ensure the creation of an inclusive environment.</p> <p>Likelihood: high Scale: district wide Permanence: permanent Timing: medium/long term Recommendation: None required</p>
C9 Will the SPD promote greater participation in visiting and supporting the natural, cultural and built environmental and archaeological assets of the district?	<p>There are issues regarding the geographical accessibility of a number of the assets of what is a rural district.</p> <p>The Disability Discrimination Act obliges service providers or any provider of a building or place open to the public to make all reasonable efforts to make it accessible to all.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual visitor numbers</li> <li>Quality of life</li> </ul>	The SPD will help to ensure that the assets of the district are physically accessible to all.	<p><b>+</b></p>	<p>The SPD provides additional guidance in support of the Local Plan policies promoting the full realisation of the assets of the District as well as ensuring that physical barriers to their use and availability are removed.</p> <p>Likelihood: low/medium Scale: district wide Permanence: permanent Timing: medium/long term Recommendation: None required</p>
C10 Will the SPD help to improve the district's air quality by assisting in the	The general air quality of the district is good but a deterioration is noticeable adjacent heavily trafficked routes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air quality surveys</li> </ul>	The SPD will encourage the use of alternative modes of transport to the car.	<p><b>+</b></p>	The SPD aims to provide support for the creation of opportunities that encourage the use of alternative modes of transport reducing reliance on the car.

			Predicted Effects		
reduction of the use of the car?					Likelihood: medium Scale: district wide Permanence: permanent Timing: long term Recommendation. None required
C11 Will the SPD help to increase the number of bus passenger journeys?	The District has fewer households with no access to a car than at regional or national level.  7.6% of residents travel to work by bus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of people using public transport</li> <li>• Bus passenger numbers</li> <li>• % of new developments accessible by public transport</li> </ul>	The SPD will contribute to a more inclusive environment where ease of access will be promoted.	+	The SPD will provide guidance that will improve access to and from bus stops. It will also support the policies of the Local Plan promoting accessible and sustainable development served by public transport. Likelihood: medium Scale: district wide Permanence: permanent Timing: medium/long term Recommendation: None required
C12 Will the SPD help to reduce the percentage of people travelling to work by car?	Significantly more residents of the District travel to work by car than regionally or nationally.  72.6% of residents travel to work by car.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of people travelling to work by car</li> <li>• Number of Green Transport Plans introduced</li> </ul>	The SPD will contribute to the provision of a more accessible and sustainable distribution of development.	+	The SPD provides guidance that will support the policies of the Local Plan promoting accessible and sustainable development served by public transport.  Likelihood: medium Scale: district wide Permanence: permanent Timing: short/medium/long term Recommendation: None required
C13 Will the SPD help to increase the number of	There are issues regarding access to public transport given the rural nature of the District and the geographical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amount of new developments within 30 minutes public travelling time of</li> </ul>	The SPD will contribute to the provision of a more accessible	+	The SPD aims to support the policies of the Local Plan promoting accessible and sustainable development served by public transport.



				<b>Predicted Effects</b>	
people living within 30 minutes public transport time of jobs and services?	spread of residents.	residents	and sustainable distribution of development.		Likelihood: medium Scale: district wide Permanence: permanent Timing: medium/long term Recommendation: None required
C14 Will the SPD help to increase the number of business properties designed as inclusive buildings?	The Disability Discrimination Act obliges any provider of a building or place open to the public to make all reasonable efforts to make it accessible to all.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality assessments</li> <li>• Planning records</li> </ul>	The SPD will provide support to the designing of inclusive buildings.	++	<p>The SPD includes guidance on the internal and external circulation requirements for a fully inclusive building.</p> <p>Likelihood: high Scale: district wide Permanence: permanent Timing: medium/long term Recommendation: None required</p>

### 3.3 Mitigation measures

3.3.1 As part of the appraisal process, a recommendation has been made for a mitigation measure. This measure aim to reduce any adverse effects and maximise the beneficial effects of the Supplementary Planning Document. The proposed mitigation measure and the resulting change to the Supplementary Planning Document is set out below.

