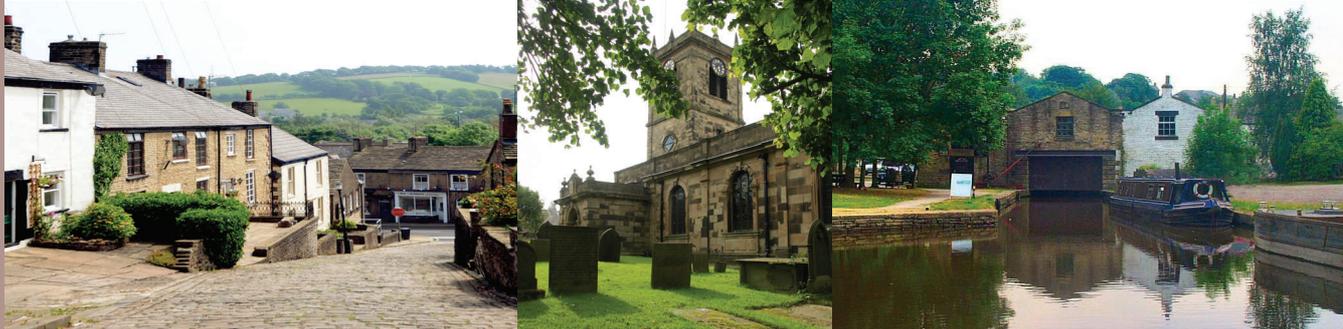# High Peak Local Plan Options Consultation

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

September 2012

Shaping the future

High Peak Borough Council
working for our community

Contents

1 Consultation questions

1.1   The purpose of this consultation is to seek your views on the Scoping Report Update. We would particularly welcome your comments on the following:

Question 1

Have we included all the relevant plans and programmes that are of significance to the Local Plan and sustainability?

Question 2

Can you suggest any other information/facts and figures that may be suitable for inclusion in the baseline information collected for the Sustainability Appraisal of the Local Plan?

Question 3

Have we correctly identified the main sustainability issues?

Question 4

Have we chosen the right sustainability indicators for the Local Plan?

Question 5

Do you think that the proposed methods for option appraisal are appropriate?

Question 6

Does this scoping report update, together with the 2009 report and its associated Topic Papers, provide sufficient information to ensure that an appropriate SA can be carried out?

1.2   Consultation on this Scoping Report Update is intended to ensure that the objectives set are appropriate, and the scope and level of detail proposed for subsequent stages of SA of the Local Plan are comprehensive and robust enough to support decisions with regards to sustainability.

2 Introduction

Overview

2.1   High Peak Borough Council is undertaking a six week public consultation on options for a Local Plan. Preparation of a Local Plan for High Peak is building on previous work undertaken on a joint Core Strategy for Derbyshire Dales and High Peak, after Members of both authorities agreed to withdraw the emerging jointly prepared plan.

2.2   The existing joint Core Strategy SA Scoping Report[i] was based on baseline data collected in 2008-09. The Council has therefore undertaken a review of this evidence in order to identify and record changes. This Scoping Report updates the baseline information, trends and issues for the Borough. It provides up-to-date baseline information and an up-to-date list of the contextual plans, programmes and strategies that could influence the preparation of the Council's Local Plan.

2.3   The updated baseline indicators and contextual documents have revealed that the sustainability issues identified in 2009 are still relevant today. The limited change in local circumstances means that it is proposed to leave the overarching sustainability objectives set out in the original sustainability framework largely unchanged, with only minor amendments.

Introduction

2.4   The purpose of this document is to update the baseline data and SA policy position with regards to the High Peak Local Plan. The report does not supersede previous parts of the SA process, but acts as an additional step to ensure that sustainability issues are up-to-date and future preparation work on the Local Plan is based on a robust appraisal by the SA process.

2.5   This SA update report should be read in conjunction with the 2009 SA scoping report, which sets out the detailed background of how sustainability issues for High Peak have been derived. This 2012 report provides updated information to ensure that new issues that have arisen since 2009 are adequately considered and addressed. Where possible, a commentary has been provided on any new trends or issues that have emerged in the authority area over the past three years.

Purpose of the consultation

2.6   The purpose of this consultation is to seek your views on the Scoping Report Update. We would particularly welcome your comments on the following:

- Have we included all the relevant plans and programmes that are of significance to the Local Plan and sustainability?
- Can you suggest any other information/facts and figures that may be suitable for inclusion in the baseline information collected for the Sustainability Appraisal of the Local Plan?

- Have we correctly identified the main sustainability issues?

- Have we chosen the right sustainability indicators for the Local Plan?

---

i   Revised Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Joint Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report; August 2009

2 Introduction

- Do you think that the proposed methods for option appraisal are appropriate?

- Does this scoping report update, together with the 2009 report and its associated Topic Papers, provide sufficient information to ensure that an appropriate SA can be carried out?

2.7   To meet the requirements of the SEA Directive, the Council must seek the views of the three statutory bodies as set out in the SEA Regulations. These are:

- Natural England,
- Environment Agency and
- English Heritage.

2.8   However, views of all interested individuals and organisations are welcomed.

2.9   You are invited to respond to this consultation by **Thursday 25 October 2012** by using one of the following methods:

- Online at http://highpeak-consult.objective.co.uk/portal
- Email to the email address given below
- Post to the postal address given below

2.10   Please note that all representations submitted online, by email or by post, will be made available to view on the consultation website. In the interests of data protection, personal contact details will not be published on the website.

2.11   Further details of the consultation on options for the High Peak Local Plan and supporting documents, including for its Sustainability Appraisal, can be found on the Council's web-site at:

www.highpeak.gov.uk/hp/localplanoptions

2.12   If you have any questions about this document, or options for the Local Plan, please contact the Planning Policy team at High Peak Borough Council.

High Peak Borough Council
Regeneration Service
Buxton Town Hall
Market Place
Buxton
Derbyshire
SK17 6EL

- Tel. 0845 129 7777 or 01298 28400

- E-mail LDF@highpeak.gov.uk

3 Sustainability Appraisal Process

SA methodology

3.1   Sustainability Appraisal (SA) methodology has followed the guidelines set out in the Planning Advisory Service: Communities and Local Government (CLG) Plan Making Manual.**(ii)**

Compliance with the SEA Directive

3.2   When preparing its Local Plan, the Borough Council must carry out a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with the European Directive 2001/42/EC (known as the SEA Directive). The Directive was transposed into English legislation by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the 'SEA Regulations'), which came into force on 21st July 2004.

3.3   Although SEA and SA are separate processes, they do overlap in their approaches and involve a similar set of steps. Table 1, below, is reproduced from Government guidance and shows the key stages and processes required for Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment. The combined SA / SEA process is referred to in this document as Sustainability Appraisal (SA).

3.4   Government guidance suggests a five-stage approach to undertaking SA. Stage A involves gathering an evidence base and defining SA objectives. The findings of this stage are documented in a Scoping Report. The appraisal is conducted at Stage B and outcomes recorded in the SA Report during Stage C. Following statutory consultation (Stage D) the SA Report may require updating to reflect changes made in response to representations. Stage E concerns ongoing monitoring of significant effects.

Table 1 Sustainability Appraisal Process

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 (contextual review)   - A2: Collecting baseline information   - A3: Identifying sustainability issues   - A4: Developing the sustainability framework and outlining what happens next   - A5: Consulting on the scope of the sustainability appraisal   **Output: Scoping Report**
Stage B: Developing and refining the options and assessing the effects
- B1: Testing the Local Plan objectives against the SA Framework   - B2: Developing options and alternatives for the Local Plan   - B3/B4: Predicting and evaluating the effects of the draft Local Plan   - B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects   - B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan

ii   http://www.pas.gov.uk/pas/core/page.do?pageId=109798

3 Sustainability Appraisal Process

Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope
Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal
•   C1: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal report
Stage D: Consulting on the draft Local Plan and Sustainability Appraisal Report
•   D1: Public participation on the Sustainability Appraisal Report and draft Local Plan •   D2: Appraising significant changes •   **Output production of Sustainability Appraisal Report**
Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan
•   E1: Finalising aims and methods for monitoring •   E2: Responding to adverse effects •   **Output: Information in the Annual Monitoring Report**

3.5　This scoping report update follows Stage A as set out above and, together with the 2009 report and its associated Topic Papers, broadly does the following:

- Identifies environmental, social and economic issues and objectives contained in other strategies, plans and programmes that are relevant to the Local Plan area.
- Provides baseline information on the environmental, social and economic characteristics of the Plan area.
- Outlines an appropriate framework for carrying out the sustainability appraisal. This includes objectives, sub-objectives and indicators, against which the effects of the draft options and policies will be appraised, mitigated and monitored.
- Meets the requirements of Strategic Environmental Assessment.
- Feeds into a "Habitats Regulations Assessment".

3.6　This scoping report update will inform the remaining four stages of the sustainability appraisal which will be completed alongside the preparation of the High Peak Local Plan.

Interaction with other assessments

3.7　High Peak Borough Council has commissioned consultants Environ to consider the potential impacts of the emerging Local Plan on the integrity of the Natura 2000 sites within and close to the Plan area boundary. A Habitats Regulations Assessment Report will accompany the preferred option draft Local Plan during consultation in February/March 2013 and its findings will feed into the draft SA Report.

3.8　An Equalities Impacts Assessment Report of the emerging Local Plan is being undertaken. The findings of the assessment will also be fed into the SA process and final SA report as these are completed.

4 Climate change

Climate Change - Evidence

4.1   Detailed evidence is set out in the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Joint Core Strategy SA Scoping Report Topic Paper: Climate Change, published for consultation in April 2009.   The contents of this Topic Paper have been reviewed in order to identify and record changes.

4.2   A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review.   The table below sets out the new messages and issues considered most relevant to the preparation of the Council's Local Plan, and the documents from which they were drawn.

Table 2 Key recent messages influencing preparation of Local Plan

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
The Local Plan must contribute to the UK commitment to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% by 2050, relative to 1990 levels.	The Carbon Plan, Delivering our low carbon future; HM Government, December 2011
By 2050, all buildings will need to have an emissions footprint close to zero. Buildings will need to become better insulated, use more energy-efficient products and obtain their heating from low carbon sources.	The Carbon Plan, Delivering our low carbon future; HM Government, December 2011
The Local Plan must contribute to the target for the UK to achieve 15% of its energy consumption from renewable sources by 2020 - the target set by the 2009 Renewable Energy Directive.	National Renewable Energy Action Plan for the United Kingdom, Department of Energy and Climate Change. Article 4 of the Renewable Energy Directive 2009/28/EC
To support the move to a low carbon future, the Local Plan should: • plan for new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions; • actively support energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings; and • set any local requirement for a building's sustainability in a way that is consistent with the Government's zero carbon buildings policy and adopt nationally described standards.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
To help increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy, the Local Plan should recognise the responsibility on all communities to contribute to energy generation from renewable or low carbon sources. The Plan should:	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

4 Climate change

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
• have a positive strategy to promote energy from renewable and low carbon sources; • have policies designed to maximise renewable and low carbon energy development - while ensuring that adverse impacts are addressed satisfactorily, including cumulative landscape and visual impacts; • consider identifying suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources, and supporting infrastructure, where this would help secure the development of such sources; • identify opportunities where development can draw its energy supply from decentralised, renewable or low carbon energy supply systems and for co-locating potential heat customers and suppliers.	
New development should be planned to avoid increased vulnerability to the range of impacts arising from climate change.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
The Local Plan can set out how the local authority area will be planned over the long term to adapt to the opportunities and impacts arising from changes in the climate.	Planning for climate change – guidance for local authorities; Planning & Climate Change Coalition; April 2012

Baseline

4.3   In 2010, UK emissions of the basket of six greenhouse gases covered by the Kyoto Protocol were provisionally estimated to be 582.4 million tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent. This was 3% higher than the 2009 figure of 566.3 million tonnes, but 25% lower than the 1990 figure of 778.3 million tonnes[iii].

4.4   Carbon dioxide (CO_2) is the main greenhouse gas, accounting for about 85% of the UK total in 2009, and the vast majority of CO_2 emissions come from the burning of fossil fuels. It has been provisionally estimated that 491.7 million tonnes of carbon dioxide ($MtCO_2$) were emitted during 2010. Carbon dioxide emissions have fallen by 17% since 1990. Power stations, at 156.2 $MtCO_2$, are the largest single source of carbon dioxide emissions. Between 1990 and 2010 emissions from electricity generation decreased by 23%. In 2010, CO_2 emissions from the transport sector, at 120.6 $MtCO_2$, accounted for 25% of all CO_2 emissions, compared to 20% in 1990. Emissions from the residential sector accounted for around 17% of all CO_2; since 1990 emissions from this sector have increased by 8%[iv].

---

iii   UK energy in brief 2011; A National Statistics Publication for the Department of Energy and Climate Change

iv   UK energy in brief 2011; A National Statistics Publication for the Department of Energy and Climate Change

4 Climate change

4.5 In response to EU Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources, the UK is committed to sourcing 15% of its energy from renewable sources by 2020. Renewable energy use grew by 9.8% between 2009 and 2010 and is now three times the level it was at in 2000[v].

4.6 Renewable energy accounted for 3.8% of energy consumption compared to 3.2% in 2010, this is up from 3.0% in 2009, and 2.4% in 2008 - as measured against the 2009 EU Renewable Energy Directive[vi].

4.7 A report prepared for East Midlands Councils in 2011 found that all local authorities within Derbyshire have considerable potential for microgeneration – in particular heat pumps, solar thermal and solar PV. The potential for commercial scale wind within the High Peak was recognised to be heavily constrained by the Peak District National Park and the need to ensure that the special qualities of this designation and its setting are not compromised[vii].

4.8 Figures in Table 3 below are taken from the East Midlands Councils Report on Low Carbon Energy Opportunities, 2011.

Table 3 Technical Renewable Energy Resource Potential for High Peak and the East Midlands for 2020 and 2030

Technology	High Peak		East Midlands 2020 (MW)
	2020 (MW)	2030 (MW)	
Large wind	0	0	15,221.45
Medium wind	0	0	359.31
Small wind	0	0	8,785.65
Small scale wind < 6kW	18.53	18.53	1,430
Managed woodland (heat)	1.5	1.5	108.34
Managed woodland (electricity)	0.78	0.78	28.9
Energy crops (heat) Medium	0	0	607.87
Energy crops (elec.) Medium	0	0	170.03
Agricultural arisings	0.06	0.06	165.94

v   UK energy in brief 2011; A National Statistics Publication for the Department of Energy and Climate Change

vi   Quarterly energy statistics: Energy trends and quarterly energy prices, 28 June 2012, Department of Energy and Climate Change

vii Low Carbon Energy Opportunities and Heat Mapping for Local Planning Areas Across the East Midlands: Final Report; Prepared for East Midlands Councils by Land Use Consultants, Centre for Sustainable Energy and SQW; March 2011

4 Climate change

Technology	High Peak		East Midlands 2020 (MW)
	2020 (MW)	2030 (MW)	
Waste wood (heat)	0.37	0.41	23.41
Waste wood (electricity)	0.43	0.48	27.32
Poultry litter	0.09	0.09	20.24
Wet organic waste	4.28	4.28	118.97
Biomass co-firing	0	0	609.4
Municipal Solid Waste	3.23	3.55	147.62
Commercial and industrial	1.92	2.02	127.33
Landfill gas	0.24	0.07	50.85
Sewage gas	0	0	18.29
Hydro	0.66	0.66	18.65
Solar PV	3.6	3.6	1,379.38
Solar thermal	6.85	6.85	1,502.46
Heat pumps	293.73	293.73	8,371.9
Total (electricity)	33.83	34.12	28,679.34
Total (heat)	302.45	302.49	10,613.98

Note: The potential within High Peak for wind, managed woodland, energy crops, hydro, solar and heat pumps were based on the findings of the Peak Sub-region Climate Change study, 2009

4.9 In recent years, increasing emphasis has been placed on the role of local government in contributing to energy efficiency improvements, and hence reductions in CO_2 emissions. Since 2008, emissions have decreased in almost all local authorities (402 out of 406). There have been increases in emissions in only 4 authorities[viii].

4.10 By sector, the results are similar. All except 10 local authorities (98% of all authorities) experienced a decrease in emissions from the road transport sector between 2008 and 2009. For the industrial sector, all except 9 local authorities (again, 98%) experienced a decrease in emissions between 2008 and 2009. For the domestic sector, every single local authority has experienced a decrease in emissions between 2008 and 2009.

---

viii   Local Authority CO_2 emissions estimates: 2009 Statistical Summary and UK Maps; Department of Energy and Climate Change, 15 September 2011

4 Climate change

4.11 High Peak has experienced a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions across all sectors between 2005 and 2009, resulting in a 17% per capita reduction since 2005. The data in the table below shows summary data for High Peak supporting CO_2 emissions within the scope and influence of local authorities.

Table 4 Carbon dioxide emissions in High Peak between 2005 and 2009, in kt CO_2

Year	Industry and Commerce	Domestic	Road Transport	Total	Per capita (tonnes)
2005	545	249.0	164.8	958.8	10.6
2006	547.1	247.1	162.4	956.6	10.5
2007	525.1	239.0	164.2	928.3	10.1
2008	497.9	238.3	156.7	892.9	9.7
2009	447.0	213.7	149.1	809.7	8.8
Source: Department of Energy and Climate Change; 15 September 2011; www.decc.gov.uk/assets/decc/11/stats/climate-change/2767 -emissions-within-the-scope-of-influence-of-local-a.xls#Information!A1					

4.12 UK Climate Projections 2009 data for the East Midlands[ix] suggests that, under a medium emissions scenario, by the 2050s the region may see:

- An increase in summer mean temperature of around 2.5ºC, and of winter temperatures of around 2.2ºC;
- A 14% increase in winter mean precipitation;
- A 16% decrease in summer mean precipitation.

Issues

4.13 The key issues for High Peak in relation to climate change are summarised in Table 5 below:

---

ix   Source: UKCP09 - http://ukclimateprojections.defra.gov.uk

4 Climate change

Table 5 Key sustainability issues derived from evidence review

Key issue	Implication for High Peak Local Plan
Reducing greenhouse gases and carbon emissions	Ensure that new development minimises further contribution to the emission of greenhouse gases, in particular CO_2.
Improving energy efficiency	Ensure that all new development is designed to promote energy efficiency.
Renewable and low carbon energy	Facilitate the delivery and take up of energy from renewable and low carbon resources.
Dealing with the impacts of climate change	Ensure that new development incorporates adaptation to the effects of climate change, where appropriate.

Contributing to the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

4.14   The review and update of evidence in relation to climate change suggests that the sustainability objective used in the SA Framework (2009) should remain unchanged.

4.15   The appraisal criteria have been amended slightly to simplify use and the monitoring indicators have been updated to reflect change in the national monitoring regime since 2009 - as shown in the table below.

4.16   Greenhouse gases generated within the UK is one of the proposed headline indicators in the national draft Sustainable Development Indicators 2012[x].   The proposed measure is greenhouse gas and carbon dioxide emissions generated within the UK.

x   Consultation Document: Sustainable Development Indicators 2012; Department for Environment Food and Rural affairs; July 2012

4 Climate change

Table 6 Sustainability objective, criteria and indicators for climate change

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicator/target
To minimise energy use and to develop the area's renewable energy resource.	Will it help to minimise energy use and promote energy efficiency?	Total CO_2 emissions
	Will it lead to an increase in installed renewable and low carbon energy capacity?	Amount of renewable energy generation by installed capacity and type
	Will it ensure that new development is in accessible locations in order to reduce the need for car use and/or encourage sustainable forms of transport?	The amount of development within 15 minutes walking distance (1km) and 10 minutes cycling distance (2km) of town centres, and/or located within 400m of a high frequency bus route and/or 800m of a railway station

5 Landscape character and natural resources

Landscape Character and Natural Resources - Evidence

5.1 Detailed evidence is set out in the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Joint Core Strategy SA Scoping Report Topic Paper: Landscape Character and Natural Resources published for consultation in April 2009. The contents of this Topic Paper have been reviewed in order to identify and record changes.

5.2 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below sets out the messages and issues considered most relevant to the preparation of the High Peak Local Plan and the documents from which they were drawn.

