

Review of Plans, Policies, Programmes, Strategies and Initiatives

Plan, Programme, Strategy or Initiative	Key Objectives relevant to Development Plan Documents and Sustainability Appraisal	Implications for Development Plan Documents (DPDs)/Sustainability Appraisal
EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL		
EU Environmental Liability Directive	The Directive seeks to achieve the prevention and remedying of environmental damage – specifically, damage to habitats and species protected by EC law, damage to species or habitats on a site of special scientific interest for which the site has been notified, damage to water resources and land contamination which presents a threat to human health.	The Core Strategy will need to ensure minimal impacts on the natural environment and especially protected sites.
Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (2002)	Actions include: - Reverse trend in loss of natural resources, efficient use of resources and reduction in consumer consumption, increase global uptake of renewable energy, increase business innovation in green technology, and reduce loss of biodiversity.	Relevant DPDs should include policies which balance environmental, social and economic considerations and promote sustainable development.
Kyoto Protocol	Key objective is to achieve a reduction in emissions of Carbon Dioxide and other Greenhouse Gases. According to the treaty, in 2012, Annex I Parties who have ratified the treaty must have fulfilled their obligations of greenhouse gas emissions limitations established for the Kyoto Protocol's first commitment period (2008–2012). These emissions limitation commitments are listed in Annex B of the Protocol.	Relevant DPDs should include policies which minimise increases in Carbon and other emissions
European Spatial Development Perspective	The three fundamental goals of European policy should be achieved equally in all parts of the EU: • Economic and social cohesion; • Conservation and management of natural resources and the cultural heritage; • More balanced competitiveness of the European territory. However, due to cultural variety, spatial development policies must not standardise local and regional identities in the EU, which help enrich the quality of life of its citizens.	Relevant DPD objectives should deal with the issues of economic and social cohesion within Wirral and within the North West region, conservation and management of natural resources and cultural heritage and competitiveness.
EU Habitats Directive	The Habitats Directive aims to protect Biodiversity through conservation of natural habitats and species of wildlife fauna and flora. It requires all Member States to protect certain species and habitat types. The Network of protected sites is known as Natura 2000.	An appropriate assessment may need to be carried out of individual DPDs if there are likely to be significant effects on any European site(s).

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EU Framework Directives on: air quality, water, nitrates, water quality, drinking water quality, waste, landfill of waste, packaging, packaging waste	<p>Relevant objectives include:</p> <p>Improvement of ambient air quality, improving water quality, protection of water resources, protection of aquatic ecosystems, reducing water pollution caused by nitrates, protection of important ecological sites, reduction of waste and effective waste management.</p>	Relevant DPDs to include plan objectives covering water and air quality, protection of water and land based ecosystems, reduction of waste and sustainable waste management.
European Sustainable Development Strategy	<p>Strategy focuses on the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit climate change and increase use of clean energy; • Address threats to public health • Combat poverty and social exclusion • Deal with the economic and social implications of an ageing society • Manage natural resources more responsibly (including biodiversity and waste generation) <p>Improve the transport system and waste management</p>	Relevant DPD objectives to address issues highlighted with spatial implications especially climate change, management of natural resources, transport and waste management and ensure policies balance environmental, social and economic considerations.
EU Sixth Environmental Action Programme	<p>The 6th EAP proposes five priority avenues of strategic action to help achieve environmental objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the implementation of existing legislation • Integrating environmental concerns into other policies • Encouraging the market to work for the environment • Empowering citizens and changing behaviour • Greening land use planning and management decisions • The 6EAP focuses attention on four priority areas for action: • Tackling climate change • Nature and biodiversity – protecting a unique resource • Environment and health • Sustainable use of natural resources and management of wastes 	Relevant DPDs to include objectives to address those issues highlighted with spatial implications especially climate change, management of natural resources, nature and biodiversity and ensure policies balance environmental, social and economic considerations.

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European Landscape Convention	UK Government signed the convention in February 2006 and it has been ratified by UK Parliament. It aims to encourage public authorities to adopt policies and measures for protecting, managing and planning landscapes throughout Europe. Landscape defined as “an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors” and applies to urban and rural areas.	The definition of landscape and general objectives are reflected in the UK programme of historic landscape Characterisation. The Relevant DPDs should include policies to safeguard and enhance landscapes
European Biodiversity Strategy	<p>The EBS states that the scale of human impact on biodiversity has accelerated dramatically in recent decades and that, in spite of efforts by the Community and Member States to address the problem of biodiversity reduction or loss, existing measures are insufficient to reverse present trends.</p> <p>The EBS is developed around four major themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity • Sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources • Research, identification, monitoring and exchange of information • Education, training and awareness 	Relevant DPD objectives to address those issues highlighted with spatial implications.
European Directive on SEA	Legislation from the European Commission regarding assessment of the Impacts on the environment of plans and programmes. Translated through planning guidance and national legislation (UK regulations on EIA and SEA)	Sustainability appraisal to address requirements of SEA Directive/Regulations
EU Water Framework Directive	<p>The Directive will help to protect and enhance the quality of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface freshwater (including lakes, streams and rivers); • Groundwaters; • Groundwater dependent ecosystems; • Estuaries; • Coastal waters out to one mile from low water. 	The Core Strategy will need to ensure minimal impacts on the water resource.

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Directive 96/82/EC	<p>Article 12</p> <p>Land-use planning</p> <p>1. Member States shall ensure that the objectives of preventing major accidents and limiting the consequences of such accidents are taken into account in their land-use policies and/or other relevant policies. They shall pursue those objectives through controls on:</p> <p>(a) the siting of new establishments,</p> <p>(b) modifications to existing establishments covered by Article 10,</p> <p>(c) new developments such as transport links, locations frequented by the public and residential areas in the vicinity of existing establishments, where the siting or developments are such as to increase the risk or consequences of a major accident.</p> <p>Member States shall ensure that their land-use and/or other relevant policies and the procedures for implementing those policies take account of the need, in the long term, to maintain appropriate distances between establishments covered by this Directive and residential areas, areas of public use and areas of particular natural sensitivity or interest, and, in the case of existing establishments, of the need for additional technical measures in accordance with Article 5 so as not to increase the risks to people.</p> <p>2. Member States shall ensure that all competent authorities and planning authorities responsible for decisions in this area set up appropriate consultation procedures to facilitate implementation of the policies established under paragraph 1. The procedures shall be designed to ensure that technical advice on the risks arising from the establishment is available, either on a case-by-case or on a generic basis, when decisions are taken.</p>	<p>The Core Strategy and relevant DPDs will need to take into account the provisions of the European Directive.</p>

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NATIONAL		
Securing the Future – delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy	<p>Replaces the previous UK Strategy published in 1999. Contains the following guiding principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living within environmental limits • Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society • Achieving a sustainable economy • Promoting Good governance • Using Sound Science responsibly <p>For the UK, priorities for the future are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Consumption and Production • Climate Change and Energy • Natural Resource Protection and Environmental enhancement • Sustainable Communities <p>Full list of 68 indicators, including 20 UK framework indicators included</p>	For a policy to be 'sustainable' it must respect all five of the principles set out on the left. DPDs should reflect a commitment to sustainable development and promote the five principles in policy making.
Making Space for Nature: A Review of England's Wildlife Sites and Ecological Network (Professor J. Lawton, September 2010).	The report sets out recommendations for the future of England's wildlife sites, describes what ecological networks are and the benefits they bring. It considers strengths and weaknesses of current wildlife sites and sets out a prioritised set of ecological solutions to improve the network.	Relevant DPDs should include policies to promote biodiversity conservation and enhancement in Wirral, particularly in relation to the built environment and urban green space.
Building a Greener Future: Towards Zero Carbon Development (2007)	This document sets out how carbon emissions, from house building, should be reduced. Given the housing targets the country faces, we need to build in such a way as to reduce emissions of new homes, and develop technologies to reduce emissions from existing properties.	Design Policy within the Core Strategy to account for the need to incorporate sustainable construction techniques and support mitigation and adaption to climate change in terms of provision for low carbon energy.
Code for Sustainable Homes	The Code is the National standard for the sustainable design and construction of new homes. The code aims to reduce our carbon emissions and create homes that are more sustainable. It sets minimum standards for energy and water use.	The Code for Sustainable Homes will be taken into account where viable and where still up to date and in line with Building Regulations set out by the Government.
Eddington Transport Study (December 2006)	Joint HM Treasury and DfT Project examining long-term links between transport and UK economic productivity, growth and stability within the Governments broader commitment to sustainable development and the environment	Recommendations are focused at central Government level but relevant DPDs will need to demonstrate awareness of overall principles and key conclusions.

