



Ribble Valley Borough Council

Strategic Environmental Assessment and
Sustainability Appraisal

Local Development Framework - Core Strategy
Preferred Options

SA Report

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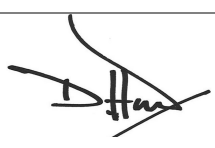
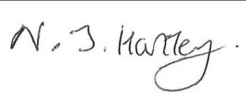


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SA Report

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Abbreviations

AMR	Annual Monitoring Report
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
BHS	Biological Heritage Site
BREEAM	Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method
CHP	Combined Heat and Power
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
cSAC	Candidate Special Area of Conservation
DCLG	Department of Communities and Local Government
Defra	Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DPD	Development Plan Document
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IMD	Index of Multiple Deprivation
LDD	Local Development Document
LDF	Local Development Framework
LDS	Local Development Scheme
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
LSOA	Lower Super Output Area
NNR	National Nature Reserve
NO ₂	Nitrogen dioxide
NVQ	National Vocational Qualification
ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PM ₁₀	Particulate Matter
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance
PPS	Planning Policy Statement
pSPA	Potential Special Protection Area
RIGS	Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Site
RVBC	Ribble Valley Borough Council
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SAM	Scheduled Ancient Monument

SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SFRA	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
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 Report

Ribble Valley Borough Council (RVBC) has prepared the Preferred Options for their Core Strategy which will guide development within the borough. The Core Strategy will be formally adopted as part of RVBC's Local Development Framework (LDF). The LDF will eventually replace the existing RVBC Local Plan.

The Core Strategy is the most important planning document that RVBC will produce and will form the main consideration when deciding planning applications. It will establish the planning framework for the borough's administrative area, setting out where new homes, employment and shops will be located as well as which areas will be regenerated and those that will be conserved.

As part of the Core Strategy preparation process, a combined Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is being undertaken. The term SA shall be used to refer to the combined SA/SEA for the remainder of this report.

The SA process commenced with the preparation of a SA Scoping Report in 2010¹ which was consulted upon with statutory consultees (Natural England, English Heritage and Environment Agency). Following confirmation of the scope of the SA, an assessment was undertaken of the emerging Core Strategy strategic options during summer/autumn 2011 and then assessment of the preferred options in early 2012. This report presents details of the process and the assessment results. This SA Report should be read in conjunction with the Publication Core Strategy.

1.2 Background to the Borough

Ribble Valley is a predominantly rural Borough situated in the North East of Lancashire. It is situated to the east of the M6 motorway and Preston and lies to the north of the M65 and the towns of Blackburn and Burnley. It is the largest district in the County of Lancashire covering an area of 585 square kilometres. The main commercial centres are Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley. The Borough has a very high quality environment with the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) occupying approximately 70% of the Borough's land area.

The A59 is a main artery through the Borough, linking directly to the M6 and serving access routes to the M65 motorway. There are rail services from Clitheroe to Preston and Manchester. Figure 1-1 shows the location of the Borough and Figure 1-2 is a map of the 24 wards in the Borough that are referred to in this SA Report.

¹ Note that an earlier consultation on the scope was undertaken in 2007. This was superseded by the 2010 consultation.

Table 1-1 Location of Ribble Valley Borough

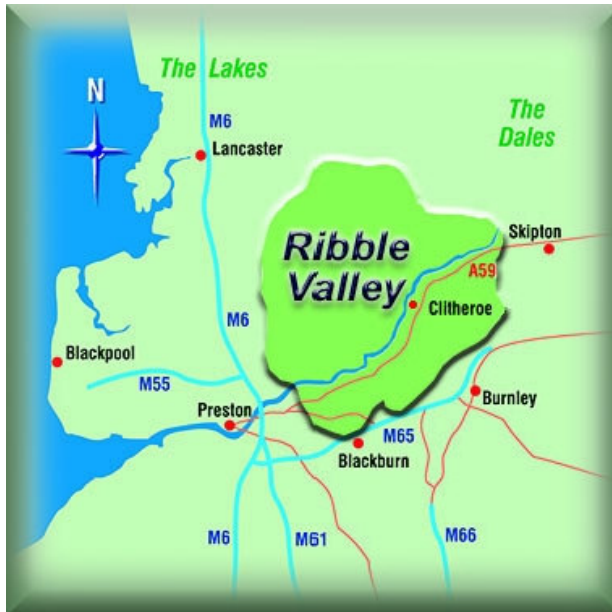


Table 1-2 Wards in the Ribble Valley (Source: Lancashire County Council)



Ward A – Edisford and Low Moor

Ward B – Littlemoor

Ward C - Primrose

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.

Sustainable Development

The UK Sustainable Development Strategy "Securing the Future" describes a common purpose for Sustainable Development:

"The goal of sustainable development is to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life, without compromising the quality of life for future generations."

The UK Sustainable Development Strategy 2005 set a new framework for sustainable development and describes how this should be pursued. Five Guiding Principles are identified:

- Living within environmental limits
- Ensuring a Strong, Healthy and Just Society
- Achieving a Sustainable Economy
- Promoting Good Governance
- Using Sound Science Responsibly

It is a legal requirement that Development Plan Documents (DPDs) are 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 Directive² which was transposed directly into UK law through the SEA Regulations³.

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. Guidance⁴ 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 here. Whilst there are formalised approaches for both SA and SEA, only SEA has a legal obligation to perform certain

² Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment, June 2001

³ S.I. 2004 No. 1633: The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations, 2004

⁴ <http://www.pas.gov.uk>

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 SA Report. This SA 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 SA Report

This SA Report documents how the SA was undertaken for the Core Strategy. Subsequent sections of this report provide information about the proposed methods and provide background information about the existing conditions across the borough. Section 4 presents the findings of the SA and proposed recommendations to mitigate for any adverse effects. Section 5 presents the framework for monitoring any significant effects identified.

1.5 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).

A HRA screening exercise is being undertaken in tandem with this SA to determine if the Core Strategy (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 is documented in a Screening Report that will be submitted to Natural England.

2 The Core Strategy DPD

2.1 Background

The LDF is required under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and will replace the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan. The LDF comprises a suite of Local Development Documents (LDDs) which will provide the local planning authority's policies for meeting the economic, environmental and social aims of the Borough where this affects the development and use of land. The LDF will guide development across the Borough. The Core Strategy is a fundamental element of the LDF.

2.2 Development of the Core Strategy

Once the Core Strategy is adopted, it will be used to assess planning applications. The Core Strategy should be a spatial interpretation of the Sustainable Communities Strategy which was published by Ribble Valley Borough Council in December 2007. The Sustainable Communities Strategy sets out a range of aims and objectives for Ribble Valley relating to issues such as deprivation, health, housing, employment, community well-being and cohesion and the young population. The Core Strategy should also take into account Ribble Valley's Corporate Plan⁵ which sets out the Council's ambitions for the next five years and a series of targets to measure performance.

As a strategic document, the Core Strategy will not allocate sites or address matters of detail. Rather it will identify the broad areas for development and growth within the district. It will identify, at a high level, where new development will be concentrated together with the overarching principles of development and the rationale for these with respect to best meeting the borough's economic, social and environmental priorities.

2.3 Consultation on the Core Strategy

The preparation of the Ribble Valley Core Strategy commenced in 2006 under the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) Regulations 2004. However, in 2008, a series of amended regulations⁶ were published which has affected the development of the Core Strategy. Table 2-1 presents the consultation that has occurred as part of the Core Strategy's development.

Table 2-1 Consultation during the Preparation of the Core Strategy

Date of Consultation	Purpose of Consultation	Link to the Regulations
April 2007	To guide the development of Issues and Options	
October 2007 – December 2007	To consult upon potential Issues and Options. This consultation also included consultation on the SA Scoping Report.	This was an unamended Regulation 25 (2004 Regulations) consultation and correlated to the previous Issues and Options Stage

⁵ Ribble Valley Corporate Performance and Improvement Plan 2007 – 2011

⁶ The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 SI. 1371.

Date of Consultation	Purpose of Consultation	Link to the Regulations
August 2010	To notify bodies of the preparation of the Core Strategy, approaches to its preparation and to re-consider the scope of the SA. The consultation report incorporated the findings of the Issues and Options consultation undertaken in late 2007 as well as presenting the strategic development options for consideration.	Public participation in the preparation of a development plan document (Regulation 25, 2008 Regulations).
June - August 2011	A document was produced which set out some additional, alternative options based upon the information submitted to the Council during the Regulation 25 stage consultation. Consultation also took place on proposed revisions to the Core Strategy Development Management Policies and Key Statements.	
September 2011	Public drop-in session, exhibition on options and SA process to-date.	
Spring 2012 This consultation	To consult the public on the Core Strategy Preferred Options documents (including the SA Report) – Publication Version.	Publication of the Development Plan Document (Regulation 27).
Anticipated Autumn 2012	Submission of the Core Strategy and the SA Report to the Secretary of State – Submission Version.	Submission of the Development Plan Document (Regulation 30).

2.4 Structure of the Core Strategy

The Publication Core Strategy document provides further details about the Core Strategy's purpose and contents. The document comprises the following key sections:

- The Core Strategy Vision
- Strategic Objectives
- The Development Strategy
- Key Statements
- Core Policies

3 Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal

3.1 Stages in the SA Process

The ODPM's Practical Guide⁷ subdivides the SA process into a series of stages. While 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 SA Report. The table also demonstrates how each of the SA stages is linked to the preparation and development of the Core Strategy.

Table 3-1 Stages in the SA Process

SA Stage	Section of the Report (where applicable)	Application to the Core Strategy
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 3 and Appendix A	Stage A corresponds to the scoping stage of the SA and the findings of this stage are presented in the Scoping Report that was consulted upon from August 2010. During this stage the scope of the SA for the Core Strategy was defined.
A2: Collecting baseline information	Section 3 and Appendix B	
A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems	Section 3	
A4: Developing the SA Framework	Section 3	
A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA	A Scoping Report was produced and consulted upon	
Stage B: Developing and Refining Options and Assessing Effects		
B1: Testing the DPD objectives against the SA Framework	Section 4	Stage B of the SEA process is linked to the overall production of the DPDs which includes the development of plan options and the selection of the preferred options. There has been a considerable degree of interaction between the plan-making and SA teams during this stage in the process. This has enabled potential adverse effects of the DPD to be avoided/minimised and potential sustainability benefits maximised.
B2: Developing the DPD Options		
B3: Predicting the effects of the DPD		
B4: Evaluating the effects of the DPD		

⁷ ODPM (2005) A Practical Guide to the SEA Directive

SA Stage	Section of the Report (where applicable)	Application to the Core Strategy
B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects		Stage B is the primary assessment stage of the SA process and is the main output of this report.
B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the DPDs		
Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report		
C1: Preparing the SA Report	This SA Report represents the required Stage C output.	This SA Report has been produced in line with the requirements of the SEA Directive for producing an Environmental Report. A Non Technical Summary is also provided.
Stage D: Consultation on the Proposed Submission Documents and the SA Report		
D1: Public participation on the proposed submission documents	-	The SA Report and the proposed submission DPD will be consulted upon in accordance with Regulation 27 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008.
D2: Appraising significant changes resulting from representations	-	Following the receipt of representations, the SA Report may need to be updated to reflect comments received. The SA Report will need to be updated to accompany the Submission (Regulation 30) version of the Core Strategy. It will be essential for the SA Report and the DPD to remain consistent.
D3: Making decisions and providing information	-	
Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the DPD		
E1: Finalising aims and methods for monitoring	Monitoring will commence once the Core Strategy has been adopted. A draft monitoring strategy is included in this SA Report.	Monitoring undertaken for the SA process should feed into the Annual Monitoring Report.
E2: Responding to adverse effects		

3.2 Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope

3.2.1 Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Objectives

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 Core Strategy was undertaken in order to contribute to the development of both the SA and the Core Strategy. 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 Core Strategy.
- Determining whether there are clear potential conflicts or challenges between other identified plans, programmes or sustainability objectives and the emerging Core Strategy.

The review included documents prepared at international, national, regional (sub-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.

International Plans and Programmes

A review was undertaken of key International Conventions and European Directives that could potentially influence the development of the Core Strategy 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.

National Plans and Programmes

A review was undertaken of relevant White Papers, plans and strategies. One of the most important documents reviewed was the Sustainable Development Strategy which outlines the over-arching Government objective to raise the quality of life in our communities.

Central Government establishes their broad guidelines and policies for a variety of different topics in Planning Policy Guidance (PPG), and Planning Policy Statements (PPS). All of these,

are of importance and relevance to the Core Strategy and so were reviewed through the SA process.

The National Planning Policy Framework was published as a consultation draft in July 2011. If adopted this would replace the PPGs and PPSs referred to above.

Regional and County Level Plans

A wealth of different plans and strategies have been produced at the regional (North West) and county (Lancashire) level covering a variety of topics including; housing; economic development and performance; climate change; renewable energy; innovation; rural development; Information and Communication Technology (ICT), accessibility; equality and diversity; health; waste; cultural provision and diversity; tourism, sport and physical activity.

The Localism Act was granted Royal Assent on 15th November 2011. This seeks to rescind some regional planning documents.

Consequently, regional level plans have not been included within the review although, where it is considered appropriate, objectives and targets from regional documents have been referred to where relevant until new targets have been developed.

Where appropriate, county and sub-regional level plans have been considered. The objectives of these plans as well as some of the challenges they raise need to be taken on board as appropriate. However, it must be noted that the overarching goals of these plans and strategies may be outside the remit of the Core Strategy which forms only one individual part of a number of different vehicles trying to deliver the county level targets.

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 Core Strategy and the SA should draw from these documents and transpose their aims in their policies and proposals. These local plans have been instrumental in the development of the SA Framework (see below). 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 borough. It is, through identifying these themes and incorporating them into the Core Strategy that synergies can be achieved with other relevant documents and the Core Strategy.

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 Ribble Valley where affordable housing issues are prevalent.
- The need to protect and enhance the vibrancy of both rural and urban areas.
- The need to protect and enhance the quality and character of urban and rural areas.

- Recognising the need for the landscape to evolve and for development to be appropriate to the landscape setting and context, particularly in view of the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).
- The need to protect and enhance the historic environment.
- To need to promote sensitive waste management.
- To 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 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 towns and villages where individuals want to both live and work.
- The need to broaden the economic base of rural areas and to promote sensitive rural diversification schemes that are appropriate to the AONB context.
- The need to adapt to the threat posed by climate change.
- The need to protect and enhance biodiversity resources particularly sites of international importance e.g. SPAs, SACs and Ramsar Sites.
- 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 latter being more of an issue in Ribble Valley.
- 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 higher levels of design quality.

3.2.2 The Sustainability Baseline and Key Sustainability Issues

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)).

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 Core Strategy.

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), good practice 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.
- Geographical Information Systems (GIS) mapping of key constraints across the borough using data supplied by RVBC.

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

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 below.

The SEA Directive indicates that 'material assets' 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

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

Population

The Borough has a small, ageing and dispersed population, which has implications for access to services for those living outside of the main urban centres (Clitheroe and Longridge). Availability of health care provision, in particular, is likely to be an issue for elderly residents in some settlements (this issue is explored further in Section 5.3.3). There are also potential challenges that could arise in the future relating to the type and tenure of housing provision on offer in the Borough. This is analysed in detail within Ribble Valley Borough Council's 2008 Strategic Housing Market Assessment. An increasingly ageing population in the Borough could also have long-term effects on the vitality and vibrancy of settlements. The need to retain the younger sectors of the population is a theme that is highlighted in other sections of this Scoping Report as it could also have effects upon the economy of the Borough and its attractiveness for inward investment.

Education and Qualifications

Educational attainment in the Borough is very good compared to county, regional and national levels, and this needs to be maintained. A number of people commute daily into the Borough for educational reasons as a result of the high level of attainment and the quality of Ribble Valley schools. However, opportunities to improve vocational training opportunities should be pursued, as this is likely to benefit local employers and would also help to develop training linked to key growth sectors across the region and could help to encourage more inward investment in the Borough. The Ribble Valley Economic Strategy identifies the exodus of young talented, well-educated people as a key threat to the local economy.

Information from Lancashire County Council has indicated that there will be a shortfall in primary school (Clitheroe) and secondary school (Whalley) places in key settlements within five years. This would be exacerbated if levels of growth increased so additional educational establishments would be required within the borough.

Health

Health in Ribble Valley is generally good, although residents in Littlemoor and Whalley wards experience slightly lower levels of health status. There is an elderly population in the Borough and it is essential that the elderly have sufficient access to health care facilities. The elderly population is also likely to put increasing pressure on health facilities in the Borough.

There are opportunities to further promote the outdoor recreational pursuits in the Forest of Bowland AONB to benefit the health of the local population.

Crime

Ribble Valley has very low crime levels compared to other parts of Lancashire. Whilst incidents of crime are low, there are issues associated with juvenile nuisance and anti-social behaviour and further work is needed to reduce such problems, although recent initiatives have been successful in reducing such problems.

Opportunities should be sought through the Core Strategy to promote safety by design in all new developments in the Borough.

Water

Water quality in the Borough is very good and it is important that these high levels are maintained. There are large areas of agricultural land in the Borough which means that diffuse pollution issues are more likely to be prevalent than in other Lancashire Boroughs.

Areas at risk from flooding should be protected from development that would increase that risk. Figure 3 in Appendix E identifies the location of Flood Zones across the borough. New developments should be encouraged to use SuDS to manage runoff and further reduce flood risk. New developments and households within the Borough should also be encouraged to minimise water use and to re-use rainwater where possible.

Soil and Land Quality

Where previously developed sites exist, the aim should be to continue to remediate and re-use them, although this should be undertaken on a site-by-site basis as some brownfield sites may have biodiversity constraints.

Geological resources such as Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites (RIGS) and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) should be protected from inappropriate development and opportunities to raise awareness of geological designations and resources should be pursued where possible. A number of the SSSIs designated in the borough (refer to Figure 4 in Appendix E) are designated for their geological features.

Air Quality

There is an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) declared at Whalley Road in Clitheroe for NO₂ levels (refer to Figure 3 in Appendix E). Opportunities should be sought to reduce road traffic and promote public transport use to further improve air quality.

Energy and Climate Change

Reducing carbon footprint through energy conservation and efficiency and the promotion of renewable energy sources should be a priority for the Borough given its relatively high consumption of energy. New developments should be encouraged to include sustainable design principles such as the incorporation of solar panels, although due care must be given to the preservation of biodiversity, landscape and heritage resources when siting renewable energy projects.

Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

There is a very high quality environment in the Borough, which needs to be preserved and enhanced. The high quality of the environment provides an opportunity to develop recreation and tourism in the Borough, although care needs to be taken to ensure that such developments are appropriate and do not adversely affect the quality of the natural environment. The condition of the SSSIs needs to be improved and opportunities should be sought to deliver biodiversity enhancements through the Core Strategy, for example by improving the connectivity between designated sites and areas of open space. Opportunities should be sought to promote land management schemes as these can lead to a number of environmental benefits and

enhancements. Figure 4 in Appendix E presents the wide range of biodiversity resource across the borough including SPAs, SACs, Local Nature Reserves (LNRs), SSSIs and Ancient and Semi-Natural Woodland.

Cultural Heritage

All cultural heritage features should be appropriately conserved and enhanced. In some cases the risks to SAMs can be reduced by good land management, or by informed planning policies and decisions that take full account of the national importance of historic sites. In addition to protecting statutory sites it is important to ensure that the wider historic landscape is protected and also non-designated heritage and archaeological resources. Ribble Valley has great tourism potential due to the quality of its natural environment which is complemented in many cases by cultural heritage resources. Many of the borough's settlements including Dunsop Bridge, Clitheroe and Slaidburn have a distinctive character that should be protected and enhanced. Figure 2 in Appendix E illustrates the distribution of key heritage features across the borough.

Landscape

It is essential that landscape character and quality is restored, maintained and enhanced. The Borough's high quality landscape is a very important resource for attracting visitors and enhancing the quality of life for residents. In addition to considering the wider strategic preservation of the Borough's landscape, opportunities should be sought to enhance design and landscaping at the local level to improve the quality of the local environment. The AONB occupies approximately 70% of the borough's land area as shown on Figure 1 in Appendix E.

Minerals and Waste

The major strategic landfill site for the Borough is located in a neighbouring authority and Ribble Valley is therefore an exporter of waste. Opportunities should be sought to further improve composting and recycling performance. Sustainable sourcing and waste management principles should be promoted for all new developments that occur in the Borough and this could be achieved through the development of appropriate policies within the Core Strategy.

Transportation

Opportunities should be sought to reduce dependence on the private car and increase public transport use. It will be important to ensure that any new employment sites can be easily accessed by public transport.

The use of ICT in the Borough needs to be promoted to increase the competitiveness of local businesses and to help reduce problems associated with rural isolation.

The good road connections to other parts of Lancashire and proximity to the motorway network are both an opportunity and a threat to the Borough, as they could help to encourage inward investment but they also enable the Borough's residents to easily commute to neighbouring Boroughs for employment purposes leading to a leakage of skills and also daily spending from the Borough. Whilst external linkages are good, internal linkages within the Borough could be improved and this is acknowledged as a weakness in the Economic Strategy.

Economy

Key statistics suggest that the Ribble Valley economy is performing well having low levels of unemployment and supporting a strong culture of entrepreneurial behaviour. It will be important for such qualities to be maintained and further improved. There are high skills levels in the Borough, although a significant number of people out-commute on a daily basis for employment purposes, leading to a daily leakage of skilled individuals. There is a need to provide jobs that maximise the skills of the resident population to promote more sustainable travel patterns and to benefit the Borough's long-term economy.

A small number of employers provide a significant amount of the employment in the Borough and opportunities should be sought to promote diversification and to support new businesses and inward investment.

There are potential opportunities for the Borough linked to the lack of high quality employment sites in other parts of location, for example along the M65 corridor where high-quality sites are already occupied. For example, there is potential to develop the A59 into an employment corridor.

Whilst there is a general perception that the Borough is affluent with a well-performing economy, there are households in the Borough that experience lower than average incomes and addressing the needs of those on lower incomes and raising their skills levels should be a key priority.

There are further opportunities to capitalise upon the Borough's environmental and cultural assets and to develop the tourist industry.

Deprivation and Living Environment

Ribble Valley is overall a very prosperous Borough with low levels of deprivation. However, owing to its rural nature there are issues associated with access to services and facilities which largely affect the wards in the north of the Borough.

There will be long-term challenges associated with the localised closure of facilities such as post offices. Maintaining and ensuring access to other centres and facilities in the Borough will be particularly important.

There may be scope in the future to more actively involve the local community in decision-making which will also enable the Council to understand the needs and desires of the residents which in the long-term could help contribute to the establishment of more sustainable communities.

Housing

There is a shortage of affordable housing across Ribble Valley. There has been an increase in the number of wealthy in-migrants to the Borough in recent years which is creating housing affordability problems for local people. Investment is also required to upgrade unfit and vacant housing. There is need for increased provision of sheltered housing for the elderly and also to provide for the housing needs of the younger sectors of society.

The Core Strategy must include appropriate policies regarding the provision of affordable housing. The issue of homelessness must also continue to be effectively addressed.

Since May 2008, the Government has introduced a mandatory rating against the Code for Sustainable Homes for all new homes. The Code measures the sustainability rating of new homes against categories of sustainable design. The overarching aim is to make the design of homes more sustainable and to carbon emissions. The promotion of the Code for Sustainable Homes and awareness raising about its use and application should be promoted where possible through the Core Strategy.

Transboundary Issues

For many authorities, the geographical scale of particular baseline issues means that they relate closely to neighbouring authorities. For example, housing provision and prices, employment migration and commuting, service provision and education can all result in flows of people across Local Authority boundaries. In order to help to characterise the baseline further, some of these key 'transboundary' issues have been identified below.

- Over half of the Borough's population out-commute daily from Ribble Valley to other Boroughs for employment reasons and this may be contributing to problems associated with a decline in local spending.

- Waste disposal is a strategic issue for all of East Lancashire with the main waste disposal site being located in Hyndburn. This is likely to have adverse impacts upon traffic movements between Ribble Valley and Hyndburn.
- There are limited adult education training facilities in the Borough and therefore people may be commuting out of the Borough for educational reasons. The absence of a further and Higher Education establishment in the Borough is a weakness identified in the Economic Strategy.

3.2.3 The SA Framework

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 Core Strategy Objectives, although there may be some overlaps between them. To help measure the performance of the Core Strategy 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 Borough 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.

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 3-1 demonstrates how the Sustainability Objectives were developed using the SEA Directive topics as a starting point for their development. This table also presents the indicators that support each of the Sustainability Objectives. Where possible, the indicators selected link to those used to describe the baseline conditions across the Borough, 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.

Those indicators presented in italics are indicators that data is not currently available for but could be gathered in the future as part of the monitoring process.

Table 3-1 Development of the Sustainability Objectives, Sub-Objectives and Indicators

SEA Directive Topic	UK Sustainable Development Strategy	Key Ribble Priorities / Objectives	Sustainability Objectives	Sub-Objectives	Indicators
Population Human Health	Achieving a strong, healthy and just society	Ribble Valley is regarded as one of the safest places to live. However, the key aims of the Community Safety Partnership are to reduce crime, fear of crime, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, fire incidents and serious road traffic incidents.	To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime	To reduce levels of crime To reduce the fear of crime To reduce levels of anti-social behaviour To encourage safety by design	Number and distribution of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 40% most deprived for crime deprivation Crime rates per 1,000 of the population for key offences. <i>Number of new developments actively incorporating safety by design principles</i> <i>Number of new initiatives implemented to tackle anti-social behaviour</i>
Population	Achieving a sustainable economy	One of the key aims of the Economic Strategy is to encourage and develop educational attainment and a skilled labour market in the Ribble Valley for the benefit of existing and new employers.	To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society	To maintain and increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society To improve the provision of education and training facilities To improve access to and involvement in Lifelong Learning opportunities	Location and number of educational establishments in Ribble Valley Number and distribution of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 40% most deprived for education, skills and training deprivation. Percentage of 15 year old pupils in local authority schools achieving 5 or more GCSEs at Grades A* - C or equivalent Percentage of people aged 19-64 achieving National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) level 4 or above Percentage of resident adults with no qualifications <i>Number of establishments offering Lifelong Learning opportunities.</i>
Population Human Health	Achieving a strong, healthy and just society	Improving the population's health is a key theme of the Ribble Valley	To improve physical and mental health for all and	To reduce health inequalities amongst different groups in the	Percentage of the resident population who consider themselves to be in good

SEA Directive Topic	UK Sustainable Development Strategy	Key Ribble Priorities / Objectives	Sustainability Objectives	Sub-Objectives	Indicators
		Health Profile.	reduce health inequalities	community To improve access to health and social care services To promote healthy lifestyles	health Number of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 40% most deprived for health deprivation and disability Life expectancy at birth for males and females Percentage of working-age population with a long-term limiting illness Number and distribution of sports facilities 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)
Population Human Health Material Assets	Achieving a strong, healthy and just society	A theme of the Sustainable Community Strategy is to increase the number of affordable houses provided in the District. Similar themes are presented in the Ribble Valley Economic Strategy; as affordable housing is one factor that it critical to influencing the economic and social strength of communities and providing long-term sustainability.	To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need	To tackle homelessness more effectively To increase the availability of affordable housing To reduce the number of unfit homes To reduce the number of vacant housing	Average house price Ratio of median house prices to median income Percentage of homes deemed unfit Percentage of housing vacant Number of affordable housing completions per annum Number of homeless presentations
Population	Promoting good governance	The Sustainable Community Strategy aims to increase the number of people who agree they	To protect and enhance community spirit and	To develop opportunities for community involvement	Percentage of respondents that feel that the Ribble Valley is an excellent or good

SEA Directive Topic	UK Sustainable Development Strategy	Key Ribble Priorities / Objectives	Sustainability Objectives	Sub-Objectives	Indicators
		can influence decisions made locally and increase the number of people who feel that they are able to participate in local decision-making. Developing a good community spirit is a key element of social inclusion.	cohesion	To promote a sense of belonging and well-being	place to live Percentage of respondents that feel the Council keeps local people informed Percentage of residents participating in local decision-making activities Percentage of residents who believe that the Borough is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well
Population Human Health	Achieving a strong, healthy and just society	The Pennine Lancashire Integrated Economic Strategy aims to promote links with neighbouring economies (particularly Manchester and Preston) that can potentially act as an additional employment destination for Pennine Lancashire residents, increasing their access to higher paid employment and services. A number of the strategic objectives in the Sustainable Community Strategy seek to develop and improve access to facilities for communities in the urban and rural parts of the Borough.	To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	To improve access to cultural and leisure facilities To maintain and improve access to essential services and facilities	Percentage of residents satisfied with sports and leisure facilities, museums and galleries and parks and open spaces Number of LSOAs in the bottom 40% most deprived for barriers to housing and services provision
Population	Achieving a sustainable economy	The Ribble Valley Economic Development Strategy aims to identify and develop initiatives that will encourage the long-term physical and social regeneration of Ribble Valley. The strategy seeks to	To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the Borough	To diversify employment opportunities To increase employment opportunities To encourage economic growth	Location of key industries and major employers Economic activity rate Employment by sector <i>Number and value of inward investment</i>

SEA Directive Topic	UK Sustainable Development Strategy	Key Ribble Priorities / Objectives	Sustainability Objectives	Sub-Objectives	Indicators
		improve the competitiveness of the Borough, addressing issues that will facilitate healthy business performance and encourage business start-ups.		To encourage inward investment	<i>projects.</i> Number of VAT registered businesses including sectoral information. Visitor numbers and tourist revenue data.
Population	Achieving a sustainable economy Achieving a strong, healthy and just society	The Economic Development Strategy aims to encourage and develop educational attainment and a skilled labour market in Ribble Valley for the benefit of existing and new employers.	To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market	To increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society To improve lifelong learning opportunities and work related training	<i>Number of job-related training schemes implemented in the Borough</i> <i>Number of establishments offering Lifelong Learning opportunities</i>
Population	Achieving a sustainable economy Achieving a strong, healthy and just society	The Sustainable Community Strategy seeks to diversify the economy and develop financial inclusion.	To encourage economic inclusion	To reduce levels of unemployment To improve physical accessibility to jobs	Number of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 40% most deprived for employment deprivation Number of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 40% for income deprivation Percentage of working-age population claiming Jobseekers Allowance
Population	Achieving a sustainable economy	A key aim of the sustainable Community Strategy is supporting the regeneration of Market Towns and sustainable service centres.	To strengthen the economic base of market towns	Improve vitality and vibrancy of town centres Encourage inward investment to market towns	Zone A rental data £/m ² <i>Number, value and location of inward investment projects</i>
Population	Achieving a sustainable economy	A key theme of the Economic Strategy is regeneration and economic development across the Borough. The Sustainable Community Strategy includes a number of strategic objectives addressing the needs of the rural	To encourage rural regeneration and diversification	To encourage rural diversification schemes	Type of Farms and average size <i>Number of rural diversification schemes approved per annum</i>

SEA Directive Topic	UK Sustainable Development Strategy	Key Ribble Priorities / Objectives	Sustainability Objectives	Sub-Objectives	Indicators
		parts of the Borough, for example, addressing rural isolation and improving accessibility.			
Population	Achieving a sustainable economy Achieving a strong, healthy and just society	The Economic Strategy aims to raise the profile and perceptions of Ribble Valley, strengthening awareness of the benefits of the area in terms of quality of life and promoting the Borough as a place to live, visit, work and do business	To develop and market the Borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit.	To support the preservation and or development of high quality built and natural environments within the borough To promote the area as a destination for short and long term visitors and new residents To enhance the borough's image as an attractive place to do business	Zone A rental data £/m ² . Percentage of working age population claiming Jobseekers' Allowance in March 2009 and their <i>location/distribution across the Borough</i>
Biodiversity Flora, Fauna	Living within environmental limits	The Lancashire BAP includes a number of objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of native species both common and scarce in the County. The Sustainable Community Strategy also seeks to protect and enhance the Borough's built and natural environment.	To protect and enhance biodiversity	To protect and enhance designated sites of nature conservation importance To protect and enhance wildlife especially rare and endangered species To protect and enhance habitats and wildlife corridors To provide opportunities for people to access wildlife and open green spaces	Number and distribution of designated sites including SAC, SPA, Ramsar sites, SSSI, National Nature Reserves (NNR), LNR) and Biological Heritage Sites (BHS) Condition of SSSIs Number of Biological Heritage Sites under Active Management <i>Percentage of wards meeting Box and Harrison Nature Conservation Area standard (1ha per 1,000 population)</i> <i>Access to greenspace</i>
Landscape	Living within environmental limits	The Economic Strategy aims to maintain and enhance the perception and image of the area, inspiring people to invest in and visit. Therefore the protection of the	To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality	To protect and enhance landscape character and quality To protect and enhance townscape character and quality	<i>Contextual information based upon urban design reviews of new development</i> Number, location, size and character of Conservation Areas

SEA Directive Topic	UK Sustainable Development Strategy	Key Ribble Priorities / Objectives	Sustainability Objectives	Sub-Objectives	Indicators
		environment plays an important role in supporting this aim. The Sustainable Community Strategy also seeks to protect and enhance the Borough's built and natural environment.		To promote sensitive design in development	
Cultural Heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage)	Living within environmental limits	The Economic Strategy aims to maintain and enhance the perception and image of the area, inspiring people to invest in and visit. Therefore the protection of the environment plays an important role in supporting this aim. The Sustainable Community Strategy also seeks to protect and enhance the Borough's built and natural environment.	To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource	To protect and enhance historic buildings and sites To protect and enhance historic landscape/townscape value	Number and distribution of Listed Buildings, SAMS, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens Percentage of listed buildings on the English Heritage at risk register. Percentage of eligible open spaces managed to Green Flag Standards
Water	Living within environmental limits	The Economic Strategy aims to maintain and enhance the perception and image of the area, inspiring people to invest in and visit. Therefore the protection of the environment plays an important role in supporting this aim. The Sustainable Community Strategy also seeks to protect and enhance the Borough's built and natural environment.	To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources	To protect and enhance ground and surface water quality	Number of water meters and water recycling measures installed within new developments
Soil	Living within environmental limits	The Economic Strategy aims to maintain and enhance the perception	To guard against land contamination and	To reduce the amount of derelict, contaminated, and vacant land	Distribution of best and most versatile agricultural land

SEA Directive Topic	UK Sustainable Development Strategy	Key Ribble Priorities / Objectives	Sustainability Objectives	Sub-Objectives	Indicators
		and image of the area, inspiring people to invest in and visit. Therefore the protection of the environment plays an important role in supporting this aim. The Sustainable Community Strategy also seeks to protect and enhance the Borough's built and natural environment.	encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary	To encourage development of brownfield land where appropriate To protect soil functions	Percentage of housing completions on previously developed land Percentage of employment development on previously developed land
Climatic Factors	Living within environmental limits	The Economic Strategy aims to maintain and enhance the perception and image of the area, inspiring people to invest in and visit. Therefore the protection of the environment plays an important role in supporting this aim. The Sustainable Community Strategy also seeks to protect and enhance the Borough's built and natural environment.	To limit and adapt to climate change	To reduce or manage flooding To reduce greenhouse gas emissions To encourage the inclusion of SuDS	Total carbon dioxide (CO ₂) emissions per capita per year Number of SuDS implemented across the Borough Number of planning applications granted permission contrary to Environment Agency advice regarding flooding
Air	Living within environmental limits	The Economic Strategy aims to maintain and enhance the perception and image of the area, inspiring people to invest in and visit. Therefore the protection of the environment plays an important role in supporting this aim. The Sustainable Community Strategy also seeks to protect and enhance the Borough's built and natural environment.	To protect and improve air quality	To protect and improve local air quality	Number and distribution of AQMAs Distribution of known key polluting industries

SEA Directive Topic	UK Sustainable Development Strategy	Key Ribble Priorities / Objectives	Sustainability Objectives	Sub-Objectives	Indicators
Climatic Factors	Living within environmental limits	The Economic Strategy aims to maintain and enhance the perception and image of the area, inspiring people to invest in and visit. Therefore the protection of the environment plays an important role in supporting this aim. A specific objective of the Sustainable Community Strategy is working with the private sector to evaluate schemes that result in positive changes in energy use.	To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources	To increase energy efficiency To increase the use of renewable energy To reduced the use of energy	Total carbon dioxide (CO ₂) emissions per capita per year Annual average domestic gas and electricity consumption per consumer Annual gas and electricity consumption in the commercial/industrial sector Number of applications for renewable energy developments <i>and details of their location</i> .
Soil Material Assets	Living within environmental limits	The Economic Strategy aims to maintain and enhance the perception and image of the area, inspiring people to invest in and visit. Therefore the protection of the environment plays an important role in supporting this aim.	To ensure sustainable use of natural resources	To reduce the demand for raw materials To promote the use of recycled and secondary materials in construction	<i>Incorporation of secondary and recycled materials in new development projects.</i> <i>Number of grey water recycling and water minimisation schemes implemented.</i> <i>Number of sustainable design schemes implemented.</i> <i>Use of BREEAM⁸ in new developments.</i>
Soil Material Assets	Living within environmental limits	The Sustainable Community Strategy aims to increase the percentage of waste recycled and decrease the amount of household waste going to landfill.	To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling	To increase the proportion of waste recycling and re-use To reduce the production of waste	Levels of composting and recycling achieved. Amount of household waste landfilled <i>Number and distribution of Household</i>

⁸ BREEAM (BRE Environmental Assessment Method) is a widely used environmental assessment method for buildings. It sets standards for best practice in sustainable design and can be used to assess a building's environmental performance.

SEA Directive Topic	UK Sustainable Development Strategy	Key Ribble Priorities / Objectives	Sustainability Objectives	Sub-Objectives	Indicators
				To reduce the proportion of waste landfilled	<i>Waste Recycling Centres</i>
Air Climatic Factors Population Human Health	Living within environmental limits Achieving a sustainable economy	Infrastructure is one of the key themes identified within the Economic Strategy. The Sustainable Community Strategy highlights the need for accessibility to be improved across the Borough to help tackle issues associated with isolation. There are a number of strategic objectives in the Sustainable Community Strategy that seek to reduce travel and travel distances.	To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport	To reduce the use of private car To encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport Encourage the uptake of ICT	Journey to work by mode Public transport patronage Percentage of dwellings approved and located within 400m of an existing or proposed bus stop or within 800m of an existing or proposed railway station Number of homes with broadband internet access.

Internal Compatibility of the Sustainability Objectives

The 23 Sustainability Objectives identified in Table 3-1 have been tested for their compatibility with each other. The results are presented in Table 3-2 and described below.

A number of areas of compatibility were identified between the objectives, although there were some uncertainties identified which are documented in more detail below.

The compatibility was assessed as uncertain between Sustainability Objective 4 *'To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need'* against the following Sustainability Objectives:

- *'13. To protect and enhance biodiversity';*
- *'14. To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality';*
- *'15. To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource';*
- *'16. To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources'; and*
- *'21. To ensure sustainable use of natural resources'.*

This is because new residential development has the potential to adversely affect biodiversity resources through direct land take, landscape and heritage resources from inappropriate siting and water resources through an increase in water consumption and development in the floodplain. In addition new residential development requires the use of natural resources and raw materials. The same uncertainties were also assessed against Sustainability Objective 7 *'To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the borough'* and Sustainability Objective 11 *'To encourage rural regeneration and diversification'* against the environmental Sustainability Objectives 13, 14, 15, 16 and 21 again due to employment development potentially leading to adverse effects on biodiversity, landscape, heritage and water resources.

The compatibility of Sustainability Objective 18 *'To limit and adapt to climate change'* was assessed as uncertain against Sustainability Objectives 13, 14 and 15 as renewable energy development could potentially affect biodiversity resources i.e. through bird strike (wind turbines) and adversely affect landscape and heritage resources through inappropriate siting.

Sustainability Objectives are often likely to have some degree of conflict when implementing specific schemes. The appraisal process necessarily seeks to identify the trade-offs between any such conflicts.

Table 3-2 Internal Compatibility of the Sustainability Objectives

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1																							
2	+																						
3	0	+																					
4	+	0	+																				
5	+	+	+	0																			
6	0	+	+	+	+																		
7	0	+	0	0	+	+																	
8	+	+	+	0	+	0	+																
9	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+															
10	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	+														
11	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+													
12	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+												
13	0	0	0	?	0	+	?	0	0	0	?	+											
14	0	0	0	?	0	0	?	0	0	0	?	+	+										
15	0	0	0	?	0	0	?	0	0	0	?	+	0	+									
16	0	0	+	?	0	0	?	0	0	0	?	0	+	0	0								
17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	+	+	+								
18	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+							
19	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+						
20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	?	?	0	0	+	0					
21	0	0	0	?	0	0	?	0	0	0	?	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	+			
22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+		
23	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	

NB numbers refer to the Sustainability Objectives described in Table 3-1.

Objectives are compatible	= +	No clear impact on each other	= 0
Mutually incompatible	= -		
Compatibility unknown	= ?		

Scoping Consultation

The SA Scoping Report was initially consulted upon with Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency in 2007. It was also placed on the council website. A Scoping workshop was held in 2006 to help develop this report with a range of statutory and non-statutory consultees. The Scoping Report was updated in 2010 and issued for a further consultation in August that year.

Following comments received, a number of minor alternations were made to the SA Framework and the evidence base presented in the report. These changes have been carried forward for use in this SA Report.

3.3 Stage B: Developing and Refining Options and Assessing Effects

As identified in Box 3, the SEA Directive requires that the assessment process considers alternatives:

Box 3: Consideration of Alternatives

“..an environmental report shall be prepared in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated”.

The Practical Guide⁷ advises that only realistic and relevant alternatives should be considered and they should be sufficiently distinct to enable a meaningful comparison of their different environmental effects.

3.3.1 Assessment of the Spatial Vision

Good practice guidance recommends that the key aims and principles of the plan should be assessed against the SA Objectives, in order to test their compatibility and to determine whether they accord with broad sustainability principles.

The Spatial Vision for the Core Strategy has been reviewed against the SA Objectives, and a summary of the key strengths, weaknesses and recommendations have been identified (as presented in Section 4.1). Recommendations were made to offset or alleviate any adverse impacts that were predicted, or to enhance any opportunities that were identified.

3.3.2 Assessment of the Strategic Objectives

Good practice guidance also recommends that the goals of a plan should be assessed against the SA Objectives.

The assessment of the Strategic Objectives of the Core Strategy against the SA Objectives has been undertaken using a matrix-based approach. Initial recommendations have been suggested to offset or alleviate any potential sustainability conflicts with the Strategic Objectives and these are provided at the beginning of Section 4.2.

3.3.3 Appraisal of the Preferred Spatial Strategy and its Alternatives

The Preferred Spatial Strategy presents a high level approach for broad development locations for the whole borough. The Preferred Spatial Strategy outlines the type, quantity and distribution of new development.

Alternatives

Consultation on four potential strategy options was undertaken between August and October 2010. Following consultation feedback and further development, the options were refined to three and five additional options were developed. In total, eight options have been progressed for assessment through the SA. In addition to this a Do-Minimum option was assessed. This represents a continuation of current Local Plan saved policies and strategy only.

Each option has been assessed against the SA Framework objectives using an assessment matrix. The matrix asks the following questions:

- 1 What is the impact?
 - Whether it will be positive, negative or neutral when assessed against the Sustainability Objectives
 - Whether it will be short-term (within 5 years), occur in the medium term (5 – 10 years) or occur in the long-term (10 years +)
 - Whether it will be direct or indirect
 - Whether it is reversible or irreversible
 - Whether there may be cumulative effects
- 2 What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?
- 3 What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?
- 4 Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?
- 5 Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?

Consultation during the Development and Assessment of Alternatives

A workshop was held with key council officers and statutory consultees on 17 August 2011 in order to discuss the options and to complete a preliminary assessment of their potential sustainability effects. Following the workshop, further detail was added to the assessment by the SA team and a series of recommendations were made for consideration by RVBC.

A public exhibition focussed entirely upon the SA process was also held on 8 September 2011. This was held to provide members of the public with more information about the SA process, to present the options again and to obtain further information that could be used to inform the assessment process.

The Preferred Strategy

The Preferred Spatial Strategy was assessed against the SA Objectives to enable the identification of key strengths and weaknesses, and any potential areas for improvement.

Mitigation measures and recommendations are suggested to offset or alleviate any predicted adverse impacts, or to enhance any opportunities that have been identified. These recommendations are presented in Section 4.4.

The assessment of the Preferred Spatial Strategy has been undertaken using a matrix based approach. The assessment notations used in the assessment, together with their definition (i.e. how a positive score was assigned) are presented in Appendix C. When undertaking the assessment, the symbols assigned in the matrix were justified in the commentary box along with any uncertainties.

A summary of the assessment of the Preferred Spatial Strategy is provided in Section 4.4. The complete results of the assessment are presented in Appendix C

3.3.4 Appraisal of Key Statements and Development Management Policies

The Core Strategy contains a series of Key Statements and Development Management Policies designed to guide development in Ribble Valley in accordance with the spatial framework set out in the Strategic Objectives. There is a degree of overlap between the intentions of some of the Key Statements and Development Management Policies. As such, they have been grouped together for the purposes of the assessment which is shown in Table 3-3. An assessment matrix has been used to assess each grouping against the SA Framework. A series of initial recommendations for mitigation or enhancement changes was made to assist RVBC in their ongoing development of the Core Strategy.





Table 3-2 Key Statements, Development Management Policies and Assessment Groups

Key Statement	Development Management Policies	Name of the Assessment Group
General		
No specific key statements to be assessed	DMG1: General considerations	General Development Management
	DMG2: Strategic considerations	
	DMG3: Transport and mobility	
Environment		
Green Belt	<i>No specific corresponding policy</i>	Environment
	DME1: Protecting Trees and Woodlands	
Landscape	DME2: Landscape Protection	
Biodiversity and Geodiversity	DME3: Site and Species Protection and Conservation	
Heritage Assets	DME4: Protecting Heritage Assets	
Sustainable Development and Climate Change	DME5: Renewable Energy	
	DME6: Water Management	
Housing		
Housing Provision		Housing

Key Statement	Development Management Policies	Name of the Assessment Group
Housing Balance		
Affordable Housing	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	
Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	
	DMH3: Dwellings in the Open Countryside	
	DMH4: The Conversion of Barns and Other Dwellings to Dwellings	
	DMH5: Residential and Curtilage Extensions	
Business and Economy		
Business and Employment Development	DMB1: Supporting Business Growth and the Local Economy	Economy
	DMB2: The Conversion of Barns and Other Rural buildings for Employment Uses	
Visitor Economy	DMB3: Recreation and Tourism Development	
	DMB4: Open Space Provision	
	DMB5: Footpaths and Bridleways	
Retail Development		
Development of Retail, Shops and Community Facilities and Services	DMR1: Retail Development in Clitheroe	Retail Development
	DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	
	DMR3: Retail outside the Main Settlements	
Delivery Mechanisms		
Planning Obligations		Delivery Mechanisms
Transport Considerations		

Following the initial assessment and provision of recommendations, a final set of Key Statements and Development Management Policies was prepared for inclusion in the Publication Core Strategy. These were also subject to the SA following the same process as the initial assessment.

Within this SA Report, details are provided of whether the initial SA recommendations have been taken on board in the amended policies. The notation presented below has been used to report this.

Symbol	Description
	Recommendation has been addressed in the policy
	Recommendation has been addressed / included elsewhere within the Core Strategy
	Recommendation partially addressed - sustainability performance could be improved
	Recommendation has not been taken on board at this time

A summary of the assessment of the initial and final Key Statements and Development Management Policies is provided in Section 4.6. The complete results of the assessment are presented in Appendix D.

Appraisal of Cumulative and Synergistic Effects

The SEA Directive requires *inter alia* that cumulative effects should be considered. It stipulates consideration of “*the likely significant effects on the environment...*” and that “*These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic...effects*” (Annex I).

The Practical Guide offers the following interpretation of terms.

Secondary or indirect effects comprise effects which do not occur as a direct result of the proposed activities, but as a result of complex causal pathway (which may not be predictable).

Cumulative effects arise from a combination of two or more effects, for instance, where several developments each have insignificant effects but together have a significant effect; or where several individual effects of the plan or programme have a combined effect.

All elements of the Core Strategy were taken into account within the cumulative assessment along with combined impacts as a result of other initiatives proposed within Ribble Valley. Cumulative and Secondary effects have been included in the options appraisal where appropriate.

Appraisal of Transboundary Effects

The SEA Directive requires SAs to consider the transboundary effects of the plan on other EU member states. However, it is not considered likely that the Core Strategy could have significant effects upon other member states. Transboundary effects are mentioned within the SA where considered appropriate.

3.4 Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report (this stage)

Stage C corresponds with the preparation of this SA Report and presents the findings of the assessment to-date including the information collated in Stage A and during scoping. The results of the appraisal together with any mitigation measures proposed are recorded in the remaining chapters of this document.

The SA Report incorporates the requirements for Environmental Reports under the SEA Directive.

3.5 Stage D: Consultation on the Proposed Submission Documents and the SA Report

This SA Report will be consulted upon alongside the Publication Core Strategy. Following the close of the consultation period, RVBC will review the feedback alongside other consultation and revise the plan as appropriate. If significant amendments are made to the strategy, the SA Report may also need to be updated to reflect the assessment of these amendments prior to the Core Strategy being adopted.

3.6 Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the DPD

The activities relevant to monitoring that are stipulated in the SEA Directive are outlined below.

“Member States shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans and programmes... in order, inter alia, to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects, and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action” (Article 10.1).

The Environmental Report should provide information on *“a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring” (Annex I (i)).*

Based on the assessment conducted on the options and identification of potential significant environmental effects, a monitoring framework has been prepared and is presented in Section 5.

4 The SA Assessment

4.1 The Vision

The Core Strategy Vision for Ribble Valley sets out the borough will look in 2028. The Vision is ambitious and reflects that of the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) (2007 – 2013). Box 4 presents the Vision for the Core Strategy.

Box 4 The Core Strategy Vision

Core Strategy Vision

The Ribble Valley will be an area with an exceptional environment and quality of life for all, sustained by vital and vibrant market towns and villages acting as thriving service centres, meeting the needs of residents, businesses and visitors.

We will seek to create an area with unrivalled quality of place, respecting the unique natural, social and built heritage of the area.

New development to meet the needs of the area for growth, services and quality of life will be managed to ensure the special characteristics of the area are preserved for future generations.

4.1.1 Results of the SA of the Vision

There is an emphasis placed upon the need to preserve Ribble Valley as ‘*an area with an exceptional environment and quality life for all*’ which would positively fulfil many of the social and environmental SA Objectives. In addition the Vision seeks to ensure market towns are vibrant and local villages are thriving service centres ‘*that meet the needs of residents, businesses and visitors*’ which would positively fulfil many of the economic objectives as well as social objectives as creating such a place would improve community and tourist facilities along with creating some new employment opportunities which may benefit current problems associated with out-commuting and daily spend leakage. Ensuring service provision meets the needs of local residents would also directly benefit those living in more rural settlements in the borough where service provision is more restricted.

Although the Vision states that new development will meet the needs of the area for growth, it does not explicitly address current problems within the borough relating to decent and affordable housing provision. Providing high quality and affordable housing in Ribble Valley would improve living environment and barriers to housing deprivation levels which would be particularly important in the rural north where people are often priced out of the housing market. However, it does commit to ensuring villages ‘meet the needs of residents’, which could include decent affordable housing.

With regards to the natural environment the Vision seeks to ensure special characteristics of the area are preserved for future generations, however, it does not explicitly mention the need to enhance these valuable resources, although this may be inferred indirectly.

4.1.2 Recommendations

Following the assessment of the Vision, the amendments below should be made to strengthen it from a sustainability perspective:

- The Vision could be strengthened to include direct reference to the provision of affordable decent homes, improved job opportunities to match the skills of the boroughs residents (including new high quality employment development) and enhancing the public transport network. The following text is suggested:

'Decent and affordable housing will be available to meet the needs of local communities along with new high quality employment development providing job opportunities for all, all of which would be integrated into a sustainable transport network'.

- Reference should be made to the long-term threat of climate change and for the need for appropriate mitigation and adaptation, as climate change issues are not explicitly mentioned within the Vision.
- Although the Vision seeks to ensure the special characteristics of the borough are protected for future generations there is no reference to these characteristics being enhanced. The following text is therefore suggested: *'New development to meet the needs of the area for growth, services and quality of life will be managed to ensure the special characteristics of the area are preserved **and enhanced** for future generations'.*

4.2 Strategic Objectives

The Publication Core Strategy contains nine Strategic Objectives to help deliver the Core Strategy Vision. The Strategic Objectives comprise:

- 1 Respect, protect and enhance the high quality environment and biodiversity in the borough.
- 2 Match the supply of affordable and decent homes in the borough with the identified housing need.
- 3 Ensure a suitable proportion of housing meets local needs.
- 4 Improve the competitiveness and productivity of local businesses by safeguarding and promoting local employment opportunities.
- 5 Ensure neighbourhoods are sought after locations by building cohesive communities and promoting community safety.
- 6 Support existing retail business whilst improving the retail offer by ensuring the vitality and viability of the retail areas are considered.
- 7 Co-ordinate, innovate and diversify sustainable tourism, building on our strengths and developing new initiatives.
- 8 Improve accessibility and service delivery to address rural isolation.
- 9 Contribute to local, regional and wider sustainable development.

4.2.1 Results of the SA of the Strategic Objectives

Table 4-1 presents the compatibility of the Core Strategy Strategic Objectives against the Sustainability Objectives.

Table 4-1 Compatibility of the SA Objectives and the Strategic Objectives

Sustainability Objectives	Strategic Objectives								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0
2.To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities	✓	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	0	✓
4.To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion	✓	0	0	✓	✓	✓	0	✓	0
6.To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓
7.To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the borough	0	0	0	✓	0	✓	✓	0	✓
8.To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.To encourage economic inclusion	0	0	0	✓	0	✓	✓	✓	✓
10.To strengthen the economic base of market towns	0	0	0	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	✓
11.To encourage rural regeneration and diversification	✓	0	0	✓	0	0	✓	✓	0
12.To develop and market the borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
13.To protect and enhance biodiversity	✓	?	?	?	0	?	✓	0	✓
14.To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality	✓	?	?	?	✓	?	✓	0	0
15.To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource	✓	?	?	?	✓	?	✓	0	0
16.To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources	0	?	?	?	0	?	✓	0	0
17.To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Sustainability Objectives	Strategic Objectives								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
boundary and to protect soil resources									
18.To limit and adapt to climate change	0	?	?	?	0	?	0	0	✓
19.To protect and improve air quality	0	?	?	?	0	?	0	0	✓
20.To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21.To ensure sustainable use of natural resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22.To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23.To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓

Key

✓ = Objectives are compatible

✗ = Objectives are potentially incompatible

0 = There is no link between objectives

? = The link between the objectives is uncertain

Sustainability Comments

On the whole the Strategic Objectives and the Sustainability Objectives complement each other. However, some 'gaps' and areas of uncertainty were identified.

Areas of uncertainty were identified against Strategic Objectives 2 '*Match the supply of affordable and decent homes in the borough with the identified housing need*', 3 '*Ensure a suitable proportion of housing meets local needs*', 4 '*Improve the competitiveness and productivity of local businesses by safeguarding and promoting local employment opportunities*' and 6 '*Support existing retail business whilst improving the retail offer by ensuring the vitality and viability of the retail areas are considered*' against the following SA Objectives:

- 13. '*To protect and enhance biodiversity*';
- 14. '*To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality*';
- 15. '*To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource*';
- 16. '*To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources*';
- 18. '*To limit and adapt to climate change*'; and
- 19. '*To protect and improve air quality*'.

Compatibility was assessed as uncertain, as new housing, employment and retail development has the potential to lead to adverse effects on biodiversity resources, landscape and townscape character and quality, heritage resources and increase traffic movement if not appropriately developed. However, the Strategic Objectives should be read as a whole and not individually, therefore biodiversity, heritage and landscape/townscape resources would all be protected through other Strategic Objectives. Strategic Objective 9 '*Contribute to local, regional and wider*

sustainable development ensure new housing and employment development is located within areas where there are opportunities to reduce the dependence on the private car.

There were no links between the following SA Objectives and the Strategic Objectives:

- 2. *'To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society'*;
- 8. *'To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market'*;
- 17. *'To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary and to protect soil resources'*;
- 20. *'To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources'*;
- 21. *'To ensure sustainable use of natural resources'*; and
- 22. *'To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling'*.

4.2.2 Recommendations

Following the compatibility assessment of the Strategic Objectives, the amendments below could be made to strengthen them from a sustainability perspective in addition an additional Strategic Objective is suggested:

- Supporting text to Strategic Objective 1 could be amended to include reference to the SPA and SAC located within Ribble Valley as these sites are of European importance.
- It is recommended that Strategic Objectives 2 and 3 are combined as both Objectives seek to ensure new housing meets local needs. The following text is suggested *'Ensure there is an adequate supply of high quality, affordable and decent homes that meet local needs and requirements'*.
- There is no specific reference addressing (and mitigating against) the effects of climate change within the Strategic Objectives. It is therefore recommended a further Strategic Objective is added, for example: *'To adapt and mitigate against the long-term threats of climate change'*. This new Strategic Objective could also include reference within the supporting text to renewable energy sources and the incorporation of SuDS into new development.
- The supporting text to Strategic Objective 9 could be expanded upon to ensure new development is energy efficient, water efficient, incorporates renewable energy (where possible) and encourages recycling. Strategic Objective 9 could also state that brownfield land would be a preferable location for new development over Greenfield.
- Strategic Objective 4 could be expanded to include reference to ensuring there are provisions within the borough to ensure Ribble Valley has an adequately trained labour force to meet business needs now and in the future.

4.3 Appraisal of Alternative Spatial Strategies

4.3.1 Development of the Options

Consultation on four potential strategy options was undertaken between August and October 2010. Following consultation feedback and further development, the options were refined to three and five additional options were developed.

In total, eight options have been progressed for assessment through the SA. In addition to this, a Do-Minimum option was also assessed for comparison. These are as follows:

Option 1

Development will be directed towards the service centres comprising Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley, including the opportunity to expand their existing settlement limits to accommodate residential and employment growth. Limited development will be accommodated through appropriate village growth and/or expansion where appropriate.

OPTION No	SETTLEMENT	PERCENTAGE OF DEVELOPMENT	TOTAL NO OF DWELLINGS OVER 20 YEARS (161/yr from 2008-2028)
OPTION 1	Clitheroe	45%	1344 dwellings
	Longridge	5%	150 dwellings
	Whalley	30%	896 dwellings
	Villages	20%	597 dwellings

Option 2

Longridge will be viewed as a strategic growth area for the Ribble Valley and a focus of development striving to achieve a competitive and sustainable economy, providing opportunities not only for economic development but also for social and environmental improvement.

OPTION No	SETTLEMENT	PERCENTAGE OF DEVELOPMENT	TOTAL NO OF DWELLINGS OVER 20 YEARS (161/yr from 2008-2028)
OPTION 2	Clitheroe	24%	717 dwellings
	Longridge	30%	896 dwellings
	Whalley	23%	687 dwellings
	Villages	23%	687 dwellings

Option 3

Development in the borough will be accommodated through the strategic release of sites that can accommodate high levels of development. A number of strategic sites will be released to create opportunities for new local communities and areas of growth whilst supporting the protection of the wider environment for future generations.

OPTION No	SETTLEMENT	PERCENTAGE OF DEVELOPMENT	TOTAL NO OF DWELLINGS OVER 20 YEARS (161/yr from 2008-2028)
OPTION 3	Clitheroe	22%	657 dwellings
	Longridge	3%	90 dwellings
	Whalley	15%	448 dwellings
	Ribble Valley Growth Areas	60%	1792 dwellings

Option A

Development will be spread across the borough, allowing for small-scale development within all the borough's smaller settlements, creating opportunities for social and economic preservation and development for future generations. Provision will be made for development in the larger settlements, proportioned on the population distribution of the whole borough.

OPTION No	SETTLEMENT	PERCENTAGE OF DEVELOPMENT	TOTAL NO OF DWELLINGS OVER 20 YEARS (161/yr from 2008-2028)
OPTION A	Clitheroe	52%	1553 dwellings
	Longridge	27%	803 dwellings
	Whalley	11%	321 dwellings
	Other settlements	10%	310 dwellings

Option B

As option A with the following breakdown.

OPTION No	SETTLEMENT	PERCENTAGE OF DEVELOPMENT	TOTAL NO OF DWELLINGS OVER 20 YEARS (161/yr from 2008-2028)
OPTION B	Clitheroe	45%	1373 dwellings
	Longridge	25%	710 dwellings
	Whalley	10%	284 dwellings
	Other settlements	20%	620 dwellings

Option C

Development will be distributed across the borough, to allow an appropriate scale of development within all the borough's settlements, creating opportunities for social and economic well-being and development for future generations.

OPTION No	SETTLEMENT	PERCENTAGE OF DEVELOPMENT	TOTAL NO OF DWELLINGS OVER 20 YEARS (161/yr from 2008-2028)
OPTION C	Borough wide	100%	2987 dwellings

Option D

Development will be focussed towards a single strategic site located to the south of Clitheroe, towards the A59. The area is of an appropriate scale to accommodate approximately half of the borough's required housing and economic development. Development will be permitted at other locations in the borough to meet identified needs distributed in accordance with Option C.

OPTION No	SETTLEMENT	PERCENTAGE OF DEVELOPMENT	TOTAL NO OF DWELLINGS OVER 20 YEARS (161/yr from 2008-2028)
OPTION D	Site location: South of Clitheroe, towards the A59	50%	1500 dwellings
	Borough wide needs housing	50%	1487

Option E

Development will be focused towards land located at a single strategic location at Barrow. The area is of an appropriate scale to accommodate two thirds of the borough's required housing and economic development. Development will be permitted at other locations in the borough to meet identified needs distributed in accordance with Option C.

OPTION No	SETTLEMENT	PERCENTAGE OF DEVELOPMENT	TOTAL NO OF DWELLINGS OVER 20 YEARS (161/yr from 2008-2028)
OPTION E	Site location: Single strategic location at Barrow	65%	1950 dwellings
	Borough wide needs housing	35%	1040

Do-Minimum Option

The Do-Minimum option would broadly comprise a continuation of the spatial strategy outlined in the Districtwide Local Plan adopted in June 1998.

The plan seeks to focus development within the main settlement boundaries across the borough in the following broad pattern:

- Focus the majority of development in the main urban areas of Clitheroe, Longridge, Billington and Wilpshire (due to its proximity to Blackburn).
- Modest development within the urban areas of Mellor Brook, Read and Simonstone.
- Small scale infill or conversions in other rural villages.
- Other small scale development outside settlement boundaries where appropriate and in accordance with policy.

4.3.2 Results of the SA of Options

The appraisal matrices used to appraise the three options are presented in Appendix C. The following provides a summary of the SA findings and recommendations made.

Option 1

The option promotes 45% of development in Clitheroe and 30% in Whalley. Both settlements have good access to services and public transport links. There is also a secondary school in Clitheroe, a number of primary schools, major retail outlets, leisure opportunities and a range of

basic, essential services. There will, however, be a long-term shortage of primary school places in Clitheroe and Whalley and a shortage of secondary places in Whalley. Good access to open space and health care facilities can benefit levels of health and wellbeing for the towns residents. There is a more limited retail offer in Whalley although it contains a number of pubs and restaurants. It does, however, have more limited schools and health care provision compared to Clitheroe. 30% of the total growth in this area may put pressure on education and health service provision there.

Growth would benefit retail in Clitheroe and Whalley where transport connections are also strong. It would reduce the distance to travel to work by putting homes and jobs closer together in these areas. It is not possible to say whether jobs would benefit local people or be taken by people from outside the area.

The option also includes for very little development in Longridge (only 5%) and as such is a missed opportunity to capitalise on services and educational facilities in that area and to benefit from its existing employment and retail infrastructure. Longridge has three primary schools and a secondary school together with the Shay Lane Industrial Estate which is a major employer for the district.

The 20% of growth targeted towards villages would help to meet rural housing needs and secure services in those areas. This could also help to improve the viability of rural businesses thereby supporting the rural economy and potentially encouraging further economic development in those areas.

The general proposed pattern of development avoids risk of large amounts of development in the AONB and designated nature conservation sites (including the Bowland Fells SPA) although there is a degree of uncertainty regarding development in villages. If the proposed 597 dwellings were spread evenly amongst the rural settlements, this would equate to approximately 15 new dwellings in each settlement over the plan period which is unlikely to result in a significant effect upon the natural environment. This is providing that appropriate siting and design measures are employed through the development management policies and through cross reference to the AONB Management Plan⁹.

Whalley contains relatively few strategic environmental constraints. There are environmental constraints near to Clitheroe although it is not possible to say if they would be affected at this scale, for example the Clitheroe Knoll Reefs SSSI. There are Conservation Areas and SAMs in Longridge, Whalley and some villages although it is not possible to say if they would be affected at this scale.

The option focuses 80% of development in urban areas which indirectly provides protection to some of the more sensitive rural environments and increases the potential for development on brownfield land as opposed to greenfield land. It is, however, uncertain whether there would be effects upon the townscape of Clitheroe or Whalley. The option largely appears to avoid floodplain as identified in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) although there is floodplain in Whalley albeit it is uncertain whether this would be affected.

There are relatively few environmental constraints in Longridge (other than a Conservation Area) although only 5% of development is focussed in this area.

There are good public transport links in Clitheroe and Whalley thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air quality and CO₂ emissions. Nevertheless, an increase in

⁹ Forest of Bowland AONB Management Plan 2009 - 2014

development in Clitheroe has potential to increase traffic in the town centre which may affect the AQMA. The option may also add to congestion in Whalley unless new infrastructure is provided. There is some uncertainty regarding whether 20% growth in rural areas is likely to encourage private car use. However, on balance it is considered more likely that the support that this would give to local rural amenities would result in fewer trips by car to the market towns for everyday services.

Key Strengths:

- Focus of 80% of development in key market towns where there is good access to services and transport connections
- Balanced spread amongst rural areas to give support to rural housing and service needs
- Avoids important areas of environmental sensitivity

Key Weaknesses:

- Very limited development focussed in Longridge where a number of employment opportunities and services exist
- Significant proportion of growth in Whalley may put too much pressure on services there

Recommendations and Mitigation Potential

The option has numerous positive elements, including promotion of development in the main service centre of Clitheroe, together with proposals to support a controlled level of rural development. However, the following should be considered when developing a preferred spatial option:

- Increasing the proportion of development in Longridge would benefit economic development.
- New schools infrastructure should be provided to accommodate growth as part of new development in the key settlements listed.
- Provision of services such as health and social care could be enhanced in Whalley if development is proposed there.
- Lancashire County Council have identified that new traffic infrastructure would be needed in towns to accommodate growth¹⁰. Liaison with Network Rail should also be undertaken to confirm whether there is appropriate capacity in the rail network to accommodate this.
- There should be a greater focus on promoting walking and cycling as part of an integrated sustainable transport system.
- Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities should be provided to encourage local skills development.
- Supporting policy should be provided on identifying the most sustainable sites to maximise business benefits.
- A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale. This should also include strong design policies

¹⁰ LCC response to Core Strategy options consultation October 2010.

Option 2

The option promotes a more balanced spread of development amongst the principal market towns of Clitheroe (24%), Longridge (30%) and Whalley (23%). Access to services and public transport links are strongest in these areas and there are also primary and secondary schools in Clitheroe and Longridge. There is also good access to open space and health care facilities which can benefit levels of health and wellbeing. However, there is concern that the level of growth proposed for Whalley may put pressure on the level of services in that area, although not to the same extent as for Option 1. There will, for example, be a long-term shortage of primary school places in Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley and a shortage of secondary places in Whalley. The option is unlikely to have a significant impact on crime levels although there is some uncertainty regarding this. The best access to services and public transport is in Clitheroe although the amount of growth proposed here is considerably lower than in Option 1 – a slightly larger emphasis here may be beneficial. Connections are also strong in Whalley.

23% of growth in villages would help to meet rural housing needs and secure services in those areas. This could also help to improve the viability of rural businesses thereby supporting the rural economy and potentially encouraging further economic development.

The option could bring employment opportunities to Whalley as well as Clitheroe and Longridge. It would reduce the distance to travel to work by putting homes and jobs closer together in these areas. In particular, it would benefit retail growth in Clitheroe and Longridge. At the SA workshop, it was commented that Longridge is potentially more outward looking given its location on the boundary of the borough although this was not a reason to avoid growth in that area. It is not clear whether the economic benefits would necessarily be felt in Ribble Valley as opposed to Preston. It would also require a more cohesive approach to development in conjunction with Preston Council. It was also considered at the SA workshop that there may be opportunities for Clitheroe to take a larger share of development over Whalley.

With regard to environmental constraints, the option seeks to avoid the risk of large quantities of development in the AONB and designated nature conservation sites although there is uncertainty regarding development in villages situated within such areas (greater risk than Option 1). Similar to Option 1, if the proposed 687 dwellings were spread evenly amongst the rural settlements, this would equate to approximately 17 new dwellings in each settlement over the plan period which is unlikely to result in a significant effect upon the natural environment.

It is uncertain whether there would be effects upon the townscape of Clitheroe, Longridge or Whalley at this scale. There are environmental constraints near to Clitheroe although again, it is not possible to say if they would be affected at this scale. In contrast, there are relatively few environmental constraints in Whalley. There are Conservation Areas and SAMs in Longridge, Whalley and some villages although it is not possible to say if they would be affected at this scale. The option largely avoids significant areas of floodplain, as identified in the SFRA, although there is some uncertainty regarding whether or not it would be avoided in Whalley (although a smaller risk than Option 1).

There are good public transport links in Clitheroe and Whalley thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO₂ emissions. Nevertheless, an increase in development in Clitheroe has potential to increase traffic in the town centre which may affect the AQMA. The option may also add to congestion in Whalley unless new infrastructure is provided. Growth in rural areas which may support the retention/development of local services may also reduce the need to travel in those areas for local trips. Conversely, 23% of the proposed growth in such areas is also likely to generate car trips for longer journeys and potentially commuting.

Key Strengths:

- Focus of 77% of development in key market towns where there is good access to services and transport connections
- Adds strength to areas of existing employment focus such as Clitheroe and Longridge
- Balanced spread amongst rural areas to give support to rural housing and service needs
- Avoids important areas of environmental sensitivity

Key Weaknesses:

- Considerably less development in Clitheroe than Option 1 – misses opportunity to develop near to extensive existing services, employment opportunities and transport connections.
- Significant proportion of growth in Whalley may put too much pressure on services there.
- Need for significant highways investment in Longridge to accommodate this level of growth. Also requires more cohesive working with neighbouring authority. Potentially leading to greater uncertainty of outcome.

Recommendations and Mitigation Potential

The option has numerous positive elements, including promotion of development in the main service centres of Clitheroe, Longridge and also Whalley, together with proposals to support a rural development. It is a more balanced option than Option 1 due to the large levels of growth in Longridge which already contains significant employment infrastructure. However, the following should be considered when developing a preferred spatial option:

- There are opportunities to increase the proportion of development in Clitheroe and potentially reduce that in Whalley to maximise the benefits of service provision in Clitheroe whilst avoiding too much pressure being placed upon Whalley services.
- New schools infrastructure should be provided to accommodate growth as part of new development in each of the key settlements.
- Provision of services such as health and social care would need to be enhanced in Whalley.
- Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities should be provided to encourage local skills development.
- Policy on identifying the most sustainable sites is required to maximise business benefits.
- A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, especially in rural areas associated with the AONB. This would also include strong design policies.
- There should be a greater focus on promoting walking and cycling as part of an integrated sustainable transport system.

Option 3

This option includes a large proportion of development (60%) in the Ribble Valley Growth Areas. These correlate with development in a number of undefined rural settlements primarily within the River Ribble corridor. The remaining development would be in Clitheroe (22%), Longridge (3%) and Whalley (15%).

This large amount of rural development may have the effect of supporting [or conversely put pressure on] the viability and growth of services (e.g. primary schools, post offices, GPs etc) in rural areas which are currently at need. There is uncertainty over primary school capacity depending upon which villages take development. However, much would depend upon exactly

where and how development occurs – there remains considerable uncertainty regarding this point under Option 3. It would strongly help address rural housing needs. However, it is assumed that a proportion of new residents would be from outside of those areas and this has potential to affect community cohesion.

There is comparatively less emphasis on the key service centres than some other options albeit there is good access to services in Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley and primary and secondary schools in Clitheroe and Longridge. There will be a long-term shortage of primary school places in Clitheroe and Whalley and a shortage of secondary places in Whalley. Overall, there are missed opportunities to benefit access to employment and services in Longridge and to a lesser extent in Clitheroe.

The option would reduce the distance to travel to work by putting homes and jobs closer together in Clitheroe - transport connections are also strong in Clitheroe and Whalley. Employment opportunities may also be generated through the growth in Whalley and the retail economy would be benefited in Clitheroe although this could be further enhanced if a larger proportion of development were to be focussed here. However, the option does little to benefit Longridge where there exists a range of employment opportunities already. It is possible that key service centres may be adversely affected through the provision of more localised rural services.

The 60% rural provision could help to improve viability of rural services, businesses and rural diversification. This may also benefit economic inclusion. However, transport connections to rural areas are poor and few villages have the highways infrastructure in place to accommodate such large levels of growth. An erosion of rural character may occur which could adversely affect tourism in those areas.

The option has a much greater risk of eroding rural landscapes and village character including in the AONB than Options 1 and 2. It is also likely to put more pressure on greenfield land rather than brownfield. The more rural nature of development means that effects upon groundwater quality and pollution of high quality environments is more likely. Similarly, the value of the ecological environment is greater in rural areas and is hence at greater risk. It is uncertain whether there would be effects upon the townscape of Clitheroe or Whalley. However, there are relatively few environmental constraints in Longridge (other than a Conservation Area) so this could be a better area to focus more development.