Table 7 Key recent messages influencing preparation of Local Plan

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Need to provide accessible natural environments rich in wildlife for people to enjoy and experience.	Making Space for Nature: A review of England's Wildlife Sites and Ecological Network; Chaired by Professor Sir John Lawton CBE FRS; September 2010
Protection and improvement of the natural environment is a core objectives of the planning system. Need to guide development to the best locations, encourage greener design and enable development to enhance natural networks.	The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature; HM Government; June 2011
Need to plan positively to enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Need to protect and enhance valued landscapes.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Need to protect the setting of the Peak District National Park as "great weight should be given to conserving landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks".	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Need to encourage re-use of brownfield land (provided that it is not of high environmental value). Consider setting a locally appropriate target for use of brownfield land.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Where it is necessary to use agricultural land, need to use areas of poorer quality land, in preference to that of a higher quality.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

5 Landscape character and natural resources

Baseline

5.3 The High Peak countryside is the result of an ever-changing relationship between people and the natural environment. Its character has been influenced by thousands of years of human intervention and management. High Peak Borough Council has worked with partners to provide guidance for the design and location of new development in the countryside - to ensure that any new development respects (and where practicable) contributes to enhancing the local character and sense of place of the landscape.

5.4 The Landscape Character Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) identifies key landscape characteristics and their implications for the siting, design and appearance of new development. The document will be reviewed in order to ensure that it is in accordance with any Policy in the Local Plan on Landscape Character, designed to protect the character of the High Peak landscape for its own intrinsic beauty and for its benefit to the economic, environmental and social well-being of the plan area.

5.5 North West Derbyshire Green Belt is a major designation in the Borough, surrounding towns and villages in Glossopdale and the northern part of the central area. There are a number of major developed sites in the plan's Green Belt. These are:

- Chisworth Works, Chisworth;
- Holehouse Mill, Chisworth;
- Kinderlee Mill, Chisworth;
- Bate Mill, Thornsett;
- Old Fire Station, New Mills;
- Hague Bar Works, Hague Bar;
- The Haulage Yard, Furness Vale;
- Ringstones Industrial Estate, Bridgemont;
- Britannia Mills, Buxworth;
- Bugsworth Basin, Buxworth;
- Council Offices, Chinley;
- Bridgeholm Mill, Chinley.

5.6 There is a significant amount of employment land in the plan area, a large proportion of which is dominated by factories and warehousing premises. Much of this existing supply of employment land is not fit to meet the needs of modern businesses or the needs of the potential growth sectors in the area: creative industries, food and drink and tourism. There is potential for use of some of these previously developed sites for purposes other than employment.

5.7 The trend for water quality in the Peak District is of improving quality. However river flows and groundwater levels are declining and aquatic habitats, river corridor wetlands and riparian habitats have suffered a dramatic decline historically[xi].

---

xi   Peak District Biodiversity Action Plan 2001 - 2010

5 Landscape character and natural resources

5.8   Water quality generally in the Peak District is good although locally it is affected by agricultural run-off, sheep dip and high silt levels. There is also some deterioration in built-up areas particularly where sewage works discharge. The trend, however, is for improvements in these areas. Water quality is also affected by erosion of the moorland areas with peat contributing to problems of water acidity and siltation.

5.9   The North West River Basin Management Plan[xii] prepared by DEFRA and the Environment Agency considers the protection, improvement and sustainable use of water across the North West of England up to 2015. The plan also includes the Central and Glossopdale Sub-Areas which lie within the Upper Mersey catchment area identified in the plan[xiii]. In 2009, the ecological status of watercourses within the Upper Mersey catchment area was considered to range from good to poor.

5.10   The plan states that the Environment Agency will work with partners to improve the ecological status of water bodies in the Upper Mersey by actions including working with developers and Local Authorities to ensure new housing developments protect and improve the water environment.

5.11   Buxton is covered by the Humber River Basin District River Basin Management Plan[xiv]. The Derbyshire Derwent catchment area includes Buxton and has 41 river water bodies and six lakes. 29% of rivers (79km) in the catchment currently achieve good or better ecological status / potential. 42% of rivers assessed for biology are at good or better biological status now, with 23% at poor biological status, and none at bad status.

5.12   There has been a significant and continuing decline in ponds across the Peak District, thought to be in the order of 33 - 50% since the 1960s[xv]. Of the 2,000 to 2,700 ponds in the Peak District (excluding garden ponds) approximately 75 % are to be found in the White Peak where the vast majority are dewponds dating from the 19th century, principally occurring on the limestone plateau, but with smaller numbers in the dales. Village ponds, fish ponds, millponds and ponds associated with old mineral workings (e.g. silica sand pits, limestone quarries) are also found locally. In the Dark Peak and South West Peak ponds are far fewer and occur in a variety of situations including millponds, coal bell pits, ornamental parkland ponds and farm ponds excavated in natural low-lying wet areas.

Issues

5.13   The key issues for High Peak in relation to landscape character and natural resources are summarised in Table 8 below:

xii   http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/124837.aspx
xiii   Upper Mersey Catchment Flood Management Plan Summary Report; Environment Agency; December 2009
xiv   River Basin Management Plan Humber River Basin District; Environment Agency; December 2009
xv   Peak District Biodiversity Action Plan 2001 - 2010

5 Landscape character and natural resources

Table 8 Key sustainability issues derived from evidence review

Key issue	Implication for High Peak Local Plan
Maintaining Green Belt.	Ensure that the development strategy safeguards Green Belt as a means of maintaining the distinctiveness of the towns and villages in the north of High Peak and their separation from Greater Manchester.
Protecting landscape character.	Ensure that new development protects and reinforces the character of the Borough's landscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place.
Protecting cultural landscape assets.	Ensure new development conserves and enhances cultural landscape assets.
Protecting other natural assets.	Ensure that new development protects water resources (rivers, canals, ponds), trees and ancient woodlands.
Bringing previously developed land back into use.	Ensure that the development strategy brings previously developed land back into use.

Contributing to the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

5.14   The review and update of evidence in relation to landscape character and natural resources suggests that the sustainability objective used in the SA Framework (2009) should remain unchanged.

5.15   The appraisal criteria have been amended slightly to simplify use and the monitoring indicators have been updated to reflect change in the national monitoring regime since 2009 - as shown in the table below.

5 Landscape character and natural resources

Table 9 Sustainability objective, criteria and indicators for landscape character and natural resources

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicator/target
To protect and enhance the character and appearance of the landscape, including cultural landscape assets, as well as the area's other natural assets and resources.	Will it protect and reinforce the Borough's landscapes, with the natural and cultural elements that make them distinct?	No specific indicator at this time - to be identified.
	Will it promote development on brownfield land?	Percentage of new and converted dwellings built on previously developed land. Percentage of employment floorspace completed on previously developed land.

6 Air, noise and light pollution

Air, Noise and Light Pollution - Evidence

6.1 Detailed evidence is set out in the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Joint Core Strategy SA Scoping Report Topic Paper: Air, Noise and Light Pollution published for consultation in April 2009. The contents of this Topic Paper have been reviewed in order to identify and record changes.

6.2 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below sets out the messages and issues considered most relevant to the preparation of the High Peak Local Plan and the documents from which they were drawn.

Table 10 Key recent messages influencing preparation of Local Plan

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Air quality/climate change co-benefits can be realised through actions such as promoting low-carbon vehicles and renewable sources of energy that do not involve combustion.	Air Pollution: Action in a Changing Climate; DEFRA; March 2010
Local Plan to contribute to national policy designed to avoid, mitigate and minimise significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life from noise as a result of new development.	Noise Policy Statement for England; DEFRA; March 2010 National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Local Plan to identify and protect areas of tranquility which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise and are prized for their recreational and amenity value for this reason.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Planning policies should contribute towards national objectives for air pollutants and take into account the cumulative impacts on air quality from individual sites.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Local Plan policies encouraging good design should limit the impact of air pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

Baseline

6.3 The Environment Act (1995) requires that all local authorities in the UK review and assess air quality in their area against the local air quality objectives. If any standards are being exceeded or are unlikely to be met by the required date, then that area should be designated an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). High Peak has no such areas designated.

6 Air, noise and light pollution

6.4 In common with the majority of the UK, the main pollutant of concern in the Borough is nitrogen dioxide - as a result of emissions from road traffic. Whilst in the majority of areas, levels of nitrogen dioxide are below the air quality objectives, air quality monitoring has shown six locations on the A628 to have exceeded the annual air quality objective.

6.5 The Council is now carrying out detailed assessment for nitrogen dioxide along part of the A628 road; air quality objectives for the other six pollutants will be met by the relevant dates[xvi].

6.6 Light pollution is artificial light that shines where it is neither wanted nor needed. Not only does light pollution have an impact on people's enjoyment of the night sky, it has also been shown to have an impact on quality of life, as well as wasting energy.

6.7 In early 2011, The Peak District National Park Authority asked members of the public to measure how light pollution impacts the darkness of the night sky in the project 'Orion in the Peak'. Participants were given instructions on how to compare the constellation of Orion (the Hunter) with a series of star charts, and then asked to return their results for analysis via the Authority's website.

6.8 In total, 201 people responded to the project, in 172 different postcode areas, allowing the Authority's research team to produce a map of night sky quality in and around the Peak District National Park. The map is reproduced as Map 1 on the next page.

6.9 Results show a difference in sky quality between the observations made inside and outside the National Park corresponding to approximately:

- a 2.5 times brighter sky outside the National Park;
- 600 more stars visible in the sky within the National Park.

---

xvi   2011 Air Quality Progress Report for High Peak Borough Council

6 Air, noise and light pollution

Map 1 Light Pollution Map showing results of Peak District National Park: Orion in the Peak 2011

Orion in the Peak 2011

Sky Quality

Worst — Best
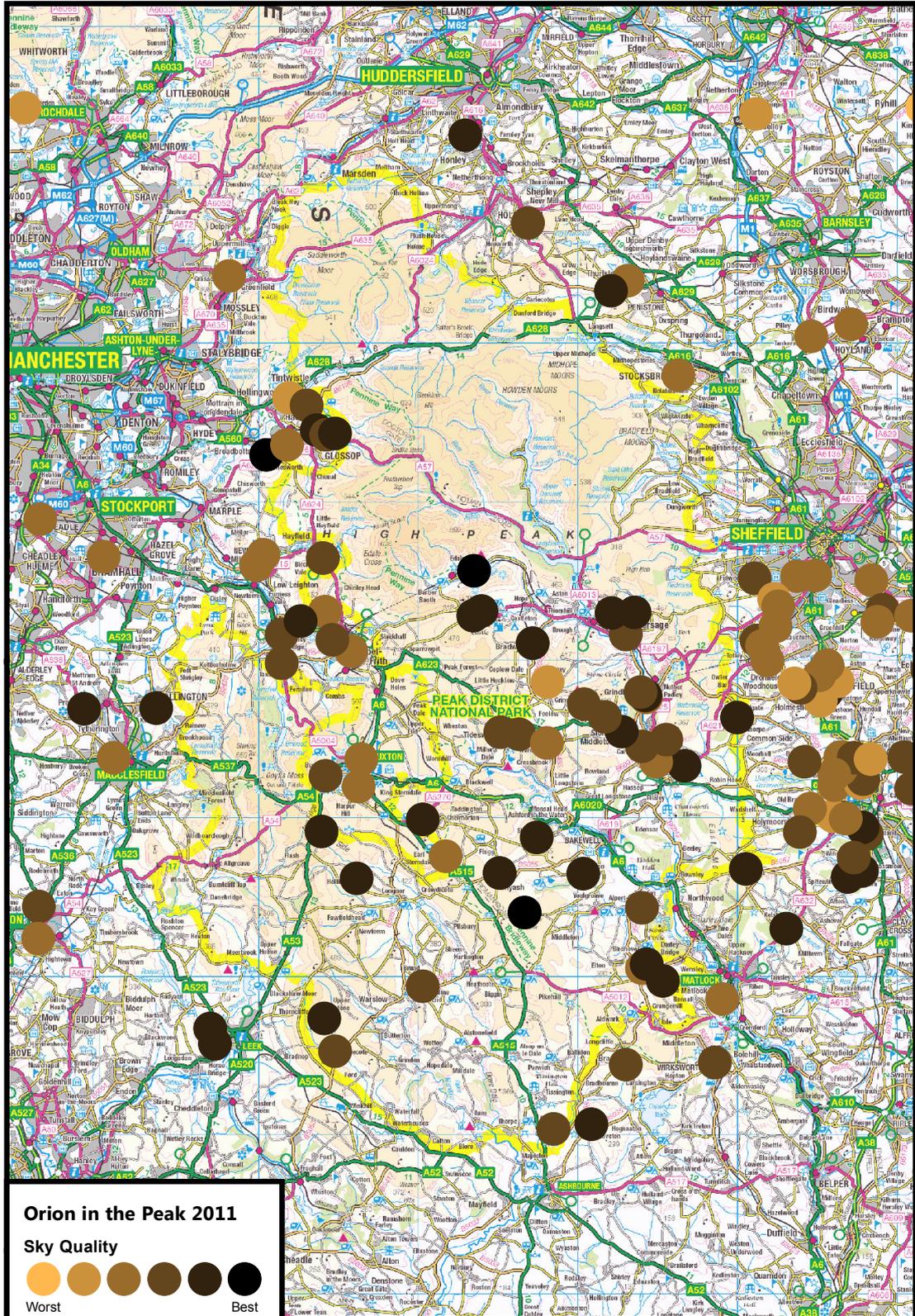
Data Copyright 2012 Peak District National Park Authority
Maps Crown Copyright and Database Rights 2012 100005734

6 Air, noise and light pollution

Issues

6.10   The key issues for High Peak in relation to air, noise and light pollution are summarised in Table 11 below:

Table 11 Key sustainability issues derived from evidence review

Key issue	Implication for High Peak Local Plan
Air quality and health.	Planning policies designed to maintain air quality will also have a positive benefit for people's health.
Impacts of new development on general air quality.	Ensure that all new development takes into account impacts on air quality.
Impacts of new development on air quality along the A628.	Ensure that new development can proceed without a detrimental impact on existing areas of poor air quality - along the A628.
Impacts of new development on levels of neighbourhood noise.	Ensure that all new development takes into account noise impacts. Identify and protect areas of tranquility which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise and are prized for their recreational and amenity value.
Impacts of artificial light from new development.	Design policy to limit the impact of air pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.

Contributing to the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

6.11   The review and update of evidence in relation to air, noise and light pollution suggests that the sustainability objective used in the SA Framework (2009) should remain unchanged.

6.12   The appraisal criteria have been amended slightly to simplify use and the monitoring indicators have been updated to reflect change in the national monitoring regime since 2009 - as shown in the table below.

6.13   Air Quality and Noise are both proposed supplementary indicators in the national draft Sustainable Development Indicators 2012[xvii]. Days when air pollution is moderate or higher in the UK and the percentage of population affected by noise are the proposed measures. The latter measure is yet to be developed.

---

xvii Consultation Document: Sustainable Development Indicators 2012; Department for Environment Food and Rural affairs; July 2012

6 Air, noise and light pollution

Table 12 Sustainability objective, criteria and indicators for air, noise and light pollution

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicator/target
To maintain good local air quality and to minimise noise and light pollution.	Will it minimise negative impacts on local air quality?	Number of exceedences of the annual mean NO_2 air quality objective
	Will it minimise impacts of light pollution?	No specific indicator at this time - to be identified.
	Will it help to protect tranquil areas?	No specific indicator at this time - to be identified.

7 Townscape quality, historic and cultural heritage

Townscape Quality; Historic and Cultural Heritage - Evidence

7.1 Detailed evidence is set out in the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Joint Core Strategy SA Scoping Report Topic Paper: Townscape Quality; Historic and Cultural Heritage published for consultation in April 2009. The contents of this Topic Paper have been reviewed in order to identify and record changes.

7.2 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below sets out the messages and issues considered most relevant to the preparation of the High Peak Local Plan and the documents from which they were drawn.

Table 13 Key recent messages influencing preparation of Local Plan

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Local Plan should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Applicants should be required to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Significance of heritage assets can be sustained and enhanced by putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
New development should make a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
The Borough Council should make information about the significance of the historic environment gathered as part of plan making - publicly accessible.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

Baseline

7.3 The National Planning Policy Framework recommends that Local Authorities should identify and assess the significance of heritage assets and how these may be affected through development proposals. Within conservation areas this assessment is carried out through the production of a conservation area character appraisal, leading to a management plan.

7.4 A list of conservation areas where character appraisals have been prepared is given below. Details of the appraisals are available from the Council web-site[xviii].

- Buxton Conservation Areas
- Glossop Conservation Areas
- Old Glossop

---

xviii www.highpeak.gov.uk/hp/council-services/conservation-areas/character-appraisals

7 Townscape quality, historic and cultural heritage

- Charlesworth
- Holehouse (Chisworth)
- Chapel-en-le-Frith
- Hayfield
- New Mills
- Whaley Bridge

7.5   The Council has a wealth of heritage assets consisting of listed buildings, conservation areas, historic parks and gardens and scheduled ancient monuments. These are all referred to as designated heritage assets and benefit from special consideration and statutory protection through the planning system.

7.6   Archaeological remains and sites provide important information on the past. These remains are often fragile and are a non-renewable resource. The County Archaeologists provide advice on archaeological matters to the Council. The Historic Environment Record (HER) database is the main source of archaeological information for the area. It is now searchable online through the Heritage Gateway.

7.7   Nationally important sites and monuments are given legal protection by being placed on a list, or 'schedule'. English Heritage is responsible for identifying sites in England that are placed on the schedule by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport.

7.8   However there are many other heritage assets such as buildings, monuments, places or sites which are not of national importance but locally make a significant contribution towards the quality of the local environment. These deserve recognition and appropriate consideration when making planning decisions. In recognition of their local importance the Council is currently drawing up a list of buildings, structures, parks, and gardens, cemeteries and archaeological sites that are considered to be of significant local interest.

7.9   In April 2012 a development agreement was signed by High Peak Borough Council and Derbyshire County Council with the Buxton Crescent Hotel and Thermal Spa Company - as the first step towards the transformation of Buxton's Grade 1 listed Crescent and adjoining Grade 2 listed Natural Baths and Pump Room - delivering a 79-bedroom, 5-star spa hotel incorporating the neighbouring Natural Baths.

7.10   In the Summer of 2012, a public consultation was held to enable residents, businesses and organisations to give their views on the future use and management of the Town Hall, Market Hall, Municipal Buildings and Victoria Hall in Glossop. The Town Hall complex is Grade II listed and is located within the Norfolk Square Conservation Area. The buildings have been the centre of civic and community life in Glossop but are now underused and in some cases their fabric is deteriorating. Previous public consultation has revealed that local people have a strong desire to see the halls brought back into use again.

Issues

7.11   The key issues for High Peak in relation to townscape quality; historic and cultural heritage are summarised in Table 14 below:

7 Townscape quality, historic and cultural heritage

Table 14 Key sustainability issues derived from evidence review

Key issue	Implication for High Peak Local Plan
Protecting and enhancing built heritage.	Planning policies to preserve and enhance the designated and non-designated historic assets and their settings; giving protection from development that risks harm to the cultural heritage of the area, or to people's enjoyment of our built heritage.
Contributing to local distinctiveness and character.	Protecting and enhancing the historic and cultural elements that contribute to the character and appearance of individual towns and villages is important to the sustainable development of the Borough.
Sustaining heritage assets through finding viable uses.	Local Plan to help deliver Corporate priorities on heritage-led regeneration.

Contributing to the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

7.12 The review and update of evidence in relation to townscape quality; historic and cultural heritage suggests that the sustainability objective used in the SA Framework (2009) should remain unchanged.

7.13 The appraisal criteria have been amended slightly to simplify use and the monitoring indicators have been updated to reflect change in the national monitoring regime since 2009 - as shown in the table below.

7 Townscape quality, historic and cultural heritage

Table 15 Sustainability objective, criteria and indicators for townscape quality; historic and cultural heritage

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicator/target
To conserve and enhance town / village - scape quality, archaeological and heritage assets along with their settings.	Will it ensure the continued protection and enhancement of physical sites and areas of importance to cultural and historical heritage, along with their settings?	Percentage or areas of historic buildings, sites and areas including locally listed assets affected, whether in an adverse or beneficial way.
	Will it protect and reinforce the character and appearance of the Borough's towns and villages and the cultural and historic elements that make them distinct?	No specific indicator at this time - to be identified.

