

SA Appraisal of Development Strategies

Final Report

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Contract

This report describes work commissioned by Colin Hirst, on behalf of Ribble Valley Borough Council. Ribble Valley Borough Council's representative for the contract was Colin Hirst. Lydia Price and Scott Johnson of JBA Consulting carried out this work.

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Purpose

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1 Introduction

1.1 Context

This stage of the SA is to assess the six development strategy options against the SA Framework which was developed in the previous SA Scoping Report which was consulted upon November – December 2021 with the three SEA Statutory Bodies (Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency).

The SA Framework, including sub-objectives, indicators and targets, as shown in the SA scoping report can be found in appendix A.1. Each Development Strategy option has been assessed for its contribution to each SA Objective, and assigned a colour (Green, Amber, Red) based on this evaluation.

SA input has already been provided into the formulation of the development strategies provided by the Council. This document now assesses the output – the six development strategy options.

The next step will be for the Council to consult on the options and this SA technical report, and use the consultation responses and other evidence to decide on the development strategy to be considered. At later stages, the SA will again assess in further detail and feed back into decision-making.

1.2 Purpose

The overarching purpose of this exercise is to provide SA assessment of the development strategy options to accompany the Issues & Options document for consultation. The six options evaluated are as follows:

- 1 Retain the existing Development Strategy (as per the Core Strategy)
- 2 Retain the existing Development Strategy but identify growth opportunities in an appropriate identified settlements adjusting the distribution of development accordingly.
- 3 Identify targeted growth points to accommodate the majority of new planned growth at each of the main settlements Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley with limited development elsewhere.
- 4 Identify a targeted growth point as a village expansion to accommodate future requirements having regard to sustainability.
- 5 Identify locations for future growth based on areas with least constraints.
- 6 Something else.

1.3 Limitations

This assessment is a qualitative appraisal based on environmental constraints identified in the SA Scoping Report, and considers high-level potential issues. It is not a detailed impact assessment, and in particular, no sites or quantum of proposed development have been provided to inform it. The issues and risks of impact could therefore be greater or lesser than indicated, as will be further investigated as the Local Plan is developed.

1.4 Existing Development Strategy (as per the Core Strategy)

The existing development strategy focuses most of the new housing development within an identified strategic site located to the south of Clitheroe towards the A59 and the main urban areas of the borough. Strategic employment areas are promoted through the development of Barrow Enterprise Site and the Samlesbury Enterprise Zone. Outside of the strategic site, the scale of planned housing

growth will be managed to reflect existing population size and the availability of, or opportunity to provide facilities to serve the development and the extent of which development can be accommodated within the area. The Council will also consider development which has recognised regeneration benefits.

1.5 Evaluation against SA Framework

Table 1-1: Key

Key	
	Likely beneficial effects
	Either neutral or some beneficial effects likely
	Potential for adverse effects exist
	High potential for significant adverse effects

Table 1-2: Development Strategies against SA framework

SA Objectives and Assessment Description	Summary Score				
	DS1	DS2	DS3	DS4	DS5
1. To prevent and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, thus limiting the impacts of climate change into the long term					
<p>At a strategic level, development strategies can prevent and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by promoting the use of sustainable modes of transport and encouraging active transport methods.</p> <p>As the main settlement in the borough, Clitheroe has the most extensive public service provision, however, there are multiple other settlements within Ribble Valley which have sustainable transport networks, such as Whalley and Wilpshire which are serviced by the train line, and also Longridge which is served by bus links to Preston. Therefore, development strategies should seek to maximise the existing provision of sustainable transport networks across the borough and encourage active methods of transportation by considering services within sustainable walking distances.</p> <p>Development Strategy 1 utilises the transport network in Clitheroe, however, it does not maximise the provision across the borough. Development Strategies 2 and 3 facilitate the use of more of the sustainable transport facilities in the borough, but not all potential locations.</p> <p>Development Strategy 4 could potentially result in further provision of sustainable transport in villages; however, it would be less optimal than maximising the existing sustainable transport provision in main settlements.</p> <p>Development Strategy 5 would secondarily (after protection of the environment) be focused on the accessibility within the strategy; therefore it is expected to maximise positive effects within this objective.</p>					