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Stern Report (HM Treasury Oct 2006)	Commissioned by HM Treasury to assess the economic challenges of climate change and how they can be met, both in the UK and globally	Recommendations are focused at central Government level but relevant DPDs will need to demonstrate awareness of overall principles and key conclusions
Laying the Foundations - A Housing Strategy for England (November 2011)	A thriving, active but stable housing market that offers choice, flexibility and affordable housing is critical to our economic and social wellbeing.	Securing and encouraging the provision of a choice of good quality housing will be a key issue for relevant DPDs
Accelerating the Release of Public Sector Land (October 2011)	The Government wants to ensure that surplus, formerly used land with capacity for housing is made available, and that steps are taken to accelerate the release of vacant and unused sites and office space.	Relevant DPDs should ensure the provision of high quality housing. Priority should be given to development on brownfield land.
Local Growth: Realising Every Places Potential (October 2010)	<p>This report outlined a new approach to local growth ensuring that the government would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shift power to local communities and business, enabling places to tailor their approach to local circumstances; • Promote efficient and dynamic markets, in particular the supply of land and provide real and significant incentives for places that go for growth; and • Support investment in places and people to tackle the barriers to growth. 	The implications for planning are reflected in the development of the National Planning Policy Framework which should inform the development of the Core Strategy and relevant DPDs.
Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon: Making Sustainable Local Transport Happen (DfT, January 2011)	Vision for a transport system that is an engine for economic growth, but one that is also greener and safer and improves quality of life in our communities.	Transport Policy in the Core Strategy should support the greater use of sustainable transport and travel and promote the use of public transport, walking and cycling. There is also an emphasis on provision of accessible, safe and attractive transport networks for pedestrians and cyclists.
National and Local Guidelines for Aggregates Provision in England 2005 – 2020	This guidance assists mineral planning authorities in the preparation of local plans in the provision that should be made in relation to aggregates.	Limited implications for Wirral as the Merseyside Mineral Resource Study states that Wirral has no workable resources for land-won crushed rock, sand and gravel or industrial minerals.
Government White Paper; <i>Towards an Urban Renaissance</i>	The key objective of this White Paper is to concentrate new development on brownfield land and increase the attractiveness of urban areas as places to live, work and visit.	Relevant DPDs should ensure the provision of high quality residential, employment, shopping and leisure facilities in order to improve the quality of life. Priority should be given to development on brownfield land
Government White Paper: <i>A New Deal for Transport</i>	Sets out Current Government views and policy on transport. Emphasis on integration and accessibility.	The concept of integration within and between different types of transport and land use planning will need to be reflected in policies in relevant DPDs

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Energy White Paper 2007: Meeting our Energy Challenge	<p>The White Paper includes 4 goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in CO2 emissions by 60% by 2050 with real progress by 2020; • Maintain reliability of energy supplies; • Promote competitive energy markets • Ensure every home is adequately and affordably heated <p>Other Documents, Nuclear White Paper 2008</p>	Relevant DPD policies should promote energy efficient development and the development and availability of renewable energy.
Government White Paper: The Natural Choice – Securing the Value of Nature (2011)	<p>White Paper setting out the Government's intentions to maximise the benefits felt from protecting and enhancing nature. In terms of planning, this will be done by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guiding development to the best locations; • Encourage greener design and enable development to enhance natural networks; • Retaining protection and improvement of the natural environment as core objectives of the planning system; • Establish new, voluntary approach to biodiversity offsets. 	The Core Strategy should protect and enhance biodiversity.
Climate Change Act 2008	Requires that average, annual emissions in the carbon budget period including the year 2020 (i.e. the third period, 2018 – 2022) are at least 34% below the 1990 baseline. This is a 34% reduction by 2020. The 2008 Planning Act placed a duty on local authorities to include policies on climate mitigation and adaptation.	Overall Strategy and relevant DPD policies should work towards achieving these targets

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UK Low Carbon Transition Plan (2009)	<p>The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan plots how the UK will meet the 34 percent cut in emissions on 1990 levels by 2020, set out in the budget. The vision is that by 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -More than 1.2 million people will be in green jobs. -7 million homes will have benefited from whole house makeovers, and more than 1.5 million households will be supported to produce their own clean energy. -Around 40 percent of electricity will be from low-carbon sources, from renewables, nuclear and clean coal. -The UK will be importing half the amount of gas that we otherwise would. - The average new car will emit 40 percent less carbon than now. <p>Other related documents: The Low Carbon Industrial Strategy Low Carbon Transport - A Greener Future</p>	Overall Strategy and relevant DPD policies should work towards supporting achievement of this vision.
UK Renewable Energy Strategy 2009	<p>Sets out the path for UK Government to meet its legally-binding target to ensure 15% of UK energy comes from renewable sources by 2020</p> <p>Sets out mechanisms for future financial support</p> <p>Proposes greater support for emerging technologies</p>	Recommendations are focused at central Government but relevant DPDs should demonstrate awareness of overall principles and key conclusions.
Marine and Coastal Access Act	<p>Received Royal Assent, 12th November 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sets up a new marine planning system - Establishes a network of Marine Conservation Zones - Streamlined consenting and licensing system through the creation of the Marine Management Organisation. - A new range of sanctions will also provide a more flexible approach to marine environment enforcement. 	The Core Strategy will need to have regard to the new Marine Spatial Planning System in particular the interface between the two regimes and also any Marine Conservation Zones close to the Wirral Coastline.

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Aviation White Paper	Sets out a strategic framework for the development of airport capacity over the next 30 years. It supports the expansion of both Liverpool and Manchester Airports	Relevant DPDs will need to consider any spatial planning impacts for the Borough arising from the possible future expansion of Liverpool Airport
The Future of Transport White Paper	Builds on progress made since implementation of the 10 year plan for transport. Extends investment plans to 2014-15 but looks at challenges over next 20-30 years. Aims to ensure country benefits from mobility and access while minimising impact on other people and the environment	Relevant DPDs will need to have regard to consequential planning policy changes, and transport infrastructure investment decisions
Planning White Paper – Planning for a Sustainable Future (2007)	Sets out detailed proposals for reform of the planning system building on Kate Barkers recommendations for improving the speed, responsiveness and efficiency in landuse planning. Proposes reforms to decision-making on nationally significant	Relevant DPDs will need to reflect consequential amendments to primary and secondary legislation and guidance
The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland: Working together for Clean Air (DETR 2000) and Addendum (2003)	The Strategy sets objectives for 9 air pollutants to protect public health and deadlines for achieving them	Relevant DPD policies should promote development which minimises impacts on air quality.
Government White Paper: Choosing Health: Making Healthy Choices Easier	An action plan to tackle poor health and improve health of the population in England, especially those living in the most deprived areas.	Relevant DPD policies should aim to reduce health inequalities through sport/recreation, access, retail./town centre and other policies
Safeguarding Our Soils – A Strategy for England (DEFRA 2009)	Sets out an ambitious vision to improve the sustainable management of soil and tackle degradation within 20 years. It covers a range of sectors including agriculture, land management, planning and construction and provides a strategic framework for action that should facilitate Defra's work with delivery partners.	Both Sustainability Appraisal and relevant DPDs should consider issue of impact on soils.
Living Working Countryside: The Taylor Review of Rural Economy and Affordable Housing (2008)	The overriding objective of the report is to help ensure the planning system brings a positive, lasting legacy of places in which people actually want to live. It suggests changes to the planning system necessary to deliver vibrant communities with a distinct identity, in keeping with the character of their surroundings and which enhance the local landscape and bio-diversity.	Relevant recommendations for Core Strategy policies and relevant DPDs should be taken on board where applicable.

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The Historic Environment: a Force for Our Future (DCMS 2001)	<p>The Strategy encourages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • local authorities to adopt a positive approach to the management of the historic environment and the monitoring of its condition within their area. Champions for the historic environment should be appointed within management structures and Members given access to training on the historic environment • local policy making on the historic environment takes proper account of the value a community places on particular aspects of its immediate environment. Character assessment is commended as useful tool in this respect • Support is restated for the principles set out in PPG15 and PPG16 • Community strategies to consider the role of the historic environment in promoting economic, employment and educational opportunities within the locality. 	Relevant DPDs should adopt a positive approach to management of the historic environment and ensure that community engagement includes consideration of historic environment issues.
Government White Paper: Heritage Protection for the 21 st Century (March 2007)	Along with subsequent draft Heritage Protection Bill, White Paper proposes amendments to the Heritage consent and designation regimes and transfer responsibility for designation of heritage assets to English Heritage. Bill not included in 2008/9 Queens Speech	Relevant DPDs will need to have regard to consequential primary and secondary legislation and amended Government Guidance
Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning (Countryside Agency/English Heritage/English Nature)	Encourages a move away from a 'topic-based' to an 'objectives-led' approach for plans and strategies. Promotes the environment and rural issues in a new and better integrated policy framework, addressing wider sustainability issues whilst meeting local needs within a national, regional and district wide context. Each section of the guidance sets out <i>recommended actions</i> that planning authorities are encouraged to take on board.	<p>The document includes a large number of recommended actions, and DPDs will need to take these into account as appropriate. Aim should be to achieve development which is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more sustainable; both in built form and location; • respects the ability of the environment to accommodate change (including climate change); • avoids damage to and increases or enhances the environmental resource; • reduces risks to, and potentially arising from, the environment; • respects local distinctiveness and sense of place and is of high design quality, so that it is valued • by communities; and • reflects local needs and provides local benefits.

