



Local Development Plan 2032

Sustainability Appraisal
Post-Adoption Statement
September 2023

LCCC

Lisburn &
Castlereagh
City Council

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Contents

1	Introduction.....	1
1.1	Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council Local Development Plan 2032 Plan Strategy	3
1.2	The Requirement for Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment	4
1.3	Habitats Regulations Assessment.....	5
1.4	Purpose of this Post Adoption Statement	5
2	How Environmental Considerations have been Integrated into the Plan Strategy	5
3	How the SA Report Has Been Taken into Account by the Council	7
4	How Opinions Expressed During Consultation Have Been Taken into Account.....	8
4.1	Preferred Options Paper	8
4.1.1	<i>Consultation on the Interim SA and SA Scoping Report.....</i>	<i>8</i>
4.1.2	<i>Consultation on the Preferred Options Paper</i>	<i>9</i>
4.2	Draft Plan Strategy	9
4.2.1	<i>Consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal.....</i>	<i>9</i>
4.2.2	<i>Consultation on the draft Plan Strategy</i>	<i>9</i>
4.2.3	<i>Consultation on Focussed and Minor Changes and First Addendum to the draft SA Report</i>	<i>10</i>
4.3	Independent Examination and Recommendations	11
5	The Reasons for Choosing the Local Development Plan as Adopted in the Light of the Other Reasonable Alternatives Considered	12
6	Monitoring	13
	Appendix A – Summary of Options/Alternatives and the reasons for selecting/rejecting the Alternatives	14
	Appendix B – SA Monitoring Framework.....	25

List of Abbreviations

DfI	Department for Infrastructure
DPPN	Development Plan Practice Note
EAPP	Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
KSI	Key Sustainability Issue
LDP	Local Development Plan
NI	Northern Ireland
POP	Preferred Options Paper
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SUBDOC	Submissions Library Document

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council Local Development Plan 2032 Plan Strategy was adopted by the Council on 26th September 2023 following resolution by full Council. The adoption of the Plan Strategy follows the submission of the draft Plan Strategy to the Department for Infrastructure in accordance with Regulation 20 of The Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 in March 2021 and a subsequent Independent Examination which took place between March and May 2022. Following the Independent Examination, the Planning Appeals Commission concluded that, subject to recommended amendments and modifications, the draft Plan Strategy met the tests of soundness as required¹.
- 1.2 Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Local Development Plan 2032 has been carried out during each phase of Plan development by members of the Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council Local Development Plan team assisted by the Sustainable Development team from Shared Environmental Service. The SA of the Local Development Plan (LDP) Plan Strategy has been documented through a series of SA reports prepared by Shared Environmental Service and Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council.
- 1.3 All reports and documents associated with the Local Development Plan are available on the Local Development Plan section of the Council’s website, <https://www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk/resident/planning/local-development-plan>.
- 1.4 All of the SA reports are published on the Council’s website in the LDP Submissions Documents Library² and LDP Plan Strategy Documents Library. The outputs of the SA process to date are as follows:
- March 2017 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report [\[SUBDOC-048\]](#)
 - March 2017 Sustainability Appraisal Interim Report (Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment) for The Preferred Options Paper [\[SUBDOC-047\]](#)
 - October 2019 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report [\[SUBDOC-006\]](#) October 2019 Local Development Plan 2032 Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report [\[SUBDOC-005\]](#) (‘the Draft SA Report’)
 - October 2019 Local Development Plan 2032 Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report Non-Technical Summary [\[SUBDOC-007\]](#)
 - January 2021 Addendum to Sustainability Appraisal Report [\[SUBDOC-016\(a\)\]](#) (‘the First Addendum to the draft SA Report’)
 - September 2023 Addendum to the Sustainability Appraisal Report (‘the Second Addendum to the draft SA Report’)
- 1.5 The relationship of these documents to each stage of the SA is summarised in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1: Sustainability Appraisal Stages and Locations of Outputs

Stage	Description	Location
Stage A (1) Sustainability Appraisal	1. Identify other relevant policies, plans, programmes and	March 2017 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report [SUBDOC-048] , Appendix 4. Updated in the October 2019 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report [SUBDOC-006] , Chapter 5.

¹ Planning Appeals Commission (2022) Independent Examination Report of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council’s Local Development Plan 2032: Plan Strategy Report by Commissioner J de-Courcey (found at https://www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk/uploads/general/ANNEX_A_-_PAC_Report_and_Associated_Appendices.PDF [accessed 01/09/2023])

² Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council | Planning | Local Development Plan | Submission Documents Library (found at <https://www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk/resident/planning/local-development-plan/submission-of-documents-to-dfi/submission-documents-library> [accessed 01/09/2023]).

Stage	Description	Location	
Scoping Report	Sustainability Objectives.	The most influential policies, plans, programmes and strategies are highlighted in the 'strategic context' section of the SA Scoping Report and in the introduction to each of the evidence base sub-chapters.	
	2. Collect baseline information	March 2017 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report [SUBDOC-048] , Chapter 6.	Updated in the October 2019 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report [SUBDOC-006] , Chapter 5.
	3. Consult the Consultation Body on the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal Report.	Initial consultation with consultation body on draft Scoping and SA Framework 05/12/2016, response received 09/01/2017. Consultation Body consulted on March 2017 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report [SUBDOC-048] . Response received 22/05/2017.	
	4. Identify environmental issues and challenges	March 2017 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report [SUBDOC-048] , Chapter 6.	Updated in the October 2019 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report [SUBDOC-006] , Chapter 5.
	5. Develop the Sustainability Appraisal Framework	March 2017 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report [SUBDOC-048] , Chapter 7.	Updated in the October 2019 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report [SUBDOC-006] , Chapter 6.
	6. Produce draft Scoping Report and share with stakeholders	March 2017 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report [SUBDOC-048] published for consultation with the public, statutory authorities and other stakeholders for a period of 8 weeks March – May 2017. All comments on the SA Scoping Report and received during this consultation period were considered when appraising the draft Plan Strategy and, where applicable, incorporated into the October 2019 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report [SUBDOC-006] .	
Stage A (2) Sustainability Appraisal Interim Report	Publication of Sustainability Appraisal Interim Report, assessment of reasonable alternatives against agreed Sustainability Appraisal Framework and undertaking public consultation along with the Preferred Options Paper.	March 2017 Sustainability Appraisal Interim Report (Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment) for The Preferred Options Paper [SUBDOC-047] published for consultation with public, statutory authorities and other stakeholders for a period of 8 weeks March – May 2017.	
Stage B	Assessment of alternatives and any likely significant effects on the draft plan against Sustainability Appraisal Framework, taking into account the evidence base and where necessary, proposing mitigation measured for alleviating any adverse effects.	Carried out throughout the preparation of the draft Plan Strategy, building upon the Interim Appraisal (Stage A(2)) and taking account of comments received from the consultation process.	

Stage	Description	Location
Stage C	Sustainability Appraisal Report to document the appraisal process and findings.	October 2019 Local Development Plan 2032 Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report [SUBDOC-005] .
Stage D	Consultation with the public, environmental authorities and any EU member state affected on the Sustainability Appraisal report and draft plan.	October 2019 Local Development Plan 2032 Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report [SUBDOC-005] published for consultation with the public, statutory authorities and other stakeholders alongside the draft Plan Strategy for a period of 9 weeks November 2019 - January 2020. January 2021 Local Development Plan 2032 Draft Plan Strategy Addendum to Sustainability Appraisal Report [SUBDOC-016(a)] published alongside the Focussed and Minor Changes Consultation Document [SUBDOC-016] , and consulted on with the public, statutory authorities and other stakeholders for a period of 8 weeks January - March 2021. September 2023 Local Development Plan 2032 Draft Plan Strategy Second Addendum to Sustainability Appraisal Report referred to Consultation Body under EAPP (NI) Regulations 9(2)-9(5) and made available to the public on the LDP Plan Strategy Documents Library alongside this report.
Stage E	Sustainability Appraisal Statement to show how the Sustainability Appraisal and opinions/ consultations have been taken into account, the reasons for choosing the plan as adopted and the proposed measures to monitor the plan.	This report (Sections 2-6 and Appendix B).
Stage F	Monitoring: Establishing arrangements to monitor the significant effects of the implementation of the plan, to identify unforeseen adverse effects and undertake appropriate remedial action.	An outline monitoring framework was included as Chapter 5 of the October 2019 Local Development Plan 2032 Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report [SUBDOC-005] . Amendments to the outline monitoring framework are set out in the September 2023 Local Development Plan 2032 Draft Plan Strategy Second Addendum to the Sustainability Appraisal Report . The final SA Monitoring Framework is included in Appendix B of this report.

- 1.6 This Post Adoption Statement is the final output of the SA process. It describes the way in which the Council has taken environmental and sustainability considerations and any views of consultees into account in the adopted Plan Strategy and fulfils the plan and programme adoption requirements of The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 ('the EAPP (NI) Regulations').

1.1 Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council Local Development Plan 2032 Plan Strategy

- 1.7 The Plan Strategy for Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council is the first document in a two-stage Local Development Plan; the second will be the Local Policies Plan. The Plan Strategy forms a strategic spatial interpretation for the Council area and provides the statutory policy framework for the future

development of the Council area from 2017-2032 which is aligned with the Council's Community Plan. The Plan Strategy:

- provides a 15-year framework to support the economic and social needs in line with regional strategies and policies, while providing for the delivery of sustainable development;
- facilitates sustainable growth by co-ordinating public and private investment to encourage development where it can be of most benefit to the well-being of the community;
- allocates sufficient land to meet the needs of the community for which it is intended;
- provides an opportunity for all stakeholders, including the public, to have a say about where and how development within their local area should take place;
- provides a plan-led framework for rational and consistent decision-making by the public, private and community sectors and those affected by development proposals; and
- delivers the spatial aspects of the Council's Community Plan.