There are good public transport links in Clitheroe and Whalley thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO₂ emissions. Nevertheless, an increase in development in Clitheroe has potential to increase traffic in the town centre which may affect the AQMA. The option may also add to congestion in Whalley unless new infrastructure is provided. Any benefits are likely to be offset by the large amount of rural development. On balance, 60% growth in rural areas is likely to greatly encourage private car use for longer trips although an increase in provision of local services in those areas may make them more self-sufficient and reduce the number of shorter journeys. The limited public transport provision in rural areas is a significant barrier to limiting private car dependency.

It is not possible to assess the effect of the option upon heritage or floodplain without knowing the exact location of development. There is floodplain in Whalley although it is uncertain whether this would be affected.

Key Strengths:

- Some development in key market towns where there is good access to services and transport connections although much lower than options 1 and 2

- Strong support to delivering rural housing and service needs

Key Weaknesses:

- Higher risk of erosion of rural character and natural environment
- Significant uncertainty regarding exactly how much rural development would occur and where – it cannot be assumed that there would necessarily be an even distribution
- Considerably less development in Clitheroe than Option 1 – misses opportunity to develop near to extensive existing services, employment opportunities and transport connections
- Very limited development focussed in Longridge where a number of employment opportunities and services exist
- Lancashire County Council¹⁰ have identified that there is inadequate highways infrastructure in many rural areas to accommodate levels of traffic growth. Allied with poor levels of public transport infrastructure this is likely increase in private car dependency

Recommendations and Mitigation Potential

This option places a large emphasis upon rural development with a comparatively smaller proportion of growth in the market towns (notably Longridge) than Option 2. Whilst this is positive for rural needs, it misses an opportunity to maximise the benefits of service provision in the urban areas an overall is likely to have a greater environmental impact. The following more detailed recommendations are made for this option:

- A greater emphasis on growth in Clitheroe and Longridge would be beneficial. Increasing the proportion of development in Longridge would benefit job creation and a smaller and more balanced proportion in rural areas would help to reduce the potential cumulative environmental impacts.
- New schools infrastructure should be provided to accommodate growth as part of new development in each of the key settlements and across rural areas to meet demand.
- The supporting policy framework should seek to focus on community integration in rural areas.
- Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would be beneficial.
- Policy on identifying the most sustainable sites is required to maximise business benefits.
- A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, with a major focus on rural areas. This would also include strong design policies.
- There should be a greater focus on promoting walking and cycling as part of an integrated sustainable transport system.

Option A

The option proposes a more balanced spread of development across the borough compared with Options 1-3, although just over half is focussed in Clitheroe, with 38% in Longridge and Whalley and 10% in the rural settlements.

The focus of development in Clitheroe has a number of positive sustainability outcomes, notably, this is the main service centre where public transport links, jobs and services are strongest. As described above, services and transport links are also available in Longridge and Whalley although this option promotes a larger proportion of development in Longridge in

particular which should help to take advantage of the good employment infrastructure in that area. It would reduce the distance to travel to work by putting homes and jobs closer together in Clitheroe and Longridge. Overall, this option is likely to perform the strongest in terms of economic development. However, at the SA workshop, it was commented that Longridge is potentially more outward looking given its location on the boundary of the borough and some economic growth benefits may be realised in areas such as Preston rather than Ribble Valley. Extensive expansion in Clitheroe may reduce its visual appeal thereby potentially affecting the tourism industry, although this is uncertain.

The 10% provision for rural areas may also contribute to aims to support rural diversification albeit not as strongly as some other options. The levels of growth in Clitheroe are the largest of all the options. There is some uncertainty over whether this could put too much pressure on local services such as schools and healthcare and other areas may fail to benefit from investment. The option proposes the smallest amount of development in rural areas. These areas may require a slightly greater focus to benefit service and housing provision.

Secondary and primary schools are located in Clitheroe and Longridge together with health services and good access to urban open space thereby encouraging the pursuit of healthier lifestyles and improved access to education. There will, however, be a long-term shortage of primary school places in Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley and a shortage of secondary places in Whalley. 10% of growth in villages would help to meet rural housing needs and secure services in those areas but only to a limited extent. The option does little to address the issue of poor public transport in rural areas especially for low-income families – this may lead to disparities being increased.

In terms of the environment, the option avoids the risk of large amounts of development occurring in the AONB and designated nature conservation sites. The small amount of rural development proposed suggests this may be better than some of the other options proposed. Nonetheless, there are environmental constraints near to Clitheroe although it is not possible to say if they would be affected at this scale. Similarly, it is uncertain whether there would be effects upon the townscape of Clitheroe, Longridge or Whalley but given the large amounts of development in Clitheroe this is possible.

There are Conservation Areas and SAMs in Longridge, Whalley and some villages although it is not possible to say if they would be affected. On balance, the focus on urban areas increases the potential to develop brownfield land instead of greenfield.

There are good public transport links in Clitheroe, Whalley and to a lesser extent in Longridge thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO₂ emissions. However, conversely, it would do little to reduce car dependence in rural areas, notably for short trips. An increase in development in Clitheroe has potential to increase traffic in the town centre which may affect the AQMA. The option may also add to congestion in Whalley unless new infrastructure is provided. It can also be easier to develop recycling schemes in urban areas compared with geographically decentralised rural areas.

The option largely avoids significant areas of floodplain, as identified in the SFRA, although there is some uncertainty regarding Whalley (although a smaller risk than Options 1, 2 and 3).

Key Strengths:

- Focus of 90% of development in key market towns where there is good access to services and transport connections, notably 52% in Clitheroe
- Adds strength to areas of existing employment focus such as Clitheroe and Longridge - this option is strong with regard to the economy

- Some, albeit small amount, of development in rural areas to give support to rural housing and service needs
- Avoids important areas of environmental sensitivity and limited rural development

Key Weaknesses:

- Largest proportion of development in Clitheroe out of all the options – has potential to put pressure on services there and other areas (eg rural areas) may miss out
- Lancashire County Council¹⁰ identify that there would be a need for significant highways investment in Longridge to accommodate this level of growth. Also requires more cohesive working with neighbouring authority. Potentially leading to greater uncertainty of outcome
- Relatively limited proposals for rural areas compared to other options – rural needs may not be met

Recommendations and Mitigation Potential

On balance this option performs well against the economic SA objectives although it does the least for rural connectivity and access to services. The following recommendations are proposed:

- A slight re-balance between development in Clitheroe and rural areas could address a wider range of potential issues raised by this option, including pressure on services in Clitheroe and only a weak focus on rural areas.
- New schools infrastructure should be provided to accommodate growth as part of new development in each of the key settlements.
- Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would help develop skills.
- Policy on identifying the most sustainable sites is required to maximise business benefits.
- Broadband access is limited in rural areas. This would need to be improved to help support business development. A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, especially in rural areas associated with the AONB.
- This would also include strong design policies, and include where large areas of growth are proposed such as in Clitheroe.
- The County Council¹⁰ identify that localised highways improvements may be required in all town centres to accommodate new growth. If combined with public transport and sustainable travel connections, the increase in traffic may be mitigated.
- Infrastructure development in Longridge would need cohesive support from Ribble Valley and Preston councils.

Option B

The option promotes development in Clitheroe (45%), Longridge (25%) and Whalley (10%) where there is good access to services and public transport links. There is also a secondary school and a number of primary schools in Clitheroe and one in Longridge which may benefit educational attainment for residents in those areas. 20% of the proposed growth would be focussed in rural settlements and would help to meet rural housing needs and secure services.

Overall, the option is similar to Option A in many respects although there is a larger focus on rural areas and a slightly reduced focus on Clitheroe. This has a lower potential to put excessive

pressure on services in Clitheroe and a greater potential to encourage the development of the rural economy and secure local rural services through providing a larger market. There will be a long-term shortage of primary school places in Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley and a shortage of secondary places in Whalley.

Similar to Option A, this option avoids large amounts of development in the AONB and designated nature conservation sites. However, there is greater uncertainty with this option given that 20% of development will occur in rural areas. Nevertheless, if development were to be spread fairly evenly amongst the villages, this would equate to around 10-15 new dwellings in each which may be able to be accommodated with relatively little environmental impact.

As with other options it is not possible to say that designated areas (including heritage sites) will be avoided or adversely affected without detailed proposals which are not available at this strategic level. For example, there are environmental constraints near to Clitheroe although it is not possible to say if they would be affected at this scale. Similarly, it is uncertain whether there would be effects upon the townscape of Clitheroe, Longridge or Whalley. It is, however, considered that there is an increased risk of adversely affecting the rural character of the borough (on a cumulative basis) compared with Option A, due to the larger proportion of rural development.

The good public transport links associated with the market towns is beneficial in terms of helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO₂ emissions. Nevertheless, an increase in development in Clitheroe has potential to increase traffic in the town centre which may affect the AQMA. The option may also add to congestion in Whalley unless new traffic infrastructure is provided. It is also assumed that rural development on this scale would benefit local rural services, thereby helping to reduce the number of trips made by car to larger settlements for essential goods and services.

The option largely avoids significant areas of floodplain, as identified in the SFRA, although there is some uncertainty regarding Whalley (although a smaller risk than Options 1, 2 and 3).

Key Strengths:

- Focus of 80% of development in key market towns where there is good access to services and transport connections
- Adds strength to areas of existing employment focus such as Clitheroe and Longridge - this option is strong with regard to the economy
- Development in rural areas to give support to rural housing and service needs
- Avoids important areas of environmental sensitivity and limited rural development
- Balanced spread of development with key service centre focus should provide an overall better balance in terms of minimising road journeys with consequent benefits with respect to carbon emissions and energy use

Key Weaknesses:

- The County Council identify the need for significant highways investment in Longridge to accommodate this level of growth. Also requires more cohesive working with neighbouring authority. Potentially leading to greater uncertainty of outcome

Recommendations and Mitigation Potential

This option presents a more balanced approach than Option A and provides more emphasis upon meeting rural needs. There is potential for this to result in a greater, cumulative erosion of

rural character although through appropriate design and siting guidelines, this could be mitigated. Recommendations are as follows:

- Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would be beneficial.
- Supporting policy should be included that helps to identify the most sustainable sites is required to maximise business benefits.
- New schools infrastructure should be provided to accommodate growth as part of new development in each of the key settlements.
- A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, especially in rural areas associated with the AONB. Consideration should be given to the AONB Management Plan.
- This would also include strong design policies.
- Policies which support the provision of rural public/sustainable transport would also be important additions.
- There should be a greater focus on promoting walking and cycling as part of an integrated sustainable transport system.

Option C

This option identifies that development will be distributed across the borough, to allow an appropriate scale of development within all the settlements, creating opportunities for social and economic well-being and development for future generations. Beyond that, there is no further guidance over where development should be located.

Consequently, the outcome of this option is extremely uncertain. Under one scenario this may be very beneficial for certain parts of the community, for example rural areas which may see a more even spread of development across the borough and provision of more local services, or rural regeneration/diversification. However, the option may equally result in all development occurring in the market towns depending upon market forces. This could potentially put too much pressure in these areas and provide insufficient benefits to others. The option does not provide any certainty regarding who will benefit or otherwise.

It is far from certain whether this option will aid rural diversification or whether it will capitalise upon the advantages of economic growth in the market towns of Clitheroe and Longridge. It is assumed that a strong supporting policy framework will help to avoid significant adverse environmental effects although this would be less effective without a clear spatial strategy which seeks to protect and enhance the environment. In particular, there is concern over whether this option could result in significant adverse effects upon the European designated Bowland Fells SPA, either as a result of one project or the cumulative effects of multiple developments.

The uncertainty associated with this option gives rise to a risk that significant environmental harm may result. The option provides no certainty regarding what will be protected and/or enhanced.

Key Strengths:

- Has potential to result in a balanced spread of development to meet all local needs and reduce the need to travel. However, this is very dependent upon market forces and it is by no means certain that the best outcome would be achieved.

Key Weaknesses:

- There is very little guidance with this option which gives rise to the possibility that significant amounts of inappropriate development may occur, including in environmentally sensitive areas. This may put too much pressure on services in some areas and other areas which are in need of investment may fail to benefit from investment.
- The approach gives a great deal of emphasis to individual developers with only the strategic policy framework to rely on. This would not be a guaranteed approach to resolving the borough's strategic sustainability issues and problems.

Recommendations and Mitigation Potential

Far more direction is required in this option to maximise benefits where they are required and minimise adverse effects. Without this there is a risk that significant environmental harm may occur and the Borough's socio-economic needs may not be fulfilled. Whilst, a strong policy framework could be included to help protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, overall this is not considered to be a sustainable option for the borough.

Option D

This option identifies that 50% of the growth will be focussed on a single site to the south of Clitheroe with the remaining 50% being evenly distributed across the borough as per Option C.

For 50% of this option, there exists considerable uncertainty about where development will be located and whether or not it would be appropriate. As such the outcomes of the appraisal are similar to those in Option C although the potential risks are lower given the level of borough-wide development is half of that proposed in Option C.

Bearing this in mind, there is greater certainty regarding the remaining 50% of development which is focussed towards a single site adjacent to the A59, south of Clitheroe. The option to promote development near to Clitheroe has a number of advantages including: there is good access to services and public transport links in Clitheroe; there are secondary and primary schools in Clitheroe; and there is access to open space in Clitheroe which can encourage healthier lifestyles. The extension provides an opportunity to create a development which can draw upon the existing amenities in Clitheroe whilst also providing an element of self-sustainability. Local benefits could be achieved through the Community Infrastructure Levy. There would be a significant shortfall in primary and secondary school places at the new development which would need to be provided for at the site.

It would reduce the distance to travel to work by putting homes and jobs closer together in Clitheroe. The strategic site should explicitly include employment provision to maximise this.

As with Options 1, A and B, the levels of growth in Clitheroe are substantial. There is some uncertainty over whether this could put too much pressure on local services and other areas may not benefit. Given development would effectively comprise a new extension to the town there are concerns about achieving cohesion between the new community and the existing. Furthermore, significant expansion in Clitheroe may reduce its visual appeal thereby potentially affecting the tourism industry, although this is uncertain. There is also no clear reference to other market towns such as Longridge which would potentially result in employment opportunities being missed. The option could bring employment opportunities to Clitheroe which is well-placed to benefit from this given the existing employment and retail infrastructure present.

Focussing 50% of growth in an extension to Clitheroe would result in development avoiding the AONB and statutory nature conservation designations. However, it is uncertain where 50% of development would go and this may result in impacts on these sites. It is also likely that in Clitheroe, greenfield land would be used although it is uncertain whether this would be the case

in other areas. This may affect the local landscape around the town and may affect views from the AONB. Similarly, as with all greenfield development, there is a possibility of localised loss of biodiversity, ground water pollution, increased surface run-off risk and overall it represents a less sustainable use of land.

There are good public transport links in Clitheroe thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO₂ emissions. However, this may be offset by other development in the borough. Similarly, an increase in development in Clitheroe has potential to put pressure on the AQMA in the town centre. Traffic associated with the strategic site is likely to generate additional movements on the strategic highway network that may extend outside the borough. It may attract/generate trips into neighbouring areas such as Preston and Blackburn which could put pressure on the existing network.

Whilst the Clitheroe site would avoid development in floodplain, it is not known where other development would take place.

New developments on a large scale such as at Clitheroe have potential to utilise a high degree of sustainable construction methods, energy efficiency and potentially renewable energy sources such as Combined Heat and Power (CHP) or district heating schemes. They can also include comprehensive walking and cycling networks and access to greenspace and play areas.

Key Strengths:

- The strategic site provides good access to amenities and jobs in Clitheroe and is close to the strategic transport network
- The strategic site presents an opportunity to create a high quality sustainable development if well planned
- The strategic site development could be tightly controlled through the strategic planning framework
- The strategic site would avoid the most environmentally sensitive areas of the borough
- There is an opportunity for rural needs to be met through the 50% borough-wide development, although there is some uncertainty regarding this

Key Weaknesses:

- The scale of the strategic site has potential to result in local landscape and visual intrusion, including views from the AONB towards Clitheroe
- The strategic site would put pressure on the highway network although this could be mitigated through appropriate infrastructure provision and planning at the local level
- The 50% borough-wide development presents a great deal of uncertainty regarding where this may go. It is not clear whether this would meet the borough's needs or not without further controls and guidance.

Recommendations and Mitigation Potential

Although there are a number of positive aspects of focussing 50% of the development on a defined site next to Clitheroe, there are also a number of uncertainties regarding where the remaining 50% would be located. As with Option C, more direction is required regarding this 50% to maximise benefits where they are required and minimise adverse effects.

Recommendations are as follows:

- Given the size of the Clitheroe extension, this development would need an appropriate degree of self-sustenance in terms of local amenities, services and public transport links.

Good sustainable transport access to the Clitheroe amenities and transport hub would be essential. Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would help.

- Sufficient primary and secondary school places would be required to be provided as part of development.
- A masterplan for the site should be created to enable a more strategic level of control by the council over what is developed at the strategic site. This should incorporate a careful phasing plan to best achieve a sustainable level of service and infrastructure provision.
- Alleviating potential traffic congestion would be an important aspect for this option. This could include local highways infrastructure improvements, multiple access points and provision of effective public/sustainable transport linkages.
- Policy on identifying the most sustainable sites for the remaining 50% is required to maximise business benefits.
- A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, especially in rural areas associated with the AONB. This would also include strong design policies, and include where large areas of growth are proposed such as in Clitheroe.

Option E

This option proposes 65% of development on a single strategic site at Barrow with the remaining 35% being distributed across the borough to meet local needs.

For 35% of the option, as with previous similar options, the outcome is uncertain as there is no guidance as to where this development will go. However, there is less uncertainty than with Options D and C.

Currently service provision (including essential services) in Barrow is relatively poor and a new development would need to provide for this to be viable. Transport links include good road access and bus access to Clitheroe and Whalley. The railway runs adjacent to Barrow and there are opportunities to develop a new railway station for the site.

There is also a secondary school in nearby Clitheroe and a number of primary schools although these would come under pressure in the long-term. There are also opportunities to provide open amenity space within the development to encourage healthier lifestyles for its residents. Whilst the development would provide new housing, it is possible that this may be more attractive to residents from outside the borough. The good road and potential rail access to the site may result in it becoming a commuter village with economic activity occurring outside the borough. Subsequently, there are concerns about this becoming an isolated commuter development which may not achieve social cohesion with surrounding areas or a sense of community spirit.

Aside from the undetermined 35% of the overall development levels, there are no clear provisions for development in other market towns. Opportunities may be missed to capitalise on existing services and employment in these areas and similarly towns such as Clitheroe and Whalley may be overlooked for a level of development which may be beneficial for their vitality. The option also does little to address the issue of poor public transport in rural areas especially for low-income families – this may lead to disparities being increased.

The Barrow site is near to employment opportunities in Clitheroe which is well placed to benefit in terms of existing employment and retail infrastructure. It is not clear whether the Barrow site would include new employment opportunities other than during construction. It is possible that long-term jobs may not be created. Significant expansion in Barrow may also reduce its visual appeal, although this is uncertain. It is far from certain whether this option will aid rural

diversification or whether it will capitalise upon the advantages of economic growth in the market towns, for example Longridge.

With regard to environmental issues, the Barrow site is not located in Greenbelt, AONB or any protected ecological sites, thereby these areas would be indirectly protected. It also lies outside of known floodplain, there are no known strategic heritage constraints and it is likely to avoid exacerbation of adverse air quality within the Clitheroe AQMA. Traffic associated with the strategic site is likely to generate additional movements on the strategic highway network that may extend outside the borough. It may attract/generate trips into neighbouring areas such as Preston and Blackburn which could put pressure on the existing network.

Greenfield land would need to be used for the Barrow development which would adversely affect the local landscape character, biodiversity and water quality as with Option D.

Conversely, new developments on a large scale such as at Barrow have potential to utilise a high degree of sustainable construction methods, energy efficiency and potentially renewable energy sources such as CHP or district heating schemes. Local benefits could also be achieved through the Community Infrastructure Levy.

Whilst the Barrow site would avoid development in floodplain, it is not known where other development would take place. The option provides no certainty regarding what will be protected and/or enhanced for 35% of the proposed growth.

Key Strengths:

- The strategic site is close to the strategic transport network
- The strategic site presents an opportunity to create a high quality self-sustaining development if well planned
- The strategic site development could be tightly controlled through the strategic planning framework
- The strategic site would avoid the most environmentally sensitive areas of the borough
- There is an opportunity for rural needs to be met through the 35% borough-wide development, although there is some uncertainty regarding this

Key Weaknesses:

- The scale of the strategic site has potential to result in local landscape and visual intrusion, including views from the AONB
- The strategic site would put pressure on the highway network although this could be mitigated through appropriate infrastructure provision and planning at the local level
- The 35% borough-wide development presents a great deal of uncertainty regarding where this may go. It is not clear whether this would meet the borough's needs or not without further controls and guidance.

Recommendations and Mitigation Potential

The majority of development is focussed towards a new strategic site at Barrow. Currently there are no existing facilities to support such a development in this area, so the relative sustainability merits of this proposal would depend upon its ability to provide such services and create a self-sustaining community. Consequently there is some uncertainty regarding whether this is fully achievable. As with some other options, there also remains significant uncertainty regarding where the remaining 35% of development would be located. Recommendations are as follows:

- Far more direction is required in this option to maximise benefits where they are required and minimise adverse effects.
- Given the size and nature of the Barrow site, this development would need an appropriate degree of self-sustenance in terms of local amenities, including greenspace provision, public transport improvements, health services, primary school, post office and local shops.
- A masterplan for the site should be created to enable a more strategic level of control by the council over what is developed.
- Employment and service opportunities should be provided within the Barrow development.
- Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would be beneficial.
- Policy on identifying the most sustainable sites for the remaining 35% of development is required to maximise business benefits.
- Alleviating potential traffic congestion would be an important aspect for this option. This could include local highways infrastructure improvements, multiple access points and provision of effective public/sustainable transport linkages.
- A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, especially in rural areas associated with the AONB. This would also include strong design policies, and include where large areas of growth are proposed such as in Barrow. This may include high standards of sustainable construction and sustainable energy schemes.
- Development of a station would be an important component of delivering a sustainable site if this option were taken forward.
- As for Option D, a new development provides a number of opportunities to engineer a sustainable community although strong planning controls would be required to ensure this becomes a reality.
- There should be a greater focus on promoting walking and cycling as part of an integrated sustainable transport system.

Do-Minimum Option

This option directs most development to four identified main urban areas - Clitheroe, Longridge, Wilpshire and Billington. Clitheroe and Longridge provide the highest concentration of services, community facilities and transport connections in the borough and more limited development is also proposed in smaller settlements which may encourage service viability in those areas. Clitheroe and Longridge also contain the only secondary schools in the borough. The option may also help to meet housing needs in the areas identified. The option could bring employment opportunities to Clitheroe and Longridge being well-placed to benefit from this given the existing employment and transport infrastructure present. It would reduce the distance to travel to work by putting homes and jobs closer together in Clitheroe and Longridge. Growth would benefit retail in Clitheroe and Longridge. Longridge is potentially more outward looking given its location on the boundary of the borough. The same may be said about other settlements such as Wilpshire which has connections with Blackburn. It is not clear if the economic benefits created there would all be realised within Ribble Valley. Infrastructure development here would need cohesive support from Ribble Valley, Blackburn with Darwen and Preston councils. Furthermore, it is considered that Clitheroe and Longridge have the strongest capacity for economic development whereas the other main settlements listed are relatively weak in this sense and have poorer transport connections.

Whilst development in Clitheroe and Longridge has a number of advantages, the settlements of Wilpshire, Billington, Read, Simonstone and Mellor Brook have more limited offer in terms of access to services, health care and educational establishments. This may lead to an exacerbation of problems in those areas if significant growth is proposed. Billington and Wilpshire are, however, located next to the railway enabling access to services in Whalley and Blackburn districts.

The option does not propose any development in Whalley, which, with its good public transport links and local services has arguably more potential to accommodate limited development than some other settlements – although traffic congestion is noted as an existing issue there.

Overall, the option is not specific in terms of the quantities of where development should go so it is quite uncertain compared to other options. The option is fairly unspecific overall and in particular it mentions little about the level of appropriate rural development which may encourage rural regeneration, diversification and improved access to services.

In environmental terms, the option avoids the risk of large amounts of development in the AONB and designated nature conservation sites. Rural development is proposed within settlement boundaries only. However, the supporting policy with the Districtwide Local Plan with regard to environmental protection is relatively weak and provides insufficient protection to the European Designated sites in particular. There are no significant environmental designations associated with the main settlements identified.

For a number of topics such as heritage and townscape, it is not possible to say that heritage constraints will be avoided with any certainty at this scale. There are Conservation Areas and/or SAMs in Longridge, Clitheroe, Simonstone and some villages although it is not possible to say if they would be affected without knowing the exact amount and location of development proposed. Focussing on urban areas does, however, broadly increase the potential to develop brownfield land in place of greenfield.

There are good public transport links in Clitheroe and to a lesser extent in Longridge thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO₂ emissions. Also, including an (unknown) element of rural development can encourage rural service viability thereby reducing the need to travel longer distances for essential services. However, conversely as the general the pattern of development proposed is fairly spread out, it may encourage private car use and hence greenhouse gas emissions and localised adverse air quality. The AQMA in Clitheroe may be put under pressure by the increase in possible traffic. Congestion may worsen in Clitheroe and in the Whalley area as a possible result of development at Billington.

The option largely avoids floodplain although there is some uncertainty regarding development near to Billington.

Key Strengths:

- Focussing development in Clitheroe and Longridge has a number of benefits including maximising access to services, jobs and transport links.
- A more dispersed spread of development may result in benefits across a wider areas of the borough (although this depends upon how it is implemented).
- Avoids the risk of large amounts of development in the AONB and designated nature conservation sites

Key Weaknesses:

- There is considerable uncertainty with this option regarding the proportion and precise location of development under this strategy going forward.
- The settlements of Wilpshire, Billington, Read, Simonstone and Mellor Brook have more limited offer in terms of access to services, health care and educational establishments. This may lead to an exacerbation of problems in those areas if significant growth is proposed.
- The option is fairly unspecific about rural regeneration and investment in rural areas.
- The supporting policy with the Districtwide Local Plan with regard to environmental protection is relatively weak and provides insufficient protection to the European Designated sites in particular.
- There is uncertainty regarding the effect upon CO₂ emissions.

Recommendations and Mitigation Potential

Whilst this option has a number of sustainability benefits, it should be noted that it was developed in the past for the needs identified at that time. If it were to be continued, there would be a number of potential concerns which would need to be addressed. Examples of these are as follows:

- Improved service and public transport provision would need to be provided in Wilpshire, Billington, Read, Simonstone and Mellor Brook otherwise the amount of development proposed here should be reduced and focussed more towards the larger settlements (Clitheroe and Longridge) which would be better able to accommodate growth.
- Localised highways improvements may be required in town centres to accommodate new growth. If combined with public transport and sustainable travel connections, the increase in traffic may be mitigated.
- Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would help.
- Policy on identifying the most sustainable sites is required to maximise business benefits.
- Infrastructure development in Longridge, Wilpshire, Read and Simonstone would need cohesive support from Ribble Valley and neighbouring councils
- Environmental protection policies, particularly with regard to European Sites are relatively weak and should be strengthened.
- A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, especially in rural areas associated with the AONB.
- Overall, the supporting policy framework would need strengthening in line with current proposals.

Summary of options appraisal

Each of the eight alternative spatial options provides an approach to the distribution of development across the borough. The assessment has sought to assess the relative sustainability merits against the same set of sustainability criteria using the SA Framework.

It should be noted that a number of options are relatively similar albeit for slight variations in the amount of development apportioned to different geographies. This is a strategic assessment of strategic options so fine details of exactly where and how development will be taken forward are not yet established. Consequently, there remains a degree of uncertainty with assessment at this scale which cannot be filled in until the SA of site allocations during the next phase of the LDF preparation. However, it is still possible to make some strong conclusions about the relative risks of the options at this scale in order to help influence broad areas of development towards

the most sustainable outcomes. This will provide a sound framework for more detailed decisions in the future.

The assessment has concluded the following high-level spatial priorities to contribute towards a sustainable development pattern:

- A primary focus of development on key market towns to maximise access to services, public transport linkages and jobs, notably in Clitheroe and to a lesser extent in Longridge and Whalley. This also helps to avoid large amounts of development in the most environmentally sensitive areas of the borough.
- A degree of development in rural settlements to meet local needs.
- This provision of a balanced strategy would minimise the effects upon the transport network and would enable realistic levels of growth to be achieved in major centres to retain their vibrancy whilst also encouraging growth in rural areas to preserve their viability and reduce the need to travel.
- Specific reference to areas rather than broad statements such as 'borough-wide' in order to reduce levels of uncertainty.
- The need to avoid development in sensitive environmental areas, notably the AONB (unless tightly controlled) and ecological designations such as SSSIs, the SAC and the SPA. Similarly, the need to avoid a cumulative erosion of rural character through excessive rural development.
- Whilst there are some merits to developing strategic sites, especially within reach of existing centres, there should be strict guidance as to how such sites are developed, integrated and can incorporate an appropriate level of self-sustainability, together with addressing their transport infrastructure needs.

Option 1 performs strongly with respect to focussing development in market towns whilst also giving support to rural needs and minimising adverse effects upon the natural environment. However, it misses an opportunity to capitalise on co-location of homes, jobs and services in Longridge and potentially places too much pressure on services and traffic infrastructure in Whalley. Option 2 also performs well in terms of focussing in market towns and includes more development in Longridge. However, it is considered that more development would be appropriate in Clitheroe than is proposed here and potentially too much pressure could be put on services in Whalley. Option 3 would provide a lower level of growth in the market towns, thereby not fulfilling the potential to co-locate homes and services, jobs and transport infrastructure. Instead, a large proportion of development is proposed for rural areas which has the potential to erode rural character, the natural environment and encourage a greater dependence upon the private car. Conversely, Options 1 and 2 would offer greater levels of protection to the natural environment such as the AONB through focussing more development in the market towns. The highways infrastructure in these areas is inadequate to accommodate this level of development.

Option A provides the majority of development in the three main market towns including over 50% in Clitheroe. This level of development has potential to put considerable pressure on services in Clitheroe. Only 10% is earmarked for rural areas which is seen as relatively limited compared to other options and may not result in rural needs being met.

Option B provides a more balanced approach with 80% of development focussed in the market towns where there is good access to services and transport connections. 20% is focussed in rural areas to provide support to rural housing needs and retention of services without significantly affecting rural character or the natural environment. This should provide a balanced spread of development with key service centre focus should provide an overall better balance in

terms of minimising road journeys with consequent benefits with respect to carbon emissions and energy use. Overall this is considered to be the most balanced and sustainable option proposed.

Option C proposes borough-wide housing depending upon local needs. There is very little guidance with this option which gives rise to the possibility that significant amounts of inappropriate development may occur, including in environmentally sensitive areas. This may put too much pressure on services in some areas and other areas which are in need of investment may miss out. There is also the risk that this approach gives a great deal of emphasis to individual developers which would not necessarily guarantee a sustainable approach to future development.

Option D proposes half the growth in a strategic site south of Clitheroe and half spread across the remaining borough. The strategic site presents a number of opportunities if its design and implementation are tightly controlled, for example, it would provide good access to amenities and jobs in Clitheroe and is close to the strategic transport network, it would avoid the most environmentally sensitive areas of the borough and there are opportunities to implement high-levels of sustainable design. However, the scale of the strategic site has potential to result in local landscape and visual intrusion, including views from the AONB towards Clitheroe and it would require considerable highways infrastructure improvements to ensure against potentially significant effects upon the strategic transport network. The 50% borough-wide development presents a great deal of uncertainty regarding where this may go. It is not clear whether this would meet the borough's needs or not without further controls and guidance.

Option E proposes a strategic site at Barrow to take 65% of the borough's growth over the plan-period. As with Option D this presents an opportunity to create a high-quality sustainable new settlement if its design and implementation are tightly controlled. It would also avoid significant development in the more environmentally sensitive parts of the borough. There is also an opportunity for rural needs to be met through the 35% borough-wide development, although there is some uncertainty regarding this. However, as with option D, The scale of the strategic site has potential to result in local landscape and visual intrusion, including views from the AONB and it would put significant pressure on the highways network, although this could potentially be mitigated at the local level.

Overall, none of the options address the issue of poor public transport in rural areas especially for low-income families – this may lead to disparities being increased. All of the options would also require additional investment in transport infrastructure based upon feedback from Lancashire County Council.

A summary comparison of the assessment of the options and the preferred option is presented in Table 4-2.

Table 4-2 Summary of Assessment Scores of the Spatial Strategy Options

SA Objectives	Strategic Options								
	1	2	3	A	B	C	D	E	DM
To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime	0	0	0	0	0	?	0	0	?
To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society	+	+	+	+	+	?	+/?	+/?	+/-
To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	+	+	?	+/?	?	+/-

SA Objectives	Strategic Options								
	1	2	3	A	B	C	D	E	DM
To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need	+	+	+	+	+	?	+/?	+/?	+/-
To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion	?	?	-	?	?	?	-	-	?
To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	+	++	++	+	+	?	+/?	?	+/-
To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the Borough	+	++	+/-	++	++	?	+/?	?	+
To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market	+	+	+	+	+	?	+/?	0	+
To encourage economic inclusion	?	?	+	+/-	?	?	?	0	?
To strengthen the economic base of market towns	+	++	+	++	++	?	+/-	0	++
To encourage rural regeneration and diversification	+	+	++	+0	+	?	?	?	?
To develop and market the Borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit.	+	+	+/-	+	+	?	+	+/?	+
To protect and enhance biodiversity	+/?	+/?	-	+	+	?	?	+/?	+/?
To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality	+/?	+/?	--	+/-	+/?	?	-	+/-	+/?
To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+/?	?
To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources	+/?	+/?	-	+/?	+/?	?	-/?	-/?	+/?
To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary	+	+	-	+	+	?	-/?	-/?	+
To limit and adapt to climate change	+/-	+/-	--	+/-	+/-	?	?	+/-	+/-
To protect and improve air quality	+/-	+/-	-	+/-	+/-	?	?	0	+/-
To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+/?	?
To ensure sustainable use of natural resources	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+/?	?
To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling	+	+	-	+	+	?	?	+/?	+/-
To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport	+	+	--	+	+	?	+	+/?	+/-

4.4 The Preferred Spatial Strategy Option

4.4.1 The Preferred Spatial Strategy

The preferred strategy for Ribble Valley is:

The majority of new housing development will be concentrated within an identified strategic site located to the south of Clitheroe towards the A59 and the main urban areas of the borough. Strategic employment opportunities will be promoted through the development of the Barrow Enterprise Site as a main location for employment, and the Salmesbury Enterprise Zone.

In general, the scale of planned housing growth will be managed to reflect existing population size, the availability of, or the opportunity to provide facilities to serve the development and the extent to which development can be accommodated within the local area. Specific allocations will be made through the preparation of a separate allocations DPD.

Development that has recognised regeneration benefits, is for identified local needs or satisfies neighbourhood planning legislation, will be considered in all the borough's settlements, including small-scale development in the smaller settlements that are appropriate for consolidation and expansion or rounding-off of the built up area.

Through this strategy, development opportunities will be created for social and economic well-being and development for future generations.

The preferred strategy has drawn upon Options D and B primarily. It seeks to incorporate the strongest elements of each whilst attempting to avoid the potentially negative outcomes.

In terms of how this looks from a purely housing numbers breakdown of residential development, the final proposed preferred option is as follows:

Area	Number of units	Percentage of total
CLITHEROE	348	11.6
STRATEGIC SITE (STANDEN)	1040	34.6
LONGRIDGE	560	18.6
WHALLEY	243	8
OTHER SETTLEMENTS	816	27

Under this preferred option, the 816 units under the other settlements will be considered where there are recognised regeneration benefits, development is for identified local needs or where the development satisfies neighbourhood planning legislation in locations where local communities would like to see further development taking place. Additional development in all of the other locations will also be considered under the same process.

Under the preferred strategy, it will continue to be possible to accommodate the minimum required level of land for economic development (9ha over the remainder of the plan period). It is considered that provision can be included within land at Standen to the south of Clitheroe to generate a mixed development opportunity as well as the opportunity to bring other sites forward to protect choice of locations. The existing site at Barrow Enterprise Park would continue in its role as the borough's principle strategic location for employment. The

Government's recent announcement regarding the designation of an Enterprise Zone at Salmsbury, which includes land within both Ribble Valley and South Ribble will offer the potential to support and strengthen the economy. Through specialist investment it will provide an opportunity to develop further the economy of the Ribble Valley through service and supply chain growth and is recognised as a strategic site. Under the neighbourhood planning legislation, it would also be possible to bring forward land for economic development where there are demonstrable regeneration benefits and in locations where local communities would like to see development take place.

4.4.2 Appraisal of the Preferred Option

The main element of the option is a new strategic site to the south of Clitheroe the remainder would be focussed towards Longridge, Clitheroe and other settlements with a small amount in Whalley. The relative sustainability merits and de-merits of a strategic site are covered in the appraisal of option D. In summary these are:

- There is good access to services and public transport links in nearby Clitheroe.
- Access to sustainable transport links can help reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO₂ emissions.
- There is access to open space in Clitheroe which can encourage the pursuit of healthier lifestyles.
- The strategic site provides an opportunity to create a development which can draw upon the existing amenities in Clitheroe whilst also providing an element of self-sustainability to avoid putting too much pressure on existing services.
- Given development would largely include a new extension to the town there are concerns about achieving cohesion between the new community and the existing.
- The option could bring employment opportunities to Clitheroe being well-placed to benefit from this given the existing employment infrastructure present.
- It would reduce the distance to travel to work by putting homes and jobs closer together in Clitheroe and within the strategic site itself.
- Growth would benefit retail in Clitheroe and it is a significant source of employment at present.
- Focussing 34.6% of growth in an extension to Clitheroe would result in development avoiding the AONB (although may be visible from it) and statutory nature conservation designations.
- However, this large development on greenfield land would affect the local landscape around the town and may affect views from the AONB. Similarly, as with all Greenfield development, there is a possibility of ground water pollution, increased surface run-off risk and it represents a less sustainable use of land. Similarly, it is not possible to say if localised effects may occur to biodiversity and green infrastructure resources.
- New developments on a large scale such as at Clitheroe have potential to utilise a high degree of sustainable construction methods, energy efficiency and potentially renewable energy sources such as CHP or district heating schemes.
- The AQMA in Clitheroe may be put under pressure if traffic is routed through the town centre.
- Significant expansion at the edge of Clitheroe may reduce its visual appeal thereby potentially affecting the tourism industry, although this is uncertain and assessed as low likelihood.

- Traffic associated with the strategic site is likely to generate additional movements on the strategic highway network that may extend outside the borough. It may attract/generate trips into neighbouring areas such as Preston and Blackburn which could put pressure on the existing network.

Since the options stage, the number of houses proposed at the strategic site has been reduced significantly in order to reduce the potential negative effects upon the natural environment highlighted in the SA process.

The strategic site is also supplemented by development within Clitheroe itself (348 units). This would benefit from the proximity to services, jobs and transport infrastructure already present in the town.

18.6% of housing growth is also proposed in Longridge and a further 8% in Whalley. There is good access to services and public transport links in Longridge and Whalley and the centre of Longridge offers a number of amenities and basic services including a secondary school. The option could bring employment opportunities to Whalley and Longridge with the latter being well-placed to benefit from this given the existing employment infrastructure present e.g. at the Shay Lane industrial estate.

Longridge is potentially more outward looking given its location on the boundary of the borough. It is not clear if the economic benefits created there would all be realised within Ribble Valley. Infrastructure development here would need cohesive support from Ribble Valley and Preston councils. There may be greater opportunity for brownfield development in Longridge.

There are acknowledged traffic congestion issues in Whalley at present. It is not considered that an additional 243 units over the remaining plan period would have a significant cumulative effect upon this. The option largely avoids floodplain although there is some uncertainty regarding Whalley (although a smaller risk than Options 1, 2 and 3).

27% of residual growth is directed to other settlements. It is predicted that this may help to meet rural housing needs and secure services in those areas depending upon local needs, wants and regeneration requirements. This could help to improve the viability of rural businesses. There are good public transport links in Clitheroe, Whalley and to a lesser extent in Longridge thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO₂ emissions. Also, including a spread of rural development can encourage rural service viability thereby reducing the need to travel longer distances for essential services. It is considered that additional criteria be referenced with regard to development in other settlements which also considers the need to protect the local character, environment and built heritage (note - this is now covered within the supporting policy framework).

It is not possible to say that heritage constraints will be avoided with any certainty at this scale although none of the proposals appear to coincide directly with any areas designated for strategic heritage value.

Employment land would also be directed towards the Salmesbury Enterprise Zone and existing Barrow Enterprise Site. Barrow Enterprise Park would continue its role as the borough's principle strategic location for employment. An Enterprise Zone at Salmesbury, which includes land within both Ribble Valley and South Ribble will offer the potential to support and strengthen the economy. Through specialist investment it will provide an opportunity to develop further the economy of the Ribble Valley through service and supply chain growth and is recognised as a strategic site. There are no significant strategic environmental constraints within the area of the Enterprise Zone located within Ribble Valley District although may result in a loss of Greenbelt land within South Ribble District.

Recommendations and Mitigation Potential

The following should be considered when taking forward the preferred spatial option:

- The option could provide more detail regarding how the strategic site may be developed in line with sustainable development and design principles to ensure it has an appropriate degree of self-sustainability. Given the size of the site, this development would need an appropriate degree of self-sustenance in terms of local amenities, open space, services and public transport links. Good sustainable transport access (walking/cycling routes and public transport) to the Clitheroe amenities and transport hub would be essential.
- A masterplan for the site should be created to enable a more strategic level of control by the council over what is developed.
- Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would be beneficial.
- Infrastructure development in Longridge would need cohesive support from Ribble Valley and Preston councils.
- Broadband access is limited in rural areas. This would need to be improved to help support business development.
- A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, especially in rural areas associated with the AONB.
- This would also include strong design policies, and include where large areas of growth are proposed such as in Clitheroe. More direction is required in this option to maximise benefits where they are required and minimise adverse effects.
- The line of a roman road passes through the strategic site. It would be beneficial to incorporate the line of this into the design where possible and undertake an appropriate heritage study.
- Alleviating potential traffic congestion would be an important aspect for this option. This could include local highways infrastructure improvements, multiple access points and provision of effective public/sustainable transport linkages.
- New schools infrastructure should be provided to accommodate growth as part of new development, notably in the Standen Estate.
- Extra wording should be provided regarding development in smaller settlements which references the need to protect the local character, environment and built heritage.

4.5 Appraisal of Key Statements and Draft Development Management Policies

An appraisal has been undertaken of the Key Statements and Draft Development Management policies using the approach outlined in Section 3.3.4. The appraisal has been undertaken in two key stages, with an initial appraisal completed on a draft of the key statements and policies published for consultation in June 2011 and a further appraisal on the updated key statements and policies outlined in the Publication Core Strategy.

The following sections of the report (4.5.1 to 4.5.6) document the initial recommendations that were made and whether they were taken on board by RVBC in the Publication Core Strategy. This is followed by the results of the appraisal of the updated key statements and policies presented in the Publication Core Strategy as well as any further recommendations that should

be considered by RVBC. This demonstrates the iterative development of the policies and the close relationship between the SA and the Core Strategy's development.

4.5.1 General Development Management Policy

Components






This group of key statements and policies comprises:

- DMG1: General Considerations
- DMG2: Strategic considerations
- DMG3: Transport and Mobility

Initial Recommendations

Table 4-3 outlines the recommendations resulting from the initial appraisal of the above policies and whether they have been taken on board by RVBC.

Table 4-3 Initial SA Recommendations for the General Development Management Key Statements and Policies

Key Statement or Development Management Policy	Initial SA Recommendation	Recommendation taken on board?
DMG1: General Considerations	The term 'amenities' could be better defined in the policy to reduce any ambiguities for future developers and when planning applications are being determined. This would reduce any ambiguity and would help to improve performance of the Key Statement against the SA Objectives relating to services provision.	
	This policy includes a clear message of protection in relation to environmental designations e.g. SSSIs etc. However, the policy could go further by encouraging enhancement of natural environment assets where possible. This amendment would improve the performance of the policy against the environmental SA objectives.	
	The historic environment elements that should be considered by developers could be explicitly referenced in the policy.	
	As this is a policy that is cross-referenced in a number of other parts of the Core Strategy it would be beneficial for issues relating to sustainable construction, energy efficiency to be referenced in the policy as this is a general consideration. This would improve the performance of the Key Statement against the SA Objectives relating to water management, energy efficiency.	
DMG2: Strategic Considerations	This policy could make reference to the AONB Management Plan as this includes a number of issues/background information that is relevant to those who might be proposing development – e.g. environmental sensitivity, economic development, community issues	

Discussion of Appraisal Findings

The assessment demonstrates that collectively these policies perform well against the SA Objectives with some of the initial SA recommendations having been taken on board.

Careful consideration of the density, layout and relationship between buildings as well as considering secured by design and public safety in new development should ensure that new developments are designed in a way to promote safety. There is also a focus in DMG1 upon re-using sites, which could also help to increase natural surveillance in locations where there are currently vacant sites. Health and well-being benefits are likely in the long-term by ensuring that there is no net loss of open space, as well as protecting and enhancing nature environment resources that are also a factor contributing to overall health and well-being. Policy DMG2 specifically seeks to protect the AONB and the open countryside from inappropriate development and this could also offer indirect health benefits as they are important resources for formal and informal recreational pursuits. Policy DMG3 also states that new development should be well located in relation to public transport and that opportunities should be sought to promote walking and cycling.

Protecting areas of open space, as well as ensuring high quality design, good public transport connections and protection of the existing vitality and vibrancy of existing village and town centres should help to protect levels of community spirit and cohesion and make the borough an attractive place to live, work and invest. Positive effects were recorded against the SA Objective 'to encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the borough' as the Core Strategy facilitates such development, whilst ensuring that there are a number of policies to test that such proposals are robust. In particular, Policy DMG2 addressing development outside of settlement areas and the AONB outlines the criteria that such development applications must meet which should allow for social and economic development whilst protecting existing levels of community spirit and protecting the natural environment. It was highlighted during an SA workshop that some development within the AONB settlements is essential to ensure their continued vibrancy and the borough's economic development. The updated policies make specific reference to the need to consider the requirements of the AONB Management Plan as part of development control decision-making which is assessed as beneficial as it will ensure that the special qualities of this area are carefully considered.

Within Policy DMG1 there is a clear focus upon protecting natural environment resources, including designated sites and also delivering enhancements where possible. Policy DMG2 also states that development in the AONB should avoid habitat fragmentation. There is also scope through improved walking and cycling opportunities as identified in Policy DMG3 to become wildlife corridors in the long-term. There should also be indirect protection of soil resources across the borough by ensuring protection of the natural environment and seeking to avoid loss of areas of open space. Policy DMG1 also encourages the remediation of previously developed sites where possible which could result in the long-term removal of potentially polluting substances and land-uses from the environment which may also offer indirect benefits for biodiversity and water resources.

The borough has a very high quality landscape and townscape which is demonstrated by the AONB designation covering approximately 70% of the borough and the large number of Conservation Areas. The need to protect landscape and townscape character is addressed in the policies through reference to high quality design, careful consideration of traffic and parking arrangements and protecting the natural environment. There is also reference in Policy DMG1 to protecting sites of historic environment value.

A specific clause is included in Policy DMG1 requiring the use of sustainable construction techniques where possible and the need for developments to demonstrate how energy efficiency measures have been used. Whilst positive effects have been recorded for the SA objectives relating to energy efficiency, sustainable use of natural resources and minimising waste, there is a degree of uncertainty about the likely deliverability of these positive effects owing to the flexibility of the wording in the policy. There may be scope for the policy to be more specific in relation to its sustainable construction, energy efficient and waste management requirements or as a minimum for a cross reference to Policy DME5: Renewable Energy to be included.

The need to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change is not specifically addressed within these policies. Whilst climate change is addressed in the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Key Statement, in view of the overall importance of policy DMG1 for the Core Strategy it is recommended that reference is made to the need for developments to ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation is a key consideration. Reference could also be made in DMG1 to the need to ensure no increase in flood risk as a result of new developments and for sustainable drainage systems to be incorporated into development designs where relevant. Policy DMG3 could result in a modal shift in the long-term and could help to improve the public transport, cycling and walking links across the borough that could potentially contribute to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from vehicular sources.

Policy DMG3 is very clear that the relationship of new development to public transport, walking and cycling links must be considered in applications. Ensuring this level of accessibility and good positioning of new developments in relation to existing facilities and services has the potential to help reduce further emissions to air as a result of new developments and positively contributes to the SA Objective *'to promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport'*.

Specific Recommendations and Mitigation

The following recommendations would further improve the sustainability performance of the policies:

- Policy DMG1 should be more specific in relation to the Council's expectations in relation to Code for Sustainable Homes and Lifetime Homes standards that should be achieved.
- Policy DMG1 should cross reference Policy DME5: Renewable Energy to provide clarity regarding energy efficiency requirements for new developments.
- Policy DMG1 could include a specific statement identifying the need for developments to mitigate and adapt to climate change, for there to be no increase in flood risk and for sustainable drainage systems to be used.

4.5.2 Environment Key Statements and Policy

Components

This group of key statements and policies comprises:





- Key Statement – Green Belt
- Key Statement – Landscape
- Key Statement – Sustainable Development and Climate Change
- Key Statement – Biodiversity and Geodiversity
- Key Statement – Heritage Assets






- DME1: Protecting Trees and Woodlands
- DME2: Landscape Protection
- DME3: Site and Species Protection and Conservation
- DME4: Protecting Heritage Assets
- DME5: Renewable Energy
- DME6: Water Management

Initial Recommendations

Table 4-4 outlines the recommendations resulting from the initial appraisal of the above policies and whether they have been taken on board by RVBC.

Table 4-4 Initial SA Recommendations for the environment Key Statements and Development Management Policies

Key Statement or Development Management Policy	Initial SA Recommendation	Recommendation taken on board?
Heritage Assets Key Statement	The statement or supporting text could make reference to the importance of heritage assets for educational purposes.	
Landscape Key Statement	This is focused entirely upon landscape. Whilst it is recognised that the AONB is a very significant part of the borough, the importance of protecting locally distinctive townscapes and built form should also be addressed within the Core Strategy. Whilst this is indirectly addressed through the heritage assets Key Statement through reference to protecting Conservation Areas and other heritage features, it should also be addressed in its own right.	
DME2: Landscape Protection	Key Statement DME2 should be strengthened to ensure that all aspects of landscape protection are considered. The policy should make reference to landscape character; the Lancashire County Council Landscape Character Assessment, the AONB Management Plan and the need for developments to consider issues such as cumulative effects. There is scope for the policy to also consider landscape enhancement and the need for comprehensive landscaping proposals in the event of loss of landscaping (or at least include a cross reference to Key Statement DME1).	
DME3: Species Protection and Conservation	Policy DME3 should be improved to ensure that there is no risk of development adversely affecting European Sites. In view of the importance of the Habitats Directive and the need for the Core Strategy to be subject to HRA, the wording of the Key Statement could be improved. Reference to the mitigation hierarchy could also be included in the policy or in another appropriate location in the plan, such as DMG1: General Considerations. Policy DME3 could include reference to biodiversity enhancements that complement priority habitats and species and	

Key Statement or Development Management Policy	Initial SA Recommendation	Recommendation taken on board?
	the Lancashire BAP.	
DME4: Protecting Heritage Assets	There is scope for DME 4 to include reference to increasing understanding and appreciation of heritage assets as part of new developments e.g. any new tourism developments.	
DME5: Renewable Energy	Policy DME5 could again better reference the mitigation hierarchy and state that compensation will be required where effects cannot be mitigated. Alternatively, this could form part of a general development policy. Should the policy also read: <i>'Development proposals within or close to the AONB, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, notable habitats and species...'</i>	 The mitigation hierarchy has been referenced in Policy DMG1.
General Comments	Consider the inclusion of a specific Key Statement in the Core Strategy on the protection of soil resources. This is considered important in view of the range of services they provide but also the importance of land management for the Borough owing to its rural nature. A number of publications have also recently been produced by Defra that emphasise the importance of soils and their functions.	 Protection of soils resources is addressed in the Biodiversity and Geodiversity Key Statement.
	Whilst air quality is generally good across the borough, there is an AQMA designated and future development could potentially increase congestion depending upon the effectiveness of sustainable transport proposals and the positioning of development in relation to services. Whilst there is not an air quality policy in the Core Strategy it might be worthwhile increasing reference to air quality issues in other policies e.g. DMG1.	
	Whilst the wording of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Key Statement is strong its requirements are not all translated into the policies – for example, issues such as sustainable construction are not all addressed in the development management policies. This issue could be brought into one of the general development policies or potentially a new statement on sustainable design and construction could be developed to reaffirm the weight that the Council will place upon this.	

Discussion of Appraisal Findings

Within Ribble Valley there are two European designated sites (North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC and the Bowland Fells SPA). Policy DME3 has been strengthened to clearly make reference to the requirements of the Habitats Directive which should ensure that developers thoroughly assess the potential effects of their proposals on these European Sites. This policy also identifies that developments should not adversely affect other nature conservation sites including SSSIs, Local Nature Reserves and protected habitats and species. Following earlier SA recommendations the Core Strategy also makes reference to enhancement of biodiversity in

line with the Lancashire BAP. Enhancement of biodiversity resources is specifically referenced in the Biodiversity and Geodiversity Key Statement and within Policy DME3. Policies DME1 and DME2 that protect trees and woodlands and landscape also offer biodiversity benefits and will help contribute to the features that do not necessarily form part of designated sites but are essential to maintaining the biodiversity of the borough.

Policy DME5: Renewable Energy through supporting renewable energy developments has the potential to adversely affect environmental resources. However, this policy has been strengthened to make clear reference to the need to ensure that there are no adverse effects on nature conservation and heritage sites as a result of renewable energy developments. The need to understand the cumulative effects of renewable energy proposals on the landscape is a key strength of DME5: Renewable Energy.

Landscape protection is a clear theme of the Key Statements and policies and so positive effects are recorded for the SA Objective *'to protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape quality'*. The Landscape Key Statement emphasises the value of the landscape character and quality of the borough with a clear focus upon conservation and enhancement. The text supporting the Key Statement highlights the importance of good design that recognises local distinctiveness, landscape character and also historic landscape patterns. Whilst the text of the Key Statement is thorough, the wording of DME2 could be improved to ensure there is no ambiguity for future developers. Reference is made in DME2 to the features of the landscape that require protection although this list does not include the AONB. However, the policy does make reference to the AONB Management Plan.

The Landscape Key Statement and policy should also acknowledge the historic value of the landscapes and make reference to the Lancashire Historic Landscape Characterisation programme. The need to protect the valuable townscapes of the borough is also addressed within the Key Statements and policies.

The borough's heritage resources are afforded protection through the key statements and policies protecting landscape and heritage assets. The coverage of these policies is considered comprehensive although there could be greater recognition of the historic qualities of the landscapes and needing to understand the effects of development upon them as noted above.

Collectively, a number of the environment policies will protect the borough's water resources with Policy DME6: Water Management identifying the need for issues including pollution and flood risk to be considered, as well as the application of sustainable drainage systems.

Within the Biodiversity and Geodiversity Key Statement, the importance of protecting soil resources is acknowledged and this reflects an earlier recommendation of the SA process. Soils provide a range of functions including infiltration, carbon sequestration and so are important to protect in their own right. A number of publications produced by Defra¹¹ emphasise the importance of soils and their functions.

Protecting the borough's environmental assets is essential to ensure that the borough remains a place where people want to live, work and visit. The high quality natural environment is identified within the Ribble Valley Economic Strategy as a key economic asset and so these policies will help support the future economic development of the borough. However, there is a degree of uncertainty about the extent to which the environmental policies may restrict opportunities for rural diversification and economic development. Similarly, protecting the

¹¹ Defra (2009) Safeguarding our Soils, A Strategy for England

Conservation Areas and Heritage Assets of the borough could also contribute to the long-term viability and vibrancy of these locations. There is also the potential for there to be long-term benefits for future residents from a health and well-being perspective, if the natural environment is protected.

Specific Recommendations and Mitigation

The following recommendations would further improve the sustainability performance of the policies:

- The landscape key statement or policy should acknowledge the historic value of the landscapes and make reference to the Lancashire Historic Landscape Characterisation programme.
- Policy DME5 could be strengthened to more thoroughly outline the types of assessment that may be required for renewable energy developments e.g. Environmental Impact Assessment.

4.5.3 Housing Key Statements and Policy

Components


This group of key statements and policies comprises:

- Key Statement – Housing Provision
- Key Statement – Housing Balance
- Key Statement – Affordable Housing
- Key Statement – Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation
- DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria
- DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation
- DMH3: Dwellings in Open Countryside
- DMH4: The Conversion of Barns and Other Dwellings
- DMH5: Residential and Curtilage Extensions

Initial Recommendations

Table 4-5 outlines the recommendations resulting from the initial appraisal of the above policies and whether they have been taken on board by RVBC.

Table 4-5 Initial SA Recommendations for the Housing Key Statements and Development Management Policies

Key Statement or Development Management Policy	Initial SA Recommendation	Recommendation taken on board?
DMG1: General Considerations	The Code for Sustainable Homes and Lifetime Homes standards could be referenced in the Core Strategy.	

Discussion of Appraisal Findings

During the SA public exhibition a number of concerns were raised by members of the public about potential levels of housing growth in the borough and the effects on education provision. Access to other services and ensuring sufficient service capacity for new residential developments is essential and this is specifically addressed in other policies within the Core Strategy with a clear focus on these facilities being access by sustainable modes of transport. The provision of some housing within the 'other settlements' in the borough particularly those within the AONB could help to support the long-term viability of key services that are essential to those settlements.

The provision of new housing could potentially increase concerns about fear of crime and this was apparent at discussions held at the SA drop-in session although all housing development would be in accordance with the other Key Statements and policies in the Core Strategy, of which high quality design and Secured by Design principles are a requirement. The re-use of vacant sites also has the potential to increase natural surveillance levels.

Positive effects have been recorded for a number of the housing policies for the SA Objective *'to increase the availability of affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need'*. The Core Strategy policies covering housing provision, affordable housing and housing balance are clear that the focus is upon ensuring an appropriate housing mix (type, tenure and size) in the correct locations across the borough. Issues surrounding the spatial strategy have already been discussed in Section 4.4.2 of this report.

The housing policies address the conversion of barns and dwellings in the open countryside as well as the development of new properties. Such conversions have the potential to result in adverse effects on the natural environment and whilst some of the policies are clear on the need to avoid such adverse effects, others are not as specific, for example, Policy DMH3: Dwellings in the Open Countryside is not specific in relation to avoiding adverse effects on nature conservation interests, whilst DMH4: the Conversion of Barns and Other Buildings to Dwellings is more specific. With regards to landscape protection, these policies are clear that there should be no adverse effects on landscape quality and that they should be in keeping with their surroundings. Similarly, the development of gypsy and traveller sites should re-use derelict sites where possible and avoid the loss of the best and most versatile land. It is worth noting that the plan should be read as a whole and, therefore, there is no specific requirement for all the housing policies to repeat issues dealt with elsewhere in the plan.

Performance against the SA objectives relating to sustainable use of materials, energy efficiency and waste management are uncertain as it is not known exactly how new housing developments will be constructed. Whilst these issues are not addressed specifically within these policies they are covered elsewhere within the Core Strategy within the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Key Statement.

Specific Recommendations and Mitigation

- The policies could be improved through cross-referencing to Policy DME3 and the biodiversity key statement to ensure sufficient protection for biodiversity resources.
- Policy DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller accommodation could be strengthened to ensure that appropriate planning for drainage and sewerage is part of the site design.
- Cross reference to the Sustainable Development and Climate change key statement is also recommended to integrate the requirements within all dwellings and travellers sites where appropriate.

- Further clarity could be provided in the Core Strategy regarding the Council's expectations in relation to the achievement of Code for Sustainable Homes and Lifetime Homes standards – at the moment they are just referenced in the Core Strategy.

4.5.4 Economy Key Statements and Policy

Components



This group of key statements and policies comprises:

- Key Statement – Business and Employment Development
- Key Statement – Visitor Economy
- DMB1: Supporting Business Growth and the Local Economy
- DMB2: The Conversion of Barns and Other Rural Buildings for Employment Uses
- DMB3: Recreation and Tourism Development
- DMB4: Open Space Provision

Initial Recommendations

Table 4-6 outlines the recommendations resulting from the initial appraisal of the above policies and whether they have been taken on board by RVBC.

Table 4-6 Initial SA Recommendations for the Economy Key Statements and Development Management Policies

Key Statement or Development Management Policy	Initial SA Recommendation	Recommendation taken on board?
DMB4: Open Space Provision	Reference could be made to developing multi-functional green infrastructure as part of the Open Space policy. This would create an attractive place to live, improve connectivity between settlements in the Borough and encourage walking and cycling.	
General Comments	Reference could be made in Key Statement DMB2 and the overarching Key Statements about the AONB Management Plan as this includes some specific actions and targets in relation to employment development with the AONB. It would be beneficial for proposals to complement these actions and help to achieve those targets.	

Discussion of Appraisal Findings

The focus of these key statements and policies is upon development supporting the development of the borough's economy. There are currently issues associated with out-commuting and the need to increase and diversify the range of job opportunities available in the borough which these policies seek to address. Providing sufficient jobs within the borough that are well located in relation to residential areas would contribute to making Ribble Valley an attractive area to live and work that could help reduce out-commuting and increase spend within the borough. There may also be indirect benefits for community spirit and cohesion by helping to create more sustainable and vibrant communities. Improving the vitality of town centres is

important in view of the decreasing Peak Zone A rentals identified by Lancashire County Council e.g. within Clitheroe. Such benefits would depend upon where new employment development occurs.

In the long-term this investment should help to reduce unemployment levels providing the jobs match the skills of the residents.

There is potential for this investment to increase the skills base of the borough and potentially offer some long-term educational benefits. New businesses in the borough should be encouraged to provide local apprenticeships and training opportunities. Similarly, new tourism and recreational development could also provide educational resources associated with the borough's heritage or natural environment which could be a new resource for local schools. The deliverability of these educational benefits is more uncertain but such indirect benefits should be sought to benefit the borough's residents.

The economy policies support the diversification of the rural economy providing a series of criteria are met relating to design, potential levels of disturbance caused and also wider environmental impacts. Policy DMB2 which specifically addresses conversion of barns and other rural buildings and references the AONB Management Plan which is considered important as this includes information about the types of investment that may be appropriate within the AONB.

The need to protect the natural environment is evident within these policies, as well as others within the Core Strategy. Policy DMB2: Recreation and Tourism Development includes a number of criteria that must be achieved before such development will be granted permission that relate to impacts on the transport network, nature conservation, visual amenity and the AONB. This should ensure that new development of this nature does not erode the natural environment which itself is a key economic asset for the borough. There is also a focus upon re-using existing employment sites for new development which should help to protect greenfield sites from development which will have water resource, soil and landscape benefits.

Through the application of other policies within the plan (specifically the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Key Statement and Policy DME5: Renewable Energy) it should be possible for the council to encourage the incorporation of energy efficiency measures and innovative design that minimises resource use. The need for new development to take account of the waste hierarchy should be referenced within the Core Strategy.

Sustainable transport links and accessibility of new employment development is a central theme of the policies which should ensure that such development does not cause adverse effects on the existing road network and that there is scope for sustainable modes of transport to be used to access new employment opportunities. Policy DMB1 suggests that in some instances the expansion of established firms on land outside settlements will be permitted, although it is recommended that as part of the decision-making process, accessibility to such sites by public transport should be a key consideration.

Specific Recommendations and Mitigation

- New employment developments should be encouraged to provide apprenticeships and training opportunities for local residents.
- Development should be designed to facilitate and encourage waste management in accordance with the waste hierarchy. Suitable waste management storage and infrastructure should be part of new development.
- The AONB Management Plan indicates that a design guide is to be produced to ensure new development is in keeping with or conserves and enhances the character of its

locality – depending upon the publication timetable the use of this document should be recommended to prospective developers considering proposals within the AONB.

4.5.5 Retail Development Key Statements and Policy

Components


This group of key statements and policies comprises:

- Key Statement – Development of Retail, shops and Community Facilities and Services
- DMR1: Retail Development in Clitheroe
- DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley
- DMR3: Retail outside the Main Settlements

Initial Recommendations

Table 4-7 outlines the recommendations resulting from the initial appraisal of the above policies and whether they have been taken on board by RVBC.

Table 4-7 Initial SA Recommendations for the Retail Development Key Statements and Development Management Policies

Key Statement or Development Management Policy	Initial SA Recommendation	Recommendation taken on board?
DMR1: Retail Development in Clitheroe	Consideration should be given to requesting travel plans from major retailers that may also have a large number of employers as part of the planning application process.	

Discussion of Appraisal Findings

The retail policies are clear that Clitheroe should be the focus for any major retail developments in the borough with smaller scale retail developments in Longridge and Whalley. New retail development has the potential to contribute to the improved vibrancy of these settlements and ensure that new residential development, as proposed in the spatial strategy is supported by sufficient shopping facilities. The Council should encourage the re-use of vacant sites for new retail development to further improve the vibrancy of these key settlements. This should also ensure that the new employment opportunities created are accessible to people living across the borough as these settlements are served by a range of transport links. The need to maintain the retail and commercial premises in villages throughout the borough is very important as these facilities are essential to the communities and this is outlined in Policy DMR3: Retail outside the Main Settlements. Similarly the policies support farm diversification proposals assuming a number of key criteria are met which will also ensure that the economy of the whole borough is able to develop, with investment opportunities not being restricted to the main settlements.

From a biodiversity perspective, development proposals outside of the settlements pose a greater risk to biodiversity. At this stage the location of the retail developments is not known but providing the other Core Strategy policies are applied there should be no net loss of biodiversity.

Clitheroe, Whalley and Longridge all have historic centres that could be adversely affected by inappropriate retail development (refer to Figure 2 in Appendix E showing the location of heritage assets). The policies state that the Council will consider the effect of retail proposals on their character and so should ensure that these centres are protected from inappropriate development, in conjunction with the application of Policy DME4; Protecting Heritage Assets.

Effects on flood risk as a result of retail development are also unknown at this stage without knowing the precise location of the new development. However, the application of Policy DME6: Water Management should ensure that such development does not adversely affect water quality or result in increased flood risk.

From an air quality and long-term climate change perspective, the location of retail facilities in centres that are well served by public transport links should help to reduce the risk of a deterioration in air quality as a result of increased travel by private car. However, large-scale retail development is expected to attract large numbers of people and therefore Policy DMR1 now includes a reference to the need for travel plans from large retailers who will employ a large number of people and so can further help to promote the sustainable travel agenda. Such developments should also include sufficient bike racks to encourage cycling to them by customers.

4.5.6 Delivery Mechanisms Key Statements and Policy

Components

This group of key statements and policies comprises:

- Key Statement – Planning Obligations
- Key Statement – Transport Considerations
- Key Statement – Development Management

Initial Recommendations

No initial recommendations were made in relation to these key statements.

Discussion of Appraisal Findings

The delivery of the Core Strategy will need to be supported by other service providers which is addressed in this section of the plan. This aspect of the Core Strategy performed well against a number of the SA Objectives as the matters covered by the planning obligations are very wide ranging and include facilities such as libraries, childrens' centres, education and health facilities, environmental improvements as well as infrastructure such as water supply, transport and waste management.

Ensuring provision of education and health facilities as well as sufficient open space and public realm improvements will be particularly important for maintaining high standards of living and quality of life for existing residents which was a key concern of some existing residents that attended the SA drop-in session. Ensuring strict application of this aspect of the Core Strategy will be vital, not least because there will be a shortfall in primary and secondary school places in the key settlements in the long-term.

Reducing the need to travel and optimising the location of new development such that it maximises the use of existing public transport links is essential to prevent an increase in congestion which could have associated effects on air quality and quality of life for residents. In the long-term the development of new cycle and footpath links as part of new developments and

improvements to existing ones would also support the pursuit of healthy lifestyles. Preventing further congestion is also likely to be important to attract inward investment.

In essence, these policies are slightly different from others that have been assessed above as they relate to the infrastructure that will be necessary to enable development to be accommodated. From an SA perspective it is felt that the coverage of this element of the Core Strategy is sufficient and that the most important aspect will be in its application through the development control process. This is why a lower degree of certainty is recorded in the assessment regarding the likely effects that will be realised.

4.6 Assessment of Cumulative Effects

The SEA Directive requires the cumulative and synergistic (where the combined effects are greater than the sum of their component parts) effects of the Core Strategy to be assessed.

Table 4-8 summarises the cumulative and synergistic impacts as a result of the Core Strategy. All elements of the Core Strategy have been taken into account within this assessment. The combined impacts as a result of other initiatives proposed within Ribble Valley. The approach identifies receptors, for example the economy or the townscape, that may be affected by cumulative impacts. It also acknowledges where uncertainty has influenced the assessment.

Table 0-8 Cumulative and Synergistic Impacts

Receptor	Cumulative / Synergistic Effect	Causes	Potential Trend
Education	Long-term shortage of primary school places in Clitheroe, Whalley and the new Standen expansion and a shortage of secondary places in Longridge, Whalley and the Standen Estate.	Whilst the Core Strategy promotes development in areas where schools exist, there will be a long-term shortage of places given the combined levels of growth overall. Whether this becomes significant or not will depend on the ability to construct new schools infrastructure where it is required.	Uncertain
Access to goods and services	Access to services and facilities for local people and visitors would be improved.	The Core Strategy proposes a proportion of housing development in rural areas to meet local needs. The majority of development is proposed near to existing service centres thereby improving access to basic goods and services overall. Measures to encourage the use of sustainable transport to access such services would be complemented by similar provisions in the Lancashire's Local Transport Plan 3.	Positive
Sustainable Economic Growth	The Core Strategy would help facilitate employment creation, business development and economic growth	The Core Strategy would contribute to sustainable economic growth, employment provision and economic inclusion. An overall improved environment, together with enhanced connectivity and housing provision, would help to market Ribble Valley as a place for investment. In combination with the designation of the new Enterprise Zones should help to further improve growth potential, albeit in a currently slow economic climate. Policy encouraging rural diversification would also benefit this.	Positive
Biodiversity – protection of	The Core Strategy seeks to ensure protection of biodiversity	The Core Strategy and the associated HRA seek to ensure protection of the biodiversity resources with an	Positive

Receptor	Cumulative / Synergistic Effect	Causes	Potential Trend
designated sites	resources and provides strong protection for the European Sites in the borough.	emphasis on protecting European sites. It also seeks to protect green infrastructure and enhance the quality of the natural environment, which could generate positive benefits. The provisions of the AONB Management Plan and Natural England's work on managing the SPA, SAC and component SSSIs should complement this.	
Landscape Quality	Protection and enhancement of landscape.	The Core Strategy contains strong policies to protect the borough's important landscapes. Much of the borough is designated as AONB, the management plan for which also seeks to protect it. Similarly, policies are in place to protect the European designated nature conservation sites from potentially damaging development which in turn would benefit the landscape. Part of the borough is also Green Belt. Whilst on the whole there would be cumulative benefits, it should be noted that the strategic site is likely to have negative effects upon the landscape in its locality.	Positive
Climate Change Air Quality Energy Efficiency Natural Resources Sustainable Transport	Potential negative effects of traffic growth. Potential negative and positive contributions towards climate change. Potential positive effects as a result of promotion of sustainable travel. The prudent use of natural resources.	The concentration of development in the Clitheroe and Longridge areas (including the strategic site at Clitheroe) could potentially lead to increased travel and congestion, which could generate implications upon local air quality in the long-term and carbon dioxide emissions. However, the Core Strategy contains a number of provisions for improved public transport and promotion of sustainable travel, which would help to alleviate some of these potential cumulative impacts. The Core Strategy makes provisions for sustainable development and design, incorporating energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy, the prudent use of natural resources. All new development has the potential to use natural resources, increase pressure upon water and energy resources, and generate increased waste production.	Positive and negative

5 Monitoring Framework

This section provides an outline monitoring framework and advice for monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Core Strategy. Monitoring is an ongoing process integral to the Core Strategy implementation, and can be used to:

- Determine the performance of the plan and its contribution to objectives and targets
- Identify the performance of mitigation measures
- Fill data gaps identified earlier in the SA process
- Identify undesirable sustainability effects
- Confirm whether sustainability predictions were accurate

5.1 Requirements of the SEA Directive

The activities relevant to monitoring that are stipulated in the SEA Directive are outlined in Box 5. The outcomes of these activities are detailed in this section.

Box 5: SEA Directive Requirements Applicable to Monitoring

“Member States shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans and programmes... in order, inter alia, to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects, and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action” (Article 10.1).

The Environmental Report should provide information on “a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring” (Annex I (i)).

5.2 Approach

The monitoring framework has been developed to measure the performance of the Core Strategy against changes in defined indicators that are linked to its implementation. These indicators have been developed based on the following:

- The objectives and indicators that were developed for the SA Framework
- Features of the baseline that will indicate the effects of the plan
- The likely significant effects that were identified during the effects assessment
- The mitigation measures that were proposed to offset or reduce significant adverse effects

The monitoring framework has been designed to focus mainly on significant sustainability effects including those:

- That indicate a likely breach of international, national or local legislation, recognised guidelines or standards.
- That may give rise to irreversible damage, with a view to identifying trends before such damage is caused.