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Diversity and Equality in Planning – A Good Practice Guide (ODPM)	The guide indicates that to engage effectively with diversity issues, all those delivering the planning service need to have an understanding of what diversity, inclusion and equality mean, and why they are important to planners. The Guide aims to identify key diversity issues and relate them to planning practice, with suggestions on how this may be done. Case studies demonstrate ways of addressing diversity issues as part of the spatial planning process.	The Core Strategy will be subject to an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) which will address how specific groups in society will be affected by the planning process.
Disability Discrimination Act	Requires consideration of access for all in new developments and extensions and changes of use	Policies in relevant DPDs will need to reflect the importance of creating and enhancing an inclusive environment
Equality Act 2010	The public sector Equality Duty, at section 149 of the Equality Act, requires public bodies to consider all individuals when carrying out their day to day work. Assessing the impact on equality of decision-making and policies and practices is an important part of complying with the general equality duty. It is up to each public authority to choose the most effective approach for doing this, and approaches are likely to vary depending on the size of the public authority, the type of functions they carry out, and the nature of the decisions they are making.	This duty will be complied with by the undertaking of an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) of the policies contained within the Core Strategy.
National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)	<p>The NPPF sets out national policy under the following headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieving sustainable development 1. Building a strong, competitive economy 2. Ensuring the vitality of town centres 3. Supporting a prosperous rural economy 4. Promoting sustainable transport 5. Supporting high quality communications infrastructure 6. Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes 7. Requiring good design 8. Promoting healthy communities 9. Protecting Green Belt land 10. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change 11. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment 12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment <p>The presumption in favour of sustainable development is as a “golden thread” running through both plan-making and decision-taking.</p> <p>Sustainable development is set in the context of the guiding principles in the UK</p>	<p>The Core Strategy and relevant DPDs should reflect the presumption in favour of sustainable development. For plan-making, this is taken to mean that Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change, unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or • specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted <p>This will also apply to Neighbourhood Plans.</p> <p>The Core Strategy should set local policy for residential densities, affordable housing and brownfield targets. A housing implementation strategy will need to be prepared alongside the Local Plan, with housing trajectories for both market and affordable housing, to be prepared and updated annually. There is a continuing requirement for viability assessment to underpin planning policies with an emphasis</p>

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	Sustainable Development Strategy and recognition that sustainable development includes economic, social and environmental dimensions.	<p>on ensuring that delivery is maintained even in difficult economic circumstances. Under the Duty to Cooperate there may be a need to meet shortfalls in housing requirements from neighbouring authorities.</p> <p>Local authorities will be expected to demonstrate evidence of having effectively cooperated to plan for issues with cross-boundary impacts when their Local Plans are submitted for examination, but there is no policy on how this should be implemented, for example, if agreement is not possible.</p> <p>The NPPF recognises that the planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. Planning policies and decisions should guard against the loss of valued facilities and services and ensure that established shops facilities and services are able to develop and modernize in a way that is sustainable and retained for the benefit of the community.</p> <p>In relation to the Green Belt, local planning authorities should plan positively to enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt. Green belt boundaries should be established in the Local Plan and should only be altered in exceptional circumstances through the preparation or review of the Local Plan. When considering planning applications, local planning authorities should ensure that "substantial weight" is given to any harm to the Green Belt.</p> <p>Local planning authorities should adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change, taking full account of flood risk, coastal change and water supply and demand considerations.</p> <p>The NPPF indicates that the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and rural environment. Policy on development affecting Sites of Special Scientific Interest, absent in the consultation draft, has now been</p>

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		included in the final version. References to Local Nature Partnerships have been added throughout the document. In relation to built heritage, the provisions of PPS 5 appear to have been largely retained in the finalised NPPF.
Good Practice Guide on Planning for Tourism (2006)	<p>This document is designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that planners understand the importance of tourism and take this fully into account when preparing development plans and taking planning decisions; • Ensure that those involved in the tourism industry understand the principles of national planning policy as they apply to tourism and how these can be applied when preparing individual planning applications; • Ensure that planners and the tourism industry work together effectively to facilitate, promote and deliver new tourism developments in a sustainable way. 	<p>In order to keep policies to a manageable number, authorities should aim to support the policies affecting tourism in the core strategy in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putting detail on matters such as mitigating the effects of development (e.g. by landscaping) into supplementary planning documents; • Putting good practice messages in other documents or in supporting text; and • Not repeating national or regional policies in DPDs, although DPDs should indicate how the objectives and any targets for tourism contribute to those set out in the RSS. <p>Where specific tourism policies are included in a plan, they should aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise the benefits of tourism, in particular ensuring that the development is able to reach its potential to contribute to tourism in the area and for local communities to enjoy those benefits; • Identify optimal locations, for example to maximise synergies with other tourist attractions and to promote opportunities for access by public transport; • Integrate development with its surroundings both in terms of design and layout and in the way that the service or facility is able to function; and • Avoid adverse impacts, for example by disturbance to activities on adjacent land.

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A Space for Nature (English Nature)	<p>Sets out standards for accessible urban greenspace:</p> <p>These standards recommend that people living in towns and cities should have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an accessible natural greenspace less than 300 metres (5 minutes walk) from home; - statutory Local Nature Reserves at a minimum level of one hectare per thousand population; - at least one accessible 20 hectare site within two kilometres of home; one accessible 100 hectare site within five kilometres of home; and one accessible 500 hectare site within ten kilometres of home. <p>In some areas this will be hard to achieve in the short-term, but it should be a long-term aim.</p>	Implications to be considered through the Green Infrastructure Strategy.
Flood and Water Management Act (2010)	<p>The Flood and Water Management Act provides for better, more comprehensive management of flood risk for people, homes and businesses. The Act also requires a lead local flood authority to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management in its area. Local Authorities will need to consider the full range of measures consistent with a risk management approach in developing their local flood risk strategy. Resilience and other approaches which minimise the impact of flooding are expected to be a key aspect of the measures proposed.</p>	The Core Strategy should focus on a risk based approach to the location of new development, both in terms of the allocation of sites in a site specific Local Plan and the consideration of planning applications.
Safer Places – The Planning System and Crime Prevention (ODPM, 2004)	To consider crime prevention as part of the design process.	Design Policy within the Core Strategy should take into account the need to increase natural surveillance and reduce or prevent the opportunity for crime and anti social behaviour.

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World Class Places (HM Government, 2009)	<p>This sets out the Government's approach to improving quality of place – the way the places where we live and work are planned, designed, developed and maintained – and the steps we will take to build on recent progress.</p> <p>Vision – ensure that all places are planned, designed and developed to provide everyone, including future generations, with a decent quality of life and fair chances.</p> <p>Relevant objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure relevant government policy, guidance and standards consistently promote quality of place and are user friendly; • Put the public and community at the centre of place shaping; • Ensure all development for which central government is directly responsible is built to high design and sustainability standards and promotes quality of place; and • Encourage higher standards of market led development. 	Design Policy in the Core Strategy should reflect the 4 elements of "Quality of Place".
Natural Environment White Paper (2011)	<p>Partnerships of local authorities, local communities and landowners, the private sector and conservation organisations will establish Nature Improvement Areas (NIAs) based on a local assessment of opportunities for restoring and connecting nature on a significant scale.</p> <p>Coherent and resilient ecological networks are to be created.</p>	Implications to be considered through Policy in the Local Plan Core Strategy and the Green Infrastructure Strategy.
Enabling the Transition to a Green Economy (2011)	Sets out a vision of a green economy based on growing low carbon and environmental goods and service sector, using natural resources.	Relevant DPD policies should promote energy efficient development and the availability of renewable energy.
The Plan For Growth (May 2011)	<p>In addition to financial ambitions, it sets out the Government's intention to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be best location for corporate headquarters in Europe; • Increase in the proportion of planning applications approved and dealt with on time; • Increase investment in low carbon technologies; • Increase the participation of 16 – 24 year olds in employment or learning; • Narrowing the educational attainment gap. 	Influenced the approach to National Planning Guidance in the NPPF and the development plan regulations and Localism Act.

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Fourth Carbon Budget (May 2011)	Greenhouse Gas Emission Target for 2023 – 2027: Emissions are to be 50% of 1990 levels.	Relevant DPD policies should promote energy efficient development and the development and availability of renewable energy. Design Policy within the Core Strategy to account for the need to incorporate sustainable construction techniques and support mitigation and adaptation to climate change in terms of provision for low carbon energy.
Climate Resilient Infrastructure: Preparing for a Changing Climate (DEFRA, 2011)	A strategic approach to adapting national infrastructure that can be replicated at the sub-regional and local level by local authorities and the new Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) is described.	Relevant policy within the Core Strategy should ensure infrastructure schemes (both new and adaptation of existing) incorporate measures to ensure mitigation and adaptation to climate change.
The Carbon Plan (2011)	Notes that the Government wished to support and enable communities in their aim to adopt higher environmental standards for new homes.	Design Policy within the Core Strategy to account for the need to incorporate sustainable construction techniques and support mitigation and adaptation to climate change in terms of provision for low carbon energy.
Planning for Traveller Sites (March 2012)	Place planning for traveller sites into the hands of local planning authorities.	The Core Strategy should take account of the Government's Planning Policy when developing its own relevant policy for travellers.
Public Health White Paper (2011)	Seeks new partnerships in important areas such as transport. The Local Sustainable Transport Fund will support active travel and further support will be outlined in the Local Transport White Paper. Public Health is to be better integrated into social care, transport, leisure, planning and housing with the focus on keeping people connected, active and independent and in their own homes.	The Core Strategy and relevant DPDS need to have regard to public health objectives in the planning process set out in the white paper.
National Infrastructure Plan (2010)	Forecasts a 20% increase in congestion by 2025 and requires a change to show how infrastructure is planned, coordinated and delivered with adaptation to provide security and resilience. Private sector capital is to be attracted and the cost of capital for projects needs to be reduced.	Relevant DPDs will need to have regard to transport infrastructure investment decisions.
Noise Policy Statement for England (March 2010)	Sets out aims to manage and control environmental, neighbour and neighbourhood noise.	Relevant DPD's will need to have regard to potential noise issues, particularly with regard to industry, transport and infrastructure.
Localism Act (November 2011)	The Act transfers powers from central government to the hands of individuals, communities and councils. This involves decentralisation and democratic engagement and gives new powers to local communities to prepare a 'neighbourhood development plan'.	Ensure the Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs adequately respond to the Act and the local plan regulations which implement parts of the Act.