1.8 The Preferred Options Paper, draft Plan Strategy and the SA Reports have each been subject to extensive consultation that has played an important role in helping to shape the policies in the Plan Strategy. In addition to informal consultations with relevant stakeholders and public authorities, the Council undertook three key statutory and public consultation exercises prior to submission of the draft Plan to the Department for Infrastructure on 22nd March 2021:

- publication of the Preferred Options Paper on 30th March 2017 (with the SA Scoping Report and Interim SA Report published alongside) which included an eight week consultation period that ended on 25th May 2017.
- publication of the draft Plan Strategy on 8th November 2019 (with the updated SA Scoping Report and draft SA Report published alongside) which included a nine week consultation period that ended on 10th January 2020.
- publication of a number of Focussed and Minor Changes to the draft Plan Strategy (with the First Addendum to the draft SA Report published alongside) which included an eight week consultation period that ended on 12th March 2021.

1.2 The Requirement for Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 1.9 Section 25 of The Northern Ireland (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006 requires that all NI Departments and Councils, in exercising their functions, act in the way they consider best calculated to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.
- 1.10 Section 5 of The Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 ('the Planning Act') requires those who exercise any function in relation to LDPs to do so with the objective of furthering sustainable development. In addition, Sections 8(6) and 9(7) of the Planning Act requires an appraisal of sustainability to be carried out for the Plan Strategy and Local Policies Plan, respectively.
- 1.11 The Northern Ireland Development Plan Practice Note 04³ (DPPN 04) provides Councils with direct guidance on the SA process and the preparation and production of SA reports. Throughout the phases of Plan development, the SA process has been informed by DPPN 04 and the SA has taken an integrated approach which fully incorporates Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and thus fulfils the requirements for both SA and SEA.

³ Department of the Environment (April 2015) Development Plan Practice Note, Practice Note 04 'Sustainability Appraisal incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment' (found at https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/infrastructure/dppn-4-sa-incorporating-sea-v1-april-2015_0.pdf [accessed 01/09/2023])

1.3 Habitats Regulations Assessment

- 1.12 The Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended), ('the Habitats Regulations'), implemented the requirements of the Habitats and Birds Directives in Northern Ireland.
- 1.13 Regulation 43 of the Habitats Regulations requires that competent authorities assess the potential impacts of plans or projects on European sites in Northern Ireland and European offshore marine sites⁴ to determine whether there will be any 'likely significant effects' on any European site as a result of the plan's implementation (either alone or 'in combination' with other plans or projects); and, if so, whether these effects will result in any adverse effects on that site's integrity with reference to the site's conservation objectives. This is known as Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). Regulation 64B of the Habitats Regulations also applies the assessment provisions to a plan-making authority for a land use plan as defined in the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.
- 1.14 A draft HRA was first undertaken in 2019 in support of the draft Plan Strategy. NIEA was invited to comment on the draft HRA during the draft Plan Strategy consultation period and its representations informed the final HRA. Following screening, ninety policies in the Plan Strategy to be adopted are identified as having a 'likely significant effect' in the absence of mitigation. Mitigation measures, in the form of case-specific policy caveats, have been incorporated in these policies. These have been reviewed as part of the appropriate assessment of the Plan Strategy. The appropriate assessment has concluded that the Plan Strategy (with the modifications set out in the direction made by the Department for Infrastructure) will not adversely affect the integrity of any international sites, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects.
- 1.15 The HRA of the Plan Strategy has been documented separately from the SA, but potential effects identified through the screening and assessment of policies in the draft HRA also informed the SA, particularly in respect of the sustainability objectives 'to protect, manage and use water resources sustainably' and 'to protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity'.

1.4 Purpose of this Post Adoption Statement

- 1.16 This Post Adoption Statement represents the conclusion of the SA process and fulfils the plan and programme adoption requirements of the EAPP (NI) Regulations. In accordance with Regulation 15, this statement sets out the following:
- a) how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme;
 - b) how the environmental report has been taken into account;
 - c) how the opinions expressed in response to the invitations mentioned in Regulation 12 have been taken into account;
 - d) how the results of any consultations entered into under Regulation 13(4) have been taken into account;
 - e) the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and
 - f) the measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the plan or programme.

2 How Environmental Considerations have been Integrated into the Plan Strategy

- 2.1 As SA is a legislative requirement for a Plan Strategy under Sections 8(6) and 9(7) of the Planning Act, it was not necessary to make a formal Determination that a SA (incorporating SEA) would be required.

⁴ European sites are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). Proposed or candidate European sites and Ramsar sites (wetlands of international importance (both listed and proposed)) are also subject to HRA, as they are protected by policy.

The SA process (incorporating SEA) began when the Council published its first Statement of Community Involvement and timetable in April 2016.

- 2.2 To provide the context for the SA and in compliance with the EAPP (NI) Regulations, a review of other relevant plans and programmes was carried out during the preparatory phase and an outline SA Framework was developed. This process ran concurrently with the preparation of the LDP [Preferred Options Paper] Position Papers which were also informed by initial consultation with relevant statutory consultees.
- 2.3 In December 2016 the Council consulted the Consultation Body⁵ under Regulation 11 of the EAPP (NI) Regulations to agree the scope and level of detail of the information that must be included in the SA. The Consultation Body's comments were incorporated into the SA scope and fourteen Sustainability Objectives forming the Sustainability Framework were agreed. The Sustainability Objectives and their relationship with the Issues listed in the EAPP (NI) Regulations are set out in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1: The Sustainability Objectives (draft Plan Strategy stage⁶) and their Relationship with the Issues listed in Schedule 2 of the EAPP (NI) Regulations.

The objectives for sustainable development are...	Corresponding Issue in EAPP (NI) Schedule 2 (6)
1. to improve health and well-being.	(ii) Population (iii) Human Health
2. to strengthen society.	(xi) Cultural Heritage including Architectural and Archaeological Heritage (ii) Population
3. to provide good quality, sustainable housing.	(ii) Population (iii) Human Health
4. to enable access to high quality education.	(ii) Population
5. to enable sustainable economic growth.	(ii) Population (iii) Human Health
6. to manage material assets sustainably.	(x) Material Assets
7. to protect physical resources and use sustainably.	(x) Material Assets (vi) Soil
8. to encourage active and sustainable travel.	(iii) Human Health (ii) Population (ix) Climatic Factors
9. to improve air quality	(viii) Air
10. to reduce causes of and adapt to climate change.	(ix) Climatic Factors
11. to protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.	(vii) Water
12. to protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity.	(i) Biodiversity (iv) Flora (v) Fauna
13. to maintain and enhance landscape character.	(xii) Landscape
14. to protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage.	(xii) Cultural Heritage including Architectural and Archaeological Heritage (xii) Landscape

⁵ Regulation 4 of the EAPP (NI) Regulations designated the Department of Environment (DOE) as the Consultation Body for the SEA process in Northern Ireland. The SEA Coordination Unit of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs' Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) is currently responsible for carrying out the role of the Consultation Body.

⁶ For the Interim SA associated with the Preferred Options Paper, the Sustainability Objectives were presented in a different order, but were otherwise the same.

- 2.4 Baseline evidence was collected and arranged under the theme of each Sustainability Objective. The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and its likely evolution without the LDP were described. These elements informed the identification of Key Sustainability Issues (KSIs) that are relevant to the Council area and to each of the Sustainability Objectives. Appraisal prompts were also developed to assist in identifying and evaluating the potential effects of Options and Alternatives on the achievement of each Sustainability Objective in a consistent way.
- 2.5 In addition to using the SA Framework to evaluate the potential effects of LDP objectives, options and policies as they were being developed and drafted, the overall SA process enabled measures to avoid or minimise negative effects or to enhance potential positive effects to be identified at an early stage. Possible measures were identified in the interim appraisal of options for the Preferred Options Paper (POP). Along with evidence and representations collected following consultation on the POP, these were considered in the drafting of the emerging policies of the draft Plan Strategy. Shared Environmental Service worked closely with the LDP officers and early draft sections of the LDP, including draft policies, were appraised collaboratively. The involvement of officers with a broad range of environmental as well as planning experience in the sustainability appraisal has helped to ensure that potential effects of the LDP were identified and appraised from various perspectives and relationships with other relevant plans, programmes and strategies were given due consideration.
- 2.6 The draft Plan Strategy, and the strategic and operational policies contained within it, were strongly influenced by regional policy. However, economic, social and environmental considerations are the sustainability pillars upon which the entire draft Plan Strategy is founded. This is reflected in the Plan's Vision and its six themes:
- **A Quality Place** - Enabling Sustainable Communities and Delivery of New Homes
 - **A Thriving Place** - Driving Sustainable Economic Growth
 - **A Vibrant Place** - Growing our City, Town Centres, Retailing and Other Uses
 - **An Attractive Place** - Promoting Sustainable Tourism, Open Space Sport and Outdoor Recreation
 - **A Green Place** - Protecting and Enhancing the Historic and Natural Environment
 - **A Connected Place** - Supporting Sustainable Transport and Other Infrastructure

3 How the SA Report Has Been Taken into Account by the Council

- 3.1 The SA process is an iterative one, and as emerging policy options were identified, developed and refined, the sustainability strengths and weaknesses were considered.
- 3.2 Ahead of the Council publishing its Preferred Options Paper in March 2017, the Sustainability Framework was used to appraise strategic options for addressing 30 key planning issues affecting the Council area and to assist in the selection of a Preferred Option, by identifying the most sustainable option. This interim appraisal also identified potential measures to reduce negative effects or promote positive effects for consideration in subsequent phases of the emerging LDP. There was not a legal requirement to implement these measures, however they were recorded so that, where appropriate, they could be incorporated to further the overall sustainability of the LDP. The interim appraisal is documented in the SA Interim Report (Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment) for The Preferred Options Paper [\[SUBDOC-047\]](#).
- 3.3 Reasonable Alternatives are the different realistic options available to a Council for delivering the objectives of its LDP. Options should be consistent with other aspects of the LDP, as well as higher-level plans and policies. As the draft Plan Strategy was being developed, all of the Strategic and Operational Policy objectives were screened in the context of the SA, and consideration was given to whether any reasonable alternatives were available to deliver the policy objective.