8 Transport and accessibility

Transport and Accessibility - Evidence

8.1 Detailed evidence is set out in the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Joint Core Strategy SA Scoping Report Topic Paper: Transport and Accessibility, published for consultation in April 2009. The contents of this Topic Paper have been reviewed in order to identify and record changes.

8.2 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below sets out the messages and issues considered most relevant to the preparation of the High Peak Local Plan and the documents from which they were drawn.

Table 16 Key recent messages influencing preparation of Local Plan

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Encourage planning applications in locations served easily by rail and/or major roads - to reduce congestion on strategic routes and also locally. Favour settlements with existing or proposed public transport interchange facilities as locations for new development.	Derbyshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2026
Seek to improve links from new developments to existing walking and cycling networks, and improve canal towpaths and other healthy networks using developer contributions where appropriate.	Derbyshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2026 National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Encourage developers to provide convenient and secure parking and storage facilities for pedal cycles and powered two wheelers, where appropriate, in new developments, existing public areas and publicly-funded facilities e.g. town centres, community centres, schools etc.	Derbyshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2026
Identify and protect sites and routes that could be critical in developing infrastructure to allow for future transport use eg disused railway lines, track-bed alignments and existing and former canal routes.	Derbyshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2026 National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Provide infrastructure for alternative vehicle technology, eg charging points for electric/hybrid vehicles in new developments.	Derbyshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2026

8 Transport and accessibility

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Require all developments that generate significant amounts of movement to provide a Travel Plan.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Policies should aim for a balance of land uses, encouraging people to minimise journey lengths for employment, shopping, leisure, education and other activities.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Improve the quality of parking in town centres,	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

Baseline

8.3   The tables below shows the average minimum travel time in High Peak taken to reach nearest key services, using the car, walking, or cycling[xix]. These services are: centres of employment, primary and secondary schools, further education sites, GPs, hospitals and food shops.

Table 17 Average minimum travel time in minutes to nearest key services 2007 to 2011 by walking or public transport

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
High Peak	15	15	16	17	17
Derbyshire	15	15	14	15	15
Source: Department for Transport statistics					

xix   Accessibility Statistics www.dft.gov.uk/statistics/series/accessibility/

8 Transport and accessibility

Table 18 Average minimum travel time in minutes to nearest key services 2007 to 2011 by cycling

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
High Peak	10	10	12	11	11
Derbyshire	10	10	10	10	10
Source: Department for Transport statistics					

Table 19 Average minimum travel time in minutes to nearest key services 2007 to 2011 by car

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
High Peak	5	5	6	7	8
Derbyshire	5	5	5	6	6
Source: Department for Transport statistics					

8.4 The tables show that accessibility to key services in High Peak has not improved over the last five years and is marginally worse in High Peak than the average for Derbyshire as a whole.

8.5 Peak Cycle Links is a local charity registered to promote, deliver and manage links to popular cycling and walking routes in the Peak District. In particular, the charity is working with partners to create the 'White Peak Loop', a 60 mile traffic-free circuit, to connect the Monsal, Tissington and High Peak trails to Buxton and Matlock rail stations.

Issues

8.6 The key issues for High Peak in relation to transport and accessibility are summarised in Table 20 below:

Table 20 Key sustainability issues derived from evidence review

Key issue	Implication for High Peak Local Plan
Minimise impact on areas with existing congestion and support use of public transport.	Locate new developments in areas with a good road network and that allow choice of sustainable travel modes.
Support use of walking and cycling networks.	Policies to require links from new developments to existing walking and cycling routes where possible and developer contributions sought to improve healthy travel networks. Appropriate developments required to prepare Travel Plans and to provide suitable facilities for those walking and cycling.

8 Transport and accessibility

Key issue	Implication for High Peak Local Plan
Minimise journey lengths to key services and facilities.	Improve accessibility to key services and facilities by a development strategy that supports growth in and around the market towns and supports mixed use developments where appropriate.
Protect routes and sites and provide infrastructure that could deliver future transport choices.	Plan to identify routes to protect from development that will form a network of green infrastructure. Support provision of charging points for electric/hybrid vehicles in appropriate new developments.

Contributing to the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

8.7 The review and update of evidence in relation to transport and accessibility suggests that the sustainability objective used in the SA Framework (2009) and monitoring indicator should remain unchanged.

8.8 The appraisal criteria have been amended slightly to simplify use - as shown in the table below.

Table 21 Sustainability objective, criteria and indicators for Transport and Accessibility

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicator/target
To reduce the number of journeys made by car - within, and to and from - the area.	Will it minimise impacts on existing traffic congestion?	The amount of development within 15 minutes walking distance (1km) and 10 minutes cycling distance (2km) of the town centres and/or located within 400m of a high frequency bus route and/or 800m of a railway station.
	Will it support the use of public transport?	
	Will it support safe walking and cycling?	
To improve access to jobs, services and facilities.	Will it help to minimise the distance people travel for education, employment, shopping and other key services and facilities?	

9 Water resources and flood risk

Water Resources and Flood Risk - Evidence

9.1 Detailed evidence is set out in the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Joint Core Strategy SA Scoping Report Topic Paper: Water Resources and Flood Risk, published for consultation in April 2009. The contents of this Topic Paper have been reviewed in order to identify and record changes.

9.2 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below sets out the messages and issues considered most relevant to the preparation of the High Peak Local Plan and the documents from which they were drawn.

Table 22 Key recent messages influencing preparation of Local Plan

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Demand for water in the north west in dry weather is expected to reduce slightly from current levels. The anticipated increase in households in the north west by 645,000 by 2034/35 (net of demolitions) will put an upward pressure on water use, as well as the expected growth in water use for garden watering and showering. However, this will be balanced by the downward pressures due to the expected effects of: growth in customer metering; increasing use of low-flush-volume toilets and other water efficient appliances; the current economic downturn on house-building rates.	Final water resources management plan; United Utilities; September 2009
The forecast average per capita consumption rate at 2030 is 129 litres per person per day.	Final water resources management plan; United Utilities; September 2009
Water available for use is sufficient to meet future demand plus target headroom. In the short term, the company is projecting a fall in water available for use but their leakage and demand management strategy will mean that a supply / demand surplus is maintained. However estimates of future supply / demand pressures show that additional water resources and treatment capacity will be needed in the longer term.	Severn Trent Water Resource Management Plan (2010 – 2035)
Understand the risks of flooding, work with the Environment Agency to put in place long-term plans to manage these risks and make sure that other plans take account of them. Avoid inappropriate development in areas of flood risk and being careful to manage land elsewhere to avoid increasing risks.	Understanding the risks, empowering communities, building resilience: The national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England; DEFRA, Environment Agency; 2011 National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

9 Water resources and flood risk

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Significant recent flooding events have occurred in 2000, 2002 and 2007. The sources of flooding were a combination of fluvial (from rivers) and surface water flooding. In July 2002 there was localised flooding in the Glossop area; the A57 was closed and properties flooded. Flood waters reached a depth of approximately one metre along High Street West. Manor Park suffered significant damage to bridges, footpaths and riverbanks. Buxton experienced flooding in February 2004 resulting in disruption to critical infrastructure.	Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment for Derbyshire; Derbyshire County Council; May 2011
Flash flooding on the road network caused by heavy rain events is the priority risk for High Peak from extreme weather events associated with climate change.	A summary of the Local Climate Impacts Profile for Derbyshire: Understanding the local impacts of extreme weather events on public services, places and people, helping us to prepare for future climate change; Climate East Midlands; November 2011
Local Plans should set out the strategic priorities and policies for an area, including those to deliver the infrastructure for flood risk and water supply.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Local Plans should be supported by strategic flood risk assessments (SFRAs) which should consider the risk of flooding from all sources, taking into account climate change. The SFRA should be prepared in consultation with the Environment Agency and other relevant flood risk management bodies, and the local authority's emergency response and drainage teams.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Development should not be allocated or permitted if there are reasonably available and appropriate sites in areas with a lower probability of flooding.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

Baseline

9.3   Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS) are strategies for management of water resources at a local level. High Peak is covered by two catchment strategies: the Tame, Goyt and Etherow catchment in the north of the Borough and the Derbyshire Derwent catchment in the south.

9 Water resources and flood risk

9.4 The vision for the Tame, Goyt and Etherow CAMS is to manage water resources within the catchment in a sustainable manner that preserves and enhances the area's natural and cultural heritage alongside its recreation value. This aims to balance the needs of water users with those of the environment to benefit the whole community.

9.5 The Tame, Goyt and Etherow CAMS covers an area of 511km^2 and comprises two main sub-catchments – The River Tame catchment and the River Goyt/River Etherow catchment[xx].

9.6 The River Etherow drains the Pennines to the east of Stalybridge flowing west through Hollingworth, and joins the River Goyt north of Marple. The upper reaches of the Etherow are dominated by the Longdendale reservoirs, five consecutive reservoirs stretching for approximately 7 km, providing public water supplies. The major tributary to the Etherow is Glossop Brook, which drains the Pennines to the east of Glossop, meeting the Etherow south of Hadfield. Other significant tributaries include Hollingworth Brook and Arnfield Brook, which drain the area north of Hollingworth, and Chisworth Brook, which originates south west of Glossop.

9.7 The River Goyt rises on Whetstone Ridge, to the south west of Buxton at an altitude of 520m. The river flows to the north through Errwood and Fernilee reservoirs, before flowing through the towns of Whaley Bridge, Furness Vale, New Mills and Marple, and heading west towards its confluence with the River Tame. The Goyt has three main tributaries; Black Brook, which drains the Chapel-en-le Frith area, the River Sett, which drains the Hayfield area, and the River Etherow. The total area of the Etherow/Goyt catchment is 365 km^2. The Peak Forest Canal begins in Whaley Bridge and follows the River Goyt for much of its length before joining the Macclesfield Canal in the lower catchment.

9.8 Where the rivers in this area run through urban areas they have often been modified with walls and river-side buildings dating from the 19th and early 20th centuries. Old mills, millraces and mill reservoirs are common. In the east of the CAMS area there are significant areas of open countryside, which provide valuable wildlife habitats and recreation opportunities.

9.9 Currently, water is abstracted throughout the catchment from both surface waters and groundwater for a number of uses, including agricultural, industrial and public water supply. Within the CAMS area there are 39 licensed groundwater abstractions, used principally for agriculture and private water supply, and 173 licensed surface water abstractions used predominately for agriculture and the public water supply industry. There are also numerous abstractions for which a licence is not required. For example, some parts of the catchment are not served by mains water supply and water users rely upon small, local sources. There is limited groundwater abstraction in the area as yields are difficult to predict and the quality is often poor with a high iron content.

9.10 Water Resource Management Units (WRMU) within the Tame, Goyt and Etherow CAMS form the basis of water availability appraisals that balance the amount of water required for the environment, the amount of water already licensed and the amount of water available at low flows.

---

xx The Tame, Goyt and Etherow Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy; Environment Agency North West; March 2004, updated March 2008

9 Water resources and flood risk

9.11   WRMU1 takes in the middle and lower reaches of the Tame, and the entire lengths of the Goyt and Etherow, which covers approximately 80% of the CAMS area.   The resource availability status of this unit is "water available".

9.12   The strategy for WRMU1 is to remain at the current status of "water available" and allow further abstraction beyond the current full licensed limit. Further abstraction will be permitted up to a level that does not cause a failure to meet the ecological river flow objective. The rivers within this unit have either a "High" or "Very High" environmental sensitivity to abstraction.

9.13   Water Resource Management Unit 2 (Upper River Tame and Glossop Brook) encompasses the River Tame above Uppermill and Glossop Brook. There are large areas of the South Pennine Moors SAC and SPA within this unit and in order to address the environmental concerns of stakeholders, it has been assessed as "no water available". The strategy for this WRMU is to remain at the "no water available" resource status. Further abstraction is limited to times when river flows are high. The rivers within this unit have a "Very High" environmental sensitivity to abstraction. There will be a presumption against consumptive abstraction when flows are not meeting the ecological river flow objective.

9.14   Water is supplied to Glossopdale and parts of the Central Sub-Area including Whaley Bridge, Furness Vale, Birch Vale and New Mills by United Utilities from local reservoirs and ground water sources[xxi]. These settlements lie within the Integrated Resource Zone. Water is supplied to this zone from as far away as Wales and Cumbria, as well as other more local sources.

9.15   The United Utilities Water Resource Management Plan[xxii] projects water demand, supply and required improvements from 2010 to 2035. The supply / demand balance of water supply within the Integrated Resource Zone is expected to be maintained through the plan period through a combination of efficiencies, reduced leakage and a new mains connection linking Greater Manchester to Merseyside that will help to secure supplies. The current United Utilities plan covers the period 2010 to 2015. There are no capital projects identified in High Peak during this period.

9.16   Water is supplied to Chapel-en-le-Frith, Tunstead Milton, Dove Holes and Hayfield by Severn Trent Water and is sourced from surface water treated works in Derbyshire[xxiii]. These settlements lie within the East Midlands Water Resource Zone. The Severn Trent Water Resource Management Plan (2010 – 2035)[xxiv] projects that provided mitigation measures are implemented, water supply will meet the demand associated with anticipated housing growth in the East Midlands Water Resource Zone.

9.17   There are no major infrastructure projects scheduled by Severn Trent Water within the Derbyshire Dales or High Peak, however, metering and leakage control will be targeted to maintain sufficient supply.

9.18   Foul waste water and sewage for the whole of the Central Sub-Area is processed by United Utilities with treatment facilities located in Chinley and Furness Vale. The foul only waste water arising from new development is considered unlikely to be a major issue in terms of the capacity

xxi   www.unitedutilities.com/waterquality.aspx
xxii Final Water Resources Management Plan; United Utilities; September 2009
xxiii www.stwater.co.uk/category/534
xxiv www.stwater.co.uk/ConWebDoc/861

9 Water resources and flood risk

of treatment works. However, the fate of surface water is crucial to the capacity of sewers to serve development and wherever possible surface water should be separated and disposed to SUDS / soakaway or watercourse rather than the foul / combined sewer.

9.19   The Derbyshire Derwent catchment covers an area of approximately 1,200km^2. The river rises on Howden Moor in the Peak District National Park, following a southerly course to its confluence with the River Trent south east of Derby[xxv].

9.20   Water Resources Management Unit 2 – The River Wye includes the River Wye and its tributaries together with the Buxton and Matlock Carboniferous Limestone groundwater management units. Ecologically important, the unit contains sites designated for their conservation value at European, national and local levels. The surface water catchment of WRMU2 extends over 269km^2, whilst the limestone extends beyond the surface watershed to underlie part of the River Noe catchment to the north and an area of the River Derwent to the east.

9.21   The result of the resource assessment across WRMU2 is 'water available,' overridden to 'no water available.' The override recognises that although there are no abstraction-related problems within the WRMU, its resource surplus is required to meet more critical river flow objectives and abstraction demands further downstream in the River Derwent. All new and varied licences will be time limited to 31 March 2018.

9.22   Water is supplied to the Buxton area by Severn Trent Water and is sourced from surface water treated works in Derbyshire. The Buxton sub-area lies within the East Midlands Water Resource Zone. The Severn Trent Water Resource Management Plan (2010 – 2035) projects that provided mitigation measures are implemented, water supply will meet the demand associated with anticipated housing growth in the East Midlands Water Resource Zone.

9.23   Waste water and sewage is processed at Severn Trent Water's treatment works, Bakewell Road, Buxton. Treated water is discharged in to the River Wye. Estimated headroom is projected to be "significant" based on current quality and performance. However, due to the physical constraints present on the site, there is limited scope to increase capacity significantly.

9.24   In terms of future quality issues at the treatment works, an initial assessment under taken by Severn Trent Water in November 2009 determined that quality was not likely to be an issue. However, on 31 March 2010, under the Habitats Directive, a tighter phosphate limit was imposed on the Buxton treatment works to protect the River Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC) which lies downstream. The new phosphate limit (1mg/l) is the lowest level that can currently be achieved using available technology. This new limit could have implications for development in the Buxton sub-area. Further discussion is required with Severn Trent Water and the Environment Agency to determine the full implications of the phosphate limit on the scale of development proposed in Buxton. Possible mitigation measures should also be explored.

9.25   The Environment Agency has defined Source Protection Zones (SPZs) for 2,000 groundwater sources such as wells, boreholes and springs used for public drinking water supply. These zones show the risk of contamination from any activities that might cause pollution in the area. The closer

---

xxv The Derbyshire Derwent Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy; Environment Agency Midlands Region; 2006

# 9 Water resources and flood risk

the activity, the greater the risk. High Peak has groundwater source protection zones to the south and east of Buxton as shown in Map 2 on the next page, reproduced from the Environment Agency web-site[xxvi].

xxvi www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/37833.aspx

9 Water resources and flood risk

9.26 The map below shows three main protection zones: inner, outer and total catchment.

Map 2 Environment Agency map of Groundwater Source Protection Zones in the High Peak

Inner zone
Outer zone
Total catchment
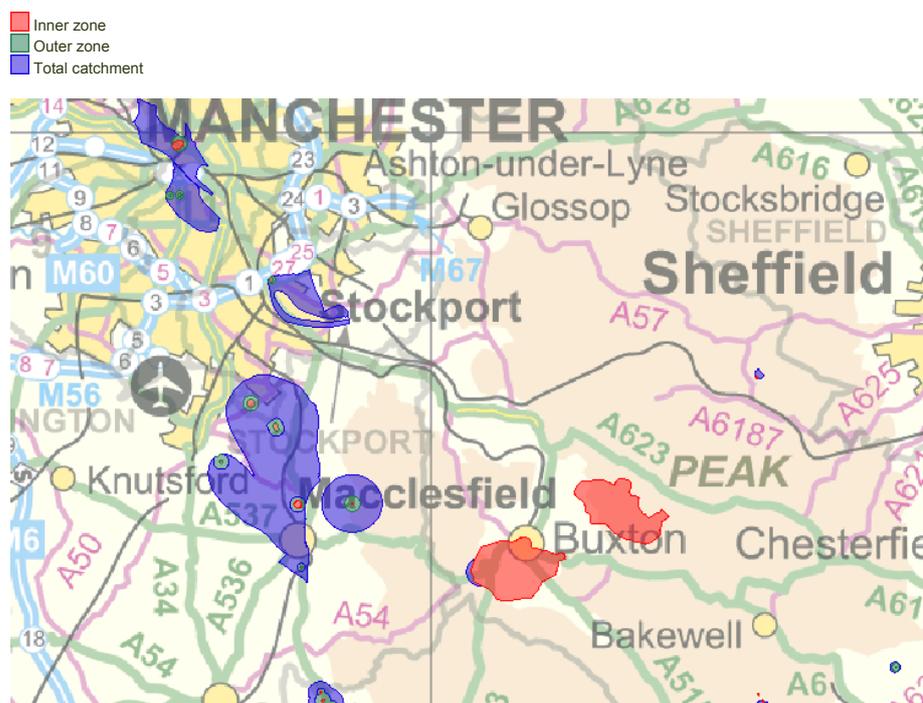
Contains Environment Agency information © Environment Agency and database right

9.27 A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 was carried out for High Peak in 2008[xxvii]. Since then, the Environment Agency has published new flood risk maps for the Borough, available to view at:

http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/37837.aspx

9.28 One of the most significant features of the summer 2007 floods was the high proportion of surface water flooding, compared with flooding from rivers. Flash flooding on the road network caused by heavy rain events is the priority risk for High Peak - from extreme weather events associated with climate change.