Plan, Programme, Strategy or Initiative	Key Objectives relevant to Development Plan Documents and Sustainability Appraisal	Implications for Development Plan Documents (DPDs)/Sustainability Appraisal
Air Pollution – Action in a Changing Climate (2010)	Action in a changing climate 2010 describes Governments approach to meeting the climate change measures and optimising social benefits and gaining compliance with EU air quality limits.	Core Strategy should include consideration of air pollution issues relating to development proposals.
The Household Energy Management Strategy (March 2010)	The Strategy emphasises the role of district heating schemes and identified an essential role for planning in facilitating delivery of these and other community scale energy schemes.	Relevant DPD policies should promote energy efficient development and the development and availability of renewable energy. Design Policy within the Core Strategy to account for the need to incorporate sustainable construction techniques and support mitigation and adaption to climate change in terms of provision for low carbon energy.
UK Climate Impacts Programme (2009)	Updated climate change projections based on three global emission scenarios provide forecasts for climate and weather related impacts.	Relevant DPD policies should promote energy efficient development and the development and availability of renewable energy. Design Policy within the Core Strategy to account for the need to incorporate sustainable construction techniques and support mitigation and adaption to climate change in terms of provision for low carbon energy.
The Energy Act (2008)	Introduced powers for a Feed-in-Tariff and the Renewable Heat Incentive aimed at driving an increase in renewable energy generating capacity, and which is likely to have an impact on planning.	The Core Strategy should take account of the need to incorporate sustainable construction techniques and support mitigation and adaption to climate change in terms of provision for low carbon energy.
The Planning Act (2008)	Introduced a new planning regime for nationally significant infrastructure projects. National Policies are directed towards protecting the natural environment and making prudent use of natural resources.	The Core Strategy and DPDs should have regard to the requirements of the Planning Act in relation to infrastructure.
Wales Spatial Plan (2008 Update)	<p>The Wales Spatial Plan is the overarching framework and integration tool for Wales. The broad 20 year agenda and overall role, purpose and principles of the Wales Spatial Plan remain unchanged:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making sure that decisions are taken with regard to their impact beyond the immediate sectoral or administrative boundaries and that the core values of sustainable development govern everything. • Setting the context for local and community planning • Influencing where money is spent by the Welsh Assembly Government through an understanding of the roles of and interactions between places • Providing a clear evidence base for the public, private and third sectors to develop policy and action. 	The Core Strategy should have regard to the provision of the Welsh Spatial Plan, particularly in relation to North East Wales.

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Planning Policy Wales (November 2012)	Planning Policy Wales (PPW) sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government. It is supplemented by a series of Technical Advice Notes (TANs). Procedural advice is given in circulars and policy clarification letters.	The Core Strategy should have regard to the provision of Planning Policy Wales, particularly in relation to North East Wales.
National Policy Statements for National Infrastructure	<p>National Policy Statements (NPSs) are produced by Government. They give reasons for the policy set out in the statement, and include an explanation of how the policy takes account of Government policy relating to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change. They include the Government's objectives for the development of nationally significant infrastructure in a particular sector and state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How this will contribute to sustainable development. • How these objectives have been integrated with other Government policies. • How actual and projected capacity and demand have been taken into account. • Consider relevant issues in relation to safety or technology. • Circumstances where it would be particularly important to address the adverse impacts of development. • Specific locations, where appropriate, in order to provide a clear framework for investment and planning decisions. <p>They also include any other policies or circumstances that Ministers consider should be taken into account in decisions on infrastructure development. They provide the framework within which Inspectors make their recommendations to the Secretary of State.</p>	<p>The Core Strategy and relevant DPDs should have regard to the policies set out in the National Policy Statements for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overarching energy • Renewable energy • Fossil Fuels • Oil and Gas Supply and Storage • Electricity Networks • Nuclear Power • Ports • Transport Networks (including rail and roads) • Aviation • Water Supply • Hazardous Waste • Waste Water Treatment
Government Review of Waste Policy in England (DEFRA 2011)	<p>Government continues to support local authorities in the provision of necessary waste infrastructure. We believe local communities should benefit from hosting waste infrastructure and be involved from an early stage in planning for infrastructure. A better understanding of the impact of technologies is needed. We will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing advice and support for local authorities on science and technology; • Working with the Environment Agency, local authorities and industry to draw together and publish data on likely waste arisings and treatment capacity in future years; • Supporting efforts by local authorities through effective contract 	The guidance will be taken into account in the formulation of waste policy in the Core Strategy.

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	<p>management to generate further efficiencies in waste collection, reprocessing and treatment;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking to expand capacity to treat C&I and C&D waste through improved information and developing supply chains for recyclates and solid recovered fuel; • Working to help reduce commercial barriers to the effective financing of infrastructure. 	
Guidance on the Managed Aggregates Supply System (Oct 2012)	<p>The key principle under this reformed Managed Aggregate Supply System is the “Local Aggregate Assessment”, where each Mineral Planning Authority is expected to prepare an assessment of the demand for and supply of aggregates, covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a forecast of the demand for aggregates based on the average of 10-years sales data and other relevant local information¹; • an analysis of all aggregate supply options, as indicated by landbanks, mineral plan allocations and capacity data e.g. marine licences for marine aggregate extraction and the potential throughputs from wharves. This analysis should be informed by planning information, the aggregate industry and other bodies such as local enterprise partnerships; and • an assessment of the balance between demand and supply, and the economic and environmental opportunities and constraints that might influence the situation. It should conclude if there is a shortage or a surplus of supply and, if the former, how this is being addressed. <p>Mineral Planning Authorities may, if they intend to prepare joint plans, prepare joint local aggregate assessments. Any analysis and assessment must be evidence-based.</p>	The Guidance will be taken into account in the formulation of Minerals Policy in the Core Strategy.

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REGIONAL LEVEL		
The North West Plan: Regional Spatial Strategy for North West England	Spatial Principles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote sustainable communities; • Promote sustainable economic development; • Make the best use of existing resources and infrastructure; • Manage travel demand, reduce the need to travel and increase accessibility; • Marry opportunity and need; • Promote environmental quality; • Mainstream rural issues; and • Reduce emissions and adapt to climate change. 	RSS was revoked by the Secretary of State in July 2010 but this decision was overturned following the judgement on 'Cala Homes (South) Ltd v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government' that The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government was not entitled to use the discretionary power to revoke regional strategies contained in s 79(6) of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009. Until the Regional Spatial Strategy is formally revoked, Core Strategies are still legally required to have regard to the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS).
"Action for Sustainability" Regional Sustainable Development Framework for the North West (2000)/Integrated Appraisal Toolkit	Identifies ten regional priorities and long term goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable transport and access, reducing the need to travel and allowing access for all to places, goods and services; • Sustainable production and consumption, ensuring energy and resources are used both efficiently and effectively by all; • Social equity, that respects, welcomes and celebrates diversity and allows all communities and generations a representative voice; • Biodiversity and landscapes that are valued in themselves and for their contribution to the region's economy and quality of life; • Active citizenship that empowers people and enables them to contribute to issues that affect the wider community; • A culture of Lifelong Learning that allows people to fulfil their duties and potential in a global society by acquiring new skills, knowledge and understanding; • Cultural distinctiveness, nurturing and celebrating diversity to create a vibrant and positive image. • An active approach to reducing our contribution to climate change whilst preparing for potential impacts. • Healthy communities where people enjoy life, work and leisure and take care of themselves and others. 	The priorities in AFS with spatial planning implications will need to be reflected in the Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs. Regard has been had to the Sustainability toolkit in drawing up the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enterprise and innovation, harnessing the region's educational and scientific resources and the creative and entrepreneurial skills of its people to achieve sustainable solutions. 	
Streets for All North West (English Heritage)	The document provides guidance on the way in which streets and public open spaces are managed. It aims to improve the appearance of public spaces by showing how practical solutions to common highway problems can be achieved.	Ensure relevant DPDs adopt best practice in terms of design policies
North West Best Practice Design Guide (NWRA, May 2006)	Highlights design considerations such as biodiversity, security, energy efficiency and so on, illustrated by case study examples from North West England. Ten guiding principles are identified, related to the management of individual proposals:	Ensure relevant DPDs adopt best practice in terms of design policies
North West Sustainable Energy Strategy (NWRA, 2006)	<p>Key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving energy efficiency and eliminating energy wastage in all areas of activity across the region. Accelerating the transition to sustainable forms of energy and achieving regional renewable energy deployment targets. Setting the region on a course to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 60% by 2050. Eliminating fuel poverty by ensuring that all householders have access to affordable warmth and decent housing. Contributing to the region's economy by harnessing business innovation and employment opportunities arising from sustainable energy practices. Communicating views, experiences and examples from the region to improve national and international policy frameworks 	Relevant DPDs should actively facilitate reductions in energy requirements and improvements in efficiency by incorporating robust provisions relating to design, layout, location and use of materials and natural resources in new buildings and refurbishment schemes. Effective provision for sustainable travel and access via public transport, walking and cycling should also be made.
Regional Economic Strategy (NWDA, 2006).	<p>The RES sets out a vision of a dynamic, sustainable international economy which competes on the basis of knowledge, advanced technology and an excellent quality of life for all, where:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Productivity and Enterprise levels are high, in a low carbon economy, driven by innovation, leadership excellence and high skills. Manchester and Liverpool are vibrant European Cities and, with Preston, are key drivers of city-regional growth. Growth opportunities around Crewe, Chester, Warrington, Lancaster and Carlisle are fully 	The Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs should have regard to the vision and objectives of the Regional Economic Strategy which have spatial planning implications, in particular ensuring that there is an appropriate provision of employment/ housing land and utilities infrastructure which recognises the importance of economic growth for sustainable development