- 3.4 As the evolution of the draft Plan Strategy and the Strategic and Operational policies contained within it were influenced by regional policy, and the strategic approach to addressing many of the key planning issues within the Council area had already been explored through the POP, no 'reasonable' alternative options for delivering the policy aims/objectives were identified for any of the policies brought forward in the draft Plan Strategy. A summary of the factors influencing policy formation from POP to the draft Plan Strategy is included in Section 3.9 and Appendix 5 of the October 2019 Local Development Plan 2032 Draft SA Report [\[SUBDOC-005\]](#). These factors included the Interim SA and the SA of the draft Plan Strategy.
- 3.5 The SA of the draft Plan Strategy focused on the likely changes to the baseline conditions as a result of the LDP's implementation. These effects were described (where possible) in terms of their extent, the timescale over which they could occur, whether the effects would be temporary or permanent, positive or negative, short, medium and/or long-term. Identifying the effects of each option in the context of the sustainability objectives helped to ensure that each policy would successfully deliver its intended purpose in a sustainable way and would accord with (or not conflict with) the delivery of other relevant plans, programmes and strategies.

4 How Opinions Expressed During Consultation Have Been Taken into Account

4.1 Preferred Options Paper

4.1.1 Consultation on the Interim SA and SA Scoping Report

- 4.1 The March 2017 SA Scoping Report [\[SUBDOC-048\]](#) and the SA Interim Report [\[SUBDOC-047\]](#) were published for public and statutory consultation alongside the POP for a period of 8 weeks between March and May 2017. This included consultation with the Consultation Body, which responded on 22/05/2017.
- 4.2 Following the consultation on the POP, all comments received in respect of the March 2017 SA Scoping Report [\[SUBDOC-048\]](#) and SA Interim Report [\[SUBDOC-047\]](#) were reviewed and considered ahead of commencing SA of the draft Plan Strategy. A summary of the representations received is provided in Section 7 of the Preferred Options Paper Public Consultation Report [\[SUBDOC-049\]](#).
- 4.3 The SA Scoping Report was updated to reflect relevant representations, including those from the Consultation Body. Baseline evidence, the Key Sustainability Issues and the Plans, Programmes, Policies and Strategies were also reviewed to ensure they were up to date. While the Sustainability Objectives did not materially change, the order of the Sustainability Objectives in the Sustainability Framework was re-arranged to a more logical sequence, aligning more coherently with the pillars of sustainability (Social, Economic and Environmental). The updated Sustainability Framework and Appraisal Guide were referred to throughout the appraisal of Options and Alternatives for the draft Plan Strategy. Representations concerning potential effects and scores in the Interim SA were also taken into consideration in the appraisal of options for the draft Plan Strategy.
- 4.4 Appendix 6 of the October 2019 SA Scoping Report [\[SUBDOC-006\]](#) provides a detailed record of how the representations on the March 2017 SA Scoping Report and Interim SA were taken into account and how they were addressed, where relevant. The revised SA Scoping Report was published alongside the draft Plan Strategy in October 2019.

4.1.2 Consultation on the Preferred Options Paper

- 4.5 Meetings were held with statutory consultees, non-statutory consultees and the Stakeholder Group⁷ to inform the contents of the POP prior to its launch. All groups were consequently consulted with regards to the POP publication and how to provide comments/get involved.
- 4.6 The processes involved in consulting on the POP as well as the findings of the consultation are detailed in the Preferred Options Paper Public Consultation Report [\[SUBDOC-049\]](#). These findings were made available for respondents and the general public. The findings also fed into subsequent stages of the plan preparation, including drafting planning policies.
- 4.7 The POP Public Consultation Report highlights the feedback provided in relation to the growth strategy, vision, strategic objectives and key issues. Comments received were considered in the preparation of the draft Plan Strategy. Members' comments on this document were also taken into account.

4.2 Draft Plan Strategy

4.2.1 Consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal

- 4.8 The Draft SA Report [\[SUBDOC-005\]](#) and October 2019 SA Scoping Report [\[SUBDOC-006\]](#) were published for public and statutory consultation alongside the draft Plan Strategy for a period of 9 weeks between November 2019 and January 2020. This included consultation with the Consultation Body, which responded on 10th January 2020.
- 4.9 A summary of the main issues raised in the representations received on the SA and how these were considered by Council and Shared Environmental Service is provided in Section 8.0 of the Draft Plan Strategy Public Consultation Report (PCR) [\[SUBDOC-009\]](#). The representations received on the SA can be broadly categorised as follows:
- Respondent welcomed/agreed with the option (or options) and conclusions of the SA;
 - Respondent disagreed with the selection of one or more options brought forward and questioned the absence of alternative options in the SA;
 - Respondent disagreed with the scoring of potential effects against the sustainability objectives in the SA for an option (or options);
 - Respondent advised of minor correction(s) or update to the baseline evidence for the SA;
 - Respondent advised of measures/indicators which could be employed in monitoring the effects of the LDP.
- 4.10 The draft Plan Strategy PCR demonstrates that full consideration was given to all the representations received. Council and Shared Environmental Service concluded that none of the representations on scoring or option selection had grounds to necessitate an amendment to the SA. However, as set out in Section 8.0 of the PCR [\[SUBDOC-009\]](#), the representations led to the proposal of two minor changes to the policy wording in the draft Plan Strategy. These minor changes were to ensure that the option would successfully deliver its intended objective/effect. In addition, a small number of actions were noted to correct minor errors or to make factual updates to the baseline evidence section of the SA Scoping Report before commencing the next stage of the Plan process.

4.2.2 Consultation on the draft Plan Strategy

- 4.11 The processes involved in consulting on the draft Plan Strategy as well as the findings of the consultation are detailed in the Draft Plan Strategy PCR [\[SUBDOC-009\]](#), which was prepared in

⁷ a range of statutory and non-statutory consultees which advised and provided oversight of the LDP process.

accordance with Regulation 20(2)(g) of the Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and is published in the LDP Submissions Documents Library⁸.

- 4.12 The Draft Plan Strategy PCR outlines and summarises the main issues raised in the representations received on the draft Plan Strategy during the consultation period. The Draft Plan Strategy PCR was therefore a key document for the Independent Examination and was integral to the assessment of the soundness of the Plan Strategy. A separate report on the counter-representations received, the 'Draft Plan Strategy Counter Representation Report (October 2020) [SUBDOC-014] was also prepared and published in accordance with Regulation 20(2)(g).
- 4.13 After due consideration of all representations received to the draft Plan Strategy, the Council recommended that a number of focussed and minor changes to the published draft Plan Strategy should be made, ahead of the draft Plan Strategy's submission for Independent Examination. The focussed changes were set out in an addendum, alongside a schedule of minor changes that had also been identified. The PCR thus refers to individual focussed or minor changes that were proposed for consideration and discussion during the Independent Examination.

4.2.3 Consultation on Focussed and Minor Changes and First Addendum to the draft SA Report

- 4.14 Focussed changes are described in Development Plan Practice Note 10⁹ (DPPN 10) as "*changes to the [development plan] document to ensure that issues impacting upon the soundness of the DPD are addressed*". DPPN 10 also recommends that "*the Council should consider the impact of such changes on the overall soundness of the DPD, the integrated Sustainability Appraisal process and other supporting assessments*". Minor changes are "*minor editing changes that ought to be made to the development plan document for factual correction*" and "*which would not impact on the soundness of the document*".
- 4.15 The proposed focussed changes were set out in a consultation document, in which the minor changes were also included (for information, and to enable readers to understand how the Council differentiated between what it considered to be a minor or a focussed change). The Consultation on the Focussed Changes including Minor Changes Schedule (January 2021) [SUBDOC-016] was published for public and statutory consultation for a period of 8 weeks between January 2021 and March 2021.
- 4.16 A SA screening exercise was undertaken for all the proposed changes to the policies, to assess if they would alter the 'likely significant effects' predicted in the already published SA Report of October 2019, or if they could lead to any new or additional potential significant effects. The screening exercise was documented in the First Addendum to the draft SA Report [SUBDOC-016(a)]. The First Addendum to the draft SA Report was published and consulted on in January 2021 alongside the Focussed Changes including Minor Changes Schedule. This included consultation with the Consultation Body, which responded on 12th March 2021.
- 4.17 The SA screening documented in the First Addendum to the draft SA Report concluded that implementation of the focussed changes would result in minor improvements to the performance of the policies against certain individual Sustainability Objectives, with some policies receiving a more positive score against a Sustainability Objective. None of the proposed focussed and minor changes presented any probable conflict with the status of any of the Sustainability Objectives. The implementation of the proposed focussed changes in the draft Plan Strategy will have no significant impact on the Plan's performance against the Sustainability Objectives.

⁸ Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council | Planning | Local Development Plan | Submission Documents Library (found at <https://www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk/resident/planning/local-development-plan/submission-of-documents-to-dfi/submission-documents-library> [accessed 01/09/2023]).

⁹ Department for Infrastructure (December 2019) Development Plan Practice Note, Practice Note 10 'Submitting Development Plan Documents for Independent Examination' (found at <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/infrastructure/dp-practice-note-10-submitting-for-independent-examination%20-2.pdf> [accessed 01/09/2023])

- 4.18 All of the proposed changes (both focussed and minor) were screened out of requiring further Sustainability Appraisal incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), on the basis of having no potential for significant negative impacts on the Sustainability Objectives.
- 4.19 No representations were received that disagreed with the conclusions of the First Addendum to the draft SA Report. The Consultation Body confirmed in its response that it was content with the Addendums to the Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment.