9.29 Environment Agency maps showing the areas at risk from surface water flooding in the Borough's market towns are shown in the maps reproduced below.

xxvii High Peak Borough Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for Local Development
Framework Level 1; Halcrow; September 2008

9 Water resources and flood risk

Map 3 Environment Agency map showing area at risk from surface water flooding - Glossop
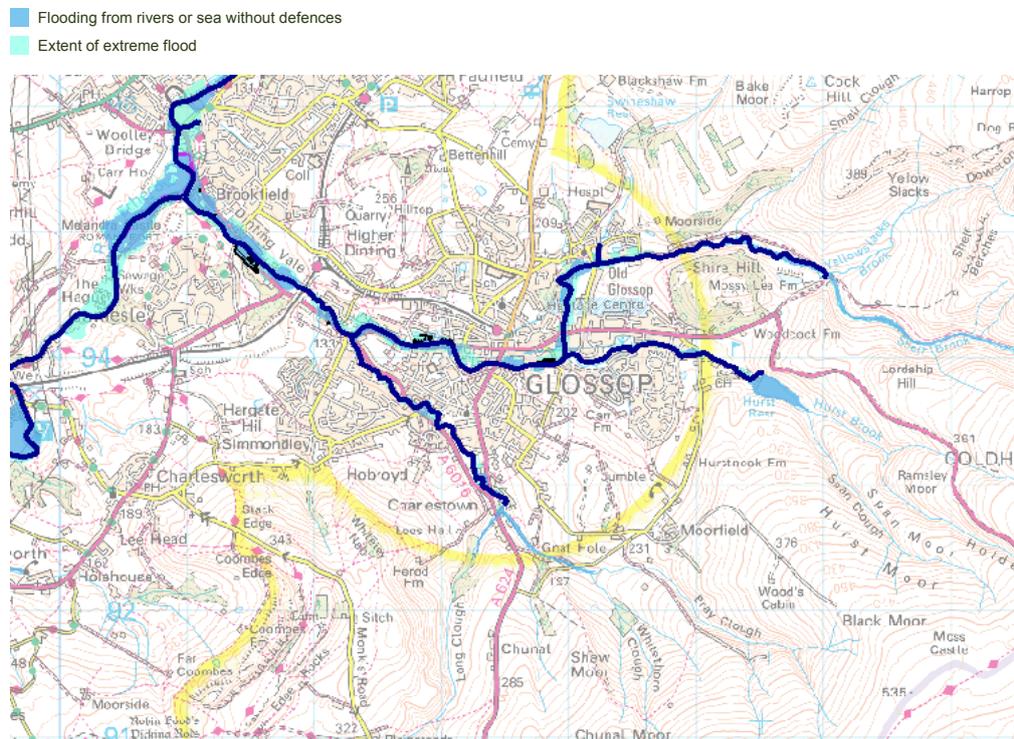
Contains Environment Agency information © Environment Agency and database right

9 Water resources and flood risk

Map 4 Environment Agency map showing area at risk from surface water flooding - New Mills
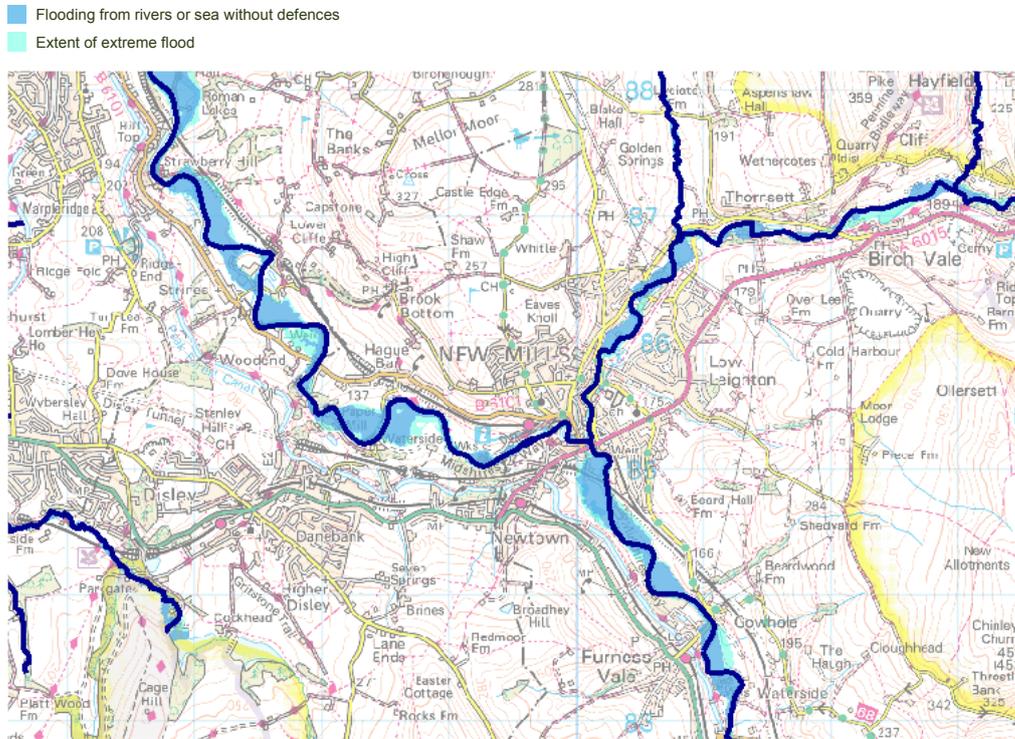
Contains Environment Agency information © Environment Agency and database right

9 Water resources and flood risk

Map 5 Environment Agency map showing area at risk from surface water flooding - Whaley Bridge

Contains Environment Agency information © Environment Agency and database right

9 Water resources and flood risk

Map 6 Environment Agency map showing area at risk from surface water flooding - Chapel-en-le-Frith

Flooding from rivers or sea without defences
Extent of extreme flood

Contains Environment Agency information © Environment Agency and database right
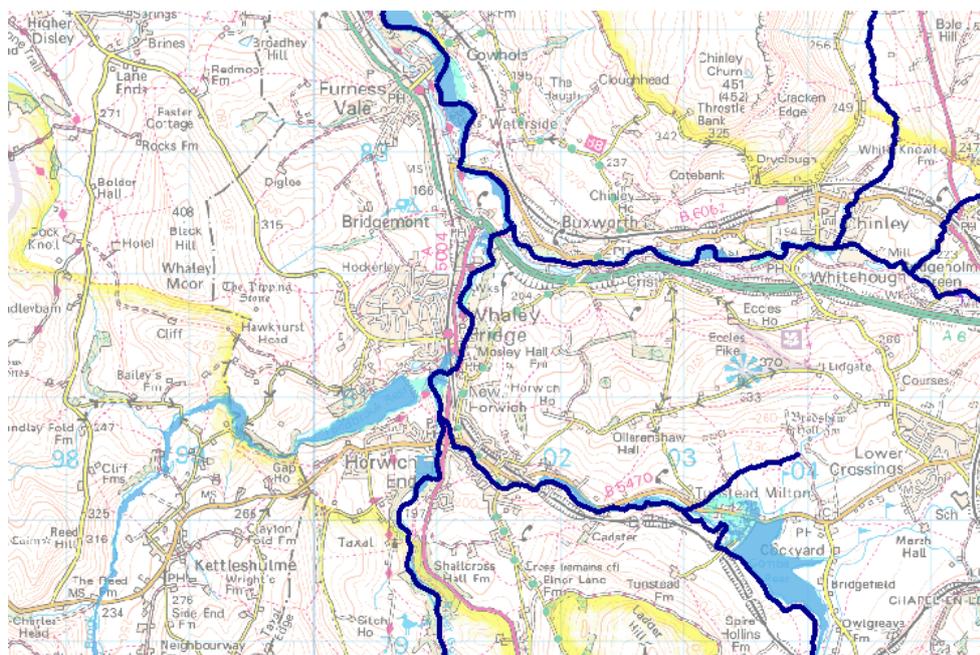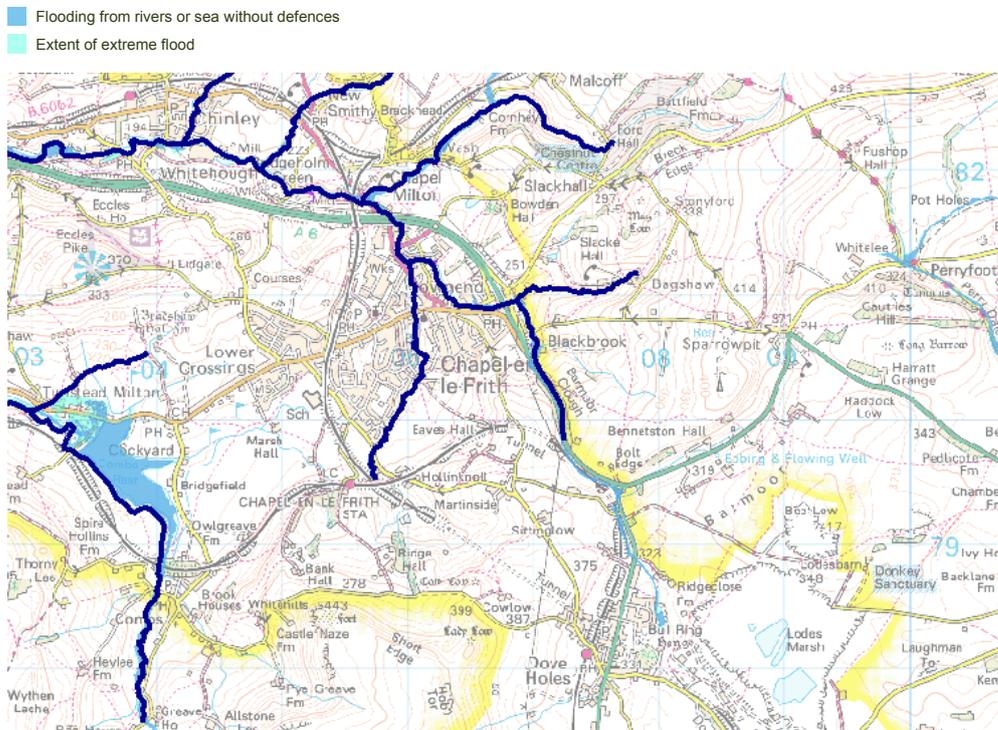
9 Water resources and flood risk

Map 7 Environment Agency map showing area at risk from surface water flooding - Buxton

Flooding from rivers or sea without defences

Contains Environment Agency information © Environment Agency and database right

9.30 Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs) have been established under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. LLFAs are responsible for local flood risk management, including surface water, and in Derbyshire this function is the responsibility of the Strategic Flood Board, chaired by the County Council's Strategic Director of Environmental Services.

9.31 Derbyshire's Strategic Flood Board has examined the possible impacts of climate change on future flood risk within the County. Using United Kingdom Climate Projections 2009 (UKCP09) the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment for Derbyshire[xxviii] concludes that an increase in surface water flooding is expected - due to increased levels of precipitation.

9.32 Greenhouse gas (GHG) levels in the atmosphere are likely to cause higher winter rainfall in future, and past GHG emissions suggest some climate change is inevitable in the next 20 to 30 years. Lower emissions could reduce the amount of climate change further into the future, but changes are still projected at least as far ahead as the 2080s.

---

xxvii Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment for Derbyshire; Derbyshire County Council; May 2011

9 Water resources and flood risk

9.33 By the 2080s, the latest UK climate projections (UKCP09) are that there could be around three times as many days in winter with heavy rainfall (defined as more than 25mm in a day) and it is plausible that the amount of rain in extreme storms could increase locally by 40%.

9.34 Using UKCP09 – 2011, climate projections were obtained for the year 2020. By 2020, for the East Midlands region, and for a medium emissions scenario, the following rainfall statistics are estimated:

- Mean winter precipitation is estimated to increase by up to 5%.
- Mean summer precipitation is estimated to decrease by up to 8%.
- Precipitation on the wettest day in winter is estimated to increase by up to 10%.
- Precipitation on the wettest day in summer is estimated to increase by up to 10%.

9.35 Climate changes can affect local flood risk in several ways as impacts will depend on local conditions and vulnerability. However, wetter winters and more rain falling in wet spells may increase river flooding with more intense rainfall causing more surface runoff, increasing localised flooding and erosion. In turn, this may increase pressure on drains, sewers and water quality. Storm intensity in summer could increase, even in drier summers.

9.36 An analysis of the future flood risk to each of Derbyshire's Borough/District Councils is set out in Table 23 below, ranking the Borough / Districts based on percentage of grid squares likely to be subject to future flooding.

Table 23 Summary of future flood increase by Borough / District in Derbyshire

Borough / District	Number of km grid squares within Borough / District	Number of km grid squares at risk of future flooding	Percentage	Future risk ranking
Chesterfield	67	56	84%	1
Amber Valley	296	160	54%	2
Erewash	136	70	52%	3
North East Derbyshire	273	129	47%	4
Bolsover	193	82	43%	5
Derbyshire Dales	848	329	39%	6
High Peak	574	172	30%	7
South Derbyshire	395	114	29%	8
Source: Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment; Derbyshire County Council; May 2011				

9.37 Sustainable development and sustainable drainage (SuDs) will help in adapting to climate change and managing the risk of damaging floods in future.

9 Water resources and flood risk

9.38   Other baseline work underway includes preparation of a surface water management plan for Derbyshire - a requirement of the Flood Risk Regulations 2009. The findings of this will need to be taken into account in the sustainability appraisal.

Issues

9.39   The key issues for High Peak in relation to water resources and flood risk are summarised in Table 24 below:

Table 24 Key sustainability issues derived from evidence review

Key issue	Implication for High Peak Local Plan
Water supply.	Evidence suggests that there is sufficient water capacity to accommodate growth planned.
Water efficiency.	Design policies to support water efficiency measures in order to make best use of existing resources.
Minimise risk of floods, particularly flash flooding.	Locate new development outside areas of high flood risk or secure flood protection measures.
Manage surface water run-off.	Design policies to require sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) in new developments. Explore use of Section 106 agreements or community infrastructure levy (CIL) to secure suitable surface water drainage arrangements e.g. regional SuDS facilities and/or improvements to watercourses.
Manage risk of contamination of groundwater used for public drinking water supply.	New development within or near to Groundwater Source Protection Zones will need to consider appropriate mitigation to prevent contamination.
Support protection of water quality objectives for the River Wye set under the Habitats Directive.	Possible mitigation measures should be explored to minimise the discharge of phosphates into the River Wye resulting from sewage entering the Buxton treatment works from development proposed in Buxton.

Contributing to the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

9.40   The review and update of evidence in relation to water resources and flood risk suggests that the sustainability objective used in the SA Framework (2009) should remain unchanged.

9.41   The appraisal criteria have been amended slightly to simplify use and the monitoring indicators have been updated to reflect change in the national monitoring regime since 2009 - as shown in the table below.

9 Water resources and flood risk

9.42   Water availability is one of the proposed headline indicators in the national draft Sustainable Development Indicators 2012[xxix]. No measure has yet been identified.

Table 25 Sustainability objective, criteria and indicators for water resources and flood risk

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicator/target
To ensure sustainable management of water resources and to minimise the risk of flooding.	Will it encourage water efficiency and demand management?	No specific indicator at this time - to be identified.
	Is new development directed towards areas of least risk?	Number of planning applications granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency in respect of flood risk
	Will it reduce risk of flooding eg by encouraging the integration of mitigation measures such as SUDs into new development?	No specific indicator at this time - to be identified.
	Will it protect, maintain and improve the quality of water resources?	Number of planning applications granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency in respect of water quality

---

xxix Consultation Document: Sustainable Development Indicators 2012; Department for Environment Food and Rural affairs; July 2012

10 Biodiversity and green infrastructure

Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure - Evidence

10.1   Detailed evidence is set out in the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Joint Core Strategy SA Scoping Report Topic Paper: Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure, published for consultation in April 2009. The contents of this Topic Paper have been reviewed in order to identify and record changes.

10.2   A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below sets out the messages and issues considered most relevant to the preparation of the High Peak Local Plan and the documents from which they were drawn.

Table 26 Key recent messages influencing preparation of Local Plan

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Nature in England is highly fragmented and unable to respond effectively to new pressures such as climate and demographic change.	Making Space for Nature: A review of England's Wildlife Sites and Ecological Network; Professor Sir John Lawton for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; September 2010
Restore species and habitats appropriate to England's physical and geographical context to levels that are sustainable in a changing climate, and enhanced in comparison with those in 2000.	Making Space for Nature: A review of England's Wildlife Sites and Ecological Network; Professor Sir John Lawton for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; September 2010
Provide accessible natural environments rich in wildlife for people to enjoy and experience. Create new wildlife sites; increase the size of current wildlife sites and enhance connections between them, either through physical corridors, or through "stepping stones".	Making Space for Nature: A review of England's Wildlife Sites and Ecological Network; Professor Sir John Lawton for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; September 2010
A healthy, properly functioning natural environment is the foundation of sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal wellbeing.	Natural Environment White Paper: The Natural Choice: Securing the value of nature; HM Government; June 2011
Guide development to the best locations, encourage greener design and enable development to enhance natural networks.	Natural Environment White Paper: The Natural Choice: Securing the value of nature; HM Government; June 2011
Create a new 'Local Green Areas' designation to allow local people to protect the green areas that are important to them.	Natural Environment White Paper: The Natural Choice: Securing the value of nature; HM Government; June 2011

10 Biodiversity and green infrastructure

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.	Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020; European Commission; 2011 and Convention on Biological Diversity strategic plan for 2011-2020
By 2050, European Union biodiversity and the ecosystem services it provides – its natural capital – are protected, valued and appropriately restored for biodiversity's intrinsic value and for their essential contribution to human wellbeing and economic prosperity, and so that catastrophic changes caused by the loss of biodiversity are avoided.	Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020; European Commission; 2011 and Convention on Biological Diversity strategic plan for 2011-2020
Halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restore them in so far as is feasible, while stepping up the EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.	Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020; European Commission; 2011 and Convention on Biological Diversity strategic plan for 2011-2020
Halt overall loss of England's biodiversity by 2020. (Over 40% of priority habitats and 30% of priority species were declining in the most recent analysis.[xxx])	Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services; HM Government; 2011
Take a more integrated large-scale approach to conservation, including by supporting the creation of Nature Improvement Areas and increasing the proportion of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) in favourable condition.	Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services; HM Government; 2011
Ensure Local Plans promote adequate green infrastructure standards, so that new local development enhances the area.	Local Green Infrastructure: Helping communities make the most of their landscape; Landscape Institute for Green Infrastructure Partnership; September 2011
Green infrastructure developments should reflect and enhance the local character of the area. When proposing new, or enhanced, green infrastructure, use local landscape character information to retain or enhance natural features.	Local Green Infrastructure: Helping communities make the most of their landscape; Landscape Institute for Green Infrastructure Partnership; September 2011
Minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net gains in biodiversity where possible.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

xxx UK Biodiversity Action Plan highlights report, 2008 reporting round

10 Biodiversity and green infrastructure

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Criteria based policies should be set, against which proposals impacting on protected wildlife, geo-diversity sites or landscape areas will be judged.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Plan for biodiversity at a landscape-scale across local authority boundaries.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Plan positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure. Identify and map components of local ecological networks, including: international, national and local sites of importance for biodiversity, wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them, as well as areas identified by local partnerships for habitat restoration or creation.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species populations, linked to national and local targets; and identify suitable indicators for monitoring biodiversity in the plan.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Prevent harm to geological conservation interests.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Identify the Dark Peak Nature Improvement Area in the Plan and specify the types of development that are appropriate within this designation.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Designate land as Local Green Space, where green areas are identified as being of particular importance to local communities.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Green infrastructure and biodiversity should be core considerations in the preparation of Local Plans.	Planning for a healthy environment - good practice guidance for green infrastructure and biodiversity; Town and Country Planning Association and the Wildlife Trusts; July 2012
The Derbyshire Cycle Network is to be extended throughout High Peak.	West Derbyshire and High Peak Greenway Strategy; Derbyshire Countryside Service; October 2008

10 Biodiversity and green infrastructure

Baseline

10.3   The Peak District National Park Authority has been awarded Local Nature Partnership (LNP) capacity building funding for the Peak District - including the borough of High Peak. Broadly, it is expected that the Local Nature Partnership will:

- Coordinate and streamline existing activities.
- Ensure local groups are working towards a common goal.
- Raise awareness about the natural environment and its health benefits.
- Raise awareness about the value of the natural environment to communities and the local economy.

10.4   The Dark Peak Nature Improvement Area (NIA) covers 25,000 hectares of the Peak District National Park around the High Peak plan area. The NIA is a partnership of nine organisations: the RSPB, Sheffield City Council, Moors for the Future, United Utilities, Sheffield Wildlife Trust, Peak District National Park Authority, British Mountaineering Council, National Trust and Natural England.

