
Local Development Framework

Core Strategy and Site Allocations Development Plan Document Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

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Abbreviations

AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
BVPI	Best Value Performance Indicator
CLG	Communities and Local Government
DPD	Development Plan Document
GLA	Greater London Authority
LDD	Local Development Document
LDF	Local Development Framework
LPA	Local Planning Authority
LSP	Local Strategic Partnership
MOL	Metropolitan Open Land
NLWA	North London Waste Authority
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PCT	Primary Care Trust
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance
PPS	Planning Policy Statement
PPS	Planning Policy Statement
PTAL	Public Transport Accessibility Level
RSS	Regional Spatial Strategy
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SFRA	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
SPA	Special Protection Area
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
SUDS	Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems
UDP	Unitary Development Plan

Introduction

- 1.1 This scoping report was first published in October 2007 and revised in June 2008. It was sent to English Heritage, Natural England and the Environment Agency for comments. Comments were received from Natural England, English Heritage and The Environment Agency. These comments and the council's response to them are set out in Appendix 1. The document can be read on the council's website www.barnet.gov.uk/planning.
- 1.2 In accordance with European and national legislation, the Local Development Framework (LDF) documents must be subject to a sustainability appraisal for consultation with relevant environmental bodies and other interested stakeholders.
- 1.3 This document represents the sustainability appraisal scoping report for Barnet's *Core Strategy* and *Site Allocations DPD's*. The scoping report sets out context and baseline information to provide an appraisal framework for the Local Development Framework documents. To provide a sound basis for analysis, the report reviews relevant plans and programmes which will influence the LDF; identifies the key sustainability issues and problems; and details a sustainability framework through which the appraisal can take place. The main purpose of the scoping report is to identify significant impacts that need to be considered in the sustainability appraisal.

Sustainable development

- 1.4 Sustainable development was first put at the centre of the international agenda at the 1992 United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro. It was defined as "development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (Brundtland 1987).
- 1.5 In 1999, the UK government set out its own aim of sustainable development as "ensuring better quality of life for everyone, now and generations to come" in the strategy *A Better Quality of Life*. The following four objectives were identified:
 - social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
 - effective protection of the environment
 - prudent use of natural resources
 - maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.
- 1.6 In 2005 the UK government adopted a new framework goal for sustainable development. While maintaining continuity with the aims of the 1999 strategy, the 2005 *Sustainable Development Strategy* defined the purpose of sustainable development as:

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

Strategic environment assessment and sustainability appraisal

- 1.7 There is an international and national commitment to achieving sustainable development which has been reflected in the emergence of new legislation and guidance. In 2004 the *European Directive on Strategic Environmental Assessment* (SEA) and the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act were published and set out the requirements for sustainability appraisal.

- 1.8 The government has produced guidance on both SEA and sustainability appraisal (SA). The SA guidance combines the two – SEA focuses on environmental considerations and the SA incorporates the social and economic sides of sustainable development. The guidance *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents* published in November 2005 states:

Sustainable Development is central to the reformed planning system. The purpose of sustainability appraisal (SA) is to promote sustainable development through the integration of social, environmental and economic considerations into the preparation of revisions of Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS) and for new or revised Development Plan Documents (DPDs) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs).

The structure of this report

- 1.9 Section 1 is the introduction. Section 2 provides background on Barnet's LDF programme. Section 3 identifies other relevant plans, strategies and policies and sets out how the LDF is influenced by government guidance and other external factors. Section 4 sets out the current baseline information, the profile of the borough with its social, economic and environmental characteristics and sets out the key sustainability issues for the borough. In Section 5, the sustainability problems and issues are identified. Section 6 sets out the objectives and indicators for the sustainability appraisal framework. Section 7 tests the sustainability objectives against each other. This is to ensure that the objectives are compatible with one another. Section 8 outlines the consultation programme for the scoping report and the steps to be taken once the final scoping report has been published.
- 1.10 The scoping report was published to elicit the views of statutory and other consultees. In reading the report, consultees were asked to address the following questions:
- I. Are there other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainable development objectives that will affect or influence the *Core Strategy* and *Site Allocations* DPDs?
 - II. Do you agree that the baseline data collected are appropriate to the *Core Strategy* and *Site Allocations* DPDs?
 - III. Do you have, or know of, any additional relevant baseline data which should be added to that already listed?
 - IV. As far as you are aware, are there any inaccuracies or anomalies in the data presented?
 - V. Do you think we have identified the most relevant sustainability issues, or do you have evidence of other issues, which we should highlight?
 - VI. Are you aware of any issues which in your opinion should be added, or any that should be removed?
 - VII. Are the sustainability appraisal objectives suitable in the context of Barnet?
 - VIII. Are there any additional objectives that should be included or should any be removed?
 - IX. Do the indicators provide a relevant measure for the associated sub-objectives? If not, please suggest additional indicators.
 - X. Do you have any comments on the suggested target?
 - XI. Do you have any further comments on the information in the sustainability framework?

- 1.11 Government guidance in *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents* (2005) identifies five key stages to preparing a sustainability appraisal for Development Plan Documents.

Table 1: Stages of sustainability appraisal

Stage of DPD Production	Stage of Sustainability Appraisal and Associated Tasks
DPD Stage 1: Pre-production, evidence gathering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage A: setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » A1: identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives » A2: collecting baseline information » A3: identifying sustainability issues and problems » A4: developing the SA framework » A5: consulting on the scope of the SA
DPD Stage 2: Production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage B: developing and refining options and assessing effects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » B1: testing the DPD objectives against the SA framework » B2: developing the DPD options » B3: predicting the effects of the DPD » B4: evaluating the effects of the DPD » B5: considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects » B6: proposing measures to monitor the significant effects • Stage C: preparing the sustainability appraisal report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » C1: preparing the SA report • Stage D: consulting on the preferred options of the DPD and SA Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » D1: public participation on the preferred options of the DPD and SA report » D2(i): appraising significant changes
DPD Stage 3: Examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » D2(ii): appraising significant changes resulting from representations
DPD Stage 4: Adoption and monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » D3: making decisions and providing information • Stage E Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the DPD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » E1: finalising aims and methods for monitoring » E2: responding to adverse effects

- 1.12 This scoping report covers all subsections of Stage A except A5, which now comes under Stage B following the publication of an *Interim Advice Note* by ODPM (April 2005).

2 Barnet's Local Development Framework

- 2.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced a new system of plan-making in England. The key outcome of the government's changes is the Local Development Framework (LDF). The LDF is a portfolio of planning documents, prepared by the council, which collectively will deliver the planning strategy for Barnet. The documents which will comprise Barnet's LDF are:
- the *Statement of Community Involvement*
 - the *Annual Monitoring Report*
 - Development Plan Documents (DPDs), which will include the following:
 - » *Core Strategy*
 - » *Site Allocations*
 - » *Mill Hill East Area Action Plan*
 - » *Colindale Area Action Plan*
 - » *Proposals Map*
 - » *North London Waste Plan*
 - Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) covering:
 - » *Planning Obligations*
 - » *Contributions to Education*
 - » *Contributions to Library Services*
 - » *Affordable Housing*
 - » *Contributions to Culture, Recreation and Open Spaces from Development*
 - » *Contributions to Transport and Infrastructure from Development*
 - » *Contributions to Health Facilities from Development*
 - » *Sustainable Design and Construction*
- 2.2 Further information on the LDF can be obtained in the Barnet *Local Development Scheme* at www.barnet.gov.uk/local-development-framework.htm. The *Local Development Scheme* is a work programme for preparing the LDF and has been adopted by the council.

3 Plans, strategies and policies influencing the Local Development Framework

- 3.1 In order to consider the context in which the LDF is being prepared it is necessary to identify and then review the implications of relevant policies, plans, programmes and strategies. This is in accordance with ODPM guidance, *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents* (2005), which states that:

The Local Planning Authority must take account of relationships between the DPD and other relevant policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives. The SEA Directive specifically requires environmental protection objectives established at international, European Community or national levels to be taken into account. Other relevant documents include the UK *Sustainability Development Strategy*, PPGs and PPSs and a range of other plans and strategies at regional and local levels, all of which influence the options to be considered in preparation of the DPD. Information on these relationships will enable potential synergies to be exploited and any inconsistencies and constraints to be addressed. The LPA will need to keep these relationships under review as it prepares both the current and future DPDs.

- 3.2 The following table sets out the policies, plans, programmes and strategies reviewed as part of the SEA/SA process.

Table 2: Policies and programmes of relevance to the SA/SEA of Barnet's LDF

Policy, Strategy or Plan	Date
International Context:	
The Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development	2002
European Spatial Development Perspective	1998
Air Quality Framework Directive (96/62/EC) and daughter documents	1996
Directive 2006/12/EC on Waste	2006
Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	1992
Birds Directive (79/409/EEC)	1979
Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC)	1999
Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)	2000
UN Convention on Biological Diversity	1992
The Aarhus Convention	June 1998
EU Sixth Environmental Action Plan	2000-2012
National:	
The UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy 2005	2005
PPS1: Delivering sustainable development	2005
PPG2: Green belts	2001
PPS3: Housing	2006
PPG4: Industrial, commercial development and small firms EU Sixth Environmental Action Plan	1992
PPG 5 : Simplified Planning Zones	1992
PPS6: Planning for town centres	2005
PPS7: Sustainable development in rural areas	2004
PPG8: Telecommunications	2001
PPS9 Biodiversity and geological conservation	2005
PPS10: Planning and waste management	2005
PPS12: Local Development Frameworks	2008

Policy, Strategy or Plan	Date
PPG13: Transport	2001
PPG14 Development on unstable land	1990
PPG15: Development and the historic environment	1994
PPG16: Archaeology and planning	1990
PPG17: Planning for open space, sport and recreation	2002
PPG19: Outdoor advertising	1992
PPG22: Renewable energy	2004
PPS23: Planning and pollution control	2004
PPG24: Planning and noise	1994
PPS25: Development and flood risk	2007
Planning for a Sustainable Future White Paper	2007
Air Quality Strategy	2007
Environment Act 1995	1995
Planning (Listed buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990	1990
The Historic Environment: A Force for our future (DCMS)	2001
White Paper Heritage Protection for the 21 st Century	2007
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979	1979
English Heritage's Streets for All	2005
Regional and London-wide:	
The London Plan (Consolidated with Alterations since 2004)	2008
London's Quality of Life Indicators	2005
A Sustainable Development Framework for London	2003
The Mayor's Air Quality Strategy	2002
The Mayor's Biodiversity Strategy	2002
The Mayor's Cultural Strategy	2003
The Mayor's Transport Strategy	2001
The Mayor's Economic Development Strategy	2005
London Housing Strategy (Draft)	2007
The Mayor's Ambient Noise Strategy	2004
The Mayor's Energy Strategy	2004
The Mayor's Municipal Waste Strategy	2003
The Mayor's Business Waste Strategy (draft)	2007
The Mayor's Older People Strategy	2006
The Mayor's Children and Young People's Strategy	2005
The Mayor's Strategy for Strategy for Refugee Integration in London (draft)	2007
The Mayor's Climate Change Action Plan	2007
The Mayor's Water Strategy (draft)	2007
The Mayor's Health Inequalities Strategy (draft)	2007
The Mayor's London Food Strategy	2006
Hertfordshire Structure Plan	1998
Hertsmere Local Plan	2003
Sub-regional:	
Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Clinical Strategy	2006
NHS London Health Strategy	2007
North London Sub Regional Development Framework	2006