- Where there was uncertainty in the SA, and where monitoring would enable preventative or mitigation measures to be taken.

As well as measuring specific indicators linked to the implementation of the Core Strategy, contextual monitoring of social, environmental and economic change has been included i.e. a regular review of baseline conditions in the borough. This enables the measurement of the overall effects of the Core Strategy.

There are numerous SA indicators available and it is not always possible to identify how a specific plan has impacted a receptor, for example housing provision is likely to be influenced by a number of actions and different plans. A thorough analysis of the data collated and the emerging trends will, therefore be important.

5.3 Existing Monitoring Programmes

A fundamental aspect of developing the monitoring strategy is to link with existing monitoring programmes and to prevent duplication of other monitoring work that is already being undertaken. The RVBC AMR identifies a series of indicators that can be used to monitor progress.

5.4 Proposed Monitoring Framework

Table 5-1 provides a framework for monitoring the effects of the Core Strategy and determining whether the predicted sustainability effects are realised. The framework is based around the Sustainability Objectives and includes the following elements:

- The potentially significant impact that needs to be monitored or the area of uncertainty
- A suitable monitoring indicator with a potential source for the data identified
- The frequency of the monitoring

For some of the SA Objectives, for example those relating to townscape character and quality, it will be necessary for baseline characteristics and contextual information to be reviewed.

The impacts predicted in the SA will not be realised until development occurs through the Core Strategy. The monitoring framework presented in Table 5-1 can then be updated to include targets as and when they are developed.

It should be noted that benefits would be realised from monitoring at different geographical scales. As this is a strategic assessment, it is important to consider the overall changes to RVBC as a whole, as well as considering the changes within individual settlements and the relevant local wards.

It should be noted that a number of socio-economic indicators are not measurable at the very local level. However, as this is a strategic assessment it is important to consider the overall changes to Ribble Valley as a whole in addition to individual settlements and changes to the local wards. They have, therefore been included to provide a context and to understand how the Core Strategy could lead to changes across the borough.

Table 5-1 Table 5-2 Proposed Monitoring Framework

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Indicator	Review Timescale
To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime	The spatial strategy is unlikely to have a significant, direct effect upon crime. However, it will be very important to ensure that new developments incorporate secured by design principles.	Number of wards in the bottom 40% for crime and disorder deprivation (Source – DCLG) Crime rates per 1,000 of the population for key offences Number of new developments actively incorporating secured by design principles	Annual, however, the Department for Communities and Local Government releases deprivation data every three years.
To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society	Housing growth is largely directed to areas with primary and secondary school capacity. This improved access to education may benefit attainment levels. However, there will be a long-term shortfall in places if new schools are not provided in the borough. It will be important to monitor available places in primary and secondary schools across the borough.	Location, number and capacity of educational establishments in Ribble Valley (Lancashire County Council) Ration of school places to requirement. Percentage of residents adults with no qualifications (ONS – Nomis) Number of wards in the bottom 40% for education, skills and training deprivation: Reduce the number of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 10% most deprived (DCLG)	Annual, however, the Department for Communities and Local Government releases deprivation data every three years. Lancashire County Council.
To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities	Housing growth is directed towards areas served by sustainable transport, walking and cycling routes and open space. The strategic site offers the opportunity to develop new, high quality, well designed housing. Collectively, this has potential to contribute to healthier lifestyles for its residents.	Number of wards in the bottom 40% for health deprivation and disability deprivation (DCLG) Percentage of the resident population who consider themselves to be in good health (Census) Number and distribution of sports facilities (Sport England) <i>Monitoring for some of the environmental objectives will also be of relevance as quality of the natural environment can influence health status and quality of life.</i>	Every three years
To increase the availability of quality affordable	The plan as a whole seeks to deliver 4000 new homes over the	Number of Residential developments meeting Code for Sustainable Homes standards	Annual

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SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Indicator	Review Timescale
housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need	plan period (3007 residual). It will be important to review to what extent the housing provided in the borough meets identified needs. Application of the Code for Sustainable Homes standard should also be monitored across the borough to determine the level being achieved.	(RVBC) Number of affordable housing completions per annum (RVBC AMR) Number of homeless presentations (RVBC)	
To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion	Whilst it may be possible to create a cohesive, sustainable community within the strategic site at Clitheroe, there is a risk that this may become isolated from the remainder of the town and become a commuter settlement.	Contextual and anecdotal reports on community cohesion collated by RVBC. Extent to which employment sites and essential services are provided within the strategic site.	Every three years
To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	By focussing development primarily towards the existing key settlements and by encouraging the strategic site to have an element of self-sufficiency, whilst also potentially providing some rural development for local needs, access should be improved on the whole.	Residential developments within 30 minutes public transport time of a primary school, GP, hospital, major health centre, town centre, existing designated employment area/employment site (All new residential development to be within 30 minutes public transport time of essential services (Lancashire County Council))	Annual
To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the Borough To strengthen the economic base of market	By focussing development primarily towards the main settlements of Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley, growth is directed to areas of existing commercial and economic strength and good transport links.	Economic activity rate (Nomis) Number and size of VAT registered businesses (ONS) Employment by sector and occupation (ONS) Visitor numbers and tourist revenue data (RVBC) Zone A rental data in main settlements £/m ²	Annual where possible

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SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Indicator	Review Timescale
towns To develop and market the Borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit.	Employment land is also proposed in areas of existing economic strength together with the potential for mixed use at the strategic site and the Salmesbury Enterprise Zone. Collectively this has potential to benefit the economy and job creation.	Average number of employees per business (ONS)	
To encourage economic inclusion To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market	Employment deprivation is highest in the wards of Clitheroe, Whalley and Langho. Development in Clitheroe and Whalley should benefit these areas and the proposed proximity of homes and jobs in the strategic site should also be beneficial to encouraging economic inclusion. The growth of new businesses has potential to encourage training and skills development.	Economic activity rate in the most deprived wards (Eddisford and Low Moor, Littlemoor, Whalley and Langho) (ONS) Percentage of working age claiming job seekers allowance (ONS) IMD data for employment and education and skills for the most deprived wards (Eddisford and Low Moor, Littlemoor, Whalley and Langho)	Annual
To encourage rural regeneration and diversification	27% of growth is proposed for local needs which is likely to include rural areas. This may benefit rural regeneration and economic growth in those areas to a degree.	Number of rural diversification schemes permitted (RVBC). Rates of opening and closure of rural essential services (RVBC).	Annual
To protect and enhance biodiversity	Whilst the strategy seeks to avoid designated nature conservation areas and a number of policies are included to protect and enhance biodiversity, the strategic site located on greenfield land has potential to generate localised	Condition of SSSIs: 95% of SSSIs to be in a favourable or recovering condition (Natural England) Percentage wards meeting Box and Harrison Nature Conservation Area standard (1 ha per 1000 population) Areas of woodland, including ancient woodland: Increase the area of woodland by and the area of native woodland	Annual

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal —Local Development Framework - Core Strategy Preferred Options

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Indicator	Review Timescale
	biodiversity impacts.	Farmland bird populations (Lancashire BAP) BAP species and BAP Habitats present (Lancashire BAP)	
To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality	The strategy protects the AONB from significant development, however, the strategic site is likely to have localised adverse landscape effects.	Change in strategic landscape and townscape characterisation (LCC). Reviews of landscape and townscape character assessments for individual planning applications (RVBC). Collaboration with the AONB Management Plan targets.	Annual
To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource	It is not possible to identify if the spatial strategy would adversely affect localised heritage resources at this scale. However, strict policy is included which should provide appropriate protection to heritage.	Results of Conservation Area Appraisals Number of heritage assets within the borough considered to be 'at risk' (English Heritage)	Annual (Conservation Area Appraisals to be reviewed every five years)
To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources	The strategic site has potential to adversely affect surface and ground water quality.	Planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advise in areas at risk from flooding and water quality (RVBC) Planning permissions incorporating SuDS (RVBC) To increase inland water quality (Environment Agency)	Annual
To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary	The strategic site is a major use of greenfield land.	Percentage of new completed and converted dwellings on previously developed land	Annual
To limit and adapt to climate change	The impacts upon climate change are uncertain. Whilst it is beneficial to focus development near to sustainable transport hubs, jobs and services, any increase in development has potential to increase greenhouse gas emissions. The strategic site is also	CO ₂ emission per capita (RVBC)	Annual

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Indicator	Review Timescale
	likely to create more car trips locally. However, the site itself has potential to be developed with high standards of sustainable construction in order to minimise carbon emissions.		
To protect and improve air quality	Whilst it is beneficial to focus development near to sustainable transport hubs, jobs and services, all new housing is likely to encourage additional car trips which may affect local air quality, especially near to the strategic site on the A49. If vehicles are routed through Clitheroe this may also affect the AQMA although this is uncertain at this stage.	Number and distribution of AQMAs (RVBC)	Annual
To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources	All new development will increase energy use. However, the strategic site has potential to be developed with high standards of sustainable design in order to promote energy efficiency.	Number of renewable energy developments a) granted planning permission b) installed and operational (RVBC) Percentage of schemes of 10+ dwellings or 1000 m ² for non-residential floorspace securing 10% of energy from renewable sources (RVBC)	Annual
To ensure sustainable use of natural resources	All new development will increase natural resource use. However, the strategic site has potential to be developed with high standards of sustainable construction in order to promote resource efficiency.	Number of Residential developments meeting Code for Sustainable Homes standards (RVBC)	Annual
To minimise waste, increase re-use and	All new development will increase waste production. However, the	Household waste recycling and composting levels (LCC) Percentage of building materials from recycled or secondary sources used in	Annual

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal —Local Development Framework - Core Strategy Preferred Options

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Indicator	Review Timescale
recycling	strategic site has potential to be developed with high standards of sustainable construction in order to minimise building waste. There is potential to incorporate strict waste reduction and recycling policies there.	developments of 10 or more units or over 1000m ² floorspace.	
To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport	By focussing development primarily towards the existing key settlements, this maximises the opportunity to utilise sustainable transport methods. The 27% of growth aimed at other settlements may go some way to reducing the need to travel in rural areas if local services are provided/retained. The strategic site also offers potential to incorporate walking, cycling and bus routes to Clitheroe and beyond.	<p>Journey to work by mode (ONS)</p> <p>Percentage of new dwellings approved within 400m of a bus stop or 800m of a railway station (RVBC)</p> <p>Percentage of new residential developments within 30 minutes public transport travel time of essential services.</p>	Annual

6 Next Steps

The Publication Core Strategy along with the SA Report and associated appendices will be consulted upon.

Following the close of the consultation period the Proposed Submission Core Strategy will be prepared and the SA Report will be updated accordingly.

6.1 How to comment

Please direct any comments on this report to:

Colin Hirst

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Ribble Valley Borough Council

Council Offices

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Clitheroe

Lancashire

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Appendix A

Review of Plans, Programmes and Environmental Protection Objectives

Plans and Programmes Reviewed

International Plans

- World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg (2002)
- European Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)
- EU Sixth Environmental Action Plan 2002 - 2012
- European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP) (1999)
- Aarhus Convention (Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters) (1998)
- United Nations (UN) Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992)
- Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (1997)
- Second European Climate Change Programme (2005)
- Directive to Promote Electricity from Renewable Energy (2001/77/EC)
- European Transport Policy for 2010: A Time to Decide (2001)
- EU Directive on Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (2008/50/EC)
- Water Framework Directive (WFD) (2000/60/EC)
- Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)
- Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)
- Directive on the Assessment and Management of Flood Risks (2007/60/EC)
- UN Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)
- Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)
- Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (1979)
- Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC)
- EU Biodiversity Strategy (1998)
- European Landscape Convention (2000)
- Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC)
- Directive on the Landfill of Waste (99/31/EC)
- EU Birds Directive 2009/147/EC

National Plans

- UK Sustainable Development Strategy: Securing the Future (2005) and the UK's Shared Framework for Sustainable Development, One Future – Different Paths (2005)
- Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future (2003)
- Planning Act 2008
- Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning (2005)
- World Class Places: The Government's Strategy for Improving Quality of Place (2009)
- Rural Strategy (2004)

- The Countryside in and Around Towns: A vision for connecting town and country in the pursuit of sustainable development (2005)
- The Code for Sustainable Homes: Setting the Standard in Sustainability for New Homes (2008)
- Sustainable Communities, Settled Homes, Changing Lives – A Strategy for Tackling Homelessness (ODPM) (2005)
- Climate Change Act (2008)
- Climate Change – The UK Programme 2006: Tomorrow’s Climate Today’s Challenge
- Stern Review of the Economics of Climate Change (2006)
- UK Carbon Plan (2011)
- Climate change and biodiversity adaptation: the role of the spatial planning system – a Natural England commissioned report (2009)
- Planning for Climate Change – Guidance and Model Policies for Local Authorities (2010)
- Energy White Paper: Meeting the Energy Challenge (2007)
- Energy Act 2011
- Delivering a Sustainable Transport System (2008)
- The Future of Transport White Paper – A Network for 2030 (2004)
- Low Carbon Transport: A Greener Future - A Carbon Reduction Strategy for Transport (2009)
- Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended)
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010)
- The Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act (2000)
- The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)
- The Guidance for Local Authorities on Implementing the Biodiversity Duty (2007)
- Conserving Biodiversity – The UK Approach (2007)
- Working with the Grain of Nature: a Biodiversity Strategy for England (2002)
- UK Biodiversity Action Plan (1994)
- Biodiversity by Design: A Guide for Sustainable Communities (Town and Country Planning Association) (2004)
- Biodiversity Indicators in Your Pocket (2010) Defra
- Biodiversity by Design. (2004) Town and Country Planning Association
- A Strategy for England’s Trees, Woodlands and Forests (2007)
- Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland (2002)
- Open Space Strategies: Best Practice Guidance (CABE and the Greater London Authority, 2009)
- The Geological Conservation Review (GCR) (ongoing)
- Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England (Defra, 2009)
- Natural England’s Green Infrastructure Guidance (2009)
- Accessible Natural Green Space Standards in Towns and Cities: A Review and Toolkit for their Implementation (2003) and Nature Nearby: Accessible Green Space Guidance (2010)

- Historic Environment: A Force For the Future (2001)
- The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (2007)
- Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales (2009)
- Future Water: The Government's Water Strategy for England (2008)
- Flood and Water Management Act (2010)
- Making Space for Water: Taking Forward a New Government Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (2005)
- Waste Strategy for England (2007)
- The Egan Review – Skills for Sustainable Communities (2004)
- Working for a Healthier Tomorrow – Dame Carol Black's Review of the health of Britain's working age population (2008)
- Health Effects of Climate Change in the UK 2008 – An update of the Department of Health Report 2001/2002
- Tackling Health Inequalities – A Programme for Action (2003, including the 2007 Status Report on the Programme for Action)
- By All Reasonable Means: Inclusive Access To The Outdoors For Disabled People (Countryside Agency, 2005)
- Draft National Planning Policy Framework (2011)
- Localism Act 2011
- Guidance Notes for the Reduction of Light Pollution (2000)
- Relevant Planning Policy Statements (PPS) and Planning Policy Guidance Notes (PPG)
- PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development (2005)
- Planning Policy Statement: Planning and Climate Change – Supplement to PPS1 (2007)
- PPG2: Green Belts (1995, amended 2001)
- PPS3: Housing (2010)
- PPS4: Planning for Sustainable Economic Growth (2009)
- PPS5: Planning for the Historic Environment (2010)
- PPS7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (2004)
- PPS9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation and Planning for Biodiversity and Geological Conservation: A Guide to Good Practice (2006)
- PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management (2005) and A Companion Guide to PPS10 (2006)
- PPS12: Local Spatial Planning (2008)
- PPG13: Transport (2001)
- PPG17: Planning for open space, sport and recreation (2002) and Assessing Needs and Opportunities: a Companion Guide to PPG17
- Good Practice Guide on Planning for Tourism (2006)
- PPS22: Renewable Energy (2004) and A Companion Guide to PPS22 (2004)
- PPS23: Planning and Pollution Control (2004)
- PPG24: Planning and Noise (1994)
- PPS25: Development and Flood Risk (2010)

Regional and County Level Plans and Programmes

- Action for Sustainability – North West Regional Sustainable Development Framework (RSDF) (2005)
- Moving Forward: The Northern Way (2004)
- Ambition Lancashire 2005 – 2025 Strategic Vision for the Future of Lancashire (2008 revision)
- Lancashire Local Area Agreement (LAA) 2008-2011
- North West Enterprise Strategy (2008)
- The Strategy for Tourism in England's Northwest 2003-2010 (revised 2007)
- The ICT Strategy for England's Northwest (2005)
- North West Science Strategy 2007 to 2010
- Shaping the Future of Lancashire – Lancashire Economic Strategy and Sub-regional Action Plan 2006-2009
- Rising to the Challenge: A Climate Change Action Plan for England's Northwest 2010-12
- North West Sustainable Energy Strategy (2006)
- Making It Happen: The Sustainable Consumption and Production Action Plan for England's Northwest 2010-2012
- Lancashire's Local Transport Plan 2011 - 2021
- Regional Waste Strategy for England's Northwest (2010)
- Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Development Framework Core Strategy DPD (2009)
- Lancashire's Municipal Waste Strategy 2008 – 2020 Rubbish to Resources
- Northwest Equality and Diversity Strategy & Implementation Plan 2006-9
- Investment for Health: A Plan for the North West of England (2003)
- North West Regional Cultural Strategy (2002)
- The North West Plan for Sport and Physical Activity 2004-2008
- The North West Green Infrastructure Guide (2007)
- Green Infrastructure: How and where it can help the North-West adapt to climate change (2010)
- Lancashire Environment Strategy 2005 - 2010
- Countryside Character Volume 2: North-West (1998)
- North-West Landscape Character Framework Project (ongoing)
- Lancashire Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Strategy (2000)
- Lancashire Climate Change Strategy 2009 -2020
- Biodiversity Action Plan for Lancashire (various dates)
- Lancashire Woodland Vision 2006-2015
- A Geodiversity Action Plan for Lancashire (2004)
- Ribble Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (CAMS)
- Ribble Catchment Flood Management Plan (2009)

- River Basin Management Plan for the North West River Basin District (2009)
- Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council, Blackburn with Darwen Council, Rights of Way Improvement Plan (2005)
- Forest of Bowland Management Plan April 2009 - March 2014

Local Plans and Programmes

- The Ribble Valley Economic Strategy - 2009 – 2014
- Ribble Valley, Health Profile 2011
- Ribble Valley Community Safety Partnership Plan 2008-2011
- Ribble Valley, Sustainable Community Strategy, 2007- 2013
- The Corporate Strategy 2009-2011
- Ribble Valley Tourism Association Action Plan 2009-12
- Pennine Lancashire Integrated Economic Strategy 2009-2020
- Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Report 2009
- Ribble Valley Employment Land and Retail Study 2008
- Strategic Housing Market Assessment Report 2008
- Ribble Valley Play Strategy 2007
- Ribble Valley Sport & Physical Activity Alliance Vision, 2007 – 2010
- Third Report and Review of the Homelessness Strategy (2007)
- Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy 2001
- Statement of Community Involvement (2010)
- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (Level one) 2010

Summary of International Plans

International Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to LDF and SA	Implications for LDF	Implications for SA
World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg (2002)			
<p>The World Summit reaffirmed the international commitment to sustainable development. The aims are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production with a 10-year framework of programmes of action ▪ Reverse the trend in loss of natural resources ▪ Urgently and substantially increase the global share of renewable energy ▪ Significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010 	<p>No specific targets or indicators, however key actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Greater resource efficiency ▪ Support business innovation and take up of best practice in technology and management ▪ Waste reduction and producer responsibility ▪ Sustainable consumer consumption and procurement ▪ Create a level playing field for renewable energy and energy efficiency ▪ New technology development ▪ Push on energy efficiency ▪ Low-carbon programmes ▪ Reduced impacts on biodiversity 	<p>The LDF needs to include policies that encourage resource efficiency.</p> <p>It should recognise the importance of renewable energy and the need to reduce energy consumption and improve energy efficiency.</p> <p>The LDF needs to include policies that encourage and contribute to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to renewable energy use, biodiversity protection and enhancement, and careful use of natural resources.</p> <p>It should include objectives to cover the action areas.</p>
European Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)			
<p>The Strategy sets out how the European Union (EU) will effectively live up to its long-standing commitment to meet the challenges of sustainable development. It reaffirms the need for global solidarity and the importance of strengthening work with partners outside of the EU.</p> <p>The Strategy sets objectives and actions for seven key priority challenges until 2010. The priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change and clean energy • Sustainable transport • Sustainable consumption and production • Conservation and management of natural resources • Public Health • Social inclusion, demography and migration • Global poverty and sustainable development challenges 	<p>There are no specific indicators or targets of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to take on board the key objectives, actions and priorities of the Strategy and contribute to the development of more sustainable communities by creating places where people want to live and work.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that complement those of this Strategy.</p> <p>Addressing transport, health, climate change, accessibility and biodiversity protection and enhancement.</p>

International Plans

Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA

Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to LDF and SA

Implications for LDF

Implications for SA

EU Sixth Environmental Action Plan 2002 - 2012

The EAP reviews the significant environmental challenges and provides a framework for European environmental policy up to 2012.
 The Programme aims are:

- Emphasising climate change as an outstanding challenge of the next 10 years and beyond and contributing to the long term objective of stabilising greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.
- Protecting, conserving, restoring and developing the functioning of natural systems, natural habitats, wild flora and fauna with the aim of halting desertification and the loss of biodiversity, including diversity of genetic resources, both in the EU and on a global scale.
- Contributing to a high level of quality of life and social well being for citizens by providing an environment where the level of pollution does not give rise to harmful effects on human health and the environment and by encouraging a sustainable urban development.
- Better resource efficiency and resource and waste management to bring about more sustainable production and consumption patterns, thereby decoupling the use of resources and the generation of waste from the rate of economic growth and aiming to ensure that the consumption of renewable and non-renewable resources does not exceed the carrying capacity of the environment.

The Plan sets objectives and priority areas for action on tackling climate change. The aims set out in the document are to be pursued by the following objectives (some of these are now out of date and are therefore not included):

- Fulfilment of the Kyoto Protocol commitment of an 8% reduction in emissions by 2008-12 compared to 1990 levels for the EU as a whole, in accordance with the commitment of each Member State set out in the Council Conclusions of 16 and 17 June 1998
- Placing the EU in a credible position to advocate an international agreement on more stringent reduction targets for the second commitment period provided for by the Kyoto Protocol. This agreement should aim to cut emissions significantly, taking full account, inter alia, of the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 3rd Assessment Report, and take into account the necessity to move towards a global equitable distribution of greenhouse gas emissions.

The LDF needs to include policies that encompass the broad goals of the Plan, e.g. recognising that local action needs to be taken with regard to climate change issues, protecting and enhancing biodiversity and encouraging waste reduction and recycling.

The SA should be mindful that documents prepared will need to conform to EU goals and aims, and should therefore include appropriate objectives, indicators and targets in the SA Framework.

European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP) (1999)

The ESDP is based on the EU aim of achieving balanced and sustainable development, in particular by strengthening environmentally sound economic development and social cohesion. This means, in particular, reconciling the social and economic claims for spatial development with an area's ecological and cultural functions and, hence, contributing to a sustainable, and at larger scale, balanced territorial development.
 This is reflected in the three following fundamental goals of European policy:

- Economic and social cohesion
- Conservation of natural resources and cultural heritage
- More balanced competitiveness of the European territory

There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance. Targets and measures are for the most part deferred to Member States.

The LDF needs to recognise the tensions between social, economic and environmental issues, and include policies that encourage sustainable development.

The SA should include objectives that complement the principles of the ESDP. The issues outlined in this document are of particular relevance to Ribble Valley in view of the high quality environment but also the need for sustainable locations for new housing and economic development.

Aarhus Convention (Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters) (1998)

International Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to LDF and SA	Implications for LDF	Implications for SA
In order to contribute to the protection of the right of every person of present and future generations to live in an environment adequate to his or her health and well-being, each Party subject to the convention shall guarantee the rights of access to information, public participation in decision-making, and access to justice in environmental matters in accordance with the provisions of this Convention.	<p>As this is a high level EU policy document, responsibility for implementation has been deferred to the Member States:</p> <p>Each Party shall take the necessary legislative, regulatory and other measures, including measures to achieve compatibility between the provisions implementing the information, public participation and access-to-justice provisions in this Convention, as well as proper enforcement measures, to establish and maintain a clear, transparent and consistent framework to implement the provisions of this Convention.</p>	The development of the LDF needs to be a transparent process, and Ribble Valley's Statement of Community Involvement identifies how stakeholder involvement will be achieved.	As part of the SA process the SA should highlight that while the LDF will be prepared mostly under the provisions of national legislation and strategies, it must still comply with principles in the Convention. The council should ensure that sufficient time is provided for consultation.
United Nations (UN) Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992)			
<p>The convention sets an overall framework for intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change. It acknowledges that the climatic system is affected by many factors and is a shared system. Under the Convention governments have to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gather and share information on greenhouse gas emissions ▪ Launch national strategies for climate change ▪ Co-operate in adapting to the impacts of climate change 	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF should include policies that recognise local action needs to be taken with regard to climate change issues.	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that relate to climate change, flooding and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>A number of locations across Ribble Valley are at risk of flooding and the results of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment should be considered in the SA.</p>
Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (1997)			
The Kyoto protocol, adopted in 1997, reinforced the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. It addressed the problem of anthropogenic climate change by requiring developed countries to set legally binding emission reduction targets for greenhouse gases.	<p>Industrial nations agreed to reduce their collective emissions of greenhouse gases by 5.2% from 1990 levels by the period 2008 to 2012. Countries can achieve their Kyoto targets by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reducing greenhouse gas emissions in their own country ▪ Implementing projects to reduce emissions in other countries ▪ Trading in carbon. Countries that have achieved their 	The LDF needs to include policies that encompass the broad goals of the Kyoto Protocol, e.g. recognising that local action needs to be taken with regard to climate change issues.	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that relate to climate change, flooding and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>A number of locations</p>

International Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to LDF and SA	Implications for LDF	Implications for SA
	Kyoto targets will be able to sell their excess carbon allowances to countries finding it more difficult or too expensive to meet their targets		across Ribble Valley are at risk of flooding and the results of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment should be considered in the SA.
Second European Climate Change Programme (2005)			
The programme builds on the First Climate Change Programme and seeks to drive climate change mitigation across Europe, with the aim of limiting climate change and meeting Kyoto targets. It also seeks to promote adaptation to the effects of inevitable and predicted climate change.	Most initiatives in the programme refer to EU-wide elements of policy related, for example, to emissions trading, technological specifications and carbon capture and storage. There are therefore no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF should take account of the need to understand and adapt to the potential impacts of climate change such as weather extremes and river flooding.	The SA Framework should include a target to contribute towards the mitigation and adaptation of the effects of climate change. As well as ensuring that policies are relevant from a climate change and flood risk perspective.
Directive to Promote Electricity from Renewable Energy (2001/77/EC)			
This Directive aims to promote an increase in the contribution of renewable energy sources to electricity production in the internal market for electricity and to create a basis for a future Community Framework. Member States are obliged to take steps to increase the consumption of electricity produced from renewable energy sources, by setting national indicative targets, in terms of a percentage of electricity consumption by 2010.	Member States are obliged to take appropriate steps to encourage greater consumption of electricity produced from renewable energy sources. Global indicative target: 12% of gross national energy consumption by 2010 and 22.1% indicative share of electricity produced from renewable energy sources in total Community electricity consumption by 2010. UK target: renewables to account for 15% of UK consumption by 2020.	The LDF should recognise the importance of renewable energy and the need to increase the consumption of electricity produced from renewable energy sources.	The SA Framework should include objectives to cover the action areas and encourage energy efficiency.
European Transport Policy for 2010: A Time to Decide (2001)			
This policy outlines the need to improve the quality and effectiveness of transport in Europe. A strategy has been proposed which is designed to gradually break the link between transport growth and economic growth to reduce environmental impacts and congestion. The policy advocates measures that promote an environmentally friendly mix of transport services.	There are no specific indicators or targets of relevance.	The development of the LDF should consider issues relating to transport and access.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the need for a sustainable and efficient transport system. Accessibility of communities to facilities should be a central consideration of the SA process.

International Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to LDF and SA	Implications for LDF	Implications for SA
EU Directive on Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (2008/50/EC)			
<p>The Directive demonstrates a commitment to improving air quality in the EU by setting binding standards for a number of air pollutants. It merges four previous directives and one Council decision into a single directive on air quality. It sets standards and target dates for reducing concentrations of SO₂, NO₂/NO_x, PM₁₀/PM_{2.5}, CO, benzene and lead which are required to be translated into UK legislation.</p> <p>The Directive seeks to maintain ambient-air quality where it is good and improve it in other cases.</p>	<p>Thresholds for pollutants are included in the Directives.</p>	<p>The LDF should consider the maintenance of good air quality and the measures that can be taken to improve it; for example, reducing the number of vehicle movements.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that address the protection of air quality.</p>
Water Framework Directive (WFD) (2000/60/EC)			
<p>The purpose of this Directive is to establish a framework for the protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater which:</p> <p>(a) prevents further deterioration and protects and enhances the status of aquatic ecosystems and, with regard to their water needs, terrestrial ecosystems and wetlands directly depending on the aquatic ecosystems</p> <p>(b) promotes sustainable water use based on a long-term protection of available water resources</p> <p>(c) aims at enhanced protection and improvement of the aquatic environment, inter alia, through specific measures for the progressive reduction of discharges, emissions and losses of priority substances and the cessation or phasing-out of discharges, emissions and losses of the priority hazardous substances</p> <p>(d) ensures the progressive reduction of pollution of groundwater and prevents its further pollution</p> <p>(e) contributes to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts</p>	<p>Objectives for surface waters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Achievement of good ecological status and good surface water chemical status by 2015 ▪ Achievement of good ecological potential and good surface water chemical status for heavily modified water bodies and artificial water bodies ▪ Prevention of deterioration from one status class to another ▪ Achievement of water-related objectives and standards for protected areas <p>Objectives for groundwater:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Achievement of good groundwater quantitative and chemical status by 2015 ▪ Prevention of deterioration from one status class to another ▪ Reversal of any significant and sustained upward trends in pollutant concentrations and prevent or limit input of pollutants to groundwater ▪ Achievement of water related objectives and standards for protected areas 	<p>The LDF should consider how the water environment can be protected and enhanced, and include policies that promote the sustainable use of water resources.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that consider effects upon water quality and resources.</p>
Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)			
<p>Sets standards for a range of drinking water quality parameters.</p>	<p>The Directive includes standards that constitute legal limits.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to recognise the effects of development on drinking water quality, and provide development and</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that address water quality.</p>

International Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to LDF and SA	Implications for LDF	Implications for SA
		operational controls to prevent non-conformances.	
Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)			
<p>This Directive has the objective of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources ▪ Preventing further such pollution 	The Directive provides guidelines for monitoring nitrate levels for the purpose of identifying vulnerable zones.	The LDF should include policies that seek to protect water resources.	Ribble Valley is a rural borough with many agricultural businesses. Therefore the SA Framework should include objectives that seek to protect environmental quality and promote enhancements with regard to nitrate levels resulting from agricultural practice.
Directive on the Assessment and Management of Flood Risks (2007/60/EC)			
<p>This Directive aims to reduce and manage the risks that floods pose to human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity. It requires Member States to assess whether all watercourses and coastlines are at risk from flooding, to map the flood extent and assets and humans at risk in these areas, and to take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce this flood risk.</p> <p>The Directive shall be carried out in co-ordination with the WFD, most notably through flood risk management plans and river basin management plans, and also through co-ordination of the public participation procedures in the preparation of these plans.</p>	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF should consider potential flood risk, and prevent development within floodplains.	The SA Framework should include objectives that promote the reduction and management of flood risk.
UN Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)			
<p>This was one of the main outcomes of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit. The key objectives of the Convention are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The conservation of biological diversity ▪ The sustainable use of its components ▪ The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources <p>The achievement of the objectives in the Convention relies heavily upon the implementation of action at the national level.</p>	The Convention aims to halt the worldwide loss of animal and plant species and genetic resources and save and enhance biodiversity.	It is essential that the development of the LDF should consider biodiversity protection.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection (and enhancement where possible) of Ribble Valley's European, national and local designated sites.
Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)			

International Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to LDF and SA	Implications for LDF	Implications for SA
<p>The principle objectives of the Convention are to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats, especially those species and habitats whose conservation requires the co-operation of several States, and to promote such co-operation. Particular emphasis is given to endangered and vulnerable species, including migratory species.</p> <p>In order to achieve this the Convention imposes legal obligations on contracting parties, protecting over 500 wild plant species and more than 1000 wild animal species.</p> <p>Each Contracting Party is obliged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote national policies for the conservation of wild flora, wild fauna and natural habitats, with particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species, especially endemic ones, and endangered habitats, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention ▪ Have regard to the conservation of wild flora and fauna in its planning and development policies and in its measures against pollution ▪ Promote education and disseminate general information on the need to conserve species of wild flora and fauna and their habitats 	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF must take into account the habitats and species that have been identified under the Convention, and should include provision for the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment as appropriate.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection (and enhancement where possible) of Ribble Valley's European, national and local designated sites.
Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (1979)			
<p>The Convention is an intergovernmental treaty under the UN Environment Programme. The aim is for contracting parties to work together to conserve terrestrial, marine and avian migratory species and their habitats (on a global scale) by providing strict protection for endangered migratory species.</p> <p>The overarching objectives set for the Parties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote, co-operate in and support research relating to migratory species ▪ Endeavour to provide immediate protection for migratory species included in Appendix I ▪ Endeavour to conclude Agreements covering the conservation and management of migratory species included in Appendix II 	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF must take into account the habitats and species that have been identified under this directive, and should include provision for their protection, preservation and improvement.	The SA Framework should include objectives protecting biodiversity and also enhancement where possible.
Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC)			
<p>Directive seeks to conserve natural habitats, and wild fauna and flora within the EU.</p>	Member States are required to take measures to maintain or restore at favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of Community importance. This includes Special Areas of Conservation and SPAs and it is usually accepted as also including Ramsar sites (European Sites).	The LDF must take into account the habitats and species that have been identified under the Directive, and should include provision for the preservation,	The SA must recognise the conservation provisions of the Directive, and include objectives that address the protection of

International Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to LDF and SA	Implications for LDF	Implications for SA
	Plans that may adversely affect the integrity of European sites may be required to be subject to Appropriate Assessment under the Directive.	protection and improvement of the quality of the environment as appropriate.	biodiversity. Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening should be completed in parallel to the SA.
EU Biodiversity Strategy (1998)			
The Strategy aims to anticipate, prevent and attack the causes of significant reduction or loss of biodiversity at the source, which will help both to reverse present trends in biodiversity decline and to place species and ecosystems, including agro-ecosystems, at a satisfactory conservation status, both within and beyond the territory of the EU.	There are no specific indicators or targets of relevance.	It is essential that the development of the LDF should consider biodiversity protection.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection (and enhancement where possible) of Ribble Valley's European, national and local designated sites. HRA screening should be completed in parallel to the SA.
European Landscape Convention (2000)			
The aims are to promote European landscape protection, management and planning, and to organise European co-operation on landscape issues. The Convention is part of the Council of Europe's work on natural and cultural heritage, spatial planning, environment and local self-government, and establishes the general legal principles which should serve as a basis for adopting national landscape policies and establishing international co-operation in such matters. The UK is a signatory to this Convention and is committed to its principles.	There are no specific indicators or targets of relevance.	The LDF needs to consider the preservation and enhancement of the landscape (including views) as a significant part of Ribble Valley is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.	The SA Framework should include objectives that relate to landscape protection and enhancement.
Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC)			
This replaces the old Waste Framework Directive (2006/12/EC). The aims of this Directive are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To provide a comprehensive and consolidated approach to the definition and management of waste. ▪ To shift from thinking of waste as an unwanted burden to a valued resource and make Europe a recycling society. ▪ To ensure waste prevention is the first priority of waste 	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF should seek to promote the key objectives of prevention, recycling and processing of waste, conversion of waste to usable materials, and energy recovery.	The SA needs to incorporate objectives, indicators and targets that address waste issues, e.g. minimisation and re-use etc.

International Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to LDF and SA	Implications for LDF	Implications for SA
<p>management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide environmental criteria for certain waste streams, to establish when a waste ceases to be a waste (rather than significantly amending the definition of waste). 			
Directive on the Landfill of Waste (99/31/EC)			
<p>The Directive is intended, by way of stringent operational and technical requirements on the waste and landfills, to prevent or reduce the adverse effects of the landfill of waste on the environment, in particular on surface water, groundwater, soil, air and human health.</p>	<p>The Directive establishes guidelines and targets for the quantities or biodegradable waste being sent to landfill. The key targets are set to be achieved within set timeframes from the start year. Some of these are now out of date and are therefore not included. With 2001 as the start year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By approximately 2016, biodegradable municipal waste going to landfills must be reduced to 35%. 	<p>Lancashire County Council is responsible for waste and landfills within Ribble Valley, therefore any waste policy within the LDF must comply with this Directive, other international legislation, national policy and Lancashire's Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should incorporate principles of waste management in conjunction with Lancashire County Council – the competent waste authority.</p>
EU Birds Directive 2009/147/EC			
<p>The directive recognises that habitat loss and degradation are the most serious threats to the conservation of wild birds. The Directive places great emphasis on the protection of habitats for endangered as well as migratory species (listed in Annex I), especially through the establishment of a coherent network of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) comprising all the most suitable territories for these species.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The development of the LDF must consider the preservation / enhancement of biodiversity resources including the protection of bird species.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include sustainability objectives, indicators and targets for the preservation /enhancement of biodiversity resources. HRA screening which has been undertaken in parallel to the SA has assessed the potential for significant effects on European sites within Ribble Valley.</p>

Summary of National Plans

National Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
UK Sustainable Development Strategy: Securing the Future (2005) and the UK's Shared Framework for Sustainable Development, One Future – Different Paths (2005)			
<p>The strategy for sustainable development aims to enable people to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations.</p> <p>The following issues have been highlighted as the main priority areas for immediate action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainable consumption and production - working towards achieving more with less ▪ Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement - protecting the natural resources on which we depend ▪ From local to global: building sustainable communities creating places where people want to live and work, now and in the future ▪ Climate change and energy - confronting the greatest threat <p>In addition to these four priorities changing behaviour also forms a large part of the Government's thinking on sustainable development.</p>	<p>Because the UK sustainable development strategy aims to direct and shape policies, it is difficult to list the specific objectives of the strategy. The following principles will be used to achieve the sustainable development purpose, and have been agreed by the UK Government, Scottish Executive, Welsh Assembly Government (WAG), and the Northern Ireland Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Living within environmental limits ▪ Ensuring a strong, healthy, and just society ▪ Achieving a sustainable economy ▪ Promoting good governance ▪ Using sound science responsibly <p>There are no specific targets within the Strategy, although it makes reference to targets set in related PSA (currently 2010) and other relevant policy statements.</p> <p>Success against the objectives will be measured against 68 high level UK Government strategy indicators. The most relevant are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Greenhouse gas emissions: Kyoto target and carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions ▪ CO₂ emissions by end user: industry, domestic, transport (excluding international aviation), other ▪ Renewable electricity: renewable electricity generated as a % of total electricity ▪ Energy supply: UK primary energy supply and gross inland energy consumption ▪ Water resource use: total abstractions from non-tidal surface and ground water sources ▪ Waste arisings by (a) sector (b) method of disposal ▪ Bird populations: bird population indices (a) farmland birds (b) woodland birds (c) birds of coasts and estuaries (d) wintering wetland birds ▪ Biodiversity conservation: (a) priority species status (b) priority habitat status 	<p>The LDF needs to take on board the key objectives of the strategy and contribute to the development of more sustainable communities by creating places where people want to live and work.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that complement those of this strategy.</p>

National Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ River quality: rivers of good (a) biological (b) chemical quality ▪ Air quality and health: (a) annual levels of PM₁₀ and O₃ (b) days when air pollution is moderate or higher 		
Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future (2003)			
<p>This action programme marks a step change in the policies for delivering sustainable communities for all. The plan allies measures to tackle the housing provision mis-match between the South-East and parts of the North and the Midlands, with more imaginative design and the continuation of an agreeable and convenient environment.</p> <p>It is part of the Government's wider drive to raise the quality of life in our communities through increasing prosperity, reducing inequalities, increasing employment, better public services, better health and education, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour, and much more. It reflects our key principles for public service reform: raising standards, devolving and delegating decision-making, providing greater flexibility over use of resources and choice for customers. The main elements are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainable communities ▪ Step change in housing supply ▪ New growth areas ▪ Decent homes ▪ Countryside and local environment 	There are no specific indicators or targets of relevance.	<p>The LDF should encourage housing to be addressed by local partnerships as part of wider strategy of neighbourhood renewal and sustainable communities. It should encourage environmental enhancement to be central to regeneration solutions.</p> <p>It should also encourage restoration and management of brownfield land, have due regard for landscape character and encourage green space networks.</p>	<p>The SA should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ acknowledge local action to meet local needs; ▪ recognise that housing should be provided for all sections of society; ▪ recognise that environmental improvements can improve quality of life; ▪ ensure that affordable housing is provided where there is need. <p>The SA Framework should be reviewed against these objectives.</p>
Planning Act 2008			
<p>The Act created amendments to the functioning of the planning system, following recommendations from the Barker Review first proposed in the 2007 White Paper: Planning for a Sustainable Future. The two principal changes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The establishment of an Infrastructure Planning Commission to make decisions on nationally significant infrastructure projects. ▪ Creation of the Community Infrastructure Levy, a charge to be collected from developers by local authorities for the provision of local and sub-regional infrastructure. 	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The preparation of the LDF should consider the recommended actions in this document.	The SA should consider the measures included within the Act that relate to sustainable development, including: having regard to the desirability of achieving good design.
Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning (2005)			
This document was jointly published by The Countryside Agency, English Heritage, English Nature and the EA. It provides guidance to	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The preparation of the LDF should consider	The SA should take into consideration the issues

National Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
help in the preparation of LDFs, by ensuring incorporation of the natural, built and historic environment, and rural issues in plans and strategies.		the recommended actions in this document.	raised and ensure that objectives are developed that cover relevant aspects of the built and natural environment.
World Class Places: The Government's Strategy for Improving Quality of Place (2009)			
<p>The Strategy identifies the benefits of creating well-designed places, including elements of spatial planning, urban design, architecture, green infrastructure and community involvement. It seeks to promote the consideration of place at all levels of planning. An Action Plan accompanying the Strategy sets out the following seven broad objectives</p> <p>1: Strengthen leadership on quality of place at the national and regional level</p> <p>2: Encourage local civic leaders and local government to prioritise quality of place</p> <p>3: Ensure relevant government policy, guidance and standards consistently promote quality of place and are user-friendly</p> <p>4: Put the public and community at the centre of place-shaping</p> <p>5: Ensure all development for which central government is directly responsible is built to high design and sustainability standards and promotes quality of place</p> <p>6: Encourage higher standards of market-led development</p> <p>7: Strengthen quality of place skills, knowledge and capacity</p>	<p>The majority of actions reflect how the Government will take forward the strategy and use it in the creation of new guidance and to direct its interactions with relevant agencies. However, of particular relevance are:</p> <p>2.3: Working with local authorities to achieve high quality development</p> <p>2.5: Establishing an award scheme for high quality places</p> <p>4.1: Encouraging public involvement in shaping the vision for their area and the design of individual schemes</p> <p>4.2: Ensuring the citizens and service users are engaged in the design and development of public buildings</p> <p>4.3: Encouraging community involvement in ownership and management of the public realm and community facilities</p> <p>4.4: Promoting public engagement in creating new homes and neighbourhoods</p> <p>6.1: Encouraging local authorities to set clear quality of place ambitions in their LDFs</p> <p>7.1: Strengthening advisory support on design quality for local authorities, the wider public sector and developers</p> <p>7.2: Encouraging local authorities to share planning, design, conservation and related expertise</p>	<p>The LDF should seek to reinforce and promote a sense of place, particularly in key regeneration areas. High standards of design and public consultation should be encouraged as part of new development.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should recognise the importance of developing a high quality built environment and promoting high levels of community involvement.</p>
Rural Strategy (2004)			
<p>The Strategy carries forward the Government's vision, of sustainable rural communities in which economic, social and environmental issues are all taken into account. It identifies three key priorities for rural policy, and explains the modernised delivery arrangements. The following priorities will inform the Government's rural policy for the next three to five years and the modernised delivery arrangements that will drive progress forward:</p> <p>1. Economic and Social Regeneration – supporting enterprise across rural England, but targeting greater resources at areas of greatest</p>	<p>There are no specific indicators or targets of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to recognise the importance of developing and enhancing the rural parts of the Borough.</p>	<p>Ribble Valley is a largely rural borough with many small villages. Rural needs must be considered as part of the SA process.</p>

National Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<p>need.</p> <p>2. Social Justice for All – tackling rural social exclusion wherever it occurs and providing fair access to services and opportunities for all rural people.</p> <p>3. Enhancing the Value of our Countryside – protecting the natural environment for this and future generations.</p>			
The Countryside in and Around Towns: A vision for connecting town and country in the pursuit of sustainable development (2005)			
<p>This document was jointly published by the Countryside Agency and Groundwork, in 2005.</p> <p>It presents a new vision for the countryside in and around England's towns and cities. The vision is to reduce the pressures that urban life places on the local and global environment - <i>'the need to ensure a high quality of life for all while at the same time reducing our collective impact on the resources we share'</i>.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to complement the aims of the strategy and seek to develop sustainable communities.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that seek to promote sustainable communities and protect both the urban and rural environment. As part of the assessment the needs of the rural settlements in the borough and their accessibility to services must be considered.</p>
The Code for Sustainable Homes: Setting the Standard in Sustainability for New Homes (2008)			
<p>This document sets out the assessment process and the performance standards required for the Code for Sustainable Homes. The Code is a voluntary standard designed to improve the overall sustainability of new homes by setting a single framework within which the home building industry can design and construct homes to higher environmental standards.</p>	<p>The Code measures the sustainability of new homes in 9 categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Energy and CO₂ Emissions ▪ Pollution ▪ Water ▪ Health and Wellbeing ▪ Materials ▪ Management ▪ Surface Water Run-off ▪ Ecology ▪ Waste 	<p>The LDF should consider the requirements of the Code when setting policies related to new housing. The categories suggest areas in which planning policy may also be developed to promote sustainable development.</p>	<p>SA Objectives should be developed to reflect the categories of the code.</p>
Sustainable Communities, Settled Homes, Changing Lives – A Strategy for Tackling Homelessness (ODPM) (2005)			
<p>The key actions of the strategy for addressing homelessness are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preventing homelessness ▪ Providing support for vulnerable people 	<p>Key target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Halve the number of households living in temporary accommodation by 2010 	<p>The LDF needs to recognise the causes of homelessness and seek</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that address</p>

National Plans

Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tackling the wider causes and symptoms of homelessness ▪ Helping more people move away from rough sleeping ▪ Providing more settled homes <p>For each of the above points a series of actions are identified.</p>		to implement policies that will reduce the number of people sleeping rough.	housing issues including homelessness. In particular affordable housing, which is an issue within Ribble Valley.

Climate Change Act (2008)

<p>The Act commits the UK to action in mitigating the impacts of climate change. It has two key aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To improve carbon management, helping the transition towards a low-carbon economy ▪ To demonstrate UK leadership internationally, signalling a commitment to take our share of responsibility for reducing global emissions in the context of developing negotiations on a post-2012 global agreement at Copenhagen in December 2009 [and beyond]. 	<p>Relevant commitments within the Act are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The creation of a legally binding target of at least an 80% cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, to be achieved through action in the UK and abroad (against 1990 levels). Also a reduction in emissions of at least 34% by 2020. ▪ A carbon budgeting system which caps emissions over 5-year periods. ▪ The creation of the Committee on Climate Change - to advise the Government on the level of carbon budgets and on where cost-effective savings can be made. ▪ The inclusion of International aviation and shipping emissions in the Act or an explanation to Parliament why not - by 31 December 2012. ▪ Further measures to reduce emissions, including: powers to introduce domestic emissions trading schemes more quickly and easily through secondary legislation; measures on biofuels; powers to introduce pilot financial incentive schemes in England for household waste; powers to require a minimum charge for single-use carrier bags (excluding Scotland). ▪ New powers to support the creation of a Community Energy Savings Programme. 	The LDF should ensure that policies are in place to encourage a reduction in CO ₂ emissions whilst promoting sustainable economic growth.	The SA Framework should include objectives that address climate change issues including flooding and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
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Stern Review of the Economics of Climate Change (2006)

<p>The review examines the evidence on the economic impacts of climate change and explores the economics of stabilising greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. The second part of the review considers the complex policy challenges involved in managing the transition to a low-carbon economy and in ensuring that societies are able to adapt to the consequences of climate change.</p> <p>The document clearly identifies that adaptation is the only available</p>	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF should ensure that policies are in place to encourage the reduction in CO ₂ emissions whilst promoting sustainable economic growth.	The SA Framework should include an objective relating to reducing greenhouse gas emissions as well as considering issues such as flood risk and
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National Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
response for impacts that will occur over the next few decades.			the vulnerability to climate change.
UK Carbon Plan (2011)			
The Carbon Plan sets out the Government's plans for achieving the emissions reductions committed to in the first four carbon budgets, on a pathway consistent with meeting the UK's 2050 target. The publication brings together the Government's strategy to curb greenhouse gas emissions and deliver climate change targets.	The Carbon Plan includes the following targets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commitment to reduce carbon emissions by at least 80% by 2050. 	It should be ensured that reducing carbon emissions is a key theme throughout the LDF.	The SA Framework should include objectives that complement the priorities of this Plan.
Climate change and biodiversity adaptation: the role of the spatial planning system – a Natural England commissioned report (2009)			
The report examines ways in which the land use planning system can help biodiversity adapt to climate change. Strategies are identified that enable LDFs to deliver against the Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs' (Defra) 12 core adaptation goals: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve existing biodiversity <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve protected areas and other high quality habitats Conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species Reduce sources of harm not linked to climate <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Develop ecologically resilient and varied landscapes Conserve and enhance local variation within sites and habitats Make space for the natural development of rivers and coasts Establish ecological networks through habitat protection, restoration and creation <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Make sound decisions based on analysis <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Thoroughly analyse causes of change Respond to changing conservation priorities Integrate adaptation and mitigation measures into conservation management, planning and practice <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate adaptation and mitigation measures into conservation management, planning and practice 	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	Development of the LDF should include recommendations from this report. Biodiversity assets within Ribble Valley should be protected from inappropriate development and i.e. use of buffer zones around sensitive sites.	The SA should refer to specific guidance in the document for using SA to improve the ability of biodiversity to adapt to climate change.
Planning for Climate Change – Guidance and Model Policies for Local Authorities (2010)			
The document has been produced by the Planning and Climate Change Coalition, a group of organisations seeking to ensure that the planning system responds effectively to the climate challenge. The guide is designed to provide clarity and guidance to local authorities and Local Enterprise Partnerships on how best to plan for climate change, both in terms of reducing CO ₂ emissions, and adapting to future climatic conditions. Guidance is provided on developing both strategic and development control policies.	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance, other than to support local authorities in mitigating and adapting to climate change.	The guidance should be followed when developing policies within the LDF that address climate change issues.	The SA should examine the likely effectiveness of the LDF in mitigating and adapting to climate change. Such judgements should be made with reference to the guidance.

National Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
Energy White Paper: Meeting the Energy Challenge (2007)			
<p>This White Paper sets out a framework for action to address the following long-term energy challenges, and helps to manage the risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tackling climate change by reducing CO₂ emissions both within the UK and abroad Ensuring secure, clean and affordable energy as we become increasingly dependent on imported fuel <p>This paper sets out the Government's international and domestic energy strategy (based upon existing policies) to address the long-term energy challenges and deliver the four energy policy goals [set out in the 2003 Energy White Paper].</p>	<p>Targets are superseded by 2008 Climate Change Act. There are therefore none of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF should ensure that policies are in place to encourage the reduction in CO₂ emissions whilst promoting sustainable economic growth.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include an objective relating to the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.</p>
Energy Act 2011			
<p>The Act sets out new legislation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflect the availability of new technologies (such as CCS and emerging renewable technologies) Correspond with our changing requirements for security of supply infrastructure (such as offshore gas storage) Ensure adequate protection for the environment and the tax payer as our energy market changes. 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF should ensure that policies are in place to encourage the reduction in CO₂ emissions whilst promoting sustainable economic growth.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include an objective relating to minimising greenhouse gas emissions.</p>
Delivering a Sustainable Transport System (2008)			
<p>The document explains how the strategic aims set out in 'Towards a Sustainable Transport System' (2007) will be translated into policy and practical actions. It takes on recommendations contained in the Eddington transport study and the Stern Review. The five goals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support national economic competitiveness and growth, by delivering reliable and efficient transport networks; To reduce transport's emissions of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases, with the desired outcome of tackling climate change; To contribute to better safety, security and health and longer life expectancy by reducing the risk of death, injury or illness arising from transport, and by promoting travel modes that are beneficial to health; To promote greater equality of opportunity for all citizens, with the desired outcome of achieving a fairer society; and To improve quality of life for transport users and non-transport 	<p>The document does not contain specific targets or indicators, but rather sets out broad strategic priorities at a national level. Nonetheless, the goals provide a framework for local as well as national action.</p>	<p>The LDF should recognise the importance of safe, reliable and efficient transport systems to economic and social wellbeing. The sustainability impacts of transport should also be fully understood.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should ensure inclusion of objectives that promote sustainable transport and consider the location of new development in relation to sustainable transport links.</p>

National Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
users, and to promote a healthy natural environment.			
The Future of Transport White Paper – A Network for 2030 (2004)			
<p>This Paper sets out the vision for a modern, efficient and sustainable transport system for the next 30 years, with a funding commitment until 2015.</p> <p>The aim is for a transport network that can meet the challenges of a growing economy and the increasing demand for travel, but that can also achieve environmental objectives. This means coherent networks with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The road network providing a more reliable and freer-flowing service for both personal travel and freight, with people able to make informed choices about how and when they travel ▪ The rail network providing a fast, reliable and efficient service, particularly for interurban journeys and commuting into large urban areas ▪ Reliable, flexible, convenient bus services tailored to local needs ▪ Making walking and cycling a real alternative for local trips ▪ Improving international and domestic links from ports and airports <p>The strategy is built around three key themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustained investment over the long term ▪ Improvements in transport management ▪ Planning ahead sustained <p>Underlining these themes is the need to balance travel demand with improving quality of life. This means seeking solutions that meet long term economic, social and environmental goals.</p>	<p>The document indicates a number of Public Service Agreement objectives. Those of relevance include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 12.5% below 1990 levels in line with our Kyoto commitment and move towards a 20% reduction in CO₂ emissions below 1990 levels by 2010, through measures including energy efficiency and renewables. ▪ Improve air quality by meeting the Air Quality Strategy targets for CO, lead, NO₂, PM₁₀, SO₂, benzene and 1, 3 butadiene. 	<p>The LDF should contain policies that relate to the need for an integrated and sustainable transport network.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should contain objectives that support an efficient and sustainable transport system, and also cover issues relating to improving air quality by reducing harmful emissions.</p>
Low Carbon Transport: A Greener Future - A Carbon Reduction Strategy for Transport (2009)			
<p>The Strategy sets out how the transport sector will meet its emissions reduction obligations and contribute to the Government's overall policy on climate change as set out in the Climate Change Act 2008.</p>	<p>The Strategy does not contain its own targets; rather it sets out how those committed to elsewhere, notably in the Climate Change Act 2008, will be met by the transport sector and what actions the Government will take to see they are met.</p>	<p>The LDF should promote low-carbon transport options for passengers and freight. This should require the promotion of new and emerging technology and a modal shift in transport choices.</p>	<p>The SA should seek the promotion of low-carbon forms of transport.</p>
Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended)			
The Act still forms the basis of conservation legislation in Great	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF must ensure	The SA Framework

National Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
Britain, although it has been much modified. Schedules 5 and 8 of the Act detail lists of legally protected wild animals and plants respectively. These are updated every five years.		that the requirements of the Act are complied with and that species and habitats are protected.	should include objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity resources.
The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010)			
These Regulations make provision for the purpose of implementing, for Great Britain, Council Directive 92/43/EEC[8] on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. They replace and update the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) in England and Wales (and to a limited degree, Scotland - as regards reserved matters).	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	It is essential that the development of the LDF should consider biodiversity protection.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity resources.
The Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act (2000)			
The purpose of the Act is to create a new statutory right of access on foot to certain types of open land, to modernise the public rights of way system, to strengthen nature conservation legislation, and to facilitate better management of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs).	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	It is essential that the development of the LDF should consider biodiversity protection.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity resources.
The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)			
The act created Natural England and the Commission for Rural Communities and, amongst other measures, it extended the biodiversity duty set out in the CRoW Act to public bodies and statutory undertakers to ensure due regard to the conservation of biodiversity. The Duty is set out in Section 40 of the Act, and states that every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard to the purpose of conserving biodiversity. The aim of the biodiversity duty is to raise the profile of biodiversity in England and Wales, so that the conservation of biodiversity becomes properly embedded in all relevant policies and decisions made by public authorities.	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	It is essential that the development of the LDF should consider biodiversity protection.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity resources in Ribble Valley, including European, national and locally designated sites, and protected species. A HRA screening report will be undertaken in parallel to the SA process which guard against inappropriate development within Ribble Valley.
The Guidance for Local Authorities on Implementing the Biodiversity Duty (2007)			

National Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
This guidance was issued by Defra and WAG to assist local authorities in fulfilling their Biodiversity Duty.	<p>The guidance references a biodiversity indicator to measure local authority performance, which is based on four sub-indicators relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The management of local authority landholdings (e.g. % of landholdings managed to a plan which seeks to maximise the sites' biodiversity potential). ▪ The condition of local authority managed Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) (e.g. % of SSSI in 'favourable' or 'unfavourable recovering' condition). ▪ The provision of accessible greenspace. ▪ The effect of development control decisions on designated sites (e.g. change in designated sites as a result of planning permissions). 	It is essential that the development of the LDF considers the provisions of the biodiversity duty.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity resources. Targets should also form part of the SA monitoring-framework.
Conserving Biodiversity – The UK Approach (2007)			
<p>The document sets out an approach to biodiversity conservation that is designed to meet the commitment to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010 but also to guide action into the second decade of the 21st Century.</p> <p>The statement emphasises an ecosystem approach. There is a close relationship between ecosystems and human well-being and there is a need to take action to reverse ecosystem degradation by addressing the key drivers and valuing ecosystem services. There is a need to maintain, create and restore functional combinations of habitats.</p> <p>The shared priorities for action are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protecting the best sites for wildlife ▪ Targeting action on priority species and habitats ▪ Embedding proper consideration of biodiversity and ecosystem services in all relevant sectors of policy and decision-making. ▪ Engaging people and encouraging behaviour change ▪ Developing and interpreting the evidence base ▪ Ensuring that the UK plays a proactive role in influencing the development of Multilateral Environmental Agreements and contributes fully to their domestic delivery. 	<p>In June 2007 the UK Biodiversity Partnership published 18 indicators that can be used to monitor biodiversity progress across the UK. They will be used as part of a wider evidence base to determine whether the target to halt biodiversity loss is being achieved. Some of the relevant indicators include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trends in populations of selected species of birds and butterflies ▪ UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Species & Habitats ▪ Protected areas ▪ Sustainable woodland management ▪ Area of agri-environment land ▪ Sustainable fisheries ▪ Ecological impact of air pollution ▪ Invasive species ▪ Habitat connectivity ▪ River quality 	It is essential that the development of the LDF should consider biodiversity protection.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection of biodiversity resources.
Working with the Grain of Nature: a Biodiversity Strategy for England (2002)			
The Strategy seeks to ensure biodiversity considerations become embedded in all main sectors of public policy and sets out a programme to make the changes necessary to conserve, enhance	A key Defra objective is: to protect and improve the rural, urban, marine and global environment and lead on the integration of these with other policies across Government	The LDF should support the vision of emphasising	The SA Framework should include sustainability objectives,

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<p>and work with the grain of nature and ecosystems rather than against them.</p> <p>The Strategy sets out a series of actions that will be taken by the Government and its partners to make biodiversity a fundamental consideration in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agriculture: encouraging the management of farming and agricultural land so as to conserve and enhance biodiversity as part of the Government's Sustainable Food and Farming Strategy. ▪ Water: aiming for a whole catchment approach to the wise, sustainable use of water and wetlands. ▪ Woodland: managing and extending woodland so as to promote enhanced biodiversity and quality of life. ▪ Marine and coastal management: so as to achieve the sustainable use and management of our coasts and seas using natural processes and the ecosystem-based approach. ▪ Urban areas: where biodiversity needs to become a part of the development of policy on sustainable communities and urban green space and the built environment. 	<p>and internationally.</p> <p>Under this objective, key targets are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To care for natural heritage, make the countryside attractive and enjoyable for all and preserve biological diversity by ▪ Reversing the long-term decline in the number of farmland birds by 2020 ▪ Bringing into favourable condition by 2010 95% of all nationally important wildlife sites <p>Of the Government's Quality of Life Counts indicators, those that are particularly important for biodiversity are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The populations of wild birds ▪ The condition of SSSIs ▪ Progress with BAPs ▪ Area of land under agri-environment agreement ▪ Biological quality of rivers ▪ Fish stocks around the UK fished within safe limits 	<p>biodiversity.</p>	<p>indicators and targets that address biodiversity.</p>
<p>UK Biodiversity Action Plan (1994)</p>			
<p>The overall goal of the UK BAP is '<i>To conserve and enhance biological diversity within the UK and to contribute to the conservation of global biodiversity through all appropriate mechanisms</i>'.</p> <p>Its underlying principles are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainable use of biological resources ▪ Wise use should be ensured for non-renewable resources ▪ Individual and community involvement is required in the conservation of biodiversity as well as Governmental processes ▪ Conservation of biodiversity should be an integral part of Government programmes, policy and action ▪ A sound knowledge base is required ▪ The precautionary principle should guide decisions <p>The objectives for conserving biodiversity are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To conserve and where practicable to enhance: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the overall populations and natural ranges of native species and the quality and range of wildlife habitats and ecosystems b. internationally important and threatened species, habitats and ecosystems c. species, habitats and natural and managed ecosystems that 	<p>The plan contains 1150 species and 65 habitats that have been listed as priorities for conservation action under the UK BAP.</p> <p>Specific targets are established for each of these action plans which are considered too detailed for this review.</p>	<p>It is essential that the development of the LDF should consider biodiversity protection.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection of biodiversity resources.</p>

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<p>are characteristic of local areas</p> <p>d. the biodiversity of natural and semi-natural habitats where this has been diminished over recent past decades</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To increase public awareness of, and involvement in, conserving biodiversity. ▪ To contribute to the conservation of biodiversity on a European and global scale. 			
Biodiversity by Design: A Guide for Sustainable Communities (Town and Country Planning Association) (2004)			
The aim of the guide is to provide guidance on how to maximise the opportunities for biodiversity in the planning and design of sustainable communities. The guidance is designed to apply at a variety of scales from whole sub-region growth points, to neighbourhood schemes.	This is a guidance document and therefore does not set targets or identify indicators	The LDF should recognise the multi-functional nature of open space. The LDF should seek to protect and enhance biodiversity resources and open space.	The SA Framework should seek to protect Ribble Valley's European, national and locally designated sites along with areas of open space.
Biodiversity Indicators in Your Pocket (2010) Defra			
These indicators show changes in aspects of biodiversity such as the population size of important species or the area of land managed for wildlife. They provide part of the evidence to assess whether the targets set out in the following column have been achieved.	<p>The UK Government committed to two important international targets to protect biodiversity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In 2001, European Union Heads of State or Government agreed that biodiversity decline should be halted, with the aim of reaching this objective by 2010. 2. In 2002, Heads of State at the United Nations World Summit on Sustainable Development committed themselves to achieve, by 2010, a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level, as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on Earth. <p>There are eighteen UK biodiversity indicators grouped under six focal areas aligned to those used by the Convention on Biological Diversity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Status and trends in components of biodiversity 2. Sustainable use 3. Threats to biodiversity 4. Ecosystem integrity and ecosystem goods and services 5. Status of resource transfers and use 6. Public awareness and participation 	The LDF should include indicators relating to biodiversity in order to monitor progress.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to biodiversity and the quality of the natural environment. The proposed Monitoring Framework should also include biodiversity indicators to monitor effects of the Core Strategy on biodiversity resources.
A Strategy for England's Trees, Woodlands and Forests (2007)			

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<p>The strategy strives to achieve sustainable forest management and has five aims for Government intervention in trees, woods and forests over the following 10-15 years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To provide a resource of trees, woods and forests where they can contribute most in terms of environmental, economic and social benefits now and in the future. ▪ To ensure that existing and newly-planted trees, woods and forests are resilient to the impacts of climate change and also contribute to the way in which biodiversity and natural resources adjust to climate change. ▪ To protect and enhance the environmental resources of water, soil, air, biodiversity and landscapes and the cultural and amenity values of trees and woodland. ▪ To increase the contribution that trees, woods and forests make to the quality of life for those living, working and visiting England. ▪ To improve the competitiveness of woodland businesses and to promote new or improved markets for sustainable woodland products. 	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	It is essential that the development of the LDF should consider biodiversity protection.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to the protection of biodiversity resources, which includes areas of woodland, particularly ancient woodland.
Landscape Character Assessment Guidance for England and Scotland (2002)			
Produced jointly by the former Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage, this document comprises the accepted national guidance on the practice and procedure of landscape character assessment.	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF should recognise the importance of protecting and enhancing landscape character, particularly within the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding National Beauty (AONB).	The SA should include an objective related to landscape and townscape character.
Open Space Strategies: Best Practice Guidance (CABE and the Greater London Authority, 2009)			
This document offers clear, practical guidance to local authorities and their stakeholders on how to prepare an open space strategy.	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF should recognise the multi-functional benefits of open space.	The SA should consider the potential for impacts on open spaces and opportunities for enhancements.
The Geological Conservation Review (GCR) (ongoing)			
The GCR is designed to identify sites of national and international	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF should	The SA should consider

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importance needed to show all the key scientific elements of the Earth heritage of Britain. They display sediments, rocks, fossils, and features of the landscape that make a special contribution to our understanding and appreciation of Earth science and the geological history of Britain		recognise the status of GCR sites in Ribble Valley and aim to protect this and other geodiversity sites (i.e. Ribble Valley's 25 Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS)).	potential impacts on geodiversity. In addition the SA should consider opportunities to improve understanding of important geological assets within the borough.
Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England (Defra, 2009)			
Vision: By 2030, all England's soils will be managed sustainably and degradation threats tackled successfully. This will improve the quality of England's soils and safeguard their ability to provide essential services for future generations. The Strategy sets out how Government intends to improve the management of soil to manage threats to its quality and integrity.	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF should include measures to ensure that soils are protected in line with the Strategy's aims. In addition the protection of valuable soil resources should be promoted within the LDF.	The assessment should consider the extent to which soils may be impacted by proposals supported within the LDF.
Natural England's Green Infrastructure Guidance (2009)			
The guidance outlines the benefits of developing multi-functional green infrastructure. It provides advice to local authorities on how to deliver green infrastructure improvements through the planning system, including reference to LDFs.	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF should protect existing green infrastructure and promote new multi-functional green spaces. Guidance should be followed where possible.	The assessment should consider the impact of LDF on the quality and quantity of green infrastructure and the extent to which the guidance has been followed.
Accessible Natural Green Space Standards in Towns and Cities: A Review and Toolkit for their Implementation (2003) and Nature Nearby: Accessible Green Space Guidance (2010)			
These publications by Natural England explain and give guidance on the concept of Accessible Natural Green Space Standards (ANGSt). The 2010 report provides practical advice to planning authorities on meeting the standards within new and existing developments.	ANGSt recommends that everyone, wherever they live, should have an accessible natural greenspace: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ of at least 2ha in size, no more than 300m (5 minutes walk) from home; ▪ at least one accessible 20ha site within 2km of home; ▪ one accessible 100ha site within 5km of home; and ▪ one accessible 500ha site within 10km of home; plus ▪ a minimum of 1ha of statutory Local Nature Reserves 	The LDF should attempt to ensure that the standards are met within the Borough.	The SA Framework should contain an objective relating to the provision of green space.

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	per thousand population.		
Historic Environment: A Force For the Future (2001)			
<p>The Government vision is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public interest in the historic environment is matched by effective partnerships and the development of a sound base from which to develop policies. ▪ Maximising the full potential of the historic environment as a learning resource. ▪ Ensuring the historic environment is accessible to everybody and is seen as a something with which the whole of society can identify and engage with. ▪ The historic environment is protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations. ▪ The historic environment is an economic asset that is well harnessed. <p>The document sets out actions to protect and sustain heritage for future generations.</p>	There are no specific indicators or targets of relevance.	The LDF will need to include policies that take on board the issues and themes that have been identified in the document. This would ensure heritage assets within the borough are protected and sensitive areas are protected (i.e. Conservation Areas). In addition the LDF should include opportunities to promote understanding of local heritage within Ribble Valley.	The SA Framework should include objectives that relate to the protection and enhancement of the historic environment.
The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (2007)			
<p>The Strategy sets out air quality objectives and policy options to further improve air quality in the UK to deliver environmental, health and social benefits.</p> <p>It examines the costs and benefits of air quality improvement proposals, the impact of exceedences of the strategy's air quality objectives, the effect on ecosystems and the qualitative impacts.</p>	The Strategy sets objectives and targets for each air quality pollutant, e.g. to achieve and maintain $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ of annual average NO_2 .	The LDF should consider the maintenance of good air quality and the measures that can be taken to improve it.	The SA Framework should include objectives that address the protection of air quality.
Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales (2009)			
<p>This document forms the EA's strategy for water resource management for the next 25 years.</p> <p>The focus of the strategy is on understanding the present state of water resources and planning for the management of water resources to prevent long-term environmental damage and degradation. The strategy highlights where water abstractions are unsustainable and where further water is needed. The issue of climate change and its impact upon our water resources is also considered.</p> <p>30 action points are identified to deliver the strategy, which include developing leakage control, encouraging good practice when using water and promoting the value of water.</p>	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF needs to consider the protection and enhancement of water resources.	The SA Framework should include objectives that promote the protection of the water environment.

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Future Water: The Government's Water Strategy for England (2008)			
<p>Defra's vision for the state of the water environment in 2030 is for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An improved quality of the water environment and the ecology which it supports, and continued high levels of drinking water quality; ▪ Sustainably managed risks from flooding and coastal erosion, with greater understanding and more effective management of surface water; ▪ Sustainable use of water resources, and implemented fair, affordable and cost reflective water charges; ▪ Reduced greenhouse gas emissions; and ▪ An embedded continuous adaptation to climate change and other pressures across the water industry and water users. 	<p>The Strategy contains few quantitative targets. It sets out broad ambitions for improvements in the areas of water demand, supply, quality, surface water drainage, flooding, greenhouse gas emissions, water charging and the regulatory framework.</p> <p>One headline target is to reduce per capita consumption of water to an average of 130 litres per person per day by 2030, or possibly even 120 litres per person per day depending on new technological developments and innovation.</p>	<p>The LDF should help to support the aims of this Strategy through requiring high levels of protection for the water environment and innovative new development to reduce water consumption.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should contain objectives related to water resources, flooding and climate change.</p>
Flood and Water Management Act (2010)			
<p>The Act will provide better, more comprehensive management of coastal erosion and flood risk for people, homes and businesses. It also contains financial provisions related to the water industry.</p> <p>The Act will give the EA an overview of all flood and coastal erosion risk management and unitary and county councils the lead in managing the risk of local floods. It will also enable better management of water resources and quality, and will help to manage and respond to severe weather events such as flood and drought.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF should consider flood risk issues and seek to avoid siting new development in the floodplain and ensure the sustainable use of water resources.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, targets and indicators that address flooding risk and the need to manage runoff effectively.</p>
Making Space for Water: Taking Forward a New Government Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (2005)			
<p>This 20-year strategy seeks to implement a more holistic strategy to flood and coastal erosion risks.</p> <p>The aim is to manage risks by employing an integrated portfolio of approaches which reflect both national and local priorities to reduce the threat to people and their property and to deliver the greatest environmental, social and economic benefits</p> <p>A whole catchment and whole shoreline approach will be adopted and adaptation to climate change will be an inherent part of flood and coastal erosion decisions.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to ensure that development in floodplains is avoided and Flood Risk Assessments (FRAs) are completed where necessary.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, targets and indicators that address flooding risk and the need to manage runoff effectively.</p>
Waste Strategy for England (2007)			
<p>The aim has to be to reduce waste by making products with fewer natural resources. The link between economic growth and waste growth must be broken. Most products should be re-used or their materials recycled. Energy should be recovered where possible.</p>	<p>The strategy includes targets for reducing household waste production but these are not relevant to this PPP review.</p> <p>The strategy expects a reduction of commercial and</p>	<p>The LDF should seek to ensure sustainable waste management.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that address</p>

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<p>Land filling of residual waste, in small amounts, may be necessary. The strategy highlights that significant progress has been made since the 2000 strategy. However, performance still lags behind other European countries.</p> <p>The Government's key objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To decouple waste growth from economic growth and put more emphasis upon waste prevention and re-use. ▪ Meet and exceed the Landfill Directive diversion targets for biodegradable municipal waste in 2010, 2013 and 2020. ▪ Increase diversion from landfill of non-municipal waste and secure better integration of treatment for municipal and non-municipal waste. ▪ Secure the investment in infrastructure needed to divert waste from landfill and for the management of hazardous waste. ▪ Get the most environmental benefit from investment through increased recycling of resources and recovery of energy from residual waste using a mix of technologies. 	<p>industrial waste going to landfill by at least 20% by 2010 compared to 2004.</p> <p>A number of indicators are used in the strategy to characterise current waste management in England.</p>		<p>sustainable waste management issues.</p>

The Egan Review – Skills for Sustainable Communities (2004)

<p><i>“Sustainable communities meet the diverse needs of existing and future residents, their children and other users, contribute to a high quality of life and provide opportunity and choice. They achieve this in ways that make effective use of natural resources, enhance the environment, promote social cohesion and inclusion and strengthen economic prosperity.”</i></p> <p>The key components of sustainable communities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Governance – effective and inclusive participation, representation and leadership. ▪ Transport and connectivity – Good transport services and communications linking people to jobs, schools, health and other services. ▪ Services – a full range of appropriate, accessible public, private community and voluntary services. ▪ Environmental – providing places for people to live in an environmentally friendly way. ▪ Economy – A flourishing and diverse local economy. ▪ Housing and the Built Environment – a quality built and natural environment ▪ Social and cultural – vibrant, harmonious and inclusive 	<p>A series of indicators are defined for each of the key components to monitor progress. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentage of population who live in wards ranking within the most deprived 10% and 25% of wards nationally. ▪ Percentage of residents surveyed and satisfied with their neighbourhoods as a place to live. ▪ Percentage of respondents surveyed who feel they ‘belong’ to the neighbourhood (or community). ▪ Domestic burglaries per 1000 households and % detected. ▪ Percentage of adults surveyed who feel they can influence decisions affecting their local area. ▪ Household energy use (gas and electricity). ▪ Percentage people satisfied with waste recycling facilities. ▪ Average no. of days where air pollution is moderate or higher for NO₂, SO₂, O₃, CO or PM₁₀. ▪ No. of unfit homes per 1,000 dwellings. ▪ Percentage of Grade I and II* listed buildings at risk of 	<p>The LDF should include policies that support the principles of the Egan Review and seek to develop sustainable communities.</p>	<p>There are a number of objectives and indicators in the document that should be integrated into the SA Framework.</p>
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communities.	decay. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentage of residents surveyed finding it easy to access key local services. ▪ Percentage of people of working age in employment. ▪ Average life expectancy. ▪ No. of primary care professionals per 100,000 population. 		