4.3 Independent Examination and Recommendations

- 4.20 In July 2021, the Department for Infrastructure ('the Department') appointed the Planning Appeals Commission (PAC) to cause an Independent Examination of the Lisburn & Castlereagh City Local Development Plan draft Plan Strategy. The Independent Examination public hearing sessions took place between March and May 2022.
- 4.21 Following the Independent Examination, the PAC concluded that, subject to recommended amendments and modifications, the draft Plan Strategy met the tests of soundness as required. The PAC Commissioner's report also confirmed that the requirements of Section 8 (6) of the Planning Act and Article 15 (a) (ii) of the Regulations¹⁰ have been satisfied in respect of SA. It also confirmed that as LCCC undertook a SA and prepared a report on its findings, Regulation 6 (2) (b) of the Regulations has been complied with.
- 4.22 On 28th June 2023, the Department for Infrastructure issued a direction to the Council to adopt the Plan Strategy with modifications. The Department's Direction included two Schedules. The first Schedule contains recommended modifications which reflect the Council's previously identified focussed and minor changes. The likely significant effects of these modifications had therefore already been assessed in the First Addendum to the Draft SA Report [[SUBDOC-016\(a\)](#)], as described in section 4.2.3 above.
- 4.23 The second Schedule in the Direction included modifications recommended in the Planning Appeals Commission's Independent Examination Report which the Department has directed as being necessary for the adoption of the Plan Strategy. These modifications include the deletion of one Strategic Mixed-Use Policy (SMU 03) policy from the draft Plan Strategy. Schedule 2 also included two modifications that should be implemented in the Draft SA Report to correct a typographical error in documenting the appraisal of Strategic Mixed-Use Policy SMU 01.
- 4.24 A Second Addendum to the Draft Plan Strategy SA Report was prepared, to effect the directed modifications to the Draft SA Report and to document the assessment of whether any likely significant effects will arise from implementing the modifications in Schedules 2 and 2A and to identify if any amendments to the SA are required.
- 4.25 It was determined that all potential significant effects arising from the implementation of the modifications are already accounted for in the SA and will not change. There will be no 'likely significant effects' arising from their inclusion in the Plan Strategy.
- 4.26 The Second Addendum to the Draft Plan Strategy SA Report was referred to the Consultation Body for consideration under the EAPP (NI) Regulations Regulation 9 on 15 September 2023.
- 4.27 DAERA responded on 11th September 2023, confirming they are broadly content with the SEA assessment and draft HRA. They agree with the conclusion that potential significant effects arising from the implementation of the modifications are already accounted for in the Sustainability Appraisal (SA). They acknowledge that following consideration of the modifications, the Council has concluded that, other than the minor amendments presented in Appendix B, no further amendments to the SA are required. Having reviewed the screening matrix of modifications in Schedule 2 NED are content with the conclusions reached regarding the effect on the SA for each modification. Air Quality

¹⁰ The Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015

Biodiversity Unit welcome sustainability objective SO9 - Improve air quality: Air pollution has serious impacts on human health as well as degrading the natural environment. This objective can be achieved through reducing sources of air pollution. Where air pollution cannot be totally excluded careful siting of development should avoid impacts on sensitive receptors.” As the implementation of the modifications are already accounted for in the SA, and the material before the Commissioner and the Department was sufficient for them to reach their conclusions on the Plan Strategy, it was not necessary to consult with members of the public in respect of the modifications.

5 The Reasons for Choosing the Local Plan as Adopted in the Light of the Other Reasonable Alternatives Considered

- 5.1 Regulation 11 of the EAPP (NI) Regulations requires an environmental report to be prepared which *“shall identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of (a) implementing the plan or programme; and (b) reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme.”*
- 5.2 The information to be provided includes *“An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information”*.
- 5.3 The UK Government guidance on SA and SEA¹¹ identifies reasonable alternatives as *“the different realistic options considered by the plan-maker in developing the policies in the plan. They need to be sufficiently distinct to highlight the different sustainability implications of each so that meaningful comparisons can be made.”*
- 5.4 Part of the reason for studying options and alternatives is to identify ways of reducing or avoiding the significant adverse effects of a proposed plan or programme. The Preferred Options Paper [\[SUBDOC-044\]](#) was the first stage of the LDP process. It set out the Plan’s vision, its strategic objectives, and identified key planning issues with possible options and alternatives for how the Council could deliver new development and planned growth for the Council area. The findings of the appraisal of the Preferred Options and reasonable alternatives were reported in the March 2017 Sustainability Appraisal Interim Report (Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment) for The Preferred Options Paper [\[SUBDOC-047\]](#). Section 2 of that report included a description of the limitations in undertaking the appraisal and any assumptions made. It acknowledged that further SA would be required at the Plan Strategy and Local Policies Plan stages of Plan development, with additional and updated information available at that time.
- 5.5 Sections 2.5.4 – 2.5.7 of Draft SA Report [\[SUBDOC-005\]](#) set out the process of identifying and evaluating the reasonable alternatives for the draft Plan Strategy and the assumptions and limitations of the appraisal process. A summary of the options and alternatives that have led to the adopted Plan Strategy has been provided in Appendix A of this report. The appraisal of preferred options and reasonable alternatives taken forward in the draft Plan Strategy is documented in Chapter 3 and Appendix 4 of the draft SA Report. Chapter 4.1 of the draft SA Report describes the ‘total effects’ of the draft Plan Strategy, while the cumulative effects (including secondary and synergistic effects) are described in Chapter 4.2.
- 5.6 Overall, the adopted Plan Strategy reflects the preferred options selected following the consideration of reasonable alternatives during each stage of its preparation, taking into account the evidence base, engagement and assessment, including SA. The adopted Plan Strategy also reflects the modifications recommended in the Planning Appeals Commission’s Independent Examination Report which the Department has directed as being necessary for the adoption of the Plan Strategy. The modifications

¹¹ UK GOV Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (2015, updated 2020) Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal (found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal> [accessed 01/09/2023])

include changes to policy wording and supporting text. These are all deemed to be necessary to ensure that the Plan Strategy provides a sound and legally compliant plan for the Council area but as concluded in the First and Second Addendum Reports to the SA, these modifications will not give rise to any likely significant effects not already identified in the SA.

- 5.7 The final HRA of the adopted Plan Strategy has also concluded that the Plan will not adversely affect the integrity of any international sites, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects.
- 5.8 It is Council's view that the Plan Strategy, as adopted, provides the framework for contributing to sustainable development across the Council area and will help to realise the Council's vision and objectives. It reflects a rigorous process of evidence gathering, assessment, consultation and independent examination.

6 Monitoring

- 6.1 Regulation 16 of the EAPP (NI) Regulations sets out the requirements for monitoring the implementation of the plan. DPPN 04 advises that "*monitoring should help a council to identify any unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage and implement the necessary remedial action. Monitoring should focus upon the likely significant effect identified by the SA and the mitigation measures proposed to offset or reduce significant adverse effects*".
- 6.2 A preliminary framework for monitoring was developed from the Key Sustainability Issues and significant effects identified through the SA. This framework was published in Chapter 5 of the Draft SA Report [\[SUBDOC-005\]](#). Council has considered the representations made on the draft SA Report and the recommended modifications brought forward through the Independent Examination and has reviewed and updated the preliminary SA monitoring framework. A final monitoring framework is attached at Appendix B of this report.
- 6.3 Regulation 16 does not specify an interval for monitoring, however it states "*the responsible authority's monitoring arrangements may comprise or include arrangements established otherwise than for the express purpose of complying with paragraph (1)*." Regulation 25 of the Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 requires Council to produce an annual monitoring report. Therefore, where annually published statistics and data are available for SA monitoring indicators, these will be collated as part of the annual LDP monitoring. Where data are not available on an annual basis, the most recent data will be collated and incorporated in Plan monitoring at each 5-year Plan review period.
- 6.4 It should be noted that monitoring of some of the indicators may rely on adoption of the Local Policies Plan. The SA monitoring framework will be reviewed as the SA continues to the second stage of the LDP, where it may be subject to further development and refinement.
- 6.5 It is also recognised that the LDP alone may not enable the delivery of all the outcomes identified in the 'target' column of the monitoring framework. However, certain targets have been included as the LDP may influence their achievement through cumulative and synergistic effects in combination with other Plans and Programmes. These effects have been identified in Chapter 4 of the Draft SA Report [\[SUBDOC-005\]](#). Delivery will also rest with the actions of other statutory bodies and service providers.

Appendix A – Summary of Options/Alternatives and the reasons for selecting/rejecting the Alternatives

PART 1 STRATEGIC POLICIES AND SPATIAL STRATEGY

POLICY	Preferred Options Paper	Draft Plan Strategy
Spatial Strategy and the Settlement Hierarchy	<u>Issue 1, 2 Options</u> 1a.Retain the existing settlement hierarchy with limited amendments (Preferred Option). 1b.Retain the existing settlement hierarchy with no change	No reasonable alternatives were identified for the draft Plan Strategy
SP01 Sustainable Development	NA	No reasonable alternative has been identified - The SPPS identifies sustainable development as a core principle in regional policy. It is best practice to reiterate in the draft Plan Strategy.
SP02 Improving Health and Well-being	NA	No reasonable alternative has been identified - The SPPS identifies sustainable development as a core principle in regional policy. It is best practice to reiterate in the draft Plan Strategy.
SP03 Creating and Enhancing Shared Space and Quality Places	NA	No reasonable alternative has been identified - The SPPS identifies sustainable development as a core principle in regional policy. It is best practice to reiterate in the draft Plan Strategy.
SP04 Supporting Sustainable Economic Growth	NA	No reasonable alternative has been identified - The SPPS identifies sustainable development as a core principle in regional policy. It is best practice to reiterate in the draft Plan Strategy.
SP05 Good Design and Positive Place-Making	NA	No reasonable alternative has been identified - The SPPS identifies sustainable development as a core principle in regional policy. It is best practice to reiterate in the draft Plan Strategy.
SP06 Protecting and Enhancing the Environment	NA	No reasonable alternative has been identified - The SPPS identifies sustainable development as a core principle in regional policy. It is best practice to reiterate in the draft Plan Strategy.
SP07 Section 76 Planning Agreements	NA	No reasonable alternative has been identified - Best practice is to reiterate in the draft Plan Strategy. Builds on the SPPS. Interpretation of legislation - not prescriptive.
SP08 Housing in Settlements	<u>Issue 2, 3 Options</u> 2a.Focus future Housing Growth in Lisburn City with limited dispersal in the remaining settlement hierarchy, taking into account any constraints (Preferred Option). 2b.Focus future Housing Growth in Lisburn City. 2c. Protect Existing Housing Zonings.	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.
SP09 Housing in the Countryside	<u>Issue 3, 2 Options</u> 3a.Retention of Existing Rural Policy-Led Approach (Preferred Option). 3b.Retention of Existing Rural Policy-Led Approach plus identify 'Special Countryside Areas'.	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.