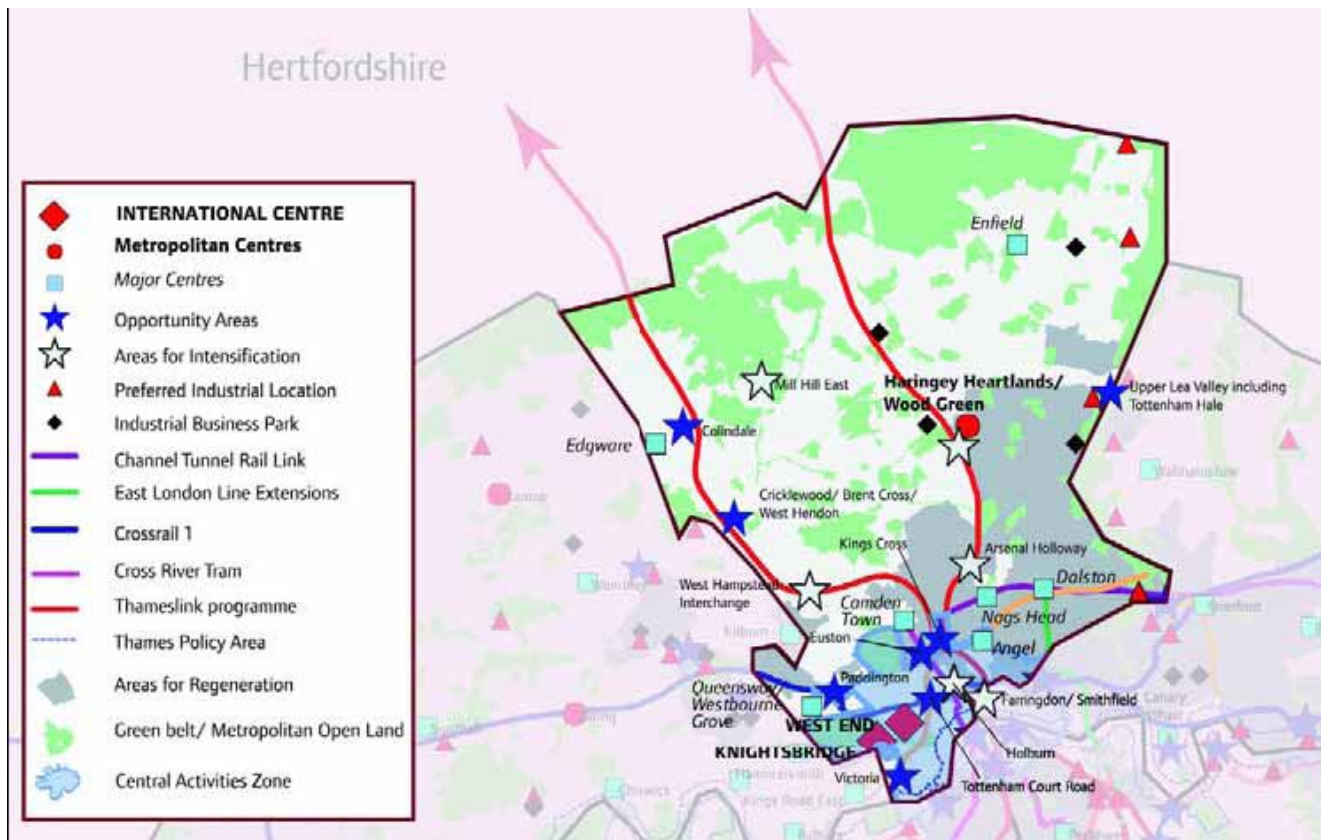
Policy, Strategy or Plan	Date
Local:	
Barnet's Air Quality Strategy	2002
Barnet's Children and Young People's Plan	2007
Barnet's Conservation Area Appraisals:	
• Cricklewood Railway Terraces	1998
• Golders Green	1998 (Revised 2007)
• The Bishops Avenue	1999
• Totteridge	2000 (Revised 2007)
• Mill Hill	2000 (Revised 2007)
• Wood Street	June 2007
• Glenhill Close	2002
• Watling Estate	June 2007
• Church End	November 2007
• Monken Hadley	January 2007
Barnet's Contaminated Land Strategy	2001
Barnet's Equalities Policy	2007
Barnet's Homelessness Strategy	2007
Barnet's Housing Strategy	2006
Barnet's Local Implementation Plan	2005/6
Barnet's Premier Parks Strategy	2006
Barnet's Safer Communities Strategy	2007
Barnet's Statement of Community Involvement	2007
Barnet's Supporting People Strategy	2006
Barnet's Sustainable Community Strategy	2007
Barnet's Three Strands Approach	2005
Barnet's Waste Prevention Strategy	2005
London Borough of Barnet UDP	2006

Implications

- 3.3 All of these plans and programmes will influence the emerging DPDs to some degree. However, the *London Plan*, as a spatial strategy for London, the *Sustainable Development Framework for London* and the various Mayoral strategies as well as various Barnet plans, strategies and guidance, including the *Sustainable Communities Strategy*, are of particular relevance. The objectives within these will provide the direction for spatial planning within Barnet. Many of the objectives of these plans are related to the sustainability objectives. These sustainability objectives will provide a framework within which the policies formulated within the DPDs should produce the desired outcomes of these plans in a sustainable manner. The higher order plans and programmes at the European level, have fewer targets that are directly applicable to Barnet but have influenced the objectives of the lower order documents.
- 3.4 In reviewing relevant policies, plans, programmes and strategies, that will have an impact on the Barnet Core Strategy and Site Allocations DPD, three emerge as being of particular importance. These are: The London Plan, Early Alterations and Further Alterations; Barnet's Three Strands Approach and Barnet's Sustainable Communities Strategy.

The London Plan

- 3.5 The London Plan
- is the strategic plan setting out an integrated social, economic and environmental framework for the future development of London, looking forward to 2026
 - integrates the physical and geographic dimensions of the Mayor's other strategies, including broad locations for change and providing a framework for land use management and development, which is strongly linked to improvements in infrastructure, especially transport
 - provides the London-wide context within which individual boroughs must set their local planning policies
 - sets the policy framework for the Mayor's involvement in major planning decisions in London
 - sets out proposals for implementation and funding
 - is London's response to European guidance on spatial planning and a link to European Structural Funds.
- 3.6 The London Plan enables a strategic approach to be taken to the key issues facing London. It:
- provides a clear framework within which all of the stakeholders in London's future can plan their own activities to best effect
 - enables Londoners to participate in shaping the future of their city – mostly at the sub-regional level
 - ensures that policies are coherent and integrated, across issues and between places
 - sends a strong message to the world that London has a vibrant and confident view of its future.
- 3.7 In the Mayor's spatial strategy London has been divided into 5 sub regions. The sub region of North London comprises the boroughs of Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, Islington and Westminster and has a population of nearly 1.7 million and provides almost 1.5 million jobs. It includes a substantial part of the Central Activities Zone.



source GLA

- 3.8 The North London sub-region should accommodate high levels of additional housing, with over 65,000 more homes projected by 2016. In terms of employment growth, almost 300,000 more jobs are projected by 2026, especially in the Central Activities Zone and in the inner parts of the sub-region.
- 3.9 Areas for intensification that fall within Barnet include Mill Hill East, and identified areas of opportunity include Cricklewood/Brent Cross and Colindale.

Opportunity Areas and Areas for Intensification in North London

	Area (Ha)	Indicative employment capacity ^a 2001 – 2026	Minimum homes ^b 2001 – 2026
Opportunity Areas			
King's Cross	53	25,000	2,250
Paddington	38	23,200	3,000
Euston	16	5,000	1,000
Tottenham Court Road	19	5,000	1,000
Victoria	52	8,000	1,000
Upper Lea Valley (including Tottenham Hale)*	3,133	15,000	7,000
Cricklewood/Brent Cross	323	20,000	10,000
Colindale	201	500	10,000
Areas for Intensification			
Arsenal/Holloway	38	1,500	2,000
Mill Hill East	48	500	3,500
Haringey Heartlands/Wood Green	50	1,500	1,700
West Hampstead Interchange	17	500	2,000
Holborn	13	2,000	200
Farringdon/Smithfield*	10	2,000	100
Total	4,011	109,700	44,750

Source: The London Plan

- 3.10 Cricklewood/Brent Cross. A Planning Framework has been completed and endorsed by the Council and the Mayor. This area combines the former railway land to the north, and the industrial land to the east of Cricklewood Station, together with Brent Cross regional shopping centre across the A406 North Circular Road and its wider hinterland. The planning framework seeks the redevelopment of Brent Cross as a town centre complementing the roles of other centres nearby. This would entail an extended mix of town centre activities including housing. The planning framework makes provision for at least 5,000 additional homes together with local ancillary services and a rail station on the Cricklewood site. Any new development should be phased with improved public transport and accessibility across the area. It is intended that Brent Cross regional shopping centre will evolve into an integrated town centre with a mix of uses including housing.
- 3.11 Colindale. This area comprises parts of the former RAF East Camp adjacent to the M1, which is currently being redeveloped for housing, the Hendon College site, the existing Grahame Park Estate, which is due to be comprehensively redeveloped, as well as Colindale Tube and the Hospital and library sites to the west of the tube. In total these represent an opportunity significantly to intensify residential development together with a range of leisure and other uses. Appropriate developer contributions will be needed to deliver public transport improvements to support the proposed intensification of residential use. The council is progressing an Area Action Plan for Colindale.

- 3.12 At Mill Hill East, opportunities for redevelopment exist around the Underground station, principally at the MOD Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill gas works, and council depot sites. Development would primarily comprise new housing at higher densities, with a mix of uses to provide local employment and servicing and Barnet Council are currently developing a framework to investigate site intensification. Other uses including further/higher education may also be appropriate. The council is progressing an Area Action Plan for Mill Hill East.

Barnet's Three Strands Approach

- 3.13 The Three Strands will form the 'spatial vision' that will underpin the LDF. This will therefore become the driving force for our policy to protect, enhance and grow, and the spatial interpretation of Barnet's sustainable community strategy.
- 3.14 Protection - *Absolute protection for the green belt and open spaces.* Barnet is fortunate to have rich 'green' and natural assets with considerable quantity and quality of open spaces that contribute to its unique character. Careful stewardship and protection of these natural assets is fundamental to the borough's spatial planning vision. One third of the borough is open space. There are 2,466 hectares of Green Belt and large tracts of Metropolitan Open Land, which range from parts of Hampstead Heath in the south to rolling countryside, woodland and farms on the northern edges of the borough. In the traditional suburbs, open spaces contribute to the green and leafy setting of built-up areas, provide residents with opportunities for leisure and recreation and serve as the 'green lungs' of the city.
- 3.15 The Unitary Development Plan protects the Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land from inappropriate development, except in some very exceptional circumstances such as extensions to existing houses. Even as Barnet's population and housing stock increase, there will be no need in planning terms to encroach on to these precious open spaces, except to support outdoor recreational and community facilities. There will be sufficient brownfield sites and planned regeneration areas within existing built-up areas to meet future housing needs, such as Colindale, Mill Hill East and the priority housing estates.
- 3.16 There are leisure facilities in the Green Belt and on Metropolitan Open Land, including golf courses and riding schools, and a major leisure complex at Copthall. The land next to the Welsh Harp Reservoir provides some facilities for water sports but also serves as an important wildlife habitat and is a site of special scientific interest.
- 3.17 In addition there are public spaces specifically for recreation, such as parks (including our flagship Premier Parks), public gardens, allotments and woodland. People value these areas as places where they can walk or play with friends or family. The Council is determined to keep green and public spaces accessible to people of all ages and all disabilities.
- 3.18 The council is committed to promoting a sustainable and healthy environment and recognises that its green spaces are important community, biodiversity and environmental assets that contribute to the local quality of life and sustainable environments for habitats. Open spaces are the focus of the 'Protection' element of the Three Strands Approach – they are a fundamental and untouchable precious natural asset of the borough.
- 3.19 Enhancement – *Enhancing and conserving the best of Barnet suburbia.* More than a third of Barnet is made up of a classic, outer London suburban environment, much of it of exceptional quality. Like its open spaces, the city-suburbs form 'arteries' supporting a growing and successful capital. They are where most people live and where many families want to be. The Council aims to both enhance and protect these areas, including

conservation of the historic suburban environment and distinctive centres such as Chipping Barnet.