10.5   The partnership will run for 3 years from 1 April 2012 and will facilitate the development of long-term landscape-scale masterplans for the area. Project work during 2012 - 2015 and subsequent land management will make the core, designated moorlands (across over 5,800 hectares) as robust and healthy as possible to maximise their habitat quality and ecosystem service delivery, especially improved carbon storage, water quality, and resilience to climate change.

10.6   The core wildlife areas will be increased and buffered through restoration and creation of nearly 2,100 hectares of heathland at the blanket bog edge, and over 200 hectares of newly created native woodland will act as ecological corridors and 'stepping stones' between existing wildlife sites and moorland and surrounding farmland.

10.7   Over 60 hectares of new wildlife rich grasslands will be restored adjacent to SSSI moorlands, reconnecting the historic wildlife linkages between moor and farmland and providing a dynamic, landscape scale habitat mosaic.

10.8   Improvements to 'people corridors' – 20km of better access routes that link the surrounding urban populations into these nature rich places – combined with active participation, such as volunteering, will connect people with wildlife in new ways.

10.9   By 2020, priority species will be increasing, habitats will be better adapted to climate change and ecosystem services greatly enhanced, benefiting more people than ever before in a landscape rich in nature.

10.10   The High Peak Plan area includes part of three nature conservation sites of international importance, designated either as a Special Protection Area (SPA) under the EC Directive on the conservation of wild birds, or as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) under the European Union's Habitats Directive.

10 Biodiversity and green infrastructure

10.11   The South Pennine Moors SAC includes the Dark Peak and Goyt Valley SSSIs. The protected habitats include blanket bog and old sessile oak woods. The Peak District Dales SAC includes the Wye Valley SSSI. The protected habitat is principally dry grasslands and scrublands on limestone.

10.12   Both Dark Peak and Goyt Valley SSSIs are also components of the Peak District Moor (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA. The SPA is important for breeding waders, raptors and other upland species.

10.13   Nationally there has been a net decrease in the area of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) in favourable condition; down from 44% in September 2003, to 37.2% in March 2012[xxxi].

10.14   This situation is not reflected locally. High Peak has 8 SSSIs in the plan area. Their condition is presented in the table below. Since November 2010, Combs Reservoir has changed from being 100% unfavourable, declining - to 100% unfavourable, recovering. In the same time period, the percentage of the Dark Peak area assessed as favourable has increased from 4.78% to 5.09%. The condition of other SSSIs has remained unchanged.

Table 27 Condition of SSSIs in the High Peak plan area at July 2012

SSSI	% of area favourable	% of area unfavourable, recovering	% of area unfavourable, no change	% of area unfavourable, declining	% of area destroyed / part destroyed
Toddbrook Reservoir	100	0	0	0	0
Combs Reservoir	0	100	0	0	0
Waterswallow's Quarry	100	0	0	0	0
Duchy Quarry	100	0	0	0	0
Poole's Cavern and Grin Low Wood	100	0	0	0	0
Wye Valley	50.62	46.43	2.3	0.65	0
Dark Peak	5.09	92.89	1.88	0.14	0
Goyt Valley	1.26	95.79	1	1.96	0
Source Natural England: www.sssi.naturalengland.org.uk/Special/sssi/search.cfm					

xxxi A Strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services; Biodiversity 2020 Indicators: 2012 Assessment; Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

10 Biodiversity and green infrastructure

10.15   On behalf of High Peak Borough Council, Derbyshire Wildlife Trust has monitored changes in the area (ha) of Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats and Local Wildlife Sites and the distribution of UK BAP species covering the period April 2010 to March 2011[xxxii]. Results of the monitoring are set out in the tables below.

10.16   There has been a slight increase in the area of lowland meadow in the High Peak plan area between April 2010 and March 2011.

Table 28 Change in Priority BAP habitat in the High Peak plan area 2010-2011

Habitat	Area (ha)	Net change (ha) since April 2010	Losses in relation to the impact of development (ha)	Gains arising from approved developments (ha)
Lowland meadow	64	+ 1.41	None known	None known
Lowland dry acid grassland	34	0	None known	None known
Lowland calcareous grassland	108	0	None known	None known
Purple moor-grass and rush pasture	5.35	0	None known	None known
Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land	205	0	None known	None known
Upland heathland (above 250m)	246	0	None known	None known
Lowland wood-pasture and parkland	44.61	None known	None known	None known
Lowland Fen	5.42	0	None known	None known
Lowland deciduous woodland: 1. Non-coniferous woodland 2. Ancient semi-natural woodland	1. 500 - 747 2. 558	0	None known	None known

xxxii Local Development Framework Core Output Indicators Derbyshire (outside of the National Park) Annual monitoring report of changes in the area (ha) of priority habitats and Local Wildlife Sites and changes in the distribution of UK BAP species covering the period April 2010 to March 2011; Derbyshire Wildlife Trust; October 2011

10 Biodiversity and green infrastructure

Habitat	Area (ha)	Net change (ha) since April 2010	Losses in relation to the impact of development (ha)	Gains arising from approved developments (ha)
Eutrophic water – ponds and lakes	Unknown number of ponds; 620.4 ha of lakes.	0	None known	None known

10.17 Changes in the distribution of UK BAP species in Derbyshire between April 2010 and March 2011 are presented in the table below.

Table 29 Changes in the distribution of UK BAP species in Derbyshire between April 2010 and March 2011

Species	Comments on status and population changes
Lepidoptera – moths and butterflies	
Dingy skipper	Population may be expanding slightly in coal field areas and South Derbyshire. In the east and south most sites are brown field sites and many of these sites are threatened with development.
Wall	In serious decline in Derbyshire and continues to disappear from its more southerly sites. Strongholds now in Peak District only. The reasons remain unclear.
White-letter hairstreak	Widespread, but larger colonies scattered. Still vulnerable to loss of breeding elms due to Dutch Elm Disease.
Small heath	Some losses in the south, but maintained in the north and east. Appears to be declining in the south and possibly east.
Grizzled skipper	Only one population present. Possibly declined slightly, but still present. Site under development and further population decline possible.
White admiral	Only one extant population. Possible expansion into adjacent plantations.
Moths (72 species in Derbyshire)	These moths are in decline nationally, but some have more marked declines in the southern half of the UK. In Derbyshire the picture is mixed with some stable or even increasing north of Derby. For many, however, their status remains difficult to assess in Derbyshire. A major step forward has been the mapping of all the records for these species in Derbyshire. Further analysis will hopefully reveal more.

10 Biodiversity and green infrastructure

Species	Comments on status and population changes
Argent and Sable	Not re-found at its location in the Derwent Valley in 2008, 2010 or 2011. No new records in last 3 years.
Coleoptera	
Oil beetles (Meloe species). Two possibly present	The violet oil beetle occurs over a relatively restricted area in the moorland cloughs around Ladybower and Howden Reservoirs. It is not known whether the population is stable. Possible threats include changes in land management and climate change. One other oil beetle species has not been recorded with certainty in recent years.
Necklace ground beetle (Carabus monilis)	One site in lowland Derbyshire and a few records from the limestone dales.
Hymenoptera	
Bumblebees (2 species)	There are two species of nationally declining bumblebee for which there are 2 Derbyshire records (1 record each). However, these records are fairly old and their veracity cannot be confirmed.
Mammals	
Water vole	Re-establishment on the river Dove has been maintained. Declined on the Cromford Canal and to some extent on the Erewash. Under threat in the south of the County. Elsewhere no significant change known.
Otter	Continues to spread slowly through the north, south and west of the county.
Brown hare	No known change.
Hedgehog	Thought to be declining in some areas.
Harvest mouse	No known change
Dormouse	Re-introduced, but thought to have declined and possibly died out altogether.
Polecat	Re-colonising from the west and still probably expanding it's range in Derbyshire.
Bats	
Soprano pipistrelle, brown long-eared, noctule	No known change.
Birds	

10 Biodiversity and green infrastructure

Species	Comments on status and population changes
Sky Lark	Common resident. Insufficient data to know if there has been a change in population.
Tree Pipit	Possibly declined in some more southerly areas, but no conclusive data.
Great Bittern	Rare.
European Nightjar	No significant change, but has shown signs of colonizing new areas of heathland.
Lesser Redpoll	Declining nationally and in Derbyshire.
Common Linnet	Declining nationally, but still quite common and widespread in Derbyshire.
Twite	Rare and declining.
Hawfinch	Rare; has declined in Bolsover due to changes in woodland management.
Common Cuckoo	Declining nationally, status unknown in Derbyshire, though recent records suggest it has remained more stable. 2011 was possibly a better year with more records received by the Trust.
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	Uncommon and mostly southern and eastern – no significant change observable over the past 10 years.
Corn Bunting	Declining nationally and in Derbyshire. Now very rare as a breeding bird.
Yellowhammer	Declining nationally but still common in Derbyshire.
Reed Bunting	Declining nationally, but may be stable in Derbyshire.
Red Grouse	Common on some upland moors.
Common Grasshopper Warbler	Uncommon, but has increased in recent years.
Yellow Wagtail	Insufficient data.
Spotted Flycatcher	Declining both nationally and in Derbyshire.
Eurasian Curlew	Locally common in the uplands, but increasingly uncommon in the lowlands.
House Sparrow	Decreasing, but still widespread.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Declining nationally, but may be stable in Derbyshire.

10 Biodiversity and green infrastructure

Species	Comments on status and population changes
Grey Partridge	Declining nationally and in Derbyshire. Population may have halved in last 10 – 15 years.
Wood Warbler	Declining nationally and in Derbyshire.
Willow Tit	Declining nationally, and probably declining in Derbyshire.
Marsh Tit	Declining nationally; some evidence of a slight decline in Derbyshire.
Hedge Accentor	No data to indicate decline.
Common Bullfinch	Fairly widespread.
European Turtle Dove	Declining and now down to just 1 or 2 birds. Possibly no longer breeding.
Common Starling	Declined nationally. Still widespread in Derbyshire, but less abundant.
Song Thrush	Common and fairly widespread in Derbyshire.
Ring Ouzel	Rare – breeds in the Peak District.
Northern Lapwing	Declining in the lowlands and especially in agricultural areas. The bird is found breeding on brownfield sites, former gravel pits and collieries.
Fish	Unknown
Reptiles and amphibians	
Common Toad	National decline, but not thought to be significant change during this year.
Great Crested Newt	No known change.
Slow-worm	No known change.
Grass Snake	No known change.
Adder	No known change – most of the population is in the Peak District National Park.
Common Lizard	Widespread in moorland uplands, scattered in east and south-west. Absent from the south-west. Rediscovered at one site in Amber Valley near Belper in 2010. No change observable.

10.18   Derbyshire Wildlife Trust holds records on the location of protected species in the plan area.

10 Biodiversity and green infrastructure

10.19 High Peak has seven sites of importance for their geology. Local Geological Sites (formerly Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites [RIGS]) are listed in the table below.

Table 30 Important Geological Sites in the High Peak

Site	Description
Anthony Hill, Stanley Moor	Limestone with palaeontology
Ashwood Dale, Buxton	Limestone & Lower Millers Dale Lava
Ashwood Dale Quarry, Buxton	Fault, Slickensides mineralisation
Beelow Quarry, Dove Holes	Beelow limestone
Buxton Bridge, Peak Dale	Lower Millersdale lava
Ferny Bottom, Buxton	Calcareous tufa
The Roosedyche, Whaley Bridge	Glacial channel

10.20 There are seven statutory Local Nature Reserves in the High Peak Plan area, listed in the table below.

Table 31 Local Nature Reserves in the High Peak

Site	Description
Brookfield (CPA) Pond, Whaley Bridge	Small mill-pond with surrounding secondary woodland.
Watford Lodge, New Mills	Mosaic of wetland habitats and areas of willow carr woodland.
Goytside Meadows, New Mills	Variety of grassland, scrub and lowland swamp which together support a high diversity of plant species.
Mousley Bottom, New Mills	River, woodlands and wetland habitat.
Bluebell Wood, Hayfield	Small area of mature woodland with a wide range of birds, abundant bluebells and a number of wetland plant species.
Stubbins Park, Chinley	Traditionally managed hay meadow.
Ferneydale Grassland, Buxton	Species-rich, limestone grassland with stream and pond.

10.21 The combined area of these Local Nature Reserves is 28.8ha. Based on the 2001 census[xxxiii], the High Peak plan area (the Borough excluding the National Park) had a population of around 82,700, divided between sub-areas as follows:

---

xxxiii Population and household forecasts: Derbyshire Dales and High Peak; Edge Analytics Ltd; August 2011

10 Biodiversity and green infrastructure

- Glossopdale: 32,000
- Central: 28,100
- Buxton: 22,600

10.22 Based on Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards[xxxiv] indicator that at least 1 hectare of Local Nature Reserve should be provided per 1,000 population; High Peak has around 0.3ha per 1,000 population, a shortfall of 0.7ha.

10.23 Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) are not evenly distributed across the Borough. Whilst the Central area meets the target, having 0.9 ha per 1,000 population, Glossopdale has no Nature Reserves at all and the highest population of all three of the Borough's sub-areas. Buxton has 0.1 ha of Local Nature Reserve per 1,000 population.

10.24 The Council should aim to designate new LNRs in Glossopdale and in Buxton.

10.25 In 2010 - 11, 43% of Local Wildlife Sites in England were assessed as being under positive conservation management. Over the three year period there has been a 12% increase in the number of sites under positive management[xxxv].

10.26 A similar picture is found in High Peak, where the number of Local Wildlife Sites receiving positive management in the Borough April 2010 – March 2011 was 49 out of a total of 117 sites, which represents an increase on 2009 from 35.3% to 41.9%. There are 24 Local Wildlife Sites covering 130ha (12.6% by area) that are considered to be in decline in High Peak[xxxvi].

10.27 In High Peak between April 2010 and March 2011 there has been an increase of 25ha in the area designated for intrinsic environmental value, based on non-statutory Local Wildlife Sites (also known as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation)[xxxvii].

10.28 Derbyshire County Council has published a Greenway Strategy for West Derbyshire and High Peak[xxxviii]. The strategy aims to develop a network of multi-user traffic-free Greenways across the High Peak to provide long distance, middle distance and shorter circuits that inter-connect with each other and the existing highway network. The routes proposed are intended to connect people and places to enhance recreational and other journeys, on high quality and attractive pathways.

xxxiv (ANGSt) Nature Nearby: Accessible Natural Greenspace Guidance; Natural England; 2010

xxxv A Strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services; Biodiversity 2020 Indicators: 2012 Assessment; Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

xxxvi Local Wildlife Sites Service Level Agreement Report For High Peak Borough Council April 2010 – March 2011; Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, May 2011

xxxvi Local Development Framework Core Output Indicators Derbyshire (outside of the National Park) Annual monitoring report of changes in the area (ha) of priority habitats and Local Wildlife Sites and changes in the distribution of UK BAP species covering the period April 2010 to March 2011; Derbyshire Wildlife Trust; October 2011

xxxvi West Derbyshire and High Peak Greenway Strategy; Derbyshire Countryside Service; October 2008

10 Biodiversity and green infrastructure

10.29 The strategy identifies 122km of existing Greenways across Derbyshire Dales and the High Peak and 123km of potential routes that could be developed in the future should opportunities present themselves.

Issues

10.30 The key issues for High Peak in relation to biodiversity and green infrastructure are summarised in Table 32 below:

Table 32 Key sustainability issues derived from evidence review

Key issue	Implication for High Peak Local Plan
Protect existing sites of international, national or local importance.	Plan policies to provide protection for these sites, to optimise their condition and to improve their connectivity.
Support planning for biodiversity at a landscape scale.	Identify relationship with the Dark Peak NIA in the Local Plan.
Support creation and protection of local ecological networks.	Identify and map components of local ecological networks, including: international, national and local sites of importance for biodiversity, wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them.
Provide accessible natural environments rich in wildlife for people to enjoy and experience.	Designate land as Local Green Space, where green areas are identified as being of particular importance to local communities.
Aim to achieve a net gain for biodiversity.	Developments should safeguard and enhance existing biodiversity and/or provide new areas of habitat and features for wildlife appropriate to the landscape and the ecology of the local area. Guide development to the best locations, encourage greener design and enable development to enhance natural networks.
Prevent harm to geological conservation interests.	Plan policies to provide protection for Local Geological Sites.
Support creation and protection of networks of green infrastructure.	Support implementation of the Greenway strategy for West Derbyshire and the High Peak.

Contributing to the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

10.31 The review and update of evidence in relation to biodiversity and green infrastructure suggests that the sustainability objective used in the SA Framework (2009) should remain unchanged.

10 Biodiversity and green infrastructure

10.32 The appraisal criteria have been amended slightly to simplify use and the monitoring indicators have been updated to reflect change in the national monitoring regime since 2009 - as shown in the table below.

10.33 Wildlife and Biodiversity is one of the proposed headline indicators in the national draft Sustainable Development Indicators 2012[xxxix]. Bird population indices are the proposed measure, on the basis that populations of key species of birds are a good indicator of the broad state of wildlife and countryside - since they occupy a wide range of habitats and key positions in the food chain. The Status of Species and Habitats is proposed as a supplementary indicator, a measure for this is still to be developed.

10.34 The indicator for green space in the table below is taken from Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGSt)[xl]. These standards are believed to be under review.

Table 33 Sustainability objective, criteria and indicators for biodiversity and green infrastructure

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicator/target
To protect and enhance SPAs, SACs, SSSIs and other designated wildlife sites.	Will it help to deliver the findings of the Appropriate Assessment?	No specific indicator at this time - to be identified.
	Will it protect and promote effective management of the Borough's sites of ecological and nature conservation importance?	Area (ha) of SSSIs and Local Wildlife Sites lost to development requiring planning permission.
To protect and enhance biodiversity, geo-diversity and to support the development of linked green spaces.	Will it provide opportunities for the enhancement and creation of habitats and to foster species conservation?	Target: At least 1 hectare of Local Nature Reserve should be provided per 1,000 population.
	Will it help to deliver networks of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure?	No specific indicator at this time - to be identified.

---

xxxix Consultation Document: Sustainable Development Indicators 2012; Department for Environment Food and Rural affairs; July 2012

xl Nature Nearby: Accessible Natural Greenspace Guidance; Natural England; 2010

11 Health and well-being

Health and Wellbeing - Evidence

11.1   Detailed evidence is set out in the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Joint Core Strategy SA Scoping Report Topic Paper: Health and Wellbeing, published for consultation in April 2009. The contents of this Topic Paper have been reviewed in order to identify and record changes.

11.2   A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below sets out the messages and issues considered most relevant to the preparation of the High Peak Local Plan and the documents from which they were drawn.

