



Appendix Eleven:
Metropolitan Borough
of Wirral
Sustainability Appraisal
of District Council Action
Plan

Sustainability Appraisal of the District Council Action Plan for Wirral

July 2007

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Executive Summary

This report details the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) that was undertaken on the District Council Action Plan for municipal waste management services in Wirral. The District Council Action Plans (DCAPs) were developed in early 2006 to set out the actions anticipated by each District Council within the Merseyside Waste Partnership (MWP) in order to deliver the targets and policies of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS), published in 2005. This Strategy is currently being updated.

The authorities comprising the MWP are committed to delivering sustainable solutions in their activities and incorporating sustainable development within core policies and strategies. To demonstrate this commitment to delivering sustainable solutions a Sustainability Appraisal has been carried out on the updated draft JMWMS and each of the DCAPs within the Partnership. The aim of the SA is to ensure that the JMWMS and associated DCAPs contribute positively to sustainable development by integrating social, economic and environmental considerations into the decision making process. It provides a mechanism for ensuring that sustainability ideals and objectives are effectively translated into sustainable policies and strategies.

In order to evaluate the sustainability of the DCAP several processes were undertaken including the following key phases of work:-

- A baseline review of relevant data for Wirral;
- A review of plans strategies, policies and other key documents relating to sustainable development and the waste management service for Wirral and also at MWP, regional and national levels;
- Determination and agreement of Sustainability Appraisal criteria;
- A scoping exercise to determine overview performance against sustainability appraisal criteria;
- Meeting with key officers (Waste & Sustainability representatives) from Wirral to discuss draft outputs from the scoping exercise, seek any further information / policies, validate the findings and fill any gaps in data;
- Detailed Sustainability Appraisal against SA criteria within a scoring matrix accommodating the likely impacts, mitigation, duration of impact and area of impact (e.g. local, regional, national etc); and
- Finalise and issue the SA.

Key Findings of the Sustainability Appraisal include:-

Impact on Climate Change

The Wirral DCAP makes a significant contribution to reducing the impact of the waste management service, in terms of reducing greenhouse emissions, predominantly through diversion of waste from landfill and proactive organic municipal waste management. Wirral Council is developing its service and rounds to optimise efficient collection thereby reducing emissions and continually exploring ways to improve the service it delivers in a bid to reduce landfill and raise awareness of climate change issues.

Developing Sustainable Waste Management

Clearly a prime function of the DCAP is to develop more sustainable management of waste and the action plan includes a variety of measures to positively move towards this goal including waste prevention, reuse, recycling and composting activity. A key focus of the DCAP is also in improved education and awareness raising, linking waste management and other environmental agendas.

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Promoting Sustainable Living

The DCAP provides the opportunity for all sectors of society to make a positive contribution to sustainable development and sustainable living through participation in more sustainable management of waste. The DCAP seeks to provide an improved recycling / composting kerbside service to all residents and therefore be inclusive in participation for the benefit of the local economy and to benefit the environment.

Improving and Enhancing Local Environmental Quality

The DCAP will have a positive effect with regard to improving and enhancing local environmental quality through development of a convenient, comprehensive collection system. Wirral is using education and also enforcement measures to encourage participation using the services provided. Recent changes to the service (e.g. Alternate Weekly Collection (AWC)) will benefit from a proactive position in this regard. Significant resource has been applied to tackling litter and fly-tipping issues to improve the local environmental quality of the Authority.

Promoting and Developing Sustainable Economic Growth

The DCAP will have a minor positive impact with regard to improving the local and regional economy through development of secondary resources (recyclables, compost), potentially increased employment through collection services, education and enforcement. Most notably Wirral has demonstrated proactive involvement with the third sector in supporting waste management service delivery.

Develop and Enhance Skills and Access to Training

The upskilling of the waste management service is a feature of increased legislation and more diverse requirements placed upon collection crew, officers and waste treatment staff as the service moves from a disposal operation to a resource management strategy. The DCAP supports this and a minor positive impact of the DCAP will be an improvement in this area. Currently staff receive basic training in aspects such as communication and enforcement, but there is the opportunity for further development.

Promote and Develop more Sustainable Approaches to Transport and Travel

The DCAP is considered to have a minor positive improvement in this area through Wirral's work to improve and optimise collections rounds to be the most efficient. However, whilst the council has green procurement aspirations and a preference for use of 'green' fuels, this activity has not yet been delivered. The key aspect of transport will be the location and proximity of treatment facilities for which the details are not currently available for consideration.

Protect, Manage and Enhance Biodiversity and Local Landscape Character

The DCAP is considered to have a minor positive impact on this area, indirectly through the use of waste derived compost to replace peat extraction, avoidance of land intensive landfill operations and remediation of closed landfills. Protecting biodiversity from waste infrastructure development is a function of the planning and permitting system, not the DCAP.

Establish and Promote Sustainable Use of Natural Resources

The DCAP, through development of secondary resources (compost and recyclables) contributes to conservation, and sustainable treatment, of natural resources. The focus on

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waste prevention attempts to reduce the need for primary resource use and consumption patterns, although this work is at a relatively early stage. The DCAP may be considered to have a minor positive impact on promoting sustainable use of natural resources.

Protect Places of Historic, Cultural and Archaeological Value

The DCAP has a neutral effect on the built environment in terms of cultural / archaeological protection. Improvement of emissions from vehicles will have a minor effect, however the key aspect is the location and design of Recycling / Composting / Treatment / Disposal facilities, and the details and siting of such facilities are governed by planning and permitting regimes.

A summary of the overall scores awarded for each theme is given below:

Theme	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Theme 1: Climate Change	✓		
Theme 2: Waste	✓		
Theme 3: Sustainable Communities	✓		
Theme 4: Local Environment Quality	✓		
Theme 5: Economics	✓		
Theme 6: Skills and Behaviour	✓		
Theme 7: Transport	✓		
Theme 8: Biodiversity	✓		
Theme 9: Natural Resources	✓		
Theme 10: Buildings and Heritage		✓	

To conclude, the Wirral DCAP performs well in the Sustainability Appraisal. There are several proactive initiatives undertaken by the authority which are innovative and forward thinking and contribute strongly to the Sustainability of the Action Plan. A number of recommendations are made within this Appraisal to consider in mitigation of potential impacts of the DCAP and associated service delivery. These items are included in the body of the report and individually specified in Appendix 5.

1. Introduction

This document represents the Sustainability Appraisal for the District Council Action Plan (DCAP) for Wirral.

1.1 District Council Action Plans

In 2005, the Merseyside Waste Partnership (MWP) developed the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) which sets out the policies and targets to deliver the national, regional and local objectives and requirements for the management of municipal waste on Merseyside, and provides a strategic focus for waste management activities¹.

The District Council Action Plans (DCAPs) are the implementation and monitoring tool for the delivery of the targets within the headline strategy. They represent the delivery mechanism ascribing responsibilities, interim targets, and performance aims in order to meet aims and objectives set out within the JMWMS, which are:

JMWMS Strategic Aim	Objectives
To improve the sustainability of municipal waste produced on Merseyside using the waste hierarchy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide services or facilities which directly contribute to the implementation of the JMWMS; • To optimise reduction; • To optimise reuse where reduction is not possible; • To optimise waste recycling and composting where reuse is not possible; • To optimise waste recovery where actions higher up the waste hierarchy are not practicable; and • To landfill waste only where actions higher up the waste hierarchy are not possible.
To continuously improve the services we provide in terms of efficiency, effectiveness and economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MWDA to lead in the development of a JMWMS for Merseyside; and • To deliver waste services to the required performance levels.

Each of the authorities within the MWP has produced a DCAP which clearly identifies the current operational practices and intentions of the authorities to develop the service over the short to medium term, within the context of delivering the JMWMS. Their effectiveness can be assessed against the delivery of the aims and objectives of the JMWMS identified above, and also in the context of the key collection recommendations:

Key recommendations in relation to kerbside collection:

1. All Districts to move towards the separate collection of dry recyclables, biodegradable waste and residual waste using kerbside sort or wheeled bin collection systems by 2010.
2. All Districts to maximise garden waste and paper collections.
3. All Districts to collect recyclables as often as possible and move towards fortnightly residual waste collections by 2010.
4. All Districts to move to the kerbside collection of food waste by 2010.

Key recommendation in relation to bring collection

5. Every District to optimise its Bring Bank locations across Merseyside to an optimum saturation rate of one per 1000 population.

¹ The JMWMS is currently being updated to ensure it reflects present data and information with regard to waste arisings, performance, key MWDA/Partnership projects, and reflects the procurement process currently underway with regard to further developing new more sustainable options to manage Merseyside's waste. In addition the update ensures policies, options and actions are deliverable, challenging and sustainable and give regard to the ever-changing and evolving local, regional, national and European waste and resource management agenda.

1.2 Aim of the Sustainability Appraisal

Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority (MWD A) is committed to delivering sustainable solutions in all its activities and incorporating sustainable development within its core policies and strategies; waste management is no exception. To demonstrate this commitment to delivering sustainable solutions a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) has been carried out on the updated JMWMS and each of the DCAPS within the Merseyside Waste Partnership. The aim of the SA is to ensure that the JMWMS and associated DCAPs contribute positively to sustainable development by integrating social, economic, and environmental considerations into the decision making process. It provides a mechanism for ensuring that sustainability ideals and objectives are effectively translated into sustainable policies and strategies.

1.3 Focus of the Sustainability Appraisal

This SA is based primarily on the Wirral Council Waste Collection Action Plan (DCAP for Wirral) produced in January 2006. In addition, the following supporting information was used during the appraisal process:

- Intelligence Table (produced 27/02/07 by MWD A);
- Report to Cabinet Member Environmental, Wirral (16/03/06);
- Results of a structured interview carried out with Tara Dumas, Environment and Waste Services Manager, Wirral Council, on 20th June 2007; and
- Local reference material (refer to Appendix 1).

2. Methodology

The methodology adopted to undertake this Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is the same approach used to appraise the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS)². The method has been built on good practice and expertise held internally by BeEnvironmental and in consultation with the Merseyside Waste Partnership (MWP), accessing systems and expertise within Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority (MWD A). Specifically, the framework developed for the SA of the JMWMS based on the North West Integrated Appraisal Toolkit³ has been utilised for this appraisal.

In summary the following structured approach was undertaken:

Stage 1: Scoping phase

This consisted of:

- A full literature review of appropriate local level documents, reports, policies, strategies, identifying links with other programmes and sustainability objectives which should be taken into consideration when evaluating the impact or effect of the DCAP;
- Collation of baseline data and information in relation to Wirral; and
- An initial appraisal of the DCAP to award provisional scores and identify specific issues/questions to raise with the District at interview.

Stage 2: Confirm the final framework and assessment criteria

This consisted of:

- Reviewing the outputs from the initial appraisal using the toolkit and ensuring that a comprehensive set of themed objectives and sub-objectives have been identified for the detailed appraisal;
- Confirming the detailed scoring criteria for the full appraisal; and
- Compiling the matrix for recording the information.

² A separate report has been produced on the SA of the JMWMS and detail is provided in that report on the selection of the methodology.

³ This toolkit was commissioned by the North West Regional Assembly and regional partners including North West Development Agency and Government Office North West, to provide support and guidance and ensure a structured approach is undertaken in relation to sustainability appraisals.

Stage 3: Undertake the detailed Sustainability Appraisal

This consisted of:

- Scoring the key policies, options, and statements of the DCAP using the framework and criteria agreed and recording the outputs in the matrix;
- Recording key references, where available, supporting the evaluation of each objective/sub-objective; and
- Identifying mitigating factors in relation to each objective/sub-objective.

Stage 4: Reporting the outputs

This consisted of:

- Producing a detailed report which presented the outputs from all stages of the Sustainability Appraisal.

3. Scoping Phase

3.1 Literature review

A full literature review was undertaken of local level (Wirral) documentation, reports, plans, policies, strategies and programmes and sustainability objectives which are relevant to the sustainability appraisal and need to be taken into consideration when evaluating the impact of the District Council Action Plan (DCAP). A brief resume of the literature was recorded and the relevant Sustainability Appraisal (SA) theme was noted. This information was then added to the relevant literature reviewed from the region and the partnership and full details can be found in Appendix 1.

3.2 Baseline data and information

A wide range of references and source material was used for the collation of baseline data and information. Full details of baseline data and information in relation to Wirral can be found in Appendix 2, however a summary is provided below.

3.2.1 Summary of baseline data and information

Geographical Location

Wirral Borough Council is on the Wirral Peninsular between the River Dee and River Mersey Estuaries (to the west and east respectively). The main urban centres are Wallasey, New Brighton and Birkenhead in the North East, with West Kirby and Heswall to the West. The borough is linked to Liverpool via the Mersey Tunnels (Kingsway and Queensway) as well as the Mersey Ferry. The M53 runs down the borough linking it to the M56 and Cheshire.

Population⁴

Wirral has a population of 312,293; this is predicted to be increasing by around 0.06% (average annual increase between 2004 and 2029). This follows the general trend in population increase across Merseyside and the North West Region. The average age of the Wirral population is 39.96, slightly higher than the regional average of 38.61. The population density is 19.9. The affluent western areas of Wirral, along the coast of the River Dee have higher property prices and lower unemployment than the east of the borough, stretching along the coast of the River Mersey, which is more densely built up with lower property prices and higher levels of unemployment and lower environmental quality. Over 96% of the population is white British.

Housing

⁴ Ref: Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council, Corporate Assessment, December 2002; Audit Commission; www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk

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The properties on the Wirral are predominantly semi-detached houses, accounting for 41.70%. This is higher than the regional average.

The Wirral has the highest percentage of properties owned by the occupier in Merseyside with 31.30% of properties being owned outright and 40.97% being owned with a mortgage or loan. Renting through the housing association or council is lower than the regional average at 5.7% and 11% respectively compared to 6.5% and 13.6% regionally. Renting through private landlords or other means is slightly higher than the regional average.

In terms of value, Wirral largely follows the regional trend in terms of property price bands. However there is a trend towards higher percentage of properties being in the higher council tax bands than on average in the North West.

Social Deprivation⁵

The indices of deprivation score placed Wirral as the 48th most deprived brought nationally. Of Wirral's 22 wards 6 were in the worst 10% of the index, 5 were in the worst 5%, with the most affected ward being 23rd in the index. In terms of a single deprivation indicator, Bidston was the worst in England and Wales for child poverty. 30.34% of the households in Wirral don't have a car, higher than the national average of 26.84%.

Health⁶

Life expectancy in Wirral, as in the rest of Merseyside, follows the regional trend of falling below the national average for both men (by 0.71 years) and women (by 1.15 years). Even though nearly two thirds of the population in Wirral are classed in good health, 40.7% of all households have a person with limiting long term illness. This is significantly higher than the national average of 33.55%. The teenage conception rate per 1000 is 44.4 in Wirral which is below the regional average of 45.6 but still higher than the national rate of 41.5.

Crime⁷

Crime in Wirral has been consistently below the national average in terms of the number of offences per 1000 population.

Employment and Education⁸

Wirral's unemployment rate stands at 5.8%, higher than the national average. Employment stands at around 55.4%, mainly accounted for in the manufacturing and retail sector, but closely followed by those working in real estate and social work. There is a large retired population; 15.8% and 8.7% of the population are classed as long term sick or disabled compared to 5.5% nationally. Education attainment levels are high with only slightly lower than average percentage of people qualified to degree level and the percentage of people with no qualification following the national trend at just over 29%.

The skills for life survey, commissioned by the Department for Education and Skills, aimed to establish a stronger evidence base to underpin the Skills for Life Strategy. Detailed results for the Merseyside and Wirral region are in Appendix 2. In summary the criteria used were:

- Entry Level is below a low level GCSE;
- Level 1 is broadly comparable with a low level GCSE (D-G); and
- Level 2 is comparable with a high level GCSE (A*-C).

Literacy levels in Wirral are higher than the average for the region or Merseyside. Numeracy skills are lower for high GCSE equivalent level but higher for low GCSE equivalent level.

⁵ Ref: www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk; <http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1128440>; *The indices of deprivation 2004*,

⁶ Ref: www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk

⁷ Ref: www.crimestatistics.org.uk, www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk,

⁸ Ref: Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council, Corporate Assessment, December 2002; Audit Commission; www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk; www.dfes.gov.uk/readwriteplus_skillsforlifesurvey/gors/gor_B.shtml

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Skills in information communication and technology are slightly higher in the Wirral than for Merseyside or the North West. .

Biodiversity⁹

There are two Special Protection Areas (SPAs) in Wirral, the Mersey Estuary and the Dee Estuary, which are also Ramsar Sites. In addition, there are five Local Nature Reserves: Bidston Moss; Dibbinsdale; Heswall Dales; Hilbre Island, and Thurstaston Common. There are also ten Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs): Dee Cliffs; Dibbinsdale; Heswall Dales; Meols Meadows; New Ferry; North Wirral Foreshore; Red Rocks; The Dungeon; Thurstaston Common, and Mersey Meadows.

Waste Management

Waste Growth: The data provided by Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority (MWDA) shows the last three years arisings and exhibits a relatively static in household waste over this period.

A three year time period however is unsuitable for considering waste growth and projections. A second dataset was therefore used, taken from Defra data. This provided a ten year range of data, and also included the element of Civic Amenity (CA) site waste which was excluded from the MWDA figures, but provides a more complete picture of arisings within the District.

The data shows a slight decline in household waste observable since 2000. There has also been an increase in non household waste over this period. The Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) trend shows a decline over the last four years.

Fly-tipping incidents: Data on fly-tipping incidents (in Appendix 2) shows an increase in the number of fly-tipping incidents in 2005. This is attributed to the councils charging for bulky waste collection service in this year. The council now employs four full time enforcement officers and one enforcement manager who are responsible for dealing with fly-tipping offences as well as enforcing other sections of the Environmental Protection Act (EPA) 1990, Clean Neighborhoods Act and the Highways Act.

Wirral have been successful in prosecuting several high profile fly-tipping offences and they intend to enforce a no-side-waste policy, treating bags left at the side of bins as a breach of section 46 of the EPA.

Operation Joker is a Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) funded project aimed at specifically targeting household fly-tipping in back alleys in high density areas.

Collection: Residual waste is collected alternately weekly in 240 litre wheeled bins for 95% of households (the remaining are 700 households on sacks and 9,000 multi occupancy properties on bulk containers or weekly residual collections), dry recyclables (paper, cans, glass, plastics and cardboard) are collected alternate weeks using a 55 litre box and a consumable sack for textiles for 95% of households (136,000). Garden waste is collected alternate weeks from 103,357 households using 240 litre wheeled bin. Of these households involved in the garden waste collection, 18,000 households currently include food waste in that collection. However this practice will cease in July 2007 as the inclusion of food waste currently results in the collection from these households going to landfill. With the exclusion of food waste post July 2007, the garden waste collected from these households will be composted in the normal manner.

There are also 22 bring sites in place.

⁹ Ref: www.magic.gov.uk; www.english-nature.org.uk; www.english-nature.org.uk/text_version/special/lmr/lmr_results.asp?c=27; www.english-nature.org.uk/Special/sssi/reportAction.cfm?Report=sdrt13&Category=C&Reference=1027

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Water Quality

Rivers: The North West Region contains over 5,750 kilometres of rivers. Over 90% of these are now clean enough to support fish and recreational activities. However, in recent years the rate of water quality improvement has slowed due to cleaner wastewater discharges.

Since 2000:

- there was a net improvement of around 2% (over 100km) of North West rivers;
- over one fifth (around 1200km) of North West rivers were upgraded; and
- the proportion of rivers classed as 'Good' or 'Fair' biologically rose by 5%.

The main Rivers in Merseyside are the River Alt, the River Dee and the River Mersey. There are also a number of smaller water courses in Merseyside which act as tributaries to these larger rivers.

The River Mersey is sourced in the western Pennines and runs into Merseyside with St Helens and Knowsley to the North and Halton to the South. Here it spreads into the Mersey Estuary and runs North out into the Irish Sea. Fifty years ago, the River Mersey was one of the most polluted rivers in Europe but following an intensive clean up operation, fish are now thriving and salmon have returned.

The Mersey Basin Campaign (MBC) is a 25-year government backed partnership to deliver water quality improvements and waterside regeneration throughout the Mersey basin river system.

A multi-million pound project to clean up the beaches, rivers and lakes in the North West has been secured by the Environment Agency. The project called ICREW (improving coastal and recreational waters) is working in association with partners from Ireland, France, Portugal and Spain and has been designed not only to clean up the waters, but also to boost tourism. There are seven pilot actions that make up the project and although some of these are being managed in the UK, water specialists from Portugal and the MBC have been tasked with the management of others.

Estuaries: The estuaries in the North West are in a poorer condition than the estuaries in the rest of the country, being the only region to still have areas classed as bad condition. The map in Annex 2 shows the quality of estuary water around England and Wales for 2000. 10.6% of the estuaries (as a percentage of length) in the North West were classified as bad and 14.5% as poor. It can be seen that the majority of these ratings were in the Merseyside region.

Bathing: The west coast of the North West Region is bounded by the Irish Sea which receives significant inputs of contaminants from direct discharges along its coasts, and from diffuse agricultural and urban sources. Through a multi-million pound European funding stream (INTEREG III), international partners are working to improve coastal and recreational waters. There are 7 designated beaches within the Merseyside area where water quality is monitored regularly. In 2006, all of the bathing waters sampled in the Merseyside area complied with the European Regulations.

Groundwater: Merseyside has groundwater protection zones, within which contamination could affect the quality of water abstracted for drinking. These areas are monitored by the Environment agency and in conjunction with their Groundwater Protection Policy have set up pollution prevention measures in areas which are at higher risk and monitor the activities of potential polluters nearby. Large areas of the Wirral fall within these zones.

Flood Risks

The Wirral catchment includes the Rivers Fender and Birkett and Rivacre, Dibbinsdale and Arroe Brooks and their tributaries. The Wirral peninsular is bordered by the Mersey and Dee estuaries and the Irish Sea.

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Areas of Meols and Leasowe are at severe risk of flooding from a breach of the sea defences.

The River Mersey, which is currently covered by a Catchment Flood Management Plan which covers an area of approximately 600km², approximately 40% is heavily urbanised and is home to approximately 1,400,000 people. Significant flooding in the past identified from the British Hydrological Society (BHS) chronology includes the 1881, 1911, 1928 and 1933 events. There was major flooding and large amounts of rainfall reported and recorded across the Mersey Estuary during these years. The most recent tidal flooding event occurred in February 1990. Tidal water levels flowed up the Mersey Estuary and into Warrington. Water overtopped the existing defences and threatened properties within the town centre.

Flooding on the Mersey may be the result of or the combined effect of two or more of these:

- either tidal water, fluvial water or surface water or from the combined effects of either of these;
- potential flooding of urban areas located near some of the watercourses – this is mainly linked to the lack of channel capacity to cope with high flows;
- a significant number of the flooding problems identified are associated with inadequate bridge or culvert capacity, blockages and/or failure;
- another significant cause of flooding related to surface water runoff and inadequate drainage of the areas;
- groundwater levels are rising in parts of the catchment;
- increase in deposits of (fine) sediment in parts of the Mersey estuary seems to have an effect on flood risk;
- strong winds from the Irish Sea entering the estuary may have an effect on (tidal) flood risk; and
- within Flood Zone 3 (this is the area of land with a 100 to 1 chance (or greater) of flooding in any year from rivers, or with a 200 to 1 chance (or greater) of flooding in any year from the sea) there are approximately 25,000 properties at risk of flooding within the catchment about 10 per cent of which are commercial. Current predictions indicate that approximately 1,700 residential properties and over 100,000 m² of commercial floor space are at risk of tidal flooding from the River Mersey in Warrington. The current flood defences provide a varied and substandard level of protection. It is estimated that, in some areas, flooding from events with a return period as low as 1 in 10 years has an impact.

Tidal Flooding is also a potential risk to the Wirral area.

Air Quality

There are no Local Air Quality Monitoring Areas in Wirral

Greenbelt

The eastern, central and southern settlements are separated by 73 sq. km. of Green Belt.

Transport

Rail networks: The Wirral Peninsular is served by the Wirral line of the Merseyrail network. The main stations are Hamilton Square in Birkenhead, New Brighton in the North and West Kirby in the West. The Wirral line links Wirral to Chester, via Ellesmere Port in the South and Liverpool city centre via the Mersey tunnels. This links Wirral, through various stations with the rest of Merseyside through the other lines on the Merseyrail network: Knowsley, Halton and St. Helens on the city line, Halton and Sefton on the Northern Line. This gives links to the national rail network main lines at Liverpool, Chester, Wigan, Runcorn and Warrington. There is also a main line out of the Wirral to the South into North Wales and Chester.

Ferry networks: Ferries run across the Mersey from the Pier head in Liverpool Docks to Woodside in Birkenhead and Seacombe in Wallasey on the Wirral peninsular Wirral. Ferries run daily with the ferry terminals being served by public transport and the Merseyrail network as well as having access to parking. There are both direct services and a tourist service

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(River Explorer). Ferries also leave Liverpool and Birkenhead for other National destinations, the busiest of these being crossings to Ireland, to Dublin and Belfast, and Douglas on the Isle of Man.

Air network: The Merseyside area is served by the John Lennon Airport located 7 miles south of the city of Liverpool in Speke. The airport carries over 4.5 million passengers per annum and offering some 60 destinations. It is served by the Mersey Rail network as well as various bus services from across the region so can be easily accessed from the Wirral area. Road links from Wirral are either via the Mersey Tunnels and the A651 or via the M53, through Chester and the M56 to the A557 Runcorn Bridge then along the A5300.

Road networks: The main urban centres are Wallasey, New Brighton and Birkenhead in the North East, with West Kirby and Heswall to the West. The borough is linked to Liverpool via the Mersey Tunnels (Kingsway and Queensway) as well as the Mersey Ferry. The M53 runs down the borough linking it to the M63 and Cheshire.

There a number of canals serving the Merseyside area: The Bridge Water Canal (from Manchester into Wigan and Runcorn); The Leeds Liverpool Canal (entering the Merseyside area from the west at Wigan running down through Sefton into Liverpool); The Manchester Ship Canal (from Manchester to Eastham, Wirral) and the planned Liverpool Canal Link (connecting the Leeds Liverpool Canal to Liverpool's Albert Dock by means of a new canal).

- The Bridge Water Canal runs for 28 miles from Manchester into the Merseyside and Cheshire areas. The northern branch runs to Wigan with the southern branch entering the Manchester Ship Canal and heading for the Mersey estuary and ending at Runcorn;
- The Manchester Ship Canal runs for 36 miles from Manchester to Eastham, Wirral. It runs though Halton and into Chester before heading North onto the Wirral peninsular; and
- River Weaver: The navigable River Weaver runs for 20 miles between Winsford in Cheshire and Runcorn on the Manchester Ship Canal.

Buildings and Heritage

There are more than 1,800 Listed Buildings in Wirral.

3.3 Initial Scoping Scores

Working with the toolkit and using the information and data obtained from the literature review and baseline data collation, a scoping score was awarded in relation to those questions considered to be appropriate and relevant. The full outputs from this scoping phase can be seen in Appendix 3; the results clearly indicated that the initial review found the DCAP to have an assumed positive effect/ no change/ effect unclear in relation to all themes. No negative scores were awarded.

3.4 Interview Data and Information

A structured interview was carried out within the authority, and a series of questions were assigned to each theme in order to provide greater clarification as to the potential impact of delivering the DCAP. These questions can be seen in Appendix 4. Bearing in mind that the DCAP is over 12 months old, and a number of recommendations within the DCAP may have been implemented or rejected, the interview provided the opportunity to generate up to date supporting information and data which could then be taken into consideration when assigning a final score and full justification.

3.5 The Next Stage

The next stage involved undertaking a more detailed review, building upon the outcomes of the scoping phase, utilising the baseline data, literature review, and supporting information from the interview to revisit the scores and apply a more detailed scoring system which allows for the degree or extent of the positive effect to be identified. In addition, all those

questions/issues where the effect was unclear or inconclusive, these were revisited and appraised in more detail using the additional supporting evidence to produce a considered, justified decision in terms of the final score awarded.

4. Sustainability Appraisal Framework and Assessment Criteria

The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) framework comprises of themes, objectives and a series of questions which assess the sustainability effects of the District Council Action Plan (DCAP). It acts as a checklist to ensure all dimensions of sustainable development have been considered and is used as a benchmarking exercise to test the performance of the DCAP policies assessing the sustainability of the options proposed and developing mitigating factors.