Working for a Healthier Tomorrow – Dame Carol Black’s Review of the health of Britain’s working age population (2008)

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<p>This Review sets out the first ever baseline for the health of Britain's working age population, seeking to lay the foundations for urgent and comprehensive reform through a new vision for health and work in Britain. Three principles lie at the heart of this vision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prevention of illness and promotion of health and well-being ▪ Early intervention for those who develop a health condition ▪ An improvement in the health of those out of work so that everyone with the potential to work has the support they need to do so <p>The Review recognises the human, social and economic costs of impaired health and well-being in relation to working life in Britain. The aim of the Review is not to offer a utopian solution for improved health in working life, but more to identify the factors that stand in the way of good health and to elicit interventions (including services, changes in attitudes, behaviours and practices) that can help to overcome them.</p> <p>Monitoring the baseline presented in this Review will be critical, together with a research programme to inform future action with a comprehensive evidence base and increased cross-governmental effort to ensure progress.</p>	<p>Although there are no relevant targets within the Review, it presents a number of indicators of working age health, which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Life expectancy ▪ Mortality during working age ▪ Percentage of the working age population being in good, fairly good or poor health ▪ Proportion of people out of work due to sickness or disability ▪ Sickness absence per annum ▪ Sickness notes issued per medical condition ▪ Percentage of working time lost due to sickness ▪ Percentage of working age population on incapacity benefits ▪ Employment rate ▪ Employment rate for disabled people ▪ Income rates ▪ Economic inactivity and reasons for inactivity, split into those inactive who would like to work and those seeking work ▪ Proportion of deviation from perfect health by social class (Quality Adjusted Life Year health measure) and work status ▪ Proportion of adult population who smoke ▪ Work related illness by industry ▪ Proportion of working age population with mental health conditions ▪ Incapacity benefits claimants by primary medical condition ▪ Costs of working age ill health 	<p>The LDF should consider issues relating to human health. Planning and LDFs can contribute to improving quality of life.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that seek to protect human health and reduce health inequalities.</p>
<p>Health Effects of Climate Change in the UK 2008 – An update of the Department of Health Report 2001/2002</p>			
<p>The 2001/2 Report and its update seek to provide quantitative estimates of the possible impacts of climate change on health. Since the original report, the assessment of future climate change has been updated. A new generation of high-resolution climate models has allowed for improved estimates of future changes in the frequency, intensity and duration of extreme events in the UK. Some</p>	<p>A number of indicators are presented in this Report. The key ones include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mean annual temperature ▪ Number of days per year with daily mean exceeding 20°C ▪ Number of days per year with daily mean below 0°C 	<p>The LDF should address the issues relating to climate change, and the need to encourage provision of high quality and flexible health services that are</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that address climate change issues including flooding and the need to reduce greenhouse gas</p>

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<p>of the major areas of concern are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Flooding ▪ Vector-borne diseases ▪ Food-borne diseases ▪ The effects of climate change on drinking water supplies ▪ The direct effects of high temperatures ▪ The air pollution climate ▪ Exposure to ultra-violet light 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual total rainfall ▪ Seasonal rainfall ▪ Maximum daily wind speed ▪ Annual highest maximum daily wind speed ▪ Annual cases of malaria 	<p>accessible to new developments.</p>	<p>emissions. It should also include an objective related to human health.</p>
Tackling Health Inequalities – A Programme for Action (2003, including the 2007 Status Report on the Programme for Action)			
<p>This Programme for Action was prepared by the Department of Health, setting out plans for the following three years to tackle health inequalities that are found across different geographical areas, between genders and different ethnic communities and also between different social and economic groups. It established the foundations required to achieve the challenging national target to reduce the gap in infant mortality across social groups, and raise life expectancy in the most disadvantaged areas faster than elsewhere, by 2010. The programme was organised around four themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting families, mothers and children – to ensure the best possible start in life and break the inter-generational cycle of health ▪ Engaging communities and individuals – to ensure relevance, responsiveness and sustainability ▪ Preventing illness and providing effective treatment and care – making certain that the NHS provides leadership and makes the contribution to reducing inequalities that is expected of it ▪ Addressing the underlying determinants of health – dealing with the long-term underlying causes of health inequalities <p>These themes are underpinned by discrete principles to guide how health inequalities are tackled in practice.</p> <p>The programme sets out an ambitious agenda including targets and milestones, in order to help to reduce inequalities by progressing against the 2010 national target and also tackling the underlying causes in the future.</p>	<p>The Programme for Action presents a number of national headline indicators that can be attributed to health inequality, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Primary care professionals per 100,000 population ▪ Road casualties in disadvantaged communities ▪ Proportion of children living in low-income households ▪ Proportion of those aged 16 who get qualifications equivalent to 5 GCSEs at grades A* to C ▪ Proportion of households living in non-decent housing ▪ Prevalence of smoking among people in manual social groups, and among pregnant women ▪ Age-standardised death rates per 100,000 population for the major killer diseases (cancer, circulatory diseases), ages under 75 (for the 20% of areas with the highest rates compared to the national average). 	<p>The LDF should address the issues relating to climate change, and the need to encourage provision of high quality and flexible health services that are accessible to new developments.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that seek to protect human health and reduce health inequalities.</p>
By All Reasonable Means: Inclusive Access To The Outdoors For Disabled People (Countryside Agency, 2005)			
<p>This guide is designed to help countryside and urban greenspace managers and landowners improve accessibility of their sites, routes and facilities.</p>	<p>The guide does not contain targets or indicators.</p>	<p>The LDF should support inclusive access to the outdoors.</p>	<p>The SA should consider issues of access for all groups.</p>

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Draft National Planning Policy Framework (2011)			
<p>The draft National Planning Policy Framework was published for consultation in 2011. The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government’s economic, environmental and social planning policies for England. Taken together, these policies articulate the Government’s vision of sustainable development, which should be interpreted and applied locally to meet local aspirations.</p> <p>A set of core land-use planning principles should underpin both plan-making and development management and should be taken into account by all those engaged in the planning system, from local authorities and developers through to communities. These principles are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planning should be plan-led, with succinct Local Plans setting out a positive long-term vision for an area. These plans should be kept up to date and should provide a practical framework within which decisions on planning applications can be made. ▪ Planning should proactively drive and support the development that this country needs. ▪ Planning policies and decisions should take into account local circumstances and market signals such as land prices, commercial rents and housing affordability. Plans should set out a clear strategy for allocating sufficient land which is suitable for development in their area, taking account of the needs of the residential and business community. ▪ In considering the future use of land, planning policies and decisions should take account of its environmental quality or potential quality. ▪ Planning policies and decisions should seek to protect and enhance environmental and heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, and reduce pollution. ▪ Planning policies and decisions should make effective use of land, promote mixed use developments that create more vibrant places, and encourage multiple benefits from the use of land in urban and rural areas, recognising that some open land can perform many functions. 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF should adhere to the principles of the draft Planning Policy Framework ensuring that all aspects of the core land-use planning principles underpin the plan-making process.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to economic, environmental and social issues.</p>
Localism Act 2011			
<p>The Localism Act contains a number of proposals to give local authorities new freedoms and flexibility shifting power from the central state. In summary the Act gives:</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF should be mindful of the key principles of this Act.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should be mindful of this Act as its principles will</p>

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Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New freedoms and flexibilities for local government; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gives local authorities everywhere the formal legal ability and greater confidence to get on with the job of responding to what local people want - Cuts red tape to enable councillors everywhere to play a full and active part in local life without fear of legal challenge - Encourages a new generation of powerful leaders with the potential to raise the profile of English cities, strengthen local democracy and boost economic growth - Enables ministers to transfer functions to public authorities in cities in order to harness their potential to drive growth and prosperity ▪ New rights and powers for local communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Makes it easier for local people to take over the amenities they love and keep them part of local life - Ensures that local social enterprises, volunteers and community groups with a bright idea for improving local services get a chance to change how things are done - Enables local residents to call local authorities to account for the careful management of taxpayers' money ▪ Reform to make the planning system clearer, more democratic and more effective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Places significantly more influence in the hands of local people over issues that make a big difference to their lives - Provides appropriate support and recognition to communities who welcome new development - Reduces red tape, making it easier for authorities to get on with the job of working with local people to draw up a vision for their area's future - Reinforces the democratic nature of the planning system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - passing power from bodies not directly answerable to the public, to democratically accountable ministers ▪ Reform to ensure that decisions about housing are taken locally <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enables local authorities to make their own decisions to adapt housing provision to local needs, and make the system fairer and more effective 			<p>help to create vibrant, cohesive and empowered communities within Ribble Valley.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gives local authorities more control over the funding of social housing, helping them to plan for the long term - Gives people who live in social housing new ways of holding their landlords to account, and make it easier for them to move 			
Relevant Planning Policy Statements (PPS) and Planning Policy Guidance Notes (PPG)			
PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development (2005)			
<p>PPS1 sets out the Government's overarching planning policies on the delivery of sustainable development through the planning system. Guidance is given within five policy objectives that represent the breadth of sustainable development with regard to planning policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social cohesion and inclusion ▪ Protection and enhancement of the natural environment ▪ Prudent use of natural resources ▪ Sustainable economic development ▪ Integrating sustainable development in development plans <p>These aims should be pursued in an integrated way through a sustainable, innovative and productive economy that delivers high levels of employment, and a just society that promotes social inclusion, sustainable communities and personal well being, in ways that protect and enhance the physical environment and optimise resource and energy use.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance. However, the PPS establishes requirements to ensure that local authorities take full account of sustainable development principles in the development of their LDFs.</p>	<p>The LDF must be developed in line with the principle of this PPS.</p>	<p>By undertaking SA of the LDF, sustainability issues will be considered throughout the process and should ensure that the recommendations in PPS1 are followed.</p>
Planning Policy Statement: Planning and Climate Change – Supplement to PPS1 (2007)			
<p>This PPS sets out how spatial planning (in providing for new homes, jobs and infrastructure needed by communities) should contribute to reducing emissions and stabilising climate change (mitigation) and take into account the unavoidable consequences (adaptation).</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF should be mindful of the key principles of this PPS.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that address climate change.</p>
PPG2: Green Belts (1995, amended 2001)			
<p>The fundamental aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open. The PPG reinforces the intentions and purposes of Green Belt policy. The objectives of the policy are to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide opportunities for access to the open countryside ▪ Provide opportunities for outdoor sport and outdoor recreation near urban areas ▪ Retain attractive landscapes, and enhance landscapes near to 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF should seek to maintain existing Green Belt (Green Belt forms the southern boundary of Ribble Valley). Any releases must be based upon sustainable considerations, and</p>	<p>The SA should recognise the importance of protecting Green Belt and other greenfield sites.</p>

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<p>where people live</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve damaged and derelict land around towns ▪ Secure nature conservation interest ▪ Retain land in agricultural forestry and related uses 		opportunities should be sought to use brownfield land rather than greenfield sites, where possible.	
PPS3: Housing (2010)			
<p>This PPS underpins the delivery of the Government's strategic housing policy objectives. Its goal is to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent home which they can afford, in a community where they want to live.</p> <p>PPS3 reflects the Government's commitment to improving the affordability and supply of housing in all communities, including rural areas. It aims to meet the housing requirements of the whole community, including those in need of affordable and special needs housing. It aims to provide a better choice and a better mix in the size, type and location of housing.</p>	National target of 60% new housing on previously developed land or through conversions.	The plan target for delivery of housing development on previously developed land should be compared with national targets. The LDF should promote a better mix in the size, type and location of the residential offer.	The SA Framework should include objectives that promote a balanced mix of housing that meets the needs of all sections of society.
PPS4: Planning for Sustainable Economic Growth (2009)			
<p>PPS4 brings together all planning policy relating to economic development formerly set out in several PPGs.</p> <p>The overarching objective of Government policy is sustainable economic growth. More specific objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Build prosperous communities by improving economic performance ▪ Reduce economic inequality, promote regeneration and tackle deprivation ▪ Deliver more sustainable patterns of economic development and reduce the need to travel ▪ Promote the vitality and viability of town and other centres ▪ Raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas 	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF should reflect the objectives and policies contained within PPS4.	The SA should contain objectives that promote sustainable economic development, in particular related to regeneration and town centre vitality.
PPS5: Planning for the Historic Environment (2010)			
<p>PPS5 combines several former PPGs and sets out the planning policies on the conservation of the historic environment. The policies in this PPS must be taken into account by Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) in the preparation of Local Development Documents (LDDs).</p> <p>It comprises policies that will enable the Government's vision for the historic environment to be implemented through the planning system, where appropriate. The Government's overarching aim is that the</p>	Policy HE5: Monitoring Indicators states that: <i>'Local planning authorities should consider how they can best monitor the impact of their planning policies and decisions on the historic environment. They should pay particular attention to the degree to which individual or groups of heritage assets are at risk of loss or decay, how they expect this will change over time, and how they</i>	The LDF needs to include policies that promote the preservation and enhancement of the historic environment. In addition the LDF should	The SA objectives, indicators and targets should cover the historic environment including archaeological and built heritage resources, in particular addressing

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historic environment and its heritage assets should be conserved and enjoyed for the quality of life they bring to this and future generations.	<i>propose to respond</i> '.	include policies that address heritage considered to be 'at risk'.	'heritage at risk'.
PPS7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (2004)			
<p>This PPS sets out the Government's planning policies for rural areas, including country towns and villages and the wider, largely undeveloped countryside up to the fringes of larger urban areas.</p> <p>The Government's objectives for rural areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the quality of life and the environment in rural areas. ▪ Promotion of sustainable patterns of development. ▪ Promotion of the development of the English regions by improving their economic performance. ▪ Promotion of sustainable, diverse and adaptable agriculture sectors. <p>The PPS also states that sustainable development is the core principle underpinning land use planning, and sustainability principles should be applied with its policies.</p>	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF must consider rural development issues and issues relating to the urban-rural interface.	The SA should consider potential the effects of the LDF in the rural areas of Ribble Valley.
PPS9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation and Planning for Biodiversity and Geological Conservation: A Guide to Good Practice (2006)			
<p>This PPS sets out the Government's objectives for moving towards a vision for conserving and enhancing biological diversity. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To promote sustainable development — by ensuring that biodiversity is conserved and enhanced as an integral part of economic, social and environmental development. ▪ To conserve, enhance and restore the diversity of England's wildlife and geology by sustaining, and where possible improving, the quality and extent of natural habitat and geological and geomorphological sites; the natural physical processes on which they depend; and the populations of naturally occurring species which they support. ▪ To contribute to an urban renaissance — by enhancing biodiversity in green spaces and among developments in urban areas so that they are used by wildlife and valued by people. ▪ To contribute to rural renewal — by ensuring that developments in rural areas take account of the role and value of biodiversity in supporting economic diversification and contributing to a high quality environment. <p>The accompanying Good Practice Guide sets out recommendations</p>	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	<p>The LDF should ensure that biodiversity and geology are conserved and enhanced.</p> <p>The LDF needs to recognise that increased biodiversity can contribute to urban regeneration and an improvement in quality of life.</p>	The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that aim to conserve and enhance the biodiversity and geology of the area.

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for local authorities on implementing the requirements of the PPS.			
PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management (2005) and A Companion Guide to PPS10 (2006)			
Positive planning has an important role in delivering sustainable waste management through the development of appropriate strategies for growth, regeneration and the prudent use of resources, and by providing sufficient opportunities for new waste management facilities of the right type, in the right place and at the right time. The PPS and the accompanying guidance sets out Government advice to local authorities on the role they should play in supporting national waste planning and policy and ensuring that greater local responsibility is taken for minimising waste and promoting sustainable waste management. The concerns of local groups should be considered when siting sensitive waste management facilities.	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	Lancashire County Council is responsible for waste within Ribble Valley, therefore any waste policy elements of Ribble Valley's LDF need to be developed in accordance with national policy and Lancashire County Councils Minerals and Waste LDF.	The SA Framework should include objectives that promote sustainable waste management.
PPS12: Local Spatial Planning (2008)			
This PPS explains local spatial planning and how it benefits communities. It also sets out the key contents of LDFs and the key Government policies on how they should be prepared. The PPS should be taken into account by LPAs when preparing development plan documents (DPDs) and other LDDs.	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	It should be ensured that the LDF fully adheres to the recommendations and guidance contained in this PPS. SA should be fully integrated within the development of the LDF.	The principle of this PPS should be considered in the SA. The SA should provide a sound evidence base for the plan, and form an integrated part of the plan preparation.
PPG13: Transport (2001)			
The objectives of this guidance are to integrate planning and transport in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote more sustainable transport choices for both people and for moving freight Promote accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling Reduce the need to travel, especially by car This guidance sets out the circumstances where it is appropriate to change the emphasis and priorities in provision between different transport modes, in pursuit of wider Government objectives.	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF should promote sustainable transport through reductions in the need to travel by car. It should also consider appropriate levels at which maximum parking standards should be set.	The SA Framework should contain objectives that aim to promote sustainable transport choices to reduce the need to travel by car.
PPG17: Planning for open space, sport and recreation (2002) and Assessing Needs and Opportunities: a Companion Guide to PPG17			
This PPG describes the role of the planning system in assessing	There are no specific targets or indicators. However, the	The LDF should	The SA Framework

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<p>opportunities and needs for sport and recreation provision and safeguarding open space which has recreational value. It states that the planning system should ensure that adequate land and water resources are allocated for organised sport and informal recreation. LPAs should take account of the community's need for recreational space, having regard to current levels of provision and deficiencies and resisting pressures for development of open space which conflict with the wider public interest.</p> <p>Open spaces, sport and recreation all underpin people's quality of life. Well designed and implemented planning policies for open space, sport and recreation are therefore fundamental to delivering broader Government objectives related to urban renaissance, rural renewal, social inclusion and community cohesion, health and wellbeing, and sustainable development.</p>	<p>PPG states that the Government believes that local authorities should set locally-derived standards for the provision of open space, sports and recreational facilities. These should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The quantity of provision that may be needed ▪ A qualitative component (against which to measure the need for enhancement of existing facilities) ▪ Accessibility (including distance thresholds and consideration of the cost of using a facility) <p>Setting robust local standards based on assessments of need and audits of existing facilities will form the basis for redressing quantitative and qualitative deficiencies through the planning process. Standards should be included in development plans.</p>	<p>consider how it can contribute to urban renaissance and community wellbeing through the provision and management of open space, possibly including sport and recreation facilities.</p> <p>Plan standards should be based upon an audit of existing facilities.</p>	<p>should include objectives that aim to encourage urban renaissance and community wellbeing through the provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities.</p>
Good Practice Guide on Planning for Tourism (2006)			
<p>This Good Practice Guide replaces PPG21: Tourism. The document is intended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure that planners understand the importance of tourism when preparing development plans and taking planning decisions. ▪ Ensure that those involved in the tourism industry understand the principles of national planning policy as they apply to tourism. ▪ Ensure that planners and the tourism industry work together effectively to facilitate, promote and deliver new tourism developments in a sustainable way. <p>The guide highlights the strong link between tourism and the quality of the environment.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to recognise the potential benefits offered by tourism and seek to identify areas where further development could occur. However, the full environmental implications of such development must be appropriately mitigated.</p>	<p>The SA should include objectives relating to economic development including tourism and also the protection of the environment.</p>
PPS22: Renewable Energy (2004) and A Companion Guide to PPS22 (2004)			
<p>PPS22 sets out the Government's planning policies for renewable energy, which planning authorities should have regard to when preparing LDDs and when taking planning decisions. The PPS emphasises the importance of renewable energy in contributing to the aims of national energy policy. Its objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone - by contributing to the nation's energy needs, ensuring all homes are adequately and affordably heated; and providing new sources of energy in remote areas ▪ Effective protection of the environment - by reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The policies set out in this statement need to be taken into consideration in the preparation of the LDF.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to energy conservation, e.g. by encouraging renewable energy schemes and improving energy efficiency. Conversely, the policies also need to ensure adequate protection of the environment and</p>

National Plans			
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prudent use of natural resources - by reducing the nation's reliance on ever diminishing supplies of fossil fuels ▪ Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment - through the creation of jobs directly related to renewable energy developments, and in the development of new technologies. In rural areas, renewable energy projects have the potential to play an increasingly important role in the diversification of rural economies. 			opportunities for new energy infrastructure are carefully balanced.
PPS23: Planning and Pollution Control (2004)			
The PPS requires that international environmental and pollution control obligations are met, whilst at the same time meeting sustainable development objectives and applying the precautionary principle in considering development documents. LDDs should include appropriate policies and proposals for dealing with the potential for contamination and the remediation of land so that it is suitable for the proposed development/use.	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The policies in this PPS and the advice in the accompanying Annexes should be taken into account in preparing the LDF. The Council needs to recognise the requirement to identify and remediate areas of brownfield land.	The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that relate to pollution control.
PPG24: Planning and Noise (1994)			
<p>This PPG gives guidance to local authorities in England on the use of their planning powers to minimise the adverse impact of noise. It:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outlines the considerations to be taken into account in determining planning applications both for noise-sensitive developments and for those activities which will generate noise ▪ Introduces the concept of noise exposure categories for residential development, encourages their use and recommends appropriate levels for exposure to different sources of noise ▪ Advises on the use of conditions to minimise the impact of noise 	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF should seek to protect general environmental quality and amenity from noise pollution.	The SA Framework should take into consideration the detrimental effects of noise.
PPS25: Development and Flood Risk (2010)			
The aims of PPS25 are to ensure that flood risk is taken into account at all stages in the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding, and to direct development away from areas of highest risk. Where new development is, exceptionally, necessary in such areas, policy aims to make it safe, without increasing flood risk elsewhere, and, where possible, reducing flood risk overall. This document advocates a risk based approach.	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance. Effective monitoring and review is essential to managing flood risk. The EA monitors planning decisions regarding flood risk and produces the results in the Agency's High Level Target 5 Report.</p> <p>Key indicator of relevance to the SA is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The number of planning applications permitted by LPAs where the outcome is known against a sustained 	The PPS requires the preparation of strategic flood risk assessments as part of the plan making process. The LDF also needs to ensure that development in the	The SA Framework should include objectives, targets and indicators that address flooding risk and the need to manage runoff effectively.

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<p>PPS25 also promotes the use of SuDS for mitigating flood risk. LPAs should prepare and implement planning strategies that help to deliver sustainable development by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identifying land at risk and the degree of risk of flooding ▪ Preparing strategic flood risk assessments as appropriate ▪ Framing policies for the location of development which avoid flood risk to people and property where possible and manage any residual risk, taking account of the impacts of climate change ▪ Reducing flood risk to and from new development through location, layout and design ▪ Using opportunities offered by new development to reduce flood risk to communities ▪ Only permitting development in areas of flood risk when there are no suitable alternative sites in areas of lower flood risk and the benefits of development outweigh the risks from flooding ▪ Working effectively with the EA and other stakeholders to ensure that best use is made of their expertise and information so that decisions on planning applications can be delivered expeditiously ▪ Ensuring spatial planning supports flood risk management and emergency planning 	<p>objection from the EA on flood risk grounds, as a percentage of the total number of applications to which the EA sustained an objection on flood risk grounds.</p>	<p>floodplain is avoided. SuDS should be promoted.</p>	

Summary of Regional and Sub-Regional Plans

Regional and Sub-Regional Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
Action for Sustainability – North West Regional Sustainable Development Framework (RSDF) (2005)			
<p>The document provides ten priorities and long term goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainable transport and access ▪ Sustainable production and consumption ▪ Social equity ▪ Biodiversity and landscapes that are valued in themselves and for their contribution to the region's economy and quality of life ▪ Active citizenship that empowers people and enables them to contribute to issues that affect the wider community ▪ A culture of Lifelong Learning ▪ Cultural distinctiveness and celebrating diversity ▪ An active approach to reducing our contribution to climate change whilst preparing for potential impacts ▪ Healthy communities ▪ Enterprise and innovation 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to be compatible with the priorities and long term goals of the RSDF.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should be compatible with RSDF. Detailed objectives should be consistent with the overarching RSDF objectives, and include issues covering transport, biodiversity and cultural distinctiveness etc.</p>
Moving Forward: The Northern Way (2004)			
<p>The Northern Way is a unique initiative, bringing together the cities and regions of the North of England to work together to improve the sustainable economic development of the North towards the level of more prosperous regions.</p> <p>The document proposes a simple vision for the North: <i>“To establish the North of England as an area of exceptional opportunity, combining a world-class economy with a superb quality of life.”</i></p>	<p>The main indicators of the success of the Growth Strategy will be whether implementation increases private investment across the North, increases employment and increases Gross Value Added (GVA). Economic growth will deliver long-term benefits to the quality of life that people enjoy in the North. It is proposed to monitor various social and environmental indicators (on health, crime, inclusion, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions and biodiversity) to ensure that sustainable development is achieved that benefits this and future generations.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to include policies that complement the overarching goals and aims of the Northern Way and should strive to help deliver improved economic performance across the Borough.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that address social, economic and environmental issues.</p>
Ambition Lancashire 2005 – 2025 Strategic Vision for the Future of Lancashire (2008 revision)			
<p>The document is produced by the regional Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and is the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for Lancashire. It focuses on the future looking forward to the next 20 years.</p> <p>The document is based around a series of ambitions and for each there are a number of objectives. Examples are provided below: Prosperous Lancashire</p>	<p>The revised (2008) version of Ambition Lancashire no longer contains specific targets. Instead, suggested indicators are provided against which progress may be assessed for each ambition. These are provided below: Prosperous Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GVA per head of the population compared with the UK average. 	<p>A number of the key ambitions outlined in the document need to be considered when developing the LDF. The LDF needs to include policies and</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that address the core principles and objectives of Ambition Lancashire.</p>

Regional and Sub-Regional Plans

Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To improve business performance and address skills shortages to secure Lancashire’s economic growth ▪ To provide the infrastructure to deliver a renaissance of Lancashire’s towns, cities and rural areas ▪ To reduce levels of worklessness amongst Lancashire residents <p>Accessible Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To have a highly effective and efficient transport and communications system ▪ To invest in Lancashire’s strategic transport infrastructure <p>Dynamic Rural Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To broaden Lancashire’s rural economic base and assist in the support and diversification of agriculture ▪ To deliver social regeneration, including the delivery of central government services at local level in Lancashire <p>Image of Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For Lancashire to have a reputation as a successful place to live, work and enjoy life <p>Learning Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To ensure opportunities are provided for all to benefit from learning and development ▪ To enable individuals to participate fully in the opportunities on offer in order to maximise their potential <p>Every Child Matters in Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To ensure that children and young people have the key skills required for adult life ▪ To improve the (emotional) health and wellbeing of children and young people ▪ To enable young people to make a positive contribution to their community <p>Caring and Healthy Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To reduce health inequalities and provide opportunities for Lancashire people to live healthy lives ▪ To invest in and strengthen access to high quality health services to support improvements in public health ▪ To support all vulnerable adults to lead more independent lives <p>Welcoming and Harmonious Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To promote awareness and understanding. ▪ To reinvigorate local democracy and support the voluntary, community and faith sector. <p>Safer Lancashire</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The growth in VAT-registered business stock. ▪ The number of people in jobs, based on age, disability, gender and race. ▪ The reduction in economically inactive residents. <p>Accessible Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The percentage of areas in Lancashire that are within 15 to 30 minutes by public transport of at least four key services <p>Dynamic Rural Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sectoral change within rural businesses to higher-value activities and increased wage levels (average by place of work and place of residence). ▪ Improved performance against the Department for Transport’s thresholds for essential services ▪ Increased number of community projects developed and delivered locally. ▪ Increased area of land under environmental management – for example, stewardship. <p>Image of Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Internal and external surveys to establish opinions of Lancashire. ▪ Visitor numbers and spending. ▪ Business investment and relocation to the county. <p>Learning Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased numbers of adults gaining NVQs at levels 2 and 3. ▪ Increase in the percentage of people going into further and higher education. ▪ Increased numbers of degrees awarded. <p>Every Child Matters in Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A narrowing gap in attainment in targeted areas. ▪ Reduced numbers of 16- to 18-year-olds not in employment, education or training. ▪ Reduced conception rates in young people. <p>Caring and Healthy Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduced health inequalities in relation to increasing life expectancy. ▪ Reduced health inequalities in relation to a healthy life, free from disability. 	<p>proposals that complement the core principles and objectives of Ambition Lancashire.</p> <p>It is important to note that the regional LSP has been dissolved since the publication of Ambition Lancashire. However, the document and information that informed it should still be considered.</p>	<p>It is important to note that the regional LSP has been dissolved since the publication of Ambition Lancashire.</p>

Regional and Sub-Regional Plans

Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To reduce crime levels and the fear of crime. ▪ To reduce the risk factors associated with criminality. ▪ To make living, working and travelling in Lancashire safer. ▪ To make Lancashire a safer place for vulnerable people. <p>Older People's Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To make the most of life opportunities for older people. ▪ To promote older people's health, safety and independence. <p>Living in Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To invest in neighbourhoods and replace obsolete housing. ▪ To provide affordable, specialist and supported housing. <p>Cultural Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To increase investment in culture and develop cultural activity. ▪ To develop welcoming and harmonious communities <p>Greener Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To mitigate and adapt to climate change. ▪ To protect and improve air, water and land quality, and use resources wisely. ▪ To conserve and promote Lancashire's natural and built heritage. 	<p>Welcoming and Harmonious Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The percentage of people from different backgrounds that get on well together. ▪ Do you agree or disagree that you can influence decisions affecting your local area? ▪ Awareness of other cultures and attendance at multi-cultural events. <p>Safer Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce crime by an agreed percentage over an agreed period of time. ▪ Reduce fear of crime. ▪ Reduce the number of fires and associated deaths and injuries. <p>Older People's Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of older people in employment. ▪ Number of people aged over 65 receiving the support they need to live independently at home. ▪ Healthy life expectancy at age 65. <p>Living in Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Relative house prices between housing market renewal areas compared with the Lancashire average. ▪ Increased number of affordable homes built. ▪ Reduced number of unfit homes. ▪ Ratio of median house prices to median incomes. <p>Cultural Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentage of people agreeing that there is a good range of arts and cultural activities in Lancashire. ▪ Increased use of leisure and cultural facilities. <p>Greener Lancashire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lower carbon emissions for each Lancashire resident. ▪ The percentage of people who say that access to nature is important in making somewhere a good place to live. ▪ The number of heritage sites. 		
<p>Lancashire Local Area Agreement (LAA) 2008-2011 (Refreshed 2010)</p>			
<p>The LAA is an agreement between Lancashire County Council and its partners and central government about how priorities for Lancashire will be measured and about how much improvement will be made</p>	<p>The LAA comprises a range of indicators and targets.</p>	<p>The actions, indicators and targets of the LAA should be considered in</p>	<p>The SA Framework should incorporate indicators and targets</p>

Regional and Sub-Regional Plans			
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between 2008 and 2011. The LAA is an important mechanism for achieving improvements in the quality of life for Lancashire's residents.		the development of the LDF.	as appropriate.
North West Enterprise Strategy (2008)			
<p>The main aims of the Strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop and ensure that individuals have the right attitudes and skills to be enterprising. ▪ Improve individuals' and businesses' access to enterprise support, as well as simplifying that business support and tailoring it to their needs. ▪ Prioritise the types of business that need to be supported by the public sector. ▪ Provide a clear rationale for the allocation of public sector resources to support the growth of enterprise. ▪ Provide a framework for co-ordinated action and delivery, and provide measures to monitor performance. ▪ Increase the understanding of the region's challenges and opportunities when it comes to enterprise. ▪ Influence national government policies to overcome barriers to enterprise. 	<p>The following indicators are considered relevant to the LDF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ VAT registered start-ups/survival rates. ▪ Business density. ▪ Self-employment rates. ▪ Total entrepreneurial activity (GEM survey). 	The LDF should seek to support business growth and enterprise.	The SA Framework should include objectives that encourage enterprise and business development in the Borough. However, any new business development that does occur in the Borough must be undertaken sustainably.
The Strategy for Tourism in England's Northwest 2003-2010 (revised 2007)			
<p>The strategy is designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthen the region's focus on offering some of the best visitor destinations in the UK ▪ Connect with the growing importance being attached to the role of local authorities in place-shaping ▪ Ensure that work is aligned with both the new national thinking on tourism, and with the RES ▪ Priority to the principles of sustainable development <p>The tourism vision for England's Northwest is that within ten years, it offers our visitors real excellence and superb experiences, wherever they go, and has a thriving visitor economy that is second to none.</p>	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The role of tourism in Ribble Valley needs to be reviewed and policies to develop sustainable tourism incorporated as appropriate.	Although tourism can be a very important source of revenue, any new development which occurs needs to be as sustainable as possible and this should be considered further as part of the SA process.
The ICT Strategy for England's Northwest (2005)			
<p>Three main themes are highlighted in the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Raising awareness of the benefits of ICT to both businesses and individuals ▪ Developing the skills needed to allow these benefits to be 	<p>There are number of indicators within the Strategy. The most relevant include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentage of growing businesses in the Northwest that use ICT 	The LDF should recognise that ICT provision can help businesses and improve	The SA Framework should consider increased ICT as a means by which the

Regional and Sub-Regional Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<p>harnessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Harnessing the benefits of ICT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentage of adults using a computer in the home for work or learning ▪ Percentage of households with access to the internet 	access to services and facilities. It may also help to reduce isolation amongst the population.	Borough can become more productive, whilst reducing the need to travel. Furthermore ICT can improve community access to facilities and services.
North West Science Strategy 2007 to 2010			
<p>The new Science Strategy for the region builds on progress made by the UK's first ever regional science strategy of 2002.</p> <p>The vision underpinning the Science Strategy is unchanged from 2002: 'England's Northwest to be renowned as an area of world class scientific achievement, creating a magnet for talent and science investment, a powerful driver for innovation and enterprise, and an effective force for delivering benefits to health, the environment and society.'</p> <p>Three foundations: 1. International excellence; 2. Exploitation of science; 3. Skills</p> <p>Six pillars: The strategic pillars reflect the industries that are critical to the success of the Northwest economy, in which science has a major impact. - 1. Aerospace; 2. BioHealth; 3. Chemicals; 4. Nuclear; 5. Emerging Opportunities; 6. Strategic Science and Technology Sites Promotion</p>	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF should recognise the importance of promoting science and innovation and the benefits of establishing links with North West Universities.	The SA Framework should consider innovation and science base of the region.
Shaping the Future of Lancashire – Lancashire Economic Strategy and Sub-regional Action Plan 2006-2009			
<p>The purpose of the Strategy is to provide a co-ordinated approach to the development of the sub-regional economy as a whole, identifying those programmes and projects that are of at least sub-regional significance and hence form the agreed Partnership priorities.</p> <p>The Lancashire Economic Partnership has established a set of six strategic headline economic priorities for the sub-region, three spatial and three 'thematic'. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Blackpool World Class Resort Destination ▪ Preston City Vision ▪ Pennine Lancashire Transformational Agenda ▪ Aerospace and other Advanced Manufacturing ▪ Skills ▪ Tourism and Rural Development <p>The Strategy is designed to improve economic competitiveness and</p>	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The LDF needs to include policies that will encourage sustainable economic development within Ribble Valley encouraging new businesses to locate within the Borough.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to sustainable economic development and diversification.

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Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
performance by developing key economic assets and opportunities within a clearly defined spatial framework based on complementary roles and functions.			

Rising to the Challenge: A Climate Change Action Plan for England's Northwest 2010-12

<p>The updated Action Plan describes how the Northwest will rise to the challenge of achieving sustainable growth within a carbon reduction of 80% by 2050. Its vision is: <i>A low carbon and well adapting Northwest by 2020.</i></p> <p>The objectives of the plan are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce greenhouse gas emissions ▪ Adapt to unavoidable climate change ▪ Capitalise on opportunities for economic growth <p>The Action Plan focuses on the ability of regional organisations to enable, encourage and engage individuals, groups, communities, partnerships and businesses in the move towards a low carbon and well adapted region, recognising that regional organisations must exemplify good practice and catalyse action.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF must recognise the need to reduce carbon and greenhouse gas emissions through implementing policy.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should echo the vision and objectives of the plan. It should include an objective to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to unavoidable climate change.</p>
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North West Sustainable Energy Strategy (2006)

<p>The key objectives of the Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improving energy efficiency and eliminating energy wastage in all areas of activity across the region (target of 10% of the region's electricity supply to be from renewable energy sources by 2010). ▪ Accelerating the transition to sustainable forms of energy and achieving regional renewable energy deployment targets. ▪ Setting the region on a course to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 60% by 2050. ▪ Eliminating fuel poverty by ensuring that all householders have access to affordable warmth and decent housing. ▪ Contributing to the region's economy by harnessing business innovation and employment opportunities arising from sustainable energy practices. ▪ Communicating views, experiences and examples from the region to improve national and international policy frameworks <p>The overarching objectives are supported by a series of more detailed objectives that provide more detail about key deliverables and targets for the region.</p>	<p>Key targets in the strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In the domestic sector there is an aim to ensure that fuel poverty is eliminated across the North West by 2016 – 2018. ▪ Regional target to ensure that 8.5% of the region's electricity generation to come from renewable sources by 2010. ▪ An increase in the uptake and deployment of Combined Heat and Power technologies across the region – 1.5GW by 2010. <p>A number of very specific targets are cited for each of the different types of renewable energy sources.</p>	<p>The LDF will need to incorporate objectives that address renewable energy development in the Borough. These will need to be in accordance with the recommendations of PPS22 and this regional strategy. The LDF will also need to have policies that ensure that renewable energy developments are carefully assessed for their sustainability.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should incorporate key objectives, indicators and targets addressing renewable energy.</p>
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Making It Happen: The Sustainable Consumption and Production Action Plan for England's Northwest 2010-2012

Regional and Sub-Regional Plans

Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Produced by the NWDA, the Plan has the vision of achieving: <i>"..a more productive, resource efficient, low carbon Northwest by 2020 through continuous economic and social progress that makes best use of resources to meet the needs and aspirations of the Northwest for a better quality of life."</i></p> <p>A total of 14 actions have been developed to direct progress towards more sustainable patterns of production and consumption across the region.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF should seek to promote more sustainable patterns of production and consumption, for example by promoting rates of commercial recycling.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include targets related to waste minimisation</p>
<p>Lancashire's Local Transport Plan 2011 - 2021</p>			
<p>There are seven transport goals for the plan which will enable the shared transport priorities and the wider social and economic objectives of the County Council to be met. They are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To help to secure a strong economic future by making transport and travel into and between our major economic centres more effective and efficient and by improving links to neighbouring major economic areas and beyond. ▪ To provide all sections of the community with safe and convenient access to the services, jobs, health, leisure and educational opportunities that they need. ▪ To improve the accessibility, availability and affordability of transport as a contribution to the development of strong and cohesive communities. ▪ To create more attractive neighbourhoods by reducing the impact of transport on our quality of life and by improving our public realm. ▪ To reduce the carbon impact of Lancashire's transport requirements, whilst delivering sustainable value for money transport options to those who need them. ▪ To make walking and cycling more safe, convenient and attractive, particularly in the more disadvantaged areas of Lancashire, bringing improvements in the health of Lancashire's residents. ▪ In all that we do, to provide value for money by prioritising the maintenance and improvement of Lancashire's existing transport infrastructure where it can help to deliver our transport goals. <p>The LTP states that Lancashire County Council will invest £22.21 million on highways and transport services in Ribble Valley, with £7.70 million of capital funding and £14.51 million of revenue support. It will be targeted at:</p>	<p>Progress of the plan will be measures using a series of performance indicators grouped under the following headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting Economic Growth and Regeneration ▪ Access to Education and Employment ▪ Improving Accessibility, Quality of Life and Well-being ▪ Improving Safety ▪ Affordable and Sustainable Transport ▪ Care of Our Assets ▪ Reducing Carbon Emissions and its Effects 	<p>The LDF needs to encompass transportation issues and the LTP goals.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include the goals and indicators within the plan to address transport and accessibility, and seek to ensure that any new transport development in the Borough is sustainable and encourages a modal shift away from the use of the private car.</p>

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Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Proper access to employment areas for those without access to a car ▪ Tackling rural isolation 			

Regional Waste Strategy for England's Northwest (2010)

<p>This updated Regional Waste Strategy provides a framework that will deliver the necessary waste infrastructure and skills to meet the region's short, medium and long term needs, and support the principles of sustainable consumption and production. The previous strategy was produced in 2004.</p>	<p>Relevant targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Year on year target for preventing growth in the generation of waste streams of 0% across the region. ▪ Reuse/recycle and/or compost 40% of household waste by 2010; 45% by 2015 and 55% by 2020. ▪ Recycle 55% of all commercial and industrial wastes by 2020. ▪ Recover value from 53% of municipal waste by 2010; 67% by 2015 and 75% by 2020. ▪ Recover value from at least 70% of all commercial and industrial wastes by 2020. <p>The Strategy promotes the use of recycled construction and demolition waste in construction projects and encourages developers and contractors to specify these materials wherever possible in the construction process.</p>	<p>The waste policy elements of the LDF need to be developed in accordance with the waste strategy. There needs to be a clear commitment to the waste hierarchy.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that promote sustainable waste management.</p>
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Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Development Framework Core Strategy DPD (2009)

<p>The Core Strategy sets the vision and direction – the amounts, broad locations and priorities – for future mineral extraction and waste management in Lancashire, Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool. It will guide the more specific locations for any new quarries and waste facilities, including sites for recycling and composting facilities, treatment plants, and any possible new landfill sites in the future. Its high level objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safeguarding Lancashire's mineral resources ▪ Minimising the need for minerals extraction ▪ Meeting the demand for new minerals ▪ Identifying sites and areas for minerals extraction ▪ Achieving sustainable minerals production ▪ Community involvement and partnership working ▪ Promoting waste minimisation and increasing waste awareness ▪ Managing our waste as a resource ▪ Identifying capacity for managing our waste ▪ Achieving sustainable waste management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 25% of construction aggregates to be recycled or secondary materials by 2021. ▪ Zero growth in industrial and commercial waste ▪ 1% growth in municipal waste ▪ 1% growth in construction and demolition waste ▪ Recycle and compost 46% of MSW by 2010, to reach 56% by 2015 and 61% by 2020 ▪ Additionally recover value from 18% of MSW by 2015 ▪ Recycle 35% of industrial and commercial waste by 2010, 40% by 2015 and 45% by 2020 ▪ Additionally recover value from 30% of I&C waste by 2010, falling to 25% by 2020 ▪ Recycle 50% of commercial and domestic waste by 2010, 55% by 2015 and 60% by 2020 ▪ Additionally recover value from 42 % of C&D waste by 2010, falling to 35% by 2020 	<p>The LDF should take account of any minerals and waste issues that are likely to affect the Borough.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, targets and indicators that seek to promote sustainable waste management and effective resource use.</p>
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Regional and Sub-Regional Plans

Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
Lancashire's Municipal Waste Strategy 2008 – 2020 Rubbish to Resources			
<p>The key Strategy Objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To recognise municipal waste as a resource. ▪ To minimise the amount of municipal waste produced. ▪ To maximise recovery of organic and non-organic resources. ▪ To deal with waste as near to where it is produced as possible. ▪ To minimise contamination of the residual waste stream. ▪ To minimise the amount of waste going for disposal to landfill. ▪ Where landfill does occur to minimise its biodegradable content. ▪ To effectively manage all municipal waste within the wider waste context. ▪ To develop local markets and manufacturing for recovered materials. ▪ To achieve sustainable waste management. ▪ To develop strong partnerships between local authorities, community groups and the private sector. ▪ To ensure services are accessible to all residents. 	<p>Key targets of this strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce and stabilise waste to 0% growth each year ▪ Continue to provide financial support for awareness raising, education campaigns and other initiatives ▪ Extend the three-stream collection to all households and to extend the segregated collection service to all households to include the collection of food waste for composting. ▪ Recycle and compost 56% of all waste by 2015, increasing to 61% by 2020 ▪ Recover 81% of all waste by 2015 and 88% by 2020 ▪ Reuse, recycle and compost 70% every year at each Household Waste Recycling Centre ▪ Provide a network of facilities to manage and treat Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Council's municipal waste. 	<p>The key objectives in the plan should be carried forward into the LDF. The planning process should promote recycling and re-use of materials in preference to landfilling.</p>	<p>The SA should promote sustainable waste management principles.</p>
Northwest Equality and Diversity Strategy & Implementation Plan 2006-9			
<p>Key objectives of the Strategy, first published in 2005, are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote diversity and ensure respect for human rights ▪ Show leadership on equality and diversity ▪ Build the region's capacity on equality and diversity ▪ Reduce hate crime and violence ▪ Ensure the diverse North West is better represented in public life ▪ Deliver economic participation for all ▪ Promote equality in law ▪ Work towards equal access to services ▪ Take joined up action on social inclusion ▪ Develop the evidence and intelligence base <p>The Implementation Plan 2006-9 sets out the key priorities for action. The objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Economic participation for all ▪ Reducing hate crime and violence ▪ Promoting diversity as a regional asset 	<p>The Strategy provides a number of regional equality priorities.</p> <p>The Implementation Plan sets out a number of proxy indicators to be used to measuring progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Employment and unemployment rates ▪ Worklessness households ▪ Hate crime reporting ▪ Incidents of domestic violence 	<p>The LDF should seek to promote equality for all sections of the community. At a spatial level this can be supported through the provision of accessible services, facilities and economic opportunities, ensuring that new development supports and where appropriate enhances existing facilities.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should ensure that community and equality issues are considered. This is a particularly important issue for the more rural settlements in Ribble Valley where access to services and employment opportunities are limited.</p>
Investment for Health: A Plan for the North West of England (2003)			

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Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<p>The objective of the plan is “to achieve significant reductions in health inequalities between groups and areas in the North West, within a framework of sustainable development which supports economic, social, and environmental regeneration”.</p> <p>The proposed priority groups for the Investment for Health Plan are: <i>Children and young people.</i> Declining in numbers but crucial to the region’s economic and social future, and to breaking the inter-generational cycle of deprivation. <i>Older people.</i> A major policy challenge to improve their quality of life and contribution to the region’s economic and social life. <i>Black and ethnic minority groups.</i> A rapidly growing population, with relatively poor health, and for some groups a younger population with the potential to support economic and social regeneration. <i>Disabled people.</i> At particular risk of social exclusion, and the numbers claiming Disability Living Allowance projected to increase by 11%.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance. However, the document does list Public Sector Agreements related to health.</p>	<p>Health and health inequality are important issues that need to be taken into consideration during the development of the LDF.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets addressing health.</p>
North West Regional Cultural Strategy (2002)			
<p>The key objectives of the Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advocacy - making the case for the role of culture and creativity ▪ Image - make culture central to the region’s self-image and the external marketing of the region ▪ Cultural Economy - develop a sustainable, innovative cultural and creative economy ▪ Social Economy- develop the role of culture in sustainable healthy communities that work in education and in employment ▪ Environment - promote heritage and landscape, and its role in developing excellent design and planning in the public realm 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance. However, the ‘Strategic Opportunities’ should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Achieve ‘medium- to long-term benefit and make a “national and international impact” ▪ Add value to existing policy priorities, as well as building on current strengths and commitments ▪ Provide demonstrable and tangible long-term cultural impacts on economy, society, and image ▪ Acknowledge the importance of education and life-long learning and seek to link with relevant initiatives such as Creative Partnerships ▪ Involve new partnerships and significant support from the public private and voluntary sectors and have the potential to open up new sources of finance ▪ Deliver sustainable activities or legacies to the region 	<p>The LDF should be compatible with the strategy, and promote the cultural and social economy, particularly the role of local culture.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should recognise the importance of culture and cultural heritage. It should also recognise the need to promote local cultural distinctiveness and access.</p>
The North West Plan for Sport and Physical Activity 2004-2008 (out of date)			
<p>The key objectives of the Plan are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Highlight priorities for sport and physical activity as identified by health needs and inequalities ▪ Influence future developments, policy and investment ▪ Utilise sport and physical activity more widely to reach target 	<p>A key target of the Plan is to increase participation in 30 minutes of moderate activity five times per week by 1% year on year, leading to 50% participation, Baseline 32.8% of the north west adult population meets the target of 30 minutes of moderate activity five times a week (Health</p>	<p>The LDF should provide a framework within which increased participation can occur. In particular</p>	<p>The SA Framework should consider objectives to increase participation in sport through improved</p>

Regional and Sub-Regional Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<p>populations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify, map and understand key policies which could potentially influence and increase sport and physical activity participation ▪ Identify and collate evidence of best practice for dissemination to inform future program site developments ▪ Create successful partnership working and links ▪ Communicate and promote the positive contribution sport and physical activity can make in terms of social, mental and physical well being ▪ Increase the capacity of the sport, physical activity and health sectors ▪ Develop sport and physical activity policies and programmes ▪ Ensure the North West Sports Board and the health sector support and influence each other when developing delivery plans and setting targets / collection of data 	<p>Survey for England, 1998).</p> <p>Headline indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased participation (50% target) ▪ Widening access (by demographics) ▪ Increased success at all performance levels 	<p>opportunities to improve access to existing facilities, to prevent the loss of existing facilities and to support the provision of new, should be considered.</p>	<p>access and additional facilities.</p> <p>Suitable objectives should also be developed in relation to protecting human health.</p>
The North West Green Infrastructure Guide (2007)			
<p>This guide was prepared by the North West Green Infrastructure Think Tank, to support the Green Infrastructure (GI) policy (EM3) in the NW RSS. It provides more detailed information on the concept of GI and initial guidance on producing a GI Plan.</p> <p>The guide is particularly relevant to those involved in producing LDFs as this will be a crucial delivery mechanism for any GI plans.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The provisions of this guide should be considered in the development of the LDF. Policies should be included within the LDF to ensure the protection and enhancement of Ribble Valleys GI.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should contain an objective relating to the provision of green space.</p>
Green Infrastructure: How and where it can help the North-West adapt to climate change (2010)			
<p>The report analyses how the development of green infrastructure can help the region mitigate and adapt to climate change. It examines the services provided by green infrastructure and where these are likely to have the greatest impact. It concludes that the potential for impacts on mitigation are slight, whereas those on adaptation are substantial.</p> <p>Recommendations are made on targeting future action and investment for the greatest impact.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>Development of the LDF must consider the role that green infrastructure can play in mitigating and adapting to climate change.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should contain objectives relating to climate change and green infrastructure, and the assessment should recognise the link between the two.</p>
Lancashire Environment Strategy 2005 – 2010 (out of date)			
<p>The strategy is divided into four key themes and under each theme there are a series of objectives. Targets are established for the objectives and progress will be measured using a series of indicators.</p>	<p>Some of the targets and indicators for each of the key themes are summarised below:</p> <p><i>Targets (by 2010 unless otherwise stated)</i></p>	<p>The environmental objectives of the plan should be considered</p>	<p>There are a number of environmental objectives, targets and</p>

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Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<p>The key themes and some of their associated objectives are listed below:</p> <p>Climate Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To increase energy efficiency in the domestic sector ▪ Encourage the development of renewable energy ▪ To increase energy efficiency in the business sector ▪ To increase the cover of carbon sinks ▪ Reduce dependence on private car use ▪ Reduce the likelihood of flooding <p>Health and the Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bring into use brownfield sites and contaminated land ▪ Ensure the secure, affordable and safe supply of water ▪ Provide high levels of environmental cleanliness ▪ Ensure all communities have access to environmental equity <p>Sustainable Resource Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create and develop an infrastructure that supports the waste hierarchy ▪ Promote the development of the environmental economy ▪ Ensure sustainable resource planning is integrated within wider policies and strategies ▪ Conserve good quality water resources <p>Landscape, Heritage and Wildlife</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conserve, restore and re-establish habitat quality and species diversity ▪ Conserve, enhance and restore landscape character and quality ▪ Encourage and promote sustainable rural land management ▪ Manage and enhance the coast of Lancashire ▪ Protect and enhance the townscape and the historic environment <p>Education and Awareness Raising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote the teaching of education for sustainable development within the national curriculum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cut domestic CO₂ levels by 20% below 1990 levels ▪ 10% of Lancashire’s energy use to come from renewable energy sources ▪ A 10% improvement in energy efficiency in the business sector based on 2000 levels ▪ To increase levels of tree cover to a minimum of 10% per annum ▪ Traffic growth to be kept below 5% during 2005-10 ▪ Ensure 70% of flood defence assets are in good condition or better ▪ 70% of all new housing developments to be built on brownfield sites ▪ 15% reduction in fly-tipping ▪ 10% compliance with 25ug/l standard for lead and 95% compliance with 10ug/l standard ▪ Ensure that there is at least one 20 hectare natural green space site within 2km of people’s homes. ▪ Recycle and compost 36% of household waste by 2005, and 56% by 2015 ▪ A 20% increase in the number of businesses in the environmental economy sector ▪ A 10% increase in the number of businesses with environmental management systems set up ▪ 95% of all SSSIs in Lancashire in favourable condition ▪ Increase the areas of woodland by 10% ▪ Increase the area of native woodland by 5% ▪ 20% of Lancashire’s farmland to be covered by a higher level environmental stewardship scheme ▪ No Grade I or II* buildings to be lost <p><i>Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total CO₂ emissions (kg) per household per year ▪ Percentage of energy produced from renewable sources ▪ Electricity/gas consumption in the commercial/ business sector per year ▪ Change in traffic flows ▪ Percentage of flood defence assets in good condition 	<p>within the LDF and policies are developed to ensure climate change, health and the environment, sustainable resource use, landscape, heritage and wildlife and education and awareness raising are key themes.</p>	<p>indicators that can be used to inform the SA Framework. The baseline data included within the strategy will also inform the SA process.</p>

Regional and Sub-Regional Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hectares of derelict, underused and vacant land. ▪ Percentage of land classified as grade A for local street environmental cleanliness ▪ Percentage of drinking water failing to comply with 25ug/l standard for lead ▪ Amount of household waste recycled/composted ▪ Percentage of people who regularly buy environmentally friendly goods ▪ Number of businesses with environmental management systems ▪ Percentage of river water in the good or fair water quality classification ▪ Percentage of total area of SSSIs classified as favourable or unfavourable condition with sustainable management plans in place ▪ Woodland area by district ▪ Native woodland area ▪ Area covered by environmental stewardship schemes ▪ Number of buildings at risk ▪ Number of schools with an Eco Schools award 		
Countryside Character Volume 2: North-West (1998)			
This document presents the results of Natural England's survey of the countryside character and landscape of the North-West. It reflects the guidance issued by the Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage (2002), referred to in the National Plans and Policies section above.	The document contains no targets or indicators.	Landscape character should form a component of the LDF baseline and should be considered when proposing new development.	The SA Framework should include an objective on landscape quality.
North-West Landscape Character Framework Project (ongoing)			
This Natural England project aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Map and describe our diverse landscapes at a regional scale, seamlessly from upland to city centre to sea ▪ Develop the idea of landscape as a 'framework' to help joined-up thinking about the environment ▪ Be a focus for promoting the principles of the European Landscape Convention 	There are no targets or indicators.	Landscape character should form a component of the LDF baseline and should be considered when proposing new development. Ribble Valley is home to many sensitive landscapes	The SA Framework should include an objective on landscape quality.

Regional and Sub-Regional Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
		including the Forest of Bowland AONB which the LDF should protect.	
Lancashire Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Strategy (2000)			
<p>The four main objectives of the landscape character assessment are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To outline how the landscape of Lancashire has evolved in terms of physical forces and human influences. ▪ To classify the landscape into distinct landscape types identifying key characteristics and sensitivities and providing principles to guide landscape change. ▪ To describe the current appearance of the landscape, classifying it into distinct zones of homogenous character, summarising the key features of each landscape character area. ▪ To describe the principal urban landscape types across the County, highlighting their historical development. <p>The document outlines the characteristics of the Lancashire landscape and divides the landscape into character areas.</p> <p>The strategy objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To review the forces for change that are affecting the landscape, highlighting key issues and implications of different forms of development and land use change for landscape character and quality. ▪ For each landscape character type, to identify key environmental features and the specific implications of change, as well as appropriate strategies and actions to manage and guide the landscape change in a positive way. ▪ To produce an overview of strategic issues for Lancashire, identifying the key actions that need to be taken to bring about positive landscape change, including the development of landscape indicators and targets. <p>For each of the landscape character types a series of recommendations are outlined to protect, restore and enhance various landscape elements.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance. However, it will important for the SA to take into consideration the recommendations for each of the relevant landscape character types.</p>	<p>The LDF should include objectives and policies that seek to restore, protect and enhance landscape and townscape character and quality.</p>	<p>The landscape character assessment has been used to identify the baseline conditions and the SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets relating the preservation and enhancement of landscape and townscape quality.</p>
Lancashire Climate Change Strategy 2009 -2020			
<p>The Lancashire Climate Change Strategy sets out the Partnership's long-term vision that Lancashire is "low carbon and well adapted by 2020". The key objectives of this strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the use of 	<p>A key target of this strategy is that it aims that in 2020 Lancashire will have reduced its emissions of CO₂ by at least 30% relative to 1990.</p> <p>The strategy also includes the following national indicators</p>	<p>The LDF should include policies that recognise local action needs to be taken with regard to climate change issues</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets that relate to climate change and</p>

Regional and Sub-Regional Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<p>energy in homes, by improving energy efficiency, minimising waste and exploiting renewable sources of energy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through better waste management, including waste minimisation and increased recycling. ▪ Develop and maintain an integrated, efficient and sustainable transport system. ▪ Increase the use of public transport, walking and cycling. ▪ Promote the use of more efficient vehicles and alternative transport fuels, including sustainable bio-fuels. ▪ Encourage a sustainable and competitive Lancashire economy that will measure, mitigate and reduce its contribution to climate change, through energy and resource efficiency actions. ▪ Create an informed, skilled and environmentally responsible work force and work place able to compete in an emerging and diverse 'environmental economy'. ▪ Ensure that future economic plans ensure a low carbon economy. ▪ More efficient use of resources and more environmentally-aware procurement, including of infrastructure. ▪ Actively promote decentralised energy production and medium and large scale renewable energy generation ▪ Make the most of Lancashire's environmental assets and ensure that the climate change mitigation and adaptation functions of Lancashire's green infrastructure are maximised to deliver economic, environmental and social benefits. ▪ Support the development of mechanisms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the sustainable management of Lancashire's woodlands. ▪ Manage Lancashire's upland and lowland peat lands to sequester carbon and prevent its release. ▪ Identify what the impacts of climate change on biodiversity will be in Lancashire and support the uptake of practical adaptation measures. ▪ Ensure development and critical infrastructure is resilient to flooding and other climate change impacts and the risk of these impacts are managed effectively. ▪ Realise the economic development opportunities associated with developing adaptation capacity in Lancashire. ▪ Support practical measures to allow Lancashire's biodiversity to 	<p>which may be of relevance to the SA and LDF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CO₂ reduction from local authority operations. ▪ Per capita reduction in CO₂ emissions in the LA area. ▪ Tackling fuel poverty - % of people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating. ▪ Planning to adapt to climate change. 	<p>along with ensuring policies contribute to achieving Lancashire's CO₂ reduction target.</p>	<p>the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p>

Regional and Sub-Regional Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<p>adapt to climate impacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage strong community participation in climate solutions. 			
Biodiversity Action Plan for Lancashire (various dates)			
<p>The plan comprises a series of action plans for habitats and species in Lancashire.</p> <p>For each of the habitats and species information is provided about current national, regional and local status.</p>	<p>For each habitat type/species a series of objectives, actions and timescales for implementation are identified. The actions are also assigned a priority for implementation i.e. low, medium and high.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to incorporate policies which support and promote the enhancement of biodiversity.</p>	<p>The relevant objectives, targets and indicators should be integrated into the SA Framework.</p>
Lancashire Woodland Vision 2006-2015			
<p>The document seeks to guide new planting and woodland management in the context of the Lancashire landscape strategy. Main objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formulate a strategy or vision to guide the development of woodlands and associated businesses in Lancashire. Produce local woodland vision statements for the 21 landscape character types and urban landscape types of Lancashire. Identify priorities for woodland planting and management action. Assist in formulating advice and targeting resources through existing and proposed grant aid schemes. Inform the public at large of woodlands and their management in the context of Lancashire landscapes. <p>There is a specific vision and objective for the woodland resource in each of the landscape character types.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF should take opportunities to promote urban forestry and street trees and to protect the wider biodiversity resource.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that seek to protect biodiversity including woodland.</p>
A Geodiversity Action Plan for Lancashire (2004)			
<p>Six objectives are identified which reflect the wide range of interests' involved in conserving the county's geology and landforms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To establish and make accessible a wide range of field based geodiversity information. To understand what physical landscape and geodiversity sites existing in Lancashire. To establish what skills and knowledge are available in the community to assist in the implementation of the Local Geodiversity Action Plan. To have geoconservation policies adopted by local and other relevant bodies. To raise awareness and appreciation of geoconservation amongst 	<p>The targets in the Strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get geoconservation strategies written into local plans. Actively involve local communities and business in geoconservation policies. Produce a database of geodiversity resources. <p>These targets relate primarily to gathering sufficient information to ensure that geoconservation interests are adequately addressed in relevant plans and strategies.</p>	<p>The LDF should include policies which relate to geoconservation interests.</p>	<p>The SA should seek to protect and enhance geodiversity in Ribble Valley.</p>

Regional and Sub-Regional Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
professional groups and the general public. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To increase community and business activity in geoconservation. 			
Ribble Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (CAMS)			
CAMS explain how the EA will allocate and manage water resources within defined geographic catchment areas. Ribble Valley lies entirely within the Ribble catchment.	The CAMS indicates where water resources are under pressure. The sub-units of the catchments in which Ribble Valley lies currently have water available.	The LDF should consider water availability, as set out in the Wyre and Lune CAMS, when allocating sites and considering levels of potential development.	The SA Framework should consider impacts upon water supply.
Ribble Catchment Flood Management Plan (2009)			
The Ribble Catchment Flood Management Plan is a high level strategic planning tool which is used to explore and define long term sustainable policies for flood risk management. It is essential to enable a strategic, proactive and risk-based approach to flood risk management. Ribble Valley lies entirely within the Ribble catchment area.	The Plans do not contain specific targets or indicators.	The LDF should consider potential flood risk, and prevent development within the floodplain.	The SA Framework should include objectives that promote reduction and management of flood risk.
River Basin Management Plan for the North West River Basin District (2009)			
River Basin Management Plans aim to protect and improve the water environment and have been developed in consultation with organisations and individuals. They address the main issues for the water environment and the actions needed to deal with them.	The Plan does not contain specific targets or indicators.	The LDF should consider how the water environment can be protected and enhanced.	The SA Framework should include objectives that consider effects upon water quality and resource.
Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council, Blackburn with Darwen Council, Rights of Way Improvement Plan (2005)			
The plan has been developed with the following visions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To use the plan preparation process as an opportunity to undertake a strategic overview of the access opportunities available within Lancashire's countryside ▪ To improve the network of local rights of way, within the powers available to us, to better meet the needs of local people (including those with impaired vision and reduced mobility) and our visitors ▪ To increase the public's enjoyment and the benefits it derives from the Lancashire countryside ▪ To monitor the improvements against clear targets during the 10-year life of the plan 	Activities are focussed around seven inter-related themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ definitive map ▪ inspection and improvement ▪ providing information ▪ community to countryside links ▪ bridleway and off-road cycling circuits and routes ▪ reduced mobility and visual impairments ▪ higher rights and other provisions Under each theme, a series of actions is proposed which links to targets and progress indicators.	The implications on rights of way, access and recreation should be considered in the preparation of the LDF.	Baseline information, issues and opportunities are identified within the Improvement Plan. These should be considered when developing the SA Framework.
Forest of Bowland Management Plan April 2009 - March 2014			

Regional and Sub-Regional Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<p>The aims of the Forest of Bowland Management Plan are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect, conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the Forest of Bowland ▪ AONB. ▪ Promote the sustainable social and economic development of the area, particularly where such activity conserves and enhances the environment. ▪ Encourage enjoyment of the area where it is compatible. <p>In addition the plan includes many detailed objectives relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The natural and cultural landscape ▪ Enjoyment, health and wellbeing ▪ The economy ▪ The local community ▪ Working in partnership ▪ Responding to climate change 	<p>The Forest of Bowland Management Plan contains many targets. The most relevant of which are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exceed Natural England targets for SSSI condition and meet Lancashire LAA target for active management of local wildlife sites. ▪ Mountain biking routes in Gisburn Forest developed and extended. ▪ Two cycle hire initiatives supported. ▪ Three safe cycle routes developed. ▪ Ten new sections of bridleway/tramper routes developed. 	<p>The LDF needs to include policies that seek to protect (and enhance where possible) the Forest of Bowland AONB and other sensitive landscapes within the Borough.</p>	<p>The Sa Framework should include objectives that seek to ensure the protection and enhancement where possible of the Forest of Bowland AONB.</p>

Summary of Local Plans

Local Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
The Ribble Valley Economic Strategy - 2009 – 2014			
<p>This strategy sets out the aims and objectives for a successful and sustainable economic environment for the Ribble Valley. It also provides clarity and details regarding the Council's local economic aims and objectives, and provides a framework for partnership working, supporting and influencing strategies, priorities and the resource allocation of others operating in economic development across Ribble Valley. The strategy sets out five thematic areas of activity. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regeneration and Economic Development - maximising potential areas to generate initiatives, projects and attract resources in line with community needs. Encourage and engage both people and businesses for collective community action. ▪ Business Support and Development – addressing issues that facilitate healthy business performance, encouraging business start-ups, business growth and inward investment ▪ Infrastructure and Communications - providing the necessary 'physical environment' in areas such as transport, affordable housing, ICT & 'broadband' access, appropriate business sites and premises. ▪ Image, Marketing and Promotion – maintaining and enhancing the perception and image of the area; inspiring and encouraging people to invest in and visit Ribble Valley whether for business or pleasure. ▪ Employment and Skills - ensuring with partners in the public and private sectors that a diversity of training and educational opportunities are available to people and businesses to ensure a healthy labour market. 	<p>Regeneration and Economic Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To identify and develop initiatives that will encourage the long term physical and social regeneration of Ribble Valley, maximising on and seeking appropriate funding from national, regional and sub regional sources wherever possible <p>Business Support and Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To work in partnership at local, sub-regional and regional level to provide the best possible support for existing and new businesses in Ribble Valley <p>Infrastructure and Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To strive for a high quality, modern and integrated infrastructure, maintaining and improving the public realm, appropriate and affordable housing, transport infrastructure and technology for the benefit of Ribble Valley business, residents & visitors without compromising the quality of the existing natural and built environment <p>Image, Marketing and Promotion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To constantly and consistently raise the profile and perceptions of Ribble Valley, strengthening awareness of the benefits of the area in terms of quality of life as a place to live, visit, work and do business <p>Employment and Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage and develop educational attainment and a skilled labour market in Ribble Valley for the benefit of existing and new employers 	<p>The LDF needs to include policies that will encourage sustainable economic development and complement the aims and actions of the strategy.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives relating to sustainable economic growth and diversification. The SA Framework should also include objectives promoting lifelong learning and developing the skills of the Borough's population.</p>

Local Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
Ribble Valley, Health Profile 2011			
This profile gives a snapshot of health in the Ribble Valley. With other local information, the Health Profile is designed to support action by local government and primary care trusts to tackle health inequalities and improve the population's health.	Baseline indicators include children's tooth decay, the estimated percentage of adults who eat healthily, the percentage of people recorded with diabetes, female life expectancy, smoking during pregnancy, the estimated number of adults who are obese and infant deaths. This data will be used to inform the SA and the consideration of health issues.	The LDF needs to recognise the role that land use planning can play in enhancing quality of life and health in the Borough. The pursuit of active travel and health lifestyles should be encouraged.	The SA Framework should include objectives, indicators and targets which address health issues and deprivation and seek to reduce health inequalities.
Ribble Valley Community Safety Partnership Plan 2008-2011			
The Partnership Plan is a three year plan which is updated each year. The Plan will run from 2008-2011. This will then allow the partnership to develop community safety plans to tackle the short, medium and long term priorities and to align the Plan with the Community Safety Agreement and the Lancashire Local Area Agreement. The Partnership Plan sets out the Community Safety Partnership's view of what its priorities will be over the next three years and how key partners will work together to make people's lives safer and healthier. It will also identify what needs to be done, what resources it will need to achieve that and how performance will be measured and monitored.	The Community Safety Partnership will develop a media strategy to put out positive messages using initiatives such as Floodlit PACT, 'Face the People' events and 'Supermarket Sweeps' to engage with more Ribble Valley residents. The Ribble Valley Local Strategic Partnership will have succeeded if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The number of crimes committed in the Ribble Valley has reduced. ▪ The fear of crime has reduced. ▪ The level of domestic violence in the Ribble Valley has been reduced. ▪ The level of harm caused by alcohol and drugs misuse has reduced. ▪ The number of serious road accidents has been reduced. ▪ The number of fire related incidents has reduced. 	There are a number of key issues and themes relating to crime and disorder that need to be taken forward. In particular there could be the potential for enhanced planning and design to contribute to a reduction in crime levels.	The SA Framework should include objectives relating to keeping the Ribble Valley one of the safest communities to live in the UK.
Ribble Valley, Sustainable Community Strategy, 2007- 2013			
A Sustainable Community Strategy is the over-arching document that informs the work of partners within the District, including the Borough and County Councils, Primary Care Trusts and the Police. Whilst not a planning document it covers issues such as affordable housing, the identification of employment land and potential impact on the environment and so will in turn set priorities to be	There are many targets outlined in this Plan (some of which are now out of date), which include: Welcoming Ribble Valley <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the number of people who feel they can influence decisions made locally from 30% to 34% by 2010/11 	The LDF needs to take on board the overarching vision and commitments of the plan and should include policies that contribute to their achievement by promoting more sustainable patterns of land use in the Borough.	The SA Framework should include a range of objectives that assess the LDF components from a range of sustainability perspectives. Recommendations should

Local Plans			
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considered within the Ribble Valley Local Development Framework.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the number of people who participate in regular volunteering from 29% to 31% by 2010 ▪ Increase the number of people who agree that the local neighbourhood is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together from 79% to 80% by 2010 <p>Safety and well being in the Ribble Valley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce the Serious Acquisitive Crime Rate by 3% 2010/11 (315 to 306) ▪ Reduce the Assault with Injury Crime Rate by 3% by 2010/11 (156 to 153) ▪ Reduce numbers of criminal damage crimes by 3% during 2009/10 ▪ Contribute to County target of 4,041 drug users in effective treatment by 2010/11 <p>Health Improvement for all Ribble Valley Residents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the self reported measure of people's overall health and wellbeing from 80% to 81% by 2009/10 ▪ Reduce the trend of increase in the number of alcohol related hospital admission rates from a base of 1269 incidents in 2008 to 1605 in 2010 ▪ Increase the number of adults and young people participating in sport and physical activity from 24.3% currently by a 1% increase each year over three years <p>Older People and an Ageing Population in the Ribble Valley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain number of people claiming to be in good health at 79% of Ribble Valley population ▪ Increase the number of people over 65 who receive the information, assistance and support needed to exercise choice and control to live independently from 39% to 40% ▪ Increase the healthy life expectancy at age 65 from just under 81 to 81.5 years by 2010 		be provided through the assessment process to improve the performance of the LDF and its contribution towards the targets of the Sustainable Community Strategy.