Table 34 Key recent messages influencing preparation of Local Plan

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Prioritise policies and interventions that reduce both health inequalities and mitigate climate change, by: • Improving active travel across the social gradient. • Improving the availability of good quality open and green spaces across the social gradient. • Improving the food environment in local areas across the social gradient. • Improving energy efficiency of housing across the social gradient.	Fair Society, Healthy Lives: The Marmot Review: Strategic review of health inequalities in England post-2010; February 2010
In Derbyshire, health inequalities remain an important issue and plans to reduce them are very important. In the main, the health of the "better off" is good. However, substantial health inequalities exist and, to improve the health of the population as a whole, we need to target improving the health of those who are less affluent. Much more emphasis needs to be placed on prevention. The simple solution is changing lifestyle and, equally importantly, addressing the wider determinants of ill health such as those that stem from socio-economic conditions and environments in which people live and grow up.	Derbyshire's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2008; Derbyshire County Council
There will be a large rise in the number of older people living in Derbyshire. Assuming that disease rates remain consistent, there will be a large increase in the demand for health and social care.	Derbyshire's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2008; Derbyshire County Council
Reducing inequalities is a key priority. Crucial to this is being able to measure inequalities in health in an objective and consistent way so that progress can be assessed and compared. Premature (persons under	Derbyshire's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Director of Public Health's Annual Report 2009; Derbyshire County Council

11 Health and well-being

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
75 years) all cause standardised mortality ratios (SMRs) is used.	
The Strategic Vision of NHS Derbyshire County includes to reduce inequalities in life expectancy; specifically the PCT will tackle the leading causes of health inequalities to improve life expectancy and reduce premature mortality.	Improving Health and Well Being in Derbyshire: Organisational Development Plan 2008/9 - 2013/14; NHS Derbyshire County; January 2010
The strategic plan majors on tackling poor health and health inequalities because people in Tameside and Glossop experience some of the poorest health in the UK.	Commissioning Well: World Class Commissioning Strategic Plan: Refresh 2010/14; NHS Tameside and Glossop; January 2010
The health of people in Derbyshire is mixed compared with the England average. Deprivation is lower than average, however about 24,000 children live in poverty.	Derbyshire Health Profile 2012; Department of Health
Life expectancy is 7.8 years lower for men and 7.6 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of High Peak - than in the least deprived areas.	High Peak Health Profile 2012; Department of Health
Derbyshire's priorities include to: • Promote health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities … people in Derbyshire enjoy the benefits of following a healthier lifestyle and live longer healthier lives. • Increase independent living and improve quality of life … enjoy the benefits of living at home and those in care homes have the best support. • Promote choice and control … access to health and social care which is centred around their unique, personal needs and within easy reach.	Derbyshire's Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-2014; Derbyshire County Council
Priority challenges include to ensure that people's older years are happy and healthy. National population projections suggest a significant increase in the proportion of 65+ age group (47% by 2025). Our challenge, in an area currently home to a larger than average proportion of elderly residents, is to match 'increasing life expectancy' to 'increasing healthy life expectancy'.	Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Sustainable Community Strategy 2009 - 2014; Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Local Strategic Partnership; April 2009
Deliver a sustainable community by delivering a healthy community by: • Promoting walking and cycling to reduce car use and carbon emissions;	Delivering healthy communities: RTPI Good Practice Note 5; Royal Town Planning Institute; 2009

11 Health and well-being

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
• Building energy efficient homes to reduce carbon emissions and fuel poverty; • Delivering mixed use development and multi-use community buildings that reduce the need to travel by providing services close to where people live; • Providing parks and open spaces that provide a safe and quality space for leisure and exercise; • Enhancing employment opportunities for all by providing the structure for a diverse, strong economy that reduces inequalities.	
Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and wellbeing of communities.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
The Local Plan should set out strategic policies to deliver infrastructure for health.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

Baseline

11.3 Health services are considered one of the top five most important things in making this area a good place to live (Citizens Panel) - 45 % consider it a priority in the Local Strategic Partnership area. Whilst the majority of residents (74%) are satisfied with health services in the area, (39%) find it difficult to access hospital[xli].

11.4 The focus of the Local Strategic Partnership includes to:

• support opportunities to improve access to health services;
• increase adult participation in sport;
• promote locally accessible physical activity to reduce obesity.

11.5 The health of people in Derbyshire is mixed compared with the England average[xlii]. Deprivation is lower than average, however about 24,000 children live in poverty. Life expectancy for men is higher than the England average; but life expectancy is 7.7 years lower for men and 5.6 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Derbyshire - than in the least deprived areas. Over the last 10 years, all cause mortality rates have fallen; early death rates from cancer, heart disease and stroke have also all fallen.

---

xli   Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Sustainable Community Strategy 2009 - 2014
xlii   Derbyshire Health Profile 2012; Department of Health at www.healthprofiles.info

11 Health and well-being

11.6   The health of people in High Peak is mixed compared with the England average[xliii]. Deprivation is lower than average, however about 2,400 children live in poverty. Life expectancy for men is higher than the England average; but life expectancy is 7.8 years lower for men and 7.6 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of High Peak - than in the least deprived areas.

11.7   As for Derbyshire as a whole, over the last ten years, all cause mortality rates have fallen. Early death rates from cancer and from heart disease and stroke have fallen, bur remain slightly higher than the England average, although not significantly so.

11.8   Fewer Year 6 children than the county average are classified as obese (about 16.2%), this is also lower than the average for England. Levels of alcohol-specific hospital stays among those under 18, breast feeding initiation and smoking in pregnancy are worse than the England average.

11.9   An estimated 19.0% of adults smoke and 23.3% are obese. However it is estimated that around a third of adults eat healthily - more than the England average and 11% of adults are physically active, similar to the England average. The rate of road injuries and deaths is worse than the England average. Rates of hip fractures, sexually transmitted infections and hospital stays for alcohol related harm are better than the England average.

11.10   Health and wellbeing priorities for High Peak include: inequalities in avoidable mortality, early years health and literacy, alcohol, obesity and inactivity, community management of long term conditions, access to psychological therapies and health and independence in old age.

Table 35 Health Summary for High Peak 2012

Indicator	Local no. per year	Local value	England average	England worst	England best
Teenage pregnancy (under 18 conception rate per 1,000 females aged 15-17; 2008-2010)	60	34.9	38.1	64.9	11.1
Smoking in pregnancy[1] (% mothers smoking in pregnancy where status is known, 2010/11)	164	18.9	13.7	32.7	3.1
Adults smoking (% adults aged 18 and over, 2010/11)	N/a	19.0	20.7	33.5	8.9
Increasing and higher risk drinking (% aged 16+ in the resident population, 2008/2009)	N/a	24	22.3	25.1	15.7
Alcohol-specific hospital stays (under 18) (Persons under 18 admitted to hospital	23	115.3	61.8	154.9	12.5

xliii High Peak Health Profile 2012; Department of Health at www.healthprofiles.info

11 Health and well-being

Indicator	Local no. per year	Local value	England average	England worst	England best
due to alcohol-specific conditions, crude rate per 100,000 population, 2007/08 to 2009/10 (pooled)					
Healthy eating adults (% adults, modelled estimate using Health Survey for England 2006-2008)	N/a	31.3	28.7	19.3	47.8
Physically active adults (% aged 16 and over, Oct 2009- Oct 2011)	N/a	11.4	11.2	5.7	18.2
Obese adults (% adults, modelled estimate using Health Survey for England 2006-2008)	N/a	23.3	24.2	30.7	13.9
Life expectancy – male (at birth, 2008-2010)	N/a	79.8	78.6	73.6	85.1
Life expectancy – female (at birth, 2008-2010)	N/a	82.9	82.6	79.1	89.8
Smoking related deaths (Directly age standardised rate per 100,000 population aged 35 and over, 2008-2010)	150	205	211	372	125
Early deaths: heart disease and stroke (Directly age standardised rate per 100,000 population aged under 75, 2008-2010)	80	74.5	67.3	123.2	35.5
Early deaths: cancer (Directly age standardised rate per 100,000 population aged under 75, 2008-2010)	125	116.4	110.1	159.1	77.9
Road injuries & deaths (Rate per 100,000 population, 2008-2010)	58	62.8	44.3	128.8	14.1
Source: Department of Health 2012, www.healthprofiles.info					

1.   Highlight indicates significantly worse than England average.

11.11   The 2008 based Sub National Population Projections for England, reveal that over the period 2010 - 2033 in the High Peak there will be a significant increase in the number of older people living within the borough and a fall in the number of those of working age. The projections are shown in the table below.

11 Health and well-being

Table 36 ONS Broad Age Population Projections 2010-2033

Broad Age Range	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2033	Percentage Change 2010-2033
Children	17,000	17,000	17,700	18,000	18,000	18,000	+5.88%
Working Age	56,800	56,900	56,800	56,700	56,100	56,000	-1.41%
Older People	19,200	21,700	24,200	27,400	30,600	32,200	+67.71%

Issues

11.12   The key issues for High Peak in relation to health and wellbeing are summarised in Table 37 below:

Table 37 Key sustainability issues derived from evidence review

Key issue	Implication for High Peak Local Plan
Reduce health inequalities.	Plan policies to support active travel and deliver good quality, open green space, particularly in areas of less affluence.
Enable access to health care.	Local Plan to ensure adequate health infrastructure.
Address needs of ageing population.	Plan policies relating to housing, access to health care and participation in physical activity, designed to support health and independence in old age.

Contributing to the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

11.13   The review and update of evidence in relation to health and wellbeing suggests that the sustainability objective used in the SA Framework (2009) should remain unchanged.

11.14   The appraisal criteria have been amended slightly to simplify use and the monitoring indicators have been updated to reflect change in the national monitoring regime since 2009 - as shown in the table below.

11.15   Healthy life expectancy is one of the proposed headline indicators in the national draft Sustainable Development Indicators 2012[xliv]. Variations in the proportion of life spent in very good or good health have potentially significant impacts on health and wellbeing, families, health and social care.

---

xliv Consultation Document: Sustainable Development Indicators 2012; Department for Environment Food and Rural affairs; July 2012

11 Health and well-being

Table 38 Sustainability objective, criteria and indicators for health and wellbeing

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicator/target
To improve health and reduce health inequalities.	Will it improve health, or access to health facilities?	Premature (persons under 75 years) all cause standardised mortality ratios (SMRs)
	Will it help to reduce deprivation and thus indirectly improve health?	No specific indicator at this time - to be identified.

12 Leisure and recreation

Leisure and Recreation - Evidence

12.1   Detailed evidence is set out in the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Joint Core Strategy SA Scoping Report Topic Paper: Leisure and Recreation, published for consultation in April 2009. The contents of this Topic Paper have been reviewed in order to identify and record changes.

12.2   A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below sets out the messages and issues considered most relevant to the preparation of the High Peak Local Plan and the documents from which they were drawn.

Table 39 Key recent messages influencing preparation of Local Plan

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Local Plan to support investment in the provision of high-quality sports facilities (where needed) to underpin the strategy for increasing the number of people enjoying and regularly participating in sport.	Creating a sporting habit for life: A new youth sport strategy; Department for Culture, Media and Sport; January 2012
Derbyshire's priorities include to increase participation in arts, sports, cultural and leisure opportunities.	Derbyshire's Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-2014; Derbyshire County Council
Local Plan to support an increase adult participation in sport by promoting locally accessible physical activity.	Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Sustainable Community Strategy 2009 - 2014; Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Local Strategic Partnership; April 2009
Local Plan to assist delivery of allotment strategy action plan by identifying new sites for allotment provision, particularly in Buxton and Glossopdale where demand is greatest. Plan policies to support provision of community gardens and communal plots.	High Peak Borough Council Allotment Strategy 2012 - 2015
Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Local Plan should include policies based on the 2009 Knight, Kavanagh & Page Peak Sub-Region Sport and Open Spaces assessment report of the need for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

12 Leisure and recreation

Baseline

12.3 In 2005/6 21.4% of people in Derbyshire participated in sport and active recreation 3 times a week for 30 minutes at moderate intensity. This figure is broadly similar to the national average (21.3%) and partners in the Derbyshire Sustainable Community Strategy aim to increase participation to 25.4% by 2010/11.

12.4 High Peak has a very similar rate of adult participation in sport and active recreation (formerly NI8) to that for the county. The table below shows the percentage of the adult (age 16 and over) population who participate in sport and active recreation, at moderate intensity, for at least 30 minutes on at least 12 days out of the last 4 weeks (equivalent to 30 minutes on 3 or more days a week). There has been no change in the percentage of adults participating in sport on in the High Peak over the last seven years.

Table 40 Adult participation in sport and active recreation

Area	Oct. 2005 - Oct. 2006	Oct. 2007 - Oct. 2009	Oct. 2009 - Oct. 2011	Apr. 2010 - Apr 2012	Change 2005/06 - 2010/12
High Peak	22.3%	22.1%	23.7%	22.2%	+0.1%
Derbyshire	21.4%	23.5%	22.8%	22.5%	+1.6%
Source: Sport England's Active People Survey					

12.5 The Council currently owns and manages two allotment sites in the High Peak: Cunningdale Allotments in Buxton and Jordan Street Allotments in Glossop. At 30 January 2012, the number of people on a waiting list for plots at these two sites were 51 and 126 people respectively.

12.6 There are other allotment sites across the Borough that are self-managed by Allotment Associations and Parish and Town Councils. Sites include:

- Arnfield Lane, Tintwistle
- New Road, Tintwistle
- Cote Heath, Buxton
- Nunsfield Road, Buxton
- Silverlands, Buxton
- Off Meadow Lane, Dove Holes
- Hague Bar, New Mills
- Ollerset Avenue, New Mills
- Sunnybank, off Goyt Road, Whaley Bridge
- The Courses, Chapel-en-le-Frith

Issues

12.7 The key issues for High Peak in relation to leisure and recreation are summarised in Table 41 below:

12 Leisure and recreation

Table 41 Key sustainability issues derived from evidence review

Key issue	Implication for High Peak Local Plan
Need to increase participation in arts, sports, cultural and leisure opportunities.	Plan policies to support provision of locally accessible opportunities for physical activity and other cultural and leisure activities.
High Peak has a high demand for allotments and community gardens.	Plan to support provision of new allotment space and other opportunities for community food growing.

Contributing to the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

12.8   The review and update of evidence in relation to leisure and recreation suggests that the sustainability objective used in the SA Framework (2009) should remain unchanged.

12.9   The appraisal criteria have been amended slightly to simplify use and the monitoring indicators have been updated to reflect change in the national monitoring regime since 2009 - as shown in the table below.

Table 42 Sustainability objective, criteria and indicators for leisure and recreation

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicator/target
To improve opportunities for people to participate in cultural, leisure and recreational activities.	Will it provide improved opportunity for engagement in indoor / outdoor leisure activities for all?	Adult participation in sport and active recreation.
	Will it support the development of a vibrant cultural economy?	No specific indicator at this time - to be identified.

13 Community safety and neighbourhood quality

Community Safety and Neighbourhood Quality - Evidence

13.1   Detailed evidence is set out in the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Joint Core Strategy SA Scoping Report Topic Paper: Community Safety and Neighbourhood Quality, published for consultation in April 2009. The contents of this Topic Paper have been reviewed in order to identify and record changes.

13.2   A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below sets out the messages and issues considered most relevant to the preparation of the High Peak Local Plan and the documents from which they were drawn.

Table 43 Key recent messages influencing preparation of Local Plan

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Neighbourhood planning empowers communities to shape the development and growth of a local area through the production of a neighbourhood development plan, a neighbourhood development order or a Community Right to Build Order. Neighbourhood development plans will become part of the local statutory development plan and will form the basis for determining planning applications in that area. A neighbourhood development order enables the community to grant planning permission for the development it wishes to see.	Localism Act 2011
The Community Infrastructure Levy is a new levy that local authorities in England and Wales can choose to charge on new developments in their area. The money can be used to support development by funding infrastructure that the council, local community and neighbourhoods want - for example new or safer road schemes, park improvements or a new health centre. The system applies to most new buildings and charges are based on the size and type of the new development.	Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) Regulations 2011
Need to design out crime in new developments.	Derbyshire's Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-2014; Derbyshire Partnership Forum
Local Planning authorities should facilitate neighbourhood planning.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Achieve places that promote opportunities for meetings between members of the community, including through	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

13 Community safety and neighbourhood quality

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
mixed-use developments, strong neighbourhood centres and active street frontages.	
Achieve places that promote safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

Baseline

13.3   Neighbourhood planning gives communities the opportunity to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and to deliver the development they need. The Borough Council is committed to supporting neighbourhood planning and the new High Peak Local Plan provides scope to work with Parish Councils and local residents to ensure that the Plan reflects the aspirations and needs of communities.

13.4   Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Council has established the organisation Chapel Vision for the purpose of preparing a plan for the future development of the Parish. High Peak Borough Council successfully applied to the Department of Communities and Local Government for a grant of £20,000 under the Government's Neighbourhood Planning "front runners" scheme to support preparation of a Neighbourhood Development Plan.

13.5   Although crime rates are low in Derbyshire, fear of crime persists among local residents[xlv].

13.6   The High Peak Community Safety Partnership Action Plan for 2012/13 has three priorities:

- To reduce acquisitive crime;
- To reduce alcohol related harm; and
- To reduce anti-social behaviour.

13.7   In High Peak, the overall crime rate, using types of crime comparable with the British Crime Survey (BCS), in 2010/11, was 28.8 crimes per thousand people. In High Peak, the overall crime rate decreased from 37.7 crimes per thousand in 2008/09 to 28.8 in 2010/11[xlvi].

---

xlv   Derbyshire's Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-2014; Derbyshire Partnership Forum
xlvi Local Profiles Inclusion theme; Office for National Statistics; April 2012 update

13 Community safety and neighbourhood quality

Table 44 Overall crime (BCS comparator)

	2008/09 Overall crime rate per thousand persons	2009/10 Overall crime rate per thousand persons	2010/11 Overall crime rate per thousand persons
High Peak	37.7	36.1	28.8
East Midlands	52.3		
England	49.7		
Source: Recorded Crime, Home Office			

13.8   The tables below show the counts for specific types of recorded crime, and the rates per thousand persons.

13.9   In 2010/11, the crime type with the highest rate for High Peak was Violence Against the Person with 13 crimes per thousand persons. This is lower than the East Midlands region which had a rate of 14 crimes for Violence Against the Person offences per thousand persons.

13 Community safety and neighbourhood quality

Table 45 Recorded crime, notifiable offences 2010/11 - Count

	Violence against the person	Wounding / endangering life	Other wounding	Harassment / disorder	Common assault	Robbery	Theft from the person	Criminal damage inc. arson	Home Burglary	Other Burglary	Theft of a Motor Vehicle	Theft from a Motor Vehicle
High Peak	1,177	9	577	252	275	31	49	991	251	348	107	263
East Midlands	63,899	1,079	28,950	12,457	17,135	3,911	5,156	60,413	19,042	22,202	7,215	21,380
England	765,618	18,423	326,672	170,518	197,948	74,561	81,347	652,587	248,711	249,297	100,700	297,323

Source: Notifiable Offences recorded by the Police, Home Office

Table 46 Recorded crime, notifiable offences 2010/11 - per thousand persons

	Violence against the person	Wounding / endangering life	Other wounding	Harassment / disorder	Common assault	Robbery	Theft from the person	Criminal damage inc. arson	Home Burglary	Other Burglary	Theft of a Motor Vehicle	Theft from a Motor Vehicle
High Peak	13	0	6	3	3	0	1	11	3	4	1	3
East Midlands	14	0	6	3	4	1	1	13	4	5	2	5
England	15	0	6	3	4	1	2	12	5	5	2	6

Source: Notifiable Offences recorded by the Police, Home Office

13 Community safety and neighbourhood quality

13.10 The table below shows change over time for different recorded offences in High Peak. Over the period 2006/07 to 2010/11 Violence Against the Person in High Peak decreased by 297 offences overall. Over the period 2006/07 to 2010/11 Robbery in High Peak decreased by 1 offence overall.

Table 47 High Peak: time series for specific recorded offences 2006/07 to 2010/11 - Count

	Violence against the person	Wounding / endangering life	Other wounding	Harassment / disorder	Common assault	Robbery	Theft from the person	Criminal damage inc. arson	Home Burglary	Other Burglary	Theft of a Motor Vehicle	Theft from a Motor Vehicle
2006/07	1,474	17	896	328	147	32	93	1,905	261	405	158	477
2007/08	1,331	9	844	254	169	16	85	1,530	221	484	148	480
2008/09	1,154	20	624	221	236	33	44	1,533	300	445	159	424
2009/10	1,233	19	697	215	248	24	49	1,339	284	477	116	391
2010/11	1,177	9	577	252	275	31	49	991	251	348	107	263

Source: Notifiable Offences recorded by the Police, Home Office

13 Community safety and neighbourhood quality

Issues

13.11 The key issues for High Peak in relation to Community Safety and Neighbourhood Quality are summarised in Table 48 below:

Table 48 Key sustainability issues derived from evidence review

Key issue	Implication for High Peak Local Plan
Support neighbourhood planning.	Ensure preparation of the Local Plan facilitates active involvement of Parish and Town Councils, as well as local groups and residents. Also ensure liaison with current neighbourhood development planning process in Chapel-en-le-Frith.
Promote community cohesion.	Plan policies to support mixed-use developments, strong neighbourhood centres and active street frontages.
Reduce fear of crime.	Design policies to include a requirement to address safety and crime prevention.

Contributing to the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

13.12 The review and update of evidence in relation to Community Safety and Neighbourhood Quality suggests that the sustainability objective used in the SA Framework (2009) should remain unchanged.

13.13 The appraisal criteria have been amended slightly to simplify use and the monitoring indicators have been updated to reflect change in the national monitoring regime since 2009 - as shown in the table below.