As a result of the scoping phase the following SA themed objectives and sub-objectives were identified for the detailed appraisal:

4.1 Sustainability Appraisal Themed Objectives and Sub-objectives

Theme 1: Climate Change	
<p>Objective 1: To deliver sustainable solutions to address the challenge of climate change.</p>	<p>1.1 Will the DCAP develop or deliver local, regional and national policies to tackle climate change? 1.2 Will the DCAP help to reduce greenhouse gases? 1.3 Will the DCAP help to adapt to climate change? 1.4 Will the DCAP address the social and economic, as well as environmental impacts, of energy use? 1.5 Will the DCAP promote more sustainable means of energy generation? 1.6 Will the DCAP help raise awareness of climate change issues?</p>
Theme 2: Waste	
<p>Objective 2: To develop and promote sustainable management of municipal solid waste.</p>	<p>2.1 Will the DCAP ensure the sustainable management of waste? 2.2 Will the DCAP reduce waste generation, including hazardous waste? 2.3 Will the DCAP encourage the management & disposal of waste as close to its origin as practicable? 2.4 Will the DCAP encourage re-using, recycling and/or recovery?</p>
Theme 3: Sustainable Communities	
<p>Objective 3: To promote sustainable living.</p>	<p>3.1 Will the DCAP contribute to developing and maintaining sustainable communities? 3.2 Will the DCAP engage with and enhance the lives of all the members of the community in its development and delivery? 3.3 Will the DCAP improve and ensure local accessibility of jobs, community goods and services as well as amenities? 3.4 Will the DCAP reduce crime, disorder and the fear of crime whilst offering opportunities for rehabilitation to offenders? 3.5 Will the DCAP improve income levels and promote wellbeing especially in deprived areas? 3.6 Will the DCAP improve physical and mental health and reduce</p>

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	health inequalities?
Theme 4: Local Environment Quality (LEQ)	
Objective 4: To protect and enhance local environment quality.	<p>4.1 Will the DCAP contribute to the provision of cleaner, safer, greener communities?</p> <p>4.2 Will the DCAP reduce the amount of litter, flytipping or graffiti in local communities?</p> <p>4.3 Will the DCAP protect or improve local air quality or limit air pollution to levels which do not damage natural systems?</p> <p>4.4 Will the DCAP protect against noise, dust, vermin and odour?</p> <p>4.5 Will the DCAP protect or improve inland, estuarine or coastal waters?</p> <p>4.6 Will the DCAP protect or enhance soils and/or land whilst promoting the re-use or regeneration of previously developed land?</p>
Theme 5: Economics	
Objective 5: To promote and develop sustainable economic growth.	<p>5.1 Will the DCAP encourage sustainable economic growth and employment?</p> <p>5.2 Will the DCAP encourage innovation as well as research & development together with knowledge transfer?</p> <p>5.3 Will the DCAP encourage the formation, sustaining and growth of social / community enterprise schemes?</p> <p>5.4 Will the DCAP make linkages to ensure vacancies are accessible to all communities and locations especially disadvantaged areas?</p> <p>5.5 Will the DCAP support growth in key cities/towns and/or areas remote from growth?</p>
Theme 6: Skills and Behaviour	
Objective 6: To develop and enhance skills and access to training.	<p>6.1 Will the DCAP bring intermediate or higher levels skills into the current workforce or develop skills required to bring people back into the labour market?</p> <p>6.2 Will the DCAP support skills development and promote the take up of training and/or further education opportunities?</p>
Theme 7: Transport	
Objective 7: To promote and develop more sustainable approaches to transport and travel.	<p>7.1 Will the DCAP reduce road freight movements, traffic congestion or the distances needed to travel, while also promoting sustainable travel?</p> <p>7.2 Will the DCAP impact on the distances travelled by wastes and resources and the associated transport impacts?</p>
Theme 8: Biodiversity	
Objective 8: To protect and enhance biodiversity and the local environment.	<p>8.1 Will the DCAP protect, manage and enhance biodiversity and local landscape character?</p> <p>8.2 Will the DCAP help to protect any designated wildlife sites or landscape areas?</p> <p>8.3 Will the DCAP improve the amount and quality of, and access to, local green space?</p> <p>8.4 Will the DCAP protect and enhance endangered species and habitats and provide opportunities for new habitat creation?</p>

Theme 9: Natural Resources	
Objective 9: To establish and promote more sustainable use of natural resources.	9.1 Will the DCAP ensure efficient use of natural resources, discourage overseas imports from unsustainable resources and/or encourage the use of local resources? 9.2 Will the DCAP help to increase the value of regional (NW) resources to society and the environment?
Theme 10: Buildings and Heritage	
Objective 10: To protect local historic and cultural buildings, sites and heritage.	10.1 Will the DCAP protect places of historic, cultural and archaeological value? 10.2 Will the DCAP be based on high-quality design that respects local character and enhances local distinctiveness while reducing the number of vacant buildings, through re-use as well as redevelopment?

For each of these objectives and sub-objectives the DCAP was assessed. Predicted impacts were considered and the results recorded using matrix tables. Building upon the initial scores awarded during the scoping phase the following more detailed scoring criteria were used:

SA score

++	DCAP is considered to be compatible with the SA objective/sub-objective and is highly likely to have a direct positive effect
+	DCAP is considered to be compatible with the SA objective/sub-objective and there is potential for a positive effect, either directly or indirectly
Neutral	DCAP is considered to have neither a positive or negative effect in relation to the SA objective/sub-objective (this can be an accumulation of factors which overall are considered to be neither positive or negative)
-	DCAP is considered likely to have a negative effect in relation to the SA objective/sub-objective, either directly or indirectly
--	DCAP is considered to be incompatible with the SA objective/sub-objective and is highly likely to have a negative effective

Timescale

Short	Any effect (positive, neutral or negative) will have implications up to 2010, within the lifetime of the updated strategy
Medium	Any effect (positive, neutral or negative) will have implications up to 2015, within the lifetime of the updated strategy and beyond
Long	Any effect (positive, neutral or negative) will have implications beyond 2015

Impact

L	Effect is felt within Wirral
M	Effect is felt within the Merseyside Waste Partnership area
R	Effect is felt within the North West region
N	Effect is felt UK wide or within the global environment

5. Detailed Sustainability Appraisal (SA)

Building on the outcomes from the scoping phase and taking into consideration the baseline data and the local, partnership, regional and European literature review, the District Council Action Plan (DCAP) and supporting information (refer to section 1.3 for further details) was appraised in terms of its sustainable effect on a local, regional and national level and the timescale of that effect with regard to each of the objectives and sub-objectives. The DCAP

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was considered in both a practical sense with regard to the operational implications of what was proposed and underway but also with regard to its delivery of the strategic aims and objectives of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) and the key recommendations relating to District collections.

Full details of the outcomes of the SA, including detailed justification for the scores awarded can be found in Appendix 5.

5.1 Summary of the Sustainability Appraisal Results

5.1.1 Climate Change

The DCAP positively contributes to the objective within the SA of ‘delivering sustainable solutions to address the challenges of climate change’.

The focus within the DCAP is to maximise recycling through improved service delivery and increased participation, which will make a positive contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions as a result of more sustainable management of waste. Promoting, targeting and developing infrastructure for recycle diversion from the waste stream and delivering material for resource recovery and more energy efficient processes of recycling energy intensive materials as a secondary resource supports energy efficiency.

The DCAP also focuses on diversion of garden waste and the expansion of this scheme and provision of composting infrastructure, which significantly reduces potential greenhouse gas emissions when replacing artificial fertilisers which are a significant source of greenhouse gases. The composting facility, located in the borough and which manages all the garden waste collected, is producing PAS100 grade compost which is sold commercially as a peat replacement.

Communications activities in relation to the collection service have made the link with climate change and good practice strategies are being promoted by Wirral.

Waste prevention is also a significant aspect of waste management in terms of greenhouse gas reduction, and promoting waste minimisation is a key strategic aim of the authority, who work closely with Local Agenda 21 groups to promote sustainable waste management. Plus the DCAP fully supports the JMWMS in delivering waste prevention initiatives which will enable the householder to reduce the generation of their waste stream and therefore reduce the negative environmental impact, including climate change, of their waste. Wirral’s waste promotional and awareness campaigns, including educational work within schools, make reference to the energy saving benefits of sustainable waste management.

In terms of climate change issues relating to the collection of waste and recyclables, Wirral have had their collection rounds zoned by their collection contractors and are confident that the most efficient, optimised rounds have been developed.

The implications of climate change on collection and storage systems in terms of extreme weather and potential health/nuisance effects are being addressed in part with the introduction of wheeled bin collection scheme. Contingency plans have also been put in place to manage any potential emergency aspects of the effects of climate change with regard to operational delivery of the service.

The DCAP also supports the JMWMS which directs the partnership (including Wirral) towards the displacement of fossil fuels through the recovery of energy from waste; reducing reliance on landfill and providing a renewable low carbon energy source.

On balance the DCAP is considered to have a very positive effect on the Climate Change agenda.

5.1.2 Waste

The DCAP positively contributes to the objective within the SA of ‘developing and promoting sustainable management of municipal solid waste’.

The DCAP represents a sustainable solution for Wirral, clearly identifying how the authority is managing its municipal solid waste, successfully delivering against the strategic aims, objectives and key recommendations set out in the JMWMS, and progressing towards statutory recycling/composting targets. Alternate Week Collections (AWC) has been rolled out to all suitable households across the borough (9,000, mainly multi-occupancy dwellings are currently not receiving AWC). Kerbside collection for dry recyclables (paper, cans, glass, plastics and card) is collected in a 240lt wheeled bin and garden waste collection is provided to more than 60% of households (103,000). With the roll out of AWC, all households currently on garden waste collection service change from a sack to a 240lt wheeled bin for the collection of garden waste. A network of 132 bring sites is supported with 22 tetra-pak sites and 40 micro-banks for glass. This comprehensive collection service provides householders with the opportunity to divert as close to source as possible a significant percentage of material out of the waste stream, thereby reducing the quantity for recovery and disposal.

The generation of compost from the garden waste collection potentially reduces the need for artificial fertilisers, thereby reducing hazardous waste generation from this source and also reduces the need for peat, thereby reducing the environmental impact caused by its extraction.

Waste minimisation activities are supported and Wirral is engaged at a partnership level with these. Wirral is also part of the WRAP partnership home composting scheme and this is locally promoted.

The DCAP proposes to improve participation rates through increased publicity and awareness raising, plus enforcement measures are proposed to encourage participation, including a ban on side waste.

Specific reuse activities supported by Wirral include the work of social enterprise organisations who offer a free bulky waste collection from households for reuse, resale, refurbishment or recycling. In addition, Wirral works with other community organisations to offer reuse services to residents.

Potential joint procurement opportunities are explored with the DCAP to ensure effective progression towards the achievement of sustainable management of waste.

Overall the service set out in the DCAP is designed to limit waste collected from the household; with a ban on side waste for residual and garden waste and communication activities promoting reduction and reuse.

On balance, the DCAP is considered to have a very positive effect on the sustainable waste management of MSW.

5.1.3 Sustainable Communities

The DCAP positively contributes to the objective within the SA of ‘promoting sustainable living’.

The DCAP provides the opportunity for all sectors of society to make a positive contribution to sustainable development and sustainable living through participation in more sustainable management of waste. The DCAP seeks to provide an improved recycling / composting

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kerbside service to all residents and therefore be inclusive in participation for the benefit of the local economy and to benefit the environment.

The DCAP identified the need to promote a greater awareness, education and information on the environmental benefits of more sustainable management of waste. In response to this, information and promotional material is available to all and engagement on sustainable waste management issues is maintained within the community through a number of area committees and community organisations. Activities with schools are supported, with a schools education officer working closely with schools in Wirral delivering a waste education campaign in coordination with home recycling and key stage levels.

The DCAP was developed taking account of public and other stakeholder views and any updates or changes are subject to consultation.

The DCAP should contribute to improving income levels by bringing about greater levels of employment through the expanded collection service and associated secondary industry through the supply chain, thereby potentially addressing deprivation issues. Increased employment will have an impact on communities with regard to health and wellbeing.

The DCAP supports the use of enforcement measures to reduce waste related crime and to try and encourage positive behaviour with regard to recycling. In addition, the greater presence of services to the household (i.e. two or three collections rather than the traditional one or two) can make a contribution in raising a local authority profile in a neighbourhood, potentially reducing the fear of crime or isolation.

Support has been given to deprived areas in Wirral in relation to waste management. The focus of one Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRA) is to reduce fly-tipping by targeting the area and increasing enforcement. Wirral also supports ex-offenders or those under community service orders to undertake environmental improvement activities as part of their sentence and / or rehabilitation in partnership with the National Offender Management Service. The neighbourhood environment team also receive Neighbourhood Renewal Funds (NRF) to take on those on the New Opportunities Scheme; they also work with the green apprentice scheme, Enventure (where participation officers are recruited) and social enterprise schemes which work with offenders. Good waste management practices have been promoted and implemented in the more deprived parts of the borough, and work in this area is ongoing.

On balance the DCAP is considered to have a positive effect on sustainable living.

5.1.4 Local Environment Quality (LEQ)

The DCAP positively contributes to the objective within the SA of 'protecting and enhancing local environment quality'.

There is a direct link between quality of life in communities and cleaner, safer, greener public spaces. Poor waste management can lead to dirty neighbourhoods which has a negative impact upon quality of life and which in turn can result in anti social behaviour. Providing a coordinated and comprehensive waste collection service makes a fundamental contribution to providing clean, safe green neighbourhoods.

The DCAP for Wirral provides the local level infrastructure and delivery mechanisms to ensure that recyclables and residual waste collection systems are in place and operating to a high standard. Wirral is committed to providing kerbside collection system which ensures that local communities are not disadvantaged in terms of waste management having a negative impact on public spaces. The DCAP promotes sustainable solutions for managing waste in Wirral and this means to the highest of standards in terms of protecting against nuisance, whether this is from noise, dust, vermin or odour, as a result of waste management

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activities. Wirral is using enforcement measures to encourage participation and where wheeled bins are in place they operate a no side waste policy. Four council enforcement officers work to combat the problem with new powers granted under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (CNEA, 2006) in some cases in partnership with other agencies. Fly-tipping is a focus of their activities and the council considers that progress has been made as fly-tipping incidents have reduced. In addition the DCAP supports the JMWMS in terms of tackling fly-tipping and littering.

The DCAP supports the JMWMS which promotes the use of contained processes for the management of residual waste. These facilities will be licensed to operate and regulated by the Environment Agency, to ensure that any resulting emissions to air are within acceptable legal limits and do not damage the environment or human health. In addition, the JMWMS promotes a move away from landfill, which can be a problematic process in terms of fully containing the operations and protecting local air quality. In addition, all sites are contractually required to have an Environmental Management System (EMS) in place, which will provide additional safeguards and protection for the environment.

The DCAP also promotes the extension of bring sites which will potentially reduce journey times for householders and thereby reduce air pollution as consequence of traffic movements. Kerbside is maximised, reducing the need to travel to recycle. Plus the authority has ensured that collection rounds are the most efficient, reducing journey times.

The facilities and processes promoted by the JMWMS supported by the DCAP will all have to operate within legal parameters in terms of emission controls and any resulting waste water will have to be managed in an appropriate way to ensure the quality of groundwater, inland, estuarine and coastal waters are not compromised. The reduced reliance on landfill is positive in terms of protecting water from potential pollution as landfill, although contained to the highest degree practicable, does generate leachate. In addition, the increased use of compost generated from biodegradable elements of the waste stream may reduce reliance on artificial fertilisers, which can have a negative effect on groundwater and local waterways as a result run off from the land and the high levels of nitrates and phosphates, with the potential for eutrophication effects.

In terms of protecting or enhancing soils or land, the DCAP supports the development of compost (to BSI PAS 100 standards) which may reduce reliance on artificial fertilisers which can be damaging to land and reduce peat extraction. The compost produced as a result of the garden waste collection complies with BSI PAS 100 standards, and is commercially sold locally.

On balance the DCAP is considered to have a positive effect on local environment quality.

5.1.5 Economy

The DCAP positively contributes to the objective within the SA of 'promoting and developing sustainable economic growth'.

Overall, there should be a positive impact in terms of sustainable economic growth from the delivery of the DCAP and the JMWMS it supports. This positive impact will be derived initially from additional construction and ancillary service opportunities in the construction phase of new facilities in the short to medium term. A greater diversification of waste management options and the need to manage wastes more sustainably will also bring additional short to long term opportunities in collection, recycling, composting, reuse, education and operation of facilities. In addition to the potentially greater levels of employment through the expanded collection and treatment service, there is a strong drive for upskilling of the workforce (e.g. collection crew) as the roles become more involved, with such issues as Customer Relations, Enforcement and Health and Safety gaining in importance with more complex collection systems.

Wirral is proactive in supporting and promoting the work of the third sector in delivering sustainable waste management services, specifically reuse and waste prevention activities. The partnership with, and development of, community sector and social enterprises may help develop growth in areas where there was previously low growth.

There is also support for local level innovation on research and development, and this is illustrated in the development of the tetra-pak bring sites, working with processing companies in response to residents requests for recycling of this material. In addition, Wirral are working with local paper mills to address the issue and looking for an innovative solution of glass shards in commingled glass/paper collection. Wirral are currently working with both tetra-pak processors and paper mills to look for innovative solutions.

On balance, the DCAP is considered to have a positive effect on sustainable economic growth.

5.1.6 Skills and Behaviour

The DCAP positively contributes to the objective within the SA of ‘developing and enhancing skills and access to training’.

Nationally, there is a strong drive for upskilling the front facing waste management workforce (e.g. collection crew) as their roles become more involved and collection systems become more complex. The DCAP is structured around a collection infrastructure which aims to maximise potential for material capture and participation. There will therefore be an increased need to ensure that workers have the right training and opportunities for skills development to ensure that the service operates as effectively as it could. Currently all staff involved in operational activities within the authority receive basic skills training, which includes customer care, health and safety, manual handling, communication. A workforce is required not only with basic or low level skills but also with intermediate or higher level skills to manage and operate the services to the standards required by the regulator. There are a range of training opportunities and qualifications which would support intermediate or higher level entry and meet the needs of the new infrastructure.

With regard to supporting the JMWMS, all those responsible for day-to-day management of sites have to demonstrate technical competence and one way to demonstrate this is through the achievement of a relevant level qualification such as level 3 or 4 National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) in Waste Management Operations. In addition, in relation to the emerging technologies training is now available at the Vocational Related Qualification (VRQ) or MSc level, to ensure that employees have the necessary level of skills to manage the operations effectively. The availability of this training means that those who currently do not have the skills can access them and re-enter the labour market, not just at the basic level, but intermediate or higher.

On balance, the DCAP is considered to have a positive effect on enhancing skills and access to training.

5.1.7 Transport

The DCAP positively contributes to the objective within the SA of ‘promoting and developing sustainable approaches to transport and travel’.

The DCAP is focused on delivering an effective local service to householders, in order to maximise recovery of recyclables from the waste stream and wherever possible this means a service at the kerbside. Kerbside collection is supported by an expanding bring site network which reduces the need for householders to travel to manage their waste more sustainably.

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In addition, switching to an AWC for residual waste, recyclables and garden waste means that a comprehensive service can be made available without increasing the transport impacts through additional collection vehicles on the road at any one time.

In terms of collecting waste and recyclables in the most efficient manner, Wirral's waste contractors have zoned the collection rounds and are confident that the most efficient, optimised rounds have been developed.

Garden waste is taken to a facility located within the borough and the recycling contractor supports local markets wherever possible. Residual waste is managed through the partnership and as stated in the JMWMS new facilities are to be built to increase the self sufficiency of waste management within Merseyside and reduce the distances travelled by wastes.

On balance, the DCAP is considered to have a positive effect on sustainable transport and travel.

5.1.8 Biodiversity

The DCAP positively contributes to the objective within the SA of 'protecting and enhancing biodiversity and local environment'.

Within and around the Wirral area there are 2 Special Protection Areas (SPAs), 10 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), and 5 Local Nature Reserves. When delivering and implementing the DCAP there is a statutory obligation to protect these areas from any development which may have adverse effects. Wirral is also covered by a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) which contains Species Action Plans and Habitat Action Plans. Due regard is given to the BAP to ensure that species and habitats are protected from development and services. The planning and permitting systems will provide protection to designated wildlife sites or landscape areas.

The DCAP promotes an increase in composting which will provide the opportunity for more compost to be applied to improve local green spaces, where soil structure is poor or requires remediation and there may be an opportunity to decrease the use of artificial fertilisers and increase access to peat free compost, protecting biodiversity from exposure to chemicals in the fertilisers.

The JMWMS, which the DCAP supports, is proposing enclosed, highly managed options for the recovery and treatment of the waste stream which will ensure that waste is appropriately contained and biodiversity and local landscape character is protected as far as practicable. The JMWMS also supports the remediation of closed landfill sites which may enhance biodiversity and local landscape character of these sites. In addition, the multi material recycling collections supported by the DCAP will improve diversion from landfill, reducing the need for additional landfill sites which could infringe on wildlife sites or landscape areas. The restoration of existing landfill sites may provide the opportunity for wildlife to establish in new areas and landscapes to improve. The DCAP also considers enforcement issues which may help to improve and maintain the quality of local green spaces, offering protection from fly-tipping and littering.

On balance, the DCAP is considered to have a positive effect on biodiversity and the local environment.

5.1.9 Natural Resources

The DCAP positively contributes to the objective within the SA of 'establishing and promoting more sustainable use of natural resources'.

The DCAP will contribute to the conservation of certain existing resources in the region through substitution by secondary resources derived from the region. The increase in recycling, composting and preparation of a secondary fuel for power generation all displace the need for primary resources. In terms of the regional resources there may be some displacement effects in terms of peat, silica and aggregate derived from the region; however the substitution with secondary materials is likely to provide an environmental benefit and may also act to conserve resources in some instances. In addition to the generation of renewable electricity in the region, there is the potential for waste heat to be utilised within local proximity of a thermal treatment plant providing an environmental, economic and strategic benefit. There is likely to be a net benefit to society in the region in terms of jobs and availability of secondary materials through a strategy capturing resources for reprocessing and providing raw materials and goods for sale and reuse. Initiatives aimed at minimising waste will also provide an environmental benefit and may deliver economic benefits to the region, in addition to conserving the regions landfill capacity.

In addition, green procurement policies will encourage the use of recycled products to promote demand for secondary raw materials and energy efficiency. Corporate procurement policies are in place to support the purchase of recycled paper and guidance and criteria are aim to encourage the use of more sustainable resources. In addition, Wirral has worked closely with the contractor to establish a commercial outlet for the compost material and has worked with the contractor responsible for the dry recyclable collection to develop more local markets.

On balance, the DCAP is considered to have a positive effect on the sustainable use of natural resources.

5.1.10 Buildings and Heritage

The DCAP has a neutral effect with regard to the objective within the SA of ‘protecting local historic and cultural buildings, sites and heritage’.

In delivering the service set out in the DCAP there is limited need for development. Additional bring sites are sensitively located, but there is no requirement for facilities to be developed as a result of the DCAP. However, it should be noted that the planning and permitting systems will provide protection to more than 1,800 listed buildings in Wirral should any new developments in relation to the service be required.

On balance the DCAP, is considered to have a neutral effect on buildings and heritage.

5.2 Summary of Mitigation proposed within each Theme

When evaluating the effect of the DCAP from a sustainability perspective, a number of mitigating measures have been proposed to either lessen any potential negative effect, or enhance the potential positive effect and increase the compatibility of the DCAP with the SA objective/sub-objective.

5.2.1 Climate Change

Key mitigating measures proposed:

- Continue to promote waste prevention in MSW and also for waste from other sectors through signposting, awareness raising and networks / partnerships;
- Support local partnerships / initiatives to promote or develop renewable energy from waste;
- Consider producing a carbon management action plan and strategy;
- Explore the viability of alternative transport where greenhouse gas savings can be demonstrated;

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- Consider food waste collection where practicable to manage the impacts of this component of the waste stream;
- Continued promotion and awareness raising of good housekeeping and good practices in relation to separation and storage of waste and recyclables prior to collection;
- Regular review of contingency plans with regard to collection services;
- Continue to make energy linkages clear in waste promotional and awareness campaigns including schools work; and
- Continue to deliver waste awareness activity which explains the link to wider environmental agendas including resource management and climate change.

5.2.2 Waste

Key mitigating measures proposed:

- Maintain watching brief of good practice and developments in sustainable waste management;
- Continuation of local level initiatives to prevent, reduce or reuse hazardous waste e.g. community re-paint schemes;
- Develop linkages with forums / networks / waste exchanges / National Industrial Symbiosis Programme (NISP) to encourage alternative uses for waste materials from other sectors;
- Consider food waste collection where practicable to manage impacts of this component of the waste stream;
- Continue to compost garden waste at the facility within the district and support development of a central facility;
- Review service delivery to ensure good opportunities to recycle and reuse waste are made available to all sectors of the community; and
- Reinforce messages and continue education / awareness raising activity.

5.2.3 Sustainable Communities

Key mitigating measures proposed:

- Continue to support inclusive waste management operations to all sectors of society;
- Review service delivery to ensure good opportunities to recycle and reuse waste are made available to all sectors of the community;
- Reinforce messages and continue education / awareness raising activity;
- Continue plans to roll-out additional bring bank provision where they enhance accessibility;
- Continue to explore opportunities for those under community service orders to support activities;
- Continue to promote and develop good practice in waste management for deprived areas; and
- Maintain a watching brief over health impacts of waste management activities for both workers and the public, act to ensure responsible delivery of the service and protection of health.

5.2.4 Local Environment Quality (LEQ)

Key mitigating measures proposed:

- Continue education, and the provision of a high quality service supported where necessary by prompt and effective enforcement activity;
- Consider / develop partnerships to tackle problem areas;
- Maintain a watching brief over emissions and health impacts of waste management activities for both workers and the public, act to ensure responsible delivery of the service and protection of health;
- Ensure responsible delivery of AWC. Monitor impacts and provide appropriate support, education, appropriate and replacement receptacles and responsive

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collection service for the residents. Where necessary apply enforcement measures to maintain protection against odour, pests and nuisance;

- Review effectiveness and appropriateness of service;
- Maintain watching brief on nuisance and health effects of all waste management operations;
- Promote good quality collection of garden waste to minimise contamination of any composts generated;
- Seek high quality outputs from biological treatment; and
- Continue to compost garden waste at the facility within the district and support development of a central facility.

5.2.5 Economy

Key mitigating measures proposed:

- Continue to explore partnerships with other sectors and opportunities for the third sector in waste management operations;
- Promote training and awards within council services;
- Maintain watching brief of the latest developments and innovations within waste and resource management;
- Inform staff and other stakeholders through appropriate channels where practicable; and
- Continue to widely disseminate / promote all vacancies to ensure accessibility.

5.2.6 Skills and Behaviour

Key mitigating measures proposed:

- Promote training and awards within council services; and
- Work with contractors to ensure they support the need for staff development and training.

5.2.7 Transport

Key mitigating measures proposed:

- Explore the potential of intermodal transport;
- Review and optimise collection systems as new infrastructure and collections are developed;
- Continue to compost garden waste at the facility within the district and support development of a central facility; and
- Continue to procure higher efficiency vehicles and use green fuels.

5.2.8 Biodiversity

Key mitigating measures proposed:

- Promote good quality collection of garden waste to minimise contamination of any composts generated; and
- Seek high quality outputs from biological treatment.

5.2.9 Natural resources

Key mitigating measures proposed:

- Seek to enhance the quality of recyclate and organics collected to develop higher level markets wherever practicable;
- Work with Envirolink NW to explore opportunities for local markets;
- Encourage third sector involvement in additional areas of waste / resource management; and
- Develop linkages with forums / networks / waste exchanges / NISP to encourage alternative uses for waste materials from other sectors.

5.2.10 Buildings and Heritage

Key mitigating measures proposed:

- Ensure listed buildings are taken into consideration when planning development of facilities (e.g bring bank sites, Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs)); and
- Ensure additional bring sites, transfer stations, depots or HWRCs are sensitively located.

6. Conclusion

Overall the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the District Council Action Plan (DCAP) has clearly indicated that it is positively aligned to sustainability principles and objectives and it complements and supports a wide range of local, partnership, regional (North West) and national plans, policies, strategies and programmes.

A number of mitigating measures have been identified which will strengthen the sustainable position of the DCAP.