- 3.20 The borough has in the main a very attractive built environment with many areas of special character, where people are proud to live, work and visit. However, combined with high land and property values, this places it under significant pressure for development and change. Some city-suburbs are in need of support and improvement, while others need sensitive care to prevent inappropriate development. One of the greatest concerns is the intensified urbanization of lower-density city-suburbs. This can erode their character and their distinctive function to support families.
- 3.21 This strategy for both protection and enhancement provides a framework for preserving the leafy character and openness of the lower density city-suburbs, and protecting family housing and neighbourhoods as strong and safe communities.
- 3.22 The design, layout and use of the built environment can affect the quality of people's lives, as well as having an impact on the image and economic vitality of an area. Lower, suburban densities will apply where the character of an area is traditional and attractive, typically Victorian or Edwardian townscape or two-storey family housing of the 1920s and 1930s, set within wide plots with spacious gardens along tree-lined streets. Particular protection will be given to the borough's 18 conservation areas, including the internationally renowned Hampstead Garden Suburb, and to over 1,300 listed buildings. Classic, quality city-suburbs outside conservation areas will be reviewed for stronger planning policy protection in the LDF core strategy with the creation of Special Areas of Suburban Character.
- 3.23 The emerging LDF aims to strike a balance between conserving Barnet's built heritage and enhancing areas through managed, sustainable development. Only sustainable development – of energy-efficient design which respects existing character and promotes safer communities, and high quality architectural design – will be supported in the city-suburbs.
- 3.24 *Growth - Exploiting opportunities for major development growth, sustainable brownfield development and strategic regeneration.* One reason for Barnet's success is that it is attractive to new residents, and because of this, its population will grow significantly. Providing the accommodation, infrastructure and public services to support this will be a major challenge. However, targeting sustainable growth in brownfield locations and regeneration areas will ensure there is less pressure on the Green Belt and lower density city-suburbs to meet our ambitious housing targets of 20,000 new homes by 2016/17. Getting the balance right will be the key to success.
- 3.25 The Mayor of London's London Plan has set out a strategic approach to managing this growth. Barnet is seen as part of an emerging growth corridor stretching from north west London to Luton Airport and along the Thameslink and M1/A1 transport corridors. The engine of growth at the London end is Barnet with its significant development opportunities. Cricklewood, Brent Cross and West Hendon, Colindale, and Mill Hill East, have all been identified as having significant potential for accommodating new homes and jobs.
- 3.26 There are numerous opportunity areas where sustainable development can be achieved through carefully focussed and targeted spatial planning that exploits the brownfield and renewal potential without harming the attractions and sensitive enhancement of the established suburban locations. In order to maintain the sustainability of Barnet these areas will set the benchmark in terms of energy conservation, renewable technology and innovative transport solutions. Our large projects are based on exploiting such prime opportunity locations, coupled with high quality niche development and a new structured neighbourhood in other locations, such as Mill Hill East and North London Business Park.

- 3.27 These areas will be developed in line with Barnet’s existing housing strategy, which aims to provide residents with the best choice of accommodation, regardless of which sector they choose. Barnet’s policy will be to continue to offer an innovative range of affordable housing – rented and shared equity/ownership with the aim of helping residents achieve what most of them tell us is their long term aspiration: full home ownership.
- 3.28 The regeneration of Brent Cross, Cricklewood and West Hendon is a £4.5 billion scheme with a vision to create a new gateway to London and a vibrant urban quarter in Barnet. This is one of London’s largest regeneration projects and is the borough’s flagship undertaking.

Barnet’s Sustainable Communities Strategy

- 3.29 Barnet’s Sustainable Communities Strategy is a document which demonstrates how local organisations and agencies will work together to improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the borough. The Sustainable Community Strategy has been drawn up by Barnet’s Local Strategic Partnership, which brings together organisations from the public, private, community and voluntary sector. This Strategic Partnership is committed to helping Barnet, and the rest of London, to develop in a sustainable way. Sustainable communities are communities which are:
- Active, inclusive and safe
 - Well run
 - Environmentally sensitive
 - Well designed and built
 - Well connected
 - Thriving
 - Well served
 - Fair for everyone.
- 3.30 Barnet’s Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) is responsible for delivering the Sustainable Community Strategy and in doing so it is committed to the following:
- 3.31 • **Protect, Enhance, Grow** - The growth in Barnet’s population over the next 10 years will bring new opportunities for local residents. However, the growth needs to be carefully managed. We will work together to ensure that Barnet’s environment and natural resources are protected while meeting the growing need over the next 10 years for homes, jobs, services and travel.
- 3.32 • **Diversity** - Barnet is justifiably proud of its rich diversity. It is the twentieth most ethnically diverse area in England and on one measure, the second most religiously diverse, and its residents come from a range of backgrounds and circumstances. We will appreciate and value this diversity in everything we do, recognise individual’s rights and responsibilities and work together to ensure that everyone has the same life chances.
- 3.33 • **Partnership** - We already know that we can achieve more by working together. We will continue to be a partnership with a purpose, to work with each other and our communities

towards common goals. We will also ensure that we challenge one another's performance in order to achieve the best possible outcomes for local people.

- 3.34 • **Community engagement** - Residents have the right to influence the future of their area. Solutions to problems are often dependent on local knowledge. Through partnership consultation we will continue to engage with the community and enable them to get involved in civic life.
- 3.35 • **Customer focus** - Our customers – residents, businesses and visitors in Barnet - are our primary focus in improving the way we deliver our services. We are committed to putting the customer first in what we do and how and when we do it and providing value for money in the delivery of public services.
- 3.36 **Priorities of Barnet residents** - We hold a lot of information on the key priorities of people living in Barnet. This data has informed the development of this strategy. Residents' top local priorities are consistent year on year and include:
- low level of crime (community safety)
 - low level of public taxation
 - quality of health services
 - environmental issues (such as clean streets)
 - level of traffic congestion
 - provision of affordable housing
 - standard of education
 - quality of public transport.
- 3.37 These priorities are derived primarily from an analysis of Barnet's Annual Residents Survey and Best Value General Survey. They also take into account the consultation undertaken in developing this Community Strategy and the extensive consultation carried out when developing Barnet's second Community Plan in 2003. All of these priorities are addressed in the Sustainable Community Strategy.

4 Collecting baseline information

- 4.1 Sustainability appraisal requires the collection of baseline information to provide the basis for predicting and monitoring effects and to aid the identification of sustainability issues and possible methods of dealing with them. Within the baseline data collection, the use of indicators can help to identify issues and help in the provision of methods of monitoring within the sustainable development framework.
- 4.2 Baseline information should be proportionate to the plan, policy or proposal but if there are gaps in essential information, these need to be recorded along with resulting risks to the appraisal, and kept under review.
- 4.3 To focus the baseline data collection stage, the following principles were considered:
- Relevance – is the data helpful?
 - Currency – is the data as up to date as possible?
 - Availability – is the data easily accessible?
 - Interpretation – is it easy to understand?
- 4.4 The following text summarises the baseline data and uses it to characterise the borough. The detailed baseline information is set out in a matrix found in **Appendix 1**. The matrix is an overview of the current situation and covers the topics specified in Annex 1 (f) of the SEA directive i.e.:
- biodiversity
 - population and human health
 - flora and fauna
 - soil
 - water
 - air
 - climate
 - material assets
 - cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage)
 - landscape
 - waste.
- 4.5 The matrix development is an ongoing process and collates the following information:
- the issue/topic
 - indicator
 - current and baseline information
 - trends
 - comparators and targets
 - information and sources used.

- 4.6 For each topic selected, enough information is needed to answer the following questions:
- How good or bad is the current situation? Do trends show that it is getting better or worse?
 - How far is the current situation from any established threshold or target?
 - Are particularly sensitive or important elements of the economy, physical environment or community affected, e.g. skills shortages, endangered species or rare habitats, and vulnerable social groups?
 - Are problems reversible or irreversible, permanent or temporary?
 - How difficult would it be to offset or remedy any damage?
 - Have there been significant cumulative or synergistic effects over time? Are there expected to be such effects in the future?
- 4.7 This summary forms a baseline which will be used to assess long-term trends associated with these factors. It has also been used in developing a set of indicators which can be used to monitor progress against the sustainability objectives and gives an early indication of any consequences of implementation of Barnet's Local Development Framework.
- 4.8 The data contained within the baseline information originates from an extensive range of data sources including:
- published reports
 - web-based databases and publications
 - information covered by various departments of the London Borough of Barnet
 - personnel communication with borough officers
 - surveys of the borough and the local population.

Characteristics of the London Borough of Barnet

- 4.9 The borough of Barnet covers an area of 86.73 km², the fourth largest authority in London. Barnet is situated to the north west of the city, bordering Hertfordshire. It has boundaries with five other London boroughs: Camden, Brent, Haringey, Harrow and Enfield, and also adjoins Hertsmer in Hertfordshire.
- 4.10 According to the 2006 mid-year estimate by ONS, Barnet is home to a population of 328,600 making it the second most populous borough in London. This population estimate is broken down into 159,400 males and 169,200 females, 65,500 persons aged 0-15, 216,600 persons aged 16-64 and 45,500 persons aged over 65. There are 135,300 households in the borough, giving an average household size of 2.4 persons. One in four of Barnet residents was from an ethnic minority in 2001 but recent GLA projections suggest that it is now one in three. The borough has 725 kilometres of roads, the most in London. Of the 130,453 residents who commute to work, 45 per cent commute by car. Car ownership is high: there are 1.09 cars per household. Owner occupation is also high, accounting for around 67 per cent of households in 2001. Over 12 per cent of residents are self-employed, the highest level in London. Despite such indicators of wealth there are pockets of deprivation.
- 4.11 Barnet has a diverse, well-educated and growing population. The borough has an attractive and high quality environment containing some area of special character, 18 conservation areas, over 1,300 listed buildings, 2,466 hectares of green belt and 690 hectares of

metropolitan open land, and a range of cultural and commercial facilities. Barnet also has a large and varied business population. The regeneration and development activities within the borough will build on this strength and benefit from the skills of the local population.

- 4.12 The main towns and districts within the London Borough of Barnet are Chipping Barnet, Edgware, Totteridge, Whetstone, Mill Hill, Cricklewood, Colindale, Hendon, Finchley, Golders Green and Hampstead Garden Suburb.

Social and economic information

- 4.13 The 2001 census indicates diversity in income and ethnicity across the borough. Barnet is ranked as the twentieth most ethnically diverse district in England. The largest minority groups are Indian and Black African, while Barnet has the highest proportion of Jewish residents of any local authority in the UK. The proportion of the population describing itself as belonging to ethnic groups other than White British, White Irish and White Other varies at ward level from 11 per cent in High Barnet to 48 per cent in Colindale.
- 4.14 Trend data highlights that on average, Barnet's residents have a greater life expectancy than London's average and the average for the rest of England. For males in Barnet the average life expectancy is 79 years and for females is 83.4 years. The average figures for London are 77.4 for males and 82 for females. England's average is 77.32 for males and 81.55 for females. Life expectancy averages varies across the borough. Residents living in Barnet's more deprived wards of the borough such as Burnt Oak are expected to live shorter lives than those in Garden Suburb and Totteridge wards which are more affluent.
- 4.15 There is an average of 36 persons per hectare in Barnet, the 8th lowest population density in London. At ward level this varies between only 16 persons per hectare in Totteridge and Mill Hill, to 74 persons per hectare in Burnt Oak. There is an average of 2.48 persons per household in Barnet (including residents of communal establishments) and this varies from 2.25 in East Finchley ward to 2.83 in Golders Green ward.
- 4.16 According to the English Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2007, Barnet is ranked 128th most deprived local authority out of 354 in England and Wales (where 1 is the most deprived). Twelve Super Output Areas within the borough were ranked in within the top 20 per cent. The three most deprived Super Output Areas in the borough are within the Colindale ward and correspond with the Grahame Park Estate. Another, in Oakleigh, is within the 5 per cent of the least deprived areas

Employment

- 4.17 Barnet's successful economy is largely based on service jobs, located in the borough's town centres. Employment land in Barnet hosts a range of light industry, general industry, offices, storage businesses and distribution activities. However this stock is declining, and there is continuing pressure to redevelop industrial land for higher value development. Barnet's strategic employment locations can be found in table 1 below.
- 4.18 The borough's local economy is dominated by small (under five employees) and medium-sized enterprises, similar to the overall picture for London.
- 4.19 Barnet's working age population is amongst the most qualified in the country: only 14 local authorities have a more qualified population, of which 11 are also in London. Eighty-nine per cent of 16 and 17 year olds are in education, the second highest proportion in London, and the borough has a high proportion of students generally.