Table 49 Sustainability objective, criteria and indicators for Community Safety and Neighbourhood Quality

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicator/target
To protect and improve the safety and environmental quality of streets and neighbourhoods.	Will it reduce opportunities for crime, and therefore, levels of crime?	Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households; Violent crime per year per 1,000 population.
	Will it make a positive contribution to community cohesion?	No specific indicator at this time - to be identified.

14 Homes for everyone

Homes for Everyone - Evidence

14.1 Detailed evidence is set out in the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Joint Core Strategy SA Scoping Report Topic Paper: Homes for Everyone, published for consultation in April 2009. The contents of this Topic Paper have been reviewed in order to identify and record changes.

14.2 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below sets out the messages and issues considered most relevant to the preparation of the High Peak Local Plan and the documents from which they were drawn.

Table 50 Key recent messages influencing preparation of Local Plan

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
The supply of housing has failed to keep pace with demand over the last 15 years.	Laying the Foundations: A Housing Strategy for England; HM Government; November 2011
In July 2010 the Government confirmed its commitment to ensure that from 2016 new homes can be zero carbon.	Carbon compliance: Setting an appropriate limit for zero carbon new homes: Findings and Recommendations; Zero Carbon Hub; February 2011
For many residents there is limited availability of affordable housing. A further concern is the lack of availability of private rented accommodation, particularly for the under 25s.	Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Sustainable Community Strategy 2009 - 2014; Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Local Strategic Partnership; April 2009
The council will work to maximise the supply of good quality, affordable housing and make the best use of the borough's social housing stock.	High Peak Borough Council Homelessness Strategy and Delivery Plan 2012 – 2016: Consultation Document; August 2012
Local Plan should meet the full, objectively assessed needs for market and affordable housing.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Local Plan to identify a supply of specific and developable sites (or broad locations), sufficient to deliver the housing requirement.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Local Plan to deliver a wide choice of high quality homes by planning for a mix of housing based on current and future demographic trends.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Policies to be set for meeting affordable housing need (on site).	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

14 Homes for everyone

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
To promote sustainable development in rural areas, housing development should be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities and reflect local needs, particularly needs for affordable housing, including through use of rural exception sites.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

Baseline

14.3   Government projections suggest that the population of High Peak will grow from 93,000 to 105,000 (13%) between 2010 and 2028 [xlvii]. This growth is the result of both migration from other areas and the rates of births and deaths within High Peak. Growth in the number of people aged 65 and over will contribute significantly to the population increase. Conversely, under the housing targets options presented in the Local Plan Options Consultation September 2012, the working age population of High Peak is expected to decline.

14.4   The number of households is also expected to grow over the Local Plan period, from 38,000 in 2006 to 47,000 in 2028 (a 24% increase)[xlviii]. The projected household growth is due to population increases and changes in society - such as an increase in the number of people who live alone. The growth in households equates to a need for an average additional 410 homes per year over the 22 years between 2006 and 2028.

14.5   However it should be noted that these projections were prepared without taking account of the recently published results of the 2011 Census. These results indicate that the actual population of High Peak recorded in the 2011 census (90,900) was slightly lower than was expected under the projections. Further consideration will need to be given to this issue during the preparation of the Local Plan.

---

xlvii 2010 based sub-national population projections - www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcm%3A77-246448

xlviii 2008 based sub-national household projections - www.communities.gov.uk/ housing/housingresearch/housingstatistics/ housingstatisticsby/householdestimates/livetables-households/

14 Homes for everyone

Table 51 Population change in High Peak (2001 to 2011)

	Total Population		Change 2001 - 2011	
	2001	**2011**	**Number**	**Percentage**
High Peak	89,400	90,900	1,500	1.7
Derbyshire	734,600	769,700	35,100	4.8
Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics				

14.6 Derbyshire has an ageing population profile with fewer people of working age. The number of people over the age of 65 is projected to increase by 52% in the next 20 years from 134,400 in 2008 to 204,700 in 2028 and the 85+ age group is projected to increase by 82% from 17,700 people in 2008 to 32,200 people in 2028[xlix].

14.7 Office for National Statistics 2008 based population projections forecast that between 2008 and 2031in High Peak there will be a 70% increase in the elderly population of the area, whilst at the same time a reduction in the overall number of people of working age.

Table 52 Population Projections High Peak Broad Age Ranges 2008-2031

Broad Age Range	2008	2011	2016	2021	2026	2031	Percentage Change 2008-2031
Children	17,000	17,000	17,100	17,800	18,000	18,000	+5.88%
Working Age	56,700	56,900	57,100	56,800	56,500	56,000	-1.23%
Older People	18,300	19,600	22,200	24,800	28,000	31,200	+70.49%

14.8 The need for affordable homes is considerable and well in excess of the annual amounts being delivered, despite the recent fall in house prices.

14.9 The Strategic Housing Market Assessment[l] has identified the need for over 300 new affordable units per year, with the majority of these needed in the Glossop area.

---

xlix Derbyshire's Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-2014; Derbyshire Partnership Forum
l   Derbyshire Dales District Council and High Peak Borough Council Peak Sub Region Housing Market Assessment; DTZ, December 2008

14 Homes for everyone

Table 53 Annual Affordable Housing Requirements

Size	Glossopdale	Central	Buxton	Rural
Bedsit	8	0	0	1
1	56	23	-4	22
2	77	6	29	20
3	61	6	15	3
4	6	0	-1	0
5+	0	0	0	0
Total	**209**	**35**	**39**	**46**

14.10   The number of new affordable homes provided in the Borough in 2010/11 was 20 and over the period since 2006/07, the maximum number of affordable homes delivered in any one year was 90.

Table 54 Number of affordable homes provided in High Peak through local authority funding assistance

2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
50	90	20	20	20
Source: High Peak Borough Council				

14.11   The 2008 Derbyshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment[li] assessed the need for additional authorised gypsy and traveller sites within Derbyshire (including the Peak District National Park) for five years from mid 2007.

14.12   For High Peak, the study concluded that although there were no authorised gypsy and traveller sites in the borough - and very limited and temporary unauthorised sites - High Peak had no requirement for new pitch provision. However the assessment report did recommend joint working with other Derbyshire local authorities to help meet future pitch requirements in the County.

Issues

14.13   The key issues for High Peak in relation to providing homes for all are summarised in Table 55 below:

---

li   Derbyshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment: Main report of study findings; Opinion Research Services; March 2008

14 Homes for everyone

Table 55 Key sustainability issues derived from evidence review

Key issue	Implication for High Peak Local Plan
Predicted household growth in the Borough to 2028 requires around 400 new homes to be delivered each year.	Need to increase numbers of market housing.
There is significant unmet need for affordable housing.	Need to increase the number of affordable homes, particularly in Glossopdale.
Projected 70% increase in elderly population by 2031.	Need to ensure adequate provision of extra care/sheltered housing, lifetime homes, to meet the needs of older people.
Need to minimise impact of new housing on the environment.	Local Plan policies required to ensure design and delivery of new homes minimises impacts on the environment by specifying environmental performance standards and protection for landscape character.
Vitality of rural communities to be maintained.	Need to ensure adequate housing provision, both market and affordable, in rural areas.

Contributing to the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

14.14   The review and update of evidence in relation to Homes for Everyone suggests that the sustainability objective used in the SA Framework (2009) should remain unchanged.

14.15   The appraisal criteria have been amended slightly to simplify use and the monitoring indicators have been updated to reflect change in the national monitoring regime since 2009 - as shown in the table below.

14.16   Housing provision is one of the proposed headline indicators in the national draft Sustainable Development Indicators 2012[lii]. Net additions to the housing stock (new dwellings) is the proposed measure, on the basis that housing is a basic need and the number of new households forming will continue to rise. Housing energy efficiency is proposed as a supplementary indicator, with energy efficiency ratings of existing and new housing as the measure.

lii   Consultation Document: Sustainable Development Indicators 2012; Department for Environment Food and Rural affairs; July 2012

14 Homes for everyone

Table 56 Sustainability objective, criteria and indicators for Homes for Everyone

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicator/target
To provide everybody with the opportunity of owning (including by shared ownership) or renting, a sustainably designed, good quality home at an affordable cost.	Does housing meet identified needs?	Number of affordable housing completions.
	Will it minimise impacts on the environment?	No specific indicator at this time - to be identified.

15 Employment and economy

Employment and Economy - Evidence

15.1 Detailed evidence is set out in the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Joint Core Strategy SA Scoping Report Topic Paper: Employment and Economy, published for consultation in April 2009. The contents of this Topic Paper have been reviewed in order to identify and record changes.

15.2 A number of key messages and issues were drawn from the evidence review. The table below sets out the messages and issues considered most relevant to the preparation of the High Peak Local Plan and the documents from which they were drawn.

Table 57 Key recent messages influencing preparation of Local Plan

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Support growth and development through ensuring a responsive supply of land that supports business growth and increases housing supply. Creation of Local Enterprise Partnerships.	Local growth: realising every place's potential; HM Government; October 2010
Rural Growth Networks: will work with Local Enterprise Partnerships to identify, test and share learning about mechanisms to stimulate faster and more widespread sustainable growth, employment and economic activity in rural areas.	Supporting Local Growth; Communities and Local Government with Department for Business Innovation and Skills; December 2011
Be creative about design and use of spaces in town centres and high streets with the aim of boosting the local economy and helping keep the community vital.	Re-imagining urban spaces to help revitalise our high streets; Department for Communities and Local Government; July 2012
Make high streets accessible, attractive and safe.	The Portas Review: An independent review into the future of our high streets; Mary Portas; December 2011
Growing Places Fund: £500m for Local Enterprise Partnerships in 2011/12 to support local infrastructure projects which unlock housing and economic growth.	Regeneration to enable growth: A toolkit supporting community-led regeneration; Department for Communities and Local Government; January 2012
One of Derbyshire's priorities is to support a thriving local economy and sustainable communities so that businesses are competitive and make appropriate use of the resources Derbyshire has to offer. Also so that people in Derbyshire have a good education, take part in learning opportunities, have the right skills to gain employment and can access high wages and skilled jobs locally.	Derbyshire's Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-2014; Derbyshire Partnership Forum

15 Employment and economy

Message / Issue	Source document(s)
Need to tackle the area's low wage economy caused by low paid local jobs and many higher paid, higher skilled workers travelling out of the area for better paid jobs, taking their spending power with them.	Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Sustainable Community Strategy 2009 - 2014; Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Local Strategic Partnership; April 2009
Need to develop new business workspace to meet the needs of modern professional businesses. Need to improve public spaces and key buildings in High Peak's Market Towns.	Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Sustainable Community Strategy 2009 - 2014; Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Local Strategic Partnership; April 2009
Need to plan to meet the development needs of business and support an economy fit for the 21st century.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Plan should recognise town centres as the heart of their communities and set policies to support their viability and vitality.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Plan to allocate a range of suitable sites to meet the scale and type of retail, leisure, commercial, office, tourism, cultural, community and residential development needed in town centres.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012
Plan to support a prosperous rural economy by supporting sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business and enterprise in rural areas; as well as the retention and development of local services and community facilities in villages.	National Planning Policy Framework; Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

Baseline

15.3   High Peak is part of the Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership. The Partnership covers an area with a workforce of 966,000 representing 3.9% of the national total. The area supports 57,610 businesses.

15.4   The Local Enterprise Partnership's initial priorities are to:

- build on the area's reputation for internationally competitive science, manufacturing, engineering and creative industries;
- develop the area's distinctive cultural, sport and tourism offer to world class standards;
- share the benefits of economic growth across the cities, towns and rural communities in the local enterprise partnership area;

15 Employment and economy

- meet employers' current and future skills demands through highly rated and ambitious education partners;
- secure investment in regeneration and infrastructure projects that stimulate private sector growth.

15.5   The Local Enterprise Partnership will also be leading the development of the area's Enterprise Zone, which will be located at the Boots campus in Nottingham.

15.6   In October 2010 to September 2011 the employment rate for the resident population in High Peak was 74.5%[liii]. This is lower than it was in the years between 2006 to 2009, but represents a slight increase on 2010. Employment rates have fallen since 2006 across the East Midlands and nationally.

Table 58 Employment rate (Population aged 16 to 64) - Percentage

	Oct 2006 - Sep 2007	Oct 2007 - Sep 2008	Oct 2008 - Sep 2009	Oct 2009 - Sep 2010	Oct 2010 - Sep 2011
High Peak	77.0	79.3	84.1	72.2	74.5
East Midlands	74.2	73.8	72.1	71.1	70.9
England	72.6	72.6	71.1	70.5	70.1
Source: Annual Population Survey, through NOMIS, Office for National Statistics					

15.7   In August 2011, there were a total of 7,320 benefit claimants in High Peak. This is the equivalent of 12.2% of the population aged 16 - 64. This compares with 14.1% of the population aged 16 - 64 claiming benefits in the East Midlands region and 14.4% in England.

15.8   In 2011, the median gross pay for full time workers living in High Peak was £501 per week. This is not significantly different from the median earnings of those living in the East Midlands region (£470 per week). Over the same period of time, the median gross pay for workplace based earnings in High Peak was £479 per week.

15.9   The difference in earnings between those living in the area and those working in the area has narrowed over recent years.

---

liii   Annual Population Service, through Nomis, Office for National Statistics

15 Employment and economy

Table 59 Full time workers median weekly gross pay for High Peak in £ per week

	2008	2009	2010	2011
Residence	445	490	474	501
Workplace	402	448	469	479
Difference between residence and workplace based weekly pay	-43	-42	-5	-22
Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, through Nomis, Office for National Statistics				

15.10   In 2010 there were 335 enterprise start-ups in High Peak (9.3% of the total stock) and 450 enterprises ceased trading (12.4% of the total stock). These percentages were in line with those for East Midlands and England as a whole.

Table 60 Births and deaths of enterprises as a percentage of the enterprise stock in 2010

	Stock	Births		Deaths		Net change (%)
		Count	%	Count	%	
High Peak	3,615	335	9.3	450	-12.4	-3.2
East Midlands	153,615	14,325	9.3	19,545	-12.7	-3.4
England	2,001,885	207,520	10.4	261,880	-13.1	-2.7
Source: Business Demography 2010 from Office for National Statistics						

15.11   In March 2011 in High Peak, the sector with the highest proportion of local enterprise units was the professional, scientific and technical sector with 12%. High Peak has a greater percentage of units in both agriculture, forestry and fishing, as well as production, than the national or regional average; but a lower proportion of units in information and communication services. Details are set out in the table below.

15 Employment and economy

Table 61 Number of local enterprises by broad industry group - March 2011

Industry Group	High Peak	East Midlands	England
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	7.1	6.2	4.4
Production	8.7	7.8	5.8
Construction	9.2	11.3	10.7
Motor trades	3.1	3.8	3.0
Wholesale	4.5	5.4	5.0
Retail	10.4	11.2	11.0
Transport & storage	5.3	4.0	3.2
Accommodation & food	7.3	6.0	6.2
ICT	4.8	4.3	6.6
Finance & Insurance	1.8	2.6	2.7
Property	2.8	3.2	3.6
Professional, scientific & technical	12.2	11.4	14.3
Business admin	6.0	6.4	7.2
Public admin	0.9	1.4	0.9
Education	3.3	2.8	2.6
Health	5.7	6.0	5.6
Arts & Recreation	7.0	6.3	7.1
Source: UK Business - Activity, Size and Location, March 2011, from Office for National Statistics			

15 Employment and economy

15.12   Much of High Peak's current stock of employment land is heavily constrained and unsuitable for facilitating business growth - particularly in Glossopdale and Central sub-areas. It may be necessary to identify new sites suitable for meeting modern business needs.

15.13   The Peak Sub Region Employment Land Review[liv] identified future employment land requirements, details for High Peak are set out in the table below.

Table 62 Gross Employment Land Requirements in High Peak 2008 - 2026 (Hectares)

Industrial Land (including manufacturing and distribution)	Office / Non-industrial land	Total
26	9	35

15.14   In 2008, in High Peak, retail premises had the highest proportion of all commercial and industrial floorspace units (41%) - a higher proportion than in either the East Midlands region or England. However in March 2010, 11.9% of shops in High Peak were found to be vacant; this vacancy rate has increased for the second year in a row, reflecting the impact on the High Street of the current economic downturn[lv].

15.15   The proportion of office floorspace in High Peak is lower than comparable figures for the region or nationally.

Table 63 Proportion of commercial and industrial floorspace units in High Peak (2005 revaluation), 2008

	All bulk classes	Retail premises	Offices	Factories	Warehouses	Other bulk premises
High Peak	2,443	41.2%	14.9%	23.0%	15.5%	5.4%
East Midlands	109,525	35.5%	20.0%	24.5%	15.5%	4.6%
England	1,346,547	38.4%	24.9%	18.2%	14.4%	4.1%
Source: Valuation Office Agency, through Neighbourhood Statistics						

15.16   The economic impact of tourism on the Peak District and Derbyshire has increased year-on-year since 2003, although the total number of tourists visiting the area has fallen each year until 2007 when there was a small increase in numbers. Total tourist numbers fell back again in 2008 before rising again in 2009. The rise in economic impact - despite falling visitor numbers - might be the result of a general decline in numbers of day visitor trips, (day trips only showed an increase in 2007 and 2009) combined with the general increase in the number of staying visitor nights over the same period.

---

liv   Peak Sub Region Employment Land Review; Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners; August 2008
lv   High Peak Annual Monitoring Report 2010/11; High Peak Borough Council

15 Employment and economy

15.17 Spend by both staying visitors and day visitors has increased each year from 2003 to 2009. However employment supported by tourism expenditure has been in decline over the same period, with the exception of 2007 and 2009 when there were small increases.

Table 64 Visitor trends for the Peak District and Derbyshire

Annual headline figures	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Economic impact of tourism	£1.216 bn	£1.254 bn	£1.286 bn	£1.33 bn	£1.404 bn	£1.42 bn	£1.467 bn
Total tourist numbers	36.575 m	36.25 m	35.827 m	35.736 m	36.074 m	35.27 m	36.24 m
Number of staying visitor trips, both overseas and domestic	3.19 m	3.47 m	3.48 m	3.52 m	3.61 m	3.648 m	3.58 m
Number of staying visitor nights, both overseas and domestic	9.05 m	9.50 m	9.67 m	9.84 m	9.95 m	9.578 m	9.81 m
Spend by staying visitors, both overseas and domestic	£397.02 m	£428.51m	£445.99m	£473.41 m	£504.4 m	£511.8 m	£524.0 m
Number of day visitor trips	33.39 m	32.78 m	32.35 m	32.21 m	32.46 m	31.62 m	32.66 m
Spend by day visitors	£818.832 m	£825.18 m	£839.97 m	£856.43 m	£899.657 m	£912.2 m	£943.0 m
Employment supported by tourism expenditure - full time equivalents (inc. seasonal and part time work)	24,510	24,316	24,015	23,859	24,568	24,336	25,235
Source: www.eastmidlandstourism.co.uk (STEAM data)							

Issues

15.18 The key issues for High Peak in relation to employment and economy are summarised in Table 65 below:

15 Employment and economy

Table 65 Key sustainability issues derived from evidence review

Key issue	Implication for High Peak Local Plan
Effect of the recession on unemployment levels.	Plan to support economic growth in the Borough, sub-area strategies used to target growth in areas of most need.
Employment distribution by sector.	Plan policies to support a balanced employment distribution by sector, matching the range of skills and qualifications within the local community.
Employment land supply.	Need to ensure suitable, available and deliverable employment land is allocated in the Plan, in particular land suitable for meeting modern business needs.
Vitality and viability of market town and local centres.	Sub area strategies used in conjunction with support for neighbourhood planning to maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of High Streets and town and village centres.
Visitor economy.	Plan policies used to maintain and support the strength of the visitor economy and the cultural offer of the Borough. Sub area strategies used to support smaller scale rural tourism opportunities where appropriate.

Contributing to the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

15.19   The review and update of evidence in relation to Employment and Economy suggests that the sustainable economic growth objective used in the SA Framework (2009) should be changed slightly to take account of the recent narrowing between residence and work place earnings and to reflect the need to ensure a balanced employment distribution by sector. It is therefore proposed to update the 2009 Sustainability Appraisal Objective from: "To support the development of a local economy based on high-skill and high-wage jobs; including by the delivery of the necessary premises, sites and infrastructure"; to the proposed 2012 objective set out in Table 66 below.