Appendix 1: Results of the Literature Review and Key References

Sustainability Appraisal of the District Council Action Plan for Wirral

Key Ref.	Document title	Description	Relevant Theme
1	Directive 91/156/EEC (OJ: L78/32/91) amending Directive 75/442/EEC on waste	<p>This Directive amends the original framework Directive 75/442/EEC on waste.</p> <p>The Directive is intended to raise the levels of environmental protection particularly by avoiding the creation of waste. It establishes an integrated and adequate network of waste disposal facilities, promotes the disposal of waste as close as possible to the production site in order to limit the hazards of shipments of waste, promotes clean technologies and recyclable and reusable products.</p>	Waste Climate Change Transport Economy
2	Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for the Community action in the field of water policy (The Water Framework Directive)	A framework Directive that requires all Member States to achieve good ecological status of inland water bodies by 2005. The purpose of this Directive is to establish a framework for the protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater.	Waste Biodiversity
3	Directive 1966/62/EC on ambient air quality and management	Establishes mandatory standards for air quality and sets limits and guide values for sulphur and nitrogen dioxide, suspended particulates and lead in air.	LEQ
4	Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise	This Directive laid down a common approach to avoiding, preventing or reducing on a prioritised basis the harmful effects of exposure to environmental noise. It defines a common approach intended to avoid, prevent or reduce on a prioritised basis the harmful effects, including annoyance, due to exposure to environmental noise through actions designed to a) determine exposure to environmental noise using noise mapping, b) ensuring that information on environmental noise and its effects is made available to the public, and c) adoption of action plans with a view to preventing and reducing environmental noise where necessary.	LEQ
5	Directive 2002/96/EC (OJ:L37/24/2003) on waste electrical and electronic equipment (The WEEE Directive)	<p>This Directive deals with the increasingly rapid growth of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and its impact on the environment, due to its hazardous content and 'ecological baggage'. It sets out measures which prevent WEEE, with regard to the reuse, recycling and recovery of such wastes so its disposal is reduced.</p> <p>The Directive also aims to improve the environmental performance of economic operators involved in the life cycle of electrical and electronic equipment and those involved in the treatment of such.</p> <p>This Directive is made in accordance with the health and safety requirements of: EC Directives like 91/157/EEC, on batteries and accumulators and Directive 75/442/EEC, on waste.</p>	Waste Natural Resources Economy Climate Change

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		A further Directive 2002/95/EC, on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment, is issued in accordance with the WEEE Directive. Both Directives will uniformly apply to all electrical and electronic equipment on the EU market.	
6	(OJ:L102/15/2006) on the management of waste from extractive industries and amending Directive 2004/35/EC	This Directive sets out measures, procedures and guidance to prevent and reduce the adverse effects on the environment and human health through the management of waste from the extractive industries. This includes waste from prospecting, extraction, treatment and storage of mineral resources, as well as the working of quarries. The operator of a waste facility must take measures to prevent and reduce any adverse effects on the environment and human health.	Natural Resources Waste
7	Directive 2004/12/EC (OJ:L47/26/2004) amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste	This Directive makes some amendments to Directive 94/62/EC, on packaging and packaging waste, which sets out measures aimed at preventing the production of excess packaging waste, reusing, recycling and other forms of recovering packaging waste. It seeks to harmonise national measures in order to prevent or reduce the impact of packaging and packaging waste on the environment and to ensure the functioning of the Internal Market. It contains provisions on the prevention of packaging waste, on the re-use of packaging and on the recovery and recycling of packaging waste. It updates the recovery and recycling targets to be met in the UK, which must be revised every five years. Implemented in the UK by means of The Packaging (Essential Requirements) (Amendment) Regulations SI 2004/1188.	Natural Resources Waste Climate Change
8	Directive 2002/95/EC (OJ:L37/19/2003) on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment (The RoHS Directive)	Implemented in UK legislation by means of Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations SI 2005/2748, see below.	Waste
9	Directive 75/439/EEC (OJ: L194/23/75) on the disposal of waste oils.	National governments are required to ensure the safe collection and disposal of waste oils preventing escape to land or water. They are to ensure that as far as possible, the disposal of waste oil is carried out by recycling (regeneration and/or combustion other than for destruction).	Waste
10	Directive 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste	Requires all member states to significantly reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste being sent to landfill. A principal objective of the Directive is to reduce the impact of methane produced by biodegradation in landfills (a potent greenhouse gas on climate change).	Waste Climate Change

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11	EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 79/409/EEC 1979	This directive relates to the conservation of all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state in the European Territory of the Member States. It covers the protection, management and control of these species and lays down rules for their exploitation. It requires members to maintain populations of all species referred to at ecologically and scientifically sound levels by sustaining areas of habitat. This applies to eggs, birds, nests and habitats.	Biodiversity
12	EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Fauna and Flora 92/43/EEC 1992	The Directive is intended to help maintain biodiversity in the Member States by defining a common framework for the conservation of wild plants and animals and habitats of Community interest. The Directive establishes a European ecological network comprised of "special areas of conservation" designated by Member States in accordance with the provisions of the Directive, and special protection areas classified pursuant to Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds (Natura 2000).	Biodiversity
13	The Convention on Biological Diversity. Rio de Janeiro, 1992	The Convention sort to anticipate, prevent and attack the causes of significant reduction or loss of biological diversity at source because of its intrinsic value and because of its ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic value. At the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002, the Heads of State agreed on the need to significantly reduce the loss of biological diversity by 2010. The Convention on Biological Diversity has been recognised as the main means of achieving this aim. In 2001 the Göteborg European Council adopted the objective of halting the loss of biodiversity in the Union by 2010.	Biodiversity
14	Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy, July 2003	This Strategy aims to stop and reverse the degradation of biological and landscape diversity values in Europe. The Strategy introduces a coordinating and unifying framework for strengthening and building on existing initiatives. It seeks to more effectively integrate ecological considerations into all relevant socio-economic sectors, and will increase public participation in, and awareness and acceptance of, conservation interests.	Biodiversity
15	Communication COM (2005) 666 Taking sustainable use of resources forward: a thematic strategic on the prevention and recycling of waste European Commission (2005)	Proposes a strategy and future legislative changes based on the over-riding principles of: [a] establishing a 'recycling' society; [b] maximising recovery of waste materials where; this is economically and environmentally feasible; and [c] recovery of energy from waste provided this is controlled by strict environmental standards. Its key aspect is that it proposes no new EU waste legislation for five years, focusing instead on implementation of the most recent Directives.	Waste Climate Change Natural Resources
16	Sixth Environment Action Programme. Environment	The sixth Environment Action Programme (6th EAP), adopted in 2002, is the EU's ten-year (2002-2012) policy programme for the environment. It identifies four key	Biodiversity Climate Change

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	2010: Our future, our choice, The European Union 2001	environmental priorities: climate change, nature and biodiversity, environment and health, and natural resources and waste. The Programme provides the environmental component of the Community's strategy for sustainable development: placing Environment policy in a broad perspective, also considering economic and social aspects. The link is made between environment and European objectives for growth, competitiveness and employment.	Waste
17	White Paper "European transport policy for 2010 : time to decide"	<p>This White Paper looks at the need to tackle sustainable transport at the European level. It proposes some 60 specific measures to be taken at Community level under the transport policy.</p> <p>To support the package of proposals to be implemented by 2010, which are essential but not sufficient to redirect the common transport policy towards meeting the need for sustainable development, the analysis in the White Paper stresses: the risk of congestion on the major arteries and regional imbalance; the conditions for shifting the balance between modes; the priority to be given to clearing bottlenecks; the new place given to users, at the heart of transport policy; the need to manage the effects of transport globalisation.</p>	Transport
18	Waste Strategy for England 2007	<p>The Waste Strategy 2007 updates the National Waste Strategy 2000 which introduced the concept of household statutory recycling and composting targets. These targets are updated in light of achievements since 2000 and are now set at a level to achieve an average of 40% by 2010, 45% by 2015 and 50% by 2020. A greater emphasis is placed on activities higher up the waste hierarchy, most notably a waste prevention target to reduce the amount of household waste not re-used, recycled or composted from over 22.2 million tonnes in 2000 by 29% to 15.8 tonnes in 2010 and an aspirational target to reduce this to 12.2 million tonnes by 2020.</p> <p>National targets for recovery are also included within the National Waste Strategy 2007 and are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> To recover value from 53% of municipal waste by 2010 <input type="checkbox"/> To recover value from 67% of municipal waste by 2015 <input type="checkbox"/> To recover value from 75% of municipal waste by 2020 <p>There were a variety of other targets such as a reduction in commercial & industrial waste to landfill by 20% by 2010 compared to 2004 levels.</p>	Waste Climate Change
19	Household Waste Recycling Act 2003	The provisions of this Act came into force on 30 December 2003. It applies to England and Wales and amends the Environmental Protection Act 1990, by making arrangements for the separate collection of recyclable waste and recycling and composting duties.	Waste
20	Waste and Emissions	In order for the UK to meet its national targets for the diversion of Biodegradable	Waste

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	Trading Act 2003	<p>Municipal Waste (BMW) from landfill as set out in the Landfill Directive, the Government has set targets for each Waste Disposal Authority (WDA). Through the Waste and Emissions Trading Act (WET Act), each WDA has been allocated a maximum allowance of BMW that it is permitted to dispose of to landfill in each year between 1st April 2005 and 2020. Failure to achieve these targets, either through landfilling within the allowance limit or through trading (and some banking / borrowing) mechanisms will lead to punitive financial penalties. The rate of financial penalty is currently set at £150 per tonne (see below).</p> <p>The quantity of BMW within municipal waste has been set as 68% in England. This figure is used to calculate the tonnages going to landfill, as determined through the Environment Agency mass balance approach.</p>	
21	Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations SI 2005/2748	<p>These Regulations came into force on 1 July 2006 and apply to England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. They concern both large and small household appliances as well as electric light bulbs and luminaires, and state that new electrical and electronic equipment must not contain more than the permitted maximum concentration values of hazardous substances.</p>	Waste
22	Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations SI 2005/894	<p>The aim of the Regulations is to set out a new regime to control and track the movement of hazardous waste in England. They work in conjunction with the List of Wastes (England) Regulations SI 2005/895, which reproduce the list of wastes from Decision 2000/532/EC, which contains the current version of the European Waste Catalogue.</p> <p>The Environment Agency must be notified of all premises where hazardous waste is produced or removed, unless the premises in question are exempt.</p>	Waste
23	Packaging (Essential Requirements) Regulations (2003)	<p>The regulations seek to minimise the impact of packaging on the environment by stating: packaging weight and volume should be minimised to the amount needed for safety and acceptance of the packaged product; noxious and other hazardous constituents of packaging should have minimum impact on the environment at end of life; packaging should be suitable for material recycling, energy recovery or composting, or for reuse if reuse is intended.</p>	Waste, Natural Resources
24	Government Response to Strategy Unit Report "Waste not, want not" DEFRA (2003)	<p>A set of recommendations were made in 'Waste Not, Want Not' following the Strategy Unit review of waste management for Defra to increase recycle and increase diversion from landfill essentially to positively progress towards meeting the Landfill Directive. Defra responded to the recommendations and a number of support initiatives were put in place, including the Waste Implementation Programme.</p>	Waste
25	Review of England's Waste Strategy. A Consultation Document.	<p>A review of the National Waste Strategy for England commenced in February 2006, the outcomes of this review are not available at the time of writing.</p>	Waste

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	DEFRA, February 2006	<p>The review document did however include a revised forecast of municipal waste growth, down from the previous 3% a year to 1.5% a year using the latest data. It also suggested that higher levels of recycling and composting may be achieved than indicated in Waste Strategy 2000, with the following targets proposed for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To recycle / compost 40% of household waste by 2010 ▪ To recycle / compost 45% of household waste by 2015 ▪ To recycle / compost 50% of household waste by 2020 <p>Forecasts of the role of Energy from Waste as part of the national contribution to municipal waste management were shown to be around 25% by 2020.</p>	
26	Landfill (England and Wales) Regulations 2002	Bans certain wastes being disposed of at landfill, and sets limits on the amount of biodegradable municipal waste allowed to be deposited at landfill. Sets requirements for specific landfills for hazardous, non hazardous and inert waste. Is likely to reduce the number of landfills permitted to accept hazardous waste.	Waste
27	Securing the Future. Delivering UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy March 2005	<p>Sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life, without compromising the quality of life of future generations. In the UK, that goal will be pursued in an integrated way through a sustainable, innovative and productive economy that delivers high levels of employment; and a just society that promotes social inclusion, sustainable communities and personal wellbeing. This will be done in ways that protect and enhance the physical and natural environment, and use resources and energy as efficiently as possible.</p> <p>The five guiding principles include: "Respecting the limits of the planet's environment, resources and biodiversity – to improve our environment and ensure that the natural resources needed for life are unimpaired and remain so for future generations." and priorities for action.</p>	Climate Change, Biodiversity, Buildings and Heritage, Natural Resources Transport
28	"Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future, ODPM, 2003"	This document sets out a long-term programme of action for delivering sustainable communities in both urban and rural areas. It aims to tackle housing supply issues including low demand in parts of the country, and the quality of our public spaces. The Plan includes a new approach to how and what we build.	Biodiversity, Buildings and Heritage, Sustainable Communities
29	Sustainable Communities: People, Places and Prosperity, ODPM 2005	This document sets out 5 year plan to revitalise neighbourhoods, strengthen local leadership, and increase regional prosperity to create places in which people want to live and work. It outlines plans to help people shape their communities to provide safe, clean and green environments and offer security, opportunity and choice for all.	Sustainable Communities

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30	Local Government White Paper, HM Government 2006 Strong and prosperous communities	This white paper sets out a vision of revitalised local authorities, working with their partners, to reshape public services around the citizens and communities that use them. It places the Sustainable Community Strategies at the heart of what local authorities do through the new performance framework.	Sustainable Communities
31	Local Government Act 2000, HM Government	Local Government Act 2000 gave local authorities a general power of well-being and tasked them with putting in place Sustainable Community Strategies. The role of the Sustainable Community Strategy is to set out the strategic vision for a place. It provides a vehicle for considering and deciding how to address difficult cross-cutting issues such as the economic future of an area, social exclusion and climate change. Building these issues into the community's vision in an integrated way is at the heart of creating sustainable development at the local level.	Sustainable Communities
32	I will if you will, Sustainable consumption roundtable, 2006	This report sets out how a significant shift towards more sustainable lifestyles is possible and positive all round. While its recommendations are aimed at the UK government, they have an eye to the implications for future wider development. Rather than a rigid set of rules, it establishes Sustainable Consumption Action Framework as a guide for government policy.	Natural Resources Waste
33	The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland DETR (2000)	Government's and the devolved administrations' ultimate objective is to "render polluting emissions harmless". A number of set objectives for protecting human health to be included in regulations for the purposes of Local Air Quality Management relating to concentrations of, amongst others, carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, ozone and particulates.	LEQ
34	Strategy for Flood Risk Management 2003-2008 EA (2003)	This Strategy sets out what the Environment Agency and its Flood Defence Committees will do to deliver the Government's policy aim of reducing flood risk over the next five years (2003/04 – 2007/08). The Strategy takes an integrated approach to minimising the risk from flooding to life, property and the environment, exploiting the benefits of natural flooding for biodiversity, and accommodating the impacts of climate change.	Climate Change
35	Our energy future – creating a low carbon economy. Energy White Paper DTI (2003)	A long term strategic vision (looking ahead to 2050) for energy policy, combining the environment, security of supply, competitiveness and social goals. It builds on the Performance and Innovation Unit's Energy Review, published in February 2002, and on other reports which have looked at major areas of energy policy. Key goals for energy policy are stated and a diverse energy system is predicted, using renewable sources (including waste) and local level generation.	Climate Change, Transport
36	The Energy Challenge, DTI (2006)	The Government's report on the Energy Review: "The Energy Challenge" was released on 11 July 2006 and is focused on the need to tackle climate change by reducing carbon dioxide emissions and the need to deliver secure, clean energy at affordable prices in light of the increasing dependence on imported energy.	Climate Change
37	UK Climate Change	Key priority of the programme is to ensure that the UK meets its legally binding target	Climate Change

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	Programme DETR (2000)	under the Kyoto Protocol to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 12.5% below 1990 level by 2008-2012. Programme also designed to move towards the domestic goal of a 20% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions below 1990 levels by 2010.	
38	Climate Change: The UK Programme 2006	The latest Climate Change Programme, which builds upon previous programmes and sets out the UK policies and priorities for action for delivering the domestic target, and ensuring that the UK can make the real progress by 2020 towards the long-term emissions targets.	Climate Change
39	Stern Review Report: The Economics of Climate Change	An international perspective on the economics of climate change that considers the costs associated with the impacts of climate change and the options for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating climate change. The review calls for strong deliberate policy action to deliver the options available to cut emissions and warns against the impacts of adopting a business as usual approach.	Climate Change
40	Tomorrows Climate Today's Challenge: A Guide to Communicating Climate Change	Various tools and techniques to raise awareness of climate change, focused on local level delivery, and relating climate change to local level issues.	Climate Change
41	www.cleanersafergreener.org.uk	A one-stop-shop of good practice examples to create quality spaces in which people want to live, providing information on partnership working, the powers and tools available to create these spaces and innovative approaches undertaken.	LEQ
42	Fly-tipping – Good practice guidance for LAs	Guidance and protocols in relation to management strategies to for Local Authorities to deal with and enforce against fly-tipping.	LEQ
43	Tackling Fly-tipping, National Fly-tipping Prevention Group	This guide contains advice and information for anyone responsible for dealing with fly-tipped waste on land that they own, occupy or manage. It will also be useful to any individuals, groups or organisations that may be affected by fly-tipping. This guidance applies to England and Wales.	LEQ
44	Environment Agency Fly-tipping Protocol	http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/commodata/acrobat/protocolmarch05_1024487.pdf	LEQ
45	Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003	The Anti-social Behaviour Act has given the police, councils, housing officers and others the tools to deal with the kind of problems that afflict community life. Local residents are encouraged to watch out for and report incidents of anti-social behaviour. Fly-tipping and litter is highlighted by the government as an example of anti-social behaviour.	LEQ
46	Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005	The Government has granted new powers to local Authorities to help them deal with issues such as litter, graffiti, fly-tipping and nuisance vehicles, it has also extended some of these powers to other bodies like Town and Parish Councils. Litter and Refuse: this Part extends the statutory offence of dropping litter and amends the	LEQ

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		powers and duties of local authorities in relation to litter. Waste: this Part makes miscellaneous provision about waste. Chapter 1 makes provision about the registration of carriers of particular kinds of waste. Chapter 2 makes provision about the illegal deposit of waste ("fly-tipping") and about the powers and duties of local authorities to collect and dispose of waste. Chapter 3 makes provision to deal with waste generated at construction sites.	
47	Skills: Getting on in business, getting on at work White Paper , Department for Education and Skills (March 2005)	This White Paper builds on the Government's first national Skills Strategy, published in July 2003. The White Paper develops a strategy for ensuring that employers have the right skills to support the success of their businesses. It also helps individuals gain the skills they need to be employable and personally fulfilled. And for the first time, from 14-19 to adult skills, a coherent lifelong learning strategy to tackle the skill needs of our nation is proposed.	Skills and Behaviour
48	Train to Gain	The Train to Gain service is designed to help businesses get the right skills advice to aid selection of the best and most appropriate training for staff. The training and the skills advice are impartial, flexible, responsive, and offered at a time and place to suit businesses.	Skills and Behaviour
49	Soil Association	Information, advice and research in relation to soil quality issues, use of artificial fertilisers (and their impacts) and use of compost on land.	LEQ Climate Change
50	Climate Change and Waste Management: The Link, Defra	This document highlights that better management of our waste can significantly reduce emissions of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere. It suggests that emphasising the important link between waste management, greenhouse gas emissions and climate to the general public is central to raising environmental awareness. It outlines the technologies already available in the market place that offer opportunities to recover materials and energy from waste which would otherwise be landfilled, with the potential for methane release to atmosphere.	Climate Change
51	Renewables Obligation Order 2002 (amended 2006)	This order is to incentivise the market for Renewable Energy and sets out which form of energy generation qualify for Renewable Obligation Certificates (ROCs). The Obligation requires suppliers to source an annually increasing percentage of their sales from renewables. For each megawatt hour of renewable energy generated, a tradable certificate called a Renewables Obligation Certificate (ROC) is issued. Anaerobic Digestion and Advanced Thermal Treatment do qualify for ROCs under this scheme. Recent revisions (2006) to the scheme have incorporated energy recovery operations combusting over 90% biomass (derived from waste) and Energy from Waste plant combusting waste with 'good quality' Combined Heat and Power (CHP) schemes.	Climate Change
52	Local Environment Quality Survey of England 2004/05 and Local Environment Quality	The survey is carried out each year by ENCAMS on Defra's behalf. Surveyors visit 240 sample sites in 54 local authority districts, to provide data on a range of local environmental quality indicators broken down by land use-class and region. It helps Defra to identify the sources and causes of poor quality environments and also to set	LEQ

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	Survey of England 2005/06	targets for best value performance indicator BV199 on street cleansing.	
53	Local environmental quality, Defra http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/localenv/index.htm	The quality of the local environment section focuses on issues such as litter, abandoned vehicles, fly-tipping and graffiti. There is a direct link between the quality of life in communities, and Cleaner, Safer, Greener public spaces. There is a clear continuum from litter to more serious environmental crime. Left unchecked, dirty streets and neighbourhoods affect the perception of the local community, which can lead to anti-social behaviour and eventually serious crime.	LEQ
54	LEQ A Guide To Improving Your Local Environmental Quality	This guide has been produced to explain some of the issues, set out the laws and explain who is responsible for what in relation to securing local environmental quality.	LEQ
55	A New Commitment to Neighbourhood Renewal, Cabinet Office, Social Exclusion Unit, 2001	The vision that, within 10 to 20 years, no-one should be seriously disadvantaged by where they live. People on low incomes should not have to suffer conditions and services that are failing, and so different from what the rest of the population receives.	Sustainable Communities
56	Government Crime Reduction Strategy, Home Office 1999	This strategy sets out the Government approach to crime reduction and describes where we are now and where we are heading. It sets out the next steps in the short to medium term in the fight against crime.	Sustainable Communities
57	Reducing Re-offending National Action Plan, Home Office, 2004	A framework for management of offenders with the aim of reducing re-offending based through regional and local actions.	Sustainable Communities
58	Health Impact Assessment of Alternate Weekly collections of Biodegradable Waste, Defra 2007	This study considers the Health impacts of alternate weekly collection, reviews the literature and concludes that there is no evidence of any significant adverse health effects. The study did not consider medical records and was based on literature reviews and survey information. There did appear to be an increased incidence of flies, but no conclusive evidence of increased vermin.	Sustainable Communities
59	Enterprise & Productivity Policy, HM Treasury 2007	Key areas addressed: strengthening competition to encourage firms to innovate, reduce costs and provide better quality goods and services to the consumer; Promoting enterprise to maximise the contribution of businesses to employment, productivity, prosperity and social cohesion; supporting science and innovation to harness the potential of new ideas, technologies and working practices; improving the skills base to maximise the contribution of human capital to growth; encouraging investment to improve the UK's stock of physical capital in every sector and industry; and working directly to improve public services productivity.	Sustainable Communities Economy
60	Developing workforce skills – Piloting a new approach, HM Treasury 2002	Report outlining a methodology for and the benefits of upskilling workforces.	Sustainable Communities Economy
61	Public Sector Productivity, HM Treasury, website 2007	Theme of report: As well as creating the right environment for business to raise productivity, government must also strive for greater efficiency. Public services	Economy Natural Resources

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		account for a substantial part of the economy, and productivity within the public sector therefore has an important and direct impact on the productivity performance of the economy as a whole.	
62	Releasing resources for the frontline: Independent Review of Public Sector Efficiency, HM Treasury 2004	Report setting out efficiency saving needs in public sector service provision including the benefits of joint procurement, partnership working and sharing of best practice.	Economy Natural Resources
63	End of Life Vehicles Regulations 2003	The EC directive on End-of-Life vehicles (ELVs) aims to reduce, or prevent, the amount of waste produced from ELVs and increase the recovery and recycling of ELVs that do arise. On Monday 3 November 2003 the End-of-Life Vehicles Regulations 2003 came into effect. The Regulations apply to sites used for the storage and treatment of end-of-life vehicles (ELVs). The Regulations require operators to hold a site licence if accepting vehicles which have not been depolluted and set new minimum technical standards for all sites that store or treat ELVs.	Waste
64	Directing the flow – Priorities for future water policy, 2002 Defra	This document sets out the priorities for government policy on water in England over the longer term. Its scope is primarily our use of freshwater and the inland water environment; but it also covers estuaries and many aspects of our coastal water. It highlights the need for water policy to be clearly grounded in the Government's commitment to sustainable development, covering economic, environmental and social aspects.	LEQ
65	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)	The Act consolidates and amends existing national legislation to implement the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne Convention) and Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds. It is complimented by the Wildlife and Countryside (Service of Notices) Act 1985, which relates to notices served under the 1981 Act, and the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994.	Biodiversity LEQ
66	The Conservation Regulations 1994 (Habitats Regulations)	The Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations 1994 transpose Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (EC Habitats Directive) into national law. The Regulations provide for the designation and protection of 'European sites', the protection of 'European protected species', and the adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European Sites. The Regulations also require the compilation and maintenance of a register of European sites, to include SACs and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) classified under Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (the Birds Directive). These sites form a network termed Natura 2000.	Biodiversity
67	The Countryside and Rights	The Act requires surveying authorities to maintain up to date definitive maps and	Biodiversity

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	of Way Act 2000	statements, for the purpose of clarifying public rights of way. The Act also includes provisions for traffic regulation, ploughing, appointing wardens, signposting, and prohibiting the keeping of bulls on land crossed by public rights of way.	
68	The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006	Some key elements of the act are: the establishment of Natural England a single organisation with the responsibility for enhancing biodiversity and landscape with promoting access and recreation; formal establishment of the new Commission for Rural Communities to act as an independent advocate, adviser and watchdog for rural people, and, giving powers to allow both the Secretary of State, and designated bodies, to delegate Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (EFRA) functions to one another by mutual consent, to provide simple and more effective access to customers.	Biodiversity
69	Hedgerow Regulations 1997	The aim of the Regulations is to protect important hedgerows by controlling their removal through a notification system. The regulations affect hedgerows which are 20 metres or more in length, or if less than 20m in length meet another hedgerow at each end. They relate to hedgerows which are on, or adjoining land used for; agriculture or forestry, the breeding or keeping of horses, ponies or donkeys, common land, village greens, Sites of Special Scientific Interest and Local Nature Reserves.	Biodiversity
70	The Protection of Badgers Act 1992	The Protection of Badgers Act 1992 consolidates and improved previous legislation. The act provides legal protection for badgers and their sets (defined as a place or structure showing signs of current use by Badgers).	Biodiversity
71	UK Biodiversity Action Plan	The UK BAP is the UK Government's response to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) signed in 1992. It describes the UK's biological resources and commits a detailed plan for the protection of these resources in order to conserve and enhance biological diversity within the UK. It consists of 391 Species Action Plans, 45 Habitat Action Plans and 162 Local Biodiversity Action Plans with targeted actions.	Biodiversity
72	Working with the grain of nature: A Biodiversity Strategy for England, 2002	The Strategy seeks to ensure biodiversity considerations become embedded in all main sectors of public policy and sets out a programme for the next five years to make the changes necessary to conserve, enhance and work with the grain of nature and ecosystems rather than against them. It takes account of climate change as one of the most important factors affecting biodiversity and influencing our policies.	Biodiversity
73	The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future, DCMS	This Statement looks in detail at the historic environment and its contribution to the Government's wider agenda of creating and maintaining a sustainable environment alongside economic stability. It responds to people's desire to broaden the definition of what should be valued and champions the role of historic assets in the development and regeneration processes and as a focus for community cohesion.	Buildings and Heritage
74	Corporate Plan 2003-2006. Countryside Agency	The Corporate plan outlines the following outcomes to bring "a high quality of life for people in the countryside": (a) empowerment, active and inclusive communities; (b) high standards of rural service; (c) vibrant local communities. It outlines the following outcomes: (i) all countryside managed sustainable; (ii) recreation opportunities for all;	Biodiversity

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		(iii) realising the potential of the urban fringe.	
75	Corporate Plan 2001-2005. English Nature	The Corporate plan outlines their four main areas of work : protecting and enhancing the wildlife value of designated sites (aiming to achieve the biodiversity recovery targets of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)); improving the wider environment and the sea for wildlife (aiming to have all designated Sites (SSSI's and NNR's) in a favourable condition, conserved for the benefit of present and future generations); influencing people's hearts, minds, policies and actions in support of nature conservation (aiming to build broad support from a wider range of audiences, influence policy changes and increase external funding for the delivery of national nature conservation targets).	Biodiversity
76	An Environmental Vision. Environment Agency	Leading from the Government's strategy for sustainable development, The Environment Agencies vision for the environment and a sustainable future is: a healthy, rich and diverse environment in England and Wales, for present and future generations. The document presents 3 environmental outcomes and in doing so seeks two broad changes: a 'greener' business world (Industry and businesses will value the services that come from a rich and diverse natural environment. In the process, they will reap the benefits of sustainable business practices, improve competitiveness and value to shareholders and secure trust in the wider community; and wiser, sustainable use of natural resources (Business, public agencies, other organisations and individuals will minimise the waste they produce. They will reuse and recycle materials far more intensively, and will make more efficient use of energy and materials).	Biodiversity LEQ
77	Looking to the Future 2004-07. The National Trust 2004	This report presents both challenges and opportunities and over the next three years they will look to: implement high environmental design standards in all new developments; improve green transport options to our properties.	Biodiversity
78	Parks and Open Spaces, Cleaner, Greener, Safer Communities (ODPM, 2005)	This guide is intended to support action on achieving the following goals: that by 2008 the majority of local areas in England have at least one quality green space – with a Green Flag Award to prove it – and over 75% of people are satisfied with their green spaces. The guides four parts show how existing guidance, powers and money are being used to accomplish more.	Biodiversity, LEQ
79	Our Country Side: The Future, A fair deal for Rural England, White Paper, Defra, 2000	This White Paper explains how the government is shaping policy and investment to make its vision for the countryside reality: a living countryside (with thriving rural communities and access to high quality public services); a working countryside (with a diverse economy giving high and stable levels of employment); a protected countryside (in which the environment is sustained and enhanced, and which all can enjoy); a vibrant countryside (which can shape its own future and with its voice heard by Government at all levels).	Biodiversity, Sustainable Communities, Economy