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed. • Key Growth Assets are fully utilised (Priority Sectors, the Higher Education and Science Base, Ports/Airports, Strategic Regional Sites, the Natural Environment especially The Lake District, and the Rural Economy). • The economies of East Lancashire, Blackpool, Barrow and West Cumbria are regenerated. • Employment rates are high and concentrations of low employment are eliminated. <p>Three major drivers are identified for achieving the vision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve productivity and grow the market • Grow the size and capability of the workforce • Creating and maintaining the conditions for sustainable growth and private sector investment <p>The RES goes on to identify a series of actions through which the vision will be achieved, a number of which are relevant to Wirral including 73 (Grow the Port of Liverpool) 80 (Deliver the Strategic Regional sites including 12 Quays and the International Business Park and 116 (Create and manage Mersey Waterfront Regional Park)</p> <p>Initial work has commenced on the preparation of Single Regional Strategy (which is likely to be non-statutory) which will be in place by 2010</p>	
Regional Housing Strategy (2009)	<p>The overall vision of the Regional Housing Strategy is:</p> <p>To create balanced housing markets across the North West that support economic growth, strengthen economic and social inclusion and ensure that everyone has access to appropriate, well designed, high quality, affordable housing in sustainable, mixed and vibrant communities.</p> <p>To achieve this vision, there are 3 objectives stated:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Achieving the right quantity of housing. 2. Continuing to raise the quality of the existing housing stock. 3. Connecting people to the improved housing offer. 	<p>The Core Strategy should interpret the key objectives of the Regional Housing Strategy in relation to Wirral and ensure broad conformity with the strategy. In particular, it should include complementary planning policies which recognise the inter-relationship between the neighbourhoods experiencing low demand and those with potential to grow. High quality urban design of places as well as buildings plays a key role in regeneration</p>

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Regional Waste Strategy (September 2010)	<p>Key Objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that waste management infrastructure, facilities and systems are developed in accordance with the principles of sustainable development, the low carbon agenda and integrated waste management at the highest practicable level in the Government's waste hierarchy; • Provide a clear framework for stakeholders to guide the future development of waste management in the North West and to support local authority Municipal Waste Management Strategies and private investment decisions; • Deliver waste planning policy in the North West so that it is consistent with, and contributes to, the overall aims of the National Waste Strategy 2027, the Regional Spatial Strategy and the Sustainable Consumption and Production Action Plan from the North West; • Maximise the opportunities for North West businesses arising from Sustainable waste management, including the not-for-profit sector; • Ensure that this Strategy offers a clear, transparent and informative approach that is valued by local and regional stakeholders and is supported by local communities; • Ensure that there is sufficient flexibility in this Strategy to incorporate changes to targets, legislation and improvements to technologies for handling wastes; • Reduce environmental effects of waste management through the implementation of Strategic Environmental Assessment, Sustainability Appraisal and Appropriate Assessment to ensure the protection and conservation of the environment across land, air and water. 	Need to ensure approach to waste in Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs is consistent with any emerging Waste DPD (A Joint Waste Local Development Document for Merseyside in development is being prepared).
Regional Cultural Strategy 2001 (Culture Northwest)	<p>Key objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy - making the case for the role of culture and creativity within all aspects of regional policy; • Image – make culture central to the region's self-image and the external marketing of the region as a place to live, learn, work, visit and do business with; • Cultural Economy - develop a sustainable, innovative cultural and creative economy; • Social Economy - develop the role of culture in sustainable, healthy communities that work, in education and in employment; 	The Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs should reflect the aims of this strategy with spatial planning implications particularly in relation to cultural and civic facilities, environmental policy and general awareness of potential cultural implications in formulating policy.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environment – promote heritage and landscape as central to the culture of the region, and its role in developing excellent design 	
Investment for Health: A Plan for the North West of England 2003	Objective is “to achieve significant reductions in health inequalities between groups and areas in the North West, within a framework of sustainable development which supports economic, social, and environmental regeneration”.	Health and health inequality is a key issue to be covered by the Core Strategy and other DPDs.
North West on the Move: The North West Plan for Sport and Physical Activity 2004-2008 (Sport England)	<p>The plan has two main aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase participation in sport and physical activity To widen access and reduce inequality in participation amongst priority groups. <p>The plan will deliver across five themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancing the sporting infrastructure Improving health and well being Developing education and skills Benefiting the economy Creating stronger and safer communities 	The Core Strategy should have regard to the aims of the Plan. A number of indicators are identified for measuring delivery: including increasing participation and widening access, provision of leisure facilities, plus a range of other socio-economic indicators which cover a number of Core Strategy / Sustainability themes.
Rising to the Challenge – A Climate Change Action Plan for England’s Northwest 2010-2012 (NWDA)	<p>The vision of the Northwest Climate Change Action Plan is to create ‘A low carbon and well adapting Northwest by 2020’. The three overarching objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce greenhouse gas emissions Adapt to unavoidable climate change Capitalise on opportunities for economic growth. <p>The CCAP also articulated the key outcomes by 2020, which provided an overarching framework by which all actions would be designed. It sets out 18 priority actions under the headings of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean and secure energy Smarter use of carbon Opportunities for growth A well adapting region 	The Core Strategy and relevant DPDs will need to reflect the relevant actions, including the advice relating to the location of new development, support for low-carbon energy generation schemes and sustainable building design.

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NW Green Infrastructure Guide 2008 (NW GI Think Tank)	<p>Identifies Green infrastructure as the region's life support system – the network of natural environmental components and green spaces that lies within and between the North West's cities, towns and villages and provides multiple social, economic and environmental benefits. Identifies a 4 stage planning approach:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Partnerships and Priorities 1. Data audit and resource mapping 2. Functional assessment 3. Needs assessment 4. Intervention plan 	<p>Strategically significant potential routes and sites for green infrastructure should be safeguarded where appropriate within Local Development Frameworks and Supplementary Planning Documents. There should be a co-ordinated approach in relation to natural assets across the local authority area to ensure green assets are viewed as interlinked. A possible model Local Development Framework policy is suggested for inclusion in the Core Strategy. Alternative, approach suggested is to embed green infrastructure principles into policies on other issues.</p>
Water for Life and Livelihoods – River Basin Management Plan North West River Basin District 2009 (Environment Agency)	<p>This plan is about the pressures facing the water environment in the North West River Basin District and the actions that will address them. It has been prepared under the Water Framework Directive and is the first of a series of six year cycles of planning and action.</p>	<p>The Core Strategy should protect and maximise improvement and sustainable use of the water environment.</p>
Moving Forward: The Northern Way First Growth Strategy Report (2004)	<p>Prepared in response to invitation by Deputy Prime Minister to northern RDAs to unlock growth potential and address productivity gap. Identifies ten policy priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring more people into work. • Strengthen the knowledge base to support innovation by every company. • Build a more entrepreneurial culture. • Capture a larger share of global trade. • Support the expansion of key clusters of companies across the North. • Invest significantly more in meeting the skills needs of our employers. • Improve surface access, especially by rail, to Manchester Airport along with preparing a Northern Airports Priorities Plan to identify how to secure the growth of all the North's airports. • Invest in improving access to the North's sea ports. • Invest in creating better integrated public transport services within and between our city regions • Creating truly sustainable communities. • Market the North to the world. <p>Separate Action Plan for the Merseyside City Region also produced – see below</p>	<p>Policies in the relevant DPDs will need to reflect the priorities set out in the Northern Way Growth Strategy</p>