SA Objectives and Assessment Description	Summary Score				
	DS1	DS2	DS3	DS4	DS5
2. To improve human health and well-being					
<p>At a strategic level, development strategies can improve human health and well-being, such as improving access to health and social care services, and to protect or enhance recreational assets.</p> <p>As the main settlements within the borough, Clitheroe, Whalley and Longridge will have the best access to social and healthcare provision; however, spatial mapping shows that outside of the main settlements, Wilpshire also offers good provision of healthcare services within sustainable walking distances. Therefore, development strategies should seek to maximise access to the existing healthcare provision in the borough, including existing or potential for new sustainable transport links.</p> <p>Development Strategies 1, 2 and 3 focus most of the development within main settlements, which are likely to have good provision of healthcare services, but does not utilise other areas in the borough with good facilities.</p> <p>Development Strategy 4 could potentially utilise healthcare services or result in the supply of further services in villages; however, it would be less optimal than maximising the existing sustainable transport provision in main settlements.</p> <p>Development Strategy 5 aims to prioritise accessibility to healthcare services within the strategy; therefore, it is expected to maximise positive effects within this objective.</p>					
3. To improve equality and access to amenities and facilities					
<p>At a strategic level, development strategies can improve equality and access to amenities and facilities by considering the public transportation network, and the distribution, provision and quality of facilities within an area. The IMD geographical barriers data for Ribble Valley highlights inequality in access to amenities and facilities with poorer access in much of the rural areas of the borough and good / better access in the LSOAs around Clitheroe, Longridge and Sabden.</p> <p>Development Strategies 1, 2 and 3 would encourage development in areas in the borough with the greatest service provision, however, would not alleviate areas of deprivation in the borough.</p> <p>Development Strategy 4 could help alleviate the service deprivation in rural areas if development incorporates additional services.</p> <p>Development Strategy 5 is partially based upon accessibility of services and would focus on where services can be improved or access enhanced, therefore, it is expected to contribute to the improvement of equality and access to amenities and facilities in the borough.</p>					
4. To improve levels of educational attainment and skills and training development for all age groups and all sectors of society					
<p>Using IMD Education Skills and Training Deprivation data Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley all show some of the least deprived areas nationally. Across the borough, there are no distinct areas of</p>					

SA Objectives and Assessment Description	Summary Score				
	DS1	DS2	DS3	DS4	DS5
<p>educational deprivation. The Community Strategy (2014-2019) identified a lack of vocational training provision for 16–19-year-olds in the borough.</p> <p>At this level, it is difficult to distinguish between Development Strategies as there are no particular spatial issues when considering improving educational attainment and skills.</p>					
5. To encourage sustainable economic growth, business development, and economic inclusion across the borough					
<p>At a strategic level, provided that local planning and other influences on economic development provide the jobs needed for new residents, development should have a positive impact in areas experiencing income and employment deprivation. However, in Ribble Valley, there are no areas which are below decile 5. Therefore, it is difficult to distinguish between Development Strategies, as there are no definitive spatial issues when considering encouraging economic growth across the borough.</p>					
6. To protect, restore and enhance biodiversity					
<p>Initial high-level assessment indicates there is land around Clitheroe not overtly in conflict with designated or important habitats which could provide 2,000 or more new homes at a density of 27-30 dwelling per hectare. This would be subject to more specific proposals and SA of those sites, as there could be indirect and cumulative impacts, especially without policy mitigation. There are also constraints at Whalley and Longridge, mostly in the form of Ancient Woodland.</p> <p>For Development Strategy 1, the potential indirect-and cumulative affects to the designated ecological sites must be considered with such a focused development strategy. As Development Strategies 2 and 3 distribute development pressure across the borough, this could translate into less relative pressure to Clitheroe’s SSSIs, however both Whalley and Longridge are close to Ancient Woodland areas.</p> <p>As Development Strategy 4 is location-specific, it is difficult to appraise whether this strategy would contribute to this objective, as there are also several SSSIs in the borough next to villages.</p> <p>As Development Strategy 5 is focused, in part by ecological designations, it is expected that this strategy has good potential to contribute to this objective.</p>					
7. To protect and enhance the borough’s landscape and townscape character and quality					
<p>75% of Ribble Valley Borough is within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), therefore, development strategies should seek to consider this designation alongside designated Conservation Areas which have special townscape character (in addition to heritage importance).</p> <p>Development Strategies 1, 2 and 3 largely focuses on development which constitutes urban extensions to existing settlements of Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley. The Conservation Areas in Whalley and Longridge are not surrounded by development so therefore more vulnerable. However, all three of these settlements fall outside the AONB.</p>					