Local Plans			
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	<p>Children and Younger Persons in the Ribble Valley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Borough will continue to contribute to County wide targets and specific district targets will be established through the year <p>Cultural Alliances in the Ribble Valley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Much of the work within the cultural alliance will contribute to LAA targets around volunteering and positive activities for young people <p>Housing in Ribble Valley</p> <p>To deliver 50 affordable homes in 2009/2010</p> <p>Ribble Valley Environmental Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the percentage of waste recycled from 26.3% to 42.0% by 2010 (30% to 53.5% if Household Waste Recycling Centres are included) Decrease the amount of household waste going to landfill from 313 kgs to 236 kgs per head by 2010 Improved local biodiversity, increase the number of sites actively managed to 11% <p>Prosperous Ribble Valley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of new businesses registered Decrease the numbers of employed people currently working outside of the District from 47% to 40% (Achievement of target known on publication of 2011 Census) 		
The Corporate Strategy 2009-2011			
<p>This document (originally developed in 2006) sets out the strategic direction of the Council over the period 2007 - 2011, providing a focus to ensure that the services they deliver meet the needs of the community. The strategy has a four-year scope, but is reviewed annually. The strategy contains three corporate ambitions which address issues that matter most to the Borough, these include:</p>	<p>This strategy contains many corporate actions and dates throughout the plan period for when they should be achieved.</p>	<p>The plan identifies where progress is being made in the Council and key challenges that lie ahead. The main implications for the plan are, therefore contributing to the achievement of the Community Strategy. The objectives of the Community Strategy, therefore</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include the objectives covering a wide range of social, economic and environmental issues. The assessment should consider opportunities for</p>

Local Plans			
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To help make peoples' lives safer and healthier. ▪ To protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of our area. ▪ To match the supply of homes in our area with the identified housing needs. 		need to be carried forward into the LDF.	delivering enhancements as well as seeking to protect and maintain existing conditions.
Ribble Valley Tourism Association Action Plan 2009-12			
<p>The aims of the Action Plan are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EXCELLENCE: To promote excellence and best practice in the industry and celebrate quality. ▪ VOICE: To act as a consultative body to influence quality tourism and development and to ensure the importance of local tourism is recognized. ▪ PARTNERSHIP: To work with neighbouring authorities and organizations. ▪ MEMBERSHIP: To continue to develop the strong Association and to encourage new members. ▪ MARKETING: Actively promote Ribble Valley Tourism Association and its tourism products and provide an outlet for members publicity. ▪ COMMUNICATION: To enable members to communicate with each other, the Executive Committee and the Local Authority and other organisations and to establish alternative, more cost effective means of that communication. ▪ ORGANISATIONAL SET UP: To create a well managed, efficient and effective enterprise that meets the needs and wants of its members. 	<p>Many of the targets in the plan are very specific and are not entirely appropriate to the SA or the Core Strategy. However, one of the targets is to increase members to the Ribble Valley Tourism Action Group by 10% in year two and a further 10% in year three. This could benefit tourist development across the Borough.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to take on board the aims and commitments of this document and should include policies that contribute to their achievement by promoting a supporting tourism opportunities.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that promote sustainable tourism as this could potentially deliver economic benefits for the Borough.</p>
Pennine Lancashire Integrated Economic Strategy 2009-2020			
<p>This strategy in summary includes the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encouraging enterprise, creating more new businesses and helping small, young business to grow ▪ Working with companies to help them take up new opportunities, strengthen their long term 	<p>This strategy contains the following targets:</p> <p>Skills and Employment: The Fundamental Challenge (to be achieved by 2020)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 95% of adults to have basic skills in both 	<p>The LDF should provide a suitable spatial framework for promoting and enhancing economic growth in the Ribble Valley area.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include economic objectives, indicators and targets that complement this Strategy.</p>

Local Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<p>competitiveness and develop their knowledge assets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Developing economic and business infrastructure to encourage innovation, re-investment and new investment ▪ Promoting skills development at all levels – targeting those without level 2 qualifications; supporting those with intermediate qualifications in developing higher level skills; encourage the recruitment and retention of graduate level workers ▪ Tackling urban deprivation across Pennine Lancashire and promoting the high quality neighbourhood environments needed to attract and retain skilled labour ▪ Tackling worklessness (through skills development and more targeted engagement as support activities) to ensure that all parts of Pennine Lancashire benefit from its economic growth ▪ Addressing image and quality of place to make Pennine Lancashire a natural place for new investment and a desirable place to live ▪ Promoting links with neighbouring economies (particularly Manchester and Preston) which can act as an additional employment destination for Pennine Lancashire residents, increasing their access to higher paid employment ▪ Increasing the influence Pennine Lancashire wields with government and within the region ▪ Reorganising delivery to enable key projects to be implemented within a tight management regime and to give funding bodies increased confidence in the ability of the sub-region to deliver 	<p>functional literacy and numeracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 90% of adults to hold at least level 2 qualifications or equivalent ▪ 500,000 apprenticeships delivered each year ▪ 40% of adults to hold at least level 4 qualifications or equivalent ▪ The Government has set an ambitious target of getting 80% of the working age population into employment In Pennine Lancashire this would require supporting an additional 28,000 people into work. ▪ From 2007-2011 the LEGI programme aims to create an additional 1500 businesses across Pennine Lancashire. 		
Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Report 2009			
<p>The main aim of this Report is to identify the amount and the general locations of land for possible future development in the Borough. This will help the Council to ensure that attempts to meet the Government's priority of delivering more homes are not constrained by the lack of</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The document needs to inform housing policy in the LDF as it forms a key part of the evidence base.</p>	<p>The SA should include objectives in the SA Framework that addresses housing availability and meeting housing needs.</p>

Local Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
availability of housing land.			
Ribble Valley Employment Land and Retail Study 2008			
This study was commissioned to provide robust evidence to underpin and inform the LDF. It will also be used to inform the Local Regeneration Strategy and work of the Local Strategic Partnership. It identifies opportunities, supported by economic evidence, where the public sector may intervene to promote sustainable local economic development and retail growth in the Ribble Valley and City Region.	Ribble Valley already performs well in terms of its key socio-economic indicators: unemployment is very low; wages levels are generally high; economic activity is high; however, the Borough experiences a net outflow of commuters.	The LDF needs to recognise the importance of employment land and ensure that appropriate policies and allocations are included in the LDF.	Objectives in the SA Framework should be included that address economic development and economic inclusion.
Strategic Housing Market Assessment Report 2008			
The main aim of this report is to provide an evidence base, which can be used for housing and planning policy analysis. In order to do this it makes clear what key policy choices are suggested by the analysis, so that Ribble Valley can consider and decide what policies to adopt taking into consideration all other factors such as public consultation, results of sustainability appraisals etc.	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	The document needs to inform housing policy in the LDF as it forms a key part of the evidence base.	The SA should include objectives in the SA Framework that addresses housing availability and meeting housing needs.
Ribble Valley Play Strategy 2007			
<p>The purpose of the strategy is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish a Play Alliance ▪ Address the play needs of children and young people, under 15, across Ribble Valley ▪ Provide increased play opportunities ▪ Help identify current play provision ▪ Promote consultation and community involvement ▪ Provide clear aims and objectives for future delivery and development ▪ Ensure the sustainability of play provision ▪ Promote creative and innovative approaches to play ▪ Assist in attracting funding for improved play opportunities ▪ Communicate and raise the profile of play provision in the Ribble Valley 	There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.	Effective land use should be promoted across the Borough which seeks to improve the quality of formal and informal recreation areas.	The SA Framework should include objectives that promote the improvement of areas of open space and that seek to improve health and well-being.

Local Plans			
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Ribble Valley Sport & Physical Activity Alliance Vision, 2007 – 2010			
<p>This plan underpins the national vision outlined by the Government in 'A Sporting Future For All', and the follow up document, 'The Government Plan for Sport', produced by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.</p> <p>These documents have provided the context for local authorities to link the value of sport to wider benefits including health, social inclusion, regeneration, educational opportunities and crime prevention.</p> <p>The purpose of this document is to align partners existing priorities and targets, creating one integrated local framework for sport and physical activity.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF should consider physical fitness and health issues, by ensuring the areas of open space are protected and opportunities for new recreational areas and pursuits can be undertaken in the Borough.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should take into consideration health and physical fitness issues. The promotion of healthier lifestyles is recognised as a key issue throughout Lancashire.</p>
Third Report and Review of the Homelessness Strategy (2007)			
<p>The strategy objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the use of the Council's housing needs advice service including prevention of homelessness. ▪ Improve homeless service standards ▪ Reduce the length of time homeless applicants spend in temporary accommodation before the acceptance of secure accommodation. ▪ Increase the volume of appropriate affordable housing available for homeless households. 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators of relevance.</p>	<p>The LDF should start to address some of the issues that lead to homelessness in the Borough including a lack of affordable housing.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives that address housing issues including affordable housing.</p>
Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy 2001			
<p>The overarching aim of the strategy is to meet the requirements of government guidance on the identification and inspection of potentially contaminated sites in the Borough.</p> <p>The Council's priorities in dealing with contaminated land will be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect human health ▪ Protect controlled waters ▪ Protect designated ecosystems ▪ Protect damage to property ▪ Protect further contamination of land 	<p>There are no specific targets or indicators in the plan.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to include policies that address contaminated land and promote the re-use of brownfield sites in appropriate locations.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include an objective addressing the need to protect soil quality and function.</p>

Local Plans			
Key Objectives Relevant to Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to Plan and SA	Implications for Plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage the re-use of brownfield land 			
Statement of Community Involvement (2010)			
<p>This Statement sets out how the Council will involve all elements of the community in the planning process, both in the preparation of planning policy and involvement in planning applications.</p> <p>The Borough Council's vision is to work jointly with the people and organisations that have an interest in the Borough to plan better places together. The Statement of Community Involvement will also relate closely to the objectives and technical guidance within the Ribble Valley Consultation Strategy 2007 and the Ribble Valley Sustainable Community Strategy once adopted.</p>	There are no specific targets or indicators in the statement.	The LDF should be mindful of this statement as its development should be a transparent process.	Sufficient time should be provided for consultation on the SA documents.
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (Level one) 2010			
<p>This Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) summarises the current situation regarding flood-risk. It describes the current state of various flood related strategies, reports and policy documents produced by a variety of bodies, including the Environment Agency that will affect the Borough in the short, medium and long term. The SFRA will also inform the Council of how current and future climate change will influence flood risks from all sources within its area, and also the risks to and from surrounding areas within the same river catchments.</p>	There are a number of actions outlined in the SFRA as well as details about flooding in specific parts of the Borough.	The LDF should consider potential flood risk, and prevent development within floodplain.	The SA Framework should include objectives that promote the reduction and management of flood risk.

Appendix B

Baseline Data

Appendix B – Sustainability Baseline

Sustainability Baseline

Population

The following baseline indicators have been used to identify key population trends and characteristics. All statistics were taken from the mid-year estimates compiled by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

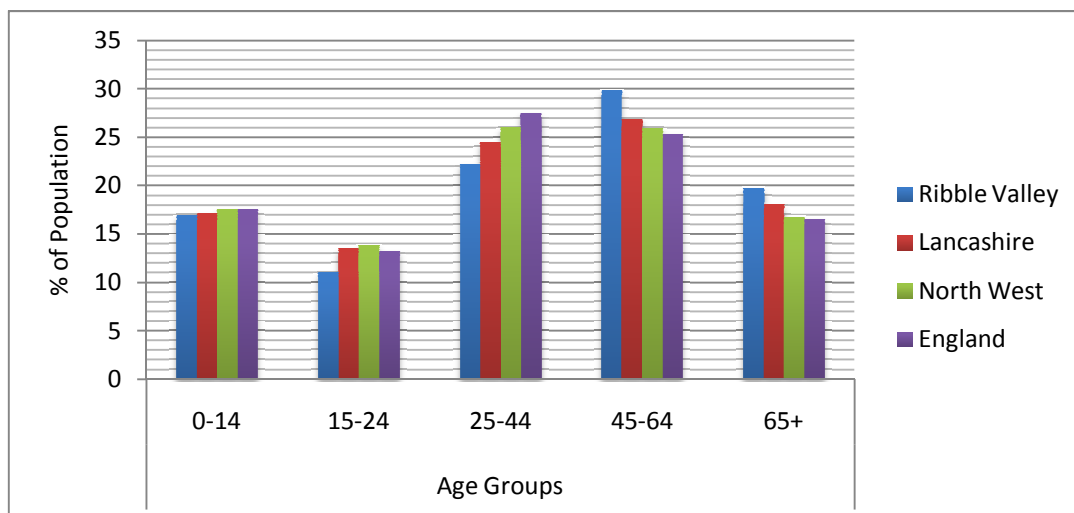
- Total population (ONS, Mid-Year Population Estimates)
- Area of Ribble Valley and key settlements and their populations (Lancashire Profiles; www.lanccashire.gov.uk and 2001 Census)
- Population density (ONS, Mid-Year Population Estimates)
- Age structure of the population (ONS)
- Mean household size (ONS)
- Percentage of pensioner households (ONS)
- Ethnic groups represented in the population (Lancashire Profiles)

Ribble Valley is in East Lancashire and covers an area of 583km², making it the largest local authority in Lancashire. The rural nature of the area, however, means that it has the smallest population in the county with only 58,000 people in 2010, this equates to a population density of 99 persons per km², the lowest in the county and approximately four times lower than the Lancashire average. The most significant settlement in the Borough is Clitheroe with a population of approximately 14,697. The other main town, Longridge, lies in the west of the Borough and has a population of 7,546. The remainder of the Borough is rural with a number of smaller settlements ranging in size from large villages such as Whalley, Sabden, and Chatburn through to hamlets such as Great Mitton and Paythorne. The Borough is far more rural than neighbouring districts in Central and East Lancashire, having more in common with more rural areas such as the Yorkshire Dales and Cumbria, reflected by the low population density.

The Borough's population experienced a net increase of 300 between 2009 and 2010 due to net in-migration of 400 people. The difference of 100 people was attributable to natural change (Lancashire Profiles). The population is projected to increase by 10.7% in the period 2008-2033, slightly above the North West average growth rate of 8.7% (Lancashire Profiles).

Ribble Valley has a greater proportion of older people than either national, regional or county averages, as shown in Figure 1-1. 50% of the population in the 2010 mid-year estimate were aged 45 or over. The Borough has a correspondingly lower proportion of younger people, with the 15-24 age group being particularly under-represented.

Figure 1-1: Age Profile (Source: Mid-Year Population Estimates 2010)



Mean household size in Ribble Valley stood at 2.43 in the 2001 census, very slightly higher than both regional and national averages. The census also indicates a higher proportion of pensioner households in Ribble Valley (25.8%) than in the North West region (24.0%). Single pensioner households represent 14.6% of the total population in the Borough.

Ribble Valley has a very small ethnic minority population. In 2009/10 there were 70 registrations by foreign nationals in Ribble Valley. This was 60 fewer than in the previous year (a decrease of 46%). Most people registering were Polish (Lancashire Profiles). The 2009 estimated population by ethnic group statistics from the ONS show the Borough's inhabitants to be 93.58% white, with averages for the North West and England, 91.6% and 87.5% respectively. Ward level information from the 2001 census shows very few spatial concentrations of ethnic minorities across the Borough.

The Place Survey results for 2008/09 in Ribble Valley reveal that a very impressive 94% of residents are satisfied with their local area as a place to live. This is the highest score of any local authority in England for this measure.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

There are no significant data gaps or uncertainties identified for this topic.

Key Issues and Opportunities

The Borough has a small, ageing and dispersed population, which has implications for access to services for those living outside of the main urban centres (Clitheroe and Longridge). Availability of health care provision, in particular, is likely to be an issue for elderly residents in some settlements. There are also potential challenges that could arise in the future relating to the type and tenure of housing provision on offer in the Borough. This is analysed in detail within Ribble Valley Borough Council's 2008 Strategic Housing Market Assessment. An increasingly ageing population in the Borough could also have long-term effects on the vitality and vibrancy of settlements. The need to retain the younger sectors of the population is a theme that is highlighted in other sections of this SA Report as it could also have effects upon the economy of the Borough and its attractiveness for inward investment.

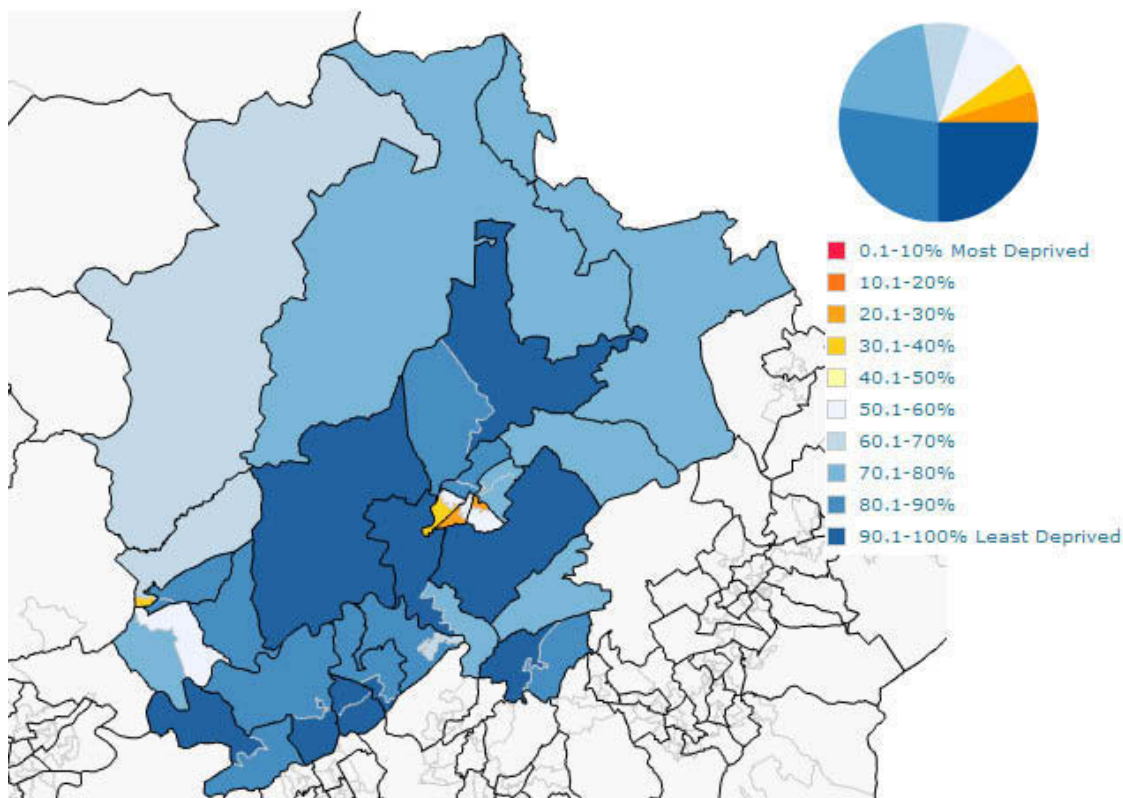
Education and Qualifications

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise levels of education and attainment in the Borough:

- Location and number of educational establishments (Ribble Valley Borough Council website and the Settlement Hierarchy Study 2008)
- Number of wards with Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the bottom 40% most deprived for education, skills and training deprivation (Indices of Deprivation, 2010)
- Percentage of 15 year old pupils in local authority schools achieving five or more GCSEs at Grades A* - C or equivalent (Department for Children, Schools and Families)
- Percentage of people aged 19-64 achieving National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) level 4 or above (ONS – Nomis)
- Percentage of resident adults with no qualifications (ONS – Nomis)

Educational attainment in the Borough is above performance at county, regional and national levels. However, four wards – Derby and Thornley, Edisford and Low Moor, Primrose and Littlemoor – have LSOAs in the lowest 40% most deprived for education, skills and training in the 2010 Indices of Deprivation. However, several wards fall within the least deprived 10%. These figures measure levels of attainment among children and young people, as well as skills attainment in the resident working-age population. Figure 1-2 presents the results.

Figure 1-2 Educations, Skills and Training Deprivation (Indices of Multiple Deprivation, 2010)



Ribble Valley has 32 Primary Schools, of which seven are located within west Ribble Valley (Longridge, Chipping and Ribchester), 14 are located within rural Clitheroe, Sabden and Read, five are located within central Clitheroe and six are located within Bowland. Bowland has the highest average percentage surplus places at 30% and Rural Clitheroe, Sabden and Read has the lowest at 4%. The distribution of Primary Schools across the Borough is presented on Figure 5 Location of basic Services.

There are five Secondary Schools located within the borough in Clitheroe, Bowland, Longridge and Billington. Secondary Schools include:

- Bowland High – With specialist status in performing arts;
- Ribblesdale High School/Technology College;
- Longridge High School - A Maths and Computing College;
- St Cecilia's Roman Catholic Technology College, Longridge; and
- St Augustine's Roman Catholic High School, Billington.

Information provided by Lancashire County Council in February 2012 indicates that under current development rates, there will be a shortfall in primary school places in Clitheroe within five years and a shortfall in secondary school places in Whalley over the same period.

A number of people travel into and out of the Borough daily for educational reasons. However, the Sustainable Community Strategy identifies that there is a lack of vocational training provision for 16-19 year olds. An initiative called the Aspire Project is being pursued that aims to promote the achievement of NVQ Level 2 for a significant proportion of 16-19 year olds.

Most settlements in the Borough contain a Primary School with Clitheroe and Longridge both providing secondary education opportunities.

80.1% of pupils in Ribble Valley schools gained five or more GCSEs at Grades A* - C in 2009/2010 which places the Borough amongst the highest achieving local authorities in the country. The regional and national averages for 2009/2010 were 77.7% and 76.1% respectively.

Levels of educational attainment show a clear link to levels of affluence in later life, as access to employment improves with academic success. 35.5% of the working age population in Ribble Valley have qualifications to NVQ Level 4 or higher, higher than corresponding figures for the North West (28.7%) or the country as a whole (31.3%) for the period January 2010 to December 2010. In 2010, 9.3% of the adult population had no qualifications, compared to 12.1% in the North West and 11.3% in Great Britain.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Percentage of employees receiving job-related training in the last 4 weeks to NVQ level 4 or higher.
- Percentage 16-18 year olds not in education or employment training.
- Number and location of establishments offering life-long learning opportunities.

Key Issues and Opportunities

Educational attainment in the Borough is very good compared to county, regional and national levels, and this needs to be maintained. A number of people commute daily into the Borough for educational reasons as a result of the high level of attainment and the quality of Ribble Valley schools. However, opportunities to improve vocational training opportunities should be pursued, as this is likely to benefit local employers and would also help to develop training linked to key growth sectors across the region and could help to encourage more inward investment in the Borough. The Ribble Valley Economic Strategy (2009 – 2013) identifies the exodus of young talented, well-educated people as a key threat to the local economy. There will be a shortfall in primary school and secondary school places in key settlements within five years. This would be exacerbated if levels of growth increased.

Health

The following baseline data has been used to identify key trends:

- Percentage of the resident population who consider themselves to be in good health (2001 Census)
- Number of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 40% most deprived for health deprivation and disability (Indices of Deprivation, 2010)
- Life expectancy at birth for males and females for the period 2005 – 2010 (ONS)
- Standardised mortality ratio and mortality rates for circulatory disease and cancer 2004-6 (ONS and DCLG)
- Distribution of dentists and GPs (Ribble Valley Settlement Hierarchy Study, 2008).
- Percentage of working-age population with a long-term limiting illness (2001 Census)
- Distribution of sports facilities (Sport England)
- 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) (Sport England Active People Survey 2008)
- Conception rate of under-18 year olds (per 1,000 15-17 year olds) (ONS)

At the time of the 2001 census, 71.6% of the Ribble Valley population considered themselves to be in good health, compared to 66.3% in East Lancashire, 66.9% in the North West and 68.6% in England and Wales. This subjective data indicates that the health of the Borough's population is slightly above sub-regional, regional and national levels.

Life expectancy for males and females has gradually increased across the Borough between 2003 and 2010. Table 1-1 presents the most recent data. During all four periods life expectancy in Ribble Valley was above the North West and England and Wales average.

Table 1-1 Life Expectancy at Birth for Males and Females in Ribble Valley (Source: ONS)

Indicator	Year			
	2003-05	2004 – 06	2005 - 07	2008-10
Life Expectancy at Birth (Males)	77.4	77.6	78.8	79.0
Life Expectancy at Birth (Females)	82.2	82.8	82.8	83.3

The Standardised Mortality Ratios (SMR) for Ribble Valley also demonstrate that health and well-being is generally better in the Borough compared to the North West and England and Wales and the SMR was the lowest of all the Boroughs in Lancashire. Table 1-2 presents the SMR and also the mortality rates for circulatory disease and cancer in the Borough compared to the North West and England and Wales.

Table 1-2 Standardised Mortality Ratio (Source: Lancashire Profiles and NHS Clinical and Health Outcomes Knowledge Base)

Indicator	Ribble Valley	North West	England and Wales
Standardised Mortality Ratio (2008)*	83.53	112.75	100.35
Mortality Rate (circulatory disease**) (per 100,000 population – for the period 2005 – 2007)	67.2	96.4	79.1 (England only)
Mortality Rate (cancer) (per 100,000 population – for the period 2005 – 2007)	96.5	129.5	115.5 (England only)

Indicator	Ribble Valley	North West	England and Wales
Long-term limiting illness (%) (2001 Census)	17.2	20.7	18.2 (England & Wales)

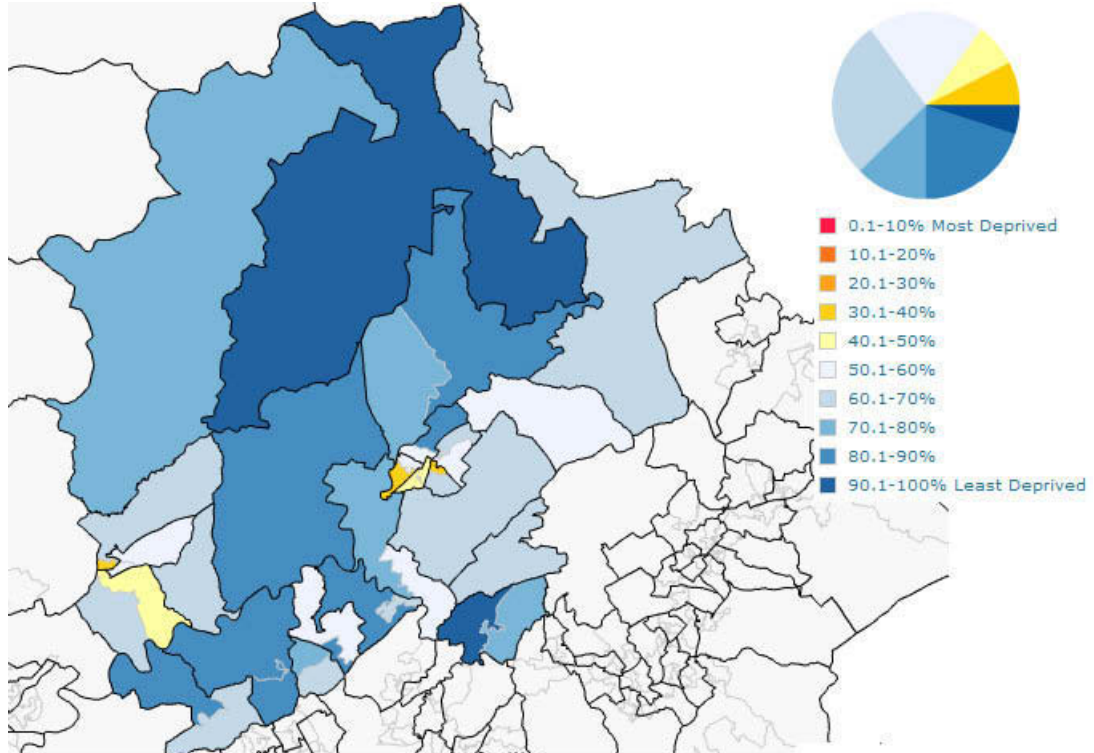
* SMRs compare the actual number of events in an area (e.g. Ribble Valley) with the expected number of events based on mortality rates of a reference population (e.g. England and Wales). The SMR is a ratio of observed to expected number of deaths. If local mortality rates are high compared with national rates, the number of deaths observed will be greater than the expected number and the SMR will be greater than 100. For areas with low mortality SMRs will be less than 100.

** Circulatory disease defined as coronary heart disease, stroke and related conditions (circulatory disease) at all ages under 75 years, age standardised using the European Standard Population as defined by the World Health Organisation.

The percentage of the working-age population with a long-term limiting illness in 2001 was 17.2% in Ribble Valley compared to 20.7% for the North West and 18.2 for England and Wales. This rate was also the lowest across the Lancashire Boroughs.

Statistics demonstrate that health in Ribble Valley is good. In the 2010 Indices of Deprivation three wards – Littlemoor, Edisford and Low Moor and Derby and Thornely - have LSOAs in the lowest 40% most deprived for health deprivation and disability, with no wards identified in the bottom 30% most deprived. The health and disability deprivation index identifies areas with relatively high rates of premature death, people whose quality of life is impaired by poor health or those who are disabled; however, this is not an issue within Ribble Valley. Figure 1-3 presents the results.

Figure 1-3 Health and Disability Deprivation (Source: Index of Deprivation, 2010)



The teenage pregnancy rate in Ribble Valley between 2007 and 2009 was 23.3 per 1000, compared to 45.6 per 1000 across the North West and 40.2 per 1,000 in England as a whole. This represents a slight reduction in the Borough from 24.7 per 1000 in the period 2006-8.

The Ribble Valley Settlement Hierarchy Study undertaken in 2008 revealed that of the 34 settlements in the Borough, 22 contained neither a dentist nor a GP, with only Clitheroe, Whalley and Longridge offering both services within the settlement boundary. The distribution of doctors surgeries across the Borough is presented in Figure 5 Location of Basic Services.

Sports facilities in Ribble Valley are concentrated in Clitheroe and in the south of the Borough. Research from Sport England indicates that 25.5% of people in Ribble Valley engage in regular sport or exercise, slightly higher than the 22.4% who do so in Lancashire and the 22% national figure. The large amount of open space and the Forest of Bowland AONB provide an excellent recreational resource for the population that should be maximised to secure health benefits.

The Active Places databases measures the percentage of the population within 20 minutes travel to a range of sports facilities. At 58.2% the Ribble Valley scores highly being in the top quartile (The Corporate Performance and Improvement Plan, 2007 – 2011). A key objective of the Corporate Performance Plan is to make lives safer and healthier and seeks to increase activity levels amongst the population including people, older people, women and girls, disabled people, low income groups and people from ethnic minorities.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties:

There are no significant data gaps or uncertainties.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities:

Health in Ribble Valley is good. There is an elderly population in the Borough and it is essential that the elderly have sufficient access to health care facilities. The elderly population is also likely to put increasing pressure on health facilities in the Borough. There are opportunities to further promote the outdoor recreational pursuits in the Forest of Bowland AONB to benefit the health of the local population.

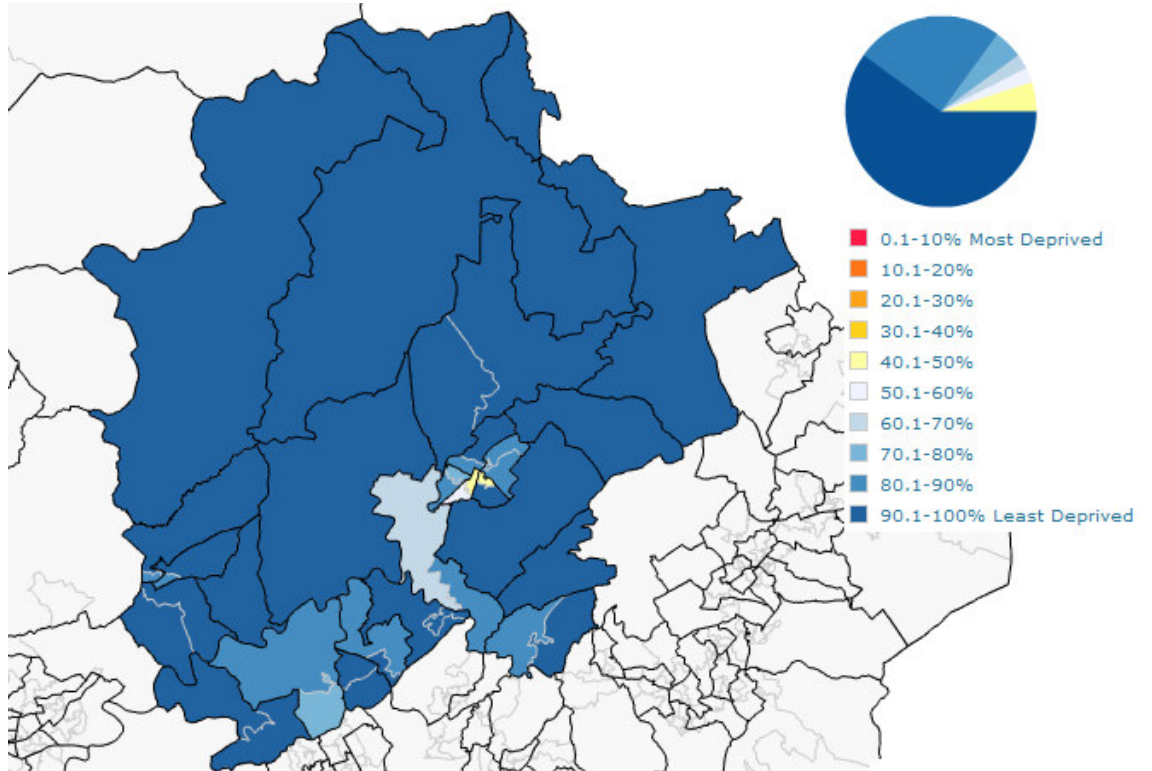
Crime

The following baseline data has been identified:

- Number and distribution of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 40% for crime deprivation (Indices of Deprivation, 2010)
- Crime rates per 1000 of the population for key offences (British Crime Survey)
- Percentage feeling safe before and after dark (Best Value General Household Satisfaction Survey 2006/07).
- Cases of fly tipping (Defra)

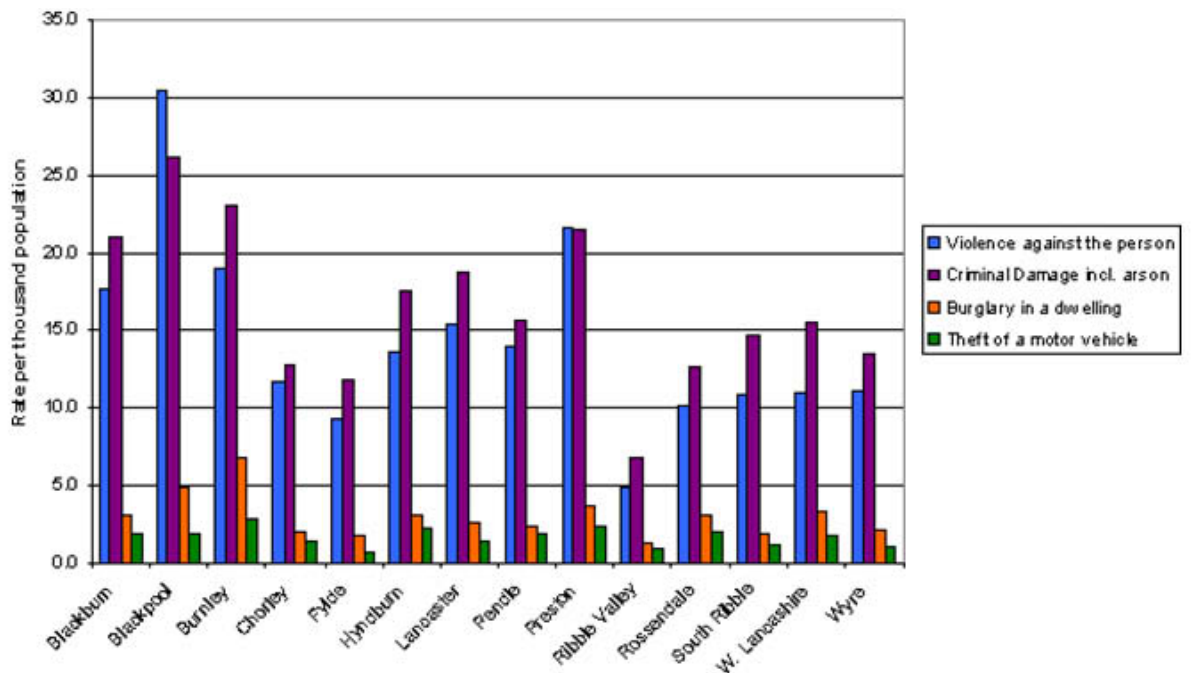
Ribble Valley is recognised as being a low crime area and a safe place to live (Ribble Valley Corporate Performance and Improvement Plan, 2007 – 2011). This is reflected in the crime statistics, where crime is very low by regional and national standards. The overall crime rate in 2010-11 was 16.5 offences per 1,000 population, the lowest in Lancashire, and was well below the national average of 41.4 per 1,000 population. No wards in the Borough have LSOAs in the lowest 40% most deprived for crime deprivation. Most wards are within the top 90% least deprived nationally Figure 1-4 presents the results.

Figure 1-4 Crime Deprivation (Source: Indices of Deprivation, 2010)



As a predominantly rural area, the Borough does not suffer from major problems associated with urban decline or socio-economic inequality that characterise some nearby authorities such as Burnley or Preston. The breakdown of recorded crime by offence type is given in Figure 1-5.

Figure 1-5 Key offences by district, 2009/10 (Source: Home Office – Crime in England and Wales)



In the 2006/07 Best Value General Household Satisfaction Survey most respondents reported feeling safe in the district (87.9% during the day and 58.1% after dark). In the same survey 52.1% of respondents felt that teenagers hanging around on streets was a big/fairly big problem, 45.2% that vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles was

a big/fairly big problem and 34.4% that people being rowdy or drunk in public places was a fairly big/big problem. Anecdotal information obtained from workshops suggests that such problems may be more prevalent in the Salthill, Derby and Thornley, Primrose and Whalley wards, which are more urban wards.

While the statistics suggest that residents generally feel safe in the district, there is a disproportionate fear of crime which may be linked to low crime tolerance levels (Ribble Valley Community Safety Partnership 2008 - 2011). The challenge is to continue to maintain low crime levels, as only a small number of incidents could easily change perceptions and distort crime figures particularly when reporting the percentage change. Levels of juvenile nuisance in both Clitheroe and Longridge have been reduced through the introduction of skate parks.

There were 435 cases of fly tipping in Ribble Valley in 2009/10, which represented a 22.6% decrease on 2007/8 cases, but the incidence of this problem was the lowest in Lancashire.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

No significant data gaps or uncertainties were identified.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

Ribble Valley has very low crime levels compared to other parts of Lancashire. Whilst incidents of crime are low, there are issues associated with juvenile nuisance and anti-social behaviour and further work is needed to reduce such problems, although recent initiatives have been successful in reducing such problems.

Opportunities should be sought through the Core Strategy to promote safety by design in all new developments in the Borough.

Water

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise the water environment in the Borough:

- River catchment areas (Environment Agency)
- Distribution of areas at risk of fluvial flooding (EA)
- Percentage of rivers achieving good chemical and biological status (EA, 2009)
- Daily domestic water use (per capita consumption, litres)
- Number of planning applications granted permission contrary to EA advice (AMR, 2010).

Water is an essential resource required for domestic and industrial use. The Borough lies almost entirely within the catchment area of the River Ribble. The key watercourses in the Borough are the Ribble itself, and its major tributaries, the River Hodder, River Calder, Sabden Brook, and Tosside Beck. The River Ribble is one of the longest rivers in the North West, rising in the Yorkshire Dales and flowing into the Irish Sea. Its two main tributaries reflect the contrasts in the catchment. The River Hodder drains much of the AONB whilst the River Calder flows through many of the industrial east Lancashire towns (EA River Basin Management Plan 2009). Ribble Valley has a good record of water quality in comparison to regional levels, with 67% of water bodies achieving good chemical status and 38% achieving good ecological status in 2009. Key statistics for the Ribble Catchment area are presented in Table 1-3.

Table 1-3 Key Statistics for the Ribble Catchment Area (EA River Basin Management Plan 2009)

River and Lake Water Bodies	2009	2015
% at good ecological status or potential	38	42
% assessed at good or high biological status (63 water bodies assessed)	45	50
% assessed at good chemical status (9 water bodies assessed)	67	67
% at good status overall (chemical and ecological)	38	42
% improving for one or more element in rivers		27

The EA has identified areas of Flood Zones 2 and 3¹ on land directly adjacent to the Rivers Ribble, Calder and Hodder and in an area of the Ribble Valley between Ribchester and Whalley crossed by minor streams. Areas identified within the Flood Zone in Ribble Valley are presented on Figure 3 (AppendixE) Flood Zones and Air Quality.

Within Ribble Valley there are two types of water supplies; Public (or Mains) Water Supplies which are provided by the Water Company (United Utilities) and Private Water Supplies which are the responsibility of the individual supply user/s.

For the area in which Ribble Valley is situated, United Utilities forecast a small supply deficit by 2022/23, and the deficit is expected to increase through the remainder of the planning horizon. A programme of supply-demand solutions will be required from 2022/23 to maintain adequate water supply reliability in the Integrated Zone (United Utilities Water Resource Management Plan 2009).

Between 2009 and 2010, the EA made three objections to planning applications in Ribble Valley, of which one of the applications was withdrawn, one was approved with conditions and one remains undecided. No planning permissions were, therefore, granted contrary to the EA's advice on flood defence or river quality grounds.

Date Gaps and Uncertainties

- Number of new developments incorporating Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

Water quality in the Borough is very good and it is important that these high levels are maintained. There are large areas of agricultural land in the Borough which means that diffuse pollution issues are more likely to be prevalent than in other Lancashire Boroughs.

Areas at risk from flooding should be protected from development that would increase that risk. New developments should be encouraged to use SuDS to manage runoff and further reduce flood risk. New developments and households within the Borough should also be encouraged to minimise water use and to re-use rainwater where possible. This could be achieved through high standards of sustainable development (through high levels achieved through BREEAM

¹ **Flood Zone 1** - Low probability of flooding, land assessed as having a less than 1 in 1000 annual probability of river or sea flooding in any year (<0.1%); **Flood Zone 2** - Medium probability of flooding, land assessed as having between a 1 in 100 and 1 in 1000 annual probability of river flooding (1% – 0.1%) or between a 1 in 200 and 1 in 1000 annual probability of sea flooding (0.5% – 0.1%) in any year; **Flood Zone 3a** - High probability of flooding, land assessed as having a 1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river flooding (>1%) or a 1 in 200 or greater annual probability of flooding from the sea (>0.5%) in any year; and **Flood Zone 3b** - The functional floodplain, this zone comprises land where water has to flow or be stored in times of flood (PPS25 Development and Flood Risk).

(Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) and Code for Sustainable Homes).

Soil and Land Quality

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise the soil and land quality conditions across the Borough:

- Area of previously developed vacant land, vacant buildings and derelict land and buildings (DCLG 2007)
- Area of land currently in use but with planning allocation/permission for redevelopment and with other known redevelopment potential (DCLG, 2007)
- Distribution of best and most versatile agricultural land (Defra)
- Percentage of housing completions on previously developed land (Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), 2010)
- Number of Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS) (Lancashire RIGS Group)
- Percentage of employment development on previously developed land (AMR, 2010)

The amount of derelict, vacant and under-used land in the Borough is very low in comparison to other parts of Lancashire. Just four hectares of land in the Borough was identified as vacant in the DCLG's annual survey in 2007. This comprised three hectares of previously developed vacant land and one hectare of vacant buildings. No land was classified as derelict. Government policy encourages the re-use of brownfield sites.

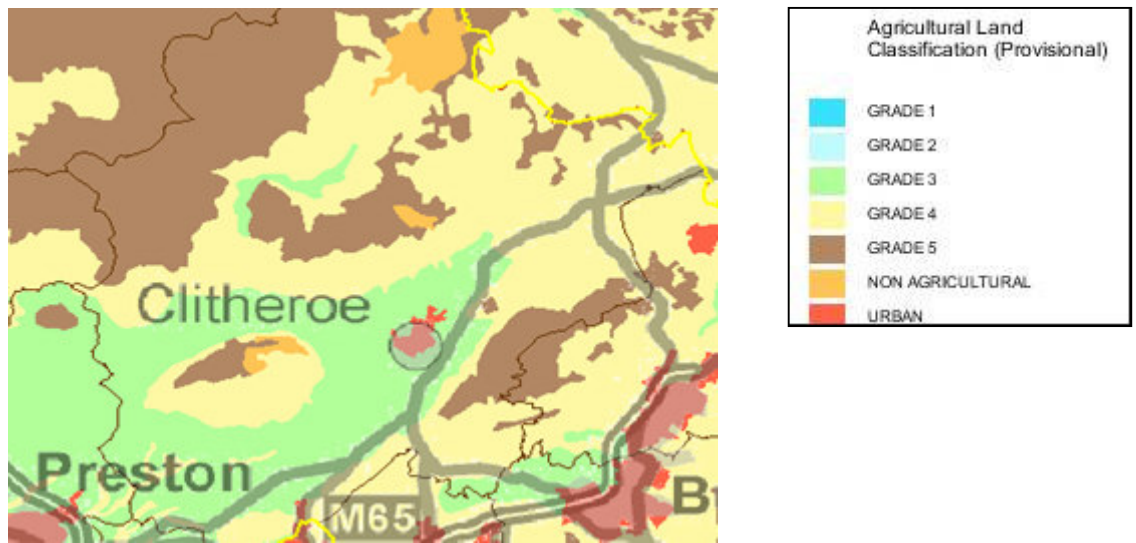
Between 2009 and 2010, 87% of development for employment land occurred on previously developed land. The majority of this is made up of B1a development where 91% of all development of this use class was on previously developed land, however 100% of all B2 development was on previously developed land. This is an increase of 6% of the amount of previously developed land being utilised since the previous monitoring period, which is positive when the predominantly rural nature of the Ribble Valley is considered.

The current target for Ribble Valley is for 60% of residential development to be on previously developed land. Between 2009 and 2010, 85% of residential development was on previously developed land, exceeding the target. However, this was a decrease of 2% since the last monitoring period.

The quarrying of stone for building and cement manufacture and the decline of the cotton industry in the towns and villages that border the south-western edge of the Borough are former land uses that may have contributed to land contamination (Ribble Valley Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy, 2001). Consultation with the EA has identified no significant land contamination issues.

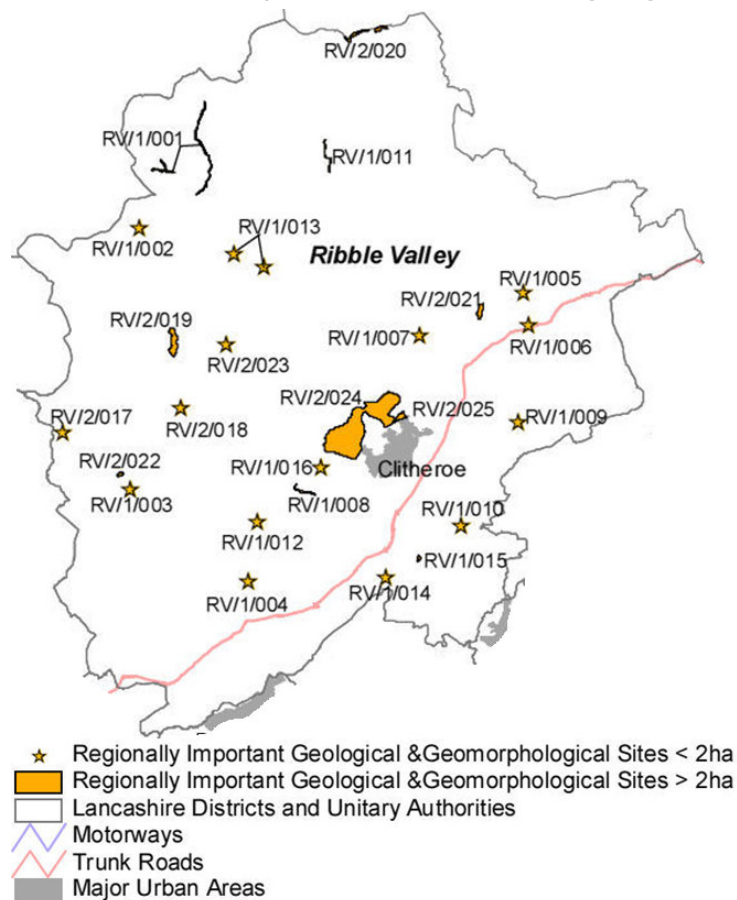
Much of Ribble Valley comprises agricultural land that, due largely to its upland character, is of a poorer quality than other parts of Lancashire and the North West. Most agricultural land is classified as Grade 4 (poor quality) or Grade 5 (very poor quality), interspersed with areas of Grade 3 (good to moderate quality). The upland parts of the Forest of Bowland are dominated by sheep and beef farming, with dairying more common in the valleys. Figure 1-6 shows the grading of agricultural land in the Borough.

Figure 1-6: Agricultural Land Classification (Source: Defra, reproduced from magic.gov.uk)



RIGS are designated using locally developed criteria and are currently the most important places for geology and geomorphology outside statutorily protected sites like Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Within Ribble Valley, there are 25 RIGS distributed throughout the Borough with a large number being disused quarries. RIGS are presented on Figure 1-7.

Figure 1-7 RIGS in Ribble Valley (Source: www.lancashirerigs.org.uk)



A review of the Environment Agency's historic landfill map shows that there are many historic landfill sites scattered throughout Ribble Valley. Many of which are associated with disused quarries.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Percentage of land stock contaminated
- Distribution of areas known to have been subject to significant subsidence

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

Where previously developed sites exist, the aim should be to continue to remediate and re-use them, although this should be undertaken on a site-by-site basis as some brownfield sites may have biodiversity constraints.

Geological resources such as RIGS and SSSIs should be protected from inappropriate development and opportunities to raise awareness of geological designations and resources should be pursued where possible.

Air Quality

The following baseline indicators have been used to identify environmental conditions and key trends:

- Number and distribution of Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) (Ribble Valley Borough Council)
- Combined Air Quality Indicator Scores for LSOAs in Ribble Valley (DCLG)
- Local air quality monitoring results for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and particulates (PM₁₀) (Ribble Valley Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment 2009)

Air quality affects the state of the natural environment and has implications for human health. AQMAs are designated when local authorities have identified locations where national air quality objectives are unlikely to be achieved. Within Ribble Valley an AQMA has been declared at Whalley Road, Clitheroe for NO₂ levels, this is presented on Figure 3 (Appendix E) Flood Zones and Air Quality.

Ribble Valley Borough Council operated two Automatic Monitoring Sites at Chatburn and Lillands in connection with trials into the use of alternative fuels at Ribblesdale Cement Works, Clitheroe. The results for NO_x, SO₂ and PM₁₀ remained in the Defra LOW threshold concentration throughout the monitoring period at both Sites. Automatic monitoring was subsequently discontinued in April 2006 (2009 Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment for Ribble Valley Borough Council). However, non-Automatic Monitoring has been carried out in Ribble since 2006 at the Royal British Legion Whalley Rd, Greenacre Street, Moor Lane, Brownlow Street, 57 Whalley Road and Black Carr Lane. The NO_x diffusion tubes located at the Royal British Legion building on Whalley Road, Clitheroe gave a NO₂ result of 44.5 µg/m³ and 41.9 µg/m³ for the twelve months of 2008. These exceed the Air Quality Objective annual mean of 40 µg/m³.

No monitoring for PM₁₀ has been conducted by Ribble Valley Borough Council since April 2006.

No monitoring for SO₂ has been conducted by Ribble Valley Borough Council since April 2006.

No monitoring for Benzene or any other pollutants has been conducted by Ribble Valley Borough Council.

Across England, combined air quality scores are monitored for all LSOAs using data derived from the National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory. The indicator uses measures of emissions of four main pollutants (benzene, NO₂, sulphuric dioxide and PM₁₀). Modelled estimates of the annual mean concentrations for each of the pollutants in each LSOA were then derived and compared to World Health Organisation Guidelines for pollutants that represent 'safe' concentrations to produce an overall quality score. Values greater than 1.0 constitute an

'unsafe' concentration and values of less than 1.0 indicate that the pollutant is below the objective set and is, therefore, 'safe'. The scores for each pollutant are then added to derive an overall score for the LSOA. Data for 2005 reveals that the combined air quality scores for LSOAs across England range from 0.52 (best) to 2.54 (worst). Table 1-4 presents the results for wards within Ribble Valley that are deemed to be in the top ranked Lancashire LSOAs. There were no LSOAs in Ribble Valley in the bottom ranked Lancashire LSOAs.

Table 1-4 Combined Air Quality Indicator Scores for 2005 (Source: DCLG)

Ward Name	LSOA	Air Quality Score
Bowland, Newton and Slaidburn	001B	0.63
Chipping	004A	0.64
Gisburn, Rimington	001C	0.68
Waddington and West Bradford	001D	0.68
Waddington and West Bradford	001E	0.69

The results demonstrate that air quality was good across the Borough in 2005.

The main source of air pollution in the Borough is road traffic. Key polluting industries in the Borough include BAE Systems, Castle Cement and Johnson Matthey Ltd.

Issues relating to carbon dioxide emissions are addressed in the Energy and Climate Change section below.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

There are no significant data gaps or uncertainties identified for this topic.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

Opportunities should be sought to reduce road traffic and promote public transport use to improve air quality. This is particularly important for Whalley Road, Clitheroe where an AQMA has been declared.

There are a number of industries that have the potential to cause air pollution which need to be strictly controlled within Ribble Valley.

Energy and Climate Change

The following baseline indicators have been used:

- Total carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions per capita per year (Defra)
- Annual average domestic gas and electricity consumption per consumer (Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) 2010)
- Annual gas and electricity consumption in the commercial/industrial sector (DECC 2010)
- Applications for renewable energy developments (AMR, 2010)

Although climate change is a global phenomenon, action to avoid its most serious effects and to minimise the emission of greenhouse gases needs to occur at a local level. Ribble Valley will not be immune to the impacts of climate change, either directly or as a result of policy responses at the national and international levels.

Energy use in Ribble Valley is above average. Statistics for 2010 indicate that domestic gas (21,500 kWh per consumer per year) and electricity (4,280 kWh per consumer per year) consumption is among the highest in the North West.

Annual gas and electricity consumption by the commercial/industrial sector in Ribble Valley stood at 789,000 kWh and respectively in 2010.

There are currently 21 operational renewable energy schemes in Lancashire (over 1MW December 2010) providing a total capacity of 142.8MW. In addition there are also eight renewable energy schemes that have been approved within Lancashire that will provide an additional 57.3MW. Three onshore windfarm schemes are also in the planning system that would provide Lancashire with 47.4MW. None of these schemes are situated in Ribble Valley.

Average CO₂ emissions in 2009 stood at 14.8 tonnes per capita, the highest in Lancashire and well above the 7.5 tonnes per capita regional average. This was due in large part to the very high contribution of 596,000 tonnes from the industrial and commercial sector, largely attributable to the energy-intensive Castle Cement works in Clitheroe. However, taking only CO₂ contributions from domestic sources, the Borough's emissions figure of 143 tonnes is the lowest of all the Lancashire Districts.

During the period April 2009 to March 2010 there were nine applications submitted relating to renewable energy generation. Five of these were wind energy related, three related to solar energy and one related to ground source heat pumps. Seven of these were approved, one refused and one was refused but allowed on appeal. The extent of the Forest of Bowland AONB within the Borough could potentially act as a constraint to renewable energy developments.

The Planning and Energy Act 2008 allows local authorities to include policies in their local development plan's setting out reasonable requirements for:

- A proportion of energy used in development in their area to be energy from renewable sources
- A proportion of energy used in development in their area to be low carbon energy from sources in the locality of the development.

The inclusion of such policies in the Core Strategy will need to be carefully considered and balanced with the need to ensure that the environment of the Borough is not adversely affected.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

There are no key data gaps or uncertainties

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

Reducing carbon footprint through energy conservation and efficiency and the promotion of renewable energy sources should be a priority for the Borough given its relatively high consumption of energy particularly within the industrial and commercial sector. New developments should be encouraged to include sustainable design principles such as the incorporation of solar panels, although due care must be given to the preservation of biodiversity, landscape and heritage resources when siting renewable energy projects.

Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise conditions across the Borough:

- Number and distribution of designated sites including SAC, SPA, Ramsar sites, SSSI, National Nature Reserves (NNR), Local Nature Reserves (LNR) and Biological Heritage Sites (BHS) (MAGIC, Lancashire County Council, Ribble Valley Borough Council).

- Condition of SSSIs (Annual Monitoring Report 2010)
- Number of BHS coming under environmental improvement schemes (Spatial Planning in Lancashire, Annual Monitoring Report 4²)
- Percentage of eligible open spaces managed to Green Flag standards (Civic Trust)
- Areas of woodland, including ancient woodland
- Key Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species and habitats present (Lancashire BAP)
- Woodland/farmland bird populations (Lancashire BAP)

Ribble Valley contains large areas of high quality natural environment and has a wealth of biodiversity sites of international, national, regional and local importance for nature conservation, as shown in Figure 4 (Appendix E) Ecological Assets. Assets are largely located within the Clitheroe area and the north west of the Borough.

There are 17 SSSIs in the Borough designated for their biodiversity and earth heritage value. In 2010, of those SSSIs, four were recorded as having units in unfavourable recovering meaning there was a lack of appropriate management. Overall, 6 of the SSSIs were recorded as being generally in a favourable condition indicating that they are being adequately conserved and meeting their 'conservation objectives'.

The Bowland Fells SSSI in the north of the Borough is also designated as a SPA under EC Wild Birds Directive³ due to its importance for moorland bird populations. Small areas in the north of the Borough are included as units of the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC designated under the Habitats Directive⁴. Components of this SAC are dispersed across northern England.

Ribble Valley also contains two LNRs, Salthill Quarry and Cross Hill Quarry. In 2009/10, there were 292 BHSs covering an area of 5,608ha in the Borough. BHSs are the most important non-statutory wildlife sites in Lancashire and they contain valuable habitats such as ancient woodland, species-rich grassland and bogs. Table 1-5 presents information about the BHSs in the District under positive management.

Table 1-5 Biological Heritage Sites Entering into Positive Management in 2009/10 (Spatial Planning in Lancashire Annual Monitoring Report 4, 2009/10)

	BHS entering Environmental Stewardship	BHS entering management plans	BHS entering management guidance	TOTAL
No. of BHS	16	9	25	50
% total of BHS	1.3	0.8	2	4.1

Lancashire BAP species present in the Borough are: water vole; brown hare; otter; bats; red squirrel; Great crested newt; skylark; Reed bunting; Song thrush; Lapwing; Freshwater white-clawed crayfish; Bird's eye Primrose; and the Greater Butterfly Orchid.

Lancashire BAP priority habitats present are: broadleaved and mixed woodland; species rich neutral grassland; calcareous grassland; rivers and streams; and moorland/fell.

² Spatial Planning in Lancashire Annual Monitoring Reports 2 (2008-2009), 3 (2009-2010), and 4 (2010-2011) have all been referenced throughout this section as each report contains different levels of information.

³ Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds

⁴ Council Directive 92/443/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats Wild Flora and Fauna

Ribble Valley supports healthy woodland and farmland bird populations in comparison to other parts of Lancashire. The fringes of the Borough have been identified as twite (*Carduelis flavirostris*) breeding areas and populations of skylark are present, although numbers have been declining across upland Lancashire. Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*) populations are also reasonable in the Forest of Bowland, with 2470 pairs recorded in a Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) survey in 1998 recorded in the latest Lancashire BAP.

Woodland cover in Ribble Valley was 4558ha in 2002, the highest in Lancashire. Ancient woodland recorded in the 1998 Ribble Valley District-Wide Local Plan covers an area of 720ha and is confined to small areas, mainly to river valleys in the south-west, central and eastern areas of the Borough (this is presented on Figure 4 (Appendix E) Ecological Assets. The Elwood Strategy recognises and promotes the importance of extending areas of woodland in East Lancashire to provide social, economic and environmental benefits.

The Civic Trust and DCLG administer the Green Flag Award, given for the quality and management of parks and other public open spaces. No Green Flags have so far been awarded to parks in Ribble Valley.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Access to greenspace
- More recent data for ancient woodland coverage
- Area and connectivity of wildlife corridors
- Percentage of wards meeting Box and Harrison Nature Conservation Area standard (1 ha per 1000 population)

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

There is a very high quality environment in the Borough, which needs to be preserved and enhanced. The high quality of the environment provides an opportunity to develop recreation and tourism in the Borough, although care needs to be taken to ensure that such developments are appropriate and do not adversely affect the quality of the natural environment. The condition of the SSSIs needs to be maintained and opportunities should be sought to deliver biodiversity enhancements through the Core Strategy, for example by improving the connectivity between designated sites and areas of open space. Opportunities should be sought to promote land management schemes as these can lead to a number of environmental benefits and enhancements.

Cultural Heritage

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise the cultural heritage baseline:

- Number and distribution of Listed Buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs), Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens (Ribble Valley Borough Council)
- Heritage assets listed buildings on English Heritage 2011 at Risk Register
- Townscape characterisation (Lancashire County Council)
- Historic Landscape Characterisation (Lancashire County Council)

Ribble Valley has a wealth of cultural heritage assets. There are 28 SAMs, 1,021 Listed Buildings and three Registered Parks and Gardens (Ribble Valley Borough Council 2009). These heritage assets are presented on Figure 2 Heritage Assets (Appendix E) (please note not all SAMs and Listed Buildings are displayed clearly on the figure due to the large scale of the map).

The SAMs range from burial mounds to more prominent ruins such as Clitheroe Castle. A £3.2 million development and refurbishment scheme was recently completed at Clitheroe Castle

which included an enhanced education suite and improved landscaping. The Castle is a very important tourist and heritage asset for the Borough.

There are currently four SAMs listed on English Heritage's 'at risk' Register, these comprise, the Old Lower Hodder Bridge, Aighton, Bailey and Chaigley (declining), Round cairn on Parlick Pike, Chipping (declining), Ashnott lead mine and lime kiln, 90m south of Ashnott, Newton (declining) and Ribchester Roman fort (Bremetennacum), Ribchester (stable).

In 2011 there were two buildings in the Borough registered as being 'at risk' (this relates to Grades I & II* only). These were Townhead in Slaidburn and the west range of Whalley Abbey.

In addition Woodfold Park, Mellor Pleasington, a Grade II Registered Park and Garden is also included on English Heritage's 'at risk' Register. The park was laid out in the 1790's providing the setting for a country house. The house is now subdivided for multiple ownership and various estate buildings have been converted as private dwellings. This progressive redevelopment has impacted significantly upon the historic character of this designed landscape.

Conservation Area boundaries were redrawn in 2005. The 16 existing designations were extended and five new areas proposed, all of which have now been adopted. In addition, on 4th February 2010 a Conservation Area was designated for Kirk Mill at Chipping. An extension to the Kirk Mill Conservation Area was designated on 7th April 2011.

Conservation Areas exist in the following settlements: Bolton-by-Bowland, Chatburn, Chipping, Clitheroe, Downham, Gisburn, Grindleton, Hurst Green, Longridge, St Lawrence, Newtown, Newton, Pendleton, Ribchester, Sabden, Sawley, Slaidburn, Waddington, Whalley, Wiswell and Worston. Conservation Area Appraisals have been completed for all Conservation Areas.

In addition to the designated built heritage resource it is also important to recognise the historic character of the landscape in the Borough and the diverse range of historic landscape types particularly within the Forest of Bowland (see the Lancashire Historic Landscape Characterisation programme (Lancashire County Council, 2002)). There are a number of locally distinctive towns in the Borough that have been identified in the Lancashire Historic Town Assessment Report (Lancashire County Council, 2006) as having notable townscapes worthy of preservation. Those included in the study are Longridge, Clitheroe, Whalley, Ribchester and Slaidburn.

Improving the quality of the public realm is viewed as very important as it contributes to an experience of a place or location. A high quality public realm can attract inward investment, benefit tourism and increase quality of life for the resident population. A recent 'health check' of Clitheroe identified that public realm improvements were needed and in the next few years improvements will be made to areas of public space to enhance the role of the town as a service centre and a tourist destination.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

No significant data gaps or uncertainties were identified.

Key Issues and Opportunities

All cultural heritage features should be appropriately conserved and enhanced. In some cases the risks to SAMs can be reduced by good land management, or by informed planning policies and decisions that take full account of the national importance of historic sites. In addition to protecting statutory sites it is important to ensure that the wider historic landscape is protected and also non-designated heritage and archaeological resources. Ribble Valley has great tourism potential due to the quality of its natural environment which is complemented in many cases by cultural heritage resources. Many of the Borough's settlements including Dunsop Bridge, Clitheroe and Slaidburn have a distinctive character that should be protected and enhanced.

Landscape

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise the existing conditions:

- Landscape characterisation (Lancashire County Council)
- Distribution and area of National Parks and AONBs

Ribble Valley has some of the most important and beautiful countryside in the north-west of England and is a predominantly rural Borough noted for its attractive upland landscape. The Forest of Bowland AONB (see Figure 1 Landscape and Open Space in Appendix E) occupies 70% of the land area and is 11th largest of the 40 designated AONBs in England and Wales, situated mainly in Lancashire but extending into North Yorkshire.

The Forest of Bowland AONB is one of England's finest landscapes and is internationally important for its heather moorland, blanket bog and rare birds. The AONB is managed by a partnership of landowners, farmers, voluntary organisations, wildlife groups, recreation groups, local councils and government agencies, who work to protect, conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of this special area. The AONB is bounded to the north and south by the Rivers Lune and Ribble respectively. To the west is the Fylde plain, while the eastern side of the AONB boundary matches the Yorkshire Dales National Park for a short distance, with Ribblesdale bordering the rest. On its south-eastern edge, Pendle Hill forms a discrete landscape feature, which is geologically linked to the rest of the AONB but separated from the main area by the valley of the River Ribble. The area was designated as a landscape of national significance due to a variety of factors, including:

- The grandeur and isolation of the upland core.
- The steep escarpments of the Moorland Hills.
- The undulating lowlands.
- The serenity and tranquillity of the area.
- The distinctive pattern of settlements.
- The wildlife of the area.
- The landscape's historic and cultural associations.

No National Parks are located within the Borough's boundaries, although the Yorkshire Dales National Park lies to the north-east.

The Lancashire Landscape Character Assessment identifies Moorland Plateaux, Moorland Hills, Moorland Fringe and Rolling Upland Farmlands in the north/north-west of the Borough and Valley Floodplains to the south, surrounded by Undulating Lowland Farmland.

There are a number of distinctive market towns in the Borough which are described in the cultural heritage section.

Barn conversions are currently a particularly significant force for change in the Ribble Valley where the relative proximity of urban centres, good roads and a large number of derelict agricultural buildings has resulted in a high proportion of applications for the conversion of barns to housing.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

No significant data gaps or uncertainties were identified.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

It is essential that landscape character and quality is restored, maintained and enhanced. The Borough's high quality landscape is a very important resource for attracting visitors and enhancing the quality of life for residents. In addition to considering the wider strategic

preservation of the Borough's landscape, opportunities should be sought to enhance design and landscaping at the local level to improve the quality of the local environment.

Minerals and Waste

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise the existing conditions:

- Location of strategic landfill sites serving the Borough (Lancashire County Council)
- Location of quarries and landfill sites in the borough (Lancashire County Council)
- Levels of fly-tipping (Defra)
- Implementation of kerbside recycling schemes (Lancashire Minerals and Waste Annual Monitoring Report, 2009 – 2010)
- Household waste recycling and composting achieved (Lancashire Minerals and Waste Development Framework, Annual Monitoring Report).
- Number of planning applications relating to mineral development (Lancashire County Council)

The Annual Monitoring Report 2009 – 2010 for the Lancashire Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework indicates that all districts in Lancashire provide three stream kerbside recycling to 90% of households within their districts, including Ribble Valley. The percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting in Ribble Valley was 37.8% in 2009/2010, well below the Lancashire average of 45% and slightly below the national average of 39.7%. The rate achieved in Ribble Valley is among the lowest in Lancashire (rates of 47.5% were achieved in Chorley in 2009/10), highlighting a clear need for improvement.

There were 435 cases of fly tipping in Ribble Valley in 2009/10, which represented a 22.6% decrease on 2007/8 cases, but the incidence of this problem was the lowest in Lancashire.

Waste disposal is an important strategic issue for all of East Lancashire. The only landfill site in Ribble Valley is Henthorne located 2km outside of Clitheroe. Parts of the site have been restored and are being landscaped. It is envisaged that Whinney Hill landfill located in Accrington is likely to become the main strategic landfill for East Lancashire. All composting green waste from the Borough is sent to the major composting facility at Clifton Marsh in Fylde.

Within Ribble Valley there are a small number of quarries and landfill sites with details provided in Table 1-6. It should be noted that whilst some of the sites listed below may not currently be operational, the table is intended to provide an indication of where key quarrying activities have, currently and are likely to take place in the future.

Table 1-6 Quarries and Landfill Sites in Ribble Valley (Lancashire County Council 2011)

Site Name	Area and Location	Use
Bankfield Quarry	36 ha, 2km north east of Clitheroe.	Limestone Quarry. Whilst the site is operated as a separate quarry it is actually the south western area of the much larger Lanehead Quarry.
Bellman Quarry	63 ha, 2km north east of Clitheroe.	Limestone Quarry
Coplow Quarry	5ha, 1.5km north east of Clitheroe.	Former limestone quarry now used as a landfill site
Henthorne Road Landfill Site	27ha, 2km from Clitheroe town centre.	Accepts waste from Ribble Valley domestic refuse collections and local trade outlets Parts of the site have been restored and

Site Name	Area and Location	Use
		landscaped.
Ribblesdale Cement Works/Lanehead Quarry	140ha, 2km north east of Clitheroe.	Limestone quarrying and cement manufacture The cement works occupies approximately 20ha of the site.
Leeming Quarry	4ha with 2ha permitted extraction area, situated between Longridge and Waddington.	Sandstone extraction
Lords Delph Quarry	3.24ha, situated to the west of Dilworth reservoirs.	Former sandstone quarry, being infilled with inert, mainly building and demolition waste. Restoration on site was to be completed by 2003.
Waddington Fell Quarry	23ha, 6km to the north of Clitheroe and 3.5km north of the village of Waddington at the summit of Waddington Fell.	Sandstone extraction, producing crushed rock aggregate and sandstone fines, the quarry also contains a saw shed produces dimension stone.

Between 2009 and 2010, no applications were submitted to Lancashire County Council relating to mineral extraction in Ribble Valley.

To reduce the need for natural resources, recycled and secondary materials should be used where feasible in construction projects and new developments that occur in the Borough. However, it has not been possible to obtain any data about this issue to date.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Volume of waste produced – total and sub-divided by sector
- Data regarding the use of recycled and secondary materials in the construction industry.

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

The major strategic landfill site for the Borough is located in a neighbouring authority and Ribble Valley is therefore an exporter of waste. Opportunities should be sought to further improve composting and recycling performance. Sustainable sourcing and waste management principles should be promoted for all new developments that occur in the Borough and this could be achieved through the development of appropriate policies within the Core Strategy.

Transportation

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise the existing conditions across the Borough:

- Distribution of major transport systems – roads, airports, ports, rail etc (Ordnance Survey mapping, Ribble Valley Borough Council).
- Journey to work by mode (2001 Census).
- Public transport patronage (Lancashire County Council 2004/05 – 2007/08).
- Percentage of dwellings approved and located within 400m of an existing or proposed bus stop or within 800m of an existing or proposed railway station (Spatial Planning in Lancashire, Annual Monitoring Report 2 (2009)).

- Percentage of new residential developments within 30 minutes' public transport time of key services (GP, major retail centre, hospital, primary & secondary school, employment) (AMR, 2010)

The Borough is served by effective communication links that provide access to the rest of the country. The A59 is the main road running through the Borough providing access to the M6, M66 and M65. The A59 suffers with some pinch points. Ribble Valley has four railway stations on the Manchester-Clitheroe line (Clitheroe, Langho, Ramsgreave and Wilpshire and Whalley) with connections at Blackburn providing access across the rest of Lancashire. Integrated bus services from Clitheroe provide connections to the rail network for more remote communities across the Borough. Expansion of Ribble Valley's rail network is to an extent constrained by the Forest of Bowland AONB. A Clitheroe Community Rail Partnership Action Plan is being developed which focuses upon improving service frequency and enhancing station environments.

Drive times to Manchester Airport and the rapidly expanding Blackpool International Airport are approximately one hour and 40 minutes respectively. Figure 1-8 shows the location of the key road links in the Borough.