POLICY	Preferred Options Paper	Draft Plan Strategy
SP10 Education, Health, Community and Culture	<u>Issue 4, 1 Option</u> 4a.Land identified for education, health, community or cultural uses by the relevant providers will be protected from development for alternative uses through the new Local Development Plan.	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.
SP11 Economic Development	<u>Issue 5, 3 Options</u> 5a.Maintain the current provision of land zoned for employment (with the exception of the West Lisburn/Blaris Major Employment Location) (Preferred Option). 5b.Redesignate sites which are currently zoned as employment land for alternative uses 5c. Increase current levels of zoned employment land Also Issue 6 (3 Options) and Issue 7 (1 Option).	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.
SP12 Economic Development in the Countryside	<u>Issue 9, 2 Options</u> 9a. Retention of the existing policy-led approach (Preferred Option). 9b. Retention of the existing policy-led approach but in addition allow for the possible creation of 'Rural Business Development Zones' in a limited number of key/strategic locations	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.
SP13 Mineral Development	<u>Issue 10, 2 Options</u> 10a.Provide Mineral Safeguarding Zones and Areas of Mineral Constraint in addition to the existing policy-led approach in relation to Mineral Development (Preferred Option). 10b.Retain the existing policy-led approach in relation to Mineral Development	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.
SP14 Town Centres, Retailing and Other Uses	<u>Issue 11, 2 Options</u> 11a.Extend the existing City Centre boundary (Preferred Option). 11b.Retain the existing City Centre boundary <u>Issue 12, 2 Options</u> 12a.Retain the existing town centre of Carryduff and designate town centre boundaries in the historic towns of Hillsborough and Moira (Preferred Option). 12b. Retain the existing town centre of Carryduff <u>Issue 16, 1 Option</u> 16a. Promoting Office Development within the City, Town, District and Local Centres	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.
SP15 Evening/Night-time Economy	<u>Issue 15, 1 Option</u> 15a. Grow the Night Time Economy	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.
SP16 Tourism	<u>Issue 18, Issue 19, Issue 20 (1 Option)</u> 18a. Promote Hillsborough Castle as a Key Tourism Destination (Preferred Option). 19a. Promote the implementation of the Lagan Navigation as a Key Tourism / Recreation Opportunity Area (Preferred Option).	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.

POLICY	Preferred Options Paper	Draft Plan Strategy
	20a. Protect and promote the Lagan Valley Regional Park as a rich natural asset, retaining and enhancing the Lagan Valley Regional Park Nodes (Preferred Option).	
SP17 Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation	<p><u>Issue 21, 2 Options</u> 21a. Protect and enhance all areas of open space and provide opportunity to identify a limited number of potential new Community Greenways (Preferred Option). 21b. Protect and enhance all areas of open space</p>	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.
SP18 Protecting and Enhancing the Historic Environment and Archaeological Remains	<p><u>Issue 29, 2 Options</u> 29a. Retain the existing policy-led approach with regards to the protection and enhancement of Built Heritage Assets but in addition provide opportunity to identify potential new Conservation Areas, Areas of Townscape Character or Areas of Village Character throughout the Council area (Preferred Option). 29b. Retain the existing policy-led approach with regards to the protection and enhancement of Built Heritage Assets</p>	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.
SP19 Protecting and Enhancing Natural Heritage	<p><u>Issue 30, 2 Options</u> 30a. Retain the existing policy-led approach with regards to the protection and enhancement of Natural Heritage Assets but in addition provide opportunity to identify potential new environmental designations across the Council area (Preferred Option). 30b. Retain the existing policy-led approach with regards to the protection and enhancement of Natural Heritage Assets</p>	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.
SP20 Transportation Infrastructure	<p><u>Issue 22, 1 Option</u> 22a. Retain a number of key transportation infrastructure schemes to enhance accessibility within the area (Preferred Option). <u>Issue 23, 2 Options</u> 23a. Retain a number of key Park & Ride Sites with identification of potential new Park & Ride Sites (Preferred Option). 23b. Retain a number of key Park & Ride Sites <u>Issue 24, 1 Option</u> 24a. Promote Active Travel in all new development (within Urban Areas/Settlements) to demonstrate how the development integrates with existing public transport, walking and cycling (Preferred Option). <u>Issue 25, 1 Option</u> 25a. Protect and develop safe, shared and accessible Greenways connecting communities, promoting walking and cycling, recreational and social interaction and enhancing health and well-being (Preferred Option).</p>	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.

POLICY	Preferred Options Paper	Draft Plan Strategy
SP21 Renewable Energy	<u>Issue 26, 2 Options</u> 26a. Introduce Areas of Constraint in relation to renewable development (wind turbines) (Preferred Option). 26b. Retain the existing policy-led approach in relation to renewable development	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.
SP22 Telecommunications and Other Utilities	<u>Issue 27, 2 Options</u> 27a. Retain the existing policy-led approach in relation to telecommunication development (Preferred Option). 27b. Introduce Areas of Constraint in relation to telecommunication development	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.
SP23 Waste Management	<u>Issue 28, 1 Option</u> 28a. Retain the existing policy-led approach in relation to waste management within the Council area (Preferred Option).	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.
SP24 Flooding	NA	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with the regional policy of the SPPS.
STRATEGIC MIXED USE POLICIES		
SMU01 West Lisburn/Blaris	<u>Issue 6, 3 Options</u> 6a.Redesignate the Blaris Major Employment Zoning as a Mixed Use site (Preferred Option). 6b.Redesignate the Blaris Major Employment Zoning as two separate zonings for housing and employment 6c.Retain the existing Blaris Major Employment Zoning for employment purposes only	No reasonable alternatives were identified for the draft Plan Strategy. Alternatives tested in POP. Option refined on the basis of new evidence which supports this option, and consideration will also be given to the inclusion of new Key Site Requirements to enhance positive effects in the LPP.
SMU02 Purdysburn/Knockbracken	<u>Issue 7, 1 Option</u> 7a.Retain the existing Purdysburn Major Employment Location as a Mixed Use site	No reasonable alternatives have been identified.
SMU03	<u>Issue 13, 2 Options</u> 13a.Retain and reinforce Sprucefield as a Regional Shopping Centre (Preferred Option). 13b.Retain Sprucefield Regional Shopping Centre but extend uses to include recreation and leisure	No reasonable alternatives were identified for the draft Plan Strategy. An alternative option (Option 13A) to retain and reinforce Sprucefield as Regional Shopping Centre (with no variations in use) was appraised in the Interim SA for the POP and was found to be equally sustainable. It was not considered necessary to re-appraise this alternative for the draft Plan Strategy. The option put forward in the draft plan Strategy has been selected on the basis of additional evidence in the form of a Retail Study which has identified that this option has a better chance of delivering more wide ranging economic benefits. Following Independent Examination, the Commissioner concluded that this element [designation SMU03] of the dPS is not coherent and effective and is therefore unsound. The PAC report recommended that the policy should be deleted and the Department included the recommendation in its Direction. The deletion and additional modifications underwent SA/SEA Screening, documented in the Second Addendum SA Report. This concluded

POLICY	Preferred Options Paper	Draft Plan Strategy
		that the modifications would have 'no likely significant effects' and would not alter the conclusions or outcomes of the October 2019 draft SA Report. No further SA is required.

PART 2 OPERATIONAL POLICIES

POLICY	Preferred Options Paper	Draft Plan Strategy
A QUALITY PLACE		
1. HOUSING IN SETTLEMENTS		
HOU1 New Residential Development	<p><u>Issue 2, 3 Options</u> 2a.Focus future Housing Growth in Lisburn City with limited dispersal in the remaining settlement hierarchy, taking into account any constraints (Preferred Option). 2b.Focus future Housing Growth in Lisburn City. 2c. Protect Existing Housing Zonings.</p>	HOU1 - HOU9 appraised as a group No reasonable alternatives for HOU 1 - 9 as policy options consistent with regional policy - SPPS.
HOU2 Protection of Land Zoned for Housing		
HOU3 Site Context and Characteristics of New Residential Development		
HOU4 Design in New Residential Development		
HOU5 Public Open Space in New Residential Development		
HOU6 Design Concept Statements, Concept Masterplans and Comprehensive Planning		
HOU7 Residential Extensions and Alterations		
HOU8 Protecting Local Character, Environmental Quality and Residential Amenity in Established Residential Areas		
HOU9 The Conversion or Change of Use of Existing Buildings to Flats or Apartments		
HOU10 Affordable Housing in Settlements		
HOU11 Specialist Accommodation		This is a new policy with no reasonable alternative as the policy option is consistent with regional policy - SPPS.
HOU12 Accommodation for the Travelling Community		There is no reasonable alternative as the policy approach is consistent with regional policy - SPPS.
2. COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN SETTLEMENTS		
CF01 Necessary Community Facilities in Settlements	<p><u>Issue 4, 1 Option</u> 4a.Land identified for education, health, community or cultural uses by the relevant providers will be protected from development for alternative uses through the new Local Development Plan.</p>	CF01 and CF02 appraised as a group. No reasonable alternatives have been identified. The policy is consistent with regional policy of the SPPS. The 2 policies have been introduced to provide clarity in relation to this policy area.
CF02 Protection of a Local Community Facility		
3. DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTRYSIDE		
COU1 Development in the Countryside	<p><u>Issue 3, 2 Options</u></p>	
COU2 New Dwellings in Existing Clusters		