SA Objectives and Assessment Description	Summary Score				
	DS1	DS2	DS3	DS4	DS5
<p>Development Strategy 4 focuses on targeted village expansion, which may put pressure on existing landscapes and townscapes. However, without location-specific detail, it is difficult to quantify the impact of this development strategy on the objective.</p> <p>Development Strategy 5 driven in part by designated landscape and townscape features, therefore, it is expected to contribute to the protection and enhancement the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality.</p>					
8. To conserve and enhance the historic environment					
<p>Initial high-level assessment indicates there are at least several types of designated heritage feature potentially affected by new development: Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas. Also, there are multiple heritage assets on the Heritage at Risk register in Ribble Valley. There are three assets in Whalley on the register of whose setting may be sensitive to surrounding development. The three main settlements of Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley all have designated features.</p> <p>Development strategies 1, 2 and 3 largely constitute urban extensions of existing settlements. However, for Development Strategy 3, the Conservation Areas in Whalley and Longridge are not surrounded by existing settlement, so therefore the setting of these heritage assets is more sensitive. The settings of assets on the Heritage at Risk register in Whalley are not affected by existing development, and therefore more sensitive to change.</p> <p>There are multiple heritage assets across the borough's villages, however, without location-specific detail it is difficult to quantify whether Development Strategy 4 will contribute to this objective.</p> <p>As Development Strategy 5 is based on, in part, heritage assets and their setting it is expected to contribute to the conservation and enhancement of the historic enhancement.</p>					
9. To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources					
<p>Water quality in the borough has indicated a decline in pollution and oxygen levels since 2015. At a strategy level, development strategies should consider potential physical modifications to surface water features. In Clitheroe, much of the surface water features are culverted, due to the urban nature of the settlement. The River Calder runs through Whalley and there are five reservoirs surrounding Longridge settlement. There are also multiple surface water features adjacent to villages across the borough.</p> <p>All development strategies are have the potential to result in a degree of physical modification of surface water features such as rivers or streams.</p>					
10. To conserve and enhance soil resources and guard against land contamination					
<p>At this level, development strategies should aim to avoid the loss of quality soils to development, and consider the location of historic waste sites.</p>					

SA Objectives and Assessment Description	Summary Score				
	DS1	DS2	DS3	DS4	DS5
<p>All the Development Strategies are likely to result in the loss of quality agricultural lands and soils. Development Strategies 1, 2 and 3 consider the development of Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley, all of which have historic waste sites.</p> <p>There are multiple historic waste sites close to the borough’s villages, however, without location-specific detail it is difficult to consider whether Development Strategy 4 will contribute to this objective.</p> <p>Development Strategy 5 considers the location of historic landfill sites; therefore, it is expected to contribute in some way to this objective. However, it is difficult at this stage to compare the loss of agricultural soils with potential impacts on contaminated land, and so no significant differentiation amongst options can be made.</p>					
11. To protect and improve air quality					
<p>In Ribble Valley, there is one declared AQMA in Clitheroe. Therefore, concentrated development in this area may exacerbate existing air quality issues. The reliance of residents in Ribble Valley on private vehicles presents problems for air quality; the rural and upland areas of the borough have very good air quality (Lincolnshire County Council, 2022). However, considering the Government’s Road to Zero strategy, which will ban the sales of petrol and diesel vehicles by 2030, it is expected that in the long term, traffic congestion will not have as severe consequences for air quality.</p> <p>All Development Strategies involve the construction of development, which within a short term, can have consequences for local air quality. For Development Strategies 1, 2 and 3 which focus development to some extent within Clitheroe, which has a designated AQMA there is at least some potential for significant air quality impacts without mitigation.</p> <p>Whilst there are no declared AQMAs in villages within Ribble Valley, development strategies which solely drive development in one area may worsen local air quality. Therefore, at a high-level Development Strategy 4 is not expected to contribute to this objective.</p> <p>Development strategy 5 is based on, in part by avoiding development within AQMAs and an associated buffer; however, at this high level of assessment, the only strategy which can avoid additional residents generating traffic through the AQMA is one which isn’t focused on Clitheroe. Therefore, there is a risk of potential impacts without mitigation (e.g. policy sufficiently strong to reduce overall road traffic – maximising, walking, cycling and public transport use).</p>					
12. To protect material assets and minimise waste					
<p>There are numerous mineral safeguarding areas across the district, surrounding Longridge, through Whalley and to the north of Clitheroe. At present, there is only one registered landfill site in Ribble Valley which is located 2km outside of Clitheroe. The household waste reuse, recycling and composting rate in Ribble Valley was below the national rate in 2019/20 (Lancashire County Council, 2022). There are two Mineral Resource Areas in the north of Clitheroe for long-term strategic provision and limestone resources areas.</p>					