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SUB-REGIONAL		
<p>European Structural Funds North West Competitiveness Operational Programme (NWOP - 2007-2013).</p> <p>Successor to Objective One 2007-2013 ("Transitional funds")</p> <p>NWOP (Consultation Draft) priorities designed in line with RES objectives eligible for receipt of ERDF funding, i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving productivity and growing the market. - Creating the conditions for sustainable growth - Growing and accessing employment 	<p>Following the Merseyside Objective 1 Single Programme 2000 – 2006, this new Structural Fund Programme will be less generous in terms of the available ESF funds than in the past. The North West region will have a much smaller amount of ESF grant on which to draw than under previous Programmes. However, the reduction in funding (from the 2000-06 Programme period) in the North West is smaller than that for England as a whole. The Regional Framework will therefore set the parameters for a substantial investment in the region's employment and skills priorities over the next seven years.</p> <p>The overall objective of the North West ESF Framework is to support sustainable economic growth and social inclusion in the region by increasing employment, reducing economic inactivity and developing a skilled and adaptable workforce. This means that resources will be targeted on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who are unemployed or economically inactive, especially people with disabilities and those with health conditions, lone parents, older workers (over 50 years of age) and black minority ethnic (BME) communities; • Young people not in education, employment or training; • People without basic skills or 'skills for life'; • People without a Level 2 qualification; • People without a Level 3 qualification in sectors where there are skills shortages at this level, in SMEs (up to 250 employees), and for women and BME groups in sectors and occupational areas where they are under-represented; and • Women and men who want training to enter non-traditional occupations and sectors. <p>Whilst all activities in the Regional ESF Framework must be framed under the Priorities contained in the national ESF Plan, it is also important that they support the six broad North West skills priorities contained in the RSP's Statement of Skills Priorities 2007-10. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle worklessness by linking people, jobs and training; • Increase participation of 16-19 year olds in education and/or work based 	<p>Promote development in areas of regeneration need and maximise opportunities for new development / investment.</p>

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	<p>learning, and progressing into higher education;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the proportion of adults with the skills and qualifications needed for employment, with a focus on Level 2 attainment; • Support adults to progress beyond Level 2 and to attain skills and qualifications at Level 3 and above, with a focus on key sectors; • Stimulate employers to invest more in management, leadership, intermediate and higher level technical and professional skills; and • Stimulate demand for, and investment in entrepreneurial, intermediate and higher level skills from individuals. <p>Merseyside allocation for 2007-13: £314m</p> <p>Final NWOP will be submitted to UK Government in mid 2007 (and subsequently to European Commission)</p>	
Liverpool City Region Housing Strategy (2007)	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support economic growth and regeneration of the City Region; • To identify sustainable locations for growth, linked to economic development proposals, sustainable levels of infrastructure, service provision and housing land availability; • To maximise the contribution that regeneration areas can make in supporting the economic development of the city region; • To provide for a range of affordable housing products across the city region in recognition of the growing mis-match between income levels and lowest quartile house prices; and • To secure investment in the quality of neighbourhoods as a major economic asset of the city region in attracting and retaining population. 	Policies should support the strategy to achieve successful regeneration and create quality neighbourhoods.
Mersey Waterfront Strategic Spatial Plan 2007	<p>Promotes the sub-region's economy and image using the unique selling point of the Mersey Waterfront. The priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mersey Maritime, Estuary Development and Management • Tourism, sport and leisure, and • Flagship infrastructure and development. 	The approach in the Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs to protecting and enhancing the coastline should support and be compatible with the Action Plan.

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The Liverpool City Region – Development Programme Report (2006)	<p>Vision is to regain Merseyside’s status as a premier European city region by 2025. Aim is to secure an internationally competitive economy and cultural offer and outstanding quality of life; and vibrant communities contributing to and sharing in sustainable wealth creation. Five strategic priorities identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Premier destination centre • The well connected city region • The creative and competitive City Region • The talented and able City Region • The City Region of Sustainable Neighbourhoods and Communities <p>Other supporting relevant documents include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transforming our Economy – The Strategic Proposals (May 2005) • Merseyside’s changing Economy – an examination of growth (May 2005) • West Cheshire/North East Wales sub-regional study 2004 • Merseyside Employment Land Study 2004 • Liverpool Super Port 2008 	The Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs should reflect the vision and priorities of the Action Plan.
Merseyside Local Transport Plan 3 (2011)	<p>The plan sets out the implementation plans in the short term to 2015 and looks to the longer term strategy for 2024 on how to improve transport in Merseyside.</p> <p>The Third Local Transport Plan has the following vision;</p> <p>'A city region committed to a low carbon future, which has a transport network and mobility culture that positively contributes to a thriving economy and the health and wellbeing of its citizens and where sustainable travel is the option of choice'.</p> <p>The Local Transport Plan has six goals;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One - Help create the right conditions for sustainable economic growth by supporting the priorities of the Liverpool City Region, the Local Enterprise Partnership and the Local Strategic Partnerships. • Two - Provide and promote a clean, low emission transport system which is resilient to changes to climate and oil availability. • Three - Ensure the transport system promotes and enables improved health and wellbeing and road safety. • Four - Ensure equality of travel opportunity for all, through a transport 	The Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs should ensure that policies generally are consistent with and deliver the objectives of the Local Transport Plan, in particular, promoting developments in locations which are accessible, or close to public transport, walking and cycling links and by encouraging the development of sustainable transport networks.

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	<p>system that allows people to connect easily with employment, education, healthcare, other essential services and leisure and recreational opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five - Ensure the transport network supports the economic success of the city region by the efficient movement of people and goods. • Six - Maintain our assets to a high standard. 	
Mersey Estuary Catchment Flood Management Plan (2009)	To monitor the Mersey Estuary And determine the level of flood defence required.	Some flood risk identified along parts of Wirral's coastline as well as river valleys associated with the Fender Birkett, Arrowe Brook and the Dibbin (see also Wirral SFRA below). The Core Strategy should follow a risk-based approach to the location of new development both in terms of the allocation of sites and the consideration of planning applications.
River Dee Catchment Flood Management Plan (2010)	To help understand the scale and extent of current and future flooding and in the future, and set policies for managing flood risk within the catchments.	The Core Strategy should follow a risk-based approach to the location of new development both in terms of the allocation of sites and the consideration of planning applications.
Merseyside Accessibility Strategy	<p>Is a (statutory) daughter document to the LTP. It sets out an assessment of accessibility problems across Merseyside and proposals for improving access to opportunities and services over the next five years within the context of the longer-term strategy of the LTP.</p> <p>The Merseyside Accessibility Strategy sets out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What the accessibility issues for Merseyside are. • Where barriers to accessing services exist. • How the Accessibility Strategy fits with key stakeholders respective agendas. • The approach to be adopted to deal with specific accessibility problems. • Potential funding streams. • Priorities and suggestions for joint working with key stakeholders to overcome accessibility problems. The Accessibility Strategy also contains a detailed Action Plan for overcoming accessibility barriers in the initial stages of the strategy. The strategy also sets out the key role of travel planning through the Merseyside TravelWise campaign, links with the revised Merseyside Bus Strategy and links with the TravelSafe initiative. 	Accessibility to basic services from new housing development is one of the key indicators that has to be measured in Annual Monitoring Reports. Building accessibility into DPDs should include data collection, local partnerships and use of accessibility mapping using Accession in analysing suitability of sites for allocation.

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Joint Municipal Waste Strategy for Merseyside 2005 (JMWMS)	<p>Key elements of the JMWMS are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and to deliver the overarching targets. • To develop optimal solutions that are environmentally and socially sustainable. • To inform and to educate the people of Merseyside about waste management. • For MWDA and its partner District Councils to work together to realise the benefits of economies of scale and to share the risks of implementing the JMWMS. • To encourage and to provide opportunity for community involvement in the JMWMS through support of the Merseyside Community Recycling Forum. • To promote effective joint decision making mechanisms between MWDA and the partner District Councils. <p>Key improvements are proposed under three main headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste Minimisation and Re-Use • Recycling and Composting • Recovery and Residual Waste Management 	Need to ensure approach to waste in the Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs is consistent with the waste strategy. The Merseyside and Halton Waste Partnership is currently updating the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) for 2012 – 2030 which will set new targets and objectives of how waste is dealt with in Merseyside.
Joint Waste Local Plan for Merseyside and Halton (Submission Draft February 2012)	The Waste Local Plan is a planning document concerned with the scale, location and type of facilities required to manage all types of waste, in Merseyside and Halton until 2027. Local Planning Authorities will be able to direct the waste industry to the most suitable locations and help resist planning applications for waste facilities in the wrong locations.	The policies within the Core Strategy should be consistent with the aims and objectives of the Waste Local Plan.

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North West England and North Wales Shoreline Management Plan2 (2011)	<p>Provides a large-scale assessment of the risks associated with erosion and flooding at the coast. It also presents policies to help manage these risks to people and to the developed, historic and natural environment in a sustainable manner. SMPs form an important part of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) strategy for managing risks due to flooding and coastal erosion (Defra, 20061). North West England and North Wales SMP2 identifies management policies for each section of the coastline based on four options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold the line • Advance the line • Managed realignment • No active intervention 	The Core Strategy and relevant DPDs should to take full account of the SMP recommendations with respect to areas at risk of flooding or coastal erosion together with the longer term predicted impacts of climate change
Cheshire Historic Landscape Characterisation (2007)	<p>Cheshire County Council carried out the Historic Landscape Characterisation of Cheshire (HLC), as part of a national programme developed and funded by English Heritage. The project encompassed Cheshire, the unitary authorities of Halton and Warrington and the metropolitan Borough of Wirral. HLC involves the examination of the modern landscape, in order to infer the historic processes that have formed that landscape as it is seen today. The modern landscape, field shape, settlement patterns etc, is systematically assessed and compared to 19th century Ordnance Survey maps to assess change and time depth. The collated data is held in a database, which can be analysed to produce broad or detailed historic landscape classifications, answer specific questions or map change and whose results can be displayed through a Geographic Information System (GIS) to produce map based interpretative models.</p> <p>Draft maps, report and datasets were produced in 2004. The final report and maps was made available in 2007.</p>	The Core Strategy and relevant DPDs will need to take it's conclusions into account to inform conservation and landscape policy.
Merseyside Historic Characterisation Project – Wirral Report 2011	Merseyside Archaeological Advisory Service (MAAS), National Museums Liverpool carried out the Merseyside Historic Landscape Characterisation Project, as part of a national programme developed and funded by English Heritage. The project produced a series of five separate reports for each of the Merseyside local authority areas which provide analysis of the historic character and management guidance.	It forms part of the evidence base for the DPD and is a tool to help make informed decisions on conservation and development proposals from a strategic level.