15.20   The appraisal criteria have also been amended slightly to simplify use and the monitoring indicators have been updated to reflect change in the national monitoring regime since 2009 - as shown in the table below.

15.21   Long term unemployment is one of the proposed headline indicators in the national draft Sustainable Development Indicators 2012[lvi]. Percentage of people who have been out of work for more than 12 months is the proposed measure, on the basis that an extended period of unemployment can impact on individuals and families, through loss of income, social isolation, sense of worth and other factors.

---

lvi   Consultation Document: Sustainable Development Indicators 2012; Department for Environment Food and Rural affairs; July 2012

15 Employment and economy

Table 66 Sustainability objective, criteria and indicators for Employment and Economy

Sustainability objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicator/target
To support the development of a local economy that is balanced across employment sectors, including by the delivery of premises, sites and infrastructure needed for sustainable growth.	Will it provide a balanced portfolio of employment land in sustainable locations?	Employment land supply
	Will it provide opportunities for the creation of new businesses and / or minimise the loss or displacement of existing businesses?	Enterprise births and deaths
To support the development of attractive, vibrant and distinctive town centres.	Will it safeguard shops and services in existing centres?	Retail vacancy rates
	Will it safeguard and improve the retail, leisure and service provision?	No specific indicator at this time - to be identified.
To encourage tourism development and to promote the area as a tourist destination.	Does it help support tourism and the visitor economy?	No specific indicator at this time - to be identified.

16 Summary

16.1   The scoping study has reviewed and updated the evidence set out in the original SA Scoping Report prepared for the joint Core Strategy and published for consultation in 2009. This update has resulted in a revised draft sustainability appraisal framework which will enable the social, economic and environmental effects of the emerging High Peak Local Plan to be assessed.

16.2   This scoping report update has identified a series of sustainability objectives and sub-objectives that can be monitored over time. Together these form the sustainability appraisal framework - set out in the Table on the next page.

16 Summary

Table 67 Draft Sustainability Appraisal Framework

	Sustainability Objective	Appraisal Criteria / sub-objective	Indicator
1	To support the development of a local economy that is balanced across employment sectors, including by the delivery of premises, sites and infrastructure needed for sustainable growth.	• Will it provide a balanced portfolio of employment land in sustainable locations? • Will it provide opportunities for the creation of new businesses and / or minimise the loss or displacement of existing businesses?	• Employment land supply • Enterprise births and deaths
2	To support the development of attractive, vibrant and distinctive town centres.	• Will it safeguard shops and services in existing centres? • Will it safeguard and improve the retail, leisure and service provision?	Retail vacancy rates
3	To encourage tourism development and to promote the area as a tourist destination.	• Does it help support tourism and the visitor economy?	
4	To maintain good local air quality and to minimise noise and light pollution.	• Will it minimise negative impacts on local air quality? • Will it minimise impacts of light pollution? • Will it help to protect tranquil areas?	Number of exceedences of the annual mean NO_2 air quality objective
5	To protect and enhance SPAs, SACs, SSSIs and other designated wildlife sites.	• Will it help to deliver the findings of the Appropriate Assessment? • Will it protect and promote effective management of the Borough's sites of ecological and nature conservation importance?	Area (ha) of SSSIs and Local Wildlife Sites lost to development requiring planning permission.

16 Summary

	Sustainability Objective	Appraisal Criteria / sub-objective	Indicator
6	To protect and enhance biodiversity, geo-diversity and to support the development of linked green spaces.	• Will it provide opportunities for the enhancement and creation of habitats and to foster species conservation? • Will it help to deliver networks of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure?	Target: At least 1 hectare of Local Nature Reserve should be provided per 1,000 population.
7	To minimise energy use and to develop the area's renewable energy resource.	• Will it help to minimise energy use and promote energy efficiency? • Will it lead to an increase in installed renewable and low carbon energy capacity? • Will it ensure that new development is in accessible locations in order to reduce the need for car use and/or encourage sustainable forms of transport?	• Total CO_2 emissions • Amount of renewable energy generation by installed capacity and type • The amount of development within 15 minutes walking distance (1km) and 10 minutes cycling distance (2km) of town centres, and/or located within 400m of a high frequency bus route and/or 800m of a railway station
8	To conserve and enhance town / village - scape quality, archaeological and heritage assets along with their settings.	• Will it ensure the continued protection and enhancement of physical sites and areas of importance to cultural and historical heritage, along with their settings? • Will it protect and reinforce the character and appearance of the Borough's towns and villages and the cultural and historic elements that make them distinct?	Percentage or areas of historic buildings, sites and areas including locally listed assets affected, whether in an adverse or beneficial way.
9	To protect and enhance the character and appearance of the landscape, including cultural landscape assets, as well as the area's other natural assets and resources.	• Will it protect and reinforce the Borough's landscapes, with the natural and cultural elements that make them distinct? • Will it promote development on brownfield land?	• Percentage of new and converted dwellings built on previously developed land. • Percentage of employment floorspace completed on previously developed land.

16 Summary

Sustainability Objective	Appraisal Criteria / sub-objective	Indicator
10	To ensure sustainable management of water resources and to minimise the risk of flooding.	• Will it encourage water efficiency and demand management? • Is new development directed towards areas of least risk? • Will it reduce risk of flooding eg by encouraging the integration of mitigation measures such as SUDs into new development? • Will it protect, maintain and improve the quality of water resources?	• Number of planning applications granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency in respect of flood risk • Number of planning applications granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency in respect of water quality
11	To reduce the number of journeys made by car - within, and to and from - the area.	• Will it minimise impacts on existing traffic congestion? • Will it support the use of public transport? • Will it support safe walking and cycling?	The amount of development within 15 minutes walking distance (1km) and 10 minutes cycling distance (2km) of the town centres and/or located within 400m of a high frequency bus route and/or 800m of a railway station.
12	To improve health and reduce health inequalities.	• Will it improve health, or access to health facilities? • Will it help to reduce deprivation and thus indirectly improve health?	Premature (persons under 75 years) all cause standardised mortality ratios (SMRs)
13	To improve access to jobs, services and facilities.	• Will it help to minimise the distance people travel for education, employment, shopping and other key services and facilities?	The amount of development within 15 minutes walking distance (1km) and 10 minutes cycling distance (2km) of the town centres and/or located within 400m of a high frequency bus route and/or 800m of a railway station.
14	To protect and improve the safety and environmental quality of streets and neighbourhoods.	• Will it reduce opportunities for crime, and therefore, levels of crime? • Will it make a positive contribution to community cohesion?	• Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households; • Violent crime per year per 1,000 population.

16 Summary

	Sustainability Objective	Appraisal Criteria / sub-objective	Indicator
15	To provide everybody with the opportunity of owning (including by shared ownership) or renting, a sustainably designed, good quality home at an affordable cost.	• Does housing meet identified needs? • Will it minimise impacts on the environment?	Number of affordable housing completions.
16	To improve opportunities for people to participate in cultural, leisure and recreational activities.	• Will it provide improved opportunity for engagement in indoor / outdoor leisure activities for all? • Will it support the development of a vibrant cultural economy?	Adult participation in sport and active recreation.

17 Methodology for assessment of sites and preferred options

17.1   High Peak Borough Council is intending to consult on a preferred option for the Local Plan for a six week period in February and March 2013. This preferred option will be informed by sustainability appraisal based on the proposed framework and methodologies set out in this Scoping Report update and work carried out previously on the joint Core Strategy.

17.2   The High Peak Local Plan will include the following key elements:

- Spatial Vision, aims and objectives.
- Spatial strategy.
- Strategic Policies.
- General Development Policies.
- Site allocations.
- Implementation and monitoring.

17.3   Issues and options consultation on a spatial strategy for Derbyshire Dales and the High Peak, and for core policies relating to the proposed joint Core Strategy, took place in March 2009. A draft plan was published in June 2010 accompanied by a draft SA Report documenting SA work to date, including an appraisal of preferred options.

17.4   Further SA work on core policies will therefore consist of an assessment of preferred options for the High Peak Local Plan, as the policies will be largely drawn from those prepared for the previous joint Core Strategy and which have been subject to two previous rounds of public consultation and SA. The proposed methodology for this is set out in the table on the next page.

17.5   During 2011, a comprehensive review of the emerging joint core strategy took place in response to implications of the pending revocation of the Regional Plan, the introduction of the National Planning Policy framework and new evidence on housing growth.

17.6   As part of this review, a series of papers was prepared, addressing key elements of the joint core strategy including housing target options and the development approach and options for a sub-area strategy. To aid selection of a preferred option, in each case an SA was carried out of the alternatives and the work and its conclusions are set out in the accompanying paper: SA of revisions to joint core strategy: High Peak Local Plan June 2012.

17.7   Further SA work on a housing target, development approach and sub-area strategy will therefore consist of an assessment of preferred options for the High Peak Local Plan using the same proposed methodology as set out in the following table.

17.8   The previous joint core strategy contained no site allocations and so appraisal of site options has yet to take place. The methodology proposed for this is set out in the table on page 99.

17 Methodology for assessment of sites and preferred options

Assessment Table for Preferred Options

17.9 Preferred options for the High Peak Local Plan will include revised options drawn from the previous stages of preparation of the withdrawn joint core strategy. Whilst these options have been subject to previous appraisal, it is important to subject the Local Plan preferred options to further detailed analysis, to ensure that all sustainability impacts are considered and any mitigation and enhancement measures can be identified and implemented. The matrix below will be used to present the analysis.

Key to table

+ = Positive

O = Neutral (no significant positive or negative effects)

- = Negative

? = uncertain or insufficient information on which to base the assessment

ST: Short Term = 0-5 years
MT: Medium Term = 5-10 years
LT: Long Term = over 10 years

Different components within an option may generate varying impacts. This is indicated by "/".

Assessment Table for Preferred Options

Preferred Option :

SA Objective	Summary of baseline	SA indicator	Nature of effect (quantify where possible)	ST	MT	LT	Justification for assessment noting: Likelihood certainty of effect occurring; Geographical scale of effect; Whether temporary or permanent; Assumptions made; Include cumulative effects and recommendations for mitigation or improvements
1							
2							
3							

17 Methodology for assessment of sites and preferred options

Assessment table for Site Options

17.10 As part of a wider process of site assessment, the SA will help to narrow down a long list of potential sites - to those most suitable for allocation.

17.11 It is proposed to use the SA Framework as the basis for the sustainability appraisal of each site with potential for allocation. A scoring system is proposed to help compare sites, detailed in the table below.

Proposed assessment table for site options

SA Objective Number	Does the Site ...?	Positive/Negative Impact	Importance of objective High/Medium/Low	Score
1	Support economic development and new employment opportunities?	**Positive**: The site provides employment. [2 points] **Neutral:** Employment is neither provided nor lost [1 point]. **Negative**: There is a loss of land that currently contributes to employment. [0 points]	High: score is trebled	
2	Contribute to support for vibrant market town and large settlement centres?	**Positive**: The site is within 15 minutes walk of a centre and will contribute to the vitality of the centre. [2 points] **Neutral**: The site is within a 15 minute bus or car journey of a centre and will have limited positive impact on the vitality of the centre. [1 point] **Negative**: The site is over 15 minutes travel by bus or car from a settlement centre and is likely to detract from maintaining vibrant centres. [0 points]	Medium: score is doubled.	
3	Encourage tourism development and help	No assessment. This objective is not site related but dependent upon other policies.	N/a	N/a

17 Methodology for assessment of sites and preferred options

SA Objective Number	Does the Site ...?	Positive/Negative Impact	Importance of objective High/Medium/Low	Score
	to promote the area as a tourist destination?			
4	Maintain air quality and help to minimise noise and light pollution?	**Positive**: No positive impacts scored. **Neutral**: The site is within or adjacent to settlement and in an area without high levels of existing traffic congestion. [1 point] **Negative**: The site is remote from a settlement centre and/or in an area of existing high traffic congestion where development is likely to make a disproportionate contribution to air, noise and light pollution. [0 points]	Low: score is not changed.	
5	Protect and enhance favourable conditions on SSSIs, SPAs, SACs and other designated wildlife sites?	**Positive**: The site is over 400m away from an international, national or locally designated site, but its development will enable improvements to be made to the condition of a designated site. [2 points] **Neutral**: Development of the site is likely to make neither a positive nor a negative impact on the condition of an international, national, or locally designated wildlife site. [1 point] **Negative**: The site is designated, or is within 100m of a local wildlife site or within 400m of a nationally or internationally designated site where significant impacts could result. [0 points]	Medium: score is doubled.	
6	Protect and enhance biodiversity, geodiversity and support the	**Positive**: The site has neither nature conservation designations nor known features of high conservation value but is over 8ha in size, enabling development to deliver nature conservation enhancement. [2 points]	Medium: score is doubled.	

17 Methodology for assessment of sites and preferred options

SA Objective Number	Does the Site ...?	Positive/Negative Impact	Importance of objective High/Medium/Low	Score
	development of linked green spaces?	**Neutral**: The site has neither nature conservation designations nor known features of high conservation value (although there may be trees, hedges or small ponds) and development will not deliver biodiversity enhancement. [1 point] **Negative**: There are habitats within the site that may make a significant local contribution to biodiversity and/or there is potential for protected species or species of conservation importance to be present. [0 points]		
7	Minimise energy use and help to develop the area's renewable energy resource?	No assessment. This will mainly be influenced by development design.	N/a	N/a
8	Conserve and enhance town and village-scape quality and heritage assets along with their settings?	**Positive**: The site is within settlement and will make a positive contribution to the existing community [2 points] **Neutral**: The site is adjacent to settlement and its development will have neither a positive nor negative impact on the existing quality of the built environment [1 point] **Negative**: The site involves the loss of buildings or gardens designated as having historic interest, or would have an adverse impact on their setting; and/or development risks an adverse impact on a conservation area or its setting. [0 points]	Medium: score is doubled.	

17 Methodology for assessment of sites and preferred options

SA Objective Number	Does the Site ...?	Positive/Negative Impact	Importance of objective High/Medium/Low	Score
9	Protect and enhance the character and appearance of the landscape and other natural assets?	**Positive**: The site is previously developed land [2 points] **Neutral**: The site is not previously developed, but it is within a settlement [1 point] **Negative**: The site is greenfield, in the countryside and risks an adverse impact on landscape character or a natural asset (eg pond, river, reservoir, woodland) [0 points]	High: score is trebled.	
10	Help to minimise the risk of flooding?	**Positive**: The site is in flood zone 1 and there are no recorded incidents of surface water flooding on site, or within 100m of the site [2 points] **Neutral**: The site is in flood zone 1 but there are incidents of surface water flooding on site, or within 100m of the site [1 point] **Negative**: The site is partially or wholly in flood zone 2 or flood zone 3 [0 points]	High: score is trebled.	
11	Help to reduce the number of journeys made by car?	**Positive**: The site is within 10 minutes walk of a town centre, and 5 minutes walk from a bus stop or a train station [2 points] **Neutral**: The site is within 15 minutes walk of a settlement, centre and within ten minutes walk of a bus stop or train station [1 point] **Negative**: The site is more than 15 minutes walk from any centre or bus stop [0 points]	Medium: score is doubled.	

17 Methodology for assessment of sites and preferred options

SA Objective Number	Does the Site ...?	Positive/Negative Impact	Importance of objective High/Medium/Low	Score
12	Help to improve health and reduce health inequalities?	No assessment. This objective is not site related but dependent upon other policies.	N/a	N/a
13	Improve access to jobs, services and facilities?	**Positive**: Several services and facilities can be accessed within 20 minutes by bus and/or within a 10 minute walk [2 points] **Neutral**: There are limited facilities that can be accessed within 20 minutes by bus and/or within a 10 minute walk [1 point] **Negative**: There are no services or facilities that can be reached on foot or by a bus journey of 20 minutes or less [0 points]	Medium: score is doubled.	
14	Protect and improve safety and local environmental quality	No assessment. This will mainly be influenced by development design.	N/a	N/a
15	Enable provision of affordable housing	**Positive**: The site has potential to deliver affordable homes [2 points] **Neutral**: No neutral impact scored. **Negative**: Development economics or other factors mean that the site is unlikely to deliver affordable homes [0 points]	High: score is trebled.	
16	Provide opportunities for people to participate in cultural, leisure and recreational activities	**Positive**: The site is within 5 minutes walk of an area of publicly accessible open space and 25 minutes walk from a cultural or leisure facility [2 points]	Low: score is not changed.	

17 Methodology for assessment of sites and preferred options

SA Objective Number	Does the Site ...?	Positive/Negative Impact	Importance of objective High/Medium/Low	Score
		Neutral: The site is within 10 minutes walk of an area of publicly accessible open space and between 15 and 30 minutes by bus or car from other cultural, leisure and recreational activities [1 point] **Negative**: The site results in a loss of recreational facilities [0 points]		
Overall comments and Total Score (out of 51)				

18 Quality Assurance Checklist

Quality Assurance Checklist

18.1   The Quality Assurance checklist below has been used to ensure that the requirements of the SEA Directive have been met and fully integrated into the parts of the sustainability appraisal process covered in this document. The Quality Assurance checklist covers both the technical and procedural steps of the sustainability appraisal process and will be updated as further stages are reached; it has been drawn from the Planning Advisory Service Guidance on Sustainability Appraisal for Local Development Frameworks prepared in December 2007 by Scott Wilson.

Table 68 Quality Assurance checklist

Quality Assurance	Relevant section
Context (A1)	
The plan's purpose and main objectives are made clear.	N/a
Policies, plans, programmes, strategies and initiatives relevant to the plan have been identified.	Individual topic chapters
Links between the Plan and the relevant policies, plans, programmes, strategies and initiatives relevant to the plan have been identified and explained.	Individual topic chapters
The relevant environmental protection objectives established at international, community or Member State level have been identified.	Original 2009 Scoping Report
Links between the Plan and the relevant environmental protection objectives have been identified and explained.	Individual topic chapters
Baseline information (A2)	
The relevant aspects of the current state of the area (including economic, social and environmental aspects) have been described.	Individual topic chapters
The likely future evolution of the area without the plan described.	Individual topic chapters
The characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected are described.	Individual topic chapters
The area's performance relative to appropriate comparators (eg wider geographical areas) are indicated.	Individual topic chapters
Baseline information of sufficient depth to facilitate appraisal of the Plan has been included.	Original 2009 Scoping Report and Individual topic chapters
Gaps in data availability have been highlighted.	Individual topic chapters
Where appropriate maps and graphs have been used to illustrate baseline data.	Individual topic chapters

18 Quality Assurance Checklist

Quality Assurance	Relevant section
Context (A1)	
Sustainability problems (A3)	
Existing sustainability problems relevant to the plan (including economic, social and environmental problems) have been identified.	Individual topic chapters
Environmental problems relating to area's of a particular environmental importance (including SPAs and SACs designated under the Birds and Habitats Directives) have been identified.	HRA Screening Report
Evidence included to support the identification of sustainability problems (eg from A1, A2)	Individual topic chapters
Those sustainability problems considered particularly significant have been highlighted.	Individual topic chapters
SA Framework (A4)	
A clear and manageable set of SA objectives is contained.	Summary Table
A1, A2, A3 and other relevant sources have been considered in developing a set of SA objectives.	Individual topic chapters
SA objectives nave been linked with sub-objectives / criteria where appropriate.	Summary Table
A clear rationale for each of the SA objectives exists.	Individual topic chapters
Consultation (A5)	
Consultation arrangements with the SEA bodies and other relevant stakeholders have been set out.	Introduction
How any consultation responses have been taken into account in finalising the report has been set out.	N/a
Other	
The Plan to which the Scoping Report Update applies has been clearly identified.	Introduction
The geographical area to which the appraisal applies and the time horizon over which the impacts are assessed have been identified.	Assessment table for preferred options

18 Quality Assurance Checklist

Quality Assurance	Relevant section
Context (A1)	
Any technical, procedural and other difficulties encountered have been discussed and assumptions and uncertainties made explicit.	N/a
The requirements of the SEA Directive and how these have been satisfied have been signposted.	N/a
What happens next in the SA process has been set out.	Introduction and Methodology for Assessment of sites and preferred options