SA Objectives and Assessment Description	Summary Score				
	DS1	DS2	DS3	DS4	DS5
<p>Development Strategies 1, 2 and 3 which rely on the development of Clitheroe at a high level may have consequences for Mineral Resources and Mineral Safeguarding Zones at Clitheroe, Whalley and Longridge.</p> <p>There are several other Mineral Resource Areas and Zones across the borough, therefore, it is likely that a targeted village expansion is likely to have an impact on these mineral assets.</p> <p>Due to the widespread nature of Mineral Safeguarding Zones across the borough, it is likely that constraints-led development in Development Strategy 5 may still impact these mineral assets.</p>					

2 Summary

This section summarises the findings of the analysis of Development Strategies against the SA objectives.

2.1 Development Strategy 1

The principles of the existing Development Strategy (as per the Core Strategy), at a high level, do not indicate any particular environmental risks of concern. The strategy has the potential to be implemented in a way which builds positive sustainability principles and contributes to the SA objectives, such as expanding local community services, public services and educational provisions.

However, this strategy does not actively seek to maximise other settlements with the best access to facilities such as Wilpshire, Mellor and Mellor Brook, which could be further enhanced.

2.2 Development Strategy 2

In a similar manner to Development Strategy 1, this strategy does not indicate any particular environmental risks of concern. The strategy has the potential to be implemented in a way which builds positive sustainable principles and contributes to SA objectives. This strategy may overcome the narrower scope of Development Strategy 2, by considering other settlements which have good accessibility.

2.3 Development Strategy 3

This Development Strategy emulates both options 1 and 2, however has potential limitations as it does not seek proportionate development outside of the main settlements.

Therefore, this strategy may fail to consider other settlements outside of Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley whereby accessibility is good.

2.4 Development Strategy 4

Development Strategy 4 could offer a potentially sustainable option, and at a high level, it does not indicate any particular environmental concerns. However, it could potentially be less optimal than maximising the potential services provided in the main

settlements. Therefore, targeted growth points for village expansion would have to address variety of services and sustainable public service options.

2.5 Development Strategy 5

This strategy reflects the exercise conducted by the SA input into strategic alternatives. Therefore, the results of this strategy could emulate the other development strategies presented, however, this strategy would be primarily driven by the spatial constraints mapping first. Initial constraints mapping indicates that this strategy once mapped, is likely to be the most like Development Strategy 2.

2.6 Development Strategy 6 – Something else

As part of the SA process, the following development scenarios have been considered, accessibility, heritage and landscape, and ecology. The analysis indicated that under an accessibility scenario, development would likely be driven towards Whalley and Wilpshire. Within a risk adverse heritage and landscape scenario, development would be driven towards Clitheroe, and from a risk adverse ecological scenario, development would be allocated between Mellor, Mellor Brook and Whalley. Development Strategy 5 is intended to reflect the findings of this exercise; however, these may inevitably be three unique strategies depending on the quantum of development required.

3 Conclusions

This exercise has evaluated the Development Strategies considered by Ribble Valley Borough Council, based on the SEA objectives developed in the previous SEA scoping report.

Following the consultation, the responses to this Issues and Options document will be considered during Local Plan development and the SA.