Table 3: Barnet’s primary industrial sites and business parks

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North London Business Park • Garrick Industrial Estate • Brunswick Industrial Estate • Lancaster Road • Barnet Trading Estate • Queens Road • Mill Hill Industrial Estate • Hadley Manor Trading Estate • Bittacy Business Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connaught Business Centre • Finchley Trading Estate • Colindale Technology Park • Falkland Road • Pricklers Hill • Grenville Place • Bunns Lane Works • Granard Business Centre • Colindale Business Centre
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Health

- 4.20 Barnet’s *Health Profile* published by the Department of Health in 2007 suggests that men and women in Barnet live nearly two years longer than the average for England and life expectancy for females is improving more quickly than the England average.
- 4.21 According to the report the residents of Barnet live healthier lives compared to England overall. However the report indicates that nearly one in five adults is estimated to be obese, and the percentage of people who are known to have diabetes is higher than England average.
- 4.22 Other highlights of the *Health Profile* include:
- The rate of people claiming sickness benefits because of mental health problems is lower in Barnet than England overall. The proportion of people who rated their health as ‘not good’ is also lower.
 - Death rates from major causes are lower than in England as a whole. However, smoking still contributes to the deaths of, on average, 400 Barnet residents each year.
 - Compared to England, Barnet has a lower rate of admissions to hospital for alcohol specific conditions and a lower rate of hip fractures in older people.
 - Barnet has a lower level of statutorily homeless households and a lower rate of teenage pregnancies than the average for England.
- 4.23 In 2001 according to data from ONS 72.5 per cent of Barnet’s population, described their health as good, 20.2 per cent described it as fairly good, and 7.3 per cent not good and 14.6 per cent of people had a limiting long-term illness.
- 4.24 Barnet’s residents have access to a number of primary health care facilities which are located across the borough and beyond the borough’s boundaries. These are:
- Edgware Community Hospital:
 - » day surgery
 - » birth centre
 - » intermediate care services
 - » mental health services for adults and older people
 - » Parkinson’s clinic

- » walk-in centre for minor injuries and minor illnesses
- » therapy centre
- Finchley Memorial Hospital:
 - » walk-in centre for minor injuries and minor illnesses
 - » day hospital care including falls clinic
 - » outpatient services
 - » therapy services
- Marie Foster Centre:
 - » provides respite, day care and rehabilitation for adults with neuro-degenerative disorders, mainly multiple sclerosis.

4.25 Barnet Primary Care Trust (PCT) has access to a number of major NHS hospitals within a 10 mile radius, for residents of Barnet. These hospitals are:

- Chase Farm Hospital
- Barnet General
- Northwick Park Hospital
- Royal Free Hospital
- University College London Hospital
- Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital
- Whittington Hospital.

Housing and homes

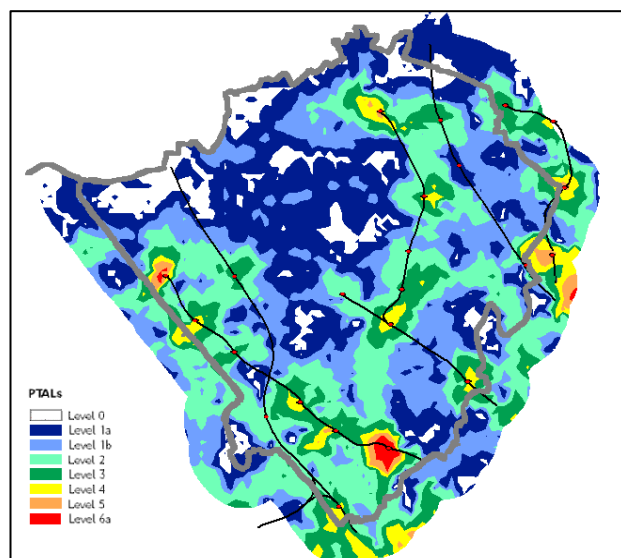
- 4.26 Barnet contains high quality residential areas, many typical of the classic outer London suburb. The council's *Three Strands Approach* for protecting and enhancing the best of Barnet suburbia provides strong policy protection for preserving the character and openness of lower-density suburbs and conservation areas.
- 4.27 Barnet's population is expected to increase due to incremental growth and large scale regeneration. Projections from ONS suggest the population will reach 367,400 by 2021, an increase of 12 per cent over 15 years. The strategic growth areas of Barnet will provide high quality housing and create new sustainable communities.
- 4.28 The household characteristics of Barnet are quite distinct from the remainder of London. Households in Barnet are more likely to be owner occupiers with a mortgage and are less likely to live in the social rented sector; are less likely to be single non-pensioner households and are more likely to contain older people; and are more likely to be under-occupied than other households in London. Households are also more likely to have been residents in their home for at least 10 years, although households in Barnet are more likely to have migrated into the borough in their last move.
- 4.29 In total, 61.6 per cent of households in Barnet live in houses or bungalows, whilst 38.4 per cent live in flats. The main housing type in the borough is semi-detached followed by purpose built flats. Householders living in rented housing are more likely to live in flats whilst those in owner occupation are more likely to live in detached and semi-detached houses than other tenures.

- 4.30 In Barnet just over a fifth of households are pensioner-only and over a quarter of households contain children. Fewer than 1 in 20 householders are lone parent.

Transport

- 4.31 The transport network of Barnet is dominated by radial routes including the M1, A1 and A5 corridors on the western side of Barnet that form the main routes from North London to other parts of the country. Thameslink and the Midland Mainline railway also follow this corridor as well as the rail freight route from the sidings at Cricklewood. The East Coast Mainline railway passes through the eastern part of the borough. The main orbital road is the A406 North Circular Road which connects with these radial roads and passes through the southern part of the borough.
- 4.32 Public transport accessibility in London is measured by the PTAL model, and Map 1 shows the pattern of comparatively higher-accessibility between town centres, particularly Edgware, West Hendon and Golders Green to the west and south of the borough and Chipping Barnet to East Finchley to the east; these are the routes of the Northern Line (see map 2) and also of a number of bus routes.

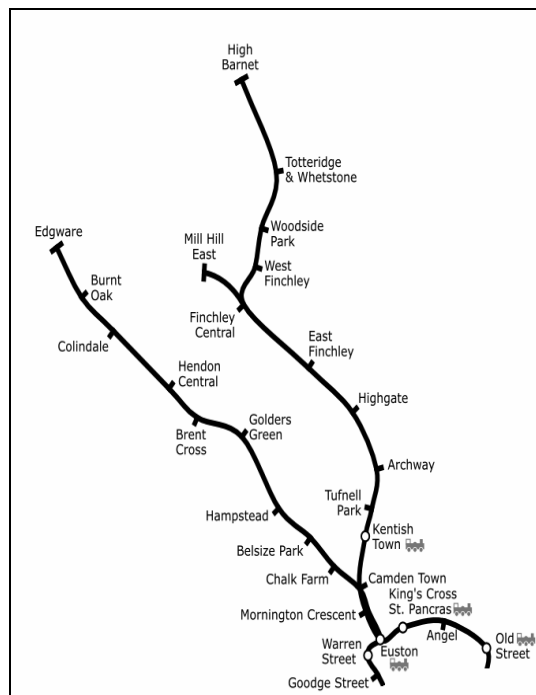
Map 1: Transport accessibility in Barnet



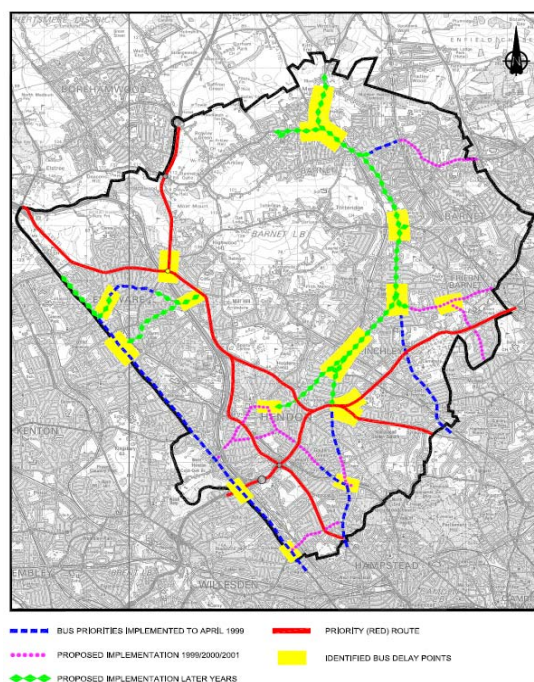
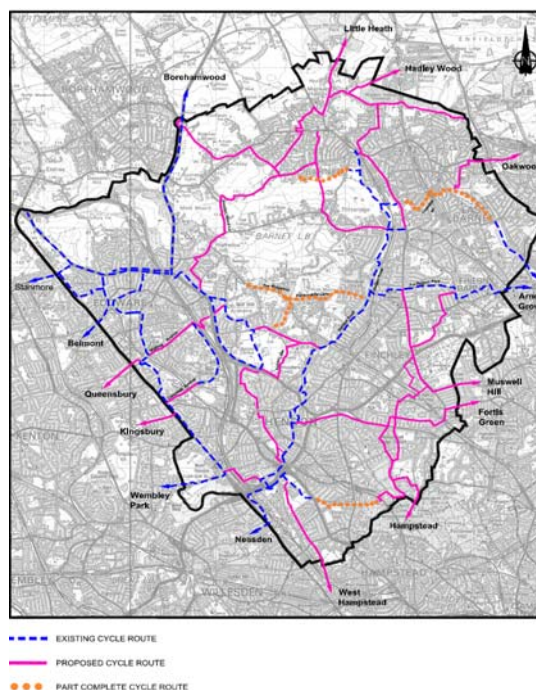
Source: Transport for London (2004)

- 4.33 Around 830,000 trips are made by Barnet residents each day. Fifty-five per cent of trips are made to destinations within the borough (once trips home have been excluded). Of the other trips made, 20 per cent are to adjoining boroughs (Camden 6 per cent, Brent 5 per cent, Haringey 4 per cent, Enfield 3 per cent and Harrow 2 per cent); 9 per cent are to Westminster, 2 per cent to the City of London and 2 per cent to Islington; 2 per cent are to other destinations inside the M25 and 3 per cent to other destinations outside the M25.

Map 2: The Northern Line



- 4.34 Trips to Camden, Westminster, the City of London and Islington are more likely to be made by public transport (underground and bus). Bus travel plays an important role in trips to Haringey, Brent, Enfield, Harrow and destinations inside the M25, reflecting the more limited public transport alternatives for orbital and out of London travel. Map 3 below sketches Barnet's Bus Priority Routes. Cycling is also a growing preference in Barnet. A comprehensive cycle route network has been developed across the Borough (See Map 4). Destinations where car use dominated include those to Enfield and Harrow and destinations outside London.
- 4.35 An estimated 630,000 car trips are made each day in or through Barnet. Just over a quarter of these trips are wholly within the borough. Nearly half either start or end in the borough, with the remaining quarter being purely through-trips. Car ownership within Barnet is relatively high with 73.3 per cent of households having access to a car and an average number of cars per household of 1.09, compared with 71.4 per cent and 1.04 respectively for Outer London. This also means that over a quarter of households do not have access to a car.