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		<i>Part of two parallel papers - Our Towns and Cities-The future, Delivering Urban Renaissance, White Paper, Communities and Local Government, 2000.</i>	
80	Our Towns and Cities: The Future - Delivering an Urban Renaissance, Communities and Local Government, 2000	This White Paper explains how the government wants towns and cities to function as economic powerhouses, helping to achieve the Governments core objective of increasing sustainable growth and employment for all and bringing benefits not just to their own population but to the surrounding region. <i>Part of two parallel papers - Our Country Side: The Future, A fair deal for Rural England, White Paper, Defra, 2000.</i>	Biodiversity, Sustainable Communities, Economy
81	Best Practice Guidance on Listed Building Prosecutions, Communities and Local Government, 2006	This document is a guide to taking forward a listed building prosecution. It is intended to be a quick and easy reference for local authorities and others who may be interested in prosecutions.	Buildings and Heritage
82	Living Planet Report, WWF, 2006	This document outlines WWF research into the ecology of the planet. Using the ecological footprint and the living planet index it reports on the impact of human activity and the state of the planets natural resources. The message of the Living Planet Report 2006 is that we are living beyond our means, and that the choices each of us makes today will shape the possibilities for the generations which follow us.	Natural Resources
83	Every Child Matters: Change for Children, ODPM, 2004	This document sets out the national framework for local change programmes to build services around the needs of children and young people so that we maximise opportunity and minimise risk.	Sustainable Communities
84	PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development, Communities and Local Government (February 2005)	PPS1 sets out the overarching planning policies on the delivery of sustainable development through the planning system. <i>PPS1 replaces Planning Policy Guidance Note 1, General Policies and Principles, published in February 1997.</i>	Biodiversity Transport Buildings and Heritage Natural Resources
85	Consultation - Planning Policy Statement: Planning and Climate Change - Supplement to PPS 1. Dept for Communities and Local Government, 2006	This consultation seeks views and comments on a draft Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 'Planning and Climate Change'. The PPS sets out how planning, in providing for the new homes, jobs and infrastructure needed by communities, should help shape places with lower carbon emissions and resilient to the climate change now accepted as inevitable.	Biodiversity Natural Resources Transport Climate Change
86	PPG2 Green Belts, Communities and Local Government (January	This PPG outlines the history and extent of Green Belts and explains their purposes. It describes how Green Belts are designated and their land safeguarded. Green Belt land-use objectives are outlined and the presumption against inappropriate	Biodiversity

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	1995, Amended March 2001)	development is set out. Visual amenity factors are described and policies regarding new building and re-use of old buildings are summarised. Attention is drawn to the use of park-and-ride facilities in Green Belt areas. Where large scale developments occur, they should, as far as possible, contribute to PPG2 objectives: provide opportunities for access to the countryside; provide recreational opportunities near urban areas; retain attractive and enhance landscape near dwellings; improve damaged and derelict land around towns; secure nature conservation interests; retain land in agricultural, forestry and related uses.	
87	PPS 6: Planning for Town Centres, ODPM (2005)	<p>The policies in this statement apply throughout England and focus on a range of issues relating to planning for the future of town centres and the main uses that relate to them. The policies set out in this statement should be taken into account by regional planning bodies in the preparation of revisions to Regional Spatial Strategies, by the Mayor of London in relation to the Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London and by local planning authorities in the preparation of local development documents, and may also be material to decisions on individual planning applications.</p> <p><i>PPS6 replaces Revised Planning Policy Guidance Note 6: Town Centres and Retail Developments (PPG6, 1996) and subsequent policy statements</i></p>	Buildings and Heritage
88	PPS9 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation. ODPM (August 2005)	<p>PPS9 sets out planning policies on protection of biodiversity and geological conservation through the planning system. These policies complement, but do not replace or override, other national planning policies and should be read in conjunction with other relevant statements of national planning policy.</p> <p><i>PPS9 replaces Planning Policy Guidance Note 9 (PPG9) on nature conservation published in October 1994.</i></p>	Biodiversity
89	PPS10 Planning for Sustainable Waste Management, Communities and Local Government (July 2005)	<p>PPS10 forms part of the national waste management plan for the UK. The policies in this PPS should be taken into account by: waste planning authorities in discharging their responsibilities; regional planning bodies in the preparation of regional spatial strategies; the Mayor of London in relation to the Spatial Development Strategy in London, and local planning authorities in the preparation of local development documents.</p> <p>These policies complement other national planning policies and should be read in conjunction with Government policies for sustainable waste management, in particular those set out in the Waste Strategy for England 2007. A companion guide provides practice guidance on the implementation of the policies set out in PPS10.</p> <p><i>PPS10 replaces Planning Policy Guidance Note 10 (Planning and Waste Management) published in 1999.</i></p>	Waste
90	PPS 11 Regional Spatial Strategies, Communities	This policy statement sets out the procedural policy on the nature of Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS) and focuses on procedural policy, on what 'should' happen in	Buildings and Heritage

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	and Local Government (December 2005)	<p>preparing revisions to them and explains how this relates to the Act and associated regulations. The main principles of the new arrangements are to deliver policy better at the regional level and contribute to the culture change necessary to deliver the Government's Sustainable Communities Plan.</p> <p><i>PPS11 replaces Planning Policy Guidance 11 - Regional Planning</i></p>	Transport
91	PPS 12 Local Development Frameworks, Communities and Local Government (September 2004)	<p>This planning policy statement sets out the Government's policy on the preparation of local development documents which will comprise the local development framework. The local development framework is not a statutory term; however it sets out, in the form of a 'portfolio', the local development documents which collectively deliver the spatial planning strategy for the local planning authority's area.</p> <p><i>PPS12 replaces Planning Policy Guidance 12 - Development Plans</i></p>	Buildings and Heritage
92	Creating Local Development Frameworks: A Companion guide to PPS12, Communities and Local Government (November 2004)	<p>This companion guide is intended to assist those involved in local development framework preparation, particularly local planning authorities. It is concerned with providing practical guidance on the preparation of local development documents.</p>	Buildings and Heritage
93	PPG13 Transport, Communities and Local Government (March 2001)	<p>This PPG's objectives are to integrate planning and transport at the national, regional, strategic and local level and to promote more sustainable transport choices both for carrying people and for moving freight. It also aims to promote accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling and to reduce the need to travel, especially by car.</p>	Transport
94	PPG 14 Development on Unstable, ODPM (1990)	<p>This PPG sets out the broad planning and technical issues to be addressed in respect of development on unstable land. This includes ground compression due to human activities, e.g. made ground, landfill or restored opencast mines. It also includes an indirect hazard associated with ground movement and the possible migration of gas, whether of landfill or mine origin.</p>	Biodiversity
95	PPG15 Planning and The Historic Environment, Communities and Local Government (September 1994)	<p>This PPG lays out government policies for the identification and protection of historic buildings, conservation areas, and other elements of the historic environment. It explains the role of the planning system in their protection. The frequently close link between controls over 'listed' buildings and conservation areas and development control decisions means that development and conservation generally need to be considered together.</p> <p><i>With effect from 8 March 2007 the guidance contained in Circular 01/07: Revisions to Principles of Selection for Listed Buildings, replaces Section 6, paragraphs 6.1 – 6.40, of PPG 15 and the existing paragraphs 6.1 – 6.40 are revoked.</i></p>	Transport, Buildings and Heritage

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96	Circular 01/07: Revisions to Principles of Selection for Listed Buildings, Communities and Local Government (March 2007)	This Circular updates and clarifies the present advice in paragraphs 6.1 to 6.40 of PPG15 dealing with the principles and criteria for listed buildings. These paragraphs are revoked.	Buildings and Heritage
97	PPG16 Archaeology and Planning, Communities and Local Government (November 1990)	This PPG sets out the government's policy on archaeological remains on land and how they should be preserved or recorded both in an urban setting and in the countryside.	Buildings and Heritage
98	PPG17 Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation, Communities and Local Government (July 2002)	This PPG describes the role of the planning system in assessing opportunities and needs for sport and recreation provision and safeguarding open space which has recreational value. It discusses the role of all levels of plan, planning agreements, and the use of local authority land and compulsory purchase powers. It discusses provision in urban areas, the urban fringe, the Green Belts, and the countryside and particular sports including football stadia, water sports and golf. It promotes sustainable development by ensuring that open space, sports and recreational facilities (particularly in urban areas) are easily accessible by walking and cycling or well served by local transport.	Biodiversity
99	PPS 22 Renewable Energy, Communities and Local Government (August 2004)	<p>It sets out the Government's planning policies for renewable energy, which planning authorities should have regard to when preparing local development documents and when taking planning decisions.</p> <p>The Government's energy policy, including its policy on renewable energy, is set out in the Energy White Paper. This aims to put the UK on a path to cut CO2 emissions by some 60% by 2050, with real progress by 2020, and to maintain reliable and competitive energy supplies. Increased development of renewable energy sources is vital to facilitating delivery of the Government's commitments on climate change and renewable energy.</p> <p><i>PPS22 replaces Planning Policy Guidance note (PPG) 22.</i></p>	Climate Change, Sustainable Communities
100	PPS 23 Planning and Pollution Control, Communities and Local Government (November 2004)	<p>The policies in this statement and the advice in the accompanying Annexes (Annex 1: Pollution Control, Air and Water Quality and Annex 2: Development on Land Affected by Contamination) should be taken into account by Regional Planning Bodies (RPBs) and Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) in preparing Regional Spatial Strategies (RSSs) and Local Development Documents (LDDs). Key requirements are that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Any impact on health as a result of effects on the land, air and water environments is a material planning consideration; - The planning controls to prevent pollution from new development should complement but not duplicate the pollution prevention and control regime; 	LEQ Climate Change

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning needs to consider contamination to existing land and the effect on its re-use, and that arising from human and natural activities; - Planning should pay due consideration to the precautionary principle; and - Local Development Documents (such as DPDs) are instruments that can enable efficient use of previously developed land even where it has been contaminated. <p><i>PPS23 replaces PPG23 - Planning and Pollution Control</i></p>	
101	PPG24 Planning and Noise, Communities and Local Government (September 1994)	This PPG guides local authorities in England on the use of their planning powers to minimise the adverse impact of noise. It outlines the considerations to be taken into account in determining planning applications both for noise-sensitive developments and for those activities which generate noise. It also advises on the use of conditions to minimize the impact of noise.	LEQ
102	PPS25 Development and Flood Risk, Communities and Local Government (December 2006)	PPS25 sets out Government policy on development and flood risk. Its aims are to ensure that flood risk is taken into account at all stages in the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding, and to direct development away from areas of highest risk. Where new development is, exceptionally, necessary in such areas, policy aims to make it safe, without increasing flood risk elsewhere, and, where possible, reducing flood risk overall.	Climate Change
		<i>PPS25 replaces Planning Policy Guidance Note 25: Development and Flood Risk (PPG25), published July 2001.</i>	
103	Planning and Access for Disabled People: A Good Practice Guide, ODPM, 2003	The primary objective of this guide is to ensure the planning system in England successfully and consistently delivers inclusive environments as an integral part of the development process. An inclusive environment is one that can be used by everyone, regardless of age, gender or disability. Includes general good practice guidelines.	Sustainable Communities
104	Living Places - Cleaner, Safer, Greener, ODPM 2002	Governments approach to improving public spaces and local environments in the UK. It includes the concept of improved partnership working, leadership, active community involvement, innovation and creativity and better communication to lead to cleaner, safer, greener environments. Central Government leadership & support is also outlined.	Sustainable Communities, LEQ
105	Incinerators and Deprivation, Friends of the Earth, 2004	This document looks at operating incinerators, of which 50% are located in the poorest 10% of districts. The research however (whilst not concluding this) also shows that of the new and proposed plant they are roughly equally spread among all deprived and affluent areas.	Sustainable Communities LEQ
106	The Countryside In and Around Towns. Countryside Agency and Groundwork, 2005	It sets out the Agency's vision for rural areas, and provides advice to local planning authorities, to the Government, and to developers on how the planning system should operate and evolve to achieve effective land use planning aimed at delivering sustainable development. It acknowledges that the land close to towns provides a resource for a variety of functions including leisure, education, waste management,	Biodiversity

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		ecology and economic input. The levels at which strategic planning, to ensure a balanced approach to the use and management of land, are outlined.	
107	Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990	The Act set out the legal requirements for the control of development and alterations which affect buildings, including those which are listed or in conservation areas, and the framework by which control is maintained.	Buildings and Heritage
108	Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979	The Act consolidates and amends the law relating to ancient monuments; to make provision for the investigation, preservation and recording of matters of archaeological or historical interest and for the regulation of operations or activities affecting such matters; to provide for the recovery of grants under section 10 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1972 or under section 4 of the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 in certain circumstances; and to provide for grants by the Secretary of State to the Architectural Heritage Fund.	Buildings and Heritage
109	Biodiversity by Design – A guide for Sustainable Communities, The Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA), Sept 2004	Biodiversity by Design is a TCPA Sustainable Communities guide. Its aim is to provide guidance on how to maximise the opportunities for biodiversity in the planning and design of sustainable communities. It covers each stage of the design process, presenting a toolkit of best practice that can be tailored to different scales of opportunity. To do this it draws upon the lessons from over 20 international case studies, including a special set from Berlin. To illustrate the opportunities arising from the Sustainable Communities Plan it also includes completed and 'in-progress' UK case studies relevant to 'Growth' and 'Pathfinder' areas.	Biodiversity
110	Planning Together – Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) and Spatial Planning, a Practical Guide. Department for Communities & Local Government, 2007	This short, practical guide aims to improve collaboration between planners and those involved with Local Strategic Partnerships (LSP). It is focused on the strategic leadership role of local authorities in shaping good places, creating sustainable mixed communities and delivering better local services. It explains the importance of the relationship between Sustainable Community Strategies (SCS) and Local Development Frameworks (LDF).	Sustainable Communities
111	Planning for Town Centres: Guidance on Design and Implementation Tools	This Guidance deals specifically with design issues relating to planning for town centres and some of the main tools available to secure the implementation of town centre planning policies and proposals.	Buildings and Heritage
112	RPG13 Regional Planning Guidance (RPG) for the North West, Government Office for the North West (March 2003)	<p>The overriding aim of RPG is to promote sustainable patterns of spatial development and physical change. The Region's economic, social and environmental interests must be advanced together and support each other.</p> <p>The RPG contains a large number of policies which may be relevant to waste management depending on the location of new facilities. Specific policies relevant to waste are summarised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy ER13 – Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency: Identifies the 	Buildings and Heritage Waste

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		<p>potential contribution of Energy from Waste, acknowledging it is not a renewable source.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy EQ2 - Air Quality: Planning authorities should work with partners to tackle emissions and air quality. • Policy EQ3 – Water Quality: Local planning authorities should avoid development that poses an unacceptable risk to the quality of surface or groundwater. They should also discourage diffuse pollution of water from agriculture and landfill sites. • Policy EQ4 – Regional Approach to Sustainable Waste Management: move waste treatment and disposal techniques up the Waste Hierarchy, with disposal including land raising used as a last resort; the Waste Hierarchy should be used to determine the best practicable environmental option; and, most waste treated or disposed of in the Region should have been produced within the North West. 	
113	The North West Plan (Draft Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West of England), North West Regional Assembly, (January 2006)	<p>The Plan, currently in draft form, sets out the scale, priorities and broad locations for future development across the region – providing a framework for where and how much development should take place. It covers a broad range of issues including housing, retail and the environment, and includes the Regional Transport Strategy. Ultimately the document seeks to ensure the sustainable growth and development of the North West.</p> <p><i>Policy EM10 – A Regional Approach to Waste Management</i> Plans, strategies, proposals and schemes, should promote and require the provision of sustainable new waste management infrastructure, facilities and systems that contribute to the development of the North West by reducing harm to the environment (including reducing impacts on climate change), improving the efficiency of resources, stimulating investment and maximising economic opportunities. Plans and strategies will incorporate provisions to deliver: the principles set out in the National Waste Strategy and PPS10; and, the objectives and targets¹⁵⁸ of the Regional Waste Strategy.</p> <p><i>Policy EM11 – Waste Management Principles</i> Taking account of the Government’s waste hierarchy, plans, strategies, proposals and schemes should promote more effective forms of waste management by: reducing growth in the amount of waste produced in the region; making the most of opportunities to reuse waste products; encouraging recycling and composting; recovering value, in the form of energy, from waste that is not recycled; and, maintaining sufficient landfill capacity for the disposal of residual waste once it has been treated.</p>	Waste

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		<p><i>Policy EM12 – Proximity Principle</i></p> <p>Waste planning, disposal and collection authorities are encouraged to work towards regional and sub regional self sufficiency. Facilities for the treatment and disposal of municipal commercial and industrial waste should be sited as close to the source of the waste as possible in order to satisfy the proximity principle.</p>	
114	Regional Waste Strategy for the North West, North West Regional Assembly (September 2004)	<p>The Regional Waste Strategy will guide the North West away from unsustainable waste management practices by reducing our current dependency on landfill, moderating the growth in waste arisings, minimising resource use, maximising resource efficiency and reducing the hazardous content of waste.</p> <p>Some local authorities have begun the process of change but all local authorities in the North West should now be planning and implementing changes to waste management practices under their control in order to work towards achieving statutory targets. This will include engaging the public, local businesses and the waste management industry in all aspects of change, from behavioural change to the development of new infrastructure. It will also include reviewing plans and strategies to take into account the importance of waste management in local areas.</p> <p>The Strategy sets an initial target for reducing growth in municipal waste across the North West to 2% by the end of 2006 in line with the recommendation of the Strategy Unit with the ongoing targets of a further reduction in growth to 1% before 2010 and 0% before 2014 across the region.</p>	Waste
115	North West Sustainable Energy Strategy, North West Regional Assembly (July 2006)	<p>This Sustainable Energy Strategy sets out clearly the energy challenge that faces the North West. It demonstrates how different sectors across the region can act to address this challenge head on, whilst also achieving wider economic, social and environmental objectives. Specific guidance is offered to local authorities, the private sector, and the construction industry. It also summarises how the region will monitor progress on energy matters and gives sources of assistance.</p>	Climate Change
116	Rising to the Challenge: a Climate Change Action Plan for England's Northwest 2007-09 Northwest Development Agency and partners 2006	<p>This Action Plan sets out a vision for the region and outlines the associated outcomes to be achieved by 2020. The focus is on both reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to the effects of climate change. Prioritised actions are presented, to be delivered within the context of the NW Sustainable Energy Strategy and specific actions include ensuring all regional and local plans, strategies and policies have sustainable energy and climate change impacts at their core and market and regional supply chains are developed for renewable low carbon energy sources.</p>	Climate Change
117	Sustainable Communities in the NW – Building for the	<p>This regional plan sets out proposals for implementing the national plan of action in the North West. It does not attempt to cover all the issues of importance to communities. It</p>	Sustainable Communities

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	Future, ODPM (2003)	highlights actions to address housing, planning and neighbourhood renewal issues.	
118	Creating Sustainable Communities in the NW, ODPM (February 2004) and updates (Business Plan and City Region Programmes) Jun 2005	<p>These documents <i>accompany Making it Happen: The Northern Way</i> which reports on the progress made in urban and rural areas on implementation of the Government's £22 billion Sustainable Communities Plan, published early last year.</p> <p>The documents details the key issues facing the region, programmes and action being taken to address these issues. Various case studies show what has already happened on the ground since the launch of the Sustainable Communities Plan in February 2003. The document concludes by outlining some of the Sustainable Communities projects in the pipeline for the region. This includes projects under Liverpool Vision, the Country's first Urban Regeneration Company.</p>	Sustainable Communities, Economy
119	Merseyside Crime Prevention Policies, Merseyside Police Authority	Variety of booklets of advice, reviewed Antisocial Behaviour.	Sustainable Communities
120	Northwest Regional Economic Strategy (RES), NW RDA, 2006	The RES sets out a 20 year strategy, including actions for 2006 - 2009, set out in themed chapters: Business, Skills and Education, People and Jobs, Infrastructure, Quality of Life.	Economy
121	Second Local Transport Plan for Merseyside 2006-2011	The second Local Transport Plan for Merseyside (2006-2011) sets out proposals for improving transport in Merseyside. The plan has the following vision: a fully integrated safe transport network for Merseyside which supports economic and social regeneration and ensures good access for all, and which is operated to the highest standards to protect the environment and ensure quality of life.	Transport
122	Merseyside Local Transport Plan. Strategic Environmental Assessment & Health Impact Assessment (Appendix 17, Second Local Transport Plan for Merseyside 2006-2011) Final Report, November 2005 - MS USE A DRAFT FROM JULY	A report produced as part of a strategic environmental assessment and health impact assessment of the Local Transport Plan for Merseyside 2006-2011. This is broken down into 16 specific SEA objectives and 17 HIA objectives.	Transport Natural Resources Biodiversity Buildings and Heritage
123	The Mersey Forest Business Plan 2005 – 2010. Mersey Forest Partnership	The Mersey Forest covers an area of over 115,000 ha (over 400 square miles). The Forest is a partnership between two national organisations, The Countryside Agency and the Forestry Commission, and 9 Local Authorities in Merseyside and North Cheshire. A wide range of public, private and voluntary organisations and individuals are involved as partners in delivering The Mersey Forest. The aim of The Forest Partnership is to create 8,000 ha of new community woodlands and deliver a wide	Biodiversity

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		range of associated environmental, economic and social benefits through sustainable landscape improvements to The Mersey Forest area over the 30-year period of the development of The Forest. This Business Plan looks at progress in the first 11 years and identifies short and medium term targets.	
124	http://www.english-nature.org.uk/special/ssi/reportAction.cfm?Report=sdrt13&Category=C&Reference=1027	Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) in Merseyside – name, main habitat and condition	Biodiversity
125	http://www.english-nature.org.uk/text_version/special/lmr/lmr_results.asp?c=27	Local Nature Reserves in Merseyside.	Biodiversity
126	http://www.magic.gov.uk	Data and information source in relation to key environmental schemes and designations.	Biodiversity
127	http://www.cpre.org.uk/campaigns/landscape/tranquillity/national-and-regional-tranquillity-maps/county-tranquillity-map-merseyside	Map developed by Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) identifying tranquil areas in Merseyside.	LEQ
128	Climate change in the Northwest and its impacts: a summary document, Sustainability Northwest, March 2005	Detailed information relating to the impacts of climate change on local temperature and rainfall. Report sets out what climate change will mean for the northwest in terms of direct and indirect impacts.	Climate Change
129	http://www.ukcip.org.uk/resources/location/default.asp?region_id=9	Data and information in relation to the impacts of climate change in the North West. Contains information from Shackley S et al (1998) Everybody has an Impact: climate change impacts in the North West of England.	Climate Change
130	http://www.merseybasin.org.uk/	Mersey Basin campaign website, providing information on a wide variety of water quality, regeneration and sustainability issues	LEQ
131	'Getting Better Together, Our Priorities 2003-2013, Wirral Local Strategic Partnership	The Vision of the Wirral Community Strategy, Getting Better Together is to "Make Wirral a better place in which to live, work and invest". The strategy sets out the ways in which Wirral will continue to work together with partners, local communities and businesses by following a series of principles, values and working practices: Building cohesive Communities, Sustainability, Partnership, broad horizons. The working practices of the LSP are outlined with details of how the process of	Climate Change, Waste, Sustainable Communities, LEQ, Economy,

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		<p>developing the strategy will work including ensuring robust and inclusive consultation (extensive ways of getting involved with, including the outlining of forums and networks are described). The 8 key priorities for focus of the strategy are: environment; employment; learning, leisure & culture; healthy life styles, safer places, housing, and transport.</p> <p>The five areas targeted in Wirral for neighbourhood renewal are outlined.</p>	Skills and Behaviour
132	'Getting Better Together', A Local Area Agreement (LAA) Submission for Wirral, Feb 2006, Wirral's Local Strategic Partnership	<p>The overarching theme for our LAA is one of 'raising expectations – realising potential', focusing joint efforts and resources on engaging communities fully to deliver a thriving Wirral for today and the future, where people want to live, work, visit and invest. The LAA looks to achieve this by contributing towards partnership working and accelerating joint working, grasping the opportunities and flexibilities provided to develop locally defined solutions to locally specific problems, and in turn, delivering improved outcomes for all of our communities;</p> <p>The LAA also looks to simplify and harmonise funding streams and partnerships and increasing the role and remit of area working arrangements across Wirral as a means of delivering the LAA, at a local level, through recognising the value of area forums and other area arrangements.</p> <p>The five focus areas, with targets and indicators identified are: Children and Young People; Healthier communities and older people; Safer and stronger communities; Economic Development and enterprise;</p> <p>A number of Crosscutting Linkages and Priorities are also outlined which span all areas of the LAA adding value. These areas are: rising expectations; neighbourhood working and community engagement; renewing neighbourhoods; getting better together-working better together; equality and diversity; accessibility; and sustainability;</p> <p>The performance and programme management framework is outlined and is identified as viewed as a key tool in delivering better outcomes for users; and A statement of community involvement is detailed which see the LAA as an opportunity to further develop the established relationships with the Wirral Voluntary and Community Organisation (WVCS), through development of the ChangeUp Strategy and working with WVCS.</p>	Waste, Sustainable Communities, LEQ, Economy, Skills and Behaviour
133	http://www.wirral.gov.uk/be/listed-buildings.htm	Information in relation to listed buildings in Wirral.	Buildings and Heritage
134	Towards a land and sea richer in wildlife by the year 2020. Countdown 2001.	Wirral's Biodiversity action plan.	Biodiversity

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	The Cheshire Region Biodiversity Action Plan		
135	'Working Better Together' The Wirral Compact, August 2002	<p>The Compact aims to provide a framework for ensuring good and productive relationships between Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations and the wide range of Statutory Organisations in Wirral. The key principles and shared vision and undertakings are outlined with its purpose being to be used as a resource to help develop codes of good working practice in key areas.</p> <p>The shared principles of the public and community sector of working for an improved Wirral is outlined, as are the key principles of the benefits of joint working and how it can be practiced. The undertakings of both the community and public sector in terms of resources, consultation and involvement and partnership working are detailed.</p> <p>The compact aims to promote better understanding between the sectors and provides frameworks for supporting and promoting social inclusion. It supports and reinforces the application of 'Best Value' principles in relationships between statutory and voluntary organisations.</p>	Sustainable Communities, LEQ, Economy

Appendix 2: Baseline Data

1. Introduction

Wirral Borough Council is on the Wirral Peninsular between the River Dee and River Mersey Estuaries (to the west and east respectively). The main urban centres are Wallasey, New Brighton and Birkenhead in the North east, with West Kirby and Heswall to the West. The borough is linked to Liverpool via the Mersey Tunnels (Kingsway and Queensway) as well as the Mersey Ferry. The M53 runs down the borough linking to the M56 and Cheshire.

Ref: www.wirral.gov.uk; www.magic.gov.uk

2. Size of the district

256.4 squared km (up to boundary with Wales – in the centre of the Dee estuary)

Ref: [Areas obtained from Alistair Malpas – Research and Intelligence Halton Borough Council](#)

3. Population

North West (for comparison):

Number: 6,729,764

Increasing/decreasing: predicted increase of 7.4% between 2004 and 2029

Average age: 38.61

Population density: 3.4 (people per hectare)

Wirral:

Wirral has a population of 312,293; this is predicted to be increasing by around 0.06% (average annual increase between 2004 and 2029). This follows the general trend in population increase across Merseyside and the North West Region. The average age of the Wirral population is 39.96, slightly higher than the regional average of 38.61. The population density is 19.9 per hectare. The affluent western areas of the Wirral, along the coast of the River Dee has higher property prices and lower unemployment than the east of the borough, stretching along the coast of the River Mersey, which is more densely built up with lower property prices and higher levels of unemployment and lower environmental quality. Over 96% of the population is white British.

Ref: [Wirral Council Corporate Assessment, December 2002; Audit Commission; www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk](#),

Population increase

AREA NAME	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Wirral	313.1	313.1	313.1	313	313	313	313	313.1	313.2	313.4
% increase		0	0	-0.03	0	0	0	0.03	0.03	0.06
North West	6827.2	6851.5	6871.1	6889.9	6907.9	6926.3	6945.2	6964.9	6985.1	7006.1
% increase		0.36	0.29	0.27	0.26	0.27	0.27	0.28	0.29	0.30

AREA NAME	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Wirral	313.6	313.9	314.2	314.5	314.9	315.3	315.7	316.1	316.4	316.8
% increase	0.06	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.10	0.13
North West	7027.6	7049.6	7072.1	7095	7117.8	7140.5	7163	7184.9	7206.3	7227
% increase	0.31	0.31	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.31	0.30	0.29

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AREA NAME	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Wirral	317.1	317.3	317.5	317.7	317.9	318
% increase	0.10	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.03
North West	7247	7266	7284	7300.8	7316.7	7331.2
% increase	0.28	0.26	0.25	0.23	0.22	0.20

Ref: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=997>

Ethnicity

	Wirral	North West	England
All People (Persons)	312,293	6,729,764	49,138,831
White: British (Persons)	301,326	6,203,043	42,747,136
White: British (Persons) %	96.49	92.17	86.99
White: Irish (Persons)	3,065	77,499	624,115
White: Irish (Persons)%	0.98	1.15	1.27
White: Other White (Persons)	2,612	74,953	1,308,110
White: Other White (Persons)%	0.84	1.11	2.66
Mixed: White and Black Caribbean (Persons)	499	22,119	231,424
Mixed: White and Black Caribbean (Persons)%	0.16	0.33	0.47
Mixed: White and Black African (Persons)	297	9,853	76,498
Mixed: White and Black African (Persons)%	0.10	0.15	0.16
Mixed: White and Asian (Persons)	503	17,223	184,014
Mixed: White and Asian (Persons)%	0.16	0.26	0.37
Mixed: Other Mixed (Persons)	472	13,344	151,437
Mixed: Other Mixed (Persons)%	0.15	0.20	0.31
Asian or Asian British: Indian (Persons)	622	72,219	1,028,546
Asian or Asian British: Indian (Persons)%	0.20	1.07	2.09
Asian or Asian British: Pakistani (Persons)	112	116,968	706,539
Asian or Asian British: Pakistani (Persons)%	0.04	1.74	1.44
Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi (Persons)	362	26,003	275,394
Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi (Persons)%	0.12	0.39	0.56
Asian or Asian British: Other Asian (Persons)	218	14,685	237,810
Asian or Asian British: Other Asian (Persons)%	0.07	0.22	0.48
Black or Black British: Caribbean (Persons)	171	20,422	561,246
Black or Black British: Caribbean (Persons)%	0.05	0.30	1.14
Black or Black British: African (Persons)	261	15,912	475,938
Black or Black British: African (Persons)%	0.08	0.24	0.97
Black or Black British: Other Black (Persons)	105	5,303	95,324
Black or Black British: Other Black (Persons)%	0.03	0.08	0.19
Chinese or other ethnic group: Chinese (Persons)	1,320	26,887	220,681
Chinese or other ethnic group: Chinese (Persons)%	0.42	0.40	0.45
Chinese or other ethnic group: Other ethnic group (Persons)	348	13,331	214,619
Chinese or other ethnic group: Other ethnic group (Persons)%	0.11	0.20	0.44

Reference: www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk

4. Housing

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Type – The properties on the Wirral are predominantly semi-detached houses, accounting for 41.70%. This is higher than the regional average and is accounted for by the low number of terraced houses, 25.66% compared to a regional average of 31.74%.