Appendix A SA Framework

A.1 SA Framework

SA Objectives and Sub-Objectives	Indicators (Current and Proposed)	Targets
1. To prevent and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, thus limiting the impacts of climate change into the long term		
<p>To reduce greenhouse gas emissions. To increase energy efficiency and require the use of renewable energy sources. To reduce the use of energy. 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. To promote offsetting emissions which cannot be prevented.</p>	<p>Total carbon dioxide (CO₂) 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 and details of their location. 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. Number of tree planting or carbon sequestration schemes.</p>	<p>To reduce per capita CO₂ emissions each year. Number of new developments where SuDS and NFM are appropriately used to increase each year. To reduce Annual average domestic gas and electricity consumption per consumer. To reduce Annual gas and electricity consumption in the commercial/industrial sector 90% of permissions granted fulfilling renewable energy requirements within policy and by type of renewable energy [2021 AMR]. 20MW/pa delivery of renewable energy generation permitted [2021 AMR]. To increase use of sustainable transport and reduce private car dependence. To increase access to broadband internet across the borough (for residential and employment uses).</p>
2. To improve human health and well-being		
<p>To reduce health inequalities amongst different groups in the community. To improve access to health and social care services. To promote healthy lifestyles. To reduce or manage flooding. To maintain low crime levels. To reduce the fear of crime. To reduce levels of anti-social behaviour. To encourage safety by design. To protect or enhance recreational assets.</p>	<p>Percentage of the resident population who consider themselves to be in good 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. Percentage of adults (16+) taking part in sport and active recreation at least three times a week). Number of planning applications granted permission contrary to Environment Agency advice regarding flooding. Distribution of areas at risk of fluvial flooding (Environment Agency) Number and distribution of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 40% most deprived for crime deprivation.</p>	<p>Maintain and increase number of people claiming to be in good health. Increase access to health services. Increase the number of adults and young people participating in sport and physical activity through increasing accessibility to sport facilities and recreational space. Reduce the number of crimes per '000 population. No planning applications permitted contrary to EA advice on flooding.</p>

	<p>Crime rates per 1,000 of the population for key offences.</p> <p>Number of new developments actively incorporating safety by design principles.</p> <p>Number of new initiatives implemented to tackle anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Quality and extent of recreational assets, such as formal or informal footpaths.</p>	
3. To improve equality and access to amenities and facilities		
<p>To increase the availability of quality affordable housing and social and sheltered accommodation in areas most at need.</p> <p>To tackle homelessness more effectively.</p> <p>To increase the availability of affordable housing.</p> <p>To reduce the number of unfit homes.</p> <p>To reduce the number of vacant housing.</p> <p>To improve access to cultural and leisure facilities.</p> <p>To maintain and improve access to essential services and facilities.</p> <p>To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>To encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport.</p>	<p>Average house price.</p> <p>Ratio of median house prices to median income</p> <p>Percentage of homes deemed unfit.</p> <p>Number of LSOAs in the bottom 40% most deprived for barriers to housing and services provision.</p> <p>Percentage of housing vacant.</p> <p>Number of affordable housing completions per annum.</p> <p>Number of homeless presentations.</p> <p>Number of essential services and facilities within local settlements.</p> <p>Number and distribution of sports facilities and recreational space.</p> <p>Journey to work by mode.</p> <p>Public transport patronage.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Number of homes with broadband internet access.</p>	<p>Increase the number of affordable homes provided in the district in accordance with housing targets.</p> <p>Increase the number of empty properties brought back into use.</p> <p>Reduce proportion of homes deemed unfit.</p> <p>Reduce levels of homelessness.</p> <p>Increase access to basic services and amenities.</p> <p>No net loss of basic services and amenities.</p> <p>To increase use of sustainable transport and reduce private car dependence.</p> <p>To increase access to broadband internet across the borough (for residential and employment uses).</p>
4. To improve levels of educational attainment and skills and training development for all age groups and all sectors of society		
<p>To maintain and increase levels of participation and attainment in education for all members of society.</p> <p>To improve the provision of education and training facilities.</p> <p>To improve access to and involvement in higher education for 16–19-year-olds.</p>	<p>Location and number of educational establishments in Ribble Valley.</p> <p>Number and distribution of wards with LSOAs in the bottom 40% most deprived for education, skills and training deprivation.</p> <p>Percentage of 15-year-old pupils in local authority schools achieving 5 or more GCSEs at Grades 9 - 4 or equivalent.</p> <p>Percentage of people aged 19-64 achieving national vocational qualification (NVQ) level 4 or above.</p> <p>Percentage of resident adults with no qualifications.</p> <p>Percentage of 16–19-year-olds continuing in to higher education.</p>	<p>At least 95% of adults to have basic skills in both functional literacy and numeracy.</p> <p>At least 90% of adults to hold at least level 2 qualifications or equivalent.</p> <p>At least 40% of adults to hold at least level 4 qualifications or equivalent.</p> <p>[Based on Pennine Lancashire Integrated Economic Strategy]</p> <p>No net loss of educational establishments.</p>
5. To encourage sustainable economic growth, business development, and economic inclusion across the borough.		
<p>To diversify employment opportunities.</p> <p>To increase employment opportunities.</p>	<p>Location of key industries and major employers.</p> <p>Economic activity rate.</p>	<p>Increase number of VAT registered businesses.</p>