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Merseyside Code of Practice on Access and Mobility (2006)	<p>The Code of Practice seeks to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special consideration is given to ensure ease of access and movement for disabled people between and within public areas by the careful provision, siting and design of parking areas, paths, dropped kerbs, pedestrian crossings, street furniture and open space • Access to, and egress from, existing buildings and their surroundings is improved as opportunities arise through alterations, extensions and changes of use • In new developments, suitable provision is made for disabled people, both as employees and customers, in terms of facilities, access/egress and car parking. 	Ensure that policies in relevant DPDs support and do not conflict with the objectives of the code of practice.
Cheshire Biodiversity Action Plan (2008)	Based on ecological information and contains Action Plans for a number of priority habitats and species. Includes a monitoring framework.	The Core Strategy should have regard to the Cheshire BAP in formulating planning policies, especially in relation to biodiversity.
Liverpool City Region Visitor Economy Strategy to 2020 (2009)	<p>The visitor economy has been identified as one of the four transformational sectors in the Liverpool City Region and a key driver for broader regeneration. To achieve the Vision of a 50% growth in the Visitor Economy (£4.2 billion) by 2020 the Strategy identifies a series of aims for the City Region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver the highest quality experience for our visitors by investing in our public realm, our transport, visitor information and destination welcome • Secure public and private investment to improve the quality and range of our hotels, restaurants and attractions, our conference, exhibition and cultural venues and to attract major events • Help businesses in the Visitor Economy by working with them to improve their performance and productivity by sharing best practice • Promote the Visitor Economy as an aspirational career choice and address any skills gaps in the hospitality industry • Develop the Visitor Economy in a sustainable and responsible way • Promote the City Region through innovative and effective marketing activity, with a clear focus on our destination brands, key themes and well defined target markets <p>Related documents include: Liverpool City Region Visitor Economy 3 Year Action Plan – 2010-12 Destination Management Plan, Mersey Partnership</p>	The Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs should reflect the aims of the Strategy with spatial planning implications, particularly in relation to boosting tourism infrastructure

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DEFRA Noise Action Plan – Birkenhead Agglomeration	The Noise Action Plan is designed to address the management of noise issues and effects in the Birkenhead agglomeration. In particular, this Action Plan covers the noise issues arising from road, railway, aviation and industrial sources.	Relevant DPD's will need to have regard to potential noise issues, particularly with regard to industry, transport and infrastructure.
Liverpool City Region Low Carbon Economy Action Plan: Delivering Economic Growth 2011 – 2015 (The Mersey Partnership, 2011)	<p>The Action Plan forecasts that nearly 12,000 new jobs can be created in our low carbon economy over the next 5 years.</p> <p>This Action Plan sets out the potential in detail, identifying the priorities and the actions necessary to achieve it. Offshore Wind Energy, Microgeneration, Smart Grid and Retrofitting in particular offer substantial job creation opportunities building upon key assets, capabilities and businesses. Already an estimated 8,700 people are employed in Liverpool City Region in a diverse range of low carbon sub sectors in hundreds of businesses.</p>	Relevant DPD policies should promote the development and availability of renewable energy.
Liverpool City Region Sustainable Energy Action Plan (ARUP 2012)	<p>The SEAP aims to bring together, in one place, a programme of City Region scale with the potential to add value by enabling, among other things:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint EU funding and investment applications. • Efficiencies in the procurement of goods and services to deliver energy projects. • Increased scale of energy projects to improve rates of return to investors and de-risk investment decisions. • Development of a Liverpool City Region heat network. • Support for integrated programmes of action such as the development of a domestic, industrial and commercial retrofitting programme and an alternative fuel strategy for transport and energy infrastructure. • Development of a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) to reduce risk, attract subsidies, create revenues and bring economies of scale in the delivery of the programme. 	Relevant DPD policies should promote the development and availability of renewable energy.
Local Investment Plan 2 Liverpool City Region Housing & Spatial Planning Board 2011 – 2015 (2011)	<p>This second Local Investment Plan (LIP2) sets out how the City Region will create the environment to stimulate the private sector market to accelerate growth, re-balance the economy and deliver housing and neighbourhoods where people choose to live, work and visit. Key objectives for LIP2 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prioritising investment in transformational sectors and strategic investment locations such as Liverpool City Centre and developments along the Atlantic Gateway corridor • overcoming barriers to commercial investment – planning; access and infrastructure; and site availability and finance • maximising the impact of public sector investment and land assets • increasing the scale of economic activity and developing global markets 	Ensure that the Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs contribute to and support the delivery of the LCR Local Investment Plan.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> increasing the number of residents in work. <p>Housing will play a key role in supporting the City Region's economic ambitions. LIP2 has made a commitment to improve the choice and quality of homes and neighbourhoods. It will focus on ensuring existing stock is energy efficient, providing mixed tenure homes to meet the needs of local people, bringing 16,400 long-term empty properties back into use, tackling deprivation and worklessness and encouraging private sector-led housebuilding.</p>	
Liverpool City Region Ecological Framework (MEAS 2011)	<p>The Liverpool City Region (LCR) Ecological Framework sets out a strategic overview of the network of ecological resources, responsibilities and opportunities across the City Region. Its overall aim is to reduce the loss of and / or fragmentation of important habitats.</p> <p>Biodiversity, habitats and species - like green space in general - are important to a strong local economy, to local regeneration, to health and quality of life as well as to the environment.</p> <p>The Ecological Framework will help in protecting and enhancing habitats and species (including creation of new habitats); and their value, benefits and the 'natural services' they provide.</p> <p>This will help to make it easier for habitats and species in the City Region to cope with and adapt to climate change.</p>	The Core Strategy should have regard to the content of the Ecological Framework in determining policies in relation to Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity in particular.
Atlantic Gateway Business Plan (July 2012)	The Atlantic Gateway Business Plan sets out the vision, scale of opportunity and investment priorities and how Government and other partners can support Atlantic Gateway.	Will be taken into account when formulating policy for the Port Estate in DPDs and then in considering applications for port-related development, determined against the Policy within the Council's Core Strategy.
Liverpool City Region SuperPort Action Plan Delivering Economic Growth 2011 – 2020 (The Mersey Partnership 2011)	Economic analysis by AMION Consulting, based on available trend and capital investment project intelligence, has forecast the potential for over 21,000 new jobs and an additional £6.1bn of GVA to be created through SuperPort by 2020 and nearly 30,000 new jobs and an additional £18.3bn of GVA by 2030. Alongside the physical infrastructure, the Action Plan sets out the operational programme for engaging ports, carriers, importers, exporters, manufacturers and retailers and their current and prospective supply chains with SuperPort, creating new markets and transforming existing ones, for their benefit and that of the Liverpool City Region.	The Policy for Port-Related Development takes into account the strategic direction outlined in the Action Plan and will ensure that proposals will be well related to the Strategic Freight Network as well as making a useful contribution to existing infrastructure and contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. It will also ensure proposals assist in enhancing access to jobs, particularly in areas

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Mersey Ports Master Plan Consultation Draft (Peel Ports, June 2011)	<p>The Master Plan sets out the strategic role of the port and lists a series of key strategic business drivers within the Master Plan period.</p> <p>The Master Plan provides a framework for setting out the ports aspirations, including for the medium and long term, and will assist in informing the consideration or projects and planning applications made as and when necessary.</p>	Will be taken into account when formulating policy for the Port Estate in DPDs and then in considering applications for port-related development, determined against the Policy within the Council's Core Strategy.
Merseyside Minerals Resource Study (August 2008)	<p>The objectives of the study are set out below:</p> <p>Task 1:</p> <p>(i) Identify Merseyside's potentially viable mineral deposits and related infrastructure and indicate where the exploitation of deposits is constrained by development, or other environmental or planning policy reasons.</p> <p>(ii) Identify potential areas where mineral safeguarding policies could be applied, with appropriate justification.</p> <p>Task 2:</p> <p>Gauge the likely commercial interest in exploiting the identified mineral resources and related infrastructure in the period to 2020.</p> <p>Task 3:</p> <p>Provide advice on the most appropriate mechanism for Districts to deliver aggregate and minerals policy.</p>	Findings of the study should be taken into account when formulating minerals policy in the Core Strategy and in relevant DPDS.
Merseyside Rural Economy Action Plan Green Zone 2025 – An Economic Strategy for Rural Merseyside (December 2009)	<p>The strategy seeks to provide an over-arching approach to sustainable economic development across rural Merseyside. Analysis in support of this strategy has shown that the rural area must do several things to support sustainable economic growth across Merseyside:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It must maximise the sustainable productive capacity of its farmland, providing the highest quality raw materials for the food, drink and renewable energy sectors; • It must maximise the biodiversity that it supports, enabling flora and fauna to thrive and providing the best possible natural environment and green 	<p>The Core Strategy and relevant DPDs should apply the following strategic priorities that have been identified for developing rural Merseyside:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing Land to Deliver Value to All • Maximising Productivity and Competitive Businesses • Developing Rural Destinations • Planning for Multi - Functional Rural Settlements • Creating the Skills Needed for Transformation