POLICY	Preferred Options Paper	Draft Plan Strategy	
COU3 Replacement Dwellings	<p>3a.Retention of Existing Rural Policy-Led Approach (Preferred Option).</p> <p>3b.Retention of Existing Rural Policy-Led Approach plus identify 'Special Countryside Areas'.</p> <p>For COU11 and COU 14 <u>Issue 9, 2 Options</u></p> <p>9a. Retention of the existing policy-led approach (Preferred Option).</p> <p>9b. Retention of the existing policy-led approach but in addition allow for the possible creation of 'Rural Business Development Zones' in a limited number of key/strategic locations</p>	COU1 - COU4 & COU6 - COU10 appraised as a group. No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent more or less with regional policy. Additional clarification on PPS21.	
COU4 The Conversion and Reuse of Buildings for Residential Use		No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent more or less with regional policy. Additional clarification on PPS21.	
COU5 Affordable Housing		COU1 - COU4 & COU6 - COU10 appraised as a group. No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent more or less with regional policy. Additional clarification on PPS21.	
COU6 Personal and Domestic Circumstances		COU11 - COU14 appraised as a group No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Policies COU 11, COU 13 and COU 14 are consistent with regional policy - SPPS. Some minor word changes from SPPS and PPS21. Policy COU 13 is a new policy, consistent with the SPPS.	
COU7 Dwellings for Non-Agricultural Business Enterprises		COU15 & COU16 appraised as a group. No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Policy COU 15 is consistent with regional policy - SPPS. Some minor word changes from SPPS and PPS21.	
COU8 Infill/Ribbon Development			
COU9 Temporary Caravan			
COU10 Dwellings on Farms			
COU11 Farm Diversification			
COU12 Agricultural and Forestry Development			
COU13 Necessary Community Facilities in the Countryside			
COU14 The Conversion and Reuse of Buildings for Non-Residential Use			
COU15 Integration and Design of Buildings in the Countryside			
COU16 Rural Character and other Criteria			
A THRIVING PLACE			
4. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT			
ED1 Economic Development in Cities and Towns	<p><u>Issue 5, 3 Options</u></p> <p>5a.Maintain the current provision of land zoned for employment (with the exception of the West Lisburn/Blaris Major Employment Location) (Preferred Option).</p> <p>5b.Redesignate sites which are currently zoned as employment land for alternative uses</p> <p>5c. Increase current levels of zoned employment land</p> <p>For ED3, ED4, ED5, ED6, ED8, ED9: <u>Issue 9, 2 Options</u></p> <p>9a. Retention of the existing policy-led approach (Preferred Option).</p> <p>9b. Retention of the existing policy-led approach but in addition allow for the possible creation of 'Rural Business Development Zones' in a limited number of key/strategic locations</p>	ED1&ED2 appraised as a group No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy with new clarity added. Presentational reorder.	
ED2 Economic Development in Villages and Small Settlements		ED3-ED6 appraised as a group No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy with new clarity added. Presentational reorder.	
ED3 Expansion of an Established Economic Development Use in the Countryside			
ED4 Redevelopment of an Established Economic Development Use in the Countryside			
ED5 Major Economic Development in the Countryside			
ED6 Small Rural Projects			
ED7 Retention of Zoned Land and Economic Development		No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy with new clarity added. Presentational reorder.	
ED8 Development Incompatible with Economic Development Uses		ED8 & ED9 appraised as a group No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy with new clarity added. Presentational reorder.	
ED9 General Criteria for Economic Development			
5. MINERALS DEVELOPMENT			
MD1 Environmental Protection		MD1-MD3 & MD9 appraised as a group	

POLICY	Preferred Options Paper	Draft Plan Strategy
MD2 Visual Impact	<p><u>Issue 10, 2 Options</u> 10a. Provide Mineral Safeguarding Zones and Areas of Mineral Constraint in addition to the existing policy-led approach in relation to Mineral Development (Preferred Option).</p> <p>10b. Retain the existing policy-led approach in relation to Mineral Development</p>	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy and PSRNI (Green Book) - controls nuisances. Also agreed with statutory consultees.
MD3 Areas of Mineral Constraint		
MD4 Valuable Minerals		No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy and PSRNI (Green Book) - controls nuisances. Also agreed with statutory consultees
MD5 Unconventional Hydrocarbon Extraction		No reasonable alternative has been identified - Consistent with regional policy.
MD6 Mineral Safeguarding Areas		No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy and PSRNI (Green Book) - controls nuisances. Also statutory consultees.
MD7 Safety and Amenity		MD7 & MD8 appraised as a group No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy and PSRNI (Green Book) - controls nuisances. Also statutory consultees.
MD8 Traffic Implications		
MD9 Restoration Proposals		MD1-MD3 & MD9 appraised as a group No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy and PSRNI (Green Book) - controls nuisances. Also agreed with statutory consultees.
A VIBRANT PLACE		
6. TOWN CENTRES, RETAILING AND OTHER USES		
TC1 Town Centre, Retailing and Other Uses	<p><u>Issue 11, 2 Options</u> 11a. Extend the existing City Centre boundary (Preferred Option). 11b. Retain the existing City Centre boundary</p>	TC1-TC5 appraised as a group These policies are new policies and no reasonable alternatives have been identified for them. The policies are consistent with regional policy including the RDS and SPPS
TC2 Lisburn City Centre Primary Retail Core and Retail Frontage		
TC3 Town Centres	<p><u>Issue 12, 2 Options</u> 12a. Retain the existing town centre of Carryduff and designate town centre boundaries in the historic towns of Hillsborough and Moira (Preferred Option). 12b. Retain the existing town centre of Carryduff</p> <p><u>Issue 16, 1 Option</u> 16a. Promoting Office Development within the City, Town, District and Local Centres</p>	
TC4 District and Local Centres	<p><u>Issue 14, 2 Options</u> 14a. Extend District and Local Centre Boundaries (Preferred Option). 14b. Retain the existing boundaries at Forestside District Centre and Dundonald Local Centre</p>	
TC5 Villages and Small Settlements		
TC6 Petrol Filling Stations and Roadside Service Facilities		
AN ATTRACTIVE PLACE		

POLICY	Preferred Options Paper	Draft Plan Strategy
7. TOURISM		
TOU1 Tourism Development in Settlements	Issue 18, Issue 19, Issue 20 (1 Option) 18a. Promote Hillsborough Castle as a Key Tourism Destination (Preferred Option). 19a. Promote the implementation of the Lagan Navigation as a Key Tourism / Recreation Opportunity Area (Preferred Option). 20a. Protect and promote the Lagan Valley Regional Park as a rich natural asset, retaining and enhancing the Lagan Valley Regional Park Nodes (Preferred Option).	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy.
TOU2 Proposals for Tourism Amenity in the Countryside		TOU2-TOU6 appraised as a group No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy and taking on board comments from Tourism Board NI. Making the policy more robust.
TOU3 Proposals for Tourist Accommodation in the Countryside		
TOU4 Self-Catering Tourist Accommodation in the Countryside		
TOU5 Holiday Parks in the Countryside		
TOU6 Proposals for Major Tourism Development in the Countryside		
TOU7 General Criteria for Tourism Development		No reasonable alternatives have been identified.
TOU8 Safeguarding of Tourism Assets		No reasonable alternatives have been identified.
8. OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND OUTDOOR RECREATION		
OS1 Protection of Open Space	NA	No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy approach - SPPS.
OS2 Intensive Sports Facilities		OS2-OS6 appraised as a group No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy approach - SPPS.
OS3 Noise-Generating Sports and Outdoor Recreational Activities		
OS4 Facilities ancillary to Water Sports		
OS5 Floodlighting of Sports and Outdoor Recreational Facilities		
OS6 Outdoor Recreation in the Countryside		
A GREEN PLACE		
9. HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT AND ARCHAEOLOGY		
HE1 The Preservation of Archaeological Remains of Regional Importance and their Settings	NA	HE1-HE4 appraised as a group No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy approach - SPPS. Consultation with HED has happened and there is a statutory basis for the policies.
HE2 The Preservation of Archaeological Remains of Local Importance and their Settings		
HE3 Archaeological Assessment and Evaluation		
HE4 Archaeological Mitigation		
HE5 Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes of Special Historic Interest		No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy approach - SPPS. Consultation with HED has happened and there is a statutory basis for the policies.
HE6 Change of Use and/or Extensions or Alterations to a Listed Building		HE6-HE9 appraised as a group No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy approach - SPPS. Consultation with HED has happened and there is a statutory basis for the policies.
HE7 Control of Advertisements on a Listed Building		
HE8 Demolition or Partial Demolition of a Listed Building		