<p>To encourage economic growth. To reduce levels of unemployment. To improve physical accessibility to jobs.</p>	<p>Employment by sector. Number of VAT registered businesses including sectoral information. Visitor numbers and tourist revenue data. 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 unemployed working-age population. Location of employment areas relative to housing.</p>	<p>Provision of sufficient employment land to meet economic needs. No net loss in employment land provision. Increase accessibility to employment areas in particular for LSOAs exhibiting higher levels of employment and income deprivation. No increase in businesses relocating outside the borough. [2021 AMR] Net gain in number of planning permissions involving new or improved tourism or recreational facilities [2021 AMR] Increase the visitor spend on tourism Decrease the numbers of employed people currently working outside of the district.</p>
<p>6. To protect, restore and enhance biodiversity</p>		
<p>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. To increase biodiversity net gain. To ensure current ecological networks are not compromised. To ensure that future improvements in habitat connectivity are not prejudiced.</p>	<p>Number and distribution of designated sites including SAC, SPA, Ramsar sites, SSSI, NNR, LNR) and BHS. Condition of SSSIs. Proportion of the population that has full access to the requirements of the Accessible Natural Green Space Standard</p>	<p>Maintain and improve number of SSSIs in favourable condition. Increase access to greenspace per head. No net loss of BHS or other statutory ecological conservation site Minimum 10% net gain in biodiversity in association with development. Achieve all ten Principles of Biodiversity Net Gain in future development.</p>
<p>7. To protect and enhance the borough's landscape and townscape character and quality</p>		
<p>To protect and enhance landscape character and quality. To protect and enhance townscape character and quality. To promote sensitive design in development.</p>	<p>Number, location, size and character of Conservation Areas. Amount of development in AONB Conservation Areas at risk</p>	<p>No inappropriate development in AONB No net loss of Conservation Areas. No increase in Conservation Areas at risk.</p>
<p>8. To conserve and enhance the historic environment</p>		
<p>To protect and enhance historic environment and heritage assets. To protect and enhance historic landscape/townscape value.</p>	<p>Number of Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens. Percentage of listed buildings or other assets on the English Heritage at risk register. Number of permissions granted against Historic England advice</p>	<p>No increase in heritage at risk as a result of new development. No permissions granted against English heritage advice [2021 AMR].</p>
<p>9. To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources</p>		
<p>To protect and enhance ground and surface water quality To encourage the inclusion of SuDS and NFM.</p>	<p>Percentage of rivers with good/fair chemical and biological water quality Number of SuDS and NFM implemented across the borough.</p>	<p>To introduce SuDS and NFM into new development No planning permissions granted against EA advice</p>

	Number of planning applications granted permission contrary to Environment Agency advice	
10. To conserve and enhance soil resources and guard against land contamination		
To reduce the amount of derelict, contaminated, and vacant land. To encourage development of brownfield land where appropriate. To protect soil functions. To prevent the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land.	Percentage of housing completions on previously developed land. Percentage of employment development on previously developed land.	100% of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land Greater than 51% of employment land permitted for development on previously developed land [2021 AMR]
11. To protect and improve air quality		
To protect and improve local air quality. 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.	Number and distribution of AQMAs. Combined Air Quality Indicator Scores for LSOAs in Ribble Valley. Distribution of known key polluting industries.	No new AQMAs to be designated in the borough. To increase use of sustainable transport and reduce private car dependence.
12. To protect material assets and minimise waste		
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 To increase the proportion of waste recycling and reuse To reduce the production of waste To reduce the proportion of waste landfilled	Incorporation of secondary and recycled materials in new development projects. Number of grey water recycling and water minimisation schemes implemented. Number of sustainable design schemes implemented. Use of BREEAM4 in new developments. Levels of composting and recycling achieved. Levels of fly-tipping Amount of household waste landfilled. Number and distribution of Household Waste Recycling Centres	Increase use of secondary and recycled materials in construction for new developments. Increase use of water efficiency schemes in new developments. Increase the percentage of municipal waste that is recycled or composted. Decrease the amount of fly-tipping.

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