Ownership - Wirral has the highest percentage of properties owned by the occupier in Merseyside with 31.30% of properties being owned outright and 40.97% being owned with a mortgage or loan. Renting through the housing association or council is lower than the regional average at 5.66% and 10.95% respectively compared to 6.5% and 13.57% regionally. Renting through private landlords or other means is slightly higher than the regional average.

Value - Wirral largely follows the regional trend in terms of property price bands. However there is a trend towards higher % of properties being in the higher council tax bands than on average in the North West.

The average house price in Merseyside in January 2007 was £130,783. This is in line with the regional figure, being only £511 lower than the average North West price. However house prices in Merseyside are rising at a lower rate than the northwest as a whole. The northwest in turn falls £43,533 below the average house price for the rest of England and Wales with house prices rising at a slight lower annual rate of 7.3% compared to 7.7% nationally.

Type	NW	Wirral
Households with residents	2,812,789	133,345
Households without residents %	137,452	5,876
Detached %	17.63%	16.85
Semi-detached %	36.55%	41.70
Terraced %	31.74%	25.66
purpose build blocks of flats or tenements %	10.23%	9.97
part of a shared house or apartment (including bed sits) %	2.56%	4.37
in commercial buildings %	1.01%	1.32
in a temporary structure %	0.28%	0.13
Ownership	NW	Wirral
owner occupied and owned outright %	29.78	31.30
owner occupied and owned with a mortgage or loan %	38.89	40.97
are shared ownership %	0.59	0.64
rented from the council %	13.57	10.94
rented through housing association or registered social landlord %	6.50	5.66
are rented from a private landlord or letting agency %	7.66	8.12
are rented (other) %	3.01	2.37
Value	NW	Wirral
Total number of dwellings	3,028,257	142,804
Council tax band A %	43.51	40.43
Council tax band B %	18.88	20.91
Council tax band C %	17.23	18.85
Council tax band D %	9.74	8.95
Council tax band E %	5.73	5.51
Council tax band F %	2.80	3.01
Council tax band G %	1.91	2.16
Council tax band H %	0.19	0.18
Council tax band X (unallocated) %		

Ref: www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk,

Location	Monthly Change	Annual Change	Average price	Comment
England & Wales	0.9%	7.7%	£174,827	
North West	0.8%	7.3%	£131,294	Lowest in UK
Merseyside	0.0%	5.2%	£130,783	

Ref: [House price Index, Land registry, January 2007](#)

5. Social Deprivation

The indices of deprivation score placed Wirral as the 48th most deprived borough nationally. Of Wirral's 22 wards 6 were in the worst 10% of the index, 5 were in the worst 5%, with the most affected ward being 23rd in the index. In terms of a single deprivation indicator, Bidston was the worst in England and Wales for child poverty. 30.34% of the households in Wirral don't have a car, higher than the national average of 26.84%.

Indices of deprivation: average score 30.06, rank: 48

Ref: www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk; The indices of deprivation 2004, Liverpool City Council, May 2006; <http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1128440>

Car Ownership

	Wirral	North West	England
All Households (Households)	133,345	2,812,789	20,451,427
Households with no cars or vans (Households)	40,460	849,769	5,488,386
Households with no cars or vans (Households)%	30.34	30.21	26.84
Households with one car or van (Households)	59,080	1,224,554	8,935,718
Households with one car or van (Households)%	44.31	43.54	43.69
Households with two cars or vans (Households)	27,794	605,586	4,818,581
Households with two cars or vans (Households)%	20.84	21.53	23.56
Households with three cars or vans (Households)	4,805	104,120	924,289
Households with three cars or vans (Households)%	3.60	3.70	4.52
Households with four or more cars or vans (Households)	1,206	28,760	284,453
Households with four or more cars or vans (Households)%	0.90	1.02	1.39
All cars or vans in the area (Vehicles)	134,336	2,874,991	22,607,629

Ref: www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk

6. Health

		Wirral	North West	England
Teenage Conceptions (Persons, Jan04-Dec04)	Count	297	6,268	39,593
Teenage Conceptions (Persons, Jan04-Dec04)	Rate per 1000	44.4	45.6	41.5
Life Expectancy at Birth, Males (Persons, Jul03)	y	75.40	75.10	76.55
Life Expectancy at Birth, Females (Persons, Jul03)	y	80.20	79.70	80.91
Households with one or more person with a limiting long-term illness (Households)	%	40.70	38.37	33.55

		Wirral	North West	England
All People (Persons)	Count	312,293	6,729,764	49,138,831
Good Health (Persons)	Count	208,854	4,501,183	33,787,361
Fairly Good Health (Persons)	Count	67,835	1,491,467	10,915,594
Not Good Health (Persons)	Count	35,604	737,114	4,435,876

Ref: www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk

7. Crime

Crime in Wirral has been consistently below the national average by 3 offences less per 1000 population.

	Wirral	North West	England
Violence Against the Person (Offences, Apr05-Mar06)	6,276	144,200	992,094
Robbery (Offences, Apr05-Mar06)	231	11,986	94,897
Burglary in a Dwelling (Offences, Apr05-Mar06)	1,434	47,041	290,542
Theft of a Motor Vehicle (Offences, Apr05-Mar06)	1,052	32,590	201,920
Theft from a Vehicle (Offences, Apr05-Mar06)	1,710	71,536	476,704
Road Accident Data, All Casualties (Persons, Jan03-Dec03)	196	4,131	32,296
Total Fires; Deliberate (Incidents, Jan05-Dec05)	515	14,129	66,456

Month	Total number of offences	Offences per 1000 population	Offences per 1000 England/Wales population
Apr-Jun 2005	7220	23.1	26.4
Jul-Sep 2005	7233	23.1	25.9
Oct-Dec 2005	6681	21.3	25.9
Jan-Mar 2006	6686	21.4	24.9

Ref: *Merseyside Economic Review 2006*, www.crimestatistics.org.uk,
www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk,

8. Employment & Education

Wirral's unemployment rate stands at 5.8%, higher than the national averages. Employment stands at around 55.4%, mainly accounted for in the manufacturing and retail sectors, but closely followed by those working in real estate and social work. There is a large retired population, 15.8%, and 8.7% of the population are classed as long term sick or disabled compared to 5.5% nationally. Education attainment levels are high with only slightly lower than average percentage of people qualified to degree level and the percentage of people with no qualification following the national trend at just over 29%.

Ref: *Wirral Council Corporate Assessment, December 2002*; *Audit Commission*;
www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk

Status (all people aged 16-74)	Value	E&W avg	Eng & Wal Rank/376	Regional Rank/43
Employed	55.4%	60.6%	330	35
Unemployed	4.3%	3.4%	47	6
Long-term unemployed	1.5%	1.0%	37	5
Student (economically active)	2.1%	2.6%	229	30
Retired	15.8%	13.6%	99	12
Student (economically inactive)	4.0%	4.7%	109	14
Looking after home/family	6.6%	6.5%	136	10
Permanently sick or disabled	8.7%	5.5%	35	12
Other inactive	3.1%	3.1%	117	20

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Manufacturing	%	15.57
Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles	%	15.62
Real estate; renting and business activities	%	11.37
and social work	%	14.41

Qualifications (all people aged 16-74)	Value	E&W avg	Eng & Wal Rank/376	Regional Rank/43
Qualifications at degree level or higher	17.7%	19.8%	189	19
No qualifications	29.4%	29.1%	163	28

Ref: www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk,

9. Literacy Levels

The skills for life survey, commissioned by the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) aimed to establish a stronger evidence base to underpin the Skills for Life Strategy. The results for the Merseyside and Wirral region are below. The criteria used are as follows:

- Entry Level is below a low level GCSE;
- Level 1 is broadly comparable with a low level GCSE (D-G); and
- Level 2 is comparable with a high level GCSE (A*-C).

Literacy levels in the Wirral are higher than the average for the region or Merseyside. Numeracy skills are lower for higher GCSE equivalent level but higher for lower GCSE equivalent level. Skills in information communication and technology are few per cent higher in Wirral than for Merseyside or the northwest. .

Level	Literacy	Numeracy	Information Communication and Technology
North West			
Entry Level 1 Skills	4%	6%	59%
Entry Level 2 Skills	2%	19%	
Entry Level 3 Skills	12%	24%	
Level 1 Skills	42%	28%	41%
Level 2 Skills	41%	23%	
Merseyside			
Entry Level 1 Skills	1	6	66
Entry Level 2 Skills	1	26	
Entry Level 3 Skills	13	29	
Level 1 Skills	48	26	34
Level 2 Skills	37	13	
Wirral			
Entry Level 1 Skills	1	5	57
Entry Level 2 Skills	0	19	
Entry Level 3 Skills	10	24	
Level 1 Skills	48	33	43
Level 2 Skills	41	19	

Ref: http://www.dfes.gov.uk/readwriteplus_skillsforlifesurvey/gors/gor_B.shtml

Ref: http://www.dfes.gov.uk/readwriteplus_skillsforlifesurvey/gors/gor_B.shtml

10. Biodiversity

Special Protection Areas / Ramsar sites

- Mersey Estuary; and

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- Dee Estuary.

Local Nature Reserves

- Bidstone Moss;
- Dibbinsdale;
- Heswall Dales;
- Hilbre Island; and
- Thurstaston Common.

Ref: http://www.english-nature.org.uk/text_version/special/lmr/lmr_results.asp?c=27

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)

SSSI	Habitat	Area	Overall Condition
Dee Cliffs	Supralittoral rock / Neutral grassland - lowland	15.23	Unfavourable recovering / Unfavourable no change
Dibbinsdale	Broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland - lowland	55.02	Favourable / Unfavourable no change
Heswall Dales	Dwarf shrub heath - lowland	29.65	Unfavourable recovering
Meols Meadows	Neutral grassland - lowland	7.78	Unfavourable no change / Unfavourable declining
New Ferry	Littoral sediment	73.43	Favourable
North Wirral Foreshore	Littoral sediment	1962.08	Favourable
Red Rocks	Supralittoral sediment	11.44	Favourable
The Dungeon	Earth heritage	1.09	Favourable
Thurstaston Common	Dwarf shrub heath – lowland / Earth heritage	72.08	Unfavourable no change / Favourable
Mersey Narrows	Littoral sediment	90.44	Favourable

Ref: www.english-nature.org.uk/Special/sssi/reportAction.cfm?Report=sdr13&Category=C&Reference=1027

11. Waste

Waste composition

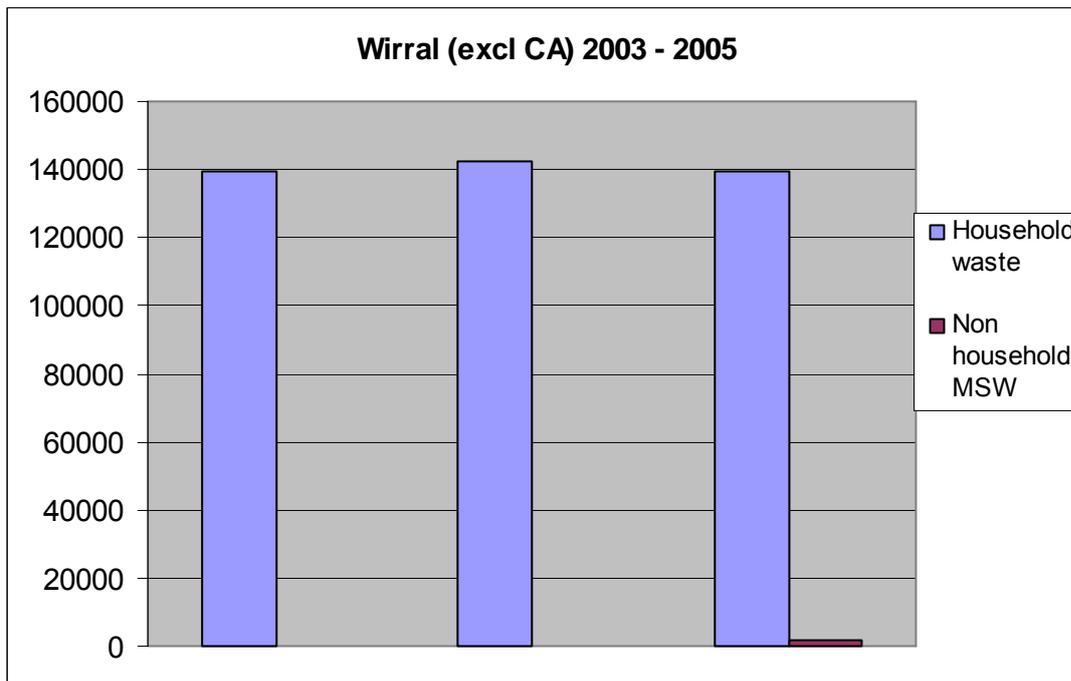
Material	%	kg/hh/wk
Paper and card	26.10	4.51
Food waste	23.02	3.98
Plastics	11.30	1.95
Glass	9.28	1.60
Garden Waste	8.10	1.40
Other material	7.88	1.36
Textiles	4.47	0.77
Metals and white goods	4.07	0.70
Disposable Nappies	3.40	0.59

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Other electrical Items	1.09	0.19
Hazardous Items	0.76	0.13
Wood	0.52	0.09
Potentially reusable items	0.01	0.00
Total	100	17.29

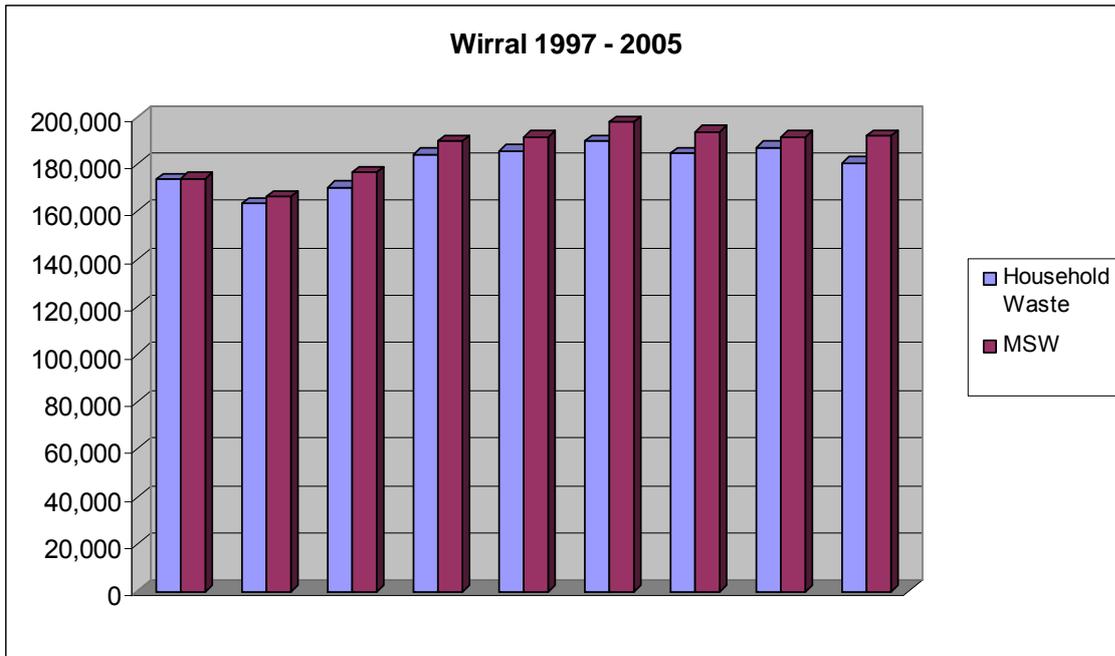
Waste growth historical and projected

The waste arisings for the District collections have been provided by Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority (MWDA) for the period 2003/4 – 2005/6 and these show relatively static household waste arisings, with a slight peak in 2004/5. This data set contained limited information of non household waste arisings so no inference can be made on trends from this data. The MWDA data for Wirral is shown in the graph below:-



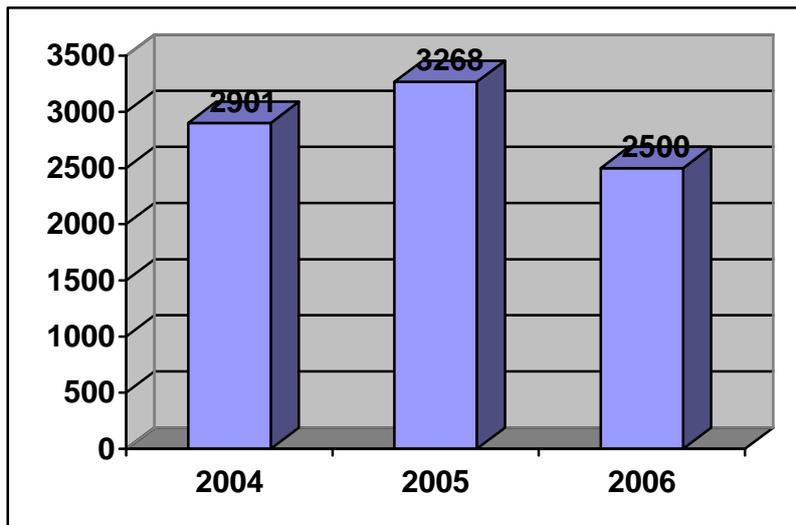
A Defra dataset on waste arisings was also used to provide a greater historical perspective on the situation in Wirral. The dataset also combines the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) data for Wirral with the District collection to provide a more complete picture of 'total' municipal and household waste arisings. Data from 1997/98 – 2005/6 is included and there is a slight decline in household waste observable since 2000. There has also been an increase in non household waste over this period. The Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) trend shows a decline over the last four years. The data is illustrated in the graph below:-

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Fly-tipping incidents

Wirral have dealt with the following number of fly-tipping incidents:



The increase in the number of fly tipping incidents in 2005 is attributed to the councils charging for bulky waste collection service in this year. The council now employs four full time enforcement officers and one enforcement manager who are responsible for dealing with flytipping offences as well as enforcing other sections of Environmental Protection Act (EPA) 1990, Clean Neighborhoods Act and the Highways Act.

Wirral have been successful in prosecuting several high profile fly tipping offences and they intend to enforce a no-side-waste policy, treating bags left at the side of bins as a breach of section 46 of the EPA 1990.

Operation Joker is a Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) project aimed at specifically targeting household fly-tipping in back alleys in high density areas.

12. Water Rivers

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The North West Region contains over 5,750 kilometres of rivers. Over 90% of these are now clean enough to support fish and recreational activities. However, in recent years the rate of water quality improvement has slowed due to cleaner wastewater discharges.

Since 2000:

- there was a net improvement of around 2% (over 100km) of North West Rivers;
- over one fifth (around 1200km) of North West rivers were upgraded;
- the proportion of rivers classed as 'Good' or 'Fair' biologically rose by 5%

The main Rivers in Merseyside are the River Alt, the River Dee and the River Mersey. There are also a number of smaller water courses in Merseyside which act as tributaries to these larger rivers.

The table below shows the total length of waterways for the individual districts in the Merseyside area and their water quality classification in 2005

District	Total Km	Good %	Fair%	Poor%	Bad%
Halton	29.2	11	60.4	20.6	8
Knowsley	28.1	0.4	61.1	5.6	32.9
Liverpool	12.6	19.2	63.4	7.7	9.7
St Helens	38.2	29.5	43.7	20.9	5.9
Sefton	47.5	51	37.6	8.9	2.6
Wirral	31	7.9	5.6	61.2	25.3

Ref: http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/regions/northwest/346910/347005/501315/?version=1&lang=_e

Throughout England and Wales, a target of 91% of assessed rivers to be compliant with their River Quality Objectives by 2005 was set, i.e. to be in good or fair condition. It can be seen that Merseyside as a whole and each district is not up to this compliance figure yet.

Ref: http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/regions/southern/1168940/1169042/1174732/1213476/?version=1&lang=_e

The Dee Estuary borders Wirral to the West. Water up stream of the estuary at Chester and in Wales has been classed a compliant with river water quality standards. However there have been incidences of non compliance in the past due to high levels of dissolved oxygen and biochemical demand for oxygen.

The River Mersey is sourced in the western Pennines and runs into Merseyside with St Helens and Knowsley to the North and Halton to the South. Here it spreads into the Mersey Estuary and runs North out into the Irish Sea. It is bordered by the Wirral on the West and Liverpool and Sefton on the East. Fifty years ago, the River Mersey was one of the most polluted rivers in Europe but following an intensive clean up operation, fish are now thriving and salmon have returned.

The Mersey Basin Campaign (MBC) is a 25-year government backed partnership to deliver water quality improvements and waterside regeneration throughout the Mersey basin river system.

Ref: http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/regions/northwest/346910/347005/440418/441073/?version=1&lang=_e

A multi-million pound project to clean up the beaches, rivers and lakes in the North West has been secured by the Environment Agency. The project called ICREW (improving coastal and recreational waters) is working in association with partners from Ireland, France, Portugal and Spain and has been designed not only to clean up the waters, but also to boost tourism. There are seven pilot actions that make up the project and although some of these are being managed in the UK, water specialists from Portugal and the MBC have been tasked with the management of others.

Ref: <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/regions/northwest/850243/850886/850913/?version=1&lang=e>

Estuary

The estuaries in the North West are in a poorer condition than the estuaries in the rest of the country, being the only region to still have areas classed as bad condition. The map below shows the quality of estuary water around England and Wales for 2000. The 10.6% of the estuaries (as a percentage of length) in the North West were classified as bad and 14.5% as poor. It can be seen that the majority of these ratings were in the Merseyside region. The Dee Estuary on the West of the Wirral Peninsular was classed as good condition.

Ref: http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/yourenv/eff/1190084/water/213902/river_qual/gqa2000/186801/

Estuary quality 2000 (percentage length)					
	Good	Fair	Poor	Bad	Length (km)
Anglian	82.1	17.9	0.0	0.0	578.8
Midlands	56.0	44.0	0.0	0.0	53.6
North East	58.1	41.0	1.0	0.0	217.7
North West	48.9	26.0	14.5	10.6	451.8
Southern	92.5	7.5	0.0	0.0	359.1
South West	78.4	21.6	0.0	0.0	486.9
Thames	24.8	75.2	0.0	0.0	111.6
Wales	78.0	22.0	0.0	0.0	515.6
England & Wales	72.0	23.9	2.4	1.7	2775.1

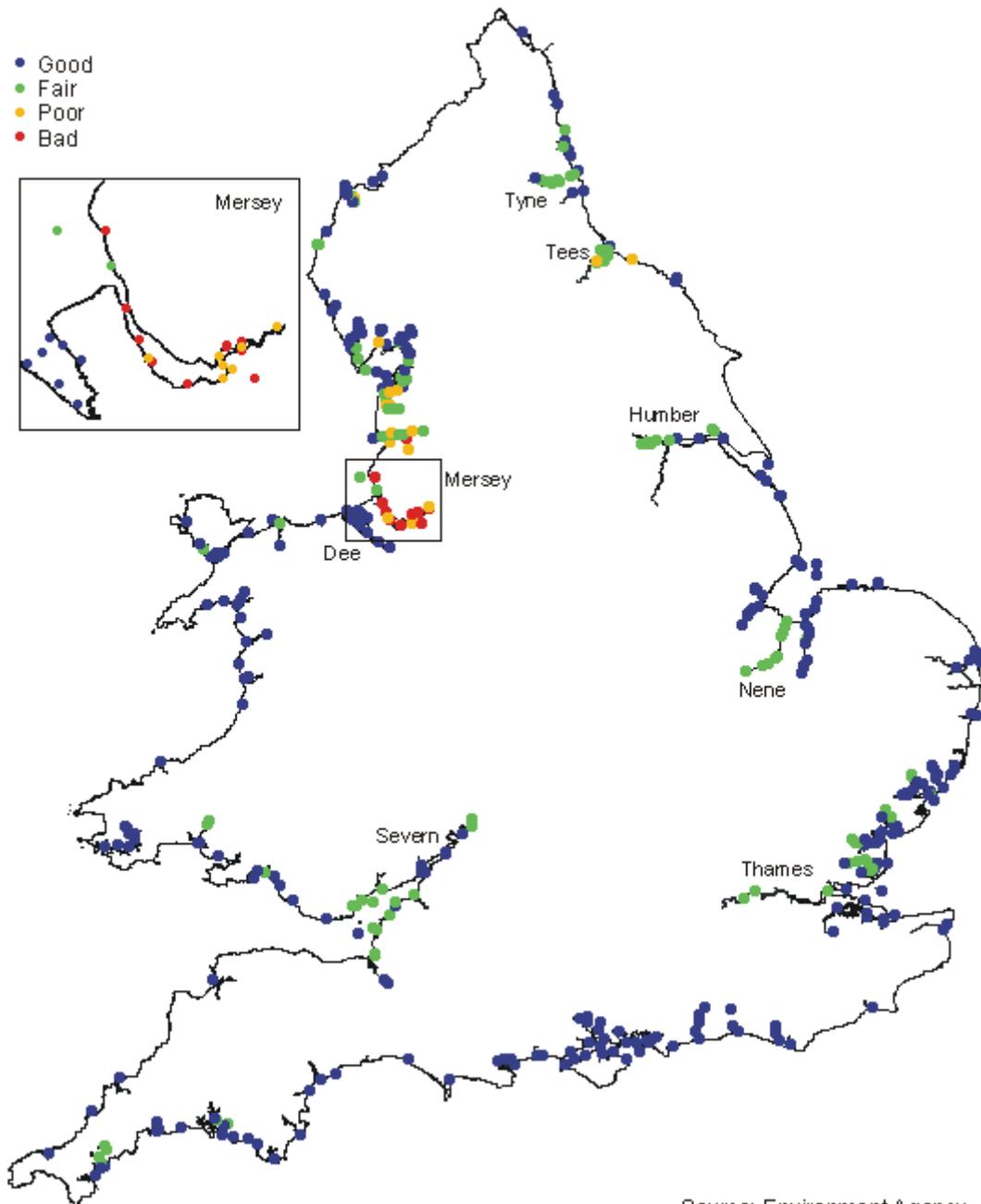
Estuary quality 1995 (percentage length)					
	Good	Fair	Poor	Bad	Length (km)
Anglian	68.6	21.9	2.5	7.0	578.8
Midlands	56.0	44.0	0.0	0.0	53.6
North East	44.4	40.6	10.1	5.0	218.7
North West	49.2	26.2	10.4	14.2	448.9
Southern	76.1	20.7	3.3	0.0	364.6
South West	77.3	21.6	1.1	0.0	493.6
Thames	24.8	75.2	0.0	0.0	111.6
Wales	76.2	22.4	1.4	0.0	515.6
England & Wales	65.5	26.5	3.9	4.1	2785.4

Estuary quality 1990 (percentage length)					
	Good	Fair	Poor	Bad	Length (km)
Anglian	79.1	13.5	7.1	0.4	514.0
Midlands	14.3	60.8	25.0	0.0	56.1
North East	29.2	39.3	23.7	7.7	175.2
North West	48.9	22.6	13.2	15.3	451.8
Southern	75.5	21.0	3.5	0.0	388.1
South West	80.0	18.8	1.1	0.0	469.6
Thames	45.2	54.8	0.0	0.0	111.6
Humber Estuary	43.1	56.9	0.0	0.0	64.8
Severn Estuary	60.7	39.3	0.0	0.0	71.2
Wales	78.2	20.1	1.7	0.0	419.6
England & Wales	66.3	24.1	6.5	3.1	2722.0
England	64.1	24.8	7.4	3.7	2302.4

Estuary quality 1985 (percentage length)					
	Good	Fair	Poor	Bad	Length (km)
Anglian	87.3	11.1	1.3	0.4	514.0
Midlands	44.6	55.4	0.0	0.0	56.1

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North East	31.2	35.6	22.9	10.3	175.2
North West	48.9	22.6	13.2	15.3	451.8
Southern	75.5	21.0	3.5	0.0	388.1
South West	80.0	18.8	1.1	0.0	469.6
Thames	44.0	56.0	0.0	0.0	111.6
Humber Estuary	43.1	56.9	0.0	0.0	64.8
Severn Estuary	60.7	39.3	0.0	0.0	71.2
Wales	77.4	20.9	1.7	0.0	419.6
England & Wales	68.5	23.4	4.9	3.3	2722.0
England	66.8	23.9	5.4	3.9	2302.4



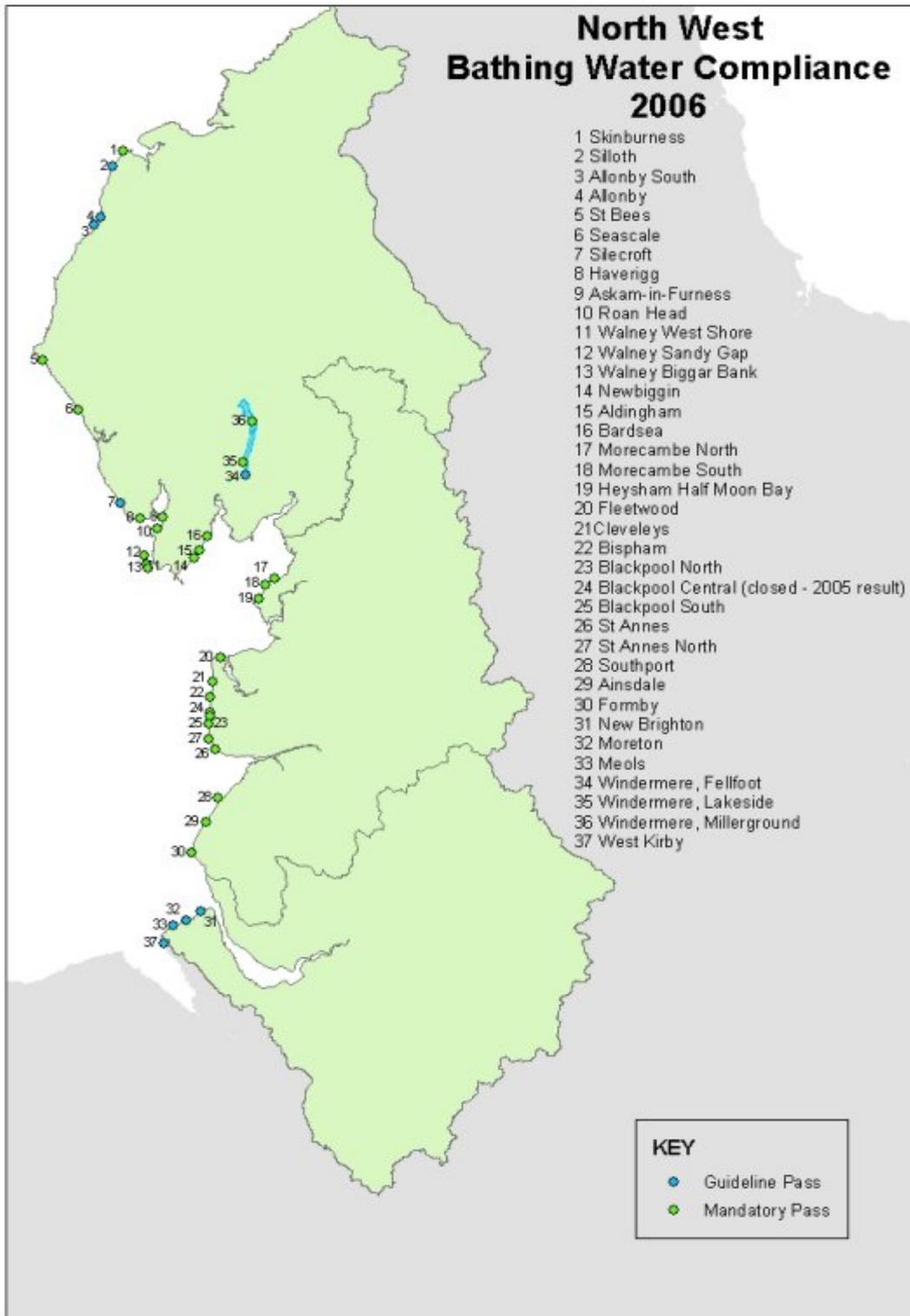
Source: Environment Agency

Bathing

The west coast of the North West Region is bounded by the Irish Sea which receives significant inputs of contaminants from direct discharges along its coasts, and from diffuse agricultural and urban sources. Through a multi-million pound European funding stream (INTEREG III), international partners are working to improve coastal and recreational waters. There are 7 designated beaches within the Merseyside area where water quality is monitored

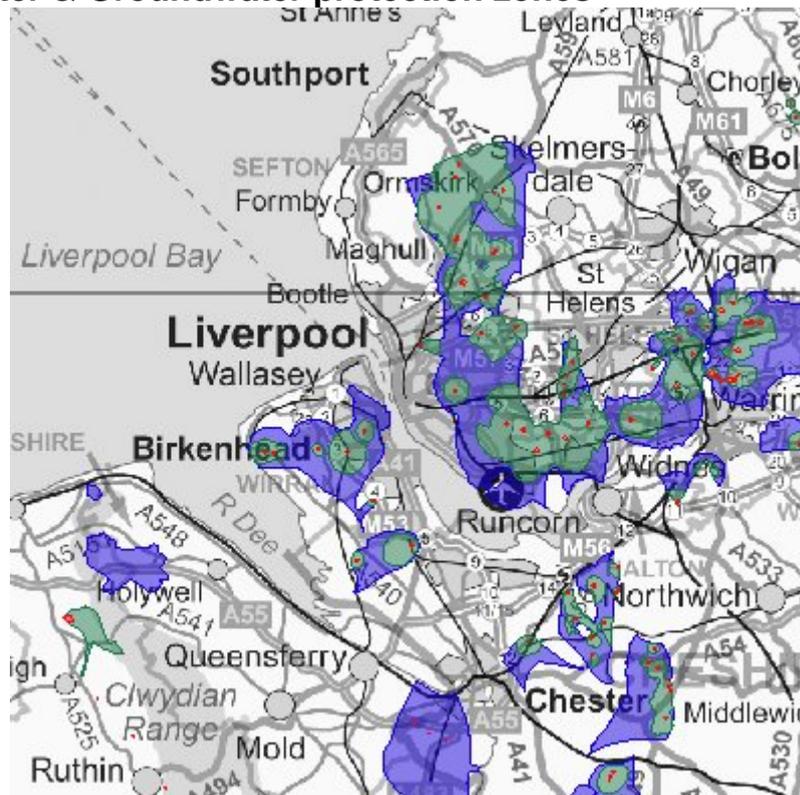
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regularly. In 2006, all of the bathing waters sampled in the Merseyside area complied with the European Regulations. Wirral has 4 samples, all of which currently are classified as excellent.



Ref: <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/regions/northwest/346910/347005/434865/?lang=e>

Groundwater & Groundwater protection zones



- ■ Inner zone
- ■ Outer zone
- ■ Total catchment
- ■ Special interest

Merseyside has groundwater protection zones, within which contamination could affect the quality of water abstracted for drinking. These areas are monitored by the Environment Agency (EA) who, utilise their Groundwater Protection Policy, set up pollution prevention measures in areas which are at higher risk and monitor the activities of potential polluters nearby. Large areas of Wirral fall within these zones.

Zone 1 (Inner protection zone): Any pollution that can travel to the borehole within 50 days from any point within the zone is classified as being inside zone 1. This applies at and below the water table. This zone also has a minimum 50 metre protection radius around the borehole. These criteria are designed to protect against the transmission of toxic chemicals and water-borne disease.

Zone 2 (Outer protection zone): The outer zone covers pollution that takes up to 400 days to travel to the borehole, or 25% of the total catchment area – whichever area is the biggest. This travel time is the minimum amount of time that we think pollutants need to be diluted, reduced in strength or delayed by the time they reach the borehole.

Zone 3 (Total catchment): The total catchment is the total area needed to support removal of water from the borehole, and to support any discharge from the borehole.

Zone of special interest: Sometimes, we define a fourth zone. This is usually where local conditions mean that industrial sites and other polluters could affect the groundwater source even though they are outside the normal catchment area.

Ref: <http://maps.environment-agency.gov.uk>

13. Flood Risk areas

The Environment Agency (EA) defines areas at risk from flooding in Merseyside to have the following extent:



A floodplain is the area that would naturally be affected by flooding if a river rises above its banks, or high tides and stormy seas cause flooding in coastal areas.

There are two different kinds of area shown on the Flood Map:

- ■ shows the area that could be affected by flooding, either from rivers or the sea, if there were no flood defences. This area could be flooded:
 - from the sea by a flood that has a 0.5% (1 in 200) or greater chance of happening each year
 - or from a river by a flood that has a 1% (1 in 100) or greater chance of happening each year.
- ■ shows the additional extent of an extreme flood from rivers or the sea. These outlying areas are likely to be affected by a major flood, with up to a 0.1% (1 in 1000) chance of occurring each year.

These two colours show the extent of the natural floodplain if there were no flood defences or certain other manmade structures and channel improvements.

Ref: www.environment-agency.gov.uk

The Wirral catchment includes the Rivers Fender and Birkett and Rivacre, Dibbinsdale and Arrowe Brooks and their tributaries, Other locations which may be affected are around Birkenhead.

Areas of Meols and Leasowe are at severe risk of flooding from a breach of the sea defences.

The River Mersey which is currently covered by a Catchment Flood Management Plan (CFMP) which covers an area of approximately 600km², approximately 40% is heavily urbanised and is home to approximately 1,400,000 people. Significant flooding in the past identified from the British Hydrological Society (BHS) chronology includes the 1881, 1911, 1928 and 1933 events. There was major flooding and large amounts of rainfall reported and recorded across the Mersey Estuary during these years. The most recent tidal flooding event occurred in February 1990. Tidal water levels flowed up the Mersey Estuary and into Warrington. Water overtopped the existing defences and threatened properties within the town centre.

Flooding on the Mersey may be the result of or the combined effect of two or more of these:

- either tidal water, fluvial water or surface water or from the combined effects of either of these;
- potential flooding of urban areas located near some of the watercourses – this is mainly linked to the lack of channel capacity to cope with high flows;
- a significant number of the flooding problems identified are associated with inadequate bridge or culvert capacity, blockages and/or failure;
- another significant cause of flooding related to surface water runoff and inadequate drainage of the areas;
- groundwater levels are rising in parts of the catchment;
- increase in deposits of (fine) sediment in parts of the Mersey estuary seems to have an effect on flood risk;
- strong winds from the Irish Sea entering the estuary may have an effect on (tidal) flood risk; and
- Within Flood Zone 3 (this is the area of land with a 100 to 1 chance (or greater) of flooding in any year from rivers, or with a 200 to 1 chance (or greater) of flooding in any year from the sea) there are approximately 25,000 properties at risk of flooding within the catchment about 10 per cent of which are commercial. Current predictions indicate that approximately 1,700 residential properties and over 100,000 m² of commercial floor space are at risk of tidal flooding from the River Mersey in Warrington. The current flood defences provide a varied and substandard level of protection. It is estimated that, in some areas, flooding from events with a return period as low as 1 in 10 years has an impact.

Ref: <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/subjects/flood/floodwarning>

Tidal Flooding is also a potential risk to the Wirral area.

Ref: http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/commondata/acrobat/factsheet_update_745539.pdf

14. Air Quality

There are no Local Air Quality Monitoring Areas in Wirral.

15. Green Belt

The eastern, central and southern settlements are separated by 73 sq. km. of Green Belt, which has twin objectives, to encourage urban regeneration and to protect the countryside.

Ref: www.magic.gov.uk

16. Transport

Rail networks

The Wirral Peninsular is served by the Wirral line of the Merseyrail network. The main stations are Hamilton Square in Birkenhead, New Brighton in the North and West Kirby in the West. The Wirral line Links the Wirral to Chester, via Ellesmere Port in the South and Liverpool city centre via the Mersey tunnels. This links Wirral, through various stations with the rest of Merseyside through the other lines on the Merseyrail network: Knowsley, Halton and St. Helens on the city line, Halton and Sefton on the Northern Line. This gives links to the national rail network main lines at Liverpool, Chester, Wigan, Runcorn and Warrington. There is also a main line out of the Wirral to the South into North Wales and Chester.

Ferry network

Ferries run across the Mersey from the Pier head in Liverpool Docks to Woodside in Birkenhead and Seacombe in Wallasey on the Wirral peninsular. Ferries run daily with the ferry terminals being served by public transport and the Merseyrail network as well as having access to parking. There are both direct services and a tourist service (River Explorer). Ferries also leave Liverpool and Birkenhead for other National destinations, the busiest of these being crossings to Ireland, to Dublin and Belfast, and Douglas on the Isle of Man.

Air Network

The Merseyside area is served by the John Lennon Airport located 7 miles south of the city of Liverpool in Speke. The airport carries over 4.5 million passengers per annum and offering some 60 destinations. It is served by the Mersey Rail network as well as various bus services from across the region so can be easily accessed from the Wirral area. Road links from Wirral are either via the Mersey Tunnels and the A651 or via the M53, through Chester and the M56 to the A557 Runcorn Bridge then along the A5300.

Road Networks

The main urban centres are Wallasey, New Brighton and Birkenhead in the North east, with West Kirby and Heswall to the West. The borough is linked to Liverpool via the Mersey Tunnels (Kingsway and Queensway) as well as the Mersey Ferry. The M53 runs down the borough linking to the M63 and Cheshire.

Canal Network

There a number of canals serving the Merseyside area: The Bridge Water Canal (from Manchester into Wigan and Runcorn); The Leeds Liverpool Canal (entering the Merseyside area from the west at Wigan running down through Sefton into Liverpool); The Manchester Ship Canal (from Manchester to Eastham, Wirral) and the planned Liverpool Canal Link (connecting the Leeds & Liverpool Canal to Liverpool's Albert Dock by means of a new canal).

- The Bridge Water Canal runs for 28 miles from Manchester into the Merseyside and Cheshire areas. The northern branch runs to Wigan with the southern branch entering the Manchester Ship Canal and heading for the Mersey estuary and ending at Runcorn;
- The Manchester ship canal runs for 36 miles from Manchester to Eastham, Wirral. It runs though Halton and into Chester before heading North onto the Wirral peninsular; and
- River Weaver: The navigable River Weaver runs for 20 miles between Winsford in Cheshire and Runcorn on the Manchester Ship Canal.

Ref: www.merseytravel.gov.uk; www.merseyferries.co.uk; www.waterscape.com; www.liverpooljohnlennonairport.com; <http://www.blackpoolinternational.com/>; <http://www.norsemerchant.com>; <http://www.directferries.co.uk>; <http://www.merseyrail.org>; <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk>.

17. Buildings and Heritage

Listed Buildings: >1,800

Ref: www.magic.gov.uk

Appendix 3: Outputs from the Toolkit

Scoring system:

- +** assumed positive effect
- ?** effect considered unclear
- 0** assumed no change
- assumed negative effect

Theme: 1. Climate Change			
Original Questions (Integrated Appraisal Toolkit)	Revised/Accepted /Deleted/New	Final Text	Scoping Score
1.1 Will the initiative develop or deliver local, regional and national policies to tackle climate change?	Accepted	1.1 Will the DCAP develop or deliver local, regional and national policies to tackle climate change?	+
1.2 Will the initiative help to mitigate greenhouse gases?	Accepted	1.2 Will the DCAP help to reduce greenhouse gases?	+
1.3 Will the initiative help to adapt to climate change?	Accepted	1.3 Will the DCAP help to adapt to climate change?	?
1.4 Will the initiative address the social and economic, as well as environmental impacts, of energy use?	Accepted	1.4 Will the DCAP address the social & economic, as well as environmental impacts, of energy use?	?/+
	New	1.5 Will the DCAP promote more sustainable means of energy generation	+
	New	1.6 Will the DCAP help raise awareness of climate change issues?	?
Theme 2: Waste			
Original Questions (Integrated Appraisal Toolkit)	Revised/Accepted /Deleted/New	Final Text	Scoping Score
Will the initiative ensure the sustainable management of waste?	Accepted	2.1 Will the DCAP ensure the sustainable management of waste?	+
Will the initiative reduce generation of hazardous waste?	Merged	2.2 Will the DCAP reduce waste generation, including	+

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Will the initiative reduce waste generation?	Merged	hazardous waste?	
Will the initiative encourage disposal of waste as close to its origin as possible?	Revised	2.3 Will the DCAP encourage management & disposal of waste as close to its origin as practicable?	+
Will the initiative encourage re-using, recycling and/or recovery?	Accepted	2.4 Will the DCAP encourage re-using, recycling and/or recovery?	+
Theme 3: Sustainable Community			
Original Questions (Integrated Appraisal Toolkit)	Revised/Accepted /Deleted/New	Final Text	Scoping Score
Will the initiative contribute to developing and maintaining sustainable communities?	Accepted	3.1 Will the DCAP contribute to developing and maintaining sustainable communities?	+
Will the initiative enhance the lives of ALL members of communities within its scope?	Revised	3.2 Will the DCAP engage with and enhance the lives of all the members of the community in its development and delivery?	+
Will the initiative engage all members of the community in the development and delivery of the project / programme / plan?	Revised		
Will the initiative improve and ensure local accessibility of jobs, community goods and services as well as amenities?	Accepted	3.3 Will the DCAP improve and ensure local accessibility of jobs, community goods and services as well as amenities?	+
Will the initiative reduce crime, disorder and the fear of crime whilst offering opportunities for rehabilitation to offenders?	Accepted	3.4 Will the DCAP reduce crime, disorder and the fear of crime whilst offering opportunities for rehabilitation to offenders?	?/ +
	New	3.5 Will the DCAP improve income levels and promote wellbeing especially in deprived areas?	?/ +
	New	3.6 Will the DCAP improve physical and mental health and reduce health inequalities?	0/?
Theme 4: Local Environment Quality (LEQ)			
Original Questions (Integrated Appraisal Toolkit)	Revised/Accepted /Deleted/New	Final Text	Scoping Score
Will the initiative contribute to the provision of cleaner, safer, greener communities?	Accepted	4.1 Will the DCAP contribute to the provision of cleaner, safer, greener communities?	+

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Will the initiative reduce the amount of litter, fly-tipping or graffiti in local communities?	Accepted	4.2 Will the DCAP reduce the amount of litter, fly-tipping or graffiti in local communities?	+
Will the initiative protect or improve local air quality?	Revised	4.3 Will the DCAP protect or improve local air quality or limit air pollution to levels which do not damage natural systems??	?
Will the initiative reduce exposure to high noise levels?	Revised	4.4 Will the DCAP protect against noise, dust, vermin and odour?	?
Will the initiative protect or improve inland or coastal waters?	Accepted	4.5 Will the DCAP protect or improve inland, estuarine or coastal waters?	?/0
Will the initiative protect or enhance soils and/or land whilst promoting the re-use or regeneration of previously developed land?	Accepted	4.6 Will the DCAP protect or enhance soils and/or land whilst promoting the re-use or regeneration of previously developed land?	?/0
Theme 5: Economy			
Original Questions (Integrated Appraisal Toolkit)	Revised/Accepted /Deleted/New	Final Text	Scoping Score
Will the initiative encourage sustainable economic growth and employment?	Accepted	5.1 Will the DCAP encourage sustainable economic growth and employment?	+
Will the initiative encourage innovation as well as research & development together with knowledge transfer?	Accepted	5.2 Will the DCAP encourage innovation as well as research & development together with knowledge transfer?	?/0
Will the initiative encourage the formation, survival and growth of sustainable enterprise schemes?	Accepted	5.3 Will the DCAP encourage the formation, survival and growth of sustainable enterprise schemes?	+
Will the initiative make linkages to ensure vacancies are accessible to all communities and locations especially disadvantaged areas?	Revised	5.4 Will the DCAP make linkages to ensure growth opportunities and vacancies are accessible to all communities and locations especially disadvantaged areas?	+
Will the initiative support growth in key cities/towns and/or areas remote from growth?	Accepted	5.5 Will the DCAP support growth in key cities/towns and/or areas remote from growth?	?/0
Theme 6: Skills and Behaviour			
Original Questions (Integrated Appraisal Toolkit)	Revised/Accepted /Deleted/New	Final Text	Scoping Score

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Will the initiative bring intermediate or higher levels skills into the current workforce or develop skills required to bring people back into the labour market?	Accepted	6.1 Will the DCAP bring intermediate or higher levels skills into the current workforce or develop skills required to bring people back into the labour market?	+
Will the initiative support skills development important to growth for key regional sectors?	Revised & Merged	6.2 Will the DCAP support skills development and promote the take up of training and/or further education opportunities?	?/+
Will the initiative promote the take up of training and/or further education opportunities?	Revised & Merged		
Will the initiative promote sustainable living and/or working?	Deleted: addressed under theme 3		
Theme 7: Transport			
Original Questions (Integrated Appraisal Toolkit)	Revised/Accepted /Deleted/New	Final Text	Scoping Score
Will the initiative reduce the need to travel or the distances needed to travel?	Revised & Merged	7.1 Will the DCAP reduce road freight movements, traffic congestion or the distances needed to travel, while also promoting sustainable travel?	?
Will the initiative reduce road freight movements?	Revised & Merged		
Will the initiative reduce traffic congestion and improve safety for all road users?	Revised & Merged		
Will the initiative encourage walking, cycling and/or travelling by public transport?	Deleted: not relevant	7.2 Will the DCAP affect the distances travelled by wastes and resources and the associated transport impacts?	?
Will the initiative promote sustainable travel and alternatives such as communication infrastructure which supports ideas such as home working?	Revised & Merged		
Theme 8: Biodiversity			
Original Questions (Integrated Appraisal Toolkit)	Revised/Accepted /Deleted/New	Final Text	Scoping Score
Will the initiative protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and local landscape character?	Accepted	8.1 Will the DCAP protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and local landscape character?	0 /+
Will the initiative help to protect any designated wildlife sites or landscape areas?	Accepted	8.2 Will the DCAP help to protect any designated wildlife sites or landscape areas?	0 /+
Will it improve the amount and quality of, and access to, local green space?	Accepted	8.3 Will the DCAP improve the amount and quality of, and access to, local green space?	0 /+

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Will the initiative protect and enhance endangered species and habitats and provide opportunities for new habitat creation?	Accepted	8.4 Will the DCAP protect and enhance endangered species and habitats and provide opportunities for new habitat creation?	0 /+
Theme 9: Natural Resources			
Original Questions (Integrated Appraisal Toolkit)	Revised/Accepted /Deleted/New	Final Text	Scoping Score
Will the initiative ensure efficient use of natural resources?	Revised & Merged	9.1 Will the DCAP ensure efficient use of natural resources, discourage overseas imports from unsustainable resources and/or encourage the use of local resources?	+
Will the initiative discourage overseas imports from unsustainable resources?	Revised & Merged		
Will the initiative encourage the use of local resources?	Revised & Merged		
Will the initiative help to increase the value of regional resources to society and the environment?	Accepted	9.2 Will the DCAP help to increase the value of regional resources to society and the environment?	+
Theme 10: Buildings and Heritage			
Original Questions (Integrated Appraisal Toolkit)	Revised/Accepted /Deleted/New	Final Text	Scoping Score
Will the initiative protect places of historic, cultural and archaeological value?	Revised & merged	10.1 Will the DCAP protect places of historic, cultural and archaeological value, including designated heritage sites?	0 /+
Will the initiative protect and sustainably manage designated heritage sites?	Revised & merged		
Will the initiative be based on high-quality design that respects local character and enhances local distinctiveness?	Revised & Merged	10.2 Will the DCAP be based on high-quality design that respects local character and enhances local distinctiveness while reducing the number of vacant buildings, through re-use as well as redevelopment?	0 /+
Will the initiative help to reduce the number of vacant buildings, through re-use as well as redevelopment?	Revised & Merged		

Appendix 4: Interview Questions within each Theme/Sub theme

Theme/Sub theme	Questions submitted to the Local Authority
Theme 1: Climate Change	
1.1 Will the District Council Action Plan (DCAP) develop or deliver local, regional and national policies to tackle climate change?	<p>Are there any local climate change policies in place?</p> <p>Are climate change issues a consideration when planning round collections or collection strategies, e.g. transport emissions?</p> <p>What waste prevention initiatives is the authority currently, or planning to be, engaged in?</p>
1.2 Will the DCAP help to reduce greenhouse gases?	<p>What currently happens to the compost generated from the garden waste collection scheme?</p> <p>Is there a strategy in place for ongoing/future use/distribution of the compost material?</p> <p>What is the current status of the co-mingled kitchen garden waste collection scheme?</p> <p>Information required re: waste minimisation / prevention activities (refer to previous question).</p>
1.3 Will the DCAP help to adapt to climate change?	<p>Are there any contingency or emergency plans in place to deal with the consequences of climate change?</p> <p>Are there any facilities, such as bring sites, transfer stations, former landfill sites in low lying areas, or potential flood zones? If so are there any mitigation measures in place to manage any potential emergencies as a result of flooding?</p>
1.4 Will the DCAP address the social and economic, as well as environmental impacts, of energy use?	<p>Is the authority actively engaged with market development work in relation to recyclables?</p> <p>Are any local markets supported?</p>
1.5 Will the DCAP promote more sustainable means of energy generation?	
1.6 Will the DCAP help raise awareness of climate change issues?	<p>An effective Communications Strategy could ensure that climate change and the link to greenhouse gas emissions and energy saving processes is made in relation to waste management awareness raising, information provision and motivational campaigns. In addition, through the education and awareness raising initiatives identified in the communications strategy, techniques to manage the effects of climate change, such as adopting good housekeeping techniques such as washing tins and bottles prior to separation, particularly during the warmer weather (predictions of increases up to 8 °C in the summer and 4 °C in the winter have been made), could help raise awareness of the local impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Has a communications strategy been developed for Wirral to drive waste related promotion and awareness raising activities?</p> <p>If so, have any of the above been taken into consideration when planning and delivering communications initiatives?</p>
Theme 2: Waste	
2.1 Will the DCAP ensure the sustainable management of	<p>What is the current status of the following:</p> <p>- Alternate Weekly Collection (AWC);</p>

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waste?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - co-mingled kitchen and garden waste collection; - dry recyclable co-mingled; and - plastic bottle collection. <p>What action is being taken to improve participation rates through increased publicity and awareness raising, or the use of enforcement measures to encourage participation?</p>
2.2 Will the DCAP reduce waste generation, including hazardous waste?	<p>Are there any initiatives in place to address waste growth?</p> <p>What support is given to real nappies?</p> <p>Are there any initiatives in place to prevent, reduce or reuse hazardous waste (e.g. Community re-paint schemes etc.)?</p>
2.3 Will the DCAP encourage disposal of waste as close to its origin as possible?	
2.4 Will the DCAP encourage re-using, recycling and/or recovery?	Are there any reuse activities underway?
Theme 3: Sustainable Communities	
3.1 Will the DCAP contribute to developing and maintaining sustainable communities?	<p>With regard to awareness raising is there a focus on education through schools to develop and sustain the message through future generations?</p> <p>Are all promotional materials available and accessible by all sectors of the community?</p> <p>Wherever practicable does the authority seek to highlight positive local uses for materials derived from recycling/ composting activity, promote compost give-aways and swap days?</p> <p>Was the DCAP developed taking account of public and other stakeholder views and are any updates or changes are subject to consultation?</p>
3.2 Will the DCAP engage with and enhance the lives of all the members of the community in its development and delivery?	<p>Does the authority proactively engage with the community sector to support its activities?</p> <p>What are the main routes of communication e.g. Citizens Panels, Satisfaction Surveys, Local Area Forums?</p>
3.3 Will the DCAP improve and ensure local accessibility of jobs, community goods and services as well as amenities?	What bulky waste collection / reuse schemes are currently in operation in Wirral, or are proposed?
3.4 Will the DCAP reduce crime, disorder and the fear of crime whilst offering opportunities for rehabilitation to offenders?	<p>What is the current activity in relation to fly-tipping and littering?</p> <p>How successful have enforcement activities been to date? What is the prosecution record?</p> <p>Does the authority participate in any rehabilitation programmes in terms of waste management services in operation?</p> <p>What is the council position on the use of enforcement measures to try and encourage positive behaviour with regard to recycling?</p>
3.5 Will the DCAP improve income levels and promote wellbeing especially in deprived areas?	<p>What is the current status with regard to joint procurement activities?</p> <p>Is there a focus on specific activities or support for the deprived areas within Wirral?</p>
3.6 Will the strategy improve physical and mental health and reduce health inequalities?	What is the current status of the Alternate Weekly Collection (AWC) scheme?
Theme 4: LEQ	

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4.1 Will the DCAP contribute to the provision of cleaner, safer, greener communities?	<p>Is there further information available in relation to street cleansing operations?</p> <p>What incentives are there for collection staff / contractors?</p> <p>What are the current levels of performance in terms of collection?</p>
4.2 Will the DCAP reduce the amount of litter, fly-tipping or graffiti in local communities?	Further details are required with regard to enforcement activities in relation to litter, use of collection systems and fly-tipping.
4.3 Will the DCAP protect or improve local air quality or limit air pollution to levels which do not damage natural systems?	<p>Has any modelling work been carried out on the collection service to optimise rounds and minimise air pollution as a result of traffic movement?</p> <p>Are there contract specifications / conditions with regard to types of vehicles procured to minimise emissions?</p>
4.4 Will the DCAP protect against noise, dust, vermin and odour?	<p>What plans are in place to ensure householders are adopting good practice particularly in terms of AWC?</p> <p>Is there any promotional work, or education and awareness raising in light of any negative issues which may arise as a result of AWC?</p>
4.5 Will the DCAP protect or improve inland, estuarine or coastal waters?	Is any of the compost generated from the green waste collection scheme used locally?
4.6 Will the DCAP protect or enhance soils and/or land whilst promoting the re-use or regeneration of previously developed land?	Does the compost produced from the garden waste collection comply with BSI PAS 100 standards?
Theme 5: Economy	
5.1 Will the DCAP encourage sustainable economic growth and employment?	Is there any further information on additional employment opportunities from increased collection service or ancillary services?
5.2 Will the DCAP encourage innovation as well as research & development together with knowledge transfer?	<p>Has Wirral engaged in any research and development in relation to its service delivery?</p> <p>What mechanisms are in place to promote knowledge transfer internally and externally?</p>
5.3 Will the DCAP encourage the formation, sustaining and growth of social / community enterprise schemes?	<p>Has the authority developed and maintained dialogue with relevant community groups and umbrella organisations to assess the potential for partnership working in delivery of collection services?</p> <p>Have Local Compacts been agreed for specific collection and other waste management services?</p>
5.4 Will the DCAP make linkages to ensure vacancies are accessible to all communities and locations especially disadvantaged areas?	<p>How does the authority publicise vacancies to ensure they are accessible to all?</p> <p>Does the authority promote or participate in third sector service delivery for waste services?</p>
5.5 Will the DCAP support growth in key cities/ towns and/or areas remote from growth?	
Theme 6: Skills and Behaviour	
6.1 Will the DCAP bring intermediate or higher levels skills into the current workforce or develop skills required to bring people back into the labour market?	<p>What training programmes are in place in relation to staffing the current service?</p> <p>What additional skills are required to staff the proposed programme?</p>
6.2 Will the DCAP support skills development and promote the	What staff development is in place?

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take up of training and/or further education opportunities?	<p>What training or further education opportunities are currently made available to staff?</p> <p>Are there any incentives for staff to undertake further development?</p> <p>Are there any formal council policies in place with regard to skills development and staff training?</p> <p>Do current contractors support the need for continuous improvement of their staff?</p>
Theme 7: Transport	
7.1 Will the DCAP reduce road freight movements, traffic congestion or the distances needed to travel, while also promoting sustainable travel?	<p>Where are recyclables currently transported to and how?</p> <p>Is there bulking up of all materials?</p> <p>Are local markets being developed or supported where possible to reduce road traffic?</p> <p>Have sustainable transport options for the movement of waste and recyclables been explored?</p>
7.2 Will the DCAP impact on the distances travelled by wastes and resources and the associated transport impacts?	
Theme 8: Biodiversity	
8.1 Will the DCAP protect, manage and enhance biodiversity and local landscape character?	<p>What procedures are in place to ensure that local biodiversity is protected in the delivery of the collection service?</p>
8.2 Will the DCAP help to protect any designated wildlife sites or landscape areas?	<p>Is enforcement an effective tool in protecting designated sites or landscape areas from the negative effects of waste management as a result of fly-tipping and littering?</p> <p>Are there any former landfill sites in Wirral? Have these been, or is there the intention to, restore these sites?</p>
8.3 Will the DCAP improve the amount and quality of, and access to, local green space?	<p>What steps are taken to highlight positive environmental benefits of composting activity?</p> <p>Are there any compost give-aways in place?</p> <p>Is compost used for improvement of local green space?</p> <p>What is the council policy on enforcement issues which may help to improve and maintain the quality of local green spaces?</p>
8.4 Will the DCAP protect and enhance endangered species and habitats and provide opportunities for new habitat creation?	<p>What procedures are followed to ensure that endangered species and habitats are protected from waste management activities?</p>
Theme 9: Natural Resources	
9.1 Will the DCAP ensure efficient use of natural resources, discourage overseas imports from unsustainable resources and/or encourage the use of local resources?	<p>Are there any green procurement initiatives in place?</p>
9.2 Will the DCAP help to increase the value of regional (NW) resources to society and the environment?	<p>What market development work is undertaken by Wirral?</p>

Sustainability Appraisal of the District Council Action Plan for Wirral

Theme 10: Buildings and Heritage	
10.1 Will the DCAP protect places of historic, cultural and archaeological value?	What procedures are followed to ensure that places of historic, cultural and archaeological value are protected from waste management activities?
10.2 Will the DCAP be based on high-quality design that respects local character and enhances local distinctiveness while reducing the number of vacant buildings, through re-use as well as redevelopment?	What procedures are followed to ensure that vacant buildings are reused and/or redeveloped for waste management activities?

Appendix 5: Results of the Detailed Sustainability Appraisal

SA score

++	DCAP is considered to be compatible with the SA objective/sub-objective and is highly likely to have a direct positive effect
+	DCAP is considered to be compatible with the SA objective/sub-objective and there is potential for a positive effect, either directly or indirectly
Neutral	DCAP is considered to have neither a positive or negative effect in relation to the SA objective/sub-objective (this can be an accumulation of factors which overall are considered to be neither positive or negative)
-	DCAP is considered likely to have a negative effect in relation to the SA objective/sub-objective, either directly or indirectly
--	DCAP is considered to be incompatible with the SA objective/sub-objective and is highly likely to have a negative effective

Timescale

Short	Any effect (positive, neutral or negative) will have implications up to 2010, within the lifetime of the updated strategy
Medium	Any effect (positive, neutral or negative) will have implications up to 2015, within the lifetime of the updated strategy and beyond
Long	Any effect (positive, neutral or negative) will have implications beyond 2015

Impact

L	Effect is felt within Wirral
M	Effect is felt within the Merseyside Waste Partnership area
R	Effect is felt within the North West region
N	Effect is felt UK wide or within the global environment

Key Ref

1-142	Refer to the reference list in Appendix 1
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Theme 1: Climate Change

Objective 1: To deliver sustainable solutions to address the challenge of climate change

Question 1.1	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the District Council Action Plan (DCAP) develop or deliver local, regional and national policies to tackle climate change?	++	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>All climate change policies, whether local, regional or national are focused on reducing carbon emissions, and this can be achieved in a number of ways including through increased energy efficiency and through adoption of clean/renewable power and heat technologies. Waste is responsible for 3% of greenhouse emissions and whilst it is not the most significant source, any initiatives which reduce the carbon impact of waste support national, regional and local policies to positively address the challenges posed by climate change. Within the North West there is a drive for renewable energy technologies to provide an increasing proportion of the region's electricity and heat as part of a strategic and sustainable approach to energy, and energy from waste has been identified as representing a potentially significant source of energy in the North West. In addition, there is an increasing focus on developing the market and regional supply chain for biomass and biofuels including energy from waste. The DCAP fully supports the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) which has identified energy from waste as a key component to manage the residual waste stream and recover value, in the form of energy, from the waste stream. The DCAP also supports energy efficiency through promoting, targeting and developing infrastructure for recycle diversion from the waste stream; delivering material for resource recovery and more energy efficient processes of recycling energy intensive materials as a secondary resource rather than the more energy intensive production chain using primary resources. In addition, a strategic aim of the authority is to promote waste minimisation and the DCAP clearly supports the JMWMS in delivering waste prevention initiatives which will enable the householder to reduce the generation of their waste stream and therefore reduce the negative environmental impact, including climate change, of their waste.</p> <p>Wirral Council also works closely with Wirral LA21 group and local social enterprise groups in promoting and implementing waste reuse activities which also prevent the generation of waste and encourage practices which reduce negative environmental impacts of their waste.</p> <p>In addition, in terms of climate change issues relating to the collection of waste and recyclables, Wirral have had their collection rounds zoned by their collection contractors are confident that the most efficient, optimised rounds have been developed.</p>	<p>Continue to promote waste prevention in MSW and also for waste from other sectors through signposting, awareness raising and networks / partnerships.</p> <p>Support local partnerships / initiatives to promote or develop renewable energy from waste.</p> <p>Consider producing a carbon management action plan and strategy.</p>	<p>15, 16, 27, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 50, 85, 113, 114, 115, 116, 128, 129</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 131</p>

Theme 1: Climate Change

Objective 1: To deliver sustainable solutions to address the challenge of climate change

Question 1.2	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP help to reduce greenhouse gases?	++	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The DCAP provides the framework for Wirral to deliver actions which will support progress towards meeting Landfill Directive obligations with regard to diverting biodegradable waste away from landfill and thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions as a result of methane emissions from landfill sites. The focus within the DCAP is to maximise recycling through improved service delivery and increased participation, which will make a positive contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions as a result of more sustainable management of waste. In addition, waste prevention is a significant aspect of waste management in terms of greenhouse gas reduction, and promoting waste minimisation is a key strategic aim of the authority, plus the DCAP fully supports the JMWMS which includes waste prevention policies and an action plan. The DCAP also supports the JMWMS which directs the partnership (including Wirral) towards the displacement of fossil fuels through the recovery of energy from waste; reducing reliance on landfill and providing a renewable energy source. In addition, by increasing levels of recycling, energy savings can be made in the generation of new products, using the recycle as a secondary material, thereby reducing potential greenhouse gas emissions during the resulting production processes. It has been shown that Aluminium (can) recovery is extremely effective in this regard.</p> <p>The DCAP also focuses on diversion of garden waste and the expansion of this scheme and provision of composting infrastructure, which significantly reduces potential greenhouse gas emissions when replacing artificial fertilisers which are a significant source of greenhouse gases. The composting facility, located to the south of the borough and which manages all the garden waste collected, is producing PAS100 grade compost which is sold commercially as a peat replacement.</p> <p>Wirral is currently in negotiations with the compost contractor to locate a composting facility more centrally within the borough. This will enable more efficient energy use in terms of transporting garden waste to the facility and making compost available to all in the borough without having to travel extensively.</p> <p>Wirral Council ensures that its collection contractor has a sustainable transport policy in line with it's own for all staff. As mentioned in section 1.1 the contractor has optimised collection rounds to ensure the most efficient use of vehicles, therefore reducing potential greenhouse gas emissions.</p>	<p>Continue to promote waste prevention in MSW and also for waste from other sectors through signposting, awareness raising and networks / partnerships.</p> <p>Explore the viability of alternative transport and the use of green fuels where greenhouse gas savings can be demonstrated.</p> <p>Consider food waste collection where practicable to manage impacts of this component of the waste stream.</p>	<p>1, 5, 7, 10, 20, 27, 35, 37, 38, 41, 50, 85, 99, 115, 116</p>

Sustainability Appraisal of the District Council Action Plan for Wirral

Theme 1: Climate Change

Objective 1: To deliver sustainable solutions to address the challenge of climate change

Question 1.3	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP help to adapt to climate change?	+	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The DCAP presents the specific actions which are being and will be undertaken by Wirral to deliver a more sustainable waste management service to its residents. The implications of climate change on collection and storage systems in terms of hotter summers and potential health/nuisance effects which may arise are being considered. Alternate Weekly Collection (AWC) has been rolled out which will result in households using wheeled bins for their residual and garden waste collection. If used appropriately contained systems such as these can be beneficial in terms of storage of waste prior to collection.</p> <p>In addition, contingency and emergency aspects of the effects of climate change have been considered with regard to operational delivery of the service and contingency plans are in place. For example, the increase in incidence of extreme weather events (flooding, high winds etc) may and have had implications for the service, e.g. damage and loss of collection receptacles, limitations or downtime of collection, recycling, treatment and disposal services. In addition, flooding may pose a significant risk to waste management operations, particularly in low lying areas. Wirral now have an emergency depot which can be activated at short notice to ensure continuation of service following the recent case of extreme high winds dislodging a depot roof and preventing service delivery.</p>	<p>Continued promotion and awareness raising of good housekeeping and good practices in relation to separation and storage of waste and recyclables prior to collection.</p> <p>Regular review of contingency plans with regard to collection services.</p> <p>Consider producing a carbon management action plan and strategy.</p>	34, 116, 128, 129

Theme 1: Climate Change

Objective 1: To deliver sustainable solutions to address the challenge of climate change

Question 1.4	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP address the social and economic, as well as environmental impacts, of energy use?	+	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The increased adoption of energy efficiency measures across the North West is complemented by energy generation technologies proposed by the JMWMS, such as generation of renewable energy in the form of energy from waste, with the possible use of Combined Heat and Power (CHP). Strategic energy generation can lead to new and potentially substantial economic and employment benefits, as well as helping to reduce and minimise emissions of greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change. In addition, if CHP is developed as an integral part of the energy from waste plant, the social and economic benefits of cheaper more sustainable heating potentially supported by the renewable obligation may be felt directly by the local community. The development of a substantial stream of secondary resources provides the opportunity to displace virgin raw materials and save energy through the development of these resources. The development of this local resource can bring social and economic benefits through new reprocessing industry, available raw materials and jobs. The DCAP fully supports the position laid out in the JMWMS.</p> <p>Wirral Council's waste promotional and awareness campaigns including educational work within schools make reference to the energy saving benefits of sustainable waste management.</p> <p>Wirral is currently in negotiations with the compost contractor to locate a composting facility more centrally within the borough. This will enable more efficient energy use in terms of transporting garden waste to the facility and making compost available to all in the borough without having to travel extensively.</p>	<p>Continue to make energy linkages in waste promotional and awareness campaigns including schools work.</p>	<p>35, 36, 39, 51, 100, 115</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 131</p>

Theme 1: Climate Change

Objective 1: To deliver sustainable solutions to address the challenge of climate change

Question 1.5	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP promote more sustainable means of energy generation?	++	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>Central government and EU policy is currently emphasising the importance and benefits of obtaining energy from residual waste as a viable renewable energy source. In addition there is a recognised need nationally to deliver secure, clean energy at affordable prices, to offset the increasing dependency upon imported energy. In the North West there is a focus on deploying renewable energy technologies to provide an increasing proportion of the region's electricity and heat, replacing some of the non-renewable capacity and energy from waste has been identified as a potentially significant source of energy in the North West. The targets within the North West Sustainable Energy Strategy are also reiterated in the Regional Spatial Strategy, namely that by 2010 10%,(rising to 15% in 2015, and 20% by 2020) of the electricity supplied in the North West should be provided from Renewable Energy sources.</p> <p>The JMWMS supports and promotes the use of energy from waste to manage post-recycling residual household waste, representing a low carbon energy source. The DCAP clearly supports this position. There is also a Government sponsored new technology in Huyton, (the Orchid Demonstrator) which is designed to accept waste from the Merseyside Waste Partnership (MWP) for refining into an energy feedstock.</p>	<p><i>This is fundamentally an issue at Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) strategic level as it refers explicitly to energy recovery operations.</i></p>	<p>15, 18, 35, 50, 51, 113</p>

Theme 1: Climate Change

Objective 1: To deliver sustainable solutions to address the challenge of climate change

Question 1.6	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP help raise awareness of climate change issues?	++	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The importance of local level awareness raising has been recognised nationally when dealing with climate change and trying to influence attitudes and behaviour. Linking climate change issues to waste management practices such as promoting prevention, reuse, recycling and recovery of materials as an integral part to addressing climate change helps to raise awareness and provide practical examples of how individuals can take action. The DCAP supports the need for local level awareness raising and a communications strategy has been developed for Wirral to drive waste related promotion and awareness raising activities. Communications activities in relation to the collection service have made the link with climate change and good practice strategies are being promoted by Wirral.</p> <p>A schools campaign coordinated with home recycling is being trialled in 3 schools, envisaged to be rolled out to all school in late 2007. This includes a climate change theme throughout and a recycling message at key stage 2 and litter message at key stage 3.</p>	<p>Continue to deliver waste awareness activity which explains the link to wider environmental agendas including energy efficiency, resource management and climate change.</p>	<p>40, 116</p>

Theme 2: Waste

Objective 2: To develop and promote sustainable management of municipal solid waste

Question 2.1	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP ensure the sustainable management of waste?	++	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>Waste management continues to move up the political agenda and includes issues of sustainability and public concern over proximity to proposed waste treatment facilities as well as implications for greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating climate change. This DCAP represents a sustainable solution for Wirral, clearly identifying how the authority intends to manage its municipal solid waste progressing towards statutory recycling/composting targets. It adheres to the principles of the Regional Waste Strategy and the JMWMS, progressing up the waste hierarchy. In addition, the DCAP supports Wirral in meeting its landfill directive obligations, diverting waste away from landfill, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and supporting more energy recovery options which represent a valuable renewable energy source.</p> <p>AWC has been rolled out to all suitable households across the borough (12,000, mainly multi-occupancy dwellings are currently not receiving AWC). Kerbside collection for dry recyclables (paper, cans, glass, plastics and card) is collected in a 240lt wheeled bin. Garden waste collection is provided to more than 60% of households (90,000). With the roll out of AWC, all households currently on garden waste collection service change from a sack to a 240lt wheeled bin for the collection of garden waste. A network of 132 bring sites is supported with 22 tetra-pak sites and 40 micro-bank for glass.</p> <p>Waste minimisation activities are supported and Wirral is engaged at a partnership level with these. Wirral is also part of the WRAP partnership home composting scheme and this is locally promoted.</p> <p>The DCAP proposes to improve participation rates through increased publicity and awareness raising, plus consideration is being given to the use of enforcement measures to encourage participation, including a ban on side waste.</p> <p>Potential joint procurement opportunities are explored with the DCAP to ensure effective progression towards the achievement of sustainable management of waste.</p>	<p>Maintain watching brief of good practice and developments in sustainable waste management.</p>	<p>1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 63, 89, 112, 113, 114</p> <p><u>Local Ref:</u> 131, 132</p>

Theme 2: Waste

Objective 2: To develop and promote sustainable management of municipal solid waste

Question 2.2	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP reduce waste generation, including hazardous waste?	++	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The DCAP clearly supports the JMWMS which will contain an up to date detailed waste prevention strategy and supporting action plan, with priorities and activities identified to enable the householder to reduce and prevent waste generation. In addition, through kerbside garden waste collections and the generation of compost there is the potential to reduce the need for artificial fertilisers, thereby reducing hazardous waste generation from this source and reduce the need for peat, thereby reducing the environmental impact caused by its extraction.</p> <p>The processes involved with energy from waste treating residual waste will produce hazardous waste through the emissions clean up process, but this is partially offset by reducing reliance on power stations as an energy source thereby reducing emissions involved in this process. The Environment Agency (EA) has recently permitted certain low risk hazardous wastes to be processed in municipal energy from waste facilities. This may mean that the JMWMS, which the DCAP fully supports, may deliver facilities capable of treating some hazardous wastes.</p> <p>Overall the service set out in the DCAP is designed to limit waste collected from the household; capacity is set in the new scheme currently being rolled out with a ban on side waste for residual and garden waste and the authority have found that waste arisings have reached a plateau over the last four years.</p> <p>Wirral works in partnership with social enterprise and community schemes to reduce the generation of hazardous waste through re-paint initiatives and reuse of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE).</p>	<p>Continuation of local level initiatives to prevent, reduce or reuse hazardous waste e.g. community re-paint schemes.</p> <p>Develop linkages with forums / networks / waste exchanges / NISP to encourage alternative uses for waste materials from other sectors.</p> <p>Consider food waste collection where practicable to manage impacts of this component of the waste stream.</p>	<p>1, 5, 7, 8, 15, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 32, 63, 112, 113, 114</p>

Theme 2: Waste

Objective 2: To develop and promote sustainable management of municipal solid waste

Question 2.3	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP encourage disposal of waste as close to its origin as possible?	++	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The JMWMS proposes the development of at least two new facilities to manage the residual waste stream from Wirral and the other partner authorities. The development of these facilities will increase the self sufficiency of the partnership (including Wirral), reducing waste travel across the region, and providing sustainable solutions which enable additional value to be recovered from the waste stream. Current disposal is out of the Partnership area and therefore managing the majority of waste in Merseyside will be an improvement in terms of proximity. In addition, a network of bring sites (132 at present with additional tetra-paks and glass micro banks) plus a kerbside collection service for dry recyclables, garden waste, and potentially food waste provides householders with the opportunity to divert as close to source as possible a significant percentage of material out of the waste stream, thereby reducing the quantity for recovery and disposal.</p> <p>The location of facilities has not been disclosed to date therefore it is not possible to be more specific in terms of implications in relation to the DCAP.</p> <p>Garden waste is currently transported to a composting facility in the south of the district, with current negotiations to open a facility in the centre, allowing for minimal transport of garden waste before treatment from all areas of the district.</p> <p>Wirral is also part of the WRAP partnership home composting scheme and this is locally promoted.</p>	<p>Continue to compost garden waste at the facility within the district and support development of a central facility.</p> <p>Consider food waste collection where practicable to manage impacts of this component of the waste stream.</p>	1, 18, 25, 112, 113

Theme 2: Waste

Objective 2: To develop and promote sustainable management of municipal solid waste

Question 2.4	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP encourage re-using, recycling and/or recovery?	++	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The DCAP supports and promotes the separate collection of recyclables from municipal waste; with clear targets and a strategy for an extensive kerbside collection scheme for dry recyclables (to almost all households), garden waste (90,000 households) and potentially food waste collection supported by a network of over 130 bring sites. Changes to receptacles to improve the collection of material (from sacks to wheeled bins) have also been put in place, in conjunction with a move to ACW for residual, recyclable and garden waste.</p> <p>Increased publicity and awareness raising encourages participation in recycling and use of enforcement measures are under consideration.</p> <p>The DCAP also supports the JMWMS which promotes alternative clean technologies to recover value from the waste stream, and strategies for the reuse of waste and market development programmes.</p> <p>Specific reuse activities supported by Wirral include the work of the social enterprise WIRN. They offer a free bulky waste collection for furniture which could be reused. In addition Create also take bulky items from households for stripping down in their recyclable components or for reuse by other householders.</p>	<p>Develop linkages with forums / networks / waste exchanges / NISP to encourage alternative uses for waste materials from other sectors.</p> <p>Review service delivery to ensure good opportunities to recycle and reuse waste are made available to all sectors of the community.</p> <p>Reinforce messages and continue education / awareness raising activity.</p> <p>Consider food waste collection where practicable to manage impacts of this component of the waste stream.</p>	<p>1, 5, 7, 10, 15, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 89, 112, 113, 114</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 131, 132</p>

Theme 3: Sustainable Communities
Objective 3: To promote sustainable living

Question 3.1	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP contribute to developing and maintaining sustainable communities?	++	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The indices of deprivation score placed Wirral as the 48th most deprived borough nationally. Of Wirral's 22 wards six were in the worst 10% of the index, 5 were in the worst 5%, with the most affected ward being 23rd in the index. In terms of a single deprivation indicator, Bidston was the worst in England and Wales for child poverty.</p> <p>The DCAP seeks to provide an improved recycling / composting kerbside service to all residents and therefore be inclusive in participation for the benefit of the local economy and to benefit the environment.</p> <p>The DCAP identified the need to promote a greater awareness, education and information on the environmental benefits of more sustainable management of waste. Information and promotional material is available to all through the website in different languages and brail, and delivered to all households in the form of leaflets and booklet outlining the new service, plus there are ongoing press releases in local newspapers providing access to information for all the community.</p> <p>Activities with schools are supported, with a schools education officer working closely with schools in Wirral delivering a waste education package. A schools campaign coordinated with home recycling is being tried in 3 schools, envisaged to be rolled out to all school in late 2007 as outlined in section 1. 6.</p> <p>Wirral also have neighbourhood renewal funding for additional visits to schools and communication and enforcement in two areas.</p> <p>The DCAP provides the opportunity for all sectors of society to make a positive contribution to Sustainable Development through the participation in sustainable management of waste.</p> <p>The DCAP was developed taking account of and other stakeholder views and any updates or changes are subject to consultation.</p> <p>There is the potential through the JMWMS to generate renewable energy through Energy from Waste schemes and also develop combined heat and power schemes for low cost heating to domestic / commercial / industrial applications where the infrastructure can be accommodated.</p>	<p>Continue to support inclusive waste management operations to all sectors of society.</p> <p>Review service delivery to ensure good opportunities to recycle and reuse waste are made available to all sectors of the community.</p> <p>Reinforce messages and continue education / awareness raising activity.</p>	<p>27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 55, 56, 57, 59, 60, 80 83, 110, 117, 118, 119</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 131, 132, 135</p>

Theme 3: Sustainable Communities
Objective 3: To promote sustainable living

Question 3.2	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP engage with and enhance the lives of all the members of the community in its development and delivery?	++	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The DCAP provides the opportunity for all sectors of society to make a positive contribution to Sustainable Development through participation in more sustainable management of waste. Information and promotional material is available to all through the website in different languages and brail, and delivered to all households in the form of leaflets and booklet outlining the new service, plus there are ongoing press releases in local newspapers providing access to information for all the community. Engagement on sustainable waste management issues is also maintained with the community through a number of area committees. These have been funded by the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) and also focus on bringing on board hard to reach groups.</p> <p>Activities with schools are supported, with a schools education officer working closely with schools in Wirral delivering a waste education package. A schools campaign coordinated with home recycling is being tried in 3 schools, envisaged to be rolled out to all school in late 2007 as outlined in section 1. 6.</p> <p>The DCAP was developed taking account of public and other stakeholder views and is subject to consultation with regard to future updates and changes.</p> <p>The DCAP seeks to provide an improved kerbside collection service to all residents and therefore be inclusive in participation for the benefit of the local economy and to benefit the environment.</p> <p>The DCAP reflects the priority areas for the Local Area Agreement (LAA) in relation to equality and diversity, and accessibility through increasing participation and ensuring equality of opportunity for all Wirral's communities. In addition, the DCAP supports one of the strategic aims in the Community Plan in terms of creating cohesive communities.</p>	<p>Continue to support inclusive waste management operations to all sectors of society.</p> <p>Review service delivery to ensure good opportunities to recycle and reuse waste are made available to all sectors of the community.</p> <p>Reinforce messages and continue education / awareness raising activity.</p>	<p>27, 28, 29 30, 80, 83, 104, 117</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 131, 132</p>

Theme 3: Sustainable Communities
Objective 3: To promote sustainable living

Question 3.3	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP improve and ensure local accessibility of jobs, community goods and services as well as amenities?	+	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The DCAP seeks to provide an improved recycling / composting kerbside service to all residents and therefore be inclusive in participation for the benefit of the local economy and to benefit the environment. The recycling / composting collection services provided are aimed at kerbside collection from all households where practicable. The AWC scheme is delivered to almost all houses, and the garden waste collection scheme which currently services most households with a garden, 90,000. In addition, there is a network of 132 bring sites enhance local accessibility to recycling services.</p> <p>New jobs and opportunities may be available in Wirral, focussed around enhanced collection services and possibly new treatment / handling facilities. In addition, the social enterprises supported to deliver reuse in the Wirral area will also provide employment opportunities. Considerable temporary jobs may also be available in the construction of new facilities and infrastructure to deliver the JMWMS over the short to medium term; these may be regional as well as local.</p>	<p>Continue plans to roll-out additional bring bank provision where they enhance accessibility.</p> <p>Review service delivery to ensure good opportunities to recycle and reuse waste are made available to all sectors of the community.</p>	<p>27, 28, 29, 30, 55, 59, 60, 80, 83, 104, 106, 117</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 131, 132</p>

Theme 3: Sustainable Communities
Objective 3: To promote sustainable living

Question 3.4	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP reduce crime, disorder and the fear of crime whilst offering opportunities for rehabilitation to offenders?	+	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>Wirral is focused on reducing crime with the objective of Safer community identified in their LAA and Community Plan. The focus of one Neighbourhood renewal area is to reduce fly-tipping by targeting the area and increasing enforcement. Wirral also supports ex-offenders or those under community service orders to undertake environmental improvement activities as part of sentence and / or rehabilitation in partnership with the National Offender Management Service. The neighbourhood environment team also receive NRF to take on those on the New Opportunities scheme; there also work with the green apprentice scheme, Enventure (where participation officers are recruited) and social enterprise schemes which work with offenders.</p> <p>The DCAP supports the use of enforcement measures to reduce waste related crime and to try and encourage positive behaviour with regard to recycling. Four council enforcement officers work to combat the problem with new powers granted under the Clean Neighbourhoods & Environment Act (CNEA, 2006) in some cases in partnership with other agencies. Fly-tipping is a focus of their activities and the council considers that progress has been made as fly-tipping incidents have reduced. In addition, the DCAP supports the JMWMS in terms of tackling fly-tipping and littering.</p> <p>The greater presence of services to the household (i.e. two or three collections rather than the traditional one or two) can make a contribution in raising a local authority profile in a neighbourhood, potentially reducing the fear of crime or isolation.</p>	<p>Continue to explore opportunities for those under community service orders to support activities.</p>	<p>27, 29, 31, 55, 56, 57, 119</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 131, 132, 135</p>

Theme 3: Sustainable Communities
Objective 3: To promote sustainable living

Question 3.5	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP improve income levels and promote wellbeing especially in deprived areas?	++	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The indices of deprivation score placed Wirral as the 48th most deprived brought nationally. Of Wirral's 22 wards six were in the worst 10% of the index, 5 were in the worst 5%, with the most affected ward being 23rd in the index. In terms of a single deprivation indicator, Bidston was the worst in England and Wales for child poverty. Wirral receives NRF to work in specific areas with its LAA specifying it will develop locally defined solutions to locally specific problems, and in turn, delivering improved outcomes for all of our communities.</p> <p>There is a proven link between deprivation and health. Health is a key consideration in wellbeing of individuals and the support required within a community.</p> <p>The DCAP should contribute to improving income levels by bringing about greater levels of employment through the expanded collection service and associated secondary industry through the supply chain, thereby potentially addressing deprivation issues. There is the potential however to minimise the increases in employment if joint procurement brings efficiencies and economies of scale for example over collection services. The net result in either context is still likely to be a long term increase in employment opportunities at all levels with a significant increase in opportunities in the construction sector over the short term (as facilities are constructed). There is a strong drive for upskilling of the workforce (e.g. collection crew) as the roles become more involved, with such issues as Customer Relations, Enforcement and Health and Safety gain in importance with more complex collection systems. The locations of the employment will vary with additional construction and higher level operational opportunities centred around recycling, reprocessing, composting and residual waste treatment facilities. Locations of the facilities have yet to be identified and so no direct significance can be drawn with deprived areas in particular.</p> <p>Support has been given to deprived areas in Wirral in relation to waste management. Funding is available for school visits specifically aimed at giving a sustainable waste management message. Good waste management practices have been promoted and implemented in the more deprived parts of the borough, and work in this area is ongoing.</p>	<p>Continue to promote and develop good practice in waste management for deprived areas.</p>	<p>27, 28, 29, 30, 83, 117, 118</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 131, 132,</p>