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	<p>infrastructure for residents, businesses and visitors;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It must ensure that its countryside and green spaces are managed in as sustainable way as possible, providing a broad set of "ecosystem services" to urban neighbourhoods including clean air and water, flood alleviation and waste management; • It must develop its businesses, increasing their productivity and creating employment and support the establishment of new businesses through the provision of premises, the development of visitor destinations and by attracting entrepreneurs; and • It must develop its communities, ensuring that they are functionally sustainable and that they make their full contribution in the achievement of national, regional and sub-regional greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets. 	
Liverpool City Region City Deal (LEP, July 2012)	<p>The document aims to provide a platform to accelerate economic growth across the City Region and the wider Atlantic Gateway within the north of England. The six areas set out in the proposal are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An international Business Festival which showcases and celebrates business opportunities to Europe and the rest of the World, delivering £100m return on investment; • A low carbon red tape pilot that will aim to reduce regulatory burdens and streamline local planning processes to accelerate over £100m worth of investment in offshore wind infrastructure in the City Region and create 3,000 jobs; • To examine how the River Mersey can become the cleanest river in an urban setting by 2045, with the commensurate economic benefits; • To increase employment by combining up to £80m public and private employment and skills investments and empowering businesses to create more jobs, tackle skills gaps and raise productivity; supporting 17,400 people into work and creating 6,000 apprenticeships; • To put transport at the heart of economic development through a revised approach to governance and creation of a joint investment fund of £800m supporting the creation of 15,000 jobs; and • To harness the City Region's science and knowledge assets, attracting 'big science investment', increasing GVA and generating 2,000 high value jobs. 	<p>The Core Strategy and relevant DPDs should support the delivery of the aims of the City Region Deal addressing some long term structural issues including low business density, significant skills gaps, relatively high levels of unemployment, and relatively low productivity.</p>

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Mersey Waters Enterprise Zone Draft Implementation Plan (November 2011)	The implementation plan sets out how the Enterprise Zone will be brought forward, what occupiers locating within the zone can expect, along with the governance structure, key objectives and priorities for action. The document also identifies the Global Enterprise Zone Boundary, Enhanced Capital Allowances Area and Business Rate Relief Boundary Policy.	Relevant DPDs should support the delivery of the Enterprise Zone whilst recognising the potential introduction of a simplified planning environment or the use of Local Development Orders in adjacent areas.
Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership Economic Strategy (March 2011)	<p>The strategy sets out the LEP's economic objectives as growth, productivity and rebalancing the economy. Five areas are identified with the potential for sustained economic growth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge Economy • Visitor Economy • Low Carbon • SuperPort • Employment and Skills <p>Key tasks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing existing businesses and their productivity – especially small/ medium enterprises • Promoting and supporting enterprise – especially high value growth and employment • Attracting new businesses and professional firms and investment • Promoting and exploiting infrastructure and real estate projects and providing occupational space for existing and incoming businesses • Focusing on parts of the economy that have demonstrable potential for change • Creating new jobs for appropriately trained residents 	The Core Strategy and relevant DPDs should support the sustained economic growth of the identified sectors and delivering the key tasks, with a particular focus on growing the City Region's GVA, increasing business density and business outputs, and facilitating a shift away from public sector employment to business and industry.
Liverpool City Region Ecological Framework (MEAS 2011)	<p>The overall aim of the Liverpool City Region Ecological Framework is to reduce the loss of and / or fragmentation of important habitats; by improving the value of the core biodiversity resource and reconnecting important habitats thus providing greater resilience for natural assets. The Ecological Framework links closely with the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and the England Biodiversity Strategy, which have similar aims.</p> <p>The Strategic Overview is one element of the LCR Ecological Framework. It sets out the higher level strategic assets and opportunities that are needed to secure delivery</p>	The Core Strategy and relevant DPDs should have regard to the Ecological Framework and associated mapping data, particularly with regard to Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity policies.

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	of a step-change in biodiversity that will be supported by more district-specific delivery, as links and stepping stones are put in place.	
Green Infrastructure Framework for North East Wales, Cheshire and Wirral (Mersey Dee Alliance, 2011)	<p>The Framework addresses the natural environments within both the urban and rural locations of Denbighshire, Flintshire, Wrexham, Cheshire West and Chester, Cheshire East and the Wirral and sets out a vision of how a healthy natural environment can help sustain economic growth and self-supporting communities.</p> <p>The Framework's purpose is fourfold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to identify priorities for management of the natural environment across this wide area; • to support delivery of cross-boundary initiatives and local projects • to provide robust evidence for policy to protect and enhance the natural and historic environment in plans produced by local authorities, community partnerships and infrastructure providers • Address the conditions of the Growth Point 	The Core Strategy and relevant DPDs will have regard to the content of the Framework, particularly with regard to Green Infrastructure considerations.
LOCAL		
Wirral Investment Strategy 2011-2016	<p>Growing the local economy is identified as the top priority under the Investment Strategy. A range of opportunities and challenges are identified under the headings of infrastructure, business, skills and education, People and Jobs and Quality of Life. A number of priority projects are listed and seven key outcomes identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise productivity • Retain and increase the number of higher value jobs in the Borough • Encourage innovation and enterprise • Tackle skills and employment disparities • Develop and improve infrastructure • Develop the future viability of the existing employment space • Improve the availability of sites and premises for new investment 	Ensure that the Core Strategy and other DPDs contribute to and support the delivery of the Investment Strategy

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Wirral 2025 - <i>More Equal More Prosperous</i> - A Sustainable Community Strategy	<p>It sets out a long term, partnership vision of:</p> <p><i>A more prosperous and equal Wirral, enabling all communities and people to thrive and achieve their full potential</i></p> <p>We will therefore plan and work together to deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strong local economy for Wirral; • Safer, stronger communities in all parts of the borough • The best possible health and well-being for all families and individuals • Excellent life chances for children and young people • A high quality living and working environment • Sustainable, appropriate housing for all 	The Core Strategy and other DPDs need to have regard to the vision and objectives of the updated SCS.
Wirral Borough Council Corporate Plan 2012-2013	<p>The Corporate Plan sets out the broad strategic direction and priorities for the Council in relation to these corporate objectives. Its principle focus is delivering for Wirral residents healthier and more prosperous lives combined with a sense of well-being that permeates all levels of our society. The priorities in the Corporate Plan reflect the Council's contribution to the delivery of Wirral's Community Strategy and to national agendas such as decent housing, community safety, equalities and e-government.</p> <p>The plan sets out five policy priorities. These are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Delivering the improvement plan. 2. Addressing budget challenges. 3. Creating and safeguarding jobs and attracting new investment. 4. Keeping Wirral's children and vulnerable adults safe. 5. Making a start on reducing the life expectancy gap between the wealthier and poorer parts of the Borough. 	<p>The Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs should have regard to the Council's corporate objectives which have spatial planning implications. In particular they will need to consider:</p> <p>Provision of a range of sites and premises for employment development of the right type and in the right location.</p> <p>Ensure pleasant and secure neighbourhoods, achieving a high standard of design for new developments, and safeguard and enhance the quality of the built and natural environment in general.</p> <p>Ensure that new and existing developments are easily accessible to all sections of the community</p> <p>Continue support for urban regeneration, including the HMRI Pathfinder</p> <p>The provision of social infrastructure</p> <p>Provision of opportunities for recreation/tourism</p>

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Newheartlands - A Strategy for Inner Wirral 2004-2014	<p>The Strategy for Inner Wirral (2004-2014) establishes the overall strategic direction for the comprehensive regeneration of an area of 1,220 hectares containing some 45,750 residents on the eastern side of the Wirral peninsula adjacent to the River Mersey. The Strategy offers a ten-year programme of activity that will seek to redress the balance between failing housing markets and associated measures of deprivation.</p> <p>Three key themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing and the Environment • Access to Employment • Community Infrastructure <p>Five Neighbourhood Development Frameworks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rock Ferry • Tranmere • South Seacombe - Egremont • Poulton • Birkenhead <p>Other relevant documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NewHeartlands – North Birkenhead Framework for Regeneration • NewHeartlands – Church Road Masterplan • Wirral Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy 	<p>The Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs should reflect and support the delivery of those themes that have spatial planning implications and will need to reflect the objectives of the neighbourhood development frameworks and masterplans. Relevant DPDs/Core Strategy should aim to meet the housing needs of the whole community, providing wider housing opportunity and choice, a better mix, seek to create mixed communities including the provision of other infrastructure and access to employment opportunities.</p>
Integrated Regeneration Strategy for Birkenhead and Wirral Waters (July 2010)	<p>Study aims to secure integration of Peel Holdings' proposals for Wirral Waters with the surrounding area and the HMRI Pathfinder proposals. The study has created a new vision for Birkenhead underpinned by a series of guiding principles to inform the development of a single, integrated comprehensive spatial plan to address the key social, economic and environmental issues of the area. The study sets out eight thematic principles, each supported by a series of objectives to guide future development.</p>	<p>The Core Strategy should take account of the recommendations of the IRS.</p>

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Empty Property Strategy 2008 – 2011	<p>In summary the priorities for empty properties are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to employ effective methods of returning Empty Properties back into