POLICY	Preferred Options Paper	Draft Plan Strategy
HE9 Development affecting the Setting of a Listed Building		HE10 - HE12 appraised as a group No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Consistent with regional policy approach - SPPS. Consultation with HED has happened and there is a statutory basis for the policies.
HE10 New Development in a Conservation Area or Area of Townscape Character/Area of Village Character		
HE11 The Control of Advertisements in a Conservation Area or Area of Townscape Character/Area of Village Character		
HE12 Demolition or Partial Demolition in a Conservation Area or Area of Townscape Character/Area of Village Character		
HE13 The Conversion and Reuse of Non-Listed Buildings		
HE14 Enabling Development		
10. NATURAL HERITAGE		
NH1 European and Ramsar Sites - International	NA	NH1-NH5 appraised as a group. No reasonable alternatives were considered. The policies are consistent with regional policy and there is a statutory and legislative requirement for the policies - PPS2, the Habitats Regulations, the Wildlife and Natural Environment Act and its Biodiversity Duty on Councils.
NH2 Species Protected by Law		
NH3 Sites of Nature Conservation Importance - National		
NH4 Sites of Nature Conservation Importance - Local		
NH5 Habitats, Species or Features of Natural Heritage Importance		
NH6 Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty		No reasonable alternative was considered. The policy is consistent with regional policy - SPPS.
A CONNECTED PLACE		
11. ACCESS AND TRANSPORT		
TRA1 Creating an Accessible Environment	<u>Issue 22, 1 Option</u> 22a. Retain a number of key transportation infrastructure schemes to enhance accessibility within the area (Preferred Option). <u>Issue 23, 2 Options</u> 23a. Retain a number of key Park & Ride Sites with identification of potential new Park & Ride Sites (Preferred Option). 23b. Retain a number of key Park & Ride Sites <u>Issue 24, 1 Option</u> 24a. Promote Active Travel in all new development (within Urban Areas/Settlements) to demonstrate how the development integrates with existing public transport, walking and cycling (Preferred Option). <u>Issue 25, 1 Option</u> 25a. Protect and develop safe, shared and accessible Greenways connecting communities, promoting walking and cycling,	No reasonable alternative has been identified - consistent with regional policy - SPPS and PPS3.
TRA2 Access to Public Roads		TRA2 and TRA3 appraised as a group No reasonable alternatives identified - Consistent with regional policy - SPPS and PPS3.
TRA3 Access to Protected Routes		No reasonable alternatives have been identified.
TRA4 Protection for New Transport Schemes		No reasonable alternatives have been identified.
TRA5 Strategic Greenways and Disused Transport Routes		No reasonable alternative has been identified - consistent with regional policy - SPPS and PPS3.
TRA6 Transport Assessment		TRA7 and TRA9-TRA11 appraised as a group No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Policies TRA9 and TRA10 are new policy, policies TRA7 and TRA11 are consistent with Regional policy direction).
TRA7 Car Parking and Servicing Arrangements in New Developments		No reasonable alternatives have been identified.
TRA8 Active Travel Networks and Infrastructure Provision		No reasonable alternatives have been identified.

POLICY	Preferred Options Paper	Draft Plan Strategy
TRA9 Park and Ride/Park and Share Car Parks	recreational and social interaction and enhancing health and well-being (Preferred Option).	TRA7 and TRA9-TRA11 appraised as a group No reasonable alternatives have been identified. Policies TRA9 and TRA10 are new policy, policies TRA7 and TRA11 are consistent with Regional policy direction).
TRA10 Provision of Public and Private Car Parks		
TRA11 Temporary Car Parks		
12. RENEWABLE ENERGY		
RE1 Renewable Energy Development	<u>Issue 26, 2 Options</u> 26a. Introduce Areas of Constraint in relation to renewable development (wind turbines) (Preferred Option). 26b. Retain the existing policy-led approach in relation to renewable development	No reasonable alternatives have been identified - consistent with regional policy - SPPS & PPS18.
RE2 Integrated Renewable Energy		No reasonable alternatives have been identified - consistent with regional policy - SPPS & PPS18.
13. TELECOMMUNICATIONS		
TEL1 Telecommunications Development	<u>Issue 27, 2 Options</u> 27a. Retain the existing policy-led approach in relation to telecommunication development (Preferred Option). 27b. Introduce Areas of Constraint in relation to telecommunication development	No reasonable alternatives have been identified - consistent with regional policy - SPPS.
14. UTILITIES		
UT1 Utilities	<u>Issue 27, 2 Options</u> 27a. Retain the existing policy-led approach in relation to telecommunication development (Preferred Option). 27b. Introduce Areas of Constraint in relation to telecommunication development	No reasonable alternative has been identified - based on previous policy from the Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland.
15. WASTE MANAGEMENT		
WM1 Waste Management Facilities	NA	WM1, WM3 and WM5 appraised as a group No reasonable alternative has been identified - Consistent with regional policy.
WM2 Treatment of Waste Water		No reasonable alternative has been identified - this is a new policy.
WM3 Waste Disposal		WM1, WM3 and WM5 appraised as a group No reasonable alternative has been identified - Consistent with regional policy.
WM4 Land Improvement		No reasonable alternative has been identified - Consistent with regional policy.
WM5 Development in the Vicinity of Waste Management Facilities or Waste Water Treatment Works		WM1, WM3 and WM5 appraised as a group No reasonable alternative has been identified - Consistent with regional policy.
16. FLOODING		
FLD1 Development in Fluvial (River) Flood Plains	NA	FLD1 - FLD4 appraised
FLD2 Protection of Flood Defence and Drainage Infrastructure		

POLICY	Preferred Options Paper	Draft Plan Strategy
FLD3 Development and Surface Water (Pluvial) Flood Risk Outside Flood Plains		No reasonable alternative has been identified - Consistent with regional policy.
FLD4 Artificial Modification of Watercourses		
FLD5 Development in Proximity to Reservoirs		No reasonable alternative has been identified - Consistent with regional policy.
17. ADVERTISEMENTS		
AD1 Amenity and Public Safety	NA	No reasonable alternative has been identified - Consistent with regional policy.

Appendix B – SA Monitoring Framework

INDICATOR	SOURCE	TARGET
IMPROVE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING		
1. Average housing density from planning applications/approvals	Annual Housing Monitor 1st April to 31 March each year Planning Portal Data showing number of planning applications approved contrary to density bands	Density Band City Centre 120-160 dwellings per hectare. Density Band Outside City Centre and within Greater Urban Areas and Towns 25-35 dwellings per hectare.
2. Education, Health, Community and Cultural services floor space built	Annual Reports from providers Number of planning approvals from planning portal. Section 76 Planning Register.	Identify land for Education, Health, Community and Cultural Use at Local Policies Plan to meet any identified need from Providers. Section 76 Planning agreements where a community infrastructure need is identified
3. Total amount of Open Space	Planning approvals from planning portal Open Space Audit	Retain level of open space
4. New public open space gained through housing development (Ha)	Planning approvals from planning portal Open Space Audit	To monitor new open space
5. Provision of equipped children's play areas	Planning approvals from planning portal Open Space Audit	To monitor equipped children's play areas
6. Active Travel schemes which provide improved linkages	Statistics from DfI and Translink on modal shift Number of planning approvals Transport Schemes/ improvements identified by DfI Number of planning applications/ approvals accompanied by a travel plan, above the relevant Transport Assessment thresholds identified from Planning Portal The number of planning applications/ approvals for Greenways DfI Transport Survey and Translink statistics on alternative transport uses to the private car The Council Car Parking Strategy Number of Planning applications for residential developments approved/refused with Transport Assessments	Delivery of schemes which support Active Travel (Walking, Cycling, Public Transport)

INDICATOR	SOURCE	TARGET
STRENGTHEN SOCIETY		
1. Total Affordable Housing	NIHE Housing Needs Assessment or Statement of Specialist Housing Need NIHE Housing Needs Assessment NI Housing Statistics (DfC)	2,400 Social housing units identified in Housing Needs Assessment over lifetime of the Plan. To monitor that 20% of units on sites of 0.5 hectares or comprising of more than 5 residential units are affordable.
2. Traveller and Specialist Accommodation	NIHE Housing Needs Assessment or Statement of Specialist Housing Need NI Housing Statistics (DfC)	Identify any need for Traveller Accommodation For Specialist Accommodation the homes and/or bed spaces to be provided meet an identified community need demonstrated through a statement of specialist housing need.
3. Total number of housing units built in countryside outside settlements	Annual Housing Monitor 1st April to 31 March each year	To monitor housing numbers built in the countryside.
4. Education, Health, Community and Cultural services floor space built	Annual Reports from providers Number of planning approvals from planning portal. Section 76 Planning Register.	Identify land for Education, Health, Community and Cultural Use at Local Policies Plan to meet any identified need from Providers. Section 76 Planning agreements where a community infrastructure need is identified.
5. An improved Night-Time Economy in City and Town Centres	Planning approvals from planning portal Town Centre Health Checks Tourism Statistics data and accommodation/ bed spaces available from Tourism NI	Increasing Planning approvals to promote the night-time economy such as hotels, bars/ restaurants, leisure and entertainment venues.

Indicator	Source	Target
Provide good quality sustainable housing		
1. Total number of housing units built in each settlement on zoned and windfall sites and within/outside the urban footprint	Annual Housing Monitor 1st April to 31 March each year	(HGI) figure of 10,700 housing units 2016-2030 and projection in Plan Strategy for 12,335 housing units 2017-2032 (Strategic Housing Allocation).
2. Total Affordable Housing	Annual Housing Monitor 1st April to 31st March NIHE Housing Needs Assessment NI Housing Statistics (DfC)	2,400 Social housing units identified in Housing Needs Assessment over lifetime of the Plan. To monitor that 20% of units on sites of 0.5 hectares or comprising of more than 5 residential units are affordable.
3. Traveller and Specialist Accommodation	Annual Housing Monitor 1st April to 31st March NIHE Housing Needs Assessment NI Housing Statistics (DfC)	Identify any need for Traveller Accommodation. For Specialist Accommodation the homes and/or bed spaces to be provided meet an identified community need demonstrated through a statement of specialist housing need.
4. Average housing density from planning applications/approvals	Annual Housing Monitor 1st April to 31 March each year	Density Band City Centre 120-160 dwellings per hectare. Density Band Outside City Centre and within Greater Urban Areas and Towns 25-35 dwellings per hectare.
5. Available capacity of Waste Water Treatment Works to support residential development	NI Water Annual Report and Data on WWTWs capacity. Annual Housing Monitor 1st April to 31st March.	All housing applications connecting to the existing WWTWs.
6. Total number of housing units built in countryside outside settlements	Annual Housing Monitor 1st April to 31 March each year	To monitor housing numbers built in the countryside.