Figure 1-8 Road Links in Ribble Valley (Source: Ribble Valley Sustainable Community Strategy 2007 – 2013)

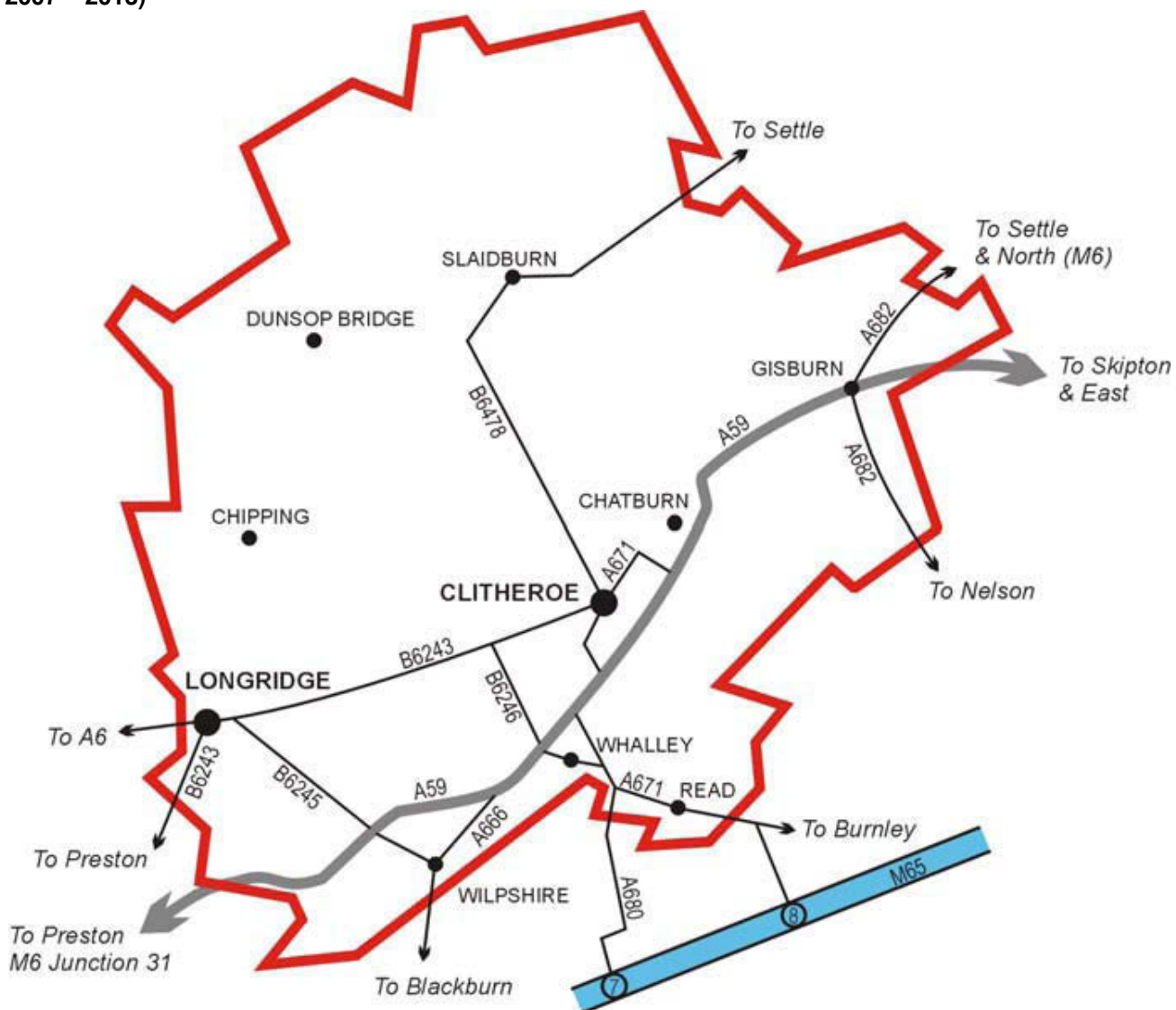


Figure 5 (Appendix E) Location of Basic Services also shows the Borough is well served with a network of bus routes, particularly along the Gibson to Longridge more urban corridor.

Cycling facilities in the Borough are very good, particularly in the Forest of Bowland AONB, where there are numerous cycle routes of varying difficulty. There is a real opportunity to further promote cycling to potentially increase tourism, encourage the pursuit of healthier lifestyles and develop more sustainable transport choices.

Travel to work statistics indicate that the use of the private car is above regional and national levels and use of public transport is much lower (see Table 1-7). The Sustainable Community Strategy includes a series of strategic objectives addressing transport and accessibility which include 'reducing the need to travel or the distances needed to travel' and 'promote the use of public transport through the communities and parishes'.

Table 1-7 Journey to Work By Mode (2001, Census)

Usual Journey to Work Mode	Ribble Valley (%)	North West (%)	England and Wales (%)
Working mainly at home	13	8.4	9.2
Underground, light rail, metro or tram	0	0.5	3.0
Train	0.7	1.9	4.1
Bus, minibus or coach	2.2	8.6	7.4
Motorcycle, scooter or moped	0.9	0.9	1.1
Driving a van or car	64.5	58.4	55.2
Taxi or Minicab	0.2	0.8	0.5
Bicycle	2.0	2.3	2.8
On foot	10.5	10.3	10.0
Other	0.5	0.5	0.5

However, more recent figures from Lancashire County Council show that public transport usage is experiencing a steady increase. Bus journeys have risen in number by over 14% across the County between 2003/4 and 2007/8, although figures are not reported at local authority level. Similar growth has been seen on the county's trains. Patronage of Ribble Valley's railway stations has increased by over 20% in the same period to 196,493 journeys in 2007/8, with Clitheroe station handling the majority of passengers.

Data from the 2001 Census revealed that the majority of residents in the Borough travel either less than 2km to work or between 10 and 20km. It is recognised that out-commuting by the resident population occurs on a daily basis for employment reasons.

The 2010 AMR demonstrated that 93% of all new developments completed within the AMR period were within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP surgery, hospital, primary/secondary school, employment and major health centre. Which is an increase of 18% since the last monitoring period and an increase of 34% since the 2007-2008 monitoring period.

The use of ICT for business purposes is a key theme of the Ribble Valley Economic Strategy. It highlights the benefits offered and a campaign will be established to influence the case for enhanced Broadband access in Ribble Valley. Such infrastructure will be very important in attracting high quality businesses. The wider use of ICT could also contribute to reduced travel by providing people with more opportunity to work from home and may address some of the problems associated with poor rural accessibility in the more remote villages of the Borough. The 2008 Settlement Hierarchy Study indicated that all 34 settlements had broadband access available (however, the quality of the service differs from settlement to settlement)..

As part of the Ribble Valley Settlement Hierarchy study, an assessment was undertaken of the accessibility to Key Service Centres (Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley) by public transport time. The purpose was to demonstrate how quickly the services including employment and other transport facilities of the Key Service Centres could be accessed. It was revealed that the following settlements had public transport access to all three Key Service Centres: Barrow, Billington, Chipping, Calderstones, Copster Green, Hurst Green and Langho.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Bus service patronage at a Borough level.

Key Issues and Opportunities

Opportunities should be sought to reduce dependence on the private car and increase public transport use. It will be important to ensure that any new employment sites can be easily accessed by public transport.

The good road connections to other parts of Lancashire and proximity to the motorway network are both an opportunity and a threat to the Borough, as they could help to encourage inward investment but they also enable the Borough's residents to easily commute to neighbouring Boroughs for employment purposes leading to a leakage of skills and also daily spending from the Borough. Whilst external linkages are good, internal linkages within the Borough could be improved and this is acknowledged as a weakness in the Economic Strategy.

Economy

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise economic conditions across the Borough:

- Location of key industries and major employers (Ribble Valley Borough Council and the Ribble Valley Employment Land and Retail Study, 2008).
- Economic activity rate for the period January 2010 to December 2010 (ONS – Nomis).
- Employment by sector (2001 Census).
- Employment by occupation (ONS – Nomis).
- Type of Farms and Average Farm Size (Defra, Agricultural Farming Census, 2010).
- Availability of Employment Land (Ribble Valley Employment Land and Retail Study, 2008).
- Number of VAT registered businesses including sectoral information (ONS, UK Business Activity, Size and Location).
- Size of VAT registered businesses (ONS, UK Business Activity, Size and Location).
- Number of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 40% most deprived for employment deprivation (Index of Multiple Deprivation, 2010).
- Percentage of working age population claiming Jobseekers' Allowance 2011 (ONS – Nomis).
- Visitor numbers and tourist revenue data (Ribble Valley Economic Strategy 2009 – 2013).
- Zone A rental data £/m² (Spatial Planning in Lancashire Annual Monitoring Report 3).
- Average number of employees per business (ONS).

Employment opportunities in Ribble Valley are focused in and around the towns of Clitheroe and Longridge and the A59 corridor. Key employers include BAE Systems (employs over 3,000 people), Castle Cement, Ultrframe, James Thornbur and HJ Berry & Sons. Key employment areas in the Borough include Shay Lane Industrial Estate in Longridge, Salthill Industrial Estate and Link 59 in Clitheroe and Time Technology Park in Simonstone. The

majority of businesses and employers are, therefore, situated in the south of the Borough near to the boundaries with Burnley and Hyndburn local authorities. Whilst there are a number of key employers in the Borough, an over-reliance upon a small number should be avoided, in case they choose to relocate or close as this could have significant adverse consequences for the Borough's economy.

The Ribble Valley Employment Land and Retail Study identifies that districts adjacent to Ribble Valley are running out of employment land, particularly along the M65 corridor and there is, therefore a potential role for the Ribble Valley in supporting the wider economic growth of the City Region.

The economic activity rate measures the proportion of the adult population in paid employment, unemployed actively seeking employment or who are full-time students. The figure for Ribble Valley in 2010 was 84%, considerably higher than for the North West (74.9%) or Great Britain (76.2%). The economic activity rate for the Borough has increased gradually since 2002 and has always been above the North West and Great Britain average. In August 2011 just 1.4% of the working age population in the Borough were claiming Jobseekers Allowance, compared to 4.4% in the region and 3.9 % across Great Britain. The majority of Jobseekers Allowance claimants were aged between 25 and 49 which reflects regional and national trends. Within Ribble Valley, 1.1% of claimants (aged between 25 and 49) for Job Seekers Allowance claimed for up to 6 months, 0.3% between 6 and 12 months and 0.1% over 12 months which again reflects regional and national patterns.

Owing to the rural character of the Borough it is not surprising that percentage of people employed in the agriculture, fishing and mining sector is higher than the regional and national average (see Table 1-8 for details). Other prominent sectors are public admin, education and health and manufacturing and utilities. The high percentage employed in the manufacturing sector is explained by the presence of BAE systems in Samlesbury.

Table 1-8 Employment by Sector (Source: 2001 Census)

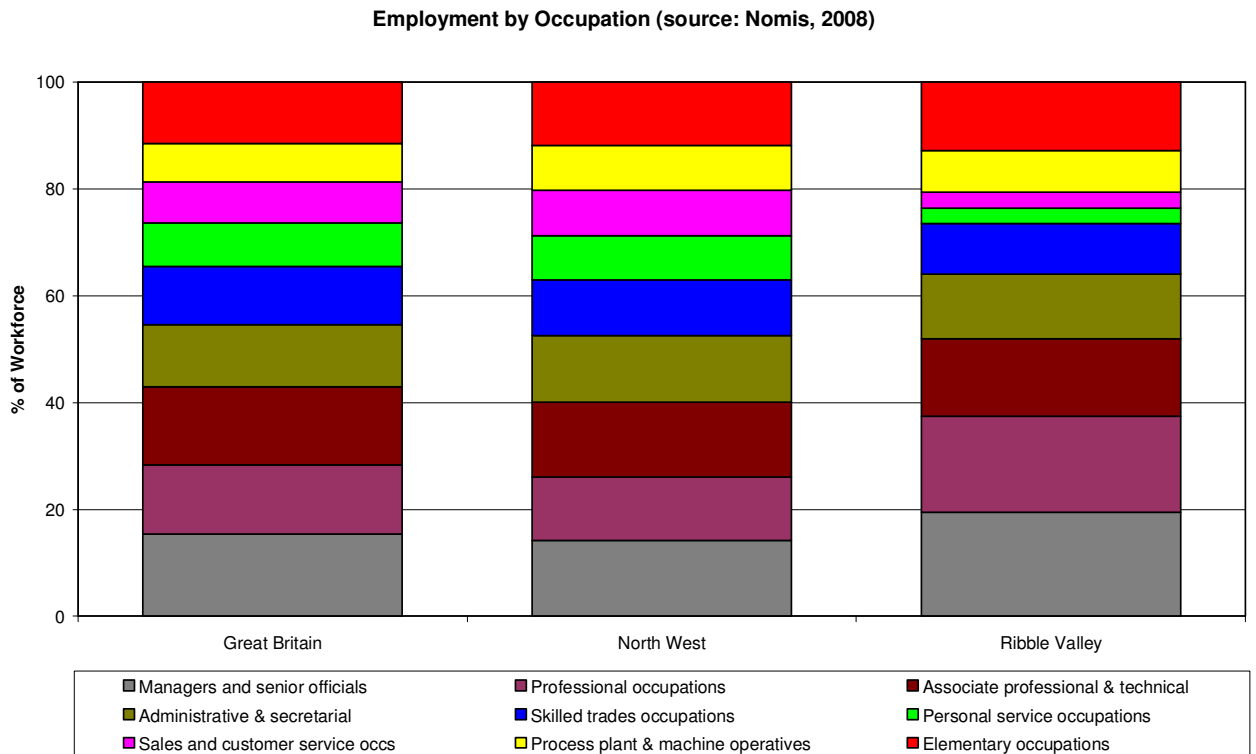
Sector	Ribble Valley (%)	North West (%)	England (%)
Agriculture, Fishing & Mining	4.16	1.39	1.72
Manufacturing & Utilities	19.87	17.66	15.54
Construction	6.57	6.49	6.76
Wholesale & Retail	15.99	17.82	16.85
Hotels & Catering	5.51	5.13	4.73
Transport, Storage & Communications	4.35	6.79	7.09
Finance, IT & other business activities	11.96	14.57	18.01
Public Admin, Education & Health	27.39	25.6	24.1
Other Services	4.21	4.54	5.2

Within the agricultural sector, the farms are largely focused upon grazing livestock and dairy farming with most farms in the Borough being less than 5ha in size (Defra, Agricultural Census, 2010). Research undertaken by Lancashire Rural Futures has demonstrated the need for more local business opportunities to be created in rural areas including in Ribble Valley (the research covered all of Lancashire). There is potential for high quality rural workspace schemes in the

Ribble Valley. Key factors identified as potentially holding back rural businesses in the Borough were: planning restrictions; the cost of land and buildings and competing with aspirations for higher-value residential uses.

A higher than average proportion of the Ribble Valley workforce are classified as Managers or Senior Officials or work in Professional Occupations, whilst personal service and sales and customer service jobs are relatively under-represented (see Figure 1-9).

Figure 1-9: Employment by Occupation, 2008 (Source: Nomis, 2008)



Whilst there is a skilled workforce in the Borough, many (approximately 45%) commute out of the Borough to work (Ribble Valley Employment Land and Retail Study, 2008). Therefore, there may be a mismatch between the skills of the residents of the Borough and the employment opportunities that are available. The highest levels of out-commuting occur in Wiltshire which is most likely explained by its close proximity to Blackburn.

The main retail centres in the Borough are Clitheroe and Longridge. The NWDA Regional Economic Strategy identifies the importance of market towns as key drivers for rural economies. Within Clitheroe town centre there has been a movement of some retailers to edge of town and out-of-town business park and industrial estate locations, owing to enhanced accessibility and cheaper rents. If this pattern continues there could be a decline in the vibrancy of this town centre. Table 1-9 presents the Zone A Rental data for Clitheroe, Whalley and Longridge for 2005, 2007 and 2008 and how it has changed through time.

Table 1-9 Zone A Rental in Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley (Source: Spatial Planning in Lancashire, Annual Monitoring Report 3)

Town Centre	Zone A rental 2005 £ m2	Zone A rental 2007 £ m2	Zone A rental 2008 £ m2	Zone A rental 2009 £ m2	% change in Zone A rental 2005 to 2008	% change in Zone A rental 2008 to 2009	% change in Zone A rental 2005 to 2008
Clitheroe	260	310	300	300	15.4	0.0	15.4
Longridge	150	160	160	160	6.7	0.0	6.7
Whalley	200	250	250	250	25.0	0.0	25
LANCASHIRE AVERAGE	398	435	438	420	10.0	-4.3	5.3

Whalley and Clitheroe experienced a significant increase in Zone A rental between 2005 and 2007. Whalley, Clitheroe and Longridge did not experience a percentage change in zone A rental between 2008 and 2009 however, this was still greater than the Lancashire average of -4.3%. A key indicator of the vibrancy and vitality of town centres cited in PPS 6 'Planning for Town Centres' is Peak Zone A rental value and is the value of the first 6 metre depth of retail unit floorspace from the shop window and reflects retailers' perception of the town centre.

According to the Ribble Valley Employment Land and Retail Study there is 15.33ha of employment land across 11 sites in Ribble Valley. Only 17% are sites that are allocated in the Local Plan, with remainder having consent for employment land or being windfall sites. In the future Ribble Valley is likely to need a balanced portfolio of land that can accommodate and adapt to changing business needs.

Tourism plays an important role in the economy of Ribble Valley. There has been an overall growth in visitor numbers from nearly 2,000,000 in 2004 to 4,047,000 in 2009. Of these visitors approximately 3,060,000 were day visitors and the remainder were staying visitors with an average length of stay of 2.1 nights. The revenue brought into the Borough by visitors in 2008 was estimated to be around £100,000,000 in 2008 (Ribble Valley, An Economic Strategy 2009 – 2013). There is a lack of wet weather attraction provision within the Borough which should be addressed to try and provide more reliable income from the tourist sector. Anecdotal information discussed during a scoping workshop highlighted a perception that the Forest of Bowland is a stop-over location for visits to the Yorkshire Dales and the Lake District rather than it being seen as a destination in its own right.

Ribble Valley has a strong level of business start-ups. In 2010 there were 2,970 VAT-registered and/ or PAYE-Registered Enterprises in the Borough, down from 3,135 in 2008. The greatest numbers of VAT registered businesses were in the agriculture, forestry and fishing services sectors, which account for 16.8% of the registrations which is higher than regional and national trends. This is a change from 2008 where the most prominent number of VAT registered business were in the property and business sectors. The Ribble Valley Employment Land and Retail Study suggests that the economy in the Borough is very localised and successfully incubates new business. There are also a large number of small businesses in the Borough demonstrated by the data presented in Table 1-10. The high-number of business start-ups and the data in Table 1-10 demonstrates the entrepreneurial qualities of the Borough.

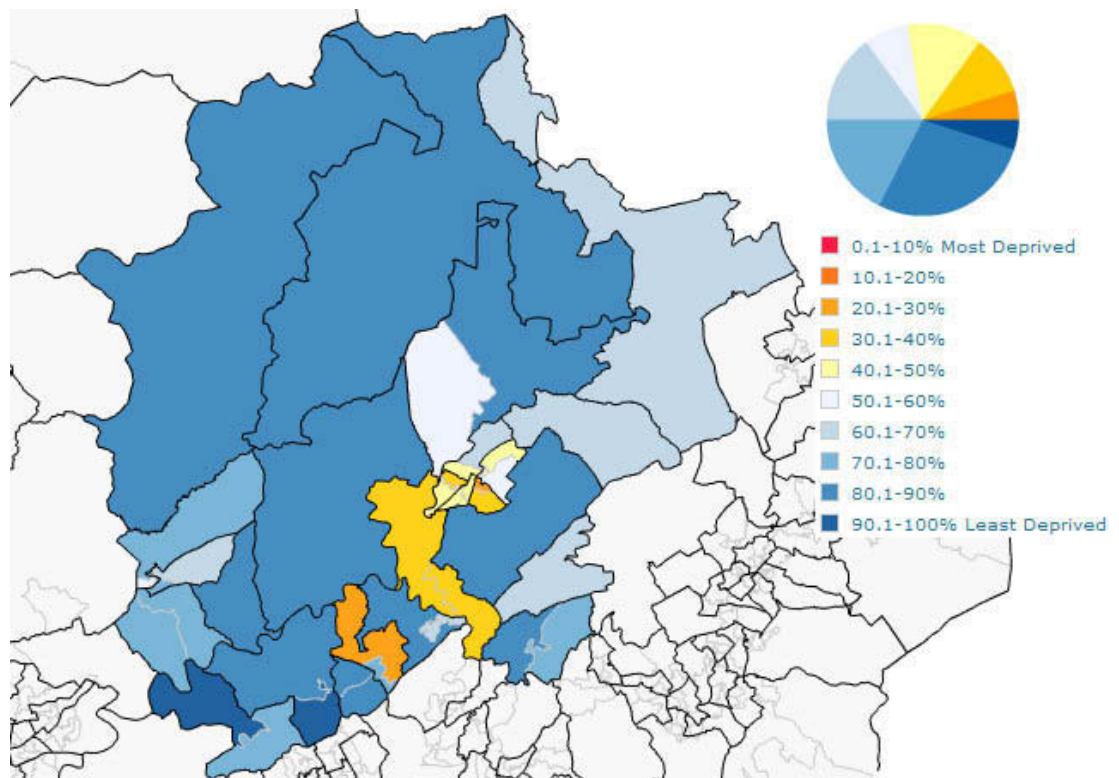
Table 1-10 Average Number of Employees per Business (Source: ONS, 2010)

Number of Employees	Ribble Valley (%)	North West (%)	Great Britain (%)
0-4	80.1	74.4	75.7
5-9	12.1	13.4	12.9

Number of Employees	Ribble Valley (%)	North West (%)	Great Britain (%)
10-19	4.2	6.5	6.1
20-49	2.4	3.6	3.2
50-99	0.8	1.1	1.0
100-249	0.2	0.6	0.4
250+	0.2	0.6	0.4

Ribble Valley has four wards identified in the 2010 IMD as being in the bottom 40% for employment deprivation - Edisford and Low Moor, Littlemoor in Clitheroe, Whalley and Langho. This is shown on Figure 1-10. No wards are within the bottom 20% most deprived.

Figure 1-10 Employment Deprivation (Source: Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2010)



Data Gaps and Uncertainties

When collating baseline data for this topic area, difficulties were identified in obtaining information about inward investment in the Borough, research and development opportunities and data relating specifically to the rural economy. Specific data requirements are:

- GVA per capita for key sectors
- Number of rural diversification schemes implemented

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

Key statistics suggest that the Ribble Valley economy is performing well having low levels of unemployment and supporting a strong culture of entrepreneurial behaviour. It will be important for such qualities to be maintained and further improved. There are high skills levels in the Borough, although a significant number of people out-commute on a daily basis for employment purposes, leading to a daily leakage of skilled individuals. There is a need to provide jobs that maximise the skills of the resident population to promote more sustainable travel patterns and to benefit the Borough's long-term economy.

A small number of employers provide a significant amount of the employment in the Borough and opportunities should be sought to promote diversification and to support new businesses and inward investment.

There are potential opportunities for the Borough linked to the lack of high quality employment sites in other parts of location, for example along the M65 corridor where high-quality sites are already occupied. For example, there is potential to develop the A59 into an employment corridor, however, sensitive development would be required and pinch point issues along the A59 addressed.

Whilst there is a general perception that the Borough is affluent with a well-performing economy, there are households in the Borough that experience lower than average incomes and addressing the needs of those on lower incomes and raising their skills levels should be a key priority.

There are further opportunities to capitalise upon the Borough's environmental and cultural assets and to develop the tourist industry.

Deprivation and Living Environment

The following baseline data has been identified:

- Number and distribution of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 40% most deprived in the Index of Multiple Deprivation (Indices of Deprivation, 2010)
- Number and distribution of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 20% most deprived for living environment (Indices of Deprivation, 2010)
- Number and distribution of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 10% of most deprived in terms of barriers to housing and services provision (Indices of Deprivation, 2010)
- Number and distribution of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 40% most deprived for income deprivation (Indices of Deprivation, 2010)
- Average gross weekly pay (ONS - Nomis)
- Percentage of resident population within 1km of five basic services (Spatial Planning in Lancashire, Annual Monitoring Report 3).
- Percentage of residents who are very or fairly satisfied with the Borough as a place to live (Place Survey 2008/9 Ribble Valley).
- Percentage of residents who believe that the Borough is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well (Place Survey 2008/9 Ribble Valley).

Deprivation is a multi-faceted and complex problem which influences and is influenced by a wide range of factors. Overall levels of deprivation in Ribble Valley are low when compared to national averages, as measured by the Index of Multiple Deprivation. Only one ward - Littlemoor - has a LSOA in the bottom 40% nationally in this aggregated measure.

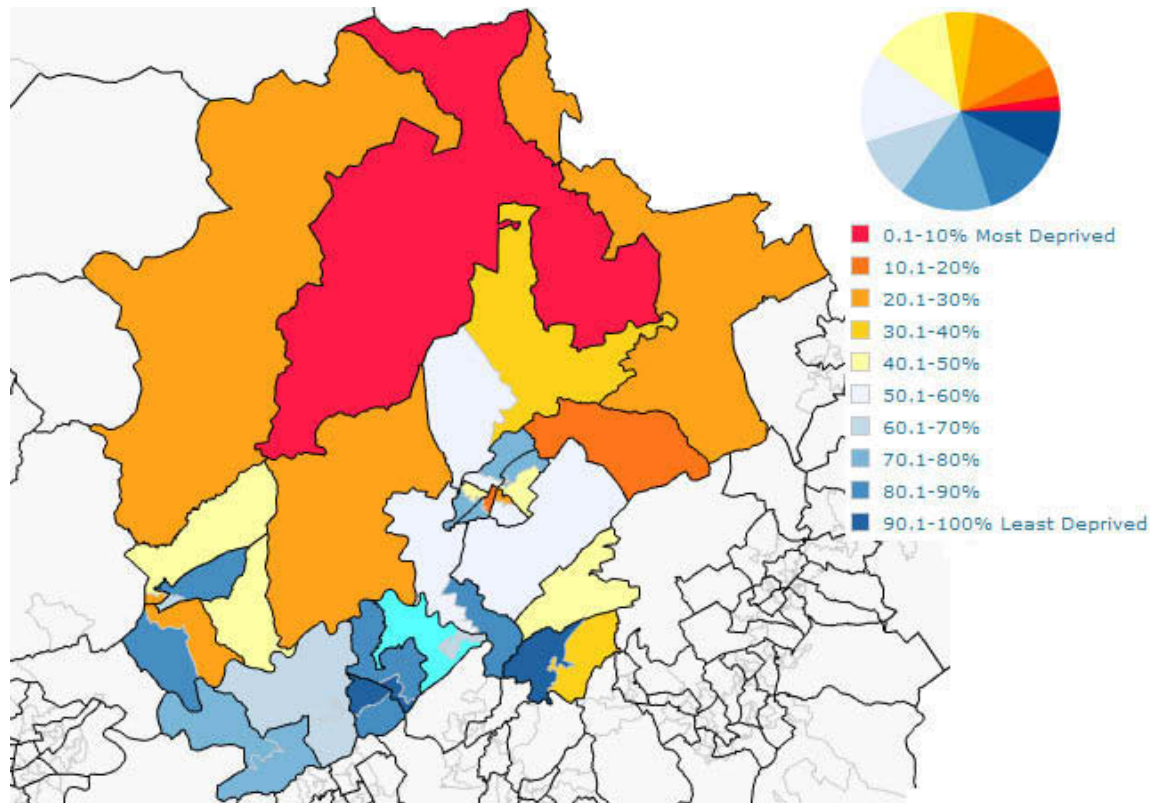
Littlemoor is also the only ward in the Borough to have a LSOA in the bottom 40% for income deprivation. Average gross weekly pay in the borough was £443.500 in 2010, marginally lower than the averages for the North West (£467.10) and Great Britain (£500.40). Males are comparatively high earners, but females in Ribble Valley earn less than the national average.

An issue in the Borough is living environment deprivation⁵. Figure1-11 shows the results from the 2010 IMD for this indicator which demonstrates that three of the Borough's wards have

⁵ This domain measures the quality of individuals' immediate surroundings both within and outside the home. The indicators fall into two sub-domains: the 'indoors' living environment, which measures the quality of housing, and the 'outdoors' living environment which contains two measures relating to air quality and road traffic accidents.

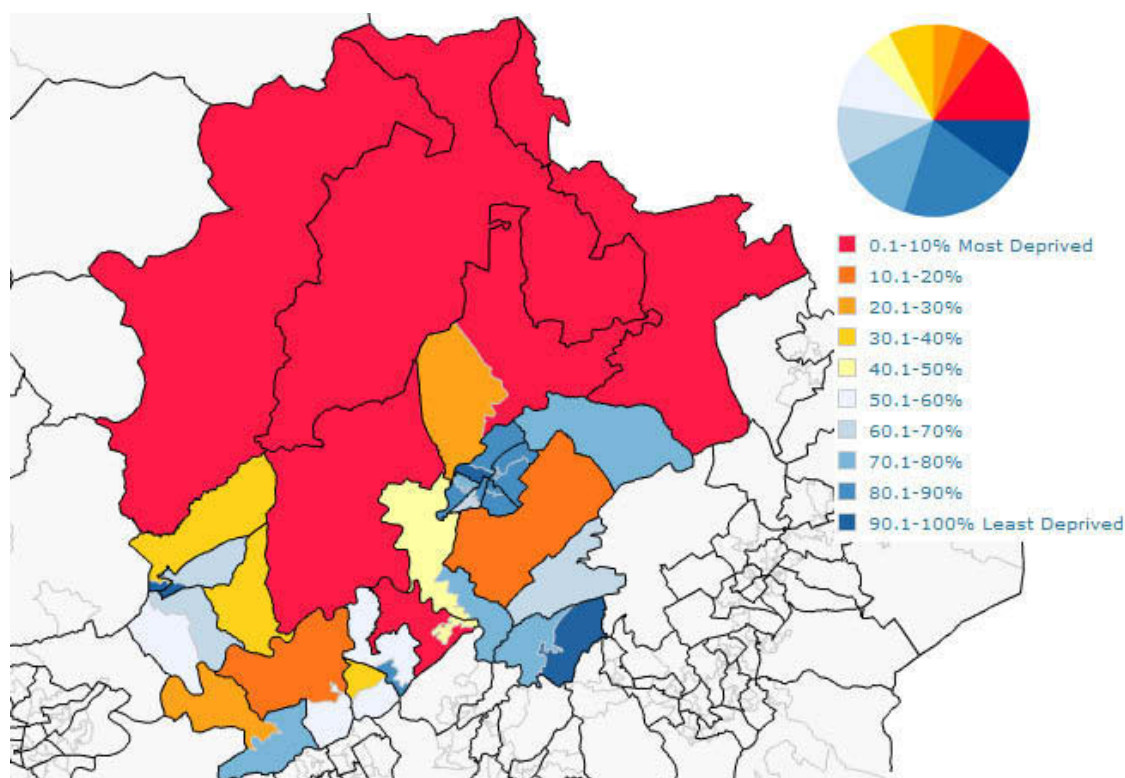
LSOAs ranked in the bottom 20% most deprived for living environment deprivation. Bowland, Newton and Slaidburn ward is ranked in the 10% most deprived nationally.

Figure 1-11: Living Environment Deprivation by Ward (Source: Indices of Deprivation, 2010)



Six wards have LSOAs in the bottom 10% most deprived in terms of barriers to housing and services provision (Figure 1-12) nationally. These wards include, Aighton, Bailey and Chaigley; Billington and Old Langho; Bowland, Newton and Slaidburn; Chipping; Gisburn and Rimmington; and Waddington and West Bradford), all of which are situated in the more rural, less connected parts of the Borough. Rural isolation is a key issue in the Borough that is acknowledged in the Sustainable Community Strategy and it is a priority of the strategy to tackle the issue.

Figure 1-12: Barriers to Housing and Services Deprivation by Ward (Source: Indices of Deprivation, 2010)



Access to services is limited in the Borough owing to its rural nature which is demonstrated by the statistics in Table -11 which present information about accessibility to basic services (GP, primary school, food shop, post office, bus stop). Accessibility has actually decreased slightly since 2003, although this is consistent with patterns across the whole of Lancashire. It is believed that the continuing closure of post offices and the amalgamation of GP surgeries has led to this pattern. Whilst there has been a decrease in accessibility in Ribble Valley, other Boroughs have experienced more significant decreases, for example, for example Rossendale (-13.2%), Pendle (-11.2%) and Wyre (-9.5%).

Table 1-11 Accessibility to Basic Services (Source: Lancashire County Council, Spatial Planning in Lancashire, Annual Monitoring Report 3)

	Percentage of usually Resident Population within 1km (2003/04)	Percentage of usually Resident Population within 1km (2008/09)	Percentage Change since 2003
Ribble Valley	45.6	43.6	-2.0
Lancashire	73.6	68.8	-4.8

The Place Survey results for 2008/09 in Ribble Valley reveal that a very impressive 94% of residents are satisfied with their local area as a place to live. This is the highest score of any local authority in England for this measure.

Owing to the levels of out-commuting from the Borough for employment reasons and the very rural nature of the Borough there may be issues associated with rural isolation and low levels of community spirit. Creating vibrant and prosperous rural communities will be a key challenge for the Borough.

The Place Survey results for 2008/09 in Ribble Valley revealed that four in five respondents who express an opinion in Ribble Valley agree that local people from different backgrounds get on well together (79%). This is significantly higher than the county figure of 74%.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Percentage of the population that are within 20 minutes travel time (urban – walking; rural – driving) of a range of three different sports facility types at least one of which has achieved a quality mark
- Number of community action groups

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

Ribble Valley is overall a very prosperous Borough with low levels of deprivation. However, owing to its rural nature there are issues associated with access to services and facilities which largely affect the wards in the north of the Borough.

There will be long-term challenges associated with the localised closure of facilities such as post offices. Maintaining and ensuring access to other centres and facilities in the Borough will be particularly important.

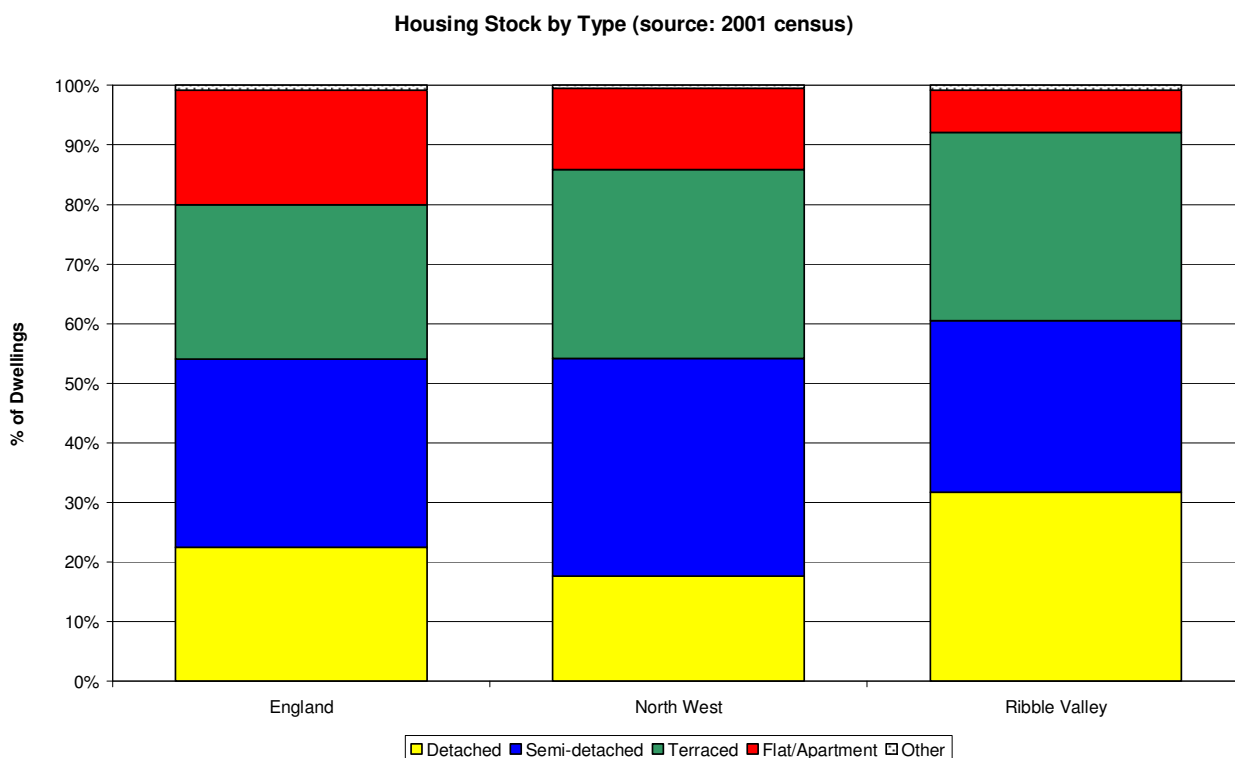
Housing

The following baseline indicators have been used to characterise the status of housing across the Borough:

- Percentage split of dwelling types (2001 Census)
- Average house price (Land Registry)
- Ratio of median house prices to median income (DCLG)
- Percentage of homes deemed unfit (DCLG)
- Percentage of housing vacant (Empty Homes Agency)
- Dwelling Stock by Tenure (ONS - Dwelling Stock by Tenure and Condition 2010)
- Percentage of new dwellings built on previously developed land (AMR, 2010)
- Percentage of new dwellings completed at i) <30 per/ha, ii) 30-50 per/ha, iii) >50 per/ha
- Number of affordable housing completions (AMR, 2010).
- Number of Homeless presentations (Homelessness Strategy, 2007)
- Number of households accepted as homeless (Homelessness Strategy, 2007)

Ribble Valley has a low density of housing, typical of a rural area. Its housing stock contains a relatively high proportion of detached houses and low numbers of flats and apartments (see Figure 1-13).

Figure 1-13 Housing Stock by Type (Source: Census, 2001)



House prices in Ribble Valley are significantly higher than those elsewhere in Lancashire. The average house price in the second quarter of 2010 was £175,000, compared to the county average of £129,950. However, values are still below the national average of £185,000. Owner occupation levels are also high (Local Level House Prices, DCLG).

The housing market has been driven to an extent by in-migration of relatively high earners that has had the effect of driving prices above regional levels and creating issues of affordability for local people, particularly first time buyers and the elderly. Housing affordability is relatively low in Ribble Valley when compared to the average for the North West.

In 2010, the ratio of median house prices to median incomes in the Borough was 7.24 considerably higher than the regional figure of 5.23. This clearly demonstrates the housing affordability issues across the Borough. Ward level analysis reveals that the affordability issue is most prominent in Bowland, Newton and Slaidburn wards.

Between 2009 and 2010 there were 65 affordable dwellings completed. Of which, 42 were social rented properties, six were shared ownership and 17 were intermediate rental properties. There has been a large increase (over 500%) in the number of social rented properties being completed since 2008 -2009. It will be very important for the Core Strategy to include an appropriate affordable housing policy.

High levels of in-migration are also affecting community cohesion in some villages in the Borough and in some cases contributing to the loss of local services, as more mobile commuters travel further afield.

The quality of the housing in the Borough is much higher than in other parts of East Lancashire. In 2010, 3.34% of the housing stock in the Borough was vacant which is lower than the North West average of 4.41%. A low vacancy rate suggests a high demand for housing in the Borough.

4.3% of homes in the Borough were deemed unfit, a figure very slightly above the English average (4.2%) but far lower than other districts in Lancashire, for example, Hyndburn (15.9%).

The percentage of unfit homes in the Borough has also decreased since 2004 when it was 5.4%.

The Housing Condition Survey undertaken in 2004 revealed that there is an association between unsatisfactory housing conditions and households in economic and social disadvantage. Elderly and single parent households are also over-represented in non-decent households, particularly unfit dwellings (Strategic Housing Market Assessment Report 2008).

Table 1-12 presents details of the tenure of housing stock across the Borough for 2010, highlighting that owner occupation in the Borough is higher than the Lancashire, North West and England averages.

Table 1-12 Dwelling Stock by Tenure (ONS - Dwelling Stock by Tenure and Condition 2010)

	Local Authority (%)	Registered Social Landlords (%)	Other Public Sector (%)	Owner Occupied and Privately Rented (%)
Ribble Valley	0	7	0.6	92.4
Lancashire	2	10.1	0.1	87.8
North West	4.9	13.7	0.1	81.3
England	7.9	9.9	0.3	82.0

Data from the Housing Market Assessment (2008) indicates that levels of renting are highest in Clitheroe. The lack of cheaper rental accommodation in the Borough (i.e. terraced housing) could be one factor that prevents younger people from continuing to live in the Borough. This coupled with a lack of affordable housing is unlikely to lead to the retention of the younger population. There is a prominent imbalance between the number of young and older persons in the Borough, as an increasingly elderly population will put a large strain on services such as health care. Barriers to suitable and affordable housing strongly affect whether individuals will live in an area.

The 2010 AMR also reports that the Borough is continuing to experience in-migration of wealthier families which is increasing the price of property which is again having adverse effects upon the indigenous population. This is also reflected in other statistics, for example, the average weekly income for the Borough is high and the rate of unemployment is low. There are a number of issues that need to be addressed which are all interrelated which are the need to provide affordable housing and also how to create a higher wage economy and to develop upskilling and training opportunities.

The current target for Ribble Valley is for 60% of residential development to be on previously developed land. Between 2009 and 2010, 85% was on previously developed land, exceeding the target.

Table 1-13 presents the density of new housing development occurring in the Borough. It shows that over the past five years that has been a decrease in the percentage of development completed at less than 30 dwellings per hectare which is consistent with the aims of PPS 3.

Table 1-33 Density of Housing Completions (Annual Monitoring Report 2009 – 2010)

Density (per ha)	2005 (%)	2006 (%)	2007 (%)	2008 (%)	2009 (%)	2010 (%)
Less than 30	63	44	34	55	43	0
30-50	24	14	8	0	4	10
More than 50	13	42	58	45	53	90

Homelessness has been an issue in the past for the Borough, particularly in rural wards, due to a lack of emergency housing to deal with the issue. The number of homeless presentations in the Borough in 2004 was approximately 160. This has now significantly decreased, the number of households accepted as homeless as of March 2011 was 13.

The Sustainable Community Strategy identifies that there is a hidden homeless problem particularly amongst young people in the Borough which is believed to relate to the need for affordable housing. A strategic objective of the strategy is 'ensure that supported housing is available for vulnerable households'.

Data Gaps and Uncertainties

- Percentage of new dwellings meeting BREEAM/Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4 standards
- Number of affordable housing completions in rural areas

Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities

There is a shortage of affordable housing across Ribble Valley. There has been an increase in the number of wealthy in-migrants to the Borough in recent years which is creating housing affordability problems for local people. There is need for increased provision of sheltered housing for the elderly and also to provide for the housing needs of the younger sectors of society.

The Core Strategy must include appropriate policies regarding the provision of affordable housing. The issue of homelessness must also continue to be effectively addressed.

Since May 2008, the Government has introduced a mandatory rating against the Code for Sustainable Homes for all new homes. The Code measures the sustainability rating of a new homes against categories of sustainable design. The overarching aim is to make the design of homes more sustainable and to carbon emissions. The promotion of the Code for Sustainable Homes and awareness raising about its use and application should be promoted where possible through the Core Strategy.

1.1 Transboundary Issues

For many authorities, the geographical scale of particular baseline issues means that they relate closely to neighbouring authorities. For example, housing provision and prices, employment migration and commuting, service provision and education can all result in flows of people across Local Authority boundaries. In order to help to characterise the baseline further, some of these key 'transboundary' issues have been identified below.

- Over half of the Borough's population out-commute daily from Ribble Valley to other Boroughs for employment reasons and this may be contributing to problems associated with a decline in local spending.
- Waste disposal is a significant strategic issue for all of East Lancashire with the main waste disposal site being located in Hyndburn. This is likely to have adverse impacts upon traffic movements between Ribble Valley and Hyndburn.
- There are limited adult education training facilities in the Borough and therefore people may be commuting out of the Borough for educational reasons. The absence of a further and Higher Education establishment in the Borough is a weakness identified in the Economic Strategy.

Appendix C

Assessment of Preferred and Alternative Development Strategy Options

Assessment of the Do-Minimum Option

The tables below provide an explanation of the notation used in the assessment matrix.

Major Positive Impact	The option strongly supports the achievement of the SA Objective.	++
Positive Impact	This option contributes partially to the achievement of the SA Objective but not completely.	+
Neutral/ No Impact	There is no clear relationship between the option and/or the achievement of the SA Objective or the relationship is negligible.	0
Positive and negative outcomes	The option has a combination of both positive and negative contributions to the achievement of the SA Objective.	+/-
Uncertain outcome	It is not possible to determine the nature of the impact as there may be too many external factors that would influence the appraisal or the impact may depend heavily upon implementation at the local level. More information is required to assess the impacts.	?
Negative Impact	The option is partially detrimental to the achievement of the SA Objective.	-
Major Negative Impact	The option strongly detracts from the achievement of the SA Objective.	--

L-T	Effects likely to arise in 10-25 years of Core Strategy implementation
M-T	Effects likely to arise in 5-10 years of Core Strategy implementation
S-T	Effects likely to arise in 0-5 years of Core Strategy implementation
D	Direct effects.
I	Indirect effects.
R	Effects are reversible
IR	Effects are irreversible
H/M/L	High, medium or low certainty of prediction
C	Potential to have cumulative effect with other proposals or plans on this objective

Do-Minimum Option					
Key aspects of the option: <i>Large scale development would be directed towards the main urban areas of Clitheroe, Longridge, Wilpshire and Billington with modest development within Read, Simonstone and Mellor Brook. Small scale infill or conversions would be allowed in other rural villages with limited development only outside of settlement boundaries and in accordance with policy.</i>					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime	?	This option directs most development to four identified main urban areas. Clitheroe and Longridge provide the highest concentration of services, community facilities and transport connections in the borough and more limited development is also proposed in smaller settlements which may encourage service viability in those areas. Clitheroe and Longridge also contain the only secondary schools in the borough. The option may also help to meet housing needs in the areas identified. The option is unlikely to have a significant impact on crime levels although there is some uncertainty regarding this at this scale.	Whilst development in Clitheroe and Longridge has a number of advantages, the settlements of Wilpshire, Billington, Read, Simonstone and Mellor Brook have more limited offer in terms of access to services, health care and educational establishments. This may lead to an exacerbation of problems in those areas if significant growth is proposed. Billington and Wilpshire are, however, located next to the railway enabling access to services in Whalley and Blackburn districts. It is also likely that there will be a long-term shortage of primary and secondary school places in Clitheroe and Longridge under this option. The option promotes very little development in the rural villages which may not help to rectify the issues of housing need and poor access to services in those areas.	The option does not propose any development in Whalley, which, with its good public transport links and local services has arguably more potential to accommodate limited development than some other settlements – although traffic congestion is noted as an issue there. Overall, the option is not specific in terms of the quantities of where development should go so it is quite uncertain compared to other options.	Improved service and public transport provision would need to be provided in Wilpshire, Billington, Read, Simonstone and Mellor Brook otherwise the amount of development proposed here should be reduced and focussed more towards the larger settlements (Clitheroe and Longridge) which would be better able to accommodate growth. New primary and secondary school provision would be required in Clitheroe and Longridge.
To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society	+/- I S-M-T,R,C				
To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities	+/- I S-M-T,R,C				
To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need	+/- D S-M-T,R,C				
To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion	?				
To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	+/- D S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the Borough	+ D S-M-T,R,C	The option could bring employment opportunities to Clitheroe and Longridge being well-placed to benefit from this given the existing employment and transport infrastructure present. It would reduce the distance to travel to work by putting homes and jobs closer together in Clitheroe and Longridge. Growth would benefit retail in Clitheroe and Longridge.	It is not possible to say whether jobs would benefit local people or be taken by people from outside the area. Longridge is potentially more outward looking given its location on the boundary of the borough. The same may be said about other settlements such as Wilpshire which has connections with Blackburn. It is not clear if the economic benefits created there would all be realised within Ribble Valley. Infrastructure development here would need cohesive support from Ribble Valley, Blackburn with Darwen and Preston councils. Furthermore, it is considered that Clitheroe and Longridge have the strongest capacity for economic development whereas the other main settlements listed are relatively weak in this sense and have poorer transport connections.	The option is fairly unspecific overall and in particular it mentions little about the level of appropriate rural development which may encourage rural regeneration and diversification.	Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would help. Policy on identifying the most sustainable sites is required to maximise business benefits. Infrastructure development in Longridge, Wilpshire, Read and Simonstone would need cohesive support from Ribble Valley and neighbouring councils.
To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage economic inclusion	?				
To strengthen the economic base of market towns	+++ I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage rural regeneration and diversification	?				
To develop and market the Borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit.	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To protect and enhance biodiversity	+/? D S-L-T,I,C	Avoids risk of large amounts of development in the AONB and designated nature conservation sites. Rural development is proposed within settlement boundaries only. However, environmental protection policies, particularly with regard to European Sites are relatively weak. There are no significant environmental designations associated with the main settlements identified. It is not possible to say that heritage constraints will be avoided with any certainty at this scale.	Environmental protection policies, particularly with regard to European Sites are relatively weak and should be strengthened. The amount of growth in rural areas is unclear although in general the pattern of development proposed is fairly spread out. This is likely to encourage private car use and hence greenhouse gas emissions and adverse air quality. There are environmental constraints near to Clitheroe although it is not possible to say if	The supporting policy with the Districtwide Local Plan with regard to environmental protection is relatively weak and provides insufficient protection to the European Designated sites in particular.	A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, especially in rural areas associated with the AONB. This would also include strong design policies. Localised highways improvements may be required in town centres to accommodate new growth. If combined with public transport and sustainable travel connections, the increase in traffic
To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality	+/? D S-L-T,I,C				
To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource	?				
To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources	+/? D/I S-L-T,I,C				

Do-Minimum Option					
Key aspects of the option: <i>Large scale development would be directed towards the main urban areas of Clitheroe, Longridge, Wilpshire and Billington with modest development within Read, Simonstone and Mellor Brook. Small scale infill or conversions would be allowed in other rural villages with limited development only outside of settlement boundaries and in accordance with policy.</i>					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary	+ D S-L-T,I,C	Focussing on urban areas increases the potential to develop brownfield land. There are good public transport links in Clitheroe and to a lesser extent in Longridge thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO ₂ emissions. Also, including an (unknown) element of rural development can encourage rural service viability thereby reducing the need to travel longer distances for essential services. The option largely avoids floodplain although there is some uncertainty regarding development near to Billington.	they would be affected at this scale. There are Conservation Areas and/or SAMs in Longridge, Clitheroe, Simonstone and some villages although it is not possible to say if they would be affected. The AQMA in Clitheroe may be put under pressure by the increase in possible traffic. Congestion may worsen in Clitheroe and in the Whalley area as a possible result of development at Billington. It is uncertain whether there would be effects upon the townscape of the urban areas listed.		may be mitigated. Overall, the supporting policy framework would need strengthening in line with current proposals.
To limit and adapt to climate change	+/- I L-T,I,C				
To protect and improve air quality	+/- I L-T,R,C				
To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources	?				
To ensure sustainable use of natural resources	?				
To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling	+/- D M-L-T,I,C				
To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport	+/- D M-L-T,I,C				

Assessment of Spatial Strategy Options

	Option 1:				
	Key aspects of the option: <i>Development will be directed towards the service centres comprising Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley, including the opportunity to expand their existing settlement limits to accommodate residential and employment growth. Limited development will be accommodated through appropriate village growth and/or expansion where appropriate.</i>				
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime	0	The option promotes significant development in Clitheroe and Whalley where there is good access to services and public transport links. In particular, Clitheroe offers major retail, leisure opportunities and basic services. There is also a secondary school and a number of primary schools in Clitheroe. Bus and rail links in Whalley are strong. 20% of growth in villages would help to meet rural housing needs and secure services in those areas. There is access to open space in Clitheroe which can encourage the pursuit of healthier lifestyles. The option is unlikely to have a significant impact on crime levels although there is some uncertainty regarding this.	The level of growth proposed for Whalley (30%) may put pressure on the level of services in that area. There is a more limited retail offer in Whalley although there are a number of pubs, restaurants and basic services including a library, post office and GP. Other health and social care services are more limited. Whalley also has more limited schools provision than Clitheroe which may come under pressure. There will be a long-term shortage of primary school places in Clitheroe and Whalley and a shortage of secondary places in Whalley.	The option includes very little development in Longridge and as such is a missed opportunity to capitalise on services and educational facilities in that area including three primary schools and a secondary school. The option cannot stipulate the level of affordable housing provision.	Provision of services such as retail, health and social care could be enhanced in Whalley. New schools infrastructure should be provided to accommodate growth as part of new development. A different distribution of development to include more in Longridge would be beneficial.
To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need	+ D S-M-T,R,C				
To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion	?				
To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	+ D S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the Borough	+ D S-M-T,R,C	The option could bring employment opportunities to Whalley. It would reduce the distance to travel to work by putting homes and jobs closer together in Clitheroe where the main concentration of homes, jobs and transport connections currently exist. Transport connections are strongest in Clitheroe and Whalley. The 20% rural provision could help to improve viability of rural services and businesses. Growth would benefit retail in Clitheroe.	It is not possible to say whether jobs would benefit local people or be taken by people from outside the area. The option does little to benefit Longridge where there exists a range of employment opportunities already.	Missed opportunity to capitalise on employment and retail in Longridge.	Increasing the proportion of development in Longridge would be beneficial. Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would help. Policy on identifying the most sustainable sites is required to maximise business benefits.
To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage economic inclusion	?				
To strengthen the economic base of market towns	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage rural regeneration and diversification	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To develop and market the Borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit.	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To protect and enhance biodiversity	+/? D S-L-T,I,C	Avoids risk of large amounts of development in the AONB and designated nature conservation sites although there is uncertainty regarding development in villages. If development were to be spread fairly evenly amongst the villages, this would equate to around 10-15 new dwellings in each which may be able to be accommodated with relatively little environmental impact (assuming good site selection and design). Whalley contains few environmental constraints. It is not possible to say that heritage	20% growth in rural areas is likely to encourage private car use and hence greenhouse gas emissions and adverse air quality. There are environmental constraints near to Clitheroe (e.g. SSSI) although it is not possible to say if they would be affected at this scale. There are Conservation Areas and SAMs in Longridge, Whalley and some villages although it is not possible to say if they would be affected. The AQMA in Clitheroe may be put under pressure by the increase in possible traffic.	There are relatively few environmental constraints in Longridge (other than Conservation Area) so this could be a better area to focus some development.	A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale. This would also include strong design policies. Localised highways improvements may be required in town centres to accommodate new growth. If combined with public transport and sustainable travel connections, the increase in traffic may be mitigated.
To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality	+/? D S-L-T,I,C				
To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource	?				
To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources	+/? D/I S-L-T,I,C				
To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of	+ D S-L-T,I,C				

Option 1:					
Key aspects of the option: <i>Development will be directed towards the service centres comprising Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley, including the opportunity to expand their existing settlement limits to accommodate residential and employment growth. Limited development will be accommodated through appropriate village growth and/or expansion where appropriate.</i>					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
brownfield sites within the urban boundary		constraints will be avoided with any certainty at this scale.	Congestion may worsen in Clitheroe and Whalley.		
To limit and adapt to climate change	+/- I L-T,I,C	Focus on urban areas increases the potential to develop brownfield land.	There is floodplain in Whalley although it is uncertain whether this would be affected.		
To protect and improve air quality	+/- I L-T,R,C	There are good public transport links in Clitheroe and Whalley thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO ₂ emissions. Also, including a spread of rural development can encourage rural service viability thereby reducing the need to travel longer distances for essential services.	It is uncertain whether there would be effects upon the townscape of Clitheroe or Whalley (dependant on design and location).		
To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources	?	It can be easier to develop recycling schemes in urban areas.			
To ensure sustainable use of natural resources	?	The option largely avoids floodplain although there is some uncertainty regarding Whalley.			
To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling	+ D M-L-T,I,C				
To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport	+ D M-L-T,I,C				

Option 2:					
Key aspects of the option: <i>Longridge will be viewed as a strategic growth area for the Ribble Valley and a focus of development striving to achieve a competitive and sustainable economy, providing opportunities not only for economic development but also for social and environmental improvement.</i>					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime	0	The option promotes development in Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley where there is generally good access to services and public transport links. The centre of Longridge offers a number of amenities and basic services. There are also secondary schools and a number of primary schools in Clitheroe and Longridge. 23% of growth in villages would help to meet rural housing needs and secure services in those areas. There is access to open space in Clitheroe and Longridge which can encourage the pursuit of healthier lifestyles. The option is unlikely to have a significant impact on crime levels although there is some uncertainty regarding this.	The level of growth proposed for Whalley (23%) may put pressure on health and education services in that area although not as much as option 1. There will be a long-term shortage of primary school places in Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley and a shortage of secondary places in Whalley.	The level of growth proposed for Clitheroe is considerably lower than for Option 1. The best access to services and public transport is in this area – a slightly larger emphasis here may be beneficial.	Provision of services such as schools, retail, health and social care could be enhanced in Whalley. New schools infrastructure should be provided to accommodate growth as part of new development in each of the key settlements.
To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society	++ I S-M-T,R,C				
To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need	+ D S-M-T,R,C				
To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion	?				
To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	++ D S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the Borough	++ D S-M-T,R,C	The option could bring employment opportunities to Whalley as well as Clitheroe and Longridge. Employment opportunities are greatest in Clitheroe and Longridge including at the Shay Lane industrial estate in Longridge. It would reduce the distance to travel to work by putting homes and jobs closer together in Clitheroe and Longridge. Transport connections are strong in Clitheroe and Whalley. The 23% rural provision could help to improve viability of rural services and businesses. Growth would benefit retail in Clitheroe, Whalley and Longridge.	It is not possible to say whether jobs would benefit local people or be taken by people from outside the area. Longridge is potentially more outward looking given its location on the boundary of the borough. It is not clear if the economic benefits created there would all be realised within Ribble Valley. Infrastructure development here would need cohesive support from Ribble Valley and Preston councils.	There may be opportunities for Clitheroe to take a larger share of development over Whalley given its greater concentration of employment opportunities.	Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would benefit. Policy on identifying the most sustainable sites is required to maximise business benefits. Infrastructure development in Longridge would need cohesive support from Ribble Valley and Preston councils.
To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage economic inclusion	?				
To strengthen the economic base of market towns	++ I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage rural regeneration and diversification	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To develop and market the Borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit.	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To protect and enhance biodiversity	+/? D S-L-T,I,C	Avoids risk of large amounts of development in the AONB and designated nature conservation sites although there is uncertainty regarding development in villages (greater risk than Option 1). If development were to be spread fairly evenly amongst the villages, this would equate to around 15-17 new dwellings in each which may be able to be accommodated with relatively little environmental impact (assuming good site selection and design). Whalley contains relatively few environmental constraints. It is not possible to say that heritage constraints will be avoided with any certainty at this scale.	This option includes a relatively large amount of growth in Longridge. This may result in a significant increase in traffic in the town centre and a large amount of infrastructure investment would be required to accommodate this. There are environmental constraints near to Clitheroe although it is not possible to say if they would be affected at this scale. There are Conservation Areas and SAMs in Longridge, Whalley and some villages although it is not possible to say if they would be affected either directly or indirectly or as a result of effects upon setting. The AQMA in Clitheroe may be put under pressure due to a possible increase in	-	A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, especially in rural areas associated with the AONB. This would also include strong design policies. A large amount of infrastructure investment would be required to accommodate this level of development in Longridge and a cohesive approach to this would be required with Preston Council. Localised highways improvements may also be required in Clitheroe and Whalley town centres. If combined with public transport and sustainable travel
To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality	+/? D S-L-T,I,C				
To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource	?				
To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources	+/? D/I S-L-T,I,C				
To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary	+ D S-L-T,I,C				

Option 2:					
Key aspects of the option: <i>Longridge will be viewed as a strategic growth area for the Ribble Valley and a focus of development striving to achieve a competitive and sustainable economy, providing opportunities not only for economic development but also for social and environmental improvement.</i>					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
To limit and adapt to climate change	+/- I L-T,I,C	Focus on urban areas increases the potential to develop brownfield land. There are good public transport links in Clitheroe and Whalley thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO ₂ emissions. Also, including a spread of rural development can encourage rural service viability thereby reducing the need to travel longer distances for essential services. It can be easier to develop recycling schemes in urban areas. The option largely avoids floodplain although there is some uncertainty regarding Whalley (although a smaller risk than Option 1).	traffic in the town. There is floodplain in Whalley although it is uncertain whether this would be affected. It is uncertain whether there would be effects upon the townscape of Clitheroe, Longridge or Whalley.		connections, the increase in traffic may be mitigated.
To protect and improve air quality	+/- I L-T,R,C				
To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources	?				
To ensure sustainable use of natural resources	?				
To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling	+ D M-L-T,I,C				
To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport	+ D M-L-T,I,C				

Option 3:					
Key aspects of the option: <i>Development in the borough will be accommodated through the strategic release of sites that can accommodate high levels of development. A number of strategic sites will be released to create opportunities for new local communities and areas of growth whilst supporting the protection of the wider environment for future generations.</i>					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime	0	May support [or conversely put pressure on] the viability and growth of services in rural areas which are currently at need. There is also good access to services in Clitheroe and Whalley (37% of growth) and a secondary school in Clitheroe. There is also open space in Clitheroe which may help encourage healthy lifestyles in that area. There is uncertainty over primary school provision depending upon which villages take development. It would strongly help address rural housing needs. It is not possible to assess the impact on crime with any certainty at this level.	Large amounts (60%) of growth in small villages has potential to affect community cohesion in those areas. It also has potential to put excessive pressure on services and amenities in those areas, e.g. primary schools, post offices and GPs although much depends upon the exact distribution of development and what supporting policy is include to encourage appropriate service provision. In general there is considerable uncertainty about how rural development will occur. As with earlier options, there remains some potential to put pressure on school and health services in Whalley, although this is greatly reduced compared with Options 1 and 2. There will be a long-term shortage of primary school places in Clitheroe and Whalley and a shortage of secondary places in Whalley.	The level of growth in Clitheroe is relatively small and opportunities may be missed to capitalise on existing service, employment and transport provision. Similarly, there are missed opportunities to benefit access to services and employment in Longridge as the level of growth proposed there is very limited.	A greater emphasis on growth in Clitheroe and Longridge would be beneficial in place of such a large rural emphasis. The uncertainty regarding where development would occur in rural areas should also be reduced. Policy framework should seek to focus on community integration in rural areas. New schools infrastructure should be provided to accommodate growth as part of new development in each of the key settlements and across rural areas to meet demand.
To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need	+ D S-M-T,R,C				
To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion	- I S-M-T,R,C				
To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	++ D S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the Borough	+/- D S-M-T,R,C	The option could bring employment opportunities to Clitheroe and Whalley although less so than Options 1 and 2. It would reduce the distance to travel to work by putting homes and jobs closer together in Clitheroe. Transport connections are strong in Clitheroe and Whalley. The 60% rural provision could greatly help to improve viability of rural services, businesses and rural diversification. This may also benefit economic inclusion. Growth would benefit retail in Clitheroe.	The option does little to benefit Longridge where there exists a range of employment opportunities already. Transport connections to rural areas are very poor and few villages have the infrastructure in place to accommodate such large levels of growth. An erosion of rural character may adversely affect tourism. Key service centres may be adversely affected through the provision of more localised rural services. It is not possible to say whether jobs would benefit local people or be taken by people from outside the area.	Missed opportunity to capitalise on employment and retail in Longridge.	Increasing the proportion of development in Longridge would be beneficial with regard to access to services and employment, together with a smaller and more balanced amount in rural areas. Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would help. Policy on identifying the most sustainable sites is required to maximise business benefits.
To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage economic inclusion	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To strengthen the economic base of market towns	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage rural regeneration and diversification	++ I S-M-T,R,C				
To develop and market the Borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit.	+/- I S-M-T,R,C				
To protect and enhance biodiversity	- D S-L-T,I,C	There are good public transport links in Clitheroe and Whalley thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO ₂ emissions. However, this is likely to be greatly offset by the large amount of rural development. Whalley contains relatively few environmental constraints.	The option has a much greater risk of cumulatively eroding rural landscapes and village character including in the AONB. 60% growth in rural areas is likely to greatly encourage private car use and hence greenhouse gas emissions and adverse air quality. There would be insufficient emphasis upon public transport connections – such connections would require development to be focussed more towards town centres. It is also likely to put more pressure on	There are relatively few environmental constraints in Longridge (other than a Conservation Area) so this could be a better area to focus some development.	A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, with a major focus on rural areas. This would also include strong design policies. A reduced focus on rural development would lessen the likelihood of cumulative erosion of character and other environmental issues. Localised highways improvements may also be required in town centres. If
To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality	- - D S-L-T,I,C				
To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource	?				
To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources	- D/I S-L-T,I,C				
To guard against land contamination and	- D S-L-T,I,C				

Option 3: Key aspects of the option: <i>Development in the borough will be accommodated through the strategic release of sites that can accommodate high levels of development. A number of strategic sites will be released to create opportunities for new local communities and areas of growth whilst supporting the protection of the wider environment for future generations.</i>					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary			greenfield land rather than brownfield. It is not possible to assess the effect of the option upon heritage or floodplain without knowing the exact location of development. However, the more rural nature of development means that effects upon groundwater quality and pollution of high quality environments is more likely. Similarly, the value of the ecological environment is greater in rural areas and is hence at greater risk. The AQMA in Clitheroe may be put under pressure due to an increase in traffic. Traffic may worsen in Whalley also. There is floodplain in Whalley although it is uncertain whether this would be affected. It is uncertain whether there would be effects upon the townscape of Clitheroe or Whalley (dependant on design and location).		combined with public transport and sustainable travel connections, the increase in traffic may be mitigated.
To limit and adapt to climate change	- - I L-T,I,C				
To protect and improve air quality	- I L-T,R,C				
To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources	?				
To ensure sustainable use of natural resources	?				
To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling	- I L-T,R,C				
To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport	- - D M-L-T,I,C				

Option A:					
Key aspects of the option: Development will be spread across the borough, allowing for small-scale development within all the borough's smaller settlements, creating opportunities for social and economic preservation and development for future generations. Provision will be made for development in the larger settlements, proportioned on the population distribution of the whole borough.					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime	0	The option promotes the majority of development in Clitheroe (52%) with 27% in Longridge and 11% in Whalley where there is good access to services and public transport links. In particular, Clitheroe offers major retail, leisure opportunities and basic services. The centre of Longridge offers a number of amenities and basic services. There are also secondary schools and a number of primary schools in Clitheroe and Longridge. 10% of growth in villages would help to meet rural housing needs and secure services in those areas but only to a limited extent. There is access to open space in Clitheroe and Longridge which can encourage the pursuit of healthier lifestyles. The option is unlikely to have a significant impact on crime levels although there is some uncertainty regarding this.	The levels of growth in Clitheroe are the largest of all the options. There is some uncertainty over whether this could put too much pressure on local services and other areas may fail to benefit from investment. There will be a long-term shortage of primary school places in Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley and a shortage of secondary places in Whalley.	The option proposes the smallest amount of development in rural areas. These areas may require a slightly greater focus to benefit service and housing provision.	A slight re-balance between development in Clitheroe and rural areas could address a wider range of issues. New schools infrastructure should be provided to accommodate growth as part of new development in each of the key settlements.
To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society	++ I S-M-T,R,C				
To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need	+ D S-M-T,R,C				
To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion	?				
To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	+ D S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the Borough	++ D S-M-T,R,C	The option could bring employment opportunities to Whalley, Clitheroe and Longridge with the latter settlements being well-placed to benefit from this given the existing employment infrastructure present. It would reduce the distance to travel to work by putting homes and jobs closer together in Clitheroe and Longridge. Employment opportunities are greatest in Clitheroe and Longridge including at the Shay Lane industrial estate in Longridge. Transport connections are strongest in Clitheroe and Whalley. The 10% rural provision could help to improve viability of rural services and businesses although only to a small degree. Growth would benefit retail in Clitheroe and Longridge.	It is not possible to say whether jobs would benefit local people or be taken by people from outside the area. Longridge is potentially more outward looking given its location on the boundary of the borough. It is not clear if the economic benefits created there would all be realised within Ribble Valley. Infrastructure development here would need cohesive support from Ribble Valley and Preston councils. Extensive expansion in Clitheroe may reduce its visual appeal thereby potentially affecting the tourism industry, although this is uncertain.	The option provides only small levels of growth in rural areas, thus there is limited scope for rural diversification and regeneration to benefit. The option does little to address the issue of poor public transport in rural areas especially for low-income families – this may lead to disparities being increased.	Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would help. Policy on identifying the most sustainable sites is required to maximise business benefits. Broadband access is limited in rural areas. This would need to be improved to help support business development. Infrastructure development in Longridge would need cohesive support from Ribble Valley and Preston councils.
To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage economic inclusion	+/- I S-M-T,R,C				
To strengthen the economic base of market towns	++ I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage rural regeneration and diversification	+/0 I S-M-T,R,C				
To develop and market the Borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit.	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To protect and enhance biodiversity	+ D S-L-T,I,C	Avoids risk of large amounts of development in the AONB and designated nature conservation sites. The small amount of rural development suggests this may be better than the other options proposed. It is not possible to say that heritage constraints will be avoided with any certainty at this scale. Focus on urban areas increases the potential to develop brownfield land. There are good public transport links in Clitheroe, Whalley and to a lesser extent in Longridge thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO ₂	Small amounts of growth in rural areas combined with large amounts in a few key centres may result in a larger number of private car trips being generated with a subsequent increase in greenhouse gas emissions. There are environmental constraints near to Clitheroe although it is not possible to say if they would be affected at this scale. There are Conservation Areas and SAMs in Longridge, Whalley and some villages although it is not possible to say if they would be affected. The AQMA in Clitheroe may be put under	-	A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, especially in rural areas associated with the AONB. This would also include strong design policies, and include where large areas of growth are proposed such as in Clitheroe. Localised highways improvements may be required in town centres to accommodate new growth. If combined with public transport and sustainable travel connections, the increase in traffic
To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality	+/- D S-L-T,I,C				
To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource	?				
To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources	+/? D/I S-L-T,I,C				
To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of	+ D S-L-T,I,C				

Option A:					
Key aspects of the option: <i>Development will be spread across the borough, allowing for small-scale development within all the borough's smaller settlements, creating opportunities for social and economic preservation and development for future generations. Provision will be made for development in the larger settlements, proportioned on the population distribution of the whole borough.</i>					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
brownfield sites within the urban boundary		emissions. It can be easier to develop recycling schemes in urban areas. The option largely avoids floodplain although there is some uncertainty regarding Whalley (although a smaller risk than Options 1, 2 and 3).	pressure due to a possible increase in traffic in the town. There is floodplain in Whalley although it is uncertain whether this would be affected. It is uncertain whether there would be effects upon the townscape of Clitheroe, Longridge or Whalley but given the large amounts of development in Clitheroe this is possible.		may be mitigated.
To limit and adapt to climate change	+/- I L-T,I,C				
To protect and improve air quality	+/- I L-T,R,C				
To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources	?				
To ensure sustainable use of natural resources	?				
To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling	+ D M-L-T,I,C				
To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport	+ D M-L-T,I,C				

	Option B: Key aspects of the option: As Option A				
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime	0	The option promotes development in Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley where there is good access to services and public transport links. In particular, Clitheroe offers major retail, leisure opportunities and basic services. The centre of Longridge offers a number of amenities and basic services. There are also secondary schools and a number of primary schools in Clitheroe and Longridge. 20% of growth in villages would help to meet rural housing needs and secure services in those areas. There is access to open space in Clitheroe and Longridge which can encourage the pursuit of healthier lifestyles. The option is unlikely to have a significant impact on crime levels although there is some uncertainty regarding this.	There will be a long-term shortage of primary school places in Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley and a shortage of secondary places in Whalley.	-	New schools infrastructure should be provided to accommodate growth as part of new development in each of the key settlements.
To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need	+ D S-M-T,R,C				
To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion	?				
To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	+ D S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the Borough	+++ D S-M-T,R,C	The option could bring employment opportunities to Whalley, Clitheroe and Longridge with the latter settlements being well-placed to benefit from this given the existing employment infrastructure present. It would reduce the distance to travel to work by putting homes and jobs closer together in Clitheroe and Longridge. Employment opportunities are greatest in Clitheroe and Longridge including at the Shay Lane industrial estate in Longridge. Transport connections are strongest in Clitheroe and Whalley. The 20% rural provision could help to improve viability of rural services and businesses. Growth would benefit retail in Clitheroe and Longridge.	It is not possible to say whether jobs would benefit local people or be taken by people from outside the area. Longridge is potentially more outward looking given its location on the boundary of the borough. It is not clear if the economic benefits created there would all be realised within Ribble Valley. Infrastructure development here would need cohesive support from Ribble Valley and Preston councils.		Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would help. Policy on identifying the most sustainable sites is required to maximise business benefits. Infrastructure development in Longridge would need cohesive support from Ribble Valley and Preston councils.
To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage economic inclusion	?				
To strengthen the economic base of market towns	+++ I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage rural regeneration and diversification	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To develop and market the Borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit.	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To protect and enhance biodiversity	+ D S-L-T,I,C	Avoids risk of large amounts of development in the AONB and designated nature conservation sites. If development were to be spread fairly evenly amongst the villages, this would equate to around 10-15 new dwellings in each which may be able to be accommodated with relatively little environmental impact (assuming good site selection and design). It is not possible to say that heritage constraints will be avoided with any certainty at this scale. Focus on urban areas increases the potential to develop brownfield land. There are good public transport links in Clitheroe, Whalley and to a lesser extent in	20% growth in rural areas is likely to encourage private car use and hence greenhouse gas emissions and adverse air quality. There are environmental constraints near to Clitheroe although it is not possible to say if they would be affected at this scale. There are Conservation Areas and SAMs in Longridge, Whalley and some villages although it is not possible to say if they would be affected. The AQMA in Clitheroe may be put under pressure by the increase in possible traffic. Congestion may worsen in Clitheroe and Whalley. There is floodplain in Whalley although it is	-	A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, especially in rural areas associated with the AONB. This would also include strong design policies. Localised highways improvements may be required in town centres to accommodate new growth. If combined with public transport and sustainable travel connections, the increase in traffic may be mitigated.
To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality	+/? D S-L-T,I,C				
To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource	?				
To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources	+/? D/I S-L-T,I,C				
To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary	+ D S-L-T,I,C				

Option B:					
Key aspects of the option: As Option A					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
To limit and adapt to climate change	+/- I L-T,I,C	<p>Longridge thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO₂ emissions. Also, including a spread of rural development can encourage rural service viability thereby reducing the need to travel longer distances for essential services. It can be easier to develop recycling schemes in urban areas.</p> <p>The option largely avoids floodplain although there is some uncertainty regarding Whalley (although a smaller risk than Options 1, 2 and 3).</p>	<p>uncertain whether this would be affected. It is uncertain whether there would be effects upon the townscape of Clitheroe, Longridge or Whalley.</p>		
To protect and improve air quality	+/- I L-T,R,C				
To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources	?				
To ensure sustainable use of natural resources	?				
To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling	+ D M-L-T,I,C				
To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport	+ D M-L-T,I,C				

Option C:					
Key aspects of the option: <i>Development will be distributed across the borough, to allow an appropriate scale of development within all the borough's settlements, creating opportunities for social and economic well-being and development for future generations.</i>					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime	?	The outcome of this option is extremely uncertain as there is no guidance as to where development will go. Under one scenario this may be very beneficial for certain parts of the community, for example rural areas which may see a more even spread of development across the borough and provision of more local services. However, the option may equally result in all development occurring in the market towns depending upon market forces. This could potentially put too much pressure in these areas and provide insufficient benefits to others. It would also be difficult to make strategic infrastructure planning decisions without knowing where development is likely to be located in the future.		The option does not provide any certainty regarding who will benefit or otherwise.	Far more direction is required in this option to maximise benefits where they are required and minimise adverse effects.
To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society	?				
To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities	?				
To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need	?				
To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion	?				
To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	?				
To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the Borough	?	The outcome of this option is extremely uncertain as there is no guidance as to where development will go. Under one scenario this may be very beneficial for certain parts of the community, for example rural areas which may see a more even spread of economic development across the borough and provision of rural diversification. However, the option may equally result in all development occurring in the market towns depending upon market forces.		The option does not provide any certainty regarding who will benefit or otherwise. It is far from certain whether this option will aid rural diversification or whether it will capitalise upon the advantages of economic growth in the market towns of Clitheroe and Longridge.	Far more direction is required in this option to maximise benefits where they are required and minimise adverse effects.
To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market	?				
To encourage economic inclusion	?				
To strengthen the economic base of market towns	?				
To encourage rural regeneration and diversification	?				
To develop and market the Borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit.	?				
To protect and enhance biodiversity	?	As above, this option provides no guidance on where development should be located. It is assumed that a strong supporting policy framework will help to avoid significant adverse environmental effects although this would be less effective without a clear spatial strategy which seeks to protect and enhance the environment. The uncertainty associated with this option gives rise to a risk that significant environmental harm may result. This is of particular relevance in relation to the AONB, SSSIs and European designated sites.		The option provides no certainty regarding what will be protected and/or enhanced.	Far more direction is required in this option to maximise benefits where they are required and minimise adverse effects. A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, with a major focus on rural areas. This would also include strong design policies.
To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality	?				
To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource	?				
To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources	?				
To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary	?				
To limit and adapt to climate change	?				

	Option C:				
	Key aspects of the option: <i>Development will be distributed across the borough, to allow an appropriate scale of development within all the borough's settlements, creating opportunities for social and economic well-being and development for future generations.</i>				
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
To protect and improve air quality	?				
To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources	?				
To ensure sustainable use of natural resources	?				
To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling	?				
To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport	?				

Option D:					
Key aspects of the option: Development will be focussed towards a single strategic site located to the south of Clitheroe, towards the A59. The area is of an appropriate scale to accommodate approximately half of the borough's required housing and economic development. Development will be permitted at other locations in the borough to meet identified needs distributed in accordance with option C.					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime	0	<p>The option promotes significant development on a new site in Clitheroe – the remainder would be spread across the borough to meet local needs.</p> <p>There is good access to services and public transport links in Clitheroe.</p> <p>There is also a secondary school and primary schools in Clitheroe.</p> <p>There is access to open space in Clitheroe which can encourage the pursuit of healthier lifestyles.</p> <p>The extension provides an opportunity to create a development which can draw upon the existing amenities in Clitheroe whilst also providing an element of self-sustainability.</p> <p>50% of the proposed growth would be spread across the borough. It is not known where this will be. The outcome of this is extremely uncertain as there is no guidance as to where 50% of the development will go.</p> <p>Under one scenario this may be very beneficial for certain parts of the community, for example rural areas which may see a more even spread of development across the borough and provision of more local services. However, the option may equally result in all development occurring in the market towns depending upon market forces. This could potentially put too much pressure in these areas and provide insufficient benefits to others.</p>	<p>The levels of growth in Clitheroe are substantial. There is some uncertainty over whether this could put too much pressure on local services and other areas may miss out. Given development would largely include a new extension to the town there are concerns about achieving cohesion between the new community and the existing. There would also be a significant shortfall in primary and secondary school places at the new development.</p>	<p>The option does not provide any certainty regarding who will benefit or otherwise for 50% of the growth. As such, it is not known whether rural needs would be met or not.</p> <p>There is no clear reference to other market towns such as Longridge.</p>	<p>Far more direction is required in this option to maximise benefits where they are required and minimise adverse effects.</p> <p>A slight re-balance between development in Clitheroe and other market towns could address a wider range of issues.</p> <p>Given the size of the Clitheroe extension, this development would need an appropriate degree of self-sustenance in terms of local amenities, services and public transport links.</p> <p>Good sustainable transport access (walking/cycling routes and public transport) to the Clitheroe amenities and transport hub would be essential.</p> <p>Sufficient primary and secondary school places would be required to be provided as part of development.</p> <p>A masterplan for the site should be created to enable a more strategic level of control by the council over what is developed.</p>
To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society	+/? I S-M-T,R,C				
To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities	+/? I S-M-T,R,C				
To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need	+/? D S-M-T,R,C				
To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion	- I S-M-T,R,C				
To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	+/? D S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the Borough	+/? D S-M-T,R,C	<p>The option could bring employment opportunities to Clitheroe which is well-placed to benefit from this given the existing employment and retail infrastructure present.</p> <p>It would reduce the distance to travel to work by putting homes and jobs closer together in Clitheroe.</p> <p>Transport connections are also strong in Clitheroe.</p> <p>For 50% of the proposed growth, the outcome is extremely uncertain as there is no guidance as to where development will go.</p> <p>Under one scenario this may be very beneficial for certain parts of the community, for example rural areas which may see a more even spread of economic development across the borough and provision of rural diversification. However, the option may equally result in all development occurring in the market towns depending upon market forces.</p>	<p>It is not possible to say whether jobs would benefit local people or be taken by people from outside the area.</p> <p>Significant expansion in Clitheroe may reduce its visual appeal thereby potentially affecting the tourism industry, although this is uncertain.</p> <p>For 50% of the proposed growth, the outcome is very uncertain.</p>	<p>A key concern with this option is the lack of certainty regarding who will benefit or otherwise.</p> <p>It is far from certain whether this option will aid rural diversification or whether it will capitalise upon the advantages of economic growth in the market towns other than Clitheroe.</p> <p>The option does little to address the issue of poor public transport in rural areas especially for low-income families – this may lead to disparities being increased.</p>	<p>Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would help.</p> <p>Policy on identifying the most sustainable sites is required to maximise business benefits.</p> <p>Broadband access is limited in rural areas. This would need to be improved to help support business development.</p> <p>Far more direction is required in this option to maximise benefits where they are required and minimise adverse effects.</p> <p>The strategic site should explicitly include employment provision.</p>
To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market	+/? I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage economic inclusion	? I S-M-T,R,C				
To strengthen the economic base of market towns	+/- I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage rural regeneration and diversification	?				
To develop and market the Borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit.	+ I S-M-T,R,C				

Option D:					
Key aspects of the option: Development will be focussed towards a single strategic site located to the south of Clitheroe, towards the A59. The area is of an appropriate scale to accommodate approximately half of the borough's required housing and economic development. Development will be permitted at other locations in the borough to meet identified needs distributed in accordance with option C.					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
To protect and enhance biodiversity	?	Focussing 50% of growth in an extension to Clitheroe would result in development avoiding the AONB (although may be visible from it) and statutory nature conservation designations. However, it is uncertain where 50% of development would go and this may result in impacts on these sites. Similarly, it is uncertain whether heritage constraints would be affected. There are good public transport links in Clitheroe thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO ₂ emissions. However, this may be offset by other development in the borough. Whilst the Clitheroe site would avoid development in floodplain, it is not known where other development would take place. New developments on a large scale such as at Clitheroe have potential to utilise a high degree of sustainable construction methods, energy efficiency and potentially renewable energy sources such as CHP or district heating schemes.	It is likely that greenfield land would be used for the Clitheroe development although it is uncertain whether this would be the case in other areas. The development of an extension to Clitheroe on greenfield land would affect the local landscape around the town and may affect views from the AONB. Similarly, as with all Greenfield development, there is a possibility of ground water pollution, increased surface run-off risk and it represents a less sustainable use of land. The AQMA in Clitheroe may be put under pressure if traffic is routed through the town centre. Traffic associated with the strategic site is likely to generate additional movements on the strategic highway network that may extend outside the borough. It may attract/generate trips into neighbouring areas such as Preston and Blackburn which could put pressure on the existing network. There is considerable uncertainty regarding the environmental effects of 50% of the proposed growth.	The option provides no certainty regarding what will be protected and/or enhanced for 50% of the proposed growth.	A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, especially in rural areas associated with the AONB. This would also include strong design policies, and include where large areas of growth are proposed such as in Clitheroe. Far more direction is required in this option to maximise benefits where they are required and minimise adverse effects. Alleviating potential traffic congestion would be an important aspect for this option. This could include local highways infrastructure improvements, multiple access points and provision of effective public/sustainable transport linkages.
To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality	- D S-L-T,I,C				
To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource	?				
To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources	-/? D S-L-T,I,C				
To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary	-/? D S-L-T,I,C				
To limit and adapt to climate change	?				
To protect and improve air quality	?				
To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources	?				
To ensure sustainable use of natural resources	?				
To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling	?				
To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport	+ D M-L-T,I,C				

Option E: Key aspects of the option: <i>Development will be focused towards land located at a single strategic location at Barrow. The area is of an appropriate scale to accommodate two thirds of the borough's required housing and economic development. Development will be permitted at other locations in the borough to meet identified needs distributed in accordance with option C.</i>					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime	0	The option promotes significant development on a new site in Barrow – 35% would be spread across the borough to meet local needs. Currently service provision in Barrow is relatively poor and a new development could provide this. If designed appropriately, the development has potential to become a self-sustaining settlement although there is considerable uncertainty regarding this at this stage. Transport links include road and rail (assuming a station could be built) and bus access to Clitheroe and Whalley. There is also a secondary school and primary schools in nearby Clitheroe. There is access to open space in nearby Clitheroe which can encourage the pursuit of healthier lifestyles. The option is unlikely to have a significant impact on crime levels although there is some uncertainty regarding this.	There are currently few essential services in Barrow so all services for the new development would have to be provided. There are concerns about this becoming an isolated commuter development which may not achieve social cohesion with surrounding areas or a sense of community spirit. Whilst the development would provide new housing, it is possible that these may be more attractive to residents from outside the borough. The Barrow development may detract investment away from Clitheroe and Whalley. 35% of the proposed growth would be spread across the borough. It is not known where this will be. The outcome of this is extremely uncertain as there is no guidance as to where 35% of the development will go. Under one scenario this may be very beneficial for certain parts of the community, for example rural areas which may see a more even spread of development across the borough and provision of more local services. However, the option may equally result in all development occurring in the market towns depending upon market forces. This could potentially put too much pressure in these areas and provide insufficient benefits to others. There is less uncertainty than for option D.	The option does not provide any certainty regarding who will benefit or otherwise for 35% of the growth. As such, it is not known whether rural needs would be met or not. There is no clear reference to the market towns and these areas may be overlooked.	Far more direction is required in this option to maximise benefits where they are required and minimise adverse effects. Given the size and nature of the Barrow site, this development would need an appropriate degree of self-sustenance in terms of local amenities, including greenspace provision, public transport improvements, health services, school, post office and local shops. A masterplan for the site should be created to enable a more strategic level of control by the council over what is developed.
To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society	+/? I S-M-T,R,C				
To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities	?				
To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need	+/? D S-M-T,R,C				
To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion	- I S-M-T,R,C				
To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	? D S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the Borough	? D S-M-T,R,C	The Barrow site is near to employment opportunities in Clitheroe which is well placed to benefit in terms of existing employment and retail infrastructure. Transport connections to Clitheroe and Whalley are string via road, rail and bus routes. Significant expansion in Barrow may reduce its visual appeal thereby potentially affecting the tourism industry, although this is uncertain. For 35% of the proposed growth, the outcome is extremely uncertain as there is no guidance as to where development will go. Under one scenario this may be very beneficial for certain parts of the community, for example rural areas which may see a more even spread of economic	It is not clear whether the Barrow site would include new employment opportunities other than during construction. It is possible that long-term jobs may not be created. The good road and rail access to the site may result in it becoming a commuter village with economic activity occurring outside the borough. Significant expansion in Barrow may reduce its visual appeal thereby potentially affecting the tourism industry, although this is uncertain. For 35% of the proposed growth, the outcome is extremely uncertain as there is no guidance as to where development will go. Under one scenario this may be very beneficial for certain parts of the community, for example rural areas which may see a more even spread of economic	A key concern with this option is the lack of certainty regarding who will benefit or otherwise. It is far from certain whether this option will aid rural diversification or whether it will capitalise upon the advantages of economic growth in the market towns, for example Longridge. The option does little to address the issue of poor public transport in rural areas especially for low-income families – this may lead to disparities being increased.	Employment and service opportunities should be provided within the Barrow development. Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would help. Policy on identifying the most sustainable sites is required to maximise business benefits. Broadband access is limited in rural areas. This would need to be improved to help support business development. Far more direction is required in this option to maximise benefits where they are required and minimise adverse effects.
To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market	0				
To encourage economic inclusion	0				
To strengthen the economic base of market towns	0				
To encourage rural regeneration and diversification	?				
To develop and market the Borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit.	+/? I S-M-T,R,C				

Option E:					
Key aspects of the option: <i>Development will be focused towards land located at a single strategic location at Barrow. The area is of an appropriate scale to accommodate two thirds of the borough's required housing and economic development. Development will be permitted at other locations in the borough to meet identified needs distributed in accordance with option C.</i>					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
			development across the borough and provision of rural diversification. However, the option may equally result in all development occurring in the market towns depending upon market forces.		
To protect and enhance biodiversity	+/? D/I S-L-T,I,C	The Barrow site is not located in Greenbelt, AONB or any protected ecological sites, thereby these areas would be indirectly protected. It also lies outside of known floodplain, there are no known strategic heritage constraints and it is likely to avoid exacerbation of adverse air quality within the Clitheroe AQMA. New developments on a large scale such as at Barrow have potential to utilise a high degree of sustainable construction methods, energy efficiency and potentially renewable energy sources such as CHP or district heating schemes.	It is uncertain where 35% of development would go and this may result in impacts on protected areas or floodplain. Greenfield land would be used for the Barrow development which would adversely affect the local landscape character although it is uncertain whether this would be the case in other areas. There are good public transport links to Clitheroe thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO ₂ emissions. However, the good road links may also encourage further car use over a wider area. Traffic associated with the strategic site is likely to generate additional movements on the strategic highway network that may extend outside the borough. It may attract/generate trips into neighbouring areas such as Preston and Blackburn which could put pressure on the existing network. Whilst the Barrow site would avoid development in floodplain, it is not known where other development would take place.	The option provides no certainty regarding what will be protected and/or enhanced for 35% of the proposed growth.	A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, especially in rural areas associated with the AONB. This would also include strong design policies, and include where large areas of growth are proposed such as in Barrow. This may include high standards of sustainable construction and sustainable energy schemes. Far more direction is required in this option to maximise benefits where they are required and minimise adverse effects. Alleviating potential traffic congestion would be an important aspect for this option. This could include local highways infrastructure improvements, multiple access points and provision of effective public/sustainable transport linkages.
To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality	+/- D S-L-T,I,C				
To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource	+/? D/I S-L-T,I,C				
To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources	-/? D S-L-T,I,C				
To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary	-/? D S-L-T,I,C				
To limit and adapt to climate change	+/- I S-L-T,I,C				
To protect and improve air quality	0				
To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources	+/? D/I S-L-T,I,C				
To ensure sustainable use of natural resources	+/? D/I S-L-T,I,C				
To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling	+/? D/I S-L-T,I,C				
To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport	+/? I M-L-T,I,C				

Appraisal of the Preferred Spatial Option

		Preferred Spatial Option			
		Key aspects of the option: The majority of new housing development will be concentrated within an identified strategic site located to the south of Clitheroe towards the A59 and the main urban areas of the borough including Longridge, Clitheroe and Whalley. Strategic employment opportunities will be promoted through the development of the Barrow Enterprise Site as a main location for employment, the strategic site and the Salmesbury Enterprise Zone. 27% of development will be for local needs in other settlements.			
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime	0	<p>The option promotes significant development on a new site near Clitheroe – the remainder would be focussed towards Longridge, with a small amount in Whalley, Clitheroe and other settlements.</p> <p>There is good access to services and public transport links in Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley. Clitheroe offers major retail, leisure opportunities and basic services. The centre of Longridge offers a number of amenities and basic services. There are also secondary schools and a number of primary schools in Clitheroe and Longridge.</p> <p>There is access to open space in Clitheroe and Longridge which can encourage the pursuit of healthier lifestyles.</p> <p>The strategic site provides an opportunity to create a development which can draw upon the existing amenities in Clitheroe whilst also providing an element of self-sustainability. 27% of growth in other settlements may help to meet rural housing needs and secure services in those areas depending upon local needs, wants and regeneration requirements. The option is unlikely to have a significant impact on crime levels although there is some uncertainty regarding this.</p>	<p>The levels of growth at the strategic site near Clitheroe are substantial. There is some uncertainty over whether this could put too much pressure on local services and it will be essential for the site to contain some element of self-sufficiency. There will be a long-term shortage of primary school places in Clitheroe, Whalley and the new Standen expansion and a shortage of secondary places in Longridge, Whalley and the Standen Estate.</p> <p>Given development would largely include a new extension to the town there are concerns about achieving cohesion between the new community and the existing.</p>	-	<p>Given the size of the Clitheroe extension, this development would need an appropriate degree of self-sustenance in terms of local amenities, open space, services and public transport links. Good sustainable transport access (walking/cycling routes and public transport) to the Clitheroe amenities and transport hub would be essential.</p> <p>A masterplan for the site should be created to enable a more strategic level of control by the council over what is developed.</p> <p>New schools infrastructure should be provided to accommodate growth as part of new development, notably in the Standen Estate.</p>
To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need	+ D S-M-T,R,C				
To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion	+/- I S-M-T,R,C				
To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups	++ D S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the Borough	++ D S-M-T,R,C	<p>The option could bring employment opportunities to Whalley, Clitheroe and Longridge with the latter settlements being well-placed to benefit from this given the existing employment infrastructure present. Peak Zone A Rental data for these towns has increased faster than the Lancashire average in recent years. Employment deprivation is highest in the wards of Clitheroe, Whalley and Langho. Development in Clitheroe and Whalley should benefit these areas.</p> <p>It would reduce the distance to travel to work by putting homes and jobs closer together in Clitheroe and Longridge. Clitheroe also contains some of the more economically deprived parts of the borough. The strategic site would also include some employment provision. Growth would benefit retail in Clitheroe and Longridge. Employment opportunities are greatest in Clitheroe and Longridge including at the Shay Lane industrial estate in Longridge.</p> <p>Transport connections are strongest in Clitheroe and Whalley. Employment land</p>	<p>It is not possible to say whether jobs would benefit local people or be taken by people from outside the area. Longridge is potentially more outward looking given its location on the boundary of the borough. It is not clear if the economic benefits created there would all be realised within Ribble Valley. Infrastructure development here would need cohesive support from Ribble Valley and Preston councils. Significant expansion in Clitheroe may reduce its visual appeal thereby potentially affecting the tourism industry, although this is uncertain.</p>	-	<p>Supporting policy on training and retention in new business opportunities would help.</p> <p>Infrastructure development in Longridge would need cohesive support from Ribble Valley and Preston councils. Broadband access is limited in rural areas. This would need to be improved to help support business development.</p>
To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage economic inclusion	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To strengthen the economic base of market towns	++ I S-M-T,R,C				
To encourage rural regeneration and diversification	+ I S-M-T,R,C				
To develop and market the Borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit.	+ I S-M-T,R,C				

Preferred Spatial Option					
Key aspects of the option: The majority of new housing development will be concentrated within an identified strategic site located to the south of Clitheroe towards the A59 and the main urban areas of the borough including Longridge, Clitheroe and Whalley. Strategic employment opportunities will be promoted through the development of the Barrow Enterprise Site as a main location for employment, the strategic site and the Salmesbury Enterprise Zone. 27% of development will be for local needs in other settlements.					
SA Objectives	Impact	What does this option do that is beneficial to the SA topics? Who/Where will benefit?	What does this option do that could detract from achieving the topics? Who/Where will be affected?	Is there anything that this option does not do which perhaps it should – eg any current issues which it doesn't address? Who/Where is missed out?	Could any of the adverse effects be mitigated easily? Could it be enhanced?
		would also be directed towards the Salmesbury Enterprise Zone and existing Barrow Enterprise Site. The 27% provision for other settlements could help to improve viability of rural services and businesses.			
To protect and enhance biodiversity	-/0 D/I S-L-T,I,C	Focussing 34.6% of growth in an extension to Clitheroe would result in development avoiding the AONB (although may be visible from it) and statutory nature conservation designations. There may be greater opportunity for brownfield development in Longridge.	The strategic site would be developed on a large area of greenfield land. The development of an extension to Clitheroe on greenfield land would affect the local landscape around the town and may affect views from the AONB. Similarly, as with all Greenfield development, there is a possibility of ground water pollution, increased surface run-off risk and it represents a less sustainable use of land. Similarly, it is not possible to say if localised effects may occur to biodiversity and green infrastructure resources. The AQMA in Clitheroe may be put under pressure if traffic is routed through the town centre.	The option could provide more detail regarding how the strategic site may be developed in line with sustainable development and design principles to ensure it has an appropriate degree of self-sustainability.	A strong policy framework is required to protect environmental, landscape and heritage features at the micro-scale, especially in rural areas associated with the AONB. This would also include strong design policies, and include where large areas of growth are proposed such as in Clitheroe. More direction is required in this option to maximise benefits where they are required and minimise adverse effects. More details should be provided in terms of sustainable design principles for the strategic site. The line of a roman road passes through the strategic site. It would be beneficial to incorporate the line of this into the design where possible and undertake an appropriate heritage study. Alleviating potential traffic congestion would be an important aspect for this option. This could include local highways infrastructure improvements, multiple access points and provision of effective public/sustainable transport linkages. Extra wording should be provided regarding development in smaller settlements which references the need to protect the local character, environment and built heritage.
To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality	- D S-L-T,I,C	It is not possible to say that heritage constraints will be avoided with any certainty at this scale. There are good public transport links in Clitheroe, Whalley and to a lesser extent in Longridge thereby helping to reduce private car use and hence adverse air and CO ₂ emissions. Also, including a spread of rural development can encourage rural service viability thereby reducing the need to travel longer distances for essential services.	Traffic associated with the strategic site is likely to generate additional movements on the strategic highway network that may extend outside the borough. It may attract/generate trips into neighbouring areas such as Preston and Blackburn which could put pressure on the existing network.		
To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource	?				
To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources	-/? D S-L-T,I,C				
To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary	-/? D S-L-T,I,C				
To limit and adapt to climate change	?				
To protect and improve air quality	-/? D S-L-T,I,C				
To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources	?				
To ensure sustainable use of natural resources	?				
To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling	?				
To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport	+ D M-L-T,I,C	New developments on a large scale such as at Clitheroe have potential to utilise a high degree of sustainable construction methods, energy efficiency and potentially renewable energy sources such as CHP or district heating schemes. It can be easier to develop recycling schemes in urban areas.			

Appendix D

Assessment of Final Key Statements and Development Management Policies

Appraisal of Key Statements and Development Management Policies

The tables below provide an explanation of the notation used in the assessment matrices.

Major Positive Impact	The option strongly supports the achievement of the SA Objective.	++
Positive Impact	This option contributes partially to the achievement of the SA Objective but not completely.	+
Neutral/ No Impact	There is no clear relationship between the option and/or the achievement of the SA Objective or the relationship is negligible.	0
Positive and negative outcomes	The option has a combination of both positive and negative contributions to the achievement of the SA Objective.	+/-
Uncertain outcome	It is not possible to determine the nature of the impact as there may be too many external factors that would influence the appraisal or the impact may depend heavily upon implementation at the local level. More information is required to assess the impacts.	?
Negative Impact	The option is partially detrimental to the achievement of the SA Objective.	-
Major Negative Impact	The option strongly detracts from the achievement of the SA Objective.	--

L-T	Effects likely to arise in 10-25 years of Core Strategy implementation
M-T	Effects likely to arise in 5-10 years of Core Strategy implementation
S-T	Effects likely to arise in 0-5 years of Core Strategy implementation
D	Direct effects.
I	Indirect effects.
R	Effects are reversible
IR	Effects are irreversible
H/M/L	High, medium or low certainty of prediction
C	Potential to have cumulative effect with other proposals or plans on this objective

Appraisal of General Development Management Chapter Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
1.To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime To reduce levels of crime To reduce the fear of crime To reduce levels of anti-social behaviour To encourage safety by design	Settlements, town centres	Development Management	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	DMG1: General Considerations	++ S/M/L-T, I, R, H, C	Crime levels are low in the borough although workshops have identified that fear of crime may be slightly higher. Policy DMG1 ensures that all new development will incorporate the principles of secured by design. Where new development is well integrated into existing developed areas or reuses vacant sites, this has the potential to increase surveillance levels. The creation of vibrant market towns and provision of sufficient social requirements and public services could contribute to the establishment of areas that are perceived as safe to live and work. Policy DMG3 proposes development which provides a choice of transport options, including walking and cycling. This policy could be improved by emphasising the need to ensure safety and the fear of crime are key considerations in developing off-road travel networks.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	?	
2.To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society To maintain and increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society. To improve the provision of education and training facilities To improve access to and involvement in Lifelong Learning opportunities.	n/a	Development Management	0	DMG1: General Considerations	0	The policies are not directly related to educational attainment, although in the creation of a more attractive area for business, there could be an increased in the provision of training for employees. However, the policies are unlikely to influence educational attainment to a significant degree.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	0	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	0	
3.To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities To reduce health inequalities amongst different groups in the community To improve access to health and social care services To promote healthy lifestyles	Borough-wide	Development Management	+ S/M/L-T, I, R, M, C	DMG1: General Considerations	+ S/M/L-T, I, R, M, C	DMG1 states that development should not result in the loss of open space including public and private playing fields, and recommends, where possible, enhancement of natural resources, which are important from a health perspective as it should ensure that development does not result in the cumulative loss of areas that are important for people of all ages to pursue healthy lifestyles Furthermore, considerations within the policy including traffic, safety, public safety and risks arising from former coal mining are also important from a health perspective. Whilst policy DMG2 is unlikely to have any direct health benefits, it seeks to ensure that the AONB and the open countryside are protected from development. By protecting the character and quality of these areas, as well as seeking to avoid the loss of open space resources there could be indirect health benefits as these areas are very important for formal and informal recreational pursuits. DMG3 aims to ensure that development is well located in relation to public transport. The policy generally encourages development to offer cycling and walking opportunities, which could contribute in the long-term to the achievement of healthier lifestyles. It is considered unlikely that these policies would contribute to reducing health inequalities.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	+ S/M/L-T, I, R, M, C	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	
4.To increase the	Borough-wide	Development Management	+ S/M/L-T, D, R, M,	DMG1: General Considerations	+ S/M/L-T, D, R, M, C	Whilst housing issues are not the primary focus of these policies they have the potential to make a contribution to the achievement DMG1 could be improved to make reference to refurbishment in addition to reuse of previously developed sites.

Appraisal of General Development Management Chapter Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need To tackle homelessness more effectively To increase the availability of affordable housing To reduce the number of unfit homes To reduce the number of vacant housing			C	DMG2: Strategic Considerations	+ S/M/L-T, D, R, M, C	of this SA Objective. DMG1 aims to reuse previously developed sites, which could include some refurbishment of vacant housing. It also recommends that developments should incorporate the Code for Sustainable Homes and Lifetime Homes standards although the policy could be more specific regarding the Council's expectations in relation to these standards. DMG2 will ensure that development required to meet local housing needs is permitted within rural areas, contributing to the provision of any identified requirements.
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	0	
5.To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion To develop opportunities for community involvement To promote a sense of belonging and well-being	Borough-wide	Development Management	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	DMG1: General Considerations	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	The policies identify the need for development to consider density, layout and its relationship to the surrounding environment. Open space will be preserved with no net loss, ensuring the sufficient space for public use and community use is available in future. Encouraging the development of the rural economy, whilst preserving the character of the area could also help to protect the character and community spirit of rural locations. Policy DMG3 seeks to ensure that new development is well served by public transport and that new development supports the viability of existing town and village centres.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	+ M/L-T, I, R, L/M, C	
6.To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups To improve access to cultural and leisure facilities To maintain and improve access to essential services and facilities	Borough-wide	Development Management	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	DMG1: General Considerations	+/- M/L-T, D, R, M, C	The policies will ensure that existing amenities (e.g. open space) are protected and that the potential for future amenity improvements is not affected by development. Social facilities and services will be provided for within and beyond the settlement boundaries on a needs basis, with an increase in tourism and recreational development on the small scale being permitted. Developments will generally need to demonstrate the local need and benefit. Improvements in transport facilities and access, coupled with more vibrant and viable town centres should increase access to services, including for persons of restricted mobility.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	+ S/M/L-T, D, R, M, C	
7.To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the borough To diversify employment opportunities To increase employment opportunities To encourage economic growth To encourage inward investment	Borough-wide	Development Management	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	DMG1: General Considerations	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	Policy DMG2 states that development should be well sited in relation to the existing built up areas and where development is proposed outside of settlements it must meet one of a list of key considerations. These considerations include economic considerations e.g. a tourism development, a development for forestry or agriculture, and a development compatible with the Enterprise Zone designation, and therefore there is recognition within the policies of the need to ensure sustainable economic development outside of the built up areas. Discussions at the SA workshop highlighted that development within the AONB and outside of the key settlements is needed to ensure continued vibrancy of the smaller settlements and the more rural parts of the Borough. The criteria included within Policy DMG1 that relate more to building design, layout and protection of natural resources such as open space are also relevant to the achievement of this objective as these are factors that can make a location attractive to invest in. Ensuring that new development is well located in relation to public
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	

Appraisal of General Development Management Chapter Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
					transport, walking and cycling links should also maintain and enhance access across the Borough improving the opportunity for commuting for employment reasons. An efficient and effective transport network may also be a key reason for future investment into the Borough.	
8.To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market To increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society To improve lifelong learning opportunities and work related training	n/a	Development Management	0	DMG1: General Considerations	0	Investment in employment should create new jobs and increase the skills base of the area. This may increase educational aspirations for residents within these areas, positively contributing to delivering a great place to work and study. However, the extent to which large educational benefits can be achieved through this set of policies is likely to be limited.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	0	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	0	
9.To encourage economic inclusion To reduce levels of unemployment To improve physical accessibility to jobs	Borough-wide	Development Management	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	DMG1: General Considerations	0	These policies provide a framework for ensuring that new development is well located and served by effective transport links which could make accessibility to employment opportunities both within and outside of the Borough easier in the long-term. The extent to which new employment opportunities meet the needs of those in unemployment and the extent to which they provide key training needs is uncertain although there is scope for this to be included.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	
10.To strengthen the economic base of market towns Improve vitality and vibrancy of town centres Encourage inward investment to market towns	Town centres	Development Management	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	DMG1: General Considerations	0	There will be an improvement in access around the Borough by private and public transport, reducing barriers to rural communities. Local centres will be enhanced, securing more vibrant and viable town centres. Policy DMG3 directly encourages the creation of vibrant town and village centres.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	0	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	++ M/L-T, D, R, L/M, C	
11.To encourage rural regeneration and diversification To encourage rural diversification schemes	Rural economy	Development Management	0	DMG1: General Considerations	0	Policy DMG2 encourages development which will enhance local and rural economies, and provide small scale tourism and recreational development. This will contribute to diversifying the rural economy. In addition, this Policy seeks to ensure consideration of the AONB Management Plan and its use by the Council in determining planning applications. This would ensure that issues within the AONB and priorities for that area are understood by potential developers in that location.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	+ L-T, D, R, L, C	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	0	
12.To develop and market the borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit To support the preservation and or development of high quality built and natural environments within the borough To promote the area as a destination for short and	Borough-wide	Development Management	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	DMG1: General Considerations	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	High quality design is specified, with an onus on ensuring development fits within the existing landscape and townscape character. Consideration of character, the natural environmental and the wider countryside are ensured from all development within urban settlement. The policies encourage the enhancement of town centres to become vibrant and viable areas for employment and retail. Developing good reliable network of public transport will attract investment from businesses.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	+ M/L-T, I, R, H, C	

Appraisal of General Development Management Chapter Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
long term visitors and new residents To enhance the borough's image as an attractive place to do business						
13. To protect and enhance biodiversity To protect and enhance designated sites of nature conservation importance To protect and enhance wildlife especially rare and endangered species To protect and enhance habitats and wildlife corridors To provide opportunities for people to access wildlife and open green spaces	Borough-wide, ecologically designated sites, AONB	Development Management	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	DMG1: General Considerations	++ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	The policies all seek to protect the biodiversity of the Borough from encroaching development. There will be no net loss of open space and consideration of implications for ecologically designated sites for all development. Policy DMG1 specifically recommends the enhancement of the natural environmental assets where possible. The use of previously developed sites will protect other undeveloped areas from further impacts. Policy DMG2 states that development within the AONB will also avoid habitat fragmentation. Whilst effects are recorded as neutral for Policy DMG3, there is scope for new walking and cycle routes to become new wildlife corridors in the long-term.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	0	
14. To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality To protect and enhance landscape character and quality To protect and enhance townscape character and quality To promote sensitive design in development	Open countryside, AONB	Development Management	0	DMG1: General Considerations	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	The policies generally ensure that the landscape and townscape character will be considerations for development. A high standard of design which is sympathetic to surrounding land will help to preserve the character of settlements. The use of previously developed sites will protect other undeveloped areas from further impacts. Development in the countryside and AONB will be of a small scale and aim to protect, conserve and enhance the landscape character. Policy DMG3 is focused upon mobility and transport access. Ensuring that new development is well positioned in relation to public transport links and that access by foot and cycle are also considered could help to reduce increasing congestion which itself can have adverse effects on townscape and landscape quality. Although actual locations are not specified within this policy, when coupled with the other environmental policies within the Core Strategy, protection for landscape character should be afforded.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	?	
15. To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource To protect and enhance historic buildings and sites To protect and enhance historic landscape/townscape value	Heritage resources, Borough-wide	Development Management	0	DMG1: General Considerations	+/- M/L-T, D, R, M, C	Whilst Policy DMG1 makes reference to the historic environment, this reference is very brief and there is scope for historic assets to be addressed more clearly in this policy. There are a number of Conservation Areas and heritage assets across the borough, particularly in settlements where development may be more likely to occur. For this reason, a reference at the end of a statement dealing primarily with ecological issues is considered inadequate. However, the use of previously developed sites, as recommended in this policy could help to indirectly protect heritage assets by focusing development in areas that have previously been used. The protection of the AONB in policy DMG2 will indirectly protect this historic landscape. Whilst heritage protection is not a primary focus of Policy DMG3, improved mobility by public transport, walking and cycling could in the long-term help to reduce congestion and this could indirectly protect the setting of some heritage assets – however such effects are uncertain.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	?	
					Policy DMG1 which will be considered by all planning proposals does not seek to enhance the character of the area. This amendment would improve the performance of this policy against the sustainability objective.	
					Policy DMG1 needs to more clearly reference the heritage assets that should be considered by future applicants e.g. Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, and Scheduled Ancient Monuments.	

Appraisal of General Development Management Chapter Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
					The reinvestment in railways in the area may bring about some heritage benefits if existing buildings can be refurbished.	
16.To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources To protect and enhance ground and surface water quality	Borough-wide	Development Management	?	DMG1: General Considerations	+/?	Growth will result in an increased demand on water resources. Ribble Valley does contain some areas of flood risk and this could be increased depending upon where new development is sited. Although Policy DMG1 recommends the use of sustainable construction techniques where possible which would indirectly ensure protection of water resources, and there are other policies in the Core Strategy addressing issues relating to water management, it is felt that this issue should be raised in policy DMG1. Maintaining the amount of open space within the Borough will set aside land which will allow surface water to drain away naturally. This supports the objective to protect and enhance water features.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	?	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	?	
17.To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary and to protect soil resources To reduce the amount of derelict, contaminated, and vacant land To encourage development of brownfield land where appropriate To protect soil functions	Vacant and contaminated land	Development Management	0	DMG1: General Considerations	+ M/L-T, D, R, H, C	Policy DMG1 aims to reuse and remediate areas of previously developed land where possible. This positively contributes to the achievement of the objective. The focus upon no net loss of open space further ensures that soil resources are protected and that loss of greenfield land is carefully considered. In addition, the Policy states that all new development proposals will be required to take into account the risks arising from former coal mining and, where necessary, incorporate suitable mitigation measures. Protection of the AONB and restricting development in the open countryside also helps contribute to the achievement of this objective.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	?	
18.To limit and adapt to climate change To reduce or manage flooding To reduce greenhouse gas emissions To encourage the inclusion of SuDS	Borough-wide	Development Management	0	DMG1: General Considerations	0	The policies provide general considerations for planning applications and do not directly attempt to limit climate change impacts. These issues are covered within other key statements and policies in the Core Strategy. Cross-referencing may be appropriate to ensure climate change remains a key consideration in the determining of planning applications. Policy DMG3 encourages a modal shift in transport and could potentially contribute to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions associated with private car use in the long-term. Although this will need to be supported by interventions by Lancashire County Council.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	0	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	+ L-T, I, R, M, C	
19.To protect and improve air quality To protect and improve local air quality	Borough-wide	Development Management	0	DMG1: General Considerations	++ L-T, D, R, M, C	Policy DMG1 specifically requires consideration of the potential impacts of development on air quality and mitigation of adverse impacts where possible, and therefore would directly contribute to the achievement of this SA Objective in the long-term. Policy DMG3 encourages a modal shift in transport and could potentially contribute to a reduction in emissions to air or prevent a deterioration in local air quality.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	0	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	+ L-T, I, R, M, C	
20.To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources To increase energy efficiency To increase the use of	Borough-wide	Development Management	0	DMG1: General Considerations	++ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	Policy DMG1 specifically recommends the use of sustainable construction techniques where possible and requires evidence that energy efficiency has been incorporated into schemes where possible, and could therefore positively contribute to this SA Objective in the medium to long-term. Policy DMG3 encourages a modal shift in transport and could potentially contribute to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions associated with private car use in the long-term. Although this will need to be supported by interventions by Lancashire County
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	0	
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	+ L-T, I, R, M, C	
					Cross-referencing to the Sustainable Development and Climate Change key statement may be appropriate to ensure climate change remains a key consideration in the determining of planning applications.	
					Cross-referencing to the Sustainable Development and Climate Change key statement may be appropriate to ensure energy remains a key consideration in the determining of planning applications. It could also be reference in the statement in Policy DMG1 referring to 'high standard of building design'.	

Appraisal of General Development Management Chapter Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential		
renewable energy To reduced the use of energy					Council.		
21.To ensure sustainable use of natural resources To reduce the demand for raw materials To promote the use of recycled and secondary materials in construction	Borough-wide	Development Management	0	DMG1: General Considerations	+ S/M-T, D, R, M, C	The policies provide general considerations for planning applications and do not directly attempt to address natural resource use. However, Policy DMG1 recommends the use of sustainable construction techniques where possible, which would include consideration of the sustainable use of natural resources. In addition, the re-use of buildings cited in Policy DMG1 could encourage resource use.	Cross-referencing to the Sustainable Development and Climate Change key statement may be appropriate to ensure resource efficiency remains a key consideration in the determining of planning applications.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	0		
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	0		
22.To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling To increase the proportion of waste recycling and re-use To reduce the production of waste To reduce the proportion of waste landfilled	Borough-wide	Development Management	0	DMG1: General Considerations	+ S/M-T, D, R, M, C	The policies provide general considerations for planning applications and do not directly attempt to address waste. However, Policy DMG1 recommends the use of sustainable construction techniques where possible, which would include sustainable waste management.	Cross-referencing to the Sustainable Development and Climate Change key statement may be appropriate to ensure waste management remains a key consideration in the determining of planning applications.
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	0		
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	0		
23.To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport To reduce the use of private car To encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport Encourage the uptake of ICT	Borough-wide	Development Management	0	DMG1: General Considerations	0	Policy DMG3 will encourage a modal shift in transport by providing for a variety of transport options located conveniently to new development. The policy encourages walking and cycling, as well as investment in the railways. This will aim to reduce the use of private cars, encourage walking and cycling, and encourage the use of public transport.	
				DMG2: Strategic Considerations	0		
				DMG3: Transport and Mobility	++ M/L-T, D, R, H, C		

Appraisal of Environment Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies		Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
1.To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime To reduce levels of crime To reduce the fear of crime To reduce levels of anti-social behaviour To encourage safety by design	All populated areas of the borough.	Green Belt	0	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	0	It is unlikely the environmental protection policies would have a significant effect on fear of crime and safety. Crime levels are also low in the borough. However, the policies could be strengthened by a reference to secured by design principles being incorporated into planting and urban design proposals. This would include a greater reference to improved urban townscapes and public safety. There is currently little reference to the need to protect townscape outside of the heritage policy.	None.
		Landscape	0	DME2: Landscape protection	0		
		Sustainable Development.	0	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	0		
		Heritage assets	0	DME5: Renewable energy	0		
				DME6: Water management	0		
2.To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society To maintain and increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society. To improve the provision of education and training facilities To improve access to and involvement in Lifelong Learning opportunities.	Locations of heritage assets – Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, Scheduled Monuments.	Green Belt	0	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	0	Only the heritage policy has potential to benefit education and learning indirectly through its protection. This could be expanded by referencing the value of preserving heritage assets and making the public aware of their value and history. It is noted that the supporting text to the Heritage Assets Key Statement makes reference to the importance of heritage for educating people about the past.	None.
		Landscape	0	DME2: Landscape protection	0		
		Sustainable Development.	0	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C		
		Heritage assets	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C	DME5: Renewable energy	0		
				DME6: Water management	0		
3.To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities To reduce health inequalities amongst different groups in the community To improve access to health and social care services To promote healthy lifestyles	Accessible green spaces and recreational areas. Population centres served by water supply.	Green Belt	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C	Access and proximity to greenspace, including open countryside, valued landscapes and wooded areas is known to benefit wellbeing and encourage healthy lifestyles. The policies protecting these features may indirectly benefit health and wellbeing in these areas. The Sustainable Development Key Statement and DME6 also make reference to the need to reduce the risk of flooding which itself could indirectly cause physical and mental health problems. DME6 also seeks to prevent water pollution and reduce consumption. Both issues could adversely affect human health through pollution of the water supply or water shortage.	None.
		Landscape	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C	DME2: Landscape protection	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C		
		Sustainable Development.	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	0		
		Heritage assets	0	DME5: Renewable energy	0		
				DME6: Water management	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C		
4.To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need To tackle homelessness more effectively To increase the availability of affordable housing	Unlikely to result in significant effects.	Green Belt	0	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	0	The policies would not significantly affect housing provision although has potential to restrict development in sensitive environmental areas.	None.
		Landscape	0	DME2: Landscape protection	0		
		Sustainable Development.	0	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	0		
		Heritage assets	0	DME5: Renewable energy	0		
				DME6: Water management	0		

Appraisal of Environment Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies		Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
To reduce the number of unfit homes To reduce the number of vacant housing							
5.To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion To develop opportunities for community involvement To promote a sense of belonging and well-being	Rural and urban settlements.	Green Belt	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C	Policies which seek to protect the quality of the environment and an area's natural assets have the potential to indirectly and cumulatively benefit a community's spirit through engendering a feeling of pride and belonging.	None.
		Landscape	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C	DME2: Landscape protection	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C		
		Sustainable Development.	0	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C		
		Heritage assets	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C	DME5: Renewable energy	0		
				DME6: Water management	0		
6.To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups To improve access to cultural and leisure facilities To maintain and improve access to essential services and facilities	Areas of accessible natural greenspace.	Green Belt	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C	The Key Statements and policies which seek to protect natural greenspace assets and cultural heritage assets can indirectly benefit access to cultural and recreational opportunities for the local population.	None.
		Landscape	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C	DME2: Landscape protection	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C		
		Sustainable Development.	0	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C		
		Heritage assets	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C	DME5: Renewable energy	0		
				DME6: Water management	0		
7.To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the borough To diversify employment opportunities To increase employment opportunities To encourage economic growth To encourage inward investment	Borough-wide.	Green Belt	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C	Collectively, the Key Statements and policies which seek to protect the natural and historic environment in the borough can contribute towards the attractiveness of the area as a place to live, work and invest in. The high quality natural environment is also a source of income for the borough owing to the AONB designation which provides tourism income. Indeed, the protection of the high quality natural environment is identified in the Ribble Valley Economic Strategy as a key economic asset. Renewable energy schemes and sustainable construction schemes have the potential to create jobs. However, it is not always certain that these jobs will be locally sourced.	None.
		Landscape	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C	DME2: Landscape protection	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C		
		Sustainable Development.	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C		
		Heritage assets	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C	DME5: Renewable energy	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C		
				DME6: Water management	0		
8.To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market To increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society To improve lifelong	No significant effects.	Green Belt	0	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	0	Although there may be some limited indirect benefits to skills development relating to the renewable energy sector, overall these policies would have little significant benefit to this SA objective.	None.
		Landscape	0	DME2: Landscape protection	0		
		Sustainable Development.	0	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	0		
		Heritage assets	0	DME5: Renewable energy	0		

Appraisal of Environment Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies		Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
learning opportunities and work related training				DME6: Water management	0		
9.To encourage economic inclusion To reduce levels of unemployment To improve physical accessibility to jobs	No significant effects.	Green Belt	0	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	0	Although there may be some indirect benefits to employment development relating to the renewable energy sector, overall these policies would have little significant benefit to this SA objective and it would not be possible to identify if jobs would be created for those most at need.	None.
		Landscape	0	DME2: Landscape protection	0		
		Sustainable Development.	0	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	0		
		Heritage assets	0	DME5: Renewable energy	0		
				DME6: Water management	0		
10.To strengthen the economic base of market towns Improve vitality and vibrancy of town centres Encourage inward investment to market towns	Clitheroe, Longridge, Whalley.	Green Belt	0	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	0	The Key Statements and policies relating to the protection of the built environment, including heritage have potential to collectively increase the attractiveness of market towns and hence encourage investment and vibrancy. The landscape policies reflect the importance of townscape as well as landscape, and the references to built form etc are recognised.	
		Landscape	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C	DME2: Landscape protection	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C		
		Sustainable Development.	0	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C		
		Heritage assets	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C	DME5: Renewable energy	0		
				DME6: Water management	0		
11.To encourage rural regeneration and diversification To encourage rural diversification schemes	All rural areas of the borough	Green Belt	- S-L-T, I, R, M, C	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	- S-L-T, I, R, M, C	Greenbelt protection may limit rural diversification in those areas. Given the extent of the AONB, the landscape protection policy may also limit some rural diversification schemes if inappropriate. Similarly, the Sustainable Development Key Statement which requires low carbon development may restrict some rural conversions. It is uncertain how biodiversity and heritage protection policy may affect diversification – it could in some cases be a restriction whereas in others it may be a driver. The possibility of renewable energy schemes in the right locations may be a driver for diversification in those areas.	Whilst there are some negative effects identified which may restrict some types of rural diversification in some areas, no changes are proposed.
		Landscape	- S-L-T, I, R, M, C	DME2: Landscape protection	- S-L-T, I, R, M, C		
		Sustainable Development.	- S-L-T, I, R, M, C	DME3: Species protection and conservation	?		
		Biodiversity	?	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	?		
		Heritage assets	?	DME5: Renewable energy	+ S-L-T, I, R, M, C		
				DME6: Water management	0		
12.To develop and market the borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit To support the preservation and or development of high quality built and natural environments within the borough To promote the area as a destination for short and long term visitors and new residents	Borough-wide.	Green Belt	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C	Collectively, the Key Statements and policies which seek to protect the natural and historic environment in the borough can contribute towards the attractiveness of the area as a place to live, work and invest in. Protection of the natural environment, coupled with high quality design enhancing the area will ensure there area remains attractive to inward investment.	
		Landscape	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C	DME2: Landscape protection	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C		
		Sustainable Development.	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C	DME3: Species protection and conservation	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C		
		Heritage assets	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C	DME5: Renewable energy	+ S-L-T, I, R, L, C		
				DME6: Water management	0		

Appraisal of Environment Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies		Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
To enhance the borough's image as an attractive place to do business							
13. To protect and enhance biodiversity To protect and enhance designated sites of nature conservation importance To protect and enhance wildlife especially rare and endangered species To protect and enhance habitats and wildlife corridors To provide opportunities for people to access wildlife and open green spaces	Borough-wide SSSIs, LNRs, BHSs, SACs, SPAs, Ancient Woodland, BAP Species, Protected Species	Green Belt	+ S-L-T, D, R, H, C	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	+ S-L-T, D, R, H, C	The policies generally seek to protect biodiversity across the Borough, including habitats and species, designated sites and landscape features which also provide for a variety of habitats. Policy DME3 states that with regard to sites designated under European legislation, the Authority will follow the relevant processes as defined within the relevant Habitats Directive. Adhering to this statement would ensure that development through the Core Strategy would not generate any adverse impacts upon such sites within the Borough. Policy DME3 also promotes enhancement in line with the Lancashire BAP. The policies seek to avoid habitat fragmentation and protect features from pollution risk. Policy DME5 will introduce renewable energy schemes into the area, and in certain circumstances within or close to areas of biodiversity value. The policy aims to avoid any impacts on designated sites, and afford mitigation as necessary. There could still be some impacts on protected species and non-designated areas of habitat as a result of this type of development. Policy DME6 states that the Authority will also seek the protection of the Borough's water courses for their biodiversity value.	
		Landscape	+ S-L-T, I, R, H, C	DME2: Landscape protection	+ S-L-T, I, R, H, C		
		Sustainable Development.	0	DME3: Species protection and conservation	+ S-L-T, I, R, H, C		
		Biodiversity	++ S-L-T, D, R, H, C	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	0		
		Heritage assets	0	DME5: Renewable energy	?		
				DME6: Water management	+ S-L-T, D, R, H, C		
14. To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality To protect and enhance landscape character and quality To protect and enhance townscape character and quality To promote sensitive design in development	AONB, Open Countryside, wider rural landscape	Green Belt	+ M/L-T, D, R, H, C	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	++ M/L-T, D, R, H, C	The Landscape Key Statement clearly identifies the requirement for the borough's landscape to be protected and enhanced. The preservation of the Green Belt will also help to protect the landscape. The policies generally provide good protection of the landscapes of the Borough. Key Statement DME2 Landscape Protection positively contributes to the achievement of this SA Objective, focusing upon protected landscape features and referring to landscape character, the AONB Management Plan and the Lancashire County Council Landscape Character Assessment. The policy also highlights that new developments must consider the potential cumulative effects with any developments and how that could potentially affect landscape character. Policy DME3 identifies townscape as an important landscape feature that should be protected, and states that development proposals that harm such features will be refused. There are a number of towns and settlements in the borough that have a very distinctive townscape.	The value of historic landscapes across the borough should be addressed within the landscape key statement and policy and reference should be made to the Lancashire Historic Landscape Characterisation programme.
		Landscape	+ M/L-T, D, R, H, C	DME2: Landscape protection	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C		
		Sustainable Development.	0	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C		
		Heritage assets	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	DME5: Renewable energy	+ S-L-T, D, R, M, C		
				DME6: Water management	0		
15. To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource To protect and enhance historic buildings and sites To protect and enhance historic landscape/townscape value	Historic Buildings, heritage assets and townscape	Green Belt	+/- M/L-T, I/D, R, M, C	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	0	The Green Belt Key Statement policy should look to refurbish existing sites within the green belt to minimise the loss of greenfield land in the green belt, and also to maintain any buildings of historic value. The policies will generally seek to ensure new development is in keeping with the existing settlement and preserve heritage assets and their setting. Renewable energy development could conflict with the objective where heritage assets and their setting may be affected although DME5 states that development affecting heritage assets and their setting will not be permitted.	The green belt key statement could be amended to encourage refurbishment of buildings.
		Landscape	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	DME2: Landscape protection	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C		
		Sustainable Development.	0	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	+ M/L-T, I/D, R, M, C		
		Heritage assets	++ M/L-T, I/D, R, M, C	DME5: Renewable energy	+ M/L-T, I/D, R, M, C		
				DME6: Water management	0		
16. To protect and enhance the quality of	Water features	Green Belt	0	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	Policy DME6 directly ensures that development will not be permitted where it will cause pollution to surface and groundwater resources.	None.
		Landscape	0	DME2: Landscape	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C		

Appraisal of Environment Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
water features and resources To protect and enhance ground and surface water quality				protection		Where biodiversity and landscape features, such as ponds and riverine designations are protected, these will indirectly ensure some protection and enhancement for surface water. Reducing the amount of tree removal within the Borough will also protect surface water features from additional run-off (through Policy DME1). There is an uncertainty related to the renewable energy policy as the type of acceptable technologies and locations are not specified. There could potentially be issues related to water quality brought about by certain types of renewable, for example, through the processing of waste to fuel and energy although the plan has to be read as a whole and there are other policies dealing with these issues.
		Sustainable Development.	0	DME3: Species protection and conservation	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	
		Biodiversity	+ M/L-T, I, R, M, C	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	0	
		Heritage assets	0	DME5: Renewable energy	?	
				DME6: Water management	++ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	
17.To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary and to protect soil resources To reduce the amount of derelict, contaminated, and vacant land To encourage development of brownfield land where appropriate To protect soil functions	Derelict, vacant and contaminated areas and buildings	Green Belt	+ M/L-T, I, R, L, C	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	+ M/L-T, I, R, L, C	The protection of ecologically designated areas and the AONB will direct new development towards other areas of the Borough and potentially derelict or vacant areas which would support this SA Objective. The Green Belt key statement states that new development in the Green Belt will be limited. This Key Statement could make reference to supporting the refurbishment of existing buildings and sites to minimise the loss of greenfield land in the green belt, to protect landscape character and also to maintain any buildings of historic value. Whilst policy DME4 will protect the setting of heritage features, the policy does not encourage refurbishment where possible and this could be included within the policy to potentially bring a building back into use. By encouraging the protection of trees and woodlands, there will be an avoidance of additional run-off and associated loss of soil. The Biodiversity and Geodiversity Key Statement also acknowledges the intrinsic value of soils and the importance of the protection from development. Soils provide a range of functions including infiltration, carbon sequestration and so are important to protect in their own right.
		Landscape	+ M/L-T, I, R, L, C	DME2: Landscape protection	+ M/L-T, I, R, L, C	
		Sustainable Development.	0	DME3: Species protection and conservation	+ M/L-T, I, R, L, C	
		Biodiversity	+ M/L-T, I, R, L, C	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	- M/L-T, I, R, M, C	
		Heritage assets	0	DME5: Renewable energy	0	
				DME6: Water management	0	
18.To limit and adapt to climate change To reduce or manage flooding To reduce greenhouse gas emissions To encourage the inclusion of SuDS	Borough-wide, new development, greenfield land	Green Belt	+/- M/L-T, D, R, L, C	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	0	Policies related to sustainable development, renewable energy and water management actively provide for inclusion of sustainable drainage, renewable energy and reduction of carbon emissions across the Borough. Whilst development within the Green Belt will be relatively low scale and afford a level of protection for greenbelt, the Key Statement will allow limited development. This Key Statement and others should look to refurbish existing sites within the Green Belt to minimise the loss of greenfield land to provide natural infiltration and flood management benefits. Policies which introduce low carbon technologies and improve energy efficiency will indirectly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from new developments.
		Landscape	0	DME2: Landscape protection	0	
		Sustainable Development.	+ M/L-T, D/I, R, H, C	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0	
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	0	
		Heritage assets	0	DME5: Renewable energy	++ M/L-T, D/I, R, H, C	
				DME6: Water management	++ M/L-T, D/I, R, H, C	
19.To protect and improve air quality To protect and improve local air quality	Borough-wide	Green Belt	0	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	0	The policies do not directly aim to improve air quality. Whilst air quality is generally good across the Borough there is an AQMA designated as a result of vehicular emissions. The need to reduce travel is addressed in other parts of the Core Strategy. However, it may be considered an omission to exclude a specific policy that seeks to protect and enhance air quality where possible. Policies which introduce low carbon technologies and improve energy efficiency will indirectly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from new developments.
		Landscape	0	DME2: Landscape protection	0	
		Sustainable Development.	+ M/L-T, I, R, L, C	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0	
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	0	
		Heritage assets	0	DME5: Renewable energy	+ M/L-T, I, R, L, C	
				DME6: Water management	0	

Appraisal of Environment Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies		Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
20.To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources To increase energy efficiency To increase the use of renewable energy To reduced the use of energy	New develops within the Borough	Green Belt	0	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	0	The sustainable development key statement encourages development to optimise energy efficiencies through design and technology. Key Statement DME5 addresses renewable energy schemes and whilst this supports this objective it is considered that the Key Statement could be broader in its scope – it is currently selective in relation to the impacts that need to be assessed for such developments. Such development may also require Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and this could also be referenced in the policy.	Consider strengthening the contents of Key Statement DME5 to more thoroughly outline the types of assessment that may be required for this type of development.
		Landscape	0	DME2: Landscape protection	0		
		Sustainable Development.	++ M/L-T, D/I, R, H, C	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	0		
		Heritage assets	0	DME5: Renewable energy	++ M/L-T, D/I, R, H, C		
				DME6: Water management	0		
21.To ensure sustainable use of natural resources To reduce the demand for raw materials To promote the use of recycled and secondary materials in construction	New develops within the Borough	Green Belt	0	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	0	The sustainable development key statement encourages development to incorporate recycled and reclaimed materials.	
		Landscape	0	DME2: Landscape protection	0		
		Sustainable Development.	++ S/M/L-T, D, R, H, C	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	0		
		Heritage assets	0	DME5: Renewable energy	0		
				DME6: Water management	0		
22.To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling To increase the proportion of waste recycling and re-use To reduce the production of waste To reduce the proportion of waste landfilled	n/a	Green Belt	0	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	0	The policies are not directly related to this objective. Policy DME5 could contribute to reducing waste to landfill if energy from waste technology is used within the Borough.	Energy from waste may be an option for consideration across the Borough to minimise the percentage of waste which is sent to landfill. However, the provision of waste management infrastructure is a county level issue.
		Landscape	0	DME2: Landscape protection	0		
		Sustainable Development.	0	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	0		
		Heritage assets	0	DME5: Renewable energy	0		
				DME6: Water management	0		
23.To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport To reduce the use of private car To encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport Encourage the uptake of ICT	n/a	Green Belt	0	DME1: Protecting trees and woodlands	0	The policies are not directly related to the objective, although a sustainable development policy could be expected to make reference to sustainable transport for new developments.	The key statement for sustainable development could be improved by linking to transport policies which encourage a modal switch from the private car to public transport and cycling or walking.
		Landscape	0	DME2: Landscape protection	0		
		Sustainable Development.	0	DME3: Species protection and conservation	0		
		Biodiversity	0	DME4: Protecting heritage assets	0		
		Heritage assets	0	DME5: Renewable energy	0		
				DME6: Water management	0		

Appraisal of Housing Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential		
1.To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime To reduce levels of crime To reduce the fear of crime To reduce levels of anti-social behaviour To encourage safety by design	n/a	Housing Provision	?	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	?	The provision of new housing could potentially increase concerns about fear of crime as a result of a new population being introduced to a community. Discussions at the SA drop in session highlighted that this was a potential fear, particularly if large areas of affordable housing were created. However, all housing developments would be in accordance with other Key Statements in the Core Strategy and the principles of secure by design are a central theme of them. Redevelopment of currently vacant or brownfield sites could potentially offer localised benefits for crime by bringing these sites back into an active use and increasing levels of natural surveillance. The presence of new traveller sites could also potentially increase concerns about fear of crime although these sites would also be subject to the other Key Statements of the Core Strategy. In view of the effects of new housing and traveller sites on fear of crime in the community effects are assessed as uncertain for Key Statements DMH1 and DMH2.	The key statement for housing provision could be improved by reference to using reusing previously developed sites where possible.
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	?		
		Affordable Housing	?	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	0		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	0		
DMH5: Residential and curtilage extensions	0						
2.To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society To maintain and increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society. To improve the provision of education and training facilities To improve access to and involvement in Lifelong Learning opportunities.	Travelling communities	Housing Provision	0	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	0	Provision of additional housing is unlikely to provide a significant increase in participation in education and training across the Borough. However, it will be essential to ensure that the provision of new housing is accompanied by appropriate provision of other services including schools – it has been identified by Lancashire County Council that there is likely to be a need for additional school provision – this is essential to ensure that facilities for existing residents are not compromised. Providing travelling communities with suitably located sites with reasonable access to goods and services may encourage the uptake of education or training by young people.	
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	+ M/L-T, I, R, L, C		
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	0		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	0		
DMH5: Residential and curtilage extensions	0						
3.To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities To reduce health inequalities amongst different groups in the community To improve access to health and social care services To promote healthy lifestyles	Elderly populations, carers, travelling communities	Housing Provision	0	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	The Key Statements for housing development will ensure that new residential property is close to existing settlements, helping to build communities and improving access to key services. Key Statement DMH1 is clear about the need to ensure that housing is provided for the elderly population. Access to services will be ensured for the travelling community.	
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C		
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	0		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	0		
DMH5: Residential and curtilage extensions	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C						
4.To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas	Affordable housing stock, vacant/derelict farm buildings	Housing Provision	++ S/M/L-T, D, R, H, C	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	++ S/M/L-T, D, R, H, C	The housing policies will work together to ensure sufficient housing stock is available across the plan period to meet local needs. By ensuring this housing is only available for local populations and restricting the development of holiday homes, the policies will ensure populations that wish to, can remain within the Borough.	Whilst the Core Strategy makes reference to the Code for Sustainable Homes and the Lifetime Homes standards, the Core Strategy could be more specific about the Council's expectations about achieving specific levels.
		Housing Balance	++ S/M/L-T, D, R, H, C	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	0		
		Affordable Housing	++ S/M/L-T, D, R,	DMH3: Dwellings in	++ S/M/L-T, D, R,		

Appraisal of Housing Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies		Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
most at need To tackle homelessness more effectively To increase the availability of affordable housing To reduce the number of unfit homes To reduce the number of vacant housing			H, C	the open countryside	H, C	Accommodation for the elderly is a consideration of the policies and extensions to developments for care of elderly relatives will be permitted. The policy does not seek to define what an unfit home would entail, and does not define the quality of housing which should be provided.	
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	++ S/M/L-T, D, R, H, C		
				DMH5: Residential and curtilage extensions	+ S/M/L-T, D, R, H, C		
5.To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion To develop opportunities for community involvement To promote a sense of belonging and well-being	Communities within settlements, traveller community	Housing Provision	+ M/L-T, I, R, M	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	+ M/L-T, I, R, M	A number of the settlements and villages in the Ribble Valley have a strong community spirit. The Key Statements for housing development will ensure that new residential property is close to existing settlements, helping to build communities and improve access to key services. Development and conversions within the countryside will need to be connected to existing settlements or groups of housing, ensuring the protection and connection to local small communities. The policies will ensure that people are able to work and live within the same area, helping to promote a sense of belonging to an area.	The design of new housing sites should be such that it encourages integration with the existing community and its facilities, for example through effective pedestrian links, careful positioning in relation to key services and facilities.
		Housing Balance	+ M/L-T, I, R, M,	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	+ M/L-T, I, R, M		
		Affordable Housing	+ M/L-T, I, R, M,	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	0		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	+ M/L-T, I, R, M		
DMH5: Residential and curtilage extensions	+ M/L-T, I, R, M						
6.To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups To improve access to cultural and leisure facilities To maintain and improve access to essential services and facilities	Persons working within the Borough, residents in new housing development and travelling communities.	Housing Provision	0	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	+ M/L-T, D, R, H	The Key Statements highlight the need for new housing and traveller sites to be well located in relation to services; ensuring good access to services for those moving into the area. However this is not expected to significantly improve access to goods and services for the majority of residents. There is also likely to be a requirement in the long-term for new developments to provide additional services such as education as identified in the planning obligation sections of the Core Strategy.	
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	+ M/L-T, D, R, M		
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	0		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	0		
				DMH5: Residential and curtilage extensions	0		
7.To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the borough To diversify employment opportunities To increase employment opportunities To encourage economic growth To encourage inward investment	n/a	Housing Provision	0	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	0	Whilst sufficient housing stock will be essential for attracting new workers and businesses to an area, the policies are not likely to have a significant effect on economic growth.	
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	0		
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	0		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	0		
DMH5: Residential and curtilage extensions	0						
8.To develop the skills	n/a	Housing Provision	0	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	0	Whilst sufficient housing stock will be essential for attracting new workers and businesses to an area, the policies are not likely to	

Appraisal of Housing Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies		Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market To increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society To improve lifelong learning opportunities and work related training		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	0	have a significant effect on economic growth and associated skills and training.	
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	0		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	0		
				DMH5: Residential and curtilage extensions	0		
9.To encourage economic inclusion To reduce levels of unemployment To improve physical accessibility to jobs	Persons working within the Borough,	Housing Provision	0	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	0	Unlikely to be significant effects on this SA Objective.	
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	0		
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	0		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	0		
10.To strengthen the economic base of market towns Improve vitality and vibrancy of town centres Encourage inward investment to market towns	n/a	Housing Provision	0	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	0	The policies are not directly related to the objective to improve vitality in town centres and encourage inward investment. However, the provision of housing in rural settlements and villages in accordance with the spatial strategy could potentially help to support the viability of local services.	
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	0		
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	0		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	0		
				DMH5: Residential and curtilage extensions	0		
11.To encourage rural regeneration and diversification To encourage rural diversification schemes	Rural economy	Housing Provision	0	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	0	The policy for gypsy and travellers sites will avoid the loss of best grade agricultural land for conversion. This protection, whilst avoiding loss and helping to protect existing agricultural incomes, will not significantly encourage the diversification of the rural economy. Policy DMH4 is also very clear that any conversion of barns or buildings in rural locations to housing must not have an adverse effect on the rural economy.	
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C		
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	0		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	0		
				DMH5: Residential and curtilage extensions	0		
12.To develop and market the borough as a	Residents within Borough, tourism	Housing Provision	0	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	0	The housing policies will work together to ensure sufficient housing stock is available across the plan period to meet local needs of residents. This should help to ensure that the borough	The policies could make reference to the Code for Sustainable Homes at Level 3 or above to ensure a suitable standard of sustainable housing is provided within all developments.
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and	0		

Appraisal of Housing Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
<p>place to live, work, do business and visit</p> <p>To support the preservation and or development of high quality built and natural environments within the borough</p> <p>To promote the area as a destination for short and long term visitors and new residents</p> <p>To enhance the borough's image as an attractive place to do business</p>				Traveller Accommodation		<p>remains a popular place to live for existing residents. Furthermore, the requirement for new housing and extensions to be well designed and located will also protect the quality of the natural environment which is an important asset for local residents and visitors.</p> <p>Effects are assessed as neutral as these policies in isolation are unlikely to have significant effects.</p>	
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	0		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	0		
				DMH5: Residential and curtilage extensions	0		
<p>13. To protect and enhance biodiversity</p> <p>To protect and enhance designated sites of nature conservation importance</p> <p>To protect and enhance wildlife especially rare and endangered species</p> <p>To protect and enhance habitats and wildlife corridors</p> <p>To provide opportunities for people to access wildlife and open green spaces</p>	Ecologically designated sites, protected species	Housing Provision	0	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	0	<p>The policy for traveller sites will ensure no adverse effects arise to the general environment, SSSIs or Sites of Biological Interest. This will not afford protection for other ecological designations or protected species within the area. Similarly, development within the countryside could have adverse effects on biodiversity and the policy affords no protection to the natural environment.</p> <p>Policy SMH4 does seek to avoid impacts on nature conservation. Generally these three policies give a mixed message on conservation and enhancement of biodiversity.</p>	<p>The policies could be improved through cross-referencing to policies DME3 and the biodiversity key statement to ensure full protection for the ecological environment.</p>
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	+/- M/L-T, D, IR, M, C		
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	- S-L-T, D, IR, M, C		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C		
<p>14. To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality</p> <p>To protect and enhance landscape character and quality</p> <p>To protect and enhance townscape character and quality</p> <p>To promote sensitive design in development</p>	AONB, wider landscape, open countryside	Housing Provision	0	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	0	<p>The policies generally seek to ensure the development of new housing, conversions or extensions of dwellings will maintain the existing character of the area or wider landscape. The creation of new traveller's sites will also be undertaken with regard to the surrounding character of the area, contributing to the achievement of the objective.</p>	<p>Reference could be made to the AONB Management Plan in Key Statements DMH3 and DMH4 regarding dwellings in the open countryside.</p>
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C		
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C		
<p>15. To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource</p> <p>To protect and enhance historic buildings and sites</p>	Heritage assets and their setting, historic landscape	Housing Provision	0	DNH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	0	<p>The policies related to gypsy and travellers, dwellings in the countryside and extensions all afford some level of protection for landscape character, which ensures some level of sensitive siting will be incorporated into design. However, there remains a potential for adverse effects on the setting of historic assets and townscape which should form a part of these policies. The conversion of barns in accordance with current good practice</p>	<p>The policies DMH2, DMH3 and DMH5 could be improved by making reference to the need to protect the historic environment, or by cross-reference to policy DME4.</p>
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	+/- M/L-T, D, IR, M, C		
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	+/- M/L-T, D, IR, M, C		

Appraisal of Housing Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
To protect and enhance historic landscape/townscape value				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	+ M/L-T, D, R, M, C	guidance will ensure historic features and assets remain and the character of the area will be protected and potentially enhanced.
				DMH5: Residential and curtilage extensions	+/- M/L-T, D, IR, M, C	
16.To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources To protect and enhance ground and surface water quality	Surface and groundwater features	Housing Provision	0	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	0	The policies related to housing could affect surface and groundwater quality during construction, however with appropriate planning for construction environmental management, the risk of this will be minimised. The gypsy and traveller accommodations will be developed such that there is no effect on the environment. This policy could be strengthened to ensure that appropriate planning for drainage and sewerage is part of these sites.
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	+ M/L-T, I, IR, L, C	
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	0	
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	0	
				DMH5: Residential and curtilage extensions	0	
17.To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary and to protect soil resources To reduce the amount of derelict, contaminated, and vacant land To encourage development of brownfield land where appropriate To protect soil functions	Derelict, vacant and contaminated land	Housing Provision	0	DMH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	0	Key Statement DMH2 encourages the reuse of previously developed land. It also states that these sites should not result in the loss of the best and most versatile agricultural land. This is important in view of the lack of high quality agricultural land in the borough (most is Grade 4 (poor) or Grade 5 (very poor quality)). Key Statements DMH3 and DMH4 will contribute to reducing the number of vacant buildings and associated land within the Borough.
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	+ M/L-T, D, R, H, C	
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	+ M/L-T, D, R, H, C	
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	+ M/L-T, D, R, H, C	
				DMH5: Residential and curtilage extensions	0	
18.To limit and adapt to climate change To reduce or manage flooding To reduce greenhouse gas emissions To encourage the inclusion of SuDS	Borough-wide	Housing Provision	?	DNH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	0	The housing and accommodation policies do not make reference to any climate change mitigation or adaptation. This gives rise to an uncertainty with regard to the quality and sustainability of dwellings which will be provided under these policies.
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	?	
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	?	
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	?	
				DMH5: Residential and curtilage extensions	?	
19.To protect and improve air quality To protect and improve	Borough-wide	Housing Provision	0	DNH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	0	There is a clear message within the Key Statements of the need for housing to be well positioned in relation to existing facilities which could help to avoid a significant increase in traffic flow as a result of new housing development. This could help to protect air quality. However, there is likely to be an increase in traffic flows
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	0	
						The policies could make reference to the Code for Sustainable Homes at Level 3 or above to ensure a suitable standard of sustainable housing is provided within all developments. Cross reference to policies DME6 and the Sustainable Development and Climate change key statement is also recommended to integrate the requirements within all dwellings where appropriate.