Map 3: Barnet's Bus Priority Routes

Map 4: Cycle Routes


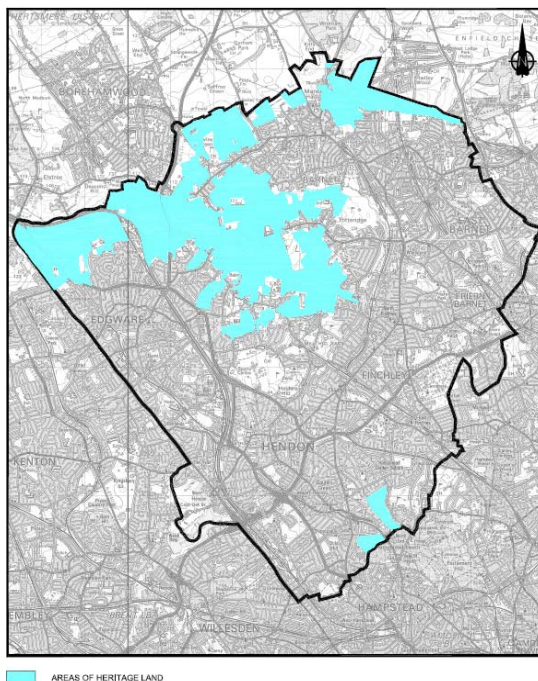
Environmental information

Landscape and townscape

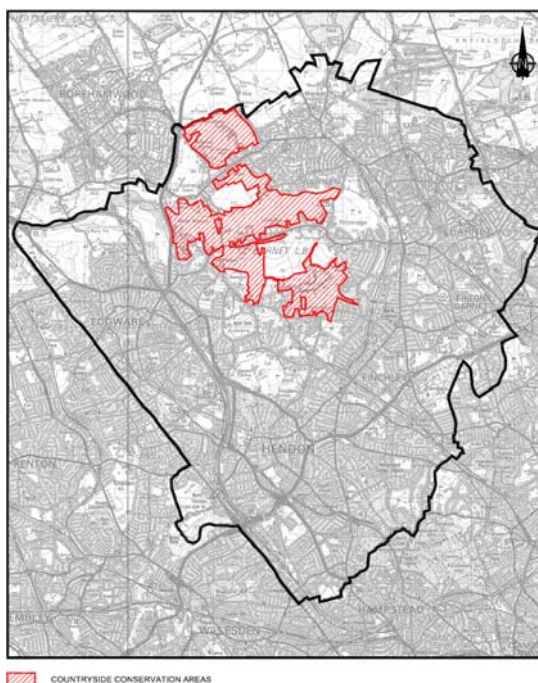
- 4.36 Barnet is a classic suburban borough of exceptional quality. The council's *Three Strands Approach* to regeneration and development within the borough emphasises the importance of protecting the green belt and open space and protecting and enhancing the best of Barnet's suburbia.
- 4.37 The 2,466 hectares of green belt and 690 hectares of metropolitan open land lie mainly in the northern and central part of the borough but this is augmented by a network of metropolitan, district and local parks. MOL forms London's 'Green Chain' of related open space and linking footpaths, bridle ways and riverside walks. Barnet's extensive open areas of heritage land and countryside conservation overlap the designation of MOL and green belt. Maps 5 and 6 show the boundaries of heritage land and countryside conservation areas in the Borough.
- 4.38 The green and open character of the borough is further enhanced by open spaces and trees found in allotments, playing fields and private gardens. The open environment provides a range of habitats for plants and animals and certain areas are of particular importance, including five local nature reserves and a number of other sites of metropolitan and borough interest, including woodland, cemeteries, pasture and railway land.
- 4.39 Barnet has over 200 parks, 16 of which are 'premier parks', meaning that they are exemplar parks which are attractive, accessible and well maintained. There is a premier park within one mile of the majority of homes in the borough. Four of Barnet's parks have received Green Flag awards: Hendon Park, Mill Hill Park, Oak Hill Park and Old Courthouse Recreation Ground.

- 4.40 The Green Flag award is a national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales. Winning the award identifies the site as a high-quality green space.

Map 5: Heritage land in Barnet



Map 6: Countryside conservation areas in Barnet



Ecology and biodiversity

- 4.41 There are no Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) or Special Protection Area (SPA) within Barnet. Within the North London area, Epping Forest is the only SAC. However in

accordance with the Habitats Regulations (as outlined in article 6(3) and (4) or the European Communities (1992) Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora ('Habitats Directive') a screening assessment will be conducted to assess the likely impacts of the emerging planning policies on the integrity of Natura 2000 sites. A precautionary approach will be undertaken to determine whether the plan will have a significant impact on any European designated sites.

- 4.42 There are no Ramsar Sites in Barnet (the Lee Valley Ramsar Site is the only one within the North London area). A Ramsar site is an internationally-important wetland site which is designated under the International Convention on Wetlands of International Importance.
- 4.43 A Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is a statutory designated site and intended to conserve the country's most spectacular habitats including "large wetlands teeming with waders and waterfowl, winding chalk rivers, gorse and heather-clad heathlands, flower-rich meadows, windswept shingle beaches and remote uplands, moorland and peat bog". Barnet has two SSSIs, Hampstead Heath and Brent Reservoir.
- 4.44 Watling Chase Community Forest is one of twelve Community Forests designated in England, as part of a joint initiative run by the Natural England, the Forestry Commission and local authorities. The Forest area covers 72 square miles and is situated in the northern part of the borough, extending into South Hertfordshire.
- 4.45 There are 68 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation and seven Local Nature Reserves within Barnet.

Table 4: Sites of importance for nature conservation in Barnet

Sites of Metropolitan Importance:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brent Reservoir (or the Welsh Harp) (SSSI) Arrandene Open Space & Featherstone Hill Hadley Green Hampstead Heath 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edgware Way Rough Mill Hill Substation Pastures Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill Scratchwood (Local Nature Reserve) Rowley Green Common (Local Nature Reserve)
Sites of Borough Importance:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glebeland Pastures Glebelands (Local Nature Reserve) Monken Hadley Common Oak Hill Woods (Local Nature Reserve) Folly Brook and Darlands Lake (Nature Reserve) The Upper Dollis Brook Totteridge Croft Field (or Dell's Down Acre) Mill Hill Golf Course Big Wood and Little Wood (Local Nature Reserve) Coppett's Wood & Scrubland (Local Nature Reserve) Sulloniacis Pastures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copthall Railway Walk and Copthall Old Common Totteridge Common Drivers Hill Ashley Lane Burtonhole Lane and Pasture Totteridge Green King George's Field Lower Dollis Brook Turners Wood North Middlesex Golf Course Ponds St Pancras and Islington Cemetery Pymmes Brook New Southgate Cemetery Arkley Lane and Pastures

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mill Hill Old Railway (Nature Reserve) • Deans Brook • Moat Mount (Local Nature Reserve) • The Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook Farm • Mote End Farm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rowley Lodge Field • Northern Line Railway Embankment, High Barnet • Arkley South Fields • Edwarebury Brook • The Mill Field • Bruno's Field
<p>Sites of Local Importance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clay Lane • Sunny Hill Park • Bell's Hill Burial Ground • Avenue House Grounds • The Mutton Brook • Friary Park • Cherry Tree Wood • Prince's Park • Lakeside Nature Reserve • Edwarebury Park • Barfields Allotments Nature Park • Cophall South Fields • Grahame Park • East Finchley Cemetery • Barnet Countryside Centre • Greenhill Gardens • Clitterhouse Recreation Ground • Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting • Hendon Park & Northern Line Rail Cutting • College Farm • Woodridge School Nature Reserve • Clarefield Park • Belmont Open Space, Cockfosters 	

4.46 Barnet has seven local nature reserves and four London Wildlife Trust nature reserves:

- Local nature reserves:
 - » Big Wood and Little Wood
 - » Coppetts Wood and Scrublands
 - » Oak Hill Wood
 - » Rowley Green Common
 - » Scratchwood
 - » Glebelands
 - » Moat Mount
- London Wildlife Trust nature reserves:
 - » Mill Hill Old Railway
 - » Oakhill Wood
 - » Rowley Green Common
 - » Totteridge Fields

Environmental resources

4.47 The environmental resources within the borough relate to the use, conservation and quality of energy, waste, water, air and land. Almost all energy used in the borough for light, heat and movement is derived from fossil fuels. Each resident of Barnet produces around 431kg of waste every year, which means that each person generates about seven times their body weight in rubbish. The total amount of municipal waste produced in Barnet is 174,817 tonnes

a year. In the past the majority of this waste was disposed of in landfill sites outside the borough but waste is now considered to be a resource and each week the council collects around 3,000 tonnes of waste from over 135,000 households. Barnet is responsible for the collection of the municipal solid waste in the borough and the North London Waste Authority (NLWA) is responsible for the treatment and disposal of waste collected by seven North London boroughs.

- 4.48 Water quality in the borough's water courses has improved according to Environment Agency surveys but demand for water is increasing. To inform this sustainability appraisal, a strategic flood risk assessment (SFRA) will be carried out in accordance with PPS25. This aims to ensure flood risk is properly taken into account at all stages in the planning process; prevent inappropriate development in areas at high risk of flooding and direct development away from areas at highest risk.
- 4.49 Air pollution is damaging to health affecting both cardiovascular and respiratory diseases. It is estimated that in London, there are an accelerated 1,600 deaths and 1,500 respiratory hospital admissions as a result of air pollution. The quality of air in Barnet is monitored and the highest levels of air pollution are found close to the major traffic routes including the A1/M1/A412/A5 corridors, the A406 corridor and at High Barnet. In the UK, since 1997, local authorities have been required to assess and review air quality in their borough in order to help them achieve compliancy with national air quality targets. If these targets are unlikely to be met in any part of the borough, this area must be declared as an air quality management area (AQMA). The entire borough of Barnet has been declared as an AQMA.
- 4.50 Land contamination is likely on some sites of former industrial and commercial activity, particularly within the Cricklewood railway lands.

Topography and geology

- 4.51 Barnet lies on the northern edge of Thames valley basin. The topography is generally undulating, tending to slope downwards towards the Thames Valley to the south. The valleys of the Silk Stream and Dollis Brook cut through the western part of the borough, converging towards the Brent valley at Brent Reservoir, whilst Pymme's Brook flows through the eastern part from Monken Hadley Common to Southgate. In the north of the borough, the land rises quite sharply towards a chain of rounded hills, which stretch from Moat Mount, Mill Hill and Highwood Hill in the west, to High Barnet and Monken Hadley in the north east. The highest points are Woodcock Hill (near Scratchwood) at 137 metres, Highwood Hill at 135 metres, Moat Mount at 140 metres and Hadley Green at 120m metres above sea level. The lowest point in the Borough is in the south-west corner at Brent Reservoir, at about 40 metres above sea level.
- 4.52 Most of the Borough lies over London clay. London clay, which lies up to 132 metres thick under the city, tends to be associated with a landscape of gentle contours. It weathers to a slightly acidic, heavy clay soil. The soil is hard to dig and slow to warm up in spring.

Heritage

- 4.53 There are 18 conservation areas and over 1,300 nationally listed buildings, as well as many locally listed buildings, historic parks and gardens and one nationally important battlefield site. The Hampstead Garden Suburb is of world renown but other conservation areas in the borough also contribute to the high quality of the built environment.
- 4.54 High Barnet is known for its market, which has existed in various forms and at numerous locations since at least the 12th century. There may well have been a livestock market at

High Barnet before the granting of the charter by King John in August 1199. The old market was originally located where Wood Street divides from the High Street.

- 4.55 English Heritage manages a register of parks and gardens of special historic interest in England. Barnet has five historic parks and gardens, these include Hampstead Cemetery, Avenue House Grounds, East Finchley Cemetery (St Marylebone Cemetery), St Pancras and Islington Cemetery and Golders Green Crematorium. Although these Grade II listed parks and gardens are not statutorily protected at present, local planning authorities do have to take them into account as a material consideration.
- 4.56 There are several heritage plaques in Barnet which commemorate the houses of famous residents. Famous residents who lived in Barnet include Olympic athlete Harold Abrahams, social reformer and founder of Hampstead Garden Suburb Dame Henrietta Barnett, football manager Herbert Chapman and world championship racing driver Graham Hill.

Culture and recreation

- 4.57 Barnet has a variety of visitor attractions such as the RAF Museum in Hendon, College Farm and Avenue House in Finchley, Church Farm House Museum in Hendon, the Museum of Jewish Life in Finchley and the Arts Depot in North Finchley. In addition to these, visitors are also attracted by facilities not developed specifically for tourists, for example, shopping facilities, sports centres, arts and cultural facilities and areas of open countryside in the borough. Brent Cross Shopping Centre, in particular, attracts visitors from overseas as well as other parts of London and Britain.

The London Olympics 2012

- 4.58 London has been chosen to host the 2012 Olympic Games. The main Olympic and Paralympic park is to be located in the Lower Lea Valley, which straddles four London boroughs. Although Barnet is not one of the boroughs, sport facilities including Copthall Sport Centre will be used as practice facilities in preparation for the Games.

Sustainable development

- 4.59 Barnet's innovative *Sustainable Design and Construction* Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), adopted in June 2007, is a response to the need to minimise and optimise Barnet's consumption of natural resources and the need to reduce society's emissions of carbon dioxide across the capital. The key aim of the SPD is to maintain and improve the quality of the borough whilst ensuring that there will be sufficient resources to meet the needs of future generations in Barnet. To do this, Barnet understands the importance of protecting environmental resources and avoiding any potential adverse environmental impacts arising from development.

Baseline information gaps

- 4.60 The process of collecting and analysing baseline information has revealed a number of gaps, which we plan to address.
- 4.61 This Scoping Report will be updated in due course when the data listed in the table below is forthcoming.

Gap	When
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	Due 2008
Barnet Town Centres (Retail and Other Uses) Study (PPS6)	Due 2008
Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment of needs and opportunities (PPG17)	Commissioned 2008
Habitat Impact Assessment	Due 2008
Employment Land Review (PPG4)	Due 2008
Biodiversity Evidence	Barnet is a new partner of Greenspace Information for Greater London (GIGL) and has access to up to date information about wildlife and open spaces in the borough.
Strategic Housing Market Assessment	Due 2010 (North London Sub-Region)
Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment	Due 2010 (GLA)
Joint Strategic Needs Health Assessment	Due 2009

The Likely Evolution of Some Key Trends without Implementation of the Development Plan Documents

- 4.62 The diagram below illustrates how some of the key trends in the Borough may evolve in the absence of the development plan documents.

	What's the situation now?	What's the likely situation in the future without the plan? (2016)
Affordability (affordable dwellings completed as a % of all new housing completions)	29.5 % (2005/06)	- likely to have decreased
Barnet Town Centre Vacancies (% of vacant units within regional, district and major town centres)	7 % (2006/07)	+ likely to have increased
Employment (B1/B2 floor space lost to residential use in hectares)	0.66 ha (2006/07)	+ likely to have increased
Sustainable Transport (% of the resident population who travel to work by public transport)	37 % (2001))	- likely to have decreased

	What's the situation now?	What's the likely situation in the future without the plan? (2026)
CO₂ Emissions per Household in Barnet (Average tonnes per household)	6.11 Tonnes (2007)	+ likely to have increased
Housing Stock (% of dwellings with 5 or more habitable rooms (excluding bathrooms))	57 % (2001)	- likely to have decreased
Employability (%16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training) (NEET)	4.6% (Nov-Jan 08)	+ likely to have increased

5 Site Appraisal Methodology

- 5.1 In order to carry out a comprehensive site evaluation a site appraisal proforma has been designed that can be completed for each site put forward. In this way Barnet will ensure that all the sites put forward are evaluated on a consistent basis. The criteria in the proforma also include sustainability criteria and completion of the proforma will obviate the need for a separate Sustainability Appraisal of the site in question. The proforma may be revised in the light of experience in using it or with respect to changes in regional and national policy.
- 5.2 The site appraisal proforma below provides the basis for evaluating potential sites put forward for the Site Allocations Development Plan Document in Barnet on a consistent basis. The proforma includes a range of sustainability criteria which test the suitability of the site in relation to economic, community and environmental objectives. The proforma includes Three types of criteria:
- **Exclusionary Criteria** - are factors focused on where sites should not be allocated, e.g. in flood risk areas.
 - **Discretionary Criteria** - refer to factors which may influence whether or not a site is allocated or what conditions are attached to its development.
 - **Deliverability Criteria** - which explore the likelihood of the site being realistically brought into use.

INTRODUCTION	
Site Name/Address:	Map(s)
Site Reference Number or Planning Application Number:	
Location:	
Description of Site:	
Description of Surrounding Uses:	
OS Grid Reference:	Photo(s)
Size (ha):	
Date of Appraisal:	
Appraised by:	
Source of site suggestion:	
Proposed Use:	

EXCLUSIONARY CRITERIA	
Is the site in proximity to a site or building with a nationally recognised designation (e.g. Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings and Registered Parks and Gardens)?	Yes/No
Is the site within zones 2 or 3 of the floodplain or in an area with a history of groundwater flooding?	Yes/No
Does the site have public footpaths and rights of way?	Yes/No
Is the site in proximity to areas designated to be of local nature conservation importance?	Yes/No/Possibly – needs investigation
Is the site in proximity to a Site(s) of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)?	Yes/No
Is the site in proximity to woodlands including ancient woodlands?	Yes/No
Is the site home to protected species and / or habitats?	Yes/No
Is the site located in the Green Belt?	Yes/No
Should the site be taken forward for further consideration?	Yes/No

DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA	
Is the site in proximity to a Conservation Area(s)?	Yes/No
Is there adequate infrastructure in place in order for development to take place?	Yes/No
Is the site located in an area of major new developments (e.g. Colindale, Mill Hill East, Cricklewood/Brent Cross etc)?	Yes/No
Is the site previously developed land?	Yes/No/Possibly – needs investigation
Is the site in proximity to archaeological sites or remains?	Yes/No/Possibly – needs investigation
DELIVERABILITY CRITERIA	
Are there any potential land use conflicts (eg heavy Industrial use etc)?	
Are there any issues of land ownership that could prevent development on the site being delivered?	
Does the planning history of the site caution against its allocation?	
CONCLUSIONS	

POTENTIAL USES		
DEVELOPMENT TYPE	BROAD SUITABILITY	COMMENTS
A		
B		
C		
D		

5.3 It should be noted that the various criteria will not be weighted; however, the failure of a site to pass the Exclusionary Criteria may mean that it is discounted from further consideration.

6 Identifying sustainability issues and problems

- 6.1 As part of the sustainability appraisal it is necessary to identify the key sustainability issues facing the borough. The issues have been identified from a number of sources.
- 6.2 The issues have been set out under the headings of economic, environmental and social. There are of course issues that cut across more than one category identified. To avoid duplication the cross cutting issues have been limited to one category.
- 6.3 The detailed issues or problems that need addressing in the Local Development Framework are:
- **Economic Issues**
 - » unemployment and job opportunities for local people – In the financial year 2006/07 the percentage of people in employment in Barnet was 71.2%, which is slightly higher than the percentage for London. Projections suggest that the population of Barnet will reach 367,400 by 2021. We need to ensure the protection of current employment stock against pressure to redevelop this land for higher value development.
 - » poor transport infrastructure and ease of movement – parts of the borough suffer from poor transport accessibility especially in Mill Hill, High Barnet and East Barnet. This will help reduce the number of vehicles on the road.
 - » the conflict between opposing land uses, in particular balancing housing needs with the protection of employment land and open space – Barnet hosts a range of employment land, but this is declining. Given the high land value associated with housing in Barnet there is pressure to redevelop employment land for residential use. Therefore, employment land needs to be safeguarded to avoid excessive commuting for workers and problems of unemployment.
 - » the need to support development in existing centres and ensure the health of town centres – in accordance with Barnet's Three Strands Approach, intensified mixed development is likely to take place in town centres, whilst protecting and maintaining the more rural areas of the borough.
 - **Environmental Issues**
 - » poor air quality – car ownership within Barnet is relatively high. Improved public transport and cycling facilities could help to mitigate this issue. The highest levels of air pollution are found close to the major traffic routes including the A1/M1/A41/A5 corridors, the A406 corridor and at High Barnet.
 - » energy use and energy efficiency – almost all the energy used in the borough for light, heat and movement is derived from fossil fuels. The 2001 census revealed that over 59,000 Barnet residents chose to drive to work.
 - » quality of and access to open spaces and parks - Barnet has a green and open character. It benefits from having 2,466 hectares of green belt, 690 hectares of metropolitan open space and over 200 parks – 16 of which are 'premier parks'. With expected growth of the population at 12% over 15 years there may be pressure to carry out development on greenfield sites. We also need to ensure greater access to those areas that are lacking in good quality open spaces.
 - » need to minimise waste arisings and deal with waste locally and in sustainable manner – need to increase waste recycling in order to reach more sustainable levels.

New major developments will provide opportunities to implement better recycling facilities.

- » pressure on biodiversity and habitats – There are 7 local nature reserves and 68 sites of Importance for Nature Conservation within the borough. With the amount of redevelopment taking place these areas may need greater protection from neighbouring developments.
 - » water quality and pollution – According to the Environment Agency’s surveys, water quality in the borough’s water courses has improved. This improvement needs to be sustained.
 - » flood risk and managing surface water run off through the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems – Barnet lies within the Brent River catchment which flows into the Thames at Brentford. There are over 14,000 meters of water courses in the Borough. Strategic flood risk assessment will allow us to apply sequential testing whereby we can avoid development in areas with high risk of flooding.
 - » the need to preserve and enhance built heritage and historic and archaeological environment against pressures of redevelopment – there will be a greater need to protect the 18 conservation areas and 1,300 nationally listed buildings in the borough with the expected growth in population. Conservation of the historic environment is so important because these areas and buildings are an integral part of the borough’s heritage and development.
 - » noise nuisance and vibration – some adjacent uses such as housing and employment land can pose difficulties in terms of their compatibility. This can lead to complaints regarding noise pollution. The number of complaints received by Environmental Health Officers each year is increasing significantly. In 1991 Environmental Health Officers in London received 3,644 complaints regarding noise nuisance. This figure had increased considerably to 7,670 in 2001/02.
- Social Issues
 - » deprivation and social exclusion – Between 2001 and 2004 statistics revealed that deprivation in Barnet had increased. In 2007 new statistics revealed that this trend is continuing. This data released in December 2007 shows that Barnet just comes within the 36% most deprived local authority areas in the country.
 - » health inequalities and access to facilities – expected population growth within the borough will lead to a demand for greater access to health provision.
 - » housing to meet the needs of a diverse community – the borough contains high quality residential areas. Over 60% of the borough live in houses or bungalows. The housing stock will change significantly in the coming years with a greater demand for affordable homes. It is anticipated that the strategic growth areas of Barnet will provide much of these housing needs within sustainable communities.
 - » crime and fear of crime – have significant effects on the quality of people’s lives in the borough.
 - » access to essential infrastructure and services – increasing population will mean increased pressure on community facilities. There will be a greater need for the efficient distribution of goods and services.
 - » educational attainment and access to facilities – we need to provide sufficient quality education and skill improvement facilities within the borough for all age groups.
 - » reduce inequalities in areas of highest deprivation – highest deprivation exists in the western part of the borough. Much redevelopment is taking place here giving us the opportunity to address issues of inequality and deprivation.

7 Developing the sustainability appraisal framework

Identification of the sustainability objectives

- 7.1 The establishment of SA objectives and criteria is central to the SA process. The SA framework, based on these objectives, provides a way in which sustainability effects can be described, assessed and compared. Sustainability objectives will be distinct from those of the DPDs, but in some cases may overlap.
- 7.2 The sustainability objectives have been grouped under the government's four themes of sustainable development, as identified in Section 1.
- **Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment** – The UK objective ensures that everyone can share in high living standards and greater job opportunities. It ensures that we develop a workforce that is equipped with the education and skills for the 21st century, and find business ready to invest and an infrastructure to support them. The objectives are:
 - » to encourage sustained economic growth
 - » to offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment
 - » to encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment
 - » to reduce disparities in economic performance and promote regeneration.
 - **Effective protection of the environment** – The UK objective ensures that we act to limit global environment threats, such as climate change; protect human health and safety from hazards such as poor air quality and toxic chemicals; and protect things which people need or value, such as wildlife, landscapes and historic buildings. The objectives are:
 - » to reduce the effect of traffic on the environment
 - » to maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes
 - » to conserve and enhance the borough's existing biodiversity and seek to increase where possible
 - » to reduce the risk of flooding for people and property
 - » to improve air quality
 - » to conserve and where appropriate, enhance the historic environment and cultural assets.
 - **Prudent use of natural resources** – The UK objectives ensures that we do not deny ourselves the use of non-renewable resources like oil and gases, but makes sure we use them efficiently and that alternatives are developed to replace them in due course. Renewable resources, such as water, should be used in ways that do not endanger the resource or cause serious damage or pollution. The objectives are:
 - » to achieve sustainable management of waste
 - » to reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change
 - » to increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources

- » to encourage sustainable use of land.
- **Social progress which meets the needs of everyone** – The UK objective ensures that everyone should share in the benefits of increased prosperity and a clean and safe environment, through improvement of access to services, tackling social exclusion and reducing the harm to health caused by poverty, poor housing, unemployment and pollution. The objectives are:
 - » to improve the health of the population
 - » to improve the education and skills of the population
 - » to provide the population with the opportunity to live in a decent affordable home
 - » to provide good quality surroundings for all
 - » to reduce crime and the fear of crime
 - » to improve accessibility for all to services and facilities
 - » to encourage a sense of community; identity and welfare.

Monitoring

- 7.3 In order to undertake a sustainability appraisal it is necessary to identify the indicators by which the successes of the LDF can be measured and monitored. The table below sets out the sustainability objectives and the criteria, providing a way in which the sustainability effects can be described, assessed and compared. The detailed criteria may be modified through the SA process to reflect the particular needs and issues identified by each development plan document.

Objective	Sub-Objectives – Will the Policy.....?
Economic	
To encourage sustained economic growth and contribute to economic prosperity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve business development • Enhance the image of the area as a business location • Improve the health of Barnet's town centres • Increase economic activity
To offer the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help reduce unemployment, in particular in the wards of the borough where it is the highest • Promote flexible forms of working
To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage indigenous business • Encourage inward investment • Make land and property available for business development
To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote regeneration; reducing disparity with surrounding areas
Environmental	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the use of calming measure to reduce traffic volume • Increase the proportion of journeys using modes other than the car • Encourage walking or cycling • Reduce the need to travel • Improve access to public transport
To maintain and enhance the quality of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the landscape and ecological quality and character of open spaces

Objective	Sub-Objectives – Will the Policy.....?
landscapes, townscapes and local distinctiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise visual intrusion and protect views Help to preserve and record archaeological features
To conserve and enhance the borough's existing biodiversity and seek to increase where possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the protection and enhancement of the Special Areas of Conservation Protect and enhance the borough's Sites of Special Scientific Interest and Sites of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation Encourage protection and enhancement of and increase number of tree Conserve and enhance species diversity; and in particular avoid harm to protected species Encourage the use of green roofs, landscaping or open space to improve biodiversity.
To reduce the risk of flooding for people and property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise the risk of flooding from rivers and watercourses to people and property Reduce surface water run-off and promote the use of sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) Take a sequential approach to the location of new development away from areas at highest risk of flooding
To improve air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve air quality Achieve the objectives of the Air Quality Management Plan Contribute to a reduction in the levels of NO2 and PM10 in the borough.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect and enhance conservation areas and other sites, features and areas of historic and cultural value. Protect listed buildings and historic parks and garden Help preserve and record archaeological features Maintain and strengthen local distinctiveness and sense of place
To achieve sustainable management of waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the re-use of materials Increase rates of recycling and composting, or recovery of energy from waste Reduce hazardous waste Reduce waste in the construction industry
To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit emissions of greenhouse gases Ensure that the borough is prepared for the impacts of climate change
To increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead to an increased proportion of energy needs being met from renewable energy sources Increase energy efficiency in the Borough's housing stock
To encourage sustainable use of land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise development on Greenfield sites Ensure that where possible; new development occurs on derelict, vacant and underused previously developed land and buildings Ensure land is remediated as appropriate
To achieve sustainable water resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the quality and quantity of water in Barnet Reduce the demand for water

Objective	Sub-Objectives – Will the Policy.....?
management	
Social	
To improve the health of Barnet's population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in tackling health inequalities in the borough • Improve access to health services, in particular to a GP • Encourage healthy lifestyles and provide opportunities for sport and recreation • Promote access to healthy eating
To improve the education and skills of the population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the exam performance of pupils in Barnet's schools • Reduce the number of adults with no qualifications • Help fill the skills gap • Promote high quality, multi purpose educational facilities
To provide Barnet's population with the opportunity to live in a decent affordable home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase access to good quality and affordable housing • Encourage mixed use and range of housing type and tenure • Reduce the number of unfit homes • Reduce homelessness
To provide good quality surroundings for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live • Improve residential amenity and sense of place
To reduce crime and the fear of crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce anti social behaviour by designing out crime • Reduce the fear of crime
To improve accessibility for all to services and facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access to key community services • Improve the level of investment in key community services • Improve access to green and open spaces • Improve access to public transport
To encourage a sense of community; identity and welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage engagement in community activities • Foster a sense of pride in an area • Improve community cohesion • Encourage people to respect and value their contribution to society • Increase the ability of people to influence decisions

8 Compatibility of sustainability objectives

8.1 This section tests the sustainability objectives identified in this report against each other as required by the SEA Directive. There may be tensions between objectives that cannot be resolved; the compatibility assessment should clarify these so that subsequent decisions are well informed and mitigated or alternatives can be considered.

8.2 The following matrix tests the 22 objectives against each other.

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

✓	Compatible
X	Incompatible
O	No link
?	Uncertain

8.3 Objectives:

1. To encourage sustained economic growth and promote economic prosperity.
2. To offer the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment.
3. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment.
4. To reduce disparities in economic performance and promote regeneration.
5. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment.
6. To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes.
7. To conserve and enhance the borough's existing biodiversity and seek to increase where possible.
8. To reduce the risk of flooding for people and property.
9. To improve air quality.

10. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural assets.
11. To achieve sustainable management of waste.
12. To reduce contributions to climate change and reduce vulnerability to climate change.
13. To increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources.
14. To encourage sustainable use of land.
15. To achieve sustainable water resources management.
16. To improve the Health of Barnet's population.
17. To improve the education and skills of the population.
18. To provide Barnet's population with the opportunity to live in a decent affordable home.
19. To provide good quality surroundings for all.
20. To reduce crime and the fear of crime.
21. To improve accessibility for all to services and facilities.
22. To encourage a sense of community; identity and welfare.

9 Consulting on the scope

- 9.1 It is required by the *Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive*, that the scoping report should be referred to the three consultation bodies with environmental responsibilities:
- English Heritage
 - Environment Agency
 - Natural England.
- 9.2 The council is keen to ensure the widest possible consultation takes place and to ensure that the SA will be comprehensive and robust enough to support the relevant DPD during consultation. It is therefore desirable for other bodies with social and economic responsibilities to be consulted, as the council considers appropriate. It is a requirement that all consultees be given five weeks to respond to the scoping report.
- 9.3 At this stage there is no legislative requirement to consult the public. The scoping report is to be sent to the following list of bodies:
- Three statutory SEA consultation bodies:
 - » English Heritage
 - » Environment Agency
 - » Natural England.
 - Local authorities:
 - » London Borough of Camden
 - » London Borough of Harrow
 - » London Borough of Brent
 - » London Borough of Enfield
 - » London Borough of Haringey
 - » Hertsmere Borough Council.
 - Additional organisations:
 - » Government Office for London
 - » Greater London Authority.
 - Local organisations:
 - » Local organisations who have expressed an interest in sustainability issues as part of the consultation on the *Statement of Community Involvement* process.
 - Internal circulation:
 - » Representatives with expertise in air quality management, waste, community safety, biodiversity and contaminated land.
- 9.4 To guide the consultees through the scoping report, a list of specific questions have been set out in Section 1.

Next stage

- 9.5 Sustainability appraisals are completed alongside the preparation of the DPDs and the council consider responses received to this scoping report. The emerging issues and options for the DPDs will be accompanied by this sustainability appraisal report and the next sustainability appraisal commentary. The emerging DPDs will be tested against this SA framework before the next stage of consultation on the plan options proceeds.

Appendix 1 – Detailed baseline information

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
Deprivation						
Multiple Deprivation	2007 IMD Scores	2007 London Borough of Barnet ranked 128 th most deprived local authority out of 354 in England and Wales (where 1 is the most deprived).		Lower ranking at next index	Address deprivation in all its forms	Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2007 (DCLG)
Employment						
Average Income	Average Gross and Median Income	Barnet gross income: £39,000 Barnet household median Income: £33,000		London gross: £37,000 London median: £31,000	Support growth in local jobs	CACI Published in 'Barnet Housing' Feb 2006
Income	Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007	Barnet Rank of Income Scale = 38 out of 354	Barnet Ranked 47 in 2004	Lower ranking at next Index	Take advantage of development opportunities	ONS
Economic Activity	% of working age population claiming Job Seekers Allowance	1.8% Claimant Count May 2008	Rate has not exceeded 3.0% since 1999 2.0% Claimant Count August 2007	London (2.6%) May 2008 Maintain and improve Barnet's rank amongst London boroughs	Take advantage of development opportunities	ONS

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
Economic Activity	% economically active who are disabled	Barnet: 10.67%	2004/05:17.6% 2005/06: 18%	Top England Councils 2004/05 75% Target: 26% by 2008	Provide access to employment for disabled people and other parts of the community	BVPI 2006/07
Economic Activity	Households with no Adult in Paid Employment	Barnet: 17.7%	Expected increase: 18.2%	Greater London 25.5%		GLA predictions and 2001 Census
Economic Activity	% of unemployed people claiming Job Seekers Allowance who have been out of work for more than a year	12.1% Claimant Count May 2008	Trend has been downwards since 1996.	London (15.4%) Maintain and improve Barnet's rank amongst London boroughs	Take advantage of development opportunities and ensure that employment opportunities are accessible locally	ONS
Economic Activity	% of 16-18 year olds not in Employment, Education or training (NEET)	Nov-Jan 2008: 4.6%	Jan 2006: 5.9% Jan 2007: 4.5%		Reduce the NEET figure	Barnet's Corporate Plan NI 117
Employment	% of Total Working Population in Barnet in Employment	72.4% Oct 2006 – Sept 2007			London 69.8%	NOMIS
Population characteristics						

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
Population size	Population count in Barnet	2006 Mid Year Estimate: 328,600	Due to reach over 360,000 by 2016		Provide adequate housing, jobs and services to accommodate predicted growth	ONS
Population Age Structure	Projected Age group sizes 2007	Under 20 -24.6% 20-59 - 57.1% Above 60 - 18.23%	Largest predicted growth in 60+ group		Ensure that the needs of Barnet's large young age groups, and prepare for needs of older age groups	ONS Projected Age Group Sizes 2007 published in Barnet AMR December 2007
Population Density	Number of people per hectare	Projected population 2007 – 332,400 Density – 38.32		London: 45.62	Ensure that high population density does not detract from quality of life – dwelling sizes, provision of facilities and services	ONS 2007 Projections. Published in Barnet AMR 2007.
Ethnic Composition	Ethnic group size GLA Estimate 2007	Barnet: 70% white BME groups: Indian: 9% Black African 5%		London: 71% White BME groups Indian: 6% Black African: 5.2%	Take into account the particular needs of ethnic minorities	GLA Estimate 2007
Education, skills and qualifications						

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
Educational Attainment – Key Stages	% achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2 (Threshold) (NI 73)	2007/08 77%		London borough average	Continue increase in educational achievement at Key Stages	NI 73 published in Barnet Corporate Plan
Educational Attainment - GCSE	% pupils achieving 5 or more GCSEs at A*-C or equivalent	2006/07 - 89.8%	2005/6 - 63.1%	London borough average	Continue increase in educational achievement at GCSE	Community Strategy, BVPI 38
Educational Attainment	% population – NVQ level 4 (degree and above) and above	Jan – Dec 2006: 37.1%		London: 34.6%	Continue increase in educational achievement at further education level	ONS Annual Population Survey NOMIS
Educational Attainment - NVQ	Number of adults achieving a.) full level 2 NVQ or equivalent) b.) full level 3 (NVQ or equivalent)	2005/06: a. 473 b. 430		Target for 2006/7: a. 822 b. 537	Promote adult learning	BVPI
Quality of Life - Education	% of residents who feel that education provision in Barnet has got worse in last 3 years	BVPI General Survey 2003/04 27%		London Average 21% Target: Reduce % dissatisfied with local education provision	Ensure accessibility to educational facilities and resources. Promote learning.	BVPI

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
Local economy and business						
Business growth	% change in VAT registrations in Barnet 2006	Barnet registrations: 10% Barnet deregistrations 11.4% Total stock: 14,870		London registrations: 11.3% London deregistrations: 8.9%	Provide conditions for business growth	Nomis
Local Economic Structure	% employed in a) wholesale retail and trade b) real estate, renting and business activities	Barnet: a) 16.59 b) 21.48		London: a)14.41 b) 20.28	Ensure access to greater diversity of job opportunities	ONS Census 2001
Occupation structure	% employed in a) managerial positions b) professional occupations c) elementary occupations	Barnet: a)18 b)23.9 c)7.2		London: a)18 b)16.7 c) 8.9	Ensure local accessibility to high level jobs.	ONS Oct 2006 – Sept 2007
Employment Space	B1/B2 floor space lost to residential use in hectares (ha)	2006/07 0.66 ha				Barnet AMR Dec 2007
Employability	16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET)	NI 117 Nov-Jan 08: 4.6%	Jan 07: 4.5%			London Borough of Barnet Corporate Plan 2008/9- 2011/12 NI 117
Town Centre Vacancies	% of vacant retail units within regional,	2007: 7%	2006: 6.7%			Retail Survey for Barnet carried out by Experian

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
	district and major town centres.					2007. In-house survey 2006.
Community cohesion and engagement						
Community Cohesion	% of residents that feel strongly that they belong to their neighbourhood	2003/04: 74%			Ensure that community benefits from new development	BVPI General Survey 2003/04
Community Cohesion	% of residents that agree that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together	2005/06 85%	Improved from 66% in 2003/4	86% in 2006/7	Ensure that all sectors of community have opportunity to benefit from new development	BVPI
Community Engagement	Percentage of adults who feel a) very involved b) fairly involved in decisions affecting their local area	a) 1% b) 15% 2007/08		a) 2% b) 12% 2006/7	Involve community in decision making	Annual Resident's Survey 2007/08
Health and quality of life						
Life Expectancy	Average Life Expectancy in Barnet (years)	Men - 79 Women – 83.4		England: Men – 77.32 Women – 81.55	Maintain high quality of life standards across the borough	ONS Jan 2004 – Dec 2006
Quality of Life (Health Services)	% of residents who feel that health services in Barnet	2003/04: 35%		London Average 32% Reduce %	Provision off accessible health care	BVPI General Survey 2003/04

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
	have got worse in last 3 years			dissatisfied with local health services	facilities that meet demand	
Quality of life (Health Services)	GP Services Access to a GP within 2 days	2005/6: 100%	Increase from 87% in March 2005	Maintain at 100%	Provision off accessible health care facilities that meet demand	BVPI General Survey 2005/6
Quality of Life (Cultural Services)	% users satisfied with Cultural Services • museums and galleries • arts activities and venues	2003/04 • 22% • 21%		Top London Council • 40.25% • 42.25% Target: (2006/07) • 42% • 41%	Ensure accessibility to cultural facilities. Promote learning.	BVPI 119 (c) & (d)
Sport & Leisure Facilities User Satisfaction	% users satisfied with other sports and leisure facilities	(2003/04) 39%		Top London Council 49.25% Target: 49% (2006/07)	Ensure accessibility to recreational facility. Encourage physical activity and wellbeing	BVPI 119 (a)
Library User Satisfaction	% users satisfied with Libraries	BVPI 118 (2003/04) 87%		Top London Council 89.5% Target: 88% (2006/07)	Ensure accessibility to educational facilities and resources. Promote learning.	BVPI 118 (2003/04)
Use of Temporary	% change in families	BVPI 203	2004/05		Generate	BVPI 203

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
Accommodation	in temporary accommodation	2006/2007 +13%	+11.98% Trend is upwards to reflect short term impact of Priority Estate Regeneration		additional affordable housing for families	2006
Housing						
Quality of Life - Housing	% of residents who feel that provision of affordable decent housing has got worse in last 3 years	BVPI General Survey 2003/04 60%	Trend will follow increase in house prices	London Average 60% Reduce % dissatisfied with provision of affordable decent housing	Generate additional affordable housing	BVPI
Affordable homes completions	Affordable Homes Completed	2005/6: 187		London Plan Target: 50% of all new homes in Barnet to be affordable, 212 on site by 2006/7 Move towards London Plan Target	Generate additional affordable housing	AMR
Housing tenure	Housing tenure	Owner-occupied: 67% Private rented or living rent-free: 15% Rented from LA: 10%			Increase flexibility between tenures and maximising housing choice	ONS

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
		Other social rented: 4% Other: 4%				
Housing Stock	% of dwellings with 5 or more habitable rooms (excluding bathrooms).	2001 57%				ONS
Housing affordability	Borough rank in London, according to housing affordability	Barnet is the 14 th most expensive LA in the UK, and 9 th in London			Maintain supply of affordable housing to increase affordability	Barnet Annual Monitoring Report
Homelessness	Households accepted as homeless and in priority need	10 in 2006/07,	0-10 in 2004/5	Less than 10 in 2006/7	Improve homelessness where possible	HSSA
Neighbourhood and local environment quality and biodiversity						
Local Area Improvement	% residents who consider local area has got better in the last 12 months	16% (2004/05)	Upwards compared with 12% (2003/04)		Ensure that local areas benefit from development	Barnet residents survey 2005
Neighbourhood satisfaction	% residents who are very satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live	40% very satisfied (2004/05)			Ensure that local areas benefit from development	Barnet Residents Survey 2005
Green space quantum	Hectares of green space by ward	848 ha in Barnet (2.57 ha per 1,000 population)		NPFA standard is 2.4ha per 1,000 population All residents should have	Ensure new developments avoid loss of overall open space quantum and that quality and	Barnet UDP

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
				access to a Local Park (2ha) within 400m of their home and a Small Local Park (less than 2ha) within less than 400m.	access is improved across the area.	
Green spaces users satisfaction	% residents satisfied with green spaces	72% satisfied with parks		Top London Council: 73.25%. London average = 69% Target: 77% (2006/07)	Ensure accessibility to greenspaces. Encourage physical activity and wellbeing. Ensure high maintenance standards	BVPI 119 (e) 2003/04
Quality of parks	Premier Parks meeting Green Flag standards	4 Premier Parks have Green Flag status 2006/07 Four		Premier Parks to attain Green Flag Status 7 by 2007/08 16 by 2010/11 Residents should all be within 1 mile of a premier park. Each park to be part of a 5 year improvement plan	Applications lodged Ensure accessibility to greenspaces. Encourage physical activity and wellbeing.	
Built Environment	Number of	2005/06 -18 CAs		Target: 2008/09	Improve	BVPI

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
	conservation areas in the borough			20	conservation management where applicable	
Nature Conservation	Number of SSSIs and Local Nature Reserves in the borough	1 SSSI partly in Borough (Brent Reservoir) 5 LNRs - Rowley Green, Oak Hill Woods, Scratchwood and Moat Mount, Coppetts Wood and Glebelands, and Big Wood and Little Wood.		Access to Natural Greenspace Standard suggests all residents should have access to a local wildlife habitat within 300m of their home	Maintain and protect nature reserves Ensure development has no adverse impact on Brent Reservoir and feeding watercourses such as the Silk Stream	Barnet UDP
Crime						
Perception of safety	Percentage of people who feel a.) safe at night b.) very safe at night	a) 9 b) 32 (2005-06)		Targets: a) 10 c) 33 2005/06	Improve safety	BVPI
Burglary	Burglaries per 1000 households	2004/05 20.2	3.4% increase since 2003/04	London borough average 19.2%	Reduce burglaries	BVPI 126a
Street Robbery	Robberies per 1000 population	2004/05 3.75	9.7% increase from 2003/04	London borough average 5.3 Target: 3.72 for 2006/07	Reduce Robberies	BVPI 127e
Vehicle Crime	Vehicle crimes per	2004/05 17.3	2.1% from	London borough	Continue to	BVPI 128a

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
	1000 population		2003/04	average: 19.5 Target: 15.01 for 2006/07	reduce car crime	
Road injuries	Road accident casualties – people killed or seriously injured	2005/06 172	Decrease from previous years	London average 153.3	Encourage better design to make roads safer	BVPI 99 (d)
Transport						
Resident satisfaction with public transport	% residents who feel that public transport services are excellent, very good or good	58% 2005/06 49% residents are satisfied with public transport 16% are dissatisfied	None available	60% 2006/07	Improve access to good public transport services	Community Strategy
School Travel Plans	No. of schools with a School Travel Plan	33 in 2005	8 out of 152 in 2004 (5%)	63 by 2006/7	Ensure accessibility to local educational facilities and resources. Promote learning. Encourage higher road safety standards. Encourage physical activity and wellbeing	Community Strategy
Public Transport	% residents who feel	BVPI General			Improve	BVPI General Survey

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
Services	that public transport services have got better over the last 3 years minus those who feel they have got worse	Survey 2003/04 -4%			access to good public transport services	2003/04
Travel to work mode	Travel to work journeys by mode (%)	2001: car driver /Passenger – 45% public transport - 22% by foot or cycling: 26%		Increase % of personal travel made by non car modes	Continue to encourage forms of travel other than car	Barnet LIP LATS
Sustainable Transport	% of Resident population who travel to work by public transport	2001: 37%				ONS
Waste and recycling						
Level of composting	% of waste composted	2006/07 11.55%	+4.2 from 2004/05	London borough average: 3.7% Target: 35% recycled/compost by 2007/08		BVPI 82 b)
Waste recycling	% waste recycled	2006/07 17.92%	+ 3.5 from 2004/05	London borough average: 13.7% =Target: 35% recycled/compost by 2007/08	Improve the amount of waste recycled	BVPI 82 a)
Level of recycling services	% population served by a kerbside recycling collection or	2006/07 100%	Maintained at 100%	London borough average: 88.9%	Maintain recycling record	BVPI 91

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
	within 1km of a recycling centre					
Waste generation	Waste per head (kg)	2006/07 431.64	-4 from 2005/06	London borough average 440.9 Target: 433/head by 2006/07	Continue waste per head reduction	BVPI 84
User satisfaction with waste collection and recycling	% users satisfied with a) waste collection b) recycling	2006/07 a) 80 b) 67	2003/04 a) 81% c) 62%	Top London Council a) 76.25% b) 60%	Continue high waste collection performance	BVPI General survey 2003/04
Energy Consumption						
Carbon Emissions	Average Carbon Emissions per Household 2007 in Tonnes	6.11 Tonnes per Year 2007				Energy Savings Trust
Energy efficiency	% of new homes achieving Ecohomes 'very good' or equivalent Code for Sustainable Homes Rating	100% 2005/6	No trend information available	Target: 100%	Achieve high Ecohomes standards (at least very good) or equivalent Code for Sustainable Homes	BVPI 2006
Energy efficiency	Average SAP rating of authority dwellings (energy efficiency)	68.31% 2005/6	66% in 2004/5	London average 64.6 By 2008/9 69%	Increase energy efficiency	BVPI 2006 63
Reuse of brownfield land						
Redevelopment of	% new homes built on	100%	Increased from	London average	Continue to	BVPI 2006

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
Brownfield land for residential use	previously developed land	2006/07	94% in 2004/5	97.6	utilise brownfield land and minimize new build on undeveloped land	
Flood risk						
Flood Risk	% Likelihood of an 'extreme flood in 1000 years.				Consideration of site flood zones as specified by the Environment Agency	The Environment Agency
Flood Risk	Number of planning applications granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood defence grounds or water quality	In terms of referrals on either flood defence grounds or water quality, granted contrary to advice, the council referred a total of 228 planning applications to the Environment Agency in 2005/06. The council approved 110 of these				

Issue	Indicator	Current/baseline	Trends	Comparators and Targets	Actions for DPD/SA	Information and Sources Used
		referrals, none of them were contrary to the Agency's advice.				

The contents of this document can be made available in your own language on request. For further information, please contact the Planning, Housing and Regeneration Service on 020-8359-4990 or write to the Planning Policy Team, Planning, Housing and Regeneration, Building 4, North London Business Park, Oakleigh Road South, London N11 1NP

Haddii aad la tashigaan ku rabtid luuqaddaada, fadlan u soo qor Planning Policy Team, Planning and Environmental Protection Service, Building 4, North London Business Park, Oakleigh Road South, London N11 1NP. Mahadsanid.

Bu görüşmenin kendi dilinizde yapılmasını istiyorsanız, lütfen şu adrese yazınız:

Planning Policy Team, Planning, Housing and Regeneration, Building 4, North London Business Park, Oakleigh Road South, London N11 1NP.

Teşekkür ederim.

اگر آپ کو یہ مشورہ اپنی زبان میں درکار ہو تو، براہ مہربانی اس پتے پر خط لکھیں۔ شکریہ

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আপনার যদি এই কনসালটেশন (শলা-পরামর্শ) আপনার নিজস্ব ভাষায় প্রয়োজন হয়, তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে যাকে লিখবেন তিনি হলেন

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আপনাকে ধন্যবাদ।

જો તમને આ સલાહમંત્રણ તમારી પોતાની ભાષામાં જોઈતી હોય તો, કૃપા કરી લખો: એમા ગેયડન

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اگر شما احتیاج دارید که این مشاوره را به زبان خودتان دریافت کنید، لطفاً به آدرس زیر نامه بنویسید:

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