<b>Mitigation measure proposed</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Explanation or change to SPD</b>
Add reference to the need to consider biodiversity as part of measures to create fully accessible inclusive open space and grounds to buildings.	Addressed	Include in the first paragraph of the section of the SPD covering Landscaped areas and Public Open Space “ and seek to retain and, wherever possible, enhance the biodiversity of the area”

## **SECTION 4**

### **Implementation and Monitoring**

#### **4.1 Supplementary Planning Document Implementation**

4.1.1 Consultation on the draft Supplementary Planning Document will be carried out in accordance with the Statement of Community Involvement. Any significant changes to the Supplementary Planning Document in light of the consultation will be assessed against the sustainability appraisal objectives.

4.1.2 The Supplementary Planning Document will be used for development control purposes as a material consideration when determining planning applications.

#### **4.2 Monitoring**

4.2.1 The sustainability Appraisal process requires any significant effects of a Supplementary Planning Document to be monitored to identify unforeseen effects and to enable remedial action to be taken if necessary. Monitoring of the performance of the 'Access for All' Supplementary Planning Document will be undertaken through the Annual Monitoring Report. The indicators to be used for this monitoring, are the following:

- Number of homes built to Lifetime Homes Standard
- % of housing stock suitable for occupation by people with disabilities
- Length of new cycleways constructed
- Number of developments achieving Secure by Design standard
- % of new development accessible by public transport
- Number of Green Transport Plans introduced
- Number of people living within 30 minutes public transport time of jobs and services
- Number of business properties designed as inclusive properties
- Quality assessments and quality opinions on the inclusivity of the district's environment

## Appendix 1

### A. The SEA Directive's requirements

- A.1 The SEA Directive requires the preparation of an environmental report in which the likely effects on the environment of implementing the Supplementary Planning Document, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), are identified, described and evaluated. The following table includes an overview of which information needs to be provided and where it is covered in this Sustainability Appraisal Report:

SEA Requirement	Where covered in this report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An outline of the contents and main objectives of the SPD and of its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes</li> </ul>	Sections 1.1 and 1.2 of the SA Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A description of the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the SPD</li> </ul>	Section 2.1 of the Scoping Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected</li> </ul>	Section 2 of the Scoping Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any existing environmental problems relevant to the SPD</li> </ul>	Section 2.3 of the Scoping Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The environmental protection objectives, established at international, European Community and national level which are relevant to the SPD and how those objectives have been taken into account in the preparation of the SPD</li> </ul>	Section 2.2 of the SA Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors.</li> </ul>	Tables 2 and 4 of the SA Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effect on the environment of implementing the SPD</li> </ul>	Section 3.3 of the SA Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken, including any difficulties encountered in compiling the required information</li> </ul>	Sections 2.3, 3.1 and 3.2 of the SA Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring</li> </ul>	Section 4.2 of the SA Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A non-technical summary</li> </ul>	Non-technical summary of the SA Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The report must include the information that may</li> </ul>	Information included in the

<p>reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, its stage in the decision-making process and the extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in that process to avoid duplication of the assessment (Art. 5.2)</p>	SA Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The report must include the information that may reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, its stage in the decision-making process and the extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in that process to avoid duplication of the assessment (Art. 5.2)</li> </ul>	Information included in the SA Report
<p>Consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and level of the information to be included in the environmental report (Art. 5.4)</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 (Art. 6.1, 6.2)</li> <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 (Art. 7)</li> </ul>	<p>Section 1.5 of the Scoping Report</p> <p>Six-week consultation on the Access for All SPD and the SA Report</p> <p>Not applicable</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultations into account in decision-making (Art. 8)</li> </ul>	To be addressed after consultation
<p>Provision of information on the decision: When the plan or programme is adopted, the public and any countries consulted under Art 7. shall 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 pursuant to Article 5, the opinions expressed pursuant to Article 6 and the results of consultations entered into pursuant to Article 7 have been taken into account in accordance with Article 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 (Art. 9 and 10)</li> </ul>	To be addressed after consultation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of the significant environmental effects of the plan's or programme's implementation (Art. 10)</li> </ul>	Proposed monitoring set out under section 4.2