Appraisal of Housing Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies		Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
local air quality		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	0	as a result of new development which could potentially cause localised increases in emissions to air although this would depend upon the increases and levels of congestion.	
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	0		
				DMH5: Residential and cartilage extensions	0		
20.To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources To increase energy efficiency To increase the use of renewable energy To reduced the use of energy	New housing stock, traveller accommodation sites	Housing Provision	?	DNH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	?	The housing and accommodation policies do not make reference to any energy efficient improvements or requirement to use renewable energy. This gives rise to an uncertainty with regard to the quality and sustainability of dwellings which will be provided under these policies.	The policies could make reference to the Code for Sustainable Homes at Level 3 or above to ensure a suitable standard of sustainable housing is provided within all developments. Cross reference to the Sustainable Development and Climate change key statement is also recommended to integrate the requirements within all dwellings and travellers sites where appropriate. Energy efficiency should also be a consideration in the development of sites for travelling communities.
		Housing Balance	?	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	?		
		Affordable Housing	?	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	?		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	?		
				DMH5: Residential and cartilage extensions	?		
21.To ensure sustainable use of natural resources To reduce the demand for raw materials To promote the use of recycled and secondary materials in construction	New housing stock, traveller accommodation sites	Housing Provision	?	DNH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	?	The housing and accommodation policies do not make reference to a need to use recycled or secondary sources of materials. This gives rise to an uncertainty with regard to the type of materials to be used under these policies.	The policies could make reference to the Code for Sustainable Homes at Level 3 or above to ensure materials sourcing is considered for all developments. Cross reference to the Sustainable Development and Climate change key statement is also recommended to integrate the requirements within all dwellings and travellers sites where appropriate. Materials sourcing and resource efficiency should also be a consideration in the development of sites for travelling communities.
		Housing Balance	?	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	?		
		Affordable Housing	?	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	?		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	?		
				DMH5: Residential and cartilage extensions	?		
22.To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling To increase the proportion of waste recycling and re-use To reduce the production of waste To reduce the proportion of waste landfilled	New housing stock, traveller accommodation sites	Housing Provision	?	DNH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	?	The housing and accommodation policies do not make reference to provision of waste facilities, or to encouraging a reduction in waste production. This gives rise to an uncertainty with these policies in relation to the objective.	The policies could make reference to the Code for Sustainable Homes at Level 3 or above to ensure future waste management facilities are a consideration for future dwelling design. Cross reference to the Sustainable Development and Climate change key statement is also recommended to integrate the requirements within all dwellings and travellers sites where appropriate. Waste management should also be a consideration in the development of sites for travelling communities.
		Housing Balance	?	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	?		
		Affordable Housing	?	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	?		
				DMH4: The conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings	?		
				DMH5: Residential and cartilage extensions	?		
23.To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport To reduce the use of private car To encourage walking,	n/a	Housing Provision	0	DNH1: Affordable Housing Criteria	0	The policies are not directly related to transportation. They generally ensure that new development will be located within or adjacent to existing settlements or groups of houses. Conversions of farm dwellings will be permitted where additional infrastructure is not required.	The policies could make cross-reference to DMG3 which ensures that development takes advantage of existing infrastructure and encourages opportunities for walking and cycling.
		Housing Balance	0	DMH2: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	0		
		Affordable Housing	0	DMH3: Dwellings in the open countryside	0	These are indirectly compatible with the objective, but are unlikely to contribute to a long term reduction in private car use, introduction of public transport or promotion of opportunities for	
				DMH4: The	0		

Appraisal of Housing Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies		Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
cycling and the use of public transport Encourage the uptake of ICT				conservation of barns and other buildings to dwellings		walking and cycling.	
				DMH5: Residential and cartilage extensions	0		

Appraisal of Economy Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
1.To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime To reduce levels of crime To reduce the fear of crime To reduce levels of anti-social behaviour To encourage safety by design	Town centres, rural areas	Business and Employment Development	+ M/L-T I R M C	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	+ M/L-T I R M C	Crime levels are low in Ribble Valley. Policy DMB1 by supporting business growth should assist the long-term development of the borough's economy which should provide more job opportunities. This could potentially help to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour issues if more people have the opportunity to access employment. This is recognised as being important for young people. Furthermore, the development of derelict and vacant sites for employment uses could improve passive surveillance. All employment development will be in accordance with the provisions of Policy DMG1 and therefore secured by design principles will also be followed.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	0	
		Visitor Economy	0	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	0	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	0	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	0	
2.To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society To maintain and increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society. To improve the provision of education and training facilities To improve access to and involvement in Lifelong Learning opportunities.	n/a	Business and Employment Development	0	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	0	Whilst educational attainment is not directly addressed in these policies there is a link between local business growth and training/education. Educational attainment is good in the borough although it is recognised that there is a need for more vocational training. The policies do not currently address this issue.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	0	
		Visitor Economy	0	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	0	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	0	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	0	
3.To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities To reduce health inequalities amongst different groups in the community To improve access to health and social care services To promote healthy lifestyles	Town centres, rural areas	Business and Employment Development	+ M/L-T I R M C	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	+ M/L-T I R M C	Investment in employment will create new jobs and increase the skills base of the area. Improved incomes have been linked to improved levels of human health. Where the economy of the Borough is improved (and this wealth is able to remain within the Borough), this could contribute towards achieving the objective. Policies relating to improved access to open space for recreation, footpaths and countryside attractions will generally support these policies, by encouraging outdoor activities, sports or generally encouraging the pursuit of healthier lifestyles. Policy DMB4 recommends that greenspace should be multifunctional, which would create an attractive place to live, improve connectivity between settlements within the Borough, and also encourage walking and cycling.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	+ M/L-T I R M C	
		Visitor Economy	0	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	+ M/L-T I R M C	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	+ S/M/L-T D I R M C	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	+ S/M/L-T D R M C	
4.To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need To tackle homelessness more effectively	Town centres, rural areas	Business and Employment Development	+ M/L-T I R M C	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	+ M/L-T I R M C	With an increased job offer in the Borough and more incentives for a skilled workforce to remain within the area, this could help to reduce the number of vacant houses in the area. The creation of additional tourism accommodation could also contribute to reducing the number of vacant buildings. The conversion of barns or rural buildings may include some residential elements associated with workspaces.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	0	
		Visitor Economy	+ M/L-T I R M C	DMB3: Recreation and tourism	0	

Appraisal of Economy Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential		
To increase the availability of affordable housing To reduce the number of unfit homes To reduce the number of vacant housing				development			
				DMB4: Open Space provision	0		
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	0		
5.To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion To develop opportunities for community involvement To promote a sense of belonging and well-being	Settlements, rural communities	Business and Employment Development	+ M/L-T I R M C	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	+ M/L-T I R M C	Providing sufficient job opportunities within the Borough would make the area more attractive to live and work, contributing to a reduction in the number of people out-commuting. This in turn could indirectly contribute to an increased sense of belonging for those living and working within the Borough. The protection and improvement of footpath networks will maintain connections across the settlements. Increasing the amount of public open space available will also enable communities to use local areas for sport or recreation. Increased tourism development could reduce the community feeling of an area, and by increasing the attractiveness of the area to tourists, may lead to an increase in purchases of second homes. This would be detrimental to creating strong rural communities.	The Core Strategy should seek to improve areas where footpath networks are currently poor or non-existent. This could be combined with a requirement for multi-functional green infrastructure which would also provide landscape and biodiversity benefits for the borough.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	+ M/L-T I R M C		
		Visitor Economy	?	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	?		
				DMB4: Open Space provision	+ M/L-T I R M C		
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	+ M/L-T I R M C		
6.To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups To improve access to cultural and leisure facilities To maintain and improve access to essential services and facilities	Town centres, rural areas	Business and Employment Development	+ M/L-T I R M C	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	0	The employment key statement encourages the location of employment uses to be close to housing. This will ensure relatively easy access to work and other services within the local area. The tourism policies will improve access to cultural and leisure facilities supporting the objective. New attractions are to be located close to existing settlements, which will avoid the need for major additional infrastructure and ensure easy access. The open space policy will improve access to leisure facilities through developer requirements for residential development. Otherwise, there will be no net loss of open space. Footpaths will be maintained and improved under this policy.	The Core Strategy should seek to improve areas where footpath networks are currently poor or non-existent. This could be combined with a requirement for multi-functional green infrastructure which would also provide landscape and biodiversity benefits for the borough.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	0		
		Visitor Economy	+ M/L-T I R M C	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	+ M/L-T I R M C		
				DMB4: Open Space provision	+ M/L-T I R M C		
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	+ M/L-T I R M C		
7.To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the borough To diversify employment opportunities To increase employment opportunities To encourage economic growth To encourage inward investment	Town centres, rural areas	Business and Employment Development	++ M/L-T D R H C	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	++ M/L-T D R H C	The policy set will encourage business and farm diversification and generally seek to encourage inward investment to boost the local economy. This in turn will increase employment opportunities and could help to reduce out-commuting from the borough for employment reasons. The planned improvements to strengthen the visitor economy would also create some employment opportunities; however these are likely to be seasonal and so may have more limited benefits. The creation of an attractive area with sufficient open space and good off-road networks and footpaths will encourage inward investment, although the effects of this are assessed as negligible. DMB2 recommends consideration of the AONB Management Plan, which will be used by the Council in determining planning applications. The Management Plan includes a number of actions and targets relating to employment development within the AONB.	
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	+ M/L-T D R H C		
		Visitor Economy	+ M/L-T D R L C	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	+ M/L-T D R L C		
				DMB4: Open Space provision	0		
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	0		
8.To develop the skills and training needed to	Town centres, rural areas	Business and Employment Development	+ M/L-T D R M C	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	+ M/L-T D R M C	Investment in employment should create new jobs and increase the skills base of the area. There should also be an increase in educational aspirations for residents within these areas, positively	The Core Strategy should ensure that significant employment development will provide for skills and training of staff or within the area – e.g. apprenticeships or work based training.

Appraisal of Economy Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
establish and maintain a healthy labour market To increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society To improve lifelong learning opportunities and work related training		Visitor Economy		DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	0	contributing to delivering a great place to work and study. However, the extent to which large educational benefits can be achieved with a rural economy is likely to be limited. Tourism attractions and improved countryside attractions may improve access for schools and the public to learn about the natural environment. The extent to which this will improve education and skills is again likely to be limited.
			0	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	0	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	0	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	0	
9.To encourage economic inclusion To reduce levels of unemployment To improve physical accessibility to jobs	Town centres, rural areas	Business and Employment Development	+ M/L-TDRHC	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	+ M/L-TDRHC	The policies will encourage business diversification and generally seek to encourage inward investment to boost the local economy. This in turn will increase employment opportunities and contribute to reducing levels of unemployment. It may also help to reduce out-commuting to other boroughs for employment reasons although this would depend upon the type of jobs created and whether they match the skills of those residents in the borough. The planned improvements to strengthen the visitor economy would also create some employment opportunities; however these are likely to be seasonal and so would have a more limited benefit. New development is likely to be either connected to or within existing settlements. Ensuring the provision of sufficient open space and the protection of existing open space assets, as well as ensuring a high quality network of footpaths and bridleways will help to make the borough an attractive location for inward investment.
				+ M/L-TDRHC	DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	
		Visitor Economy	+ M/L-TDRMC	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	+ M/L-TDRMC	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	0	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	0	
10.To strengthen the economic base of market towns Improve vitality and vibrancy of town centres Encourage inward investment to market towns	Town centres	Business and Employment Development	+ M/L-TDRHC	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	+ M/L-TDRHC	The policies will encourage development to take place within existing settlements or on existing employment land. The baseline assessment has identified that the vitality and vibrancy of settlements such as Clitheroe needs to be developed (reflected by a decrease in Peak Zone A rentals) as identified by Lancashire County Council. The expansion of the tourism offering in the area may involve some attractions within the town centres and further out in the countryside. This could either add or detract from the achievement of vibrant town centres depending on the scale and nature of development proposals. Converting rural farm buildings will move some investment into more rural areas. In view of the scale of the development that is likely in rural areas, it is unlikely that this would detract from the achievement of this objective.
				+ M/L-TDRMC	DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	
		Visitor Economy	+/- M/L-TDRMC	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	+/- M/L-TDRMC	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	0	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	0	
11.To encourage rural regeneration and diversification To encourage rural diversification schemes	Rural communities and farms	Business and Employment Development	++ M/L-TDRMC	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	++ M/L-TDRMC	The policies support rural diversification, encouraging farming and development of the rural economy. This directly contributes to achieving the objective. Strengthening the tourism industry is likely to involve some rural enterprises which will also contribute to supporting and diversifying the rural economy. DMB2 recommends consideration of the AONB Management Plan, which will be used by the Council in determining planning applications. The Management Plan includes a number of actions and targets relating to employment development within the AONB. It would be beneficial for developments to complement these actions and help to achieve the targets.
				++ M/L-TDRMC	DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	
		Visitor Economy	+ M/L-TDRMC	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	+ M/L-TDRMC	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	0	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	0	

Appraisal of Economy Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
12.To develop and market the borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit To support the preservation and or development of high quality built and natural environments within the borough To promote the area as a destination for short and long term visitors and new residents To enhance the borough's image as an attractive place to do business	Borough-wide	Business and Employment Development	++ M/L-T D R H C	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	++ M/L-T D R H C	The policies will support the development of a stable economy, which will be attractive as a place to do business. With the increase in job availability this will encourage more young people to remain within the area for work and to live. The planned improvements to strengthen the visitor economy would also create some employment opportunities; however these are likely to be seasonal so have a limited benefit. Generally improvements to the economy and tourist offering are likely to improve the attractiveness of the area for business, employment and tourism.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	++ M/L-T D R M C	
		Visitor Economy	++ M/L-T D R H C	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	++ M/L-T D R H C	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	++ M/L-T D R M C	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	++ M/L-T D R M C	
13. To protect and enhance biodiversity To protect and enhance designated sites of nature conservation importance To protect and enhance wildlife especially rare and endangered species To protect and enhance habitats and wildlife corridors To provide opportunities for people to access wildlife and open green spaces	Borough-wide	Business and Employment Development	?	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	+ S/M/L-T I R M C	Economic development would not be permitted by these policies where it would cause significant environmental effects. The policies ensure that nature conservation is taken into consideration and DMB2 and DMB3 require appropriate surveys to be undertaken and mitigation specified. Brownfield land is prioritised over greenfield which will avoid some losses of land with biodiversity value. Ensuring that existing open space assets are protected and new open space provided as part of residential developments (Policy DMB4) should also indirectly protect biodiversity resources. Protecting biodiversity is essential in view of the large number of existing assets within the borough.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	+ S/M/L-T I R M C	
		Visitor Economy	?	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	+ S/M/L-T I R M C	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	+ S/M/L-T I R M C	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	+ S/M/L-T I R M C	
14.To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality To protect and enhance landscape character and quality To protect and enhance townscape character and quality To promote sensitive design in development	Borough-wide. AONB	Business and Employment Development	+ S/M/L-T I R M C	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	+ S/M/L-T I R M C	Development beyond the current settlement boundary will be permitted, but development must be able to demonstrate how it will assimilate into the landscape. The majority of the policies require some demonstration of integration into the character of the area, either through sensitive siting, design or choice of external materials. Some development is permitted within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), but only where it does not detract from the character of the area. Prioritising the use of brownfield land will improve the townscape by removing any areas of derelict land or vacant buildings. Maintaining protection for open space and footpaths will also ensure that the character of the area is not affected by development. DMB2 recommends consideration of the AONB Management Plan, which will be used by the Council in determining planning applications. The Management Plan includes a number of actions and targets relating to design.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	+ S/M/L-T I R M C	
		Visitor Economy	+ S/M/L-T I R M C	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	++ S/M/L-T I R M C	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	++ S/M/L-T I R M C	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	+ S/M/L-T I R M C	
15.To protect and enhance the cultural	Borough-wide	Business and Employment Development	?	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	?	Economic development could have an impact on cultural heritage features and historic landscape although locations for and suitable types of development are not defined by this policy.

Appraisal of Economy Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
heritage resource To protect and enhance historic buildings and sites To protect and enhance historic landscape/townscape value			DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	+/- M/L-T D R H C	The conversion of rural buildings may remove some historic value in terms of evidence of past farming methods. The policy DMB2 will ensure traditional materials are used and the character of the area and building is not affected. There may be some conflicts and some support for this objective.	
		Visitor Economy	?	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development		?
				DMB4: Open Space provision		?
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways		?
16.To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources To protect and enhance ground and surface water quality		Business and Employment Development	?	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	?	Employment growth will result in an increased demand on water resources. Ribble Valley does contain some areas of flood risk (refer to Figure 3 in Appendix E). Development could increase flood risk in some areas. Areas of high flood risk may be costly to develop and unattractive to potential investor. The precise location of development is currently unknown. Maintaining and expanding the amount of open space within the Borough will set aside land which will allow surface water to drain away naturally. The supports the objective to protect and enhance water features.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	?	
		Visitor Economy	?	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	?	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	+ M/L-T I R M C	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	0	
17.To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary and to protect soil resources To reduce the amount of derelict, contaminated, and vacant land To encourage development of brownfield land where appropriate To protect soil functions	Borough-wide	Business and Employment Development	++ M/L-T I R M C	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	+ M/L-T I R M C	The policies encourage the use of brownfield land over greenfield land. This will reduce the amount of derelict and vacant land present in the Borough. Priority is also given to conversions or extensions to existing buildings which would reduce the potential sprawl of development. Maintaining areas of open space and encouraging farm diversification will go some way to protecting soil functions.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	+ M/L-T I R M C	
		Visitor Economy	++ M/L-T I R M C	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	+/- M/L-T D R H C	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	+ M/L-T I R M C	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	0	
18.To limit and adapt to climate change To reduce or manage flooding To reduce greenhouse gas emissions To encourage the inclusion of SuDS	Borough-wide	Business and Employment Development	+/- L-T D R M C	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	+/- L-T D R M C	Economic development will put increased pressure on energy resources, flood risk and transport infrastructure. Development has the opportunity to incorporate climate change adaptation designs including energy efficiency and renewable energy which would address the objective. Mixed use development will be encouraged which will co-locate employment, retail and residential development reducing transport requirements. Sustainable transport and/or travel plans will form part of development as per the key statement for Transport Considerations, which will contribute to a reduction in emissions.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	+/- L-T D R M C	
		Visitor Economy	+/- L-T D R M C	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	+/- L-T D R M C	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	0	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	0	
					The policy set should reference policy DME6 (Water Management) to ensure development does not exacerbate existing flood risk issues.	

Appraisal of Economy Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
19.To protect and improve air quality To protect and improve local air quality	Borough-wide	Business and Employment Development	+/- L-T D R M C	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	+/- L-T D R M C	Generally, development will be focused within or close to settlements to minimise the need for new transport infrastructure. However, encouraging development beyond settlement boundaries and within the rural area may attract further people to using the private car, resulting in higher emissions to air. Footpaths will be maintained and improved under policy DMB5 which could help to encourage the use of walking rather than private car – this policy could also include a requirement for developers to provide new footpath links to key services and facilities to again reduce unnecessary car use.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	+/-M/L-T I R M C	
		Visitor Economy	+/- L-T D R M C	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	+/- L-T D R M C	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	0	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	+ M/L-T I R M C	
20.To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources To increase energy efficiency To increase the use of renewable energy To reduced the use of energy	Borough-wide	Business and Employment Development	?	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	?	Economic development will put increased pressure on energy resources. Development has the opportunity to incorporate climate change adaptation designs including energy efficiency and renewable energy which would address the objective. The improvement of footpaths will encourage more people to walk and cycle, potentially reducing use of the private car and associated energy requirements.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	?	
		Visitor Economy	?	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	?	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	0	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	+ M/L-T I R M C	
21.To ensure sustainable use of natural resources To reduce the demand for raw materials To promote the use of recycled and secondary materials in construction	Borough-wide	Business and Employment Development	?	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	?	The policies are not directly related to the specification of construction materials, although development for employment and business could seek to reduce demand on raw materials as with other types of developments. Policy DMB2 requires the conversion of rural buildings to use traditional materials. This may include some reuse of materials locally sourced, supporting the objective.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	?	
		Visitor Economy	?	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	?	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	?	
				DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	?	
22.To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling To increase the proportion of waste recycling and re-use To reduce the production of waste To reduce the proportion of waste landfilled	Borough-wide	Business and Employment Development	?	DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy	?	The policies are not directly related to waste, but the businesses they facilitate will contribute to waste production. Currently, there is no policy within the Core Strategy which addresses waste management.
				DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	?	
		Visitor Economy	?	DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	?	
				DMB4: Open Space provision	0	
				DMB5: Footpaths and	0	
					Development should incorporate climate change adaptation designs including energy efficiency and renewable energy where possible.	
					The policies could cross reference key statement Sustainable Development to ensure that secondary or recycled materials are used.	
					Development should be designed to facilitate and encourage waste management in accordance with the waste management hierarchy (prevent, avoid, reduce reuse, recycle). Suitable waste management storage and infrastructure should be part of new development.	

Appraisal of Economy Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies		Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
23.To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport To reduce the use of private car To encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport Encourage the uptake of ICT		Business and Employment Development	+/- M/L-T I/DRMC	bridleways	+/- M/L-T I R M C	Generally, development will be focused within or close to settlements to minimise the need for new transport infrastructure. However, encouraging development beyond settlement boundaries and within the rural area may attract further people to using the private car, resulting in higher emissions to air. Footpaths will be maintained and improved under this policy which should encourage walking and cycling.	The policy could explicitly refer to a preference to co-locate employment and residential development closely to reduce travel needs and greenhouse gas emissions.
				DMB1: Supporting business growth and the local economy			
		Visitor Economy	+/- M/L-T I R M C	DMB2: The conversion of barns and other rural buildings for employment use	+/- M/L-T I R M C		
				DMB3: Recreation and tourism development	+/- M/L-T I R M C		
				DMB4: Open Space provision	0		
DMB5: Footpaths and bridleways	+ M/L-T D R M C						

Appraisal of Retail Development Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
1.To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime To reduce levels of crime To reduce the fear of crime To reduce levels of anti-social behaviour To encourage safety by design	Town centres, retail areas.	Development of retail, shops and facilities	0	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	The policies do not directly affect the achievement of the objective. However, the policies will work to create vibrant, sustainable economies within these settlements. This should attract visitors and shoppers to the area, creating welcoming retail areas which feel safe. The affect of this against the achievement of the objective will be negligible.	The principles of secured by design should be followed for all development within the Borough.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements		
2.To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society To maintain and increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society. To improve the provision of education and training facilities To improve access to and involvement in Lifelong Learning opportunities.	n/a	Development of retail, shops and facilities	0	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	The policies are unlikely to influence educational attainment to a significant degree.	None.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements		
3.To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities To reduce health inequalities amongst different groups in the community To improve access to health and social care services To promote healthy lifestyles	Town centres, retail areas, rural areas	Development of retail, shops and facilities	+ S/M/L-T I R M C	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	Whilst the maintenance of a vibrant centre can help to create sense of place and can contribute positively to general social well-being it is considered unlikely that these policies in isolation would contribute to reducing health inequalities or have a significant effect on health outcomes.	None.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements		
4.To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need To tackle homelessness more effectively To increase the availability of affordable	n/a	Development of retail, shops and facilities	0	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	There is no clear link between the Key Statements and the SA Objective.	None.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements		

Appraisal of Retail Development Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies		Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
housing To reduce the number of unfit homes To reduce the number of vacant housing							
5.To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion To develop opportunities for community involvement To promote a sense of belonging and well-being	Town centres, retail areas, rural areas	Development of retail, shops and facilities	+ S/M/L-T I R M C	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	+ S/M/L-T I R M C	The maintenance of these vital local centres could contribute to the social-well being of. Providing a good range of local retail facilities could also benefit local vibrancy and help to develop community cohesion.	None.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	+ S/M/L-T I R M C		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	+ S/M/L-T I R M C		
6.To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups To improve access to cultural and leisure facilities To maintain and improve access to essential services and facilities	Town centres, retail areas, rural areas	Development of retail, shops and facilities	++ M/L-TD R H C	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	++ M/L-TD R H C	The policy will provide for a good range of local facilities which will ensure that local access to essential retails needs is maintained and improved. This will be particularly important if new housing development occurs as there will need to be sufficient services to meet the needs of the new communities. Key Statement DMR1 is clear that any shopping development outside of main centres will have to be well connected by public transport and that there will not be an adverse effect on vitality or viability of the town centre. Policy DMR3 also seeks to ensure that retail uses in rural areas will be maintained and that they will not be lost to residential uses, this is important in rural communities where such facilities can play a very important community role.	None.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	++ M/L-TD R H C		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	++ M/L-TD R H C		
7.To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the borough To diversify employment opportunities To increase employment opportunities To encourage economic growth To encourage inward investment	Town centres, retail areas, rural areas	Development of retail, shops and facilities	+ S/M/L-T D R H C	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	+ S/M/L-T D R H C	The policies permit additional retail development within key centres and appropriate rural areas. This has the potential to increase employment opportunities and encourage growth and investment within the area. The policies also aim to diversify employment opportunities, by providing for farm retail development.	None.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	+ S/M/L-T D R M C		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	+ S/M/L-T D R H C		
8.To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market To increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society To improve lifelong learning opportunities and work related training	Town centres, retail areas, rural areas	Development of retail, shops and facilities	0	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	0	The introduction of retail development is likely to provide some on-the-job training. Developers should be encouraged to provide suitable skills training for staff. This is unlikely to be significant in terms of increasing skills and training levels across the Borough.	The Core Strategy should ensure that significant employment development will provide for skills and training of staff or within the area – e.g. apprenticeships or work based training
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	0		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	0		

Appraisal of Retail Development Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential		
9.To encourage economic inclusion To reduce levels of unemployment To improve physical accessibility to jobs	Town centres, retail areas, rural areas	Development of retail, shops and facilities	+ M/L-T D R M C	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	+ M/L-T D R M C	These policies have the potential to increase employment opportunities and encourage growth and investment within the borough. This could help to reduce unemployment levels. The location of retail development within existing centres should also make such employment opportunities accessible. Policies DMR1 and DMR3 provide for development beyond the main settlements of the Borough. Whilst large out of town development would need to provide access to public transport, rurally located retail development would rely on private car use and, therefore, opportunities created by this development may not be as accessible.	None.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	+ M/L-T D R M C		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	+/- M/L-T I R M C		
10.To strengthen the economic base of market towns Improve vitality and vibrancy of town centres Encourage inward investment to market towns	Town centres, retail areas	Development of retail, shops and facilities	++ M/L-TD R H C	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	++ M/L-TD R H C	The key statement for this section specifically aims to create vibrant and viable town centres. The policies will maintain and improve town centre retail offering, helping to achieve the vision of the key statement. This positively supports the objectives.	None.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	++ M/L-TD R H C		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	0		
11.To encourage rural regeneration and diversification To encourage rural diversification schemes	Rural areas	Development of retail, shops and facilities	0	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	0	Policy DMR3 facilitates rural diversification by encouraging out of town retail associated with farming. This positively supports the objective.	None.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	0		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	+ S/M/L-TD R M C		
12.To develop and market the borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit To support the preservation and or development of high quality built and natural environments within the borough To promote the area as a destination for short and long term visitors and new residents To enhance the borough's image as an attractive place to do business	Town centres, retail areas, rural areas	Development of retail, shops and facilities	+ M/L-TI R M C	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	+ M/L-TI R M C	The policies will preserve the character of these town centres, and generally aim to introduce new development that fits within the existing character. Regeneration will support the creation of a high quality built environment and will a boost to retail offering, these areas will attract visitors and potentially new residents.	None.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	+ M/L-TI R M C		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	+ M/L-TI R M C		
13. To protect and enhance biodiversity To protect and enhance designated sites of nature conservation importance To protect and enhance wildlife especially rare and endangered species	Area of biodiversity value, rural areas.	Development of retail, shops and facilities	0	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	0	Where policies deal with relatively urban development, there is less of a risk to biodiversity. Rural development and development beyond settlement boundaries poses a higher risk to biodiversity, however with locations of development unknown effects remain uncertain. However, these policies are clear that development of this nature would be subject to the other relevant policies in the Core Strategy and so demonstrates the importance of having a robust Core Strategy policy relating to Biodiversity protection and enhancement.	None.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	?		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	?		

Appraisal of Retail Development Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential		
To protect and enhance habitats and wildlife corridors To provide opportunities for people to access wildlife and open green spaces							
14.To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality To protect and enhance landscape character and quality To protect and enhance townscape character and quality To promote sensitive design in development	Town centres, rural areas	Development of retail, shops and facilities	+ S/M/L-TD R M C	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	+ S/M/L-TD R M C	The policies all aim to introduce development which retains the townscape and landscape character of the area. This positively supports the objective.	None.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	+ S/M/L-TD R M C		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	+ S/M/L-TD R M C		
15.To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource To protect and enhance historic buildings and sites To protect and enhance historic landscape/townscape value	Town centres and rural areas. Heritage features. Townscapes of Clitheroe, Whalley and Longridge.	Development of retail, shops and facilities	+ S/M/L-TD R M C	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	+ S/M/L-TD R M C	Retail development could have an impact on the setting of cultural heritage features and historic landscape, for example Clitheroe Castle or Whalley Abbey. All three centres are identified as areas with townscapes worthy of preservation. All policies aim to preserve the character of these areas which supports the objective.	None.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	+ S/M/L-TD R M C		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	+ S/M/L-TD R M C		
16.To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources To protect and enhance ground and surface water quality	Flood risk, Whalley, close known risk areas across Borough.	Development of retail, shops and facilities	+/- M/L-T D R M C	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	+/- M/L-T D R M C	Increased retail uses will result in some additional demand on water resources. As development is likely to be centred on the existing areas of retail, this impact may be minimal, although there may be some schemes which exacerbate flooding issues depending upon where they are located. However, any new retail development would be tested against the other policies in the Core Strategy.	The policy set should cross reference policy DME6 (Water Management) to ensure development does not exacerbate existing flood risk issues and water quality is protected.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	+/- M/L-T D R M C		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	+/- M/L-T D R M C		
17.To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary and to protect soil resources To reduce the amount of derelict, contaminated, and vacant land To encourage development of brownfield	Town centres, rural areas	Development of retail, shops and facilities	+ S/M/L-TI R M C	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	+ S/M/L-TI R M C	The policies encourage the use of vacant areas within town centres to regenerate areas. Conversions noted in policy DMR3 will also ensure minimal use of greenfield sites. This supports the achievement of the objective.	None.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	+ S/M/L-TI R M C		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	+ S/M/L-TI R M C		

Appraisal of Retail Development Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
land where appropriate To protect soil functions						
18.To limit and adapt to climate change To reduce or manage flooding To reduce greenhouse gas emissions To encourage the inclusion of SuDS	Borough-wide	Development of retail, shops and facilities	+/- S/M/L-T D R M C	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	+/- S/M/L-T D R M C	Increased retail uses will result in some additional demand on water resources. As development is likely to be centred on the existing areas of retail, this impact may be minimal, although there may be some schemes which exacerbate flooding issues. The policies aim to centre retail development within existing centres which already have sufficient transport infrastructure for easy access to retail. Policies DMR1 and DMR3 provide for development beyond the main settlements of the Borough. Whilst large out of town development would need to provide access to public transport, rurally located retail development would rely on private car use. Whilst Policy DMR3 states that proposals for new farm shops should not generate additional traffic movements of a scale and type that are likely to cause undue disturbance, these locations are less sustainable from a traffic perspective.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	+ S/M/L-T I R M C	
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	+/- M/L-T I R M C	
19.To protect and improve air quality To protect and improve local air quality	Town centres, rural centres	Development of retail, shops and facilities	+/- S/M/L-T D R M C	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	+/- S/M/L-T D R M C	The policies aim to centre retail development within existing centres which already have sufficient transport infrastructure for easy access. Whilst ensuring sites are well served by existing public transport should reduce the need for private car use, new retail in town centres could increase the number of people travelling into town centres potentially creating traffic problems. Retail which is expected to draw large numbers of people should encourage the use of public transport or other sustainable transport options. Policy DMR1 states that travel plans will be required from major retailers. Rurally located retail development would rely on private car use. This would not seek to reduce emissions to air.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	+/- S/M/L-T D R M C	
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	- M/L-T I R M C	
20.To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources To increase energy efficiency To increase the use of renewable energy To reduced the use of energy	Town centres, rural areas	Development of retail, shops and facilities	?	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	?	Development will put increased pressure on energy resources. Development has the opportunity to incorporate climate change adaptation designs including energy efficiency and renewable energy which would address the objective.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	?	
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	?	
21.To ensure sustainable use of natural resources To reduce the demand for raw materials To promote the use of recycled and secondary materials in construction	Town centres, rural areas	Development of retail, shops and facilities	?	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	?	The policies are not directly related to the specification of construction materials, although development could seek to reduce demand on raw materials as with other types of developments.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	?	
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	?	
22.To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling	Town centres, rural areas	Development of retail, shops and facilities	?	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	?	The policies are not directly related to waste, but the businesses they facilitate will contribute to waste production.
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and	?	
					Development should incorporate climate change adaptation designs including energy efficiency and renewable energy where possible.	
					The policies could cross reference key statement Sustainable Development to ensure that secondary or recycled materials are used.	
					Development should be designed to facilitate and encourage waste management in accordance with the waste management hierarchy (avoid, reduce reuse, recycle). Suitable waste management storage and infrastructure should be part of new development.	

Appraisal of Retail Development Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies							
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies		Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
To increase the proportion of waste recycling and re-use To reduce the production of waste To reduce the proportion of waste landfilled				Whalley			
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	?		
23.To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport To reduce the use of private car To encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport Encourage the uptake of ICT	Borough-wide	Development of retail, shops and facilities	+/- S/M/L-T D R M C	DMR1: Retail development in Clitheroe	+/- S/M/L-T D R M C	The policies propose the location of retail development within existing centres which already have sufficient transport infrastructure for easy access. Whilst ensuring sites are well served by existing public transport therefore contributing to a reduction in the need for private car use, new retail in town centres could increase the number of people travelling into town centres potentially creating traffic problems. Retail which is expected to draw large numbers of people should encourage the use of public transport or other sustainable transport options. Policy DMR1 states that major retailers will be expected to produce travel plans as part of their planning applications. Rurally located retail development would rely on private car use.	
				DMR2: Shopping in Longridge and Whalley	+/- S/M/L-T D R M C		
				DMR3: Retail outside the main settlements	- M/L-T I R M C		

Appraisal of Delivery Mechanisms Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
1.To reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime To reduce levels of crime To reduce the fear of crime To reduce levels of anti-social behaviour To encourage safety by design	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	+ L-T I R L C	There are no DM policies for this section.	The provision of open space and education facilities are a priority for the Planning Obligations Key Statement. Other provisions include regeneration initiatives, public realm improvements, youth and community facilities and crime and disorder initiatives. Although crime and disorder is not a priority to be addressed by this Key Statement, the general improvement of facilities within the Borough will go some way in addressing crime and disorder.	None.
		Transport Considerations	0			
2.To improve levels of educational attainment for all age groups and all sectors of society To maintain and increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society. To improve the provision of education and training facilities To improve access to and involvement in Lifelong Learning opportunities.	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	++ L-T D R L C	There are no DM policies for this section.	The provision education facilities are a priority for this Key Statement. This could address the lack of vocational training available and go some way encouraging young talented people stay within the area for study. It is also acknowledged that whilst a number of schools in Ribble Valley currently have capacity, the levels of proposed growth will result in a long-term shortfall in primary and/or secondary school places in Clitheroe, Whalley, Longridge and at the New Standen Estate ¹ .	Educational facilities provided should address the current shortage of vocational training (for example NVQ) available and retain young, talented people within the area.
		Transport Considerations	0			
3.To improve physical and mental health for all and reduce health inequalities To reduce health inequalities amongst different groups in the community To improve access to health and social care services To promote healthy lifestyles	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	++ M-T D/ I R L C	There are no DM policies for this section.	The planning obligations Key Statement will provide for sufficient open space (including green infrastructure) as a priority. Other provisions will include health and waste management facilities and youth and community facilities. These will all contribute to improving access to health and social care services. Whilst levels of health and well-being are generally good in the borough, there will be a need to ensure that health care facilities are able to accommodate the level of development proposed in the borough. Green infrastructure is specified in both policies, and should be multi-functional to encourage cycling and walking, promoting healthier lifestyles.	Green infrastructure should be multi-functional providing attractive off-road cycling and walking networks, as well as providing biodiversity and landscape benefits.
		Transport Considerations	++ M-T I R L C			

¹ Lancashire County Council communication 16 February 2012 (Ben Terry)

Appraisal of Delivery Mechanisms Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements		DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
4.To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need To tackle homelessness more effectively To increase the availability of affordable housing To reduce the number of unfit homes To reduce the number of vacant housing	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	++ S-T D R L C	There are no DM policies for this section.	Affordable housing provision is the top priority for this Key Statement and so this objective should be addressed by planning obligations.	None.
		Transport Considerations	0			
5.To protect and enhance community spirit and cohesion To develop opportunities for community involvement To promote a sense of belonging and well-being	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	+/- M-T I R L C	There are no DM policies for this section.	The Key Statement provides for a range of facilities and development to improve areas where there is a need. This generally contributes to creating a more attractive place to live, which will promote the sense of belonging and well-being. This will be particularly true with improvements such open space and regeneration, countryside access, public realm, culture and heritage, and community/youth facilities. There is a risk that affordable housing will be an afterthought and not well integrated into developments where this is provided as part of planning obligations. Affordable housing should be located sensitively within existing communities to ensure cohesion is successful.	Affordable housing should be located sensitively within existing communities to ensure cohesion is successful.
		Transport Considerations	0			
6.To improve access to basic goods, services and amenities for all groups To improve access to cultural and leisure facilities To maintain and improve access to essential services and facilities	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	+ S/M/L-T I R L C	There are no DM policies for this section.	The Key Statement states that planning obligation contributions may include: access to open space, libraries, regeneration initiatives, public art, youth and communities, health and waste management. Therefore, a range of things will be considered through planning obligations that help contribute to the achievement of this objective. The Transport Considerations Key Statement also seeks to ensure that the need to travel to access services is minimised and that good access is provided.	None.
		Transport Considerations	+ S/M/L-T I R L C			

Appraisal of Delivery Mechanisms Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
7.To encourage sustainable economic growth and business development across the borough To diversify employment opportunities To increase employment opportunities To encourage economic growth To encourage inward investment	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	0	There are no DM policies for this section.	Whilst significant effects are unlikely, the provision of an effective and efficient sustainable transport network will help to support the development of the Borough's economy and help to attract inward investment.	None.
		Transport Considerations	0			
8.To develop the skills and training needed to establish and maintain a healthy labour market To increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society To improve lifelong learning opportunities and work related training	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	0	There are no DM policies for this section.	There is no clear link between the Key Statements and the SA Objective.	None.
		Transport Considerations	0			
9.To encourage economic inclusion To reduce levels of unemployment To improve physical accessibility to jobs	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	0	There are no DM policies for this section.	Whilst there are unlikely to be significant effects for the Planning Obligations Key Statement, an enhanced public transport network could help to support economic inclusion by providing better access to employment opportunities.	None.
		Transport Considerations	+ L-T I R L C			
10.To strengthen the economic base of market towns Improve vitality and vibrancy of town centres Encourage inward investment to market towns	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	0	There are no DM policies for this section.	Providing an improved transport network and attractive area to live will make the borough more attractive for investors and visitors.	None.
		Transport Considerations	+ L-T I R L C			
11.To encourage rural regeneration and diversification To encourage rural diversification schemes	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	0	There are no DM policies for this section.	There is no clear link between the Key Statements and the SA Objective.	None.
		Transport Considerations	0			

Appraisal of Delivery Mechanisms Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies					
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential
<p>12.To develop and market the borough as a place to live, work, do business and visit</p> <p>To support the preservation and or development of high quality built and natural environments within the borough</p> <p>To promote the area as a destination for short and long term visitors and new residents</p> <p>To enhance the borough's image as an attractive place to do business</p>	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	+ L-T I R L C	There are no DM policies for this section.	The policy will provide for planning obligations which will support the preservation of the natural environment, for example landscape character and design, natural heritage and public realm improvements. These are not a priority for the policy, so the extent to which these will be realised in relatively uncertain. Additionally an improved transport network and attractive area to live will make the borough more attractive for investors and visitors.
		Transport Considerations	0		
<p>13. To protect and enhance biodiversity</p> <p>To protect and enhance designated sites of nature conservation importance</p> <p>To protect and enhance wildlife especially rare and endangered species</p> <p>To protect and enhance habitats and wildlife corridors</p> <p>To provide opportunities for people to access wildlife and open green spaces</p>	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	+ L-T I R L C	There are no DM policies for this section.	The policy provides for green infrastructure and biodiversity habitat creation and protection. These are not priorities, so the extent to which these will be realised remains relatively uncertain.
		Transport Considerations	0		
<p>14.To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality</p> <p>To protect and enhance landscape character and quality</p> <p>To protect and enhance townscape character and quality</p> <p>To promote sensitive design in development</p>	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	+ L-T I R L C	There are no DM policies for this section.	The policy provides for landscape character and design as part of planning obligations. This has not been identified as a priority, so the extent to which this will be realised remains relatively uncertain.
		Transport Considerations	0		

Appraisal of Delivery Mechanisms Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
15.To protect and enhance the cultural heritage resource To protect and enhance historic buildings and sites To protect and enhance historic landscape/townscape value	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	+ L-T I R L C	There are no DM policies for this section.	The policy provides for cultural and heritage, natural heritage and public realm improvements all of which should seek to protect and enhance the historic environment. However, these are not priorities, so the extent to which these will be realised remains relatively uncertain.	Planning obligation development should consider the requirements of other policies within the Core Strategy to minimise impacts and maximise opportunities for improvement.
		Transport Considerations	0			
16.To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources To protect and enhance ground and surface water quality	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	+ L-T I R L C	There are no DM policies for this section.	The provision of green infrastructure, flood defences and inland waterways related contributions may go some way in influencing ground and surface water quality. However, these are not priorities, so the extent to which these will be realised remains relatively uncertain.	Planning obligation development should consider the requirements of other policies within the Core Strategy to minimise impacts and maximise opportunities for improvement.
		Transport Considerations	0			
17.To guard against land contamination and encourage the appropriate re-use of brownfield sites within the urban boundary and to protect soil resources To reduce the amount of derelict, contaminated, and vacant land To encourage development of brownfield land where appropriate To protect soil functions	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	0	There are no DM policies for this section.	The policy does not have a clear relationship with the objective.	None.
		Transport Considerations	0			
18.To limit and adapt to climate change To reduce or manage flooding To reduce greenhouse gas emissions To encourage the inclusion of SuDS	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	0	There are no DM policies for this section.	There is no clear link between the Key Statements and the SA Objective.	Planning obligation development should consider the requirements of other policies within the Core Strategy to minimise impacts and maximise opportunities for incorporation of climate change adaptation.
		Transport Considerations	0			
19.To protect and improve air quality To protect and improve local air quality	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	+ M/L-T I R L C	There are no DM policies for this section.	Sustainable transport provision and encouragement to use off-road networks for walking and cycling will contribute to a reduction in emissions to air and potentially improve air quality in the long-term.	Not applicable.
		Transport Considerations	+ M/ L-T I R L C			
20.To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources To increase energy	Borough wide	Planning Obligations	0	There are no DM policies for this section.	Sustainable transport provision and encouragement to use off-road networks for walking and cycling will contribute to reducing energy used in travel.	None.

Appraisal of Delivery Mechanisms Chapter Key Statements and Relevant DM Policies						
SA Objectives	Where effects may be realised	Key Statements	DM Policies	Commentary	Mitigation/Enhancement Potential	
efficiency To increase the use of renewable energy To reduced the use of energy		Transport Considerations + M/ L-T I R L C				
21.To ensure sustainable use of natural resources To reduce the demand for raw materials To promote the use of recycled and secondary materials in construction	Borough wide	Planning Obligations 0	There are no DM policies for this section.	There is no clear link between the Key Statements and the SA Objective.	None.	
		Transport Considerations 0				
22.To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling To increase the proportion of waste recycling and re-use To reduce the production of waste To reduce the proportion of waste landfilled	Borough wide	Planning Obligations 0	There are no DM policies for this section.	The policy does not have a clear relationship with the objective. Planning obligations may lead to the provision of some waste management facilities but this is unlikely to achieve the requirements of the objective in isolation.	None.	
		Transport Considerations 0				
23.To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport To reduce the use of private car To encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport Encourage the uptake of ICT	Borough wide	Planning Obligations + M/L-T D R L C	There are no DM policies for this section.	The Transport Considerations Key Statement supports sustainable transport options and travel plans will ensure that alternative transport becomes a real alternative to the private car in the long term. Inclusion of green infrastructure will promote cycling and walking.	None.	
		Transport Considerations ++ M/L-T D R L C				

Appendix E

Drawings

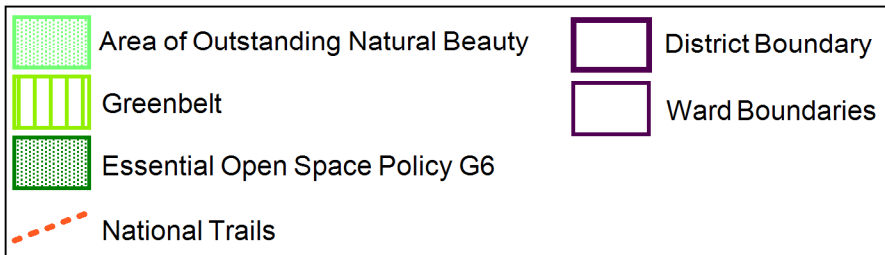
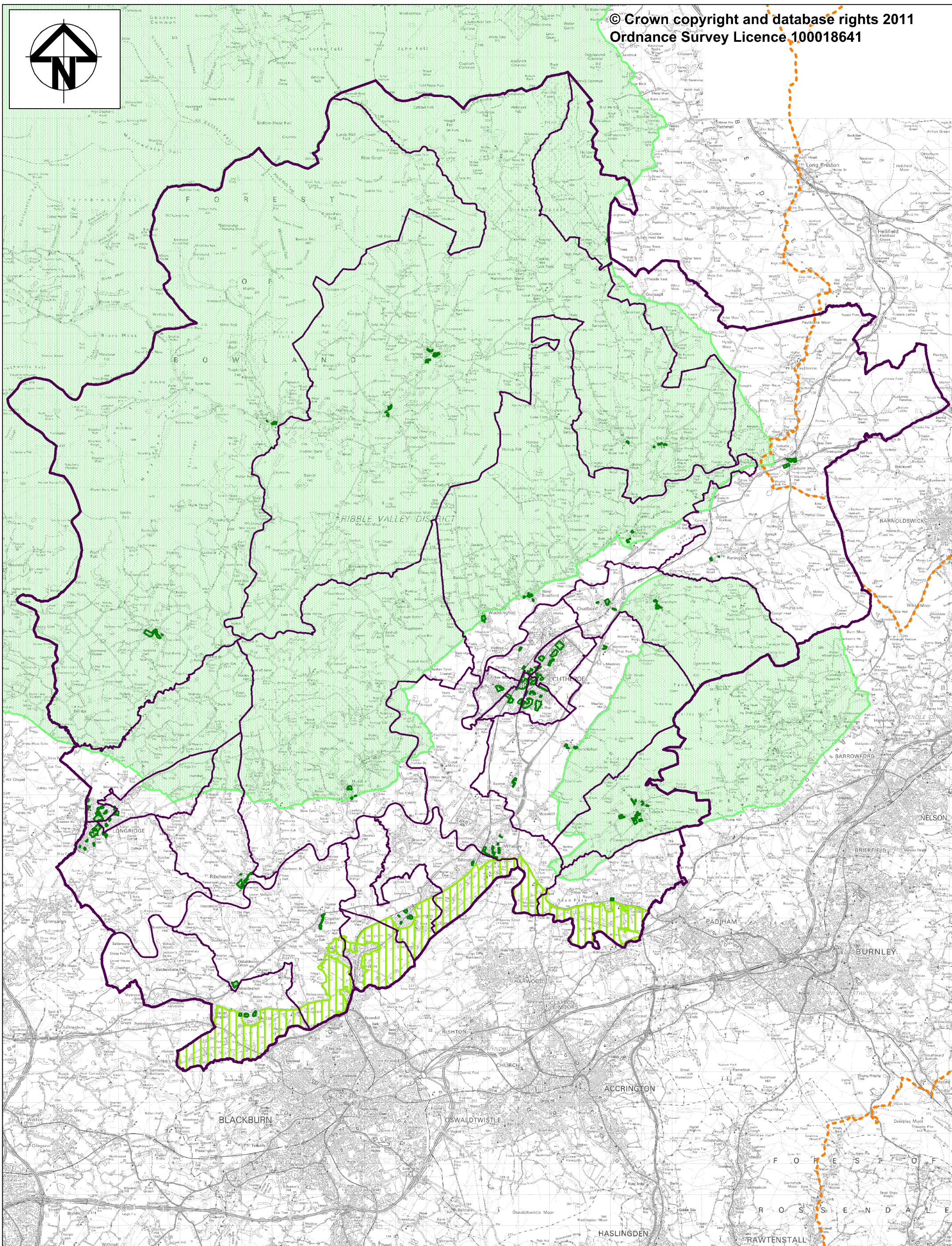
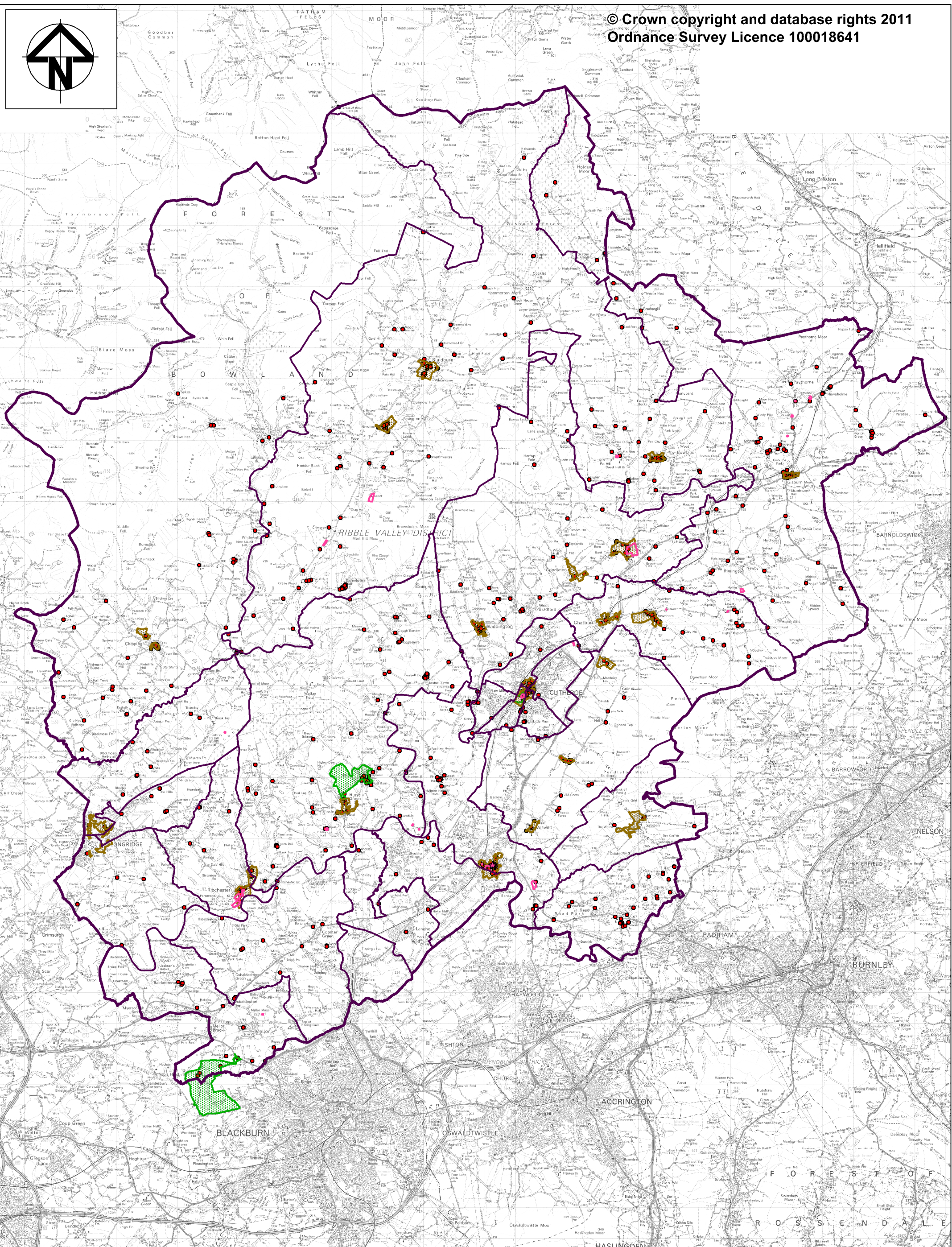
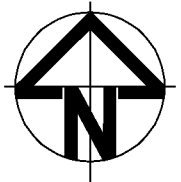


Figure 1 Landscape and Open Space



Ribble Valley
Borough Council










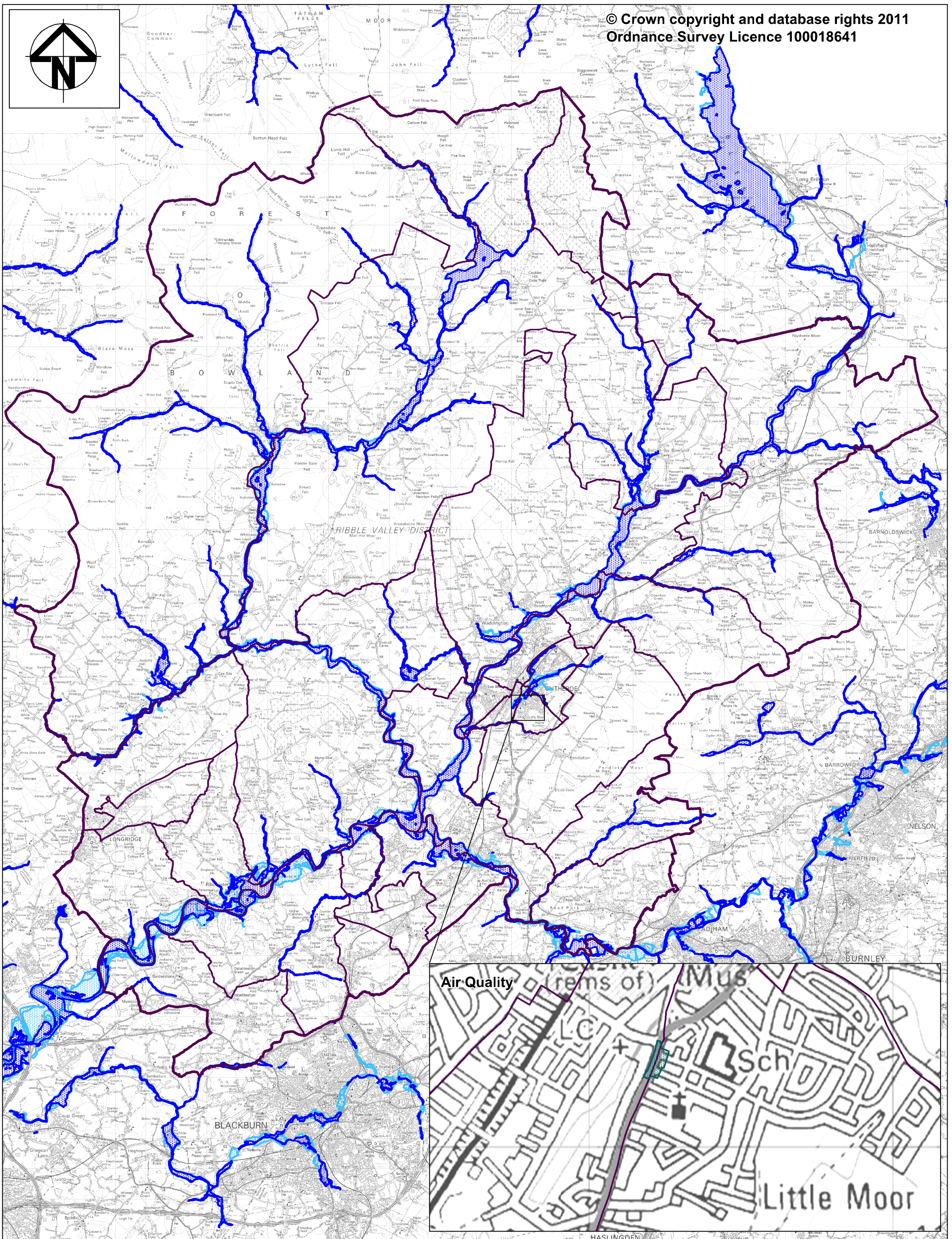
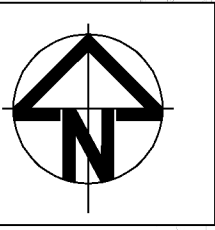
-  Conservation Areas
-  Historic Parks and Gardens
-  Listed Buildings
-  Scheduled Ancient Monuments
-  District Boundary
-  Ward Boundaries



Figure 2 Heritage Assets



Ribble Valley
Borough Council




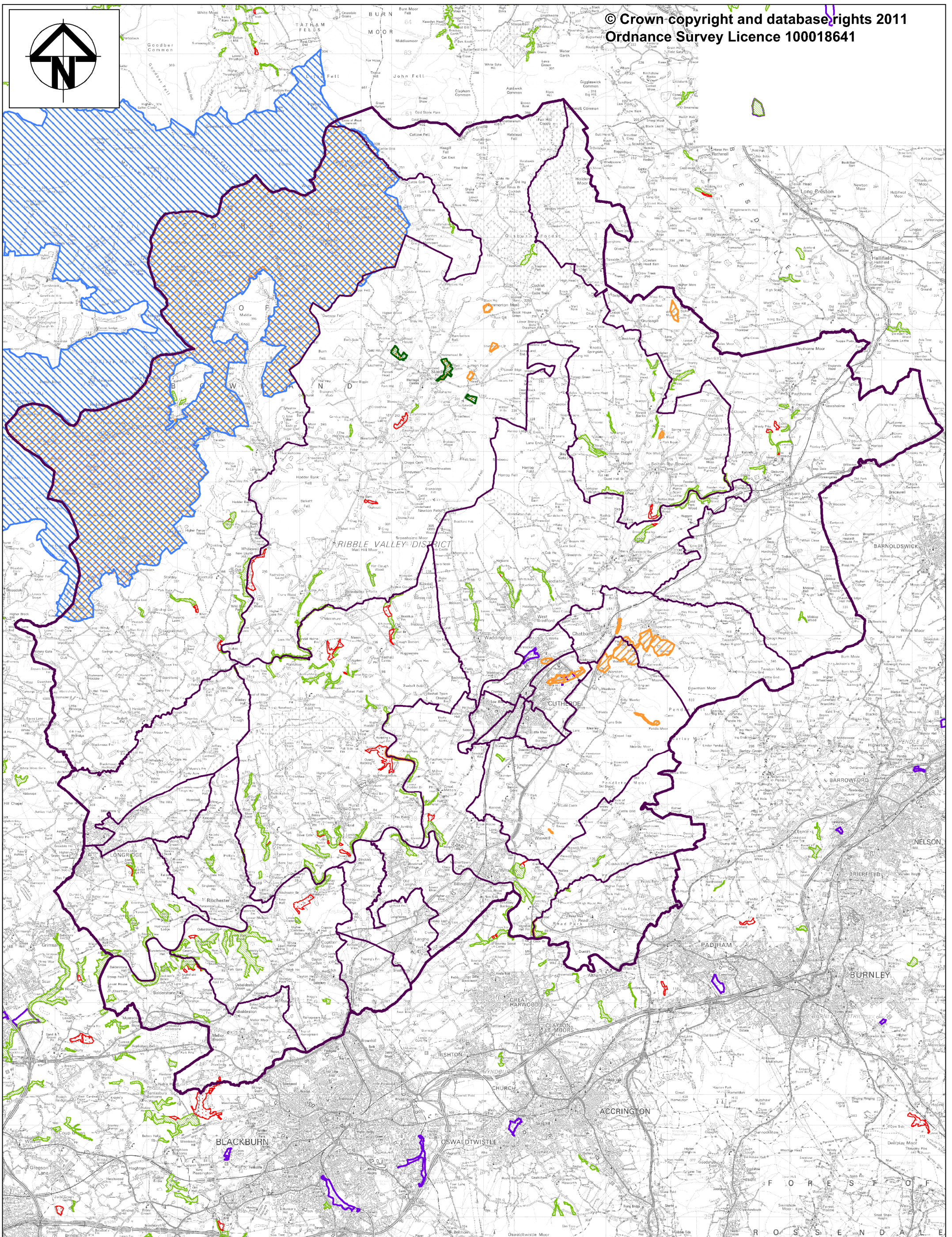
-  Flood Zone 2
-  Flood Zone 3
-  Air Quality Management Area
-  District Boundary
-  Ward Boundaries



Figure 3 Flood Zones and Air Quality



Ribble Valley
Borough Council





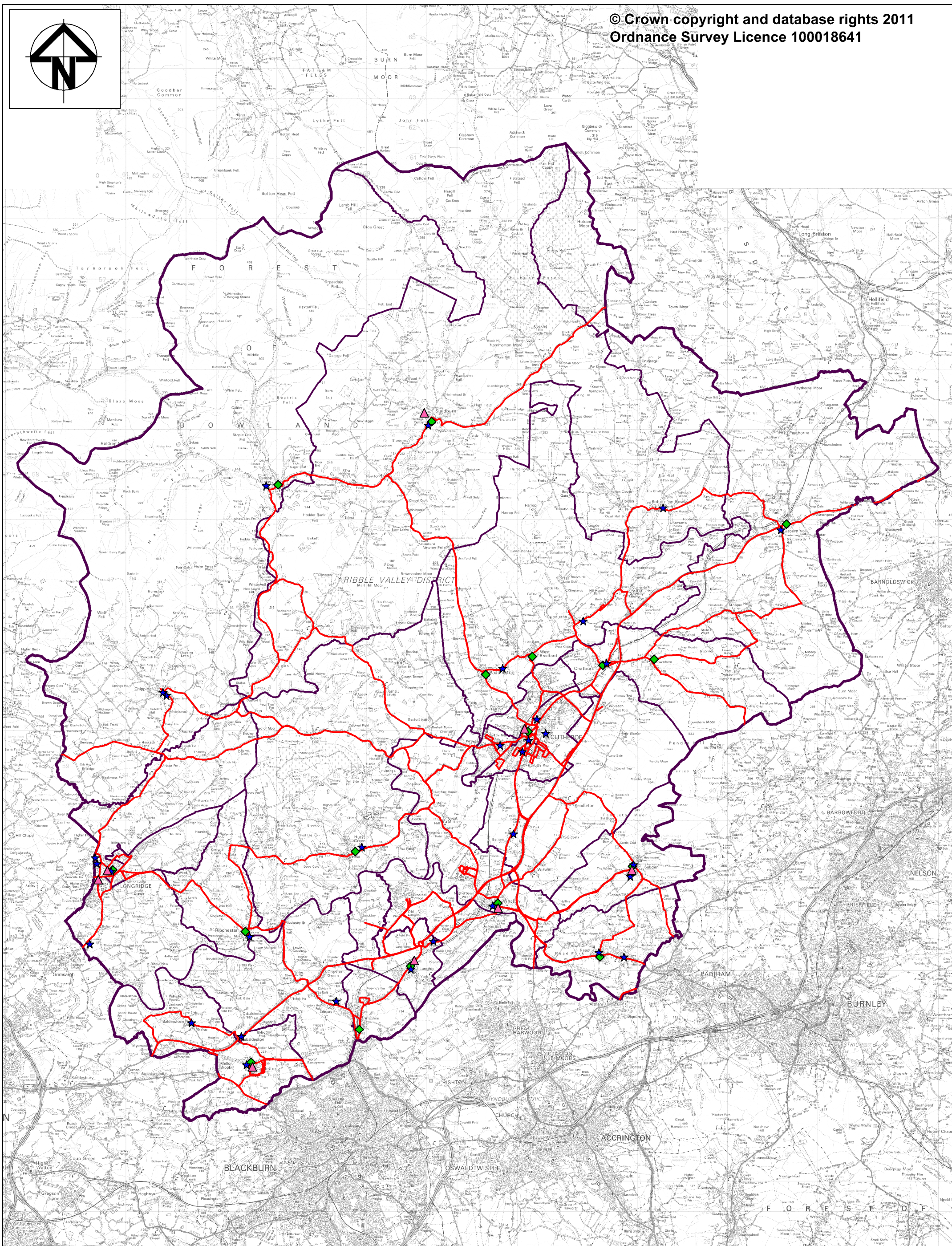
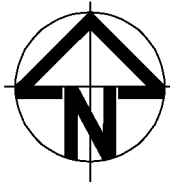
- | | |
|--|---|
|  Special Protection Area |  District Boundary |
|  Special Area of Conservation |  Ward Boundaries |
|  Local Nature Reserve |  Ancient Replanted Woodland |
|  Site of Special Scientific Interest |  Ancient and Semi-Natural Woodland |



Figure 4 Ecological Assets



Ribble Valley
 Borough Council









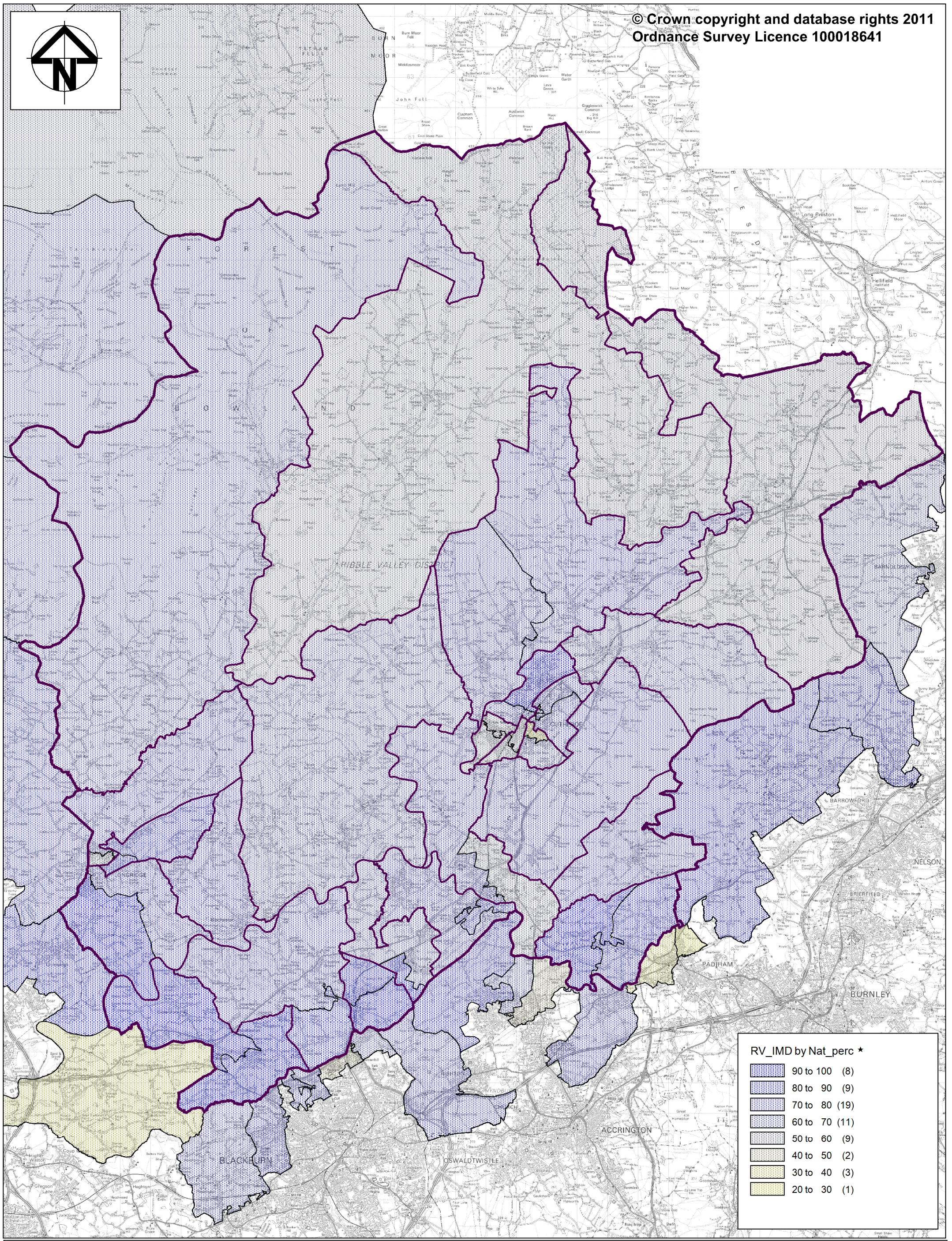
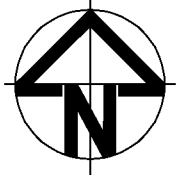
-  Primary School
-  Post Office
-  Bus Routes (frequencies vary)
-  Doctors Surgeries
-  District Boundary
-  Ward Boundaries



Figure 5 Location of Basic Services



Ribble Valley
Borough Council



RV_IMD by Nat_perc *

	90 to 100 (8)
	80 to 90 (9)
	70 to 80 (19)
	60 to 70 (11)
	50 to 60 (9)
	40 to 50 (2)
	30 to 40 (3)
	20 to 30 (1)

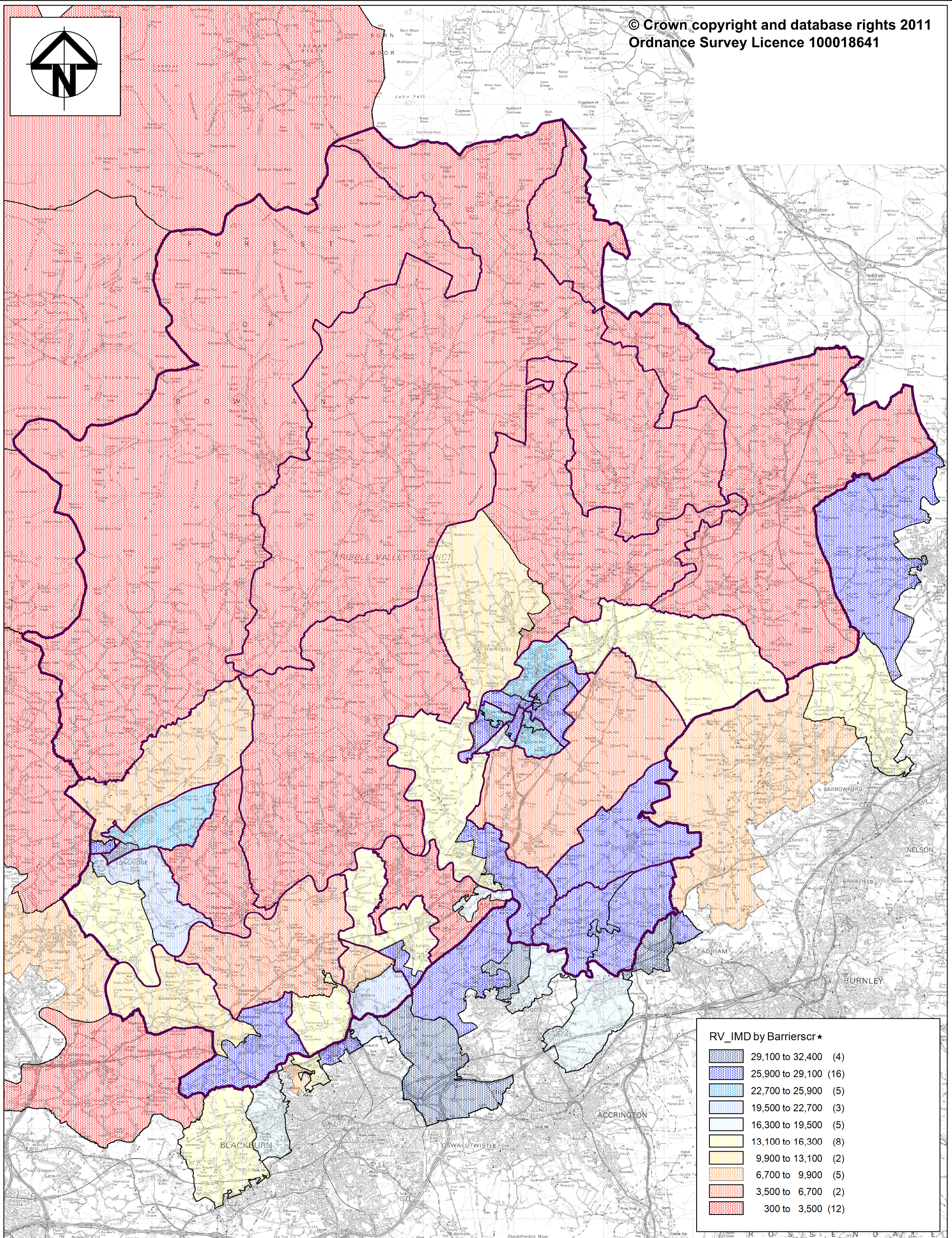
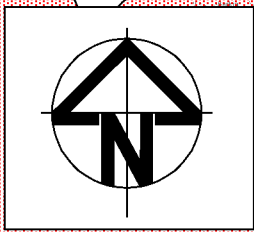
District Boundary
 Ward Boundaries

* Within England there are 32,482 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA). This key shows the national rank as a percentage of each LSOA within Ribble Valley and immediate surrounding areas. The lower the percentage the higher the level of deprivation.



Figure 6 Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010





RV_IMD by Barrierscr*

	29,100 to 32,400 (4)
	25,900 to 29,100 (16)
	22,700 to 25,900 (5)
	19,500 to 22,700 (3)
	16,300 to 19,500 (5)
	13,100 to 16,300 (8)
	9,900 to 13,100 (2)
	6,700 to 9,900 (5)
	3,500 to 6,700 (2)
	300 to 3,500 (12)

District Boundary
 Ward Boundaries

* Within England there are 32,482 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA). This key shows the national rank of each LSOA within Ribble Valley and immediate surrounding areas. The lower the rank the higher the level of deprivation.



Figure 7 Barriers to Housing and Services