Theme 3: Sustainable Communities
Objective 3: To promote sustainable living

Question 3.6	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the strategy improve physical and mental health and reduce health inequalities?	neutral	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>Health is a key consideration in Wirral: one of the five focus areas of the Local Area Agreement is healthier communities, and its one of the eight themes which is a focus of the Community Strategy. Life expectancy in Wirral, as in the rest of Merseyside, follows the regionally trend of falling below the national average for both men (by 0.71 years) and women (by 1.15 years). Even though nearly 2/3 of the population in Wirral are classed in good health, 40.70% of all households have a person with limiting long term illness. This is significantly higher than the national average of 33.55%. The teenage conception rate per 1000 is 44.4 in Wirral which is below the regional average of 45.6 but still higher than the national rate of 41.5.</p> <p>Municipal waste management services were initiated to protect public health. Increasingly more diverse techniques and handling methods are being used to derive value and environmental benefit from the waste. There are regulatory controls through the planning and permitting regimes which consider any potential impact on health of new facilities / treatments. The collection service, in particular the introduction of alternate week collections for residual household waste, has been subject to Government research to consider any negative health implications. The current findings show that there is no evidence of negative health impacts provided the system is used correctly.</p> <p>The DCAP may have a minor positive health impact in some households in terms of an increased activity in the form of home composting, separation of recyclables etc which otherwise were not undertaken. There may also be a positive mental health message in that the individual is undertaking a positive activity for the benefit of the wider environment.</p> <p>With regards to health inequalities one study has considered the link between the location of waste management facilities and deprived areas; the report found that incinerators were historically located in the poorer areas in the majority of cases, but data within the report showed no evidence of this trend still being the case with new and proposed facilities. The locations of new facilities are not publicly available therefore direct impacts on Wirral cannot be ascertained at this point.</p>	<p>Maintain a watching brief over health impacts of waste management activities for both workers and the public, act to ensure responsible delivery of the service and protection of health.</p>	<p>58, 104, 105</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 131, 132</p>

Theme 4: LEQ

Objective 4: To protect and enhance Local Environment Quality (LEQ)

Question 4.1	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP contribute to the provision of cleaner, safer, greener communities?	+	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.*
<p>Creating safer communities is a key focus of the Local Area Agreement and the Community Strategy Plan.</p> <p>The eastern, central and southern settlements in Wirral are separated by 73 sq. km. of Green Belt, which has twin objectives, to encourage urban regeneration and to protect the countryside. Crime in Wirral has been consistently below the national average by 3 offences less per 1000 population.</p> <p>In terms of local environment quality, despite having a higher than average number of sites being rated good or satisfactory in the North West in 2004/05 compared to national figures, the North West performed poorly in the LEQ survey carried out by ENCAMS in 2005/06. As a result the North West Liveability Foundation Programme was launched in 2006 to establish ways to drive up standards to become the cleanest, safest, greenest region in 5 years.</p> <p>LEQ is an important factor in terms of national and regional policy and it is therefore important for local level policy and action to positively complement or contribute to the activities in relation to improving local environment quality. There is a direct link between quality of life in communities and cleaner, safer, greener public spaces. Poor waste management can lead to dirty neighbourhoods which has a negative impact upon quality of life and which in turn can result in anti social behaviour. Providing a coordinated and comprehensive waste collection service makes a fundamental contribution to providing clean, safe green neighbourhoods.</p> <p>The DCAP for Wirral provides the local level infrastructure and delivery mechanisms to ensure that recyclables and residual waste collection systems are in place and operating to a high standard. Wirral is committed to providing kerbside collection systems which ensure that local communities are not disadvantaged in terms of waste management having a negative impact on public spaces.</p>	<p>Continue education, provision of a high quality service supported where necessary by prompt and effective enforcement activity.</p>	<p>41, 45 46, 52, 53, 54</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 131, 132, 135</p>

Theme 4: LEQ

Objective 4: To protect and enhance Local Environment Quality (LEQ)

Question 4.2	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP reduce the amount of litter, fly-tipping or graffiti in local communities?	++	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>Legislation is in place to support local authorities in enforcing against littering and fly-tipping and new powers are in place as a result of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act. Enforcement Officers have clear procedures which they can follow in terms of dealing with littering and fly-tipping and also with respect to when it is necessary to bring in regulators such as the Environment Agency. Wirral is using enforcement measures to encourage participation and where wheeled bins are in place they operate a no side waste policy. A significant amount of attention has been focused on fly-tipping and littering and a reduction has been experienced.</p> <p>There is a specific focus in one of Wirral's Neighbourhood Renewal Areas (NRAs) on reduction of fly-tipping through enforcement and education on efficient use of the waste collection service. Wirral's schools campaign also includes a litter theme at key stage 3.</p>	<p>Continue education, provision of a high quality service supported where necessary by prompt and effective enforcement activity.</p> <p>Consider / develop partnerships to tackle problem areas.</p>	<p>42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 54, 78</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 131, 132</p>

Theme 4: LEQ

Objective 4: To protect and enhance local environment quality (LEQ)

Question 4.3	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP protect or improve local air quality or limit air pollution to levels which do not damage natural systems?	neutral	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The DCAP supports the JMWMS which promotes the use of contained processes for the management of residual waste. These facilities will be licensed to operate and regulated by the Environment Agency, to ensure that any resulting emissions to air are within acceptable legal limits and which does not damage the environment or human health. In addition, the JMWMS promotes a move away from landfill, which can be a problematic process in terms of fully containing the operations and protecting local air quality. The JMWMS is also supporting an increase in the number of facilities in place to manage waste generation, which will reduce journey times and potentially reduce air pollution as a consequence of emissions from transport, however additional journeys may occur in treating / processing / reprocessing materials which could also have the opposite effect. Alternative (non landfill) waste treatment options will have local air quality effects, however the regulatory system and emissions controls are required to prevent damage to the environment and human health. In addition, all sites are contractually required to have an Environmental Management System in place, which will provide additional safeguards and protection for the environment.</p> <p>The Council promotes the extension of bring sites which will potentially reduce journey times for householders and thereby reduce air pollution as consequence of traffic movements. Kerbside collection is maximised, reducing the need to travel to recycle. Plus, the authority has ensured that collection rounds are the most efficient, reducing journey times.</p> <p>Garden waste is currently transported to a composting facility in the south of the district, with current negotiations to open a facility in the centre, allowing for minimal transport of garden waste before treatment from all areas of the district, therefore minimising emissions from transportation.</p>	<p>Maintain a watching brief over emissions and health impacts of waste management activities for both workers and the public, act to ensure responsible delivery of the service and protection of health.</p> <p>Continue to compost garden waste at the facility within the district and support development of a central facility.</p>	3, 33, 100, 126

Theme 4: LEQ

Objective 4: To protect and enhance local environment quality (LEQ)

Question 4.4	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP protect against noise, dust, vermin and odour?	neutral	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.*
<p>The DCAP promotes sustainable solutions for managing waste in Wirral and this means to the highest of standards in terms of protecting against nuisance, whether this is from noise, dust, vermin or odour, as a result of waste management activities.</p> <p>The DCAP proposes a move away from plastic sack collections for garden waste towards wheeled bins, which will have a positive effect on potential dust, vermin and odour if used appropriately. Wirral have also rolled out AWC and the latest research has shown that this does not have an effect on increasing the vermin population, but householders need to be clear about separation and storage techniques to ensure that this does not become an issue. All collection activities need to be operated at the highest of standards with good housekeeping techniques employed to offer adequate protection against potential nuisances such as odour and flies. In relation to the rollout of the wheeled bins and AWC which has just finished, all communications have focused on the need to adopt good practice. Roadshows and home visits have also been a key communication tool to support the extensive community engagement required to promote the adoption of good practices in waste management in relation to AWC.</p> <p>The recovery and disposal options promoted by the JMWMS (which the DCAP supports), namely Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) and thermal treatment, are not the waste management activities which are usually a major issue for noise, dust and vermin. There have been instances of poorly managed facilities such as some Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) plants and composting plants which may give rise to odour although this is balanced against the avoided odour from landfill.</p>	<p>Ensure responsible delivery of AWC. Monitor impacts and provide appropriate support, education, appropriate and replacement receptacles and responsive collection service for the residents. Implementation should be clear to residents and follow good practice. Where necessary apply enforcement measures to maintain protection against odour, pests and nuisance.</p> <p>Review effectiveness and appropriateness of service.</p> <p>Maintain watching brief on nuisance and health effects of all waste management operations.</p>	<p>4, 41, 43, 46, 54, 58, 101, 127</p>

Theme 4: LEQ

Objective 4: To protect and enhance local environment quality (LEQ)

Question 4.5	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP protect or improve inland, estuarine or coastal waters?	+	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>Wirral is on the Wirral Peninsular between the River Dee and River Mersey Estuaries (to the west and east respectively). There are 4 designated beaches within the Wirral area where water quality is monitored regularly. In 2006, all of the bathing waters sampled in the Wirral area were assessed as excellent under European Regulations. The coast line is also home to Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Ramsar sites and a number of Local Nature Reserves (LNRs).</p> <p>The facilities and processes promoted by the JMWMS supported by the DCAP will all have to operate within legal parameters in terms of emission controls and any resulting waste water will have to be managed in an appropriate way to ensure the quality of groundwater, inland, estuarine and coastal waters are not compromised. The reduced reliance on landfill is positive in terms of protecting water from potential pollution as landfill, although contained to the highest degree practicable, does generate leachate. In addition, the increased use of compost generated from biodegradable elements of the waste stream may reduce reliance on artificial fertilisers, which can have a negative effect on groundwater and local waterways as a result run off from the land and the high levels of nitrates and phosphates, with the potential for eutrophication effects. The compost produced from the garden waste collection scheme is sold locally and compost give-aways are held for householders as a promotional tool.</p>	<p>Promote good quality collection of garden waste to minimise contamination of any composts generated.</p> <p>Seek high quality outputs from biological treatment.</p>	2, 64, 65, 100, 130

Theme 4: LEQ

Objective 4: To protect and enhance local environment quality

Question 4.6	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP protect or enhance soils and/or land whilst promoting the re-use or regeneration of previously developed land?	+	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>To effectively implement the JMWMS, additional facilities will need to be built to deal with waste from Wirral and the other partnership authorities. Whilst it is not explicit in the JMWMS, planning policies do encourage regeneration of neglected/derelict sites. This is supported by PPS10 which promotes regeneration and reuse of brownfield sites.</p> <p>In terms of protecting or enhancing soils or land, the DCAP promotes composting schemes which may reduce reliance on artificial fertilisers which can be damaging to land and reduce peat extraction. The compost produced as a result of the garden waste collection complies with BSI PAS 100 standards, and is commercially sold locally and further afield.</p>	<p>Promote good quality collection of garden waste to minimise contamination of any composts generated.</p> <p>Seek high quality outputs from biological treatment.</p> <p>Continue to compost garden waste at the facility within the district and support development of a central facility.</p>	22, 49, 100

Theme 5: Economy

Objective: To promote and develop sustainable economic growth

Question 5.1	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP encourage sustainable economic growth and employment?	+	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The vision of Wirral Community Strategy is “Make Wirral a better place in which to live, work and invest” with employment being one of the key priorities. This is a theme also supported in Wirral’s LAA.</p> <p>Wirral unemployment rate stands at 5.8%, higher than the national averages. Employment stands at around 55.4%, mainly in the manufacturing and retail sectors, but closely followed by those working in real estate and social work. There is a large retired population, 15.8% and 8.7% of the population are classed as long term sick or disabled compared to 5.5% nationally. Education attainment levels are high with only slightly lower than average % of people qualified to degree level and the % of people with no qualification following the national trend at just over 29%.</p> <p>Overall there should be a positive impact in terms of sustainable economic growth from the delivery of the DCAP and the JMWMS it supports. This positive impact will be derived initially from additional construction and ancillary service opportunities in the construction phase of new facilities in the short to medium term. A greater diversification of waste management options and the need to manage wastes more sustainably will also bring additional short to long term opportunities in collection, recycling, composting, reuse, education and operation of facilities.</p> <p>There is the potential for partnerships, local and regional Compacts between Wirral and social enterprise for the delivery of certain services. There will also be secondary industry opportunities for the refurbishment, reprocessing of wastes and also manufacturing can make use of secondary raw materials.</p>	<p>Continue to explore partnerships with other sectors and opportunities for the third sector in waste management operations.</p> <p>Promote training and awards within council services.</p>	<p>59, 60, 61, 62, 120</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 131, 132, 135</p>

Theme 5: Economy

Objective: To promote and develop sustainable economic growth

Question 5.2	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP encourage innovation as well as research & development together with knowledge transfer?	++	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>There is currently a move towards new and alternative waste management options across England for the management of MSW. The prime treatment technologies referred to in the JMWMS, which the DCAP supports, are MRF and thermal treatment technologies. These may be innovative and groundbreaking technologies or more established lower technology solutions depending on the type procured.</p> <p>Wirral is engaged in research and development in the development of the tetra-pak bring sites, working with processing companies in response to residents requests for recycling of this material. In addition, Wirral are working with local paper mills to address the issue and looking for innovative solution of glass shards in commingled glass/paper collection.</p> <p>The DCAP promotes information and awareness raising activities, which is likely to link to wider environmental drivers and may be considered as improving the environmental awareness of the population.</p>	<p>Maintain watching brief of the latest developments and innovations within waste and resource management.</p> <p>Inform staff and other stakeholders through appropriate channels where practicable.</p>	1, 59, 61, 62, 120

Theme 5: Economy

Objective: To promote and develop sustainable economic growth

Question 5.3	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP encourage the formation, sustaining and growth of social / community enterprise schemes?	++	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>Wirral is proactive in supporting and promoting the work of the third sector in delivering sustainable waste management services. Specific reuse activities supported by Wirral include the work of the social enterprise WIRN. They offer a free bulky waste collection for furniture which could be reused. In addition, Create also take bulky items from households for stripping down into their recyclable components or for reuse by other householders. Wirral and the DCAP fully support the use of social enterprises in relation to reuse and waste prevention activities. In addition, collection contracts when tendered are open to any organisation, including social enterprises, to submit proposals.</p> <p>In addition, a Wirral Compact is in place with the Community and Voluntary Sector (CVS).</p>	<p>Continue to explore partnerships with other sectors and opportunities for the third sector in waste management operations.</p>	<p>59, 61, 62, 120</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 135</p>

Theme 5: Economy

Objective: To promote and develop sustainable economic growth

Question 5.4	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP make linkages to ensure vacancies are accessible to all communities and locations especially disadvantaged areas?	+	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The DCAP should potentially bring about greater levels of employment through the expanded collection and treatment service. There is the potential however to minimise the increases in employment if joint procurement brings efficiencies and economies of scale for example over collection services. Some joint procurement and service delivery however may bring employment opportunities through third sector organisations. The net result in either context is still likely to be a long term increase in employment with a significant increase in opportunities in the construction sector over the short term (as facilities are constructed). In addition, there is a strong drive for upskilling of the workforce (e.g. collection crew) as the roles become more involved, with such issues as Customer Relations, Enforcement and Health and Safety gain in importance with more complex collection systems.</p> <p>The locations of the employment will vary with additional construction and higher level operational opportunities centred on recycling, reprocessing, composting and residual waste treatment facilities.</p> <p>There is no detail of the locations of the facilities in the strategy and so no direct significance can be drawn with deprived areas in particular.</p>	<p>Continue to widely disseminate / promote all vacancies to ensure accessibility.</p>	<p>5, 120</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 131, 132</p>

Sustainability Appraisal of the District Council Action Plan for Wirral

Theme 5: Economy

Objective: To promote and develop sustainable economic growth

Question 5.5	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP support growth in key cities/ towns and/or areas remote from growth?	neutral	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The locations of the employment will vary with additional construction and higher level operational opportunities centred on recycling, reprocessing, composting and residual waste treatment facilities.</p> <p>There is currently no detail of the locations of the facilities available and so no direct significance can be drawn with towns or areas remote from growth.</p> <p>The partnership with and development of community sector and social enterprises may help develop growth in areas with low growth.</p>		118, 120

Theme 6: Skills & Behaviour**Objective 6: To develop and enhance skills and access to training**

Question 6.1	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP bring intermediate or higher levels skills into the current workforce or develop skills required to bring people back into the labour market?	+	medium (up to 2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The vision of Wirral Community Strategy is “Make Wirral a better place in which to live, work and invest” with employment and learning being two of the key priorities. This is a theme also supported in Wirral’s LAA; therefore Wirral is committed to the development of skills and expertise.</p> <p>Education attainment levels are high with only slightly lower than average percentage of people qualified to degree level and the percentage of people with no qualification following the national trend at just over 29%.</p> <p>Implementing and delivering the DCAP requires developing the infrastructure in terms of collection. This will require a workforce not only with basic or low level skills but also with intermediate or higher level skills to manage and operate the services to the standards required by the regulator. There are a range of training opportunities and qualifications which would support intermediate or higher level entry and meet the needs of the new infrastructure such as level 3 or 4 National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) in Recycling and Master of Science (MSc) level qualifications or short course diplomas or certificates in waste management or environmental protection.</p> <p>Currently all staff involved in operational activities within the authority receive basic skills training. Current contractors support the need for continuous staff development, as standards set by the authority have to be met and maintained.</p> <p>There may be a requirement for trained staff or those with specific intermediate or higher level skills to work on the communications and enforcement activities in relation to the DCAP.</p> <p>With regard to supporting the JMWMS, all those responsible for day-to-day management of sites have to demonstrate technical competence and one way to demonstrate this is through the achievement of a relevant level qualification such as level 3 or 4 NVQ in Waste Management Operations. In addition, in relation to the emerging technologies training is now available at the Vocational Related Qualifications (VRQ) or MSc level, to ensure that employees have the necessary level of skills to manage the operations effectively. The availability of this training means that those who currently do not have the skills can access them and re-enter the labour market, not just at the basic level, but intermediate or higher.</p>	Promote training and awards within council services.	18, 47, 48 <u>Local Ref.</u> 131, 132

Theme 6: Skills and Behaviour

Objective 6: To develop and enhance skills and access to training

Question 6.2	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP support skills development and promote the take up of training and/or further education opportunities?	+	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>Nationally there is a strong drive for upskilling the front facing waste management workforce (e.g. collection crew) as their roles become more involved, with such issues as Customer Relations, Enforcement and Health and Safety gaining in importance with more complex collection systems. The DCAP is structure around a collection infrastructure which aims to maximise potential for material capture and participation. There will therefore be an increased need to ensure that workers have the right training and opportunities for skills development to ensure that the service operates as effectively as it could.</p> <p>Currently all staff involved in operational activities within the authority receive basic skills training. Current contractors support the need for continuous staff development, as standards set by the authority have to be met and maintained.</p> <p>Communication skills are seen as critical in relation to AWC, and training in this are is regarded as very important.</p> <p>A training budget is available and if training and further education opportunities are seen as relevant to their job then these are generally made available.</p>	<p>Promote training and awards within council services.</p> <p>Work with contractors to ensure they support the need for staff development and training.</p>	<p>47, 48</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 131, 132</p>

Theme 7: Transport

Objective 7: To promote and develop more sustainable approaches to transport and travel

Question 7.1	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP reduce road freight movements, traffic congestion or the distances needed to travel, while also promoting sustainable travel?	neutral	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Justification		Key Ref.
<p>The DCAP is focused on delivering an effective local service to householders, in order to maximise recovery of recyclables from the waste stream and wherever possible this means a service at the kerbside.</p> <p>In addition, policies to develop and maintain communications strategies which encourage efficient use of local collection services and promote local bring sites are evident within the DCAP; thereby reducing the need to travel distances in order to participate.</p> <p>In terms of collecting waste and recyclables in the most efficient manner, Wirral's waste contractors have zoned the collection rounds and are confident that the most efficient, optimised rounds have been developed.</p> <p>Garden waste is currently transported to a composting facility in the south of the district, with current negotiations to open a facility in the centre, allowing for minimal transport of garden waste before treatment from all areas of the district.</p>	<p>Explore the potential of intermodal transport.</p> <p>Review and optimise collection systems as new infrastructure and collections are developed.</p> <p>Continue to compost garden waste at the facility within the district and support development of a central facility.</p>	<p>1, 17, 27, 35, 84, 85, 90, 93, 95, 112, 113, 114, 121, 122</p>

Theme 7: Transport

Objective 7: To promote and develop more sustainable approaches to transport and travel

Question 7.2	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP impact on the distances travelled by wastes and resources and the associated transport impacts?	+	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>In terms of collecting waste and recyclables in the most efficient manner, Wirral's waste contractors have zoned the collection rounds and are confident that the most efficient, optimised rounds have been developed.</p> <p>Collection of recyclables and garden waste via a kerbside scheme supported by an expanding bring site network reduces the need for householders to travel to manage their waste more sustainably. In addition, switching to an AWC for residual waste and garden waste means that a comprehensive service can be made available without increasing the transport impacts through additional collection vehicles on the road at any one time.</p> <p>In terms of collecting waste and recyclables in the most efficient manner, Wirral's waste contractors have zoned the collection rounds and are confident that the most efficient, optimised rounds have been developed.</p> <p>Garden waste is taken to a facility located within the borough and the recycling contractor supports local markets wherever possible. Residual waste is managed through the partnership and as stated in the JMWMS new facilities are to be built to increase the self sufficiency of waste management within Merseyside and reduce the distances travelled by wastes.</p>	<p>Review and optimise collection systems as new infrastructure and collections are developed.</p> <p>Continue to procure higher efficiency vehicles and use green fuels.</p> <p>Continue to compost garden waste at the facility within the district and support development of a central facility.</p>	<p>1, 17, 27, 35, 84, 85, 90 93, 95, 112, 113, 114, 121, 122</p>

Theme 8: Biodiversity

Objective 8: To protect and enhance biodiversity and the local environment

Question 8.1	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP protect, manage and enhance biodiversity and local landscape character?	+	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>Within and around the Wirral area there are 2 Special Protection Area, 10 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's) and 5 Local Nature Reserves.</p> <p>When delivering and implementing the DCAP there is a statutory obligation to protect these areas from any development which may have adverse effects.</p> <p>Through the promotion of composting within the DCAP there may be an opportunity to decrease the use of artificial fertilisers and increase access to peat free compost, protecting biodiversity from exposure to chemicals in the fertilisers.</p> <p>In addition, the JMWMS, which the DCAP supports, is proposing enclosed, highly managed options for the recovery and treatment of the waste stream which will ensure that waste is appropriately contained and biodiversity and local landscape character is protected as far as practicable. The JMWMS also supports the remediation of closed landfill sites which may enhance biodiversity and local landscape character of these sites.</p>	<p>Promote good quality collection of garden waste to minimise contamination of any composts generated.</p> <p>Seek high quality outputs from biological treatment.</p>	<p>2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 75, 76, 77, 84, 85, 86, 88, 94, 106, 109, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126,</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 134</p>

Theme 8: Biodiversity

Objective 8: To protect and enhance biodiversity and the local environment

Question 8.2	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP help to protect any designated wildlife sites or landscape areas?	neutral	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>In terms of what the JMWMS is proposing, (which the DCAP supports), the use of enclosed, highly managed systems, which require much smaller land area than landfill (the main management option previously). The planning and permitting systems will provide protection to designated wildlife sites or landscape areas. In addition, the multi material recycling collections supported by the DCAP will improve diversion from landfill, reducing the need for additional landfill sites which could infringe on wildlife sites or landscape areas. The restoration of existing landfill sites may provide the opportunity for wildlife to establish in new areas and landscapes to improve.</p>		<p>12, 13, 14, 16, 27, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 71, 72, 75, 76, 77, 84, 85, 86, 88, 94, 106, 122, 123</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 134</p>

Theme 8: Biodiversity

Objective 8: To protect and enhance biodiversity and the local environment

Question 8.3	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP improve the amount and quality of, and access to, local green space?	+	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The DCAP promotes an increase in composting which will provide the opportunity for more compost to be applied to improve local green spaces, where soil structure is poor or requires remediation. Compost provides a viable alternative to peat.</p> <p>Wirral is also considering, and implementing some, enforcement issues which may help to improve and maintain the quality of local green spaces, offering protection from fly-tipping and littering.</p>	<p>Promote good quality collection of garden waste to minimise contamination of any composts generated.</p> <p>Seek high quality outputs from biological treatment.</p>	<p>14, 16, 27, 28, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 84, 86, 94, 95, 98, 106, 109, 122, 123</p>

Theme 8: Biodiversity

Objective 8: To protect and enhance biodiversity and the local environment

Question 8.4	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP protect and enhance endangered species and habitats and provide opportunities for new habitat creation?	neutral	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
Wirral is covered by a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) which contains Species Action Plans and Habitat Action Plans. Due regard is given to the BAP to ensure that species and habitats are protection from development and services. However there is limited effect from the collection service with regard to protecting and enhancing endangered species and habitats.	<p>Promote good quality collection of garden waste to minimise contamination of any composts generated.</p> <p>Seek high quality outputs from biological treatment.</p>	<p>2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 75, 76, 77, 84, 88, 86, 106, 109, 122, 123</p> <p><u>Local Ref.</u> 134</p>

Theme 9: Natural Resources

Objective 9: To establish and promote more sustainable use of natural resources

Question 9.1	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP ensure efficient use of natural resources, discourage overseas imports from unsustainable resources and/or encourage the use of local resources?	+	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The promotion of recycling collection services and support for prevention initiatives may result in a decrease in the need for goods or primary raw materials.</p> <p>The DCAP will promote increased centralised composting which will provide the opportunity to decrease use of artificial fertilisers and increase sources of peat free compost.</p> <p>Corporate procurement policies support the purchase of recycled paper and guidance and criteria are in place to encourage the use of more sustainable resources.</p>	<p>Seek to enhance the quality of recyclate and organics collected to develop higher level markets wherever practicable.</p> <p>Work with Envirolink NW to explore opportunities for local markets.</p>	<p>5, 6, 7, 23, 25, 27, 32, 82, 84, 85, 99, 112, 113, 116, 122,</p>

Theme 9: Natural Resources

Objective 9: To establish and promote more sustainable use of natural resources

Question 9.2	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP help to increase the value of regional (NW) resources to society and the environment?	+	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>The DCAP will contribute to the conservation of certain existing resources in the region through substitution by secondary resources derived from the region. The increase in recycling, composting and preparation of a secondary fuel for power generation all displace the need for primary resources. In terms of the regional resources there may be some displacement effects in terms of peat, silica and aggregate derived from the region; however the substitution with secondary materials is likely to provide an environmental benefit and may also act to conserve resources in some instances. In addition to the generation of renewable electricity in the region, there is the potential for waste heat to be utilised within local proximity of thermal treatment plant providing an environmental, economic and strategic benefit. There is likely to be a net benefit to society in the region in terms of jobs and availability of secondary materials through a strategy capturing resources for reprocessing and providing raw materials and goods for sale and reuse. Initiatives aimed at minimising waste will also provide an environmental benefit and may deliver economic benefits to the region, in addition to conserving the regions landfill capacity.</p> <p>In implementing the DCAP, specifically garden waste collection, Wirral has worked closely with the contractor to establish a commercial outlet for the compost material. In addition, Wirral has worked with the contractor responsible for the dry recyclable collection to develop more local markets.</p>	<p>Seek to enhance the quality of recyclate and organics collected to develop higher level markets wherever practicable.</p> <p>Work with Envirolink NW to explore opportunities for local markets.</p> <p>Encourage third sector involvement in additional areas of waste / resource management.</p> <p>Develop linkages with forums / networks / waste exchanges / NISP to encourage alternative uses for waste materials from other sectors.</p>	15, 27, 61, 62, 113

Sustainability Appraisal of the District Council Action Plan for Wirral

Theme 10: Buildings & Heritage

Objective 10: To protect local historic and cultural buildings, sites and heritage

Question 10.1	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP protect places of historic, cultural and archaeological value?	neutral	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
There are more than 1,800 listed building in Wirral. The planning and permitting systems will provide protection to these sites and new facilities should be sensitively designed and located.	Ensure listed buildings are taken into consideration when planning development of facilities (e.g. bring bank sites, HWRCs).	27, 73, 80, 81, 90, 91, 92, 95, 96, 97, 107, 108, 112 <u>Local Ref.</u> 133

Theme 10: Buildings & Heritage

Objective 10: To protect local historic and cultural buildings, sites and heritage

Question 10.2	Detailed Score	Timescale	Impact			
			L	M	R	N
Will the DCAP be based on high-quality design that respects local character and enhances local distinctiveness while reducing the number of vacant buildings, through re-use as well as redevelopment?	neutral	long (>2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Justification	Mitigation	Key Ref.
<p>In delivering the service set out in the DCAP there is limited need for development. Addition bring sites are sensitively located, but there is no requirement for facilities to be developed as a result of the DCAP.</p> <p>The key facilities to be provided as a response to the JMWMS, will be waste treatment facilities. The planning and permitting systems will provide protection to historic cultural and archeologically important sites. New facilities should be sensitively designed and located, and there is a preference in Government planning guidance (PPS 10) for re-using brownfield sites and good design practices.</p>	<p>Ensure additional bring sites, transfer stations, depots or HWRCs are sensitively located.</p>	<p>27, 28, 84, 86, 87, 90, 91, 92, 111, 112, 122,</p>