Indicator	Source	Target
Enable access to high quality education		
1. Education, Health, Community and Cultural services floor space built	Education related planning applications/ approvals from Planning Portal Education Authority Annual Report	Identify land for Education, Health, Community and Cultural Use at Local Policies Plan to meet any identified need from Providers.
2. % of working age population with no qualifications	NISRA Labour Force Survey	No target. (Objective is to decrease the percentage of the working age population with no qualifications.)

Indicator	Source	Target
Enable sustainable economic growth		
1. Retention of Zoned Land for Economic Development Uses	Annual Employment Land Monitor 1st April to 31st March Total number of employment approvals on zoned employment land and also outside these zonings	Avoiding loss of zoned employment land to other uses. Employment Uses shall be directed to Zoned Employment Land and the Strategic Mixed Use Sites at West Lisburn/Blaris and Purdysburn/ Knockbracken
2. Retail and office development (sq. m.) permitted within established primary retail core and frontage, city or town centre, district and local centres, edge of centre, out of centre and outside these designations	Planning applications/ approvals from planning portal Retail Impact Assessments Town Centre Health Checks and Assessment of Use Class	Number of approvals annually for Class A1 Retail and Class A2 Financial, Professional Services as in the Use Class Order in the designated primary retail core and frontage and city, town, district and local centres Proposed B1(a) office developments do not exceed 400 square metres of gross floor space in District and Local Centres.
3. An improved Night-Time Economy in City and Town Centres	Planning applications/ approvals from planning portal Town Centre Health Checks Tourism statistics data and accommodation/bed spaces available from Tourism NI	Increasing Planning approvals to promote the night-time economy such as hotels, bars/ restaurants, leisure and entertainment venues.
4. Number of tourism amenity planning approvals in settlements and countryside.	Planning applications/ approvals from planning portal Tourism health checks – visitor numbers, overnight stays Tourism NI Statistics	To monitor tourism amenity development applications.
5. Number of tourism accommodation planning	Planning applications/ approvals from planning portal	To monitor tourism amenity development applications.

approvals in settlements and countryside.	Tourism health checks – visitor numbers, overnight stays Tourism NI Statistics	
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Indicator	Source	Target
Manage material assets sustainably		
1. Total number of housing units built in each settlement on zoned and windfall sites and within/outside the urban footprint	Annual Housing Monitor 1st April to 31 March each year	(HGI) figure of 10,700 housing units 2016-2030 and projection in Plan Strategy for 12,335 housing units 2017-2032 (Strategic Housing Allocation).
2. Renewable Energy schemes in accordance with Government targets	Statistics from DfE and NISRA on renewable energy production and supply Number of planning approvals	Compliance with Government targets on energy supply from renewable sources
3. Provision of telecommunications and digital infrastructure	Statistics and reports from Ofcom Number of planning approvals Planning applications/ approvals from planning portal	Delivery of a fit for purpose tele-communications and digital infrastructure
4. Waste Management schemes in accordance with National and Local targets	The NI Waste Management Strategy Council's Waste Management Plan Northern Ireland Environment Agency statistics on tonnage to landfill or recycling Number of planning approvals	Compliance with National and Local targets on waste management

Indicator	Source	Target
Protect physical resources and use sustainably		
1. Annual Mineral extraction rates in the Council Area	Number of planning approvals from planning portal DFE Annual Monitoring Report on operational quarries in the Council Area	No target. (Objective is that local demand for minerals is met by supply without placing pressure on vulnerable landscapes)
2. The level of growth and amount of physical development that occurs in the district	CORINE Land Cover Inventory Council's Urban Capacity Studies	No target. Objective is to maintain/increase % 'green urban' ¹² land use type. Amount of development (Ha) within urban footprint and settlement limits (reviewed at LPP stage)

Indicator	Source	Target
Encourage active and sustainable travel		
1. Active Travel schemes which provide improved linkages	Statistics from DfI and Translink on modal shift Number of planning approvals	Delivery of schemes which support Active Travel (Walking, Cycling, Public Transport)
2. Protection of Strategic Greenways and reuse of disused Transport Routes	Statistics from DfI and Translink on modal shift Number of planning approvals DfI publication 'Strategic Plan for Greenways'	Number of Strategic Greenway or transport schemes on disused transport routes (measured in km)

Indicator	Source	Target
Improve air quality		
1. Air Quality	LCCC Environmental Health Section	Achieving annual mean objectives / improvement in NO ₂ air quality, revocation of AQMAs.
2. Active Travel schemes which provide improved linkages	Statistics from DfI and Translink on modal shift Number of planning approvals Transport Schemes/ improvements identified by DfI Number of planning applications/ approvals accompanied by a travel plan, above the relevant Transport Assessment thresholds identified from Planning Portal	Delivery of schemes which support Active Travel (Walking, Cycling, Public Transport)
3. Travel to work by sustainable modes of transport	NISRA (Census) Travel survey for NI (TSNI) (DfI)	No target. (Objective to increase the proportion of journeys carried out using modes other than the car).

¹² Areas with vegetation within or partly embraced by urban fabric identified through the CORINE Land Cover Inventory. This class is assigned for urban greenery, which usually has recreational or ornamental character and is usually accessible for the public.

Indicator	Source	Target
Reduce causes of and adapt to climate change		
1. Renewable Energy schemes in accordance with Government targets	Statistics from DfE and NISRA on renewable energy production and supply Number of planning approvals Planning applications/ approvals supporting renewable energy including wind turbines, solar farms etc. and any cumulative impact on sensitive landscapes from this development Annual Reports from providers	Compliance with Government targets on energy supply from renewable sources
2. Development within Fluvial or Pluvial Zones	DfI Rivers Agency Flood Maps NI DfI Rivers Agency consultation responses Number of planning approvals in areas at risk	To monitor the number of planning applications in areas that are prone to flooding and its potential adverse impacts.
3. Travel to work by sustainable modes of transport	NISRA (Census) Travel survey for NI (TSNI) (DfI)	No target. (Objective to increase the proportion of journeys carried out using modes other than the car).

Indicator	Source	Target
Protect, manage and use water resources sustainably		
1. Available capacity of Waste Water Treatment Works to support residential development	NI Water Data on WWTWs capacity Annual Housing Monitor 1st April to 31st March	All housing applications in settlements connecting to the existing or proposed WWTWs
2. Development within Fluvial or Pluvial Zones	DfI Rivers Agency Flood Maps NI DfI Rivers Agency consultation responses Number of planning approvals in areas at risk	To monitor the number of planning applications in areas that are prone to flooding and their potential adverse impacts.
3. % surface waterbodies in Borough achieving 'good' ecological status (or 'good' ecological potential) or better	DAERA NI Environment Agency Water Management Unit	No target. (Objective is improvement in surface water quality).
4. The number of development proposals permitted that incorporate SuDS, of types that do / do not qualify for adoption by NI Water under The Water and Sewerage Services Act (Northern Ireland) 2016	LCCC Planning Decisions	No target. (Objective is increase in development using 'soft' SuDs)
5. Number and location of properties approved with non-mains wastewater treatment.	DAERA NI Environment Agency LCCC Planning Decisions	No target. (Objective is to decrease number of potential point pollution sources).

Indicator	Source	Target
Protect natural resources and enhance biodiversity		
1. Number of planning permissions in Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes	Planning approvals from planning portal Open Space Audit The number of development proposals permitted involving heritage assets contrary to the advice from DfC- Historic Environment Division from planning portal	To monitor planning approvals within existing Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes
2. Number of permissions on International, National, Local sites, designated sites and plan designations: Ramsar, ASSI, national nature reserve, local nature reserve, wildlife refuge, AONBs, Areas of High Scenic Value, Green Wedges and Local Landscape Policy Areas	Planning approvals from planning portal The number of development proposals permitted impacting on natural heritage assets contrary to advice from DAERA- Natural Environment Division	To monitor planning applications within sensitive or protected landscapes. (Objective: no loss of designated sites protected or damage to sensitive landscapes and biodiversity through planning approvals).
3. Changes to designation of natural heritage assets (surface area km², number).	DAERA NI Environment Agency	No Target. (Objective is to maintain / increase areas designated for nature conservation value).

4. Condition of natural heritage assets within the Borough (DAERA condition assessments)	DAERA NI Environment Agency	No Target. (Objective is to maintain / improve areas designated for their nature conservation value).
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Indicator	Source	Target
Maintain and enhance landscape character		
1. Total amount of Open Space	Planning approvals from planning portal Open Space Audit	Retain level of open space
2. Number of planning permissions in Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes	Planning approvals from planning portal Open Space Audit The number of development proposals permitted involving heritage assets contrary to the advice from DFC- Historic Environment Division from planning portal	To monitor planning approvals within existing Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes
3. Number of permissions on International, National, Local sites, designated sites and plan designations: Ramsar, ASSI, national nature reserve, local nature reserve, wildlife refuge, AONBs, Areas of High Scenic Value, Green Wedges and Local Landscape Policy Areas	Planning approvals from planning portal The number of development proposals permitted impacting on natural heritage assets contrary to advice from DAERA- Natural Environment Division	To monitor planning applications within sensitive or protected landscapes. (Objective: no loss of designated sites protected or damage to sensitive landscapes and biodiversity through planning approvals).

Indicator	Source	Target
Protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage		
1. Number of demolitions/ conversions within Conservation Areas and Areas of Town and Village Character	Planning approvals from planning portal The number of development proposals permitted involving heritage assets contrary to the advice from DFC- Historic Environment Division from planning portal	To monitor demolitions/ conversions within Conservation Areas and Areas of Town and Village Character
2. Number of demolitions/conversions of listed buildings	Planning approvals from planning portal The number of development proposals permitted involving heritage assets contrary to the advice from DFC - Historic Environment Division from planning portal	To monitor demolitions/ conversions of listed buildings.
3. Number of planning permissions in Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes	Open Space Audit Planning applications/ approvals from planning portal The number of development proposals permitted involving heritage assets contrary to the advice from DFC- Historic Environment Division from planning portal	To monitor planning approvals within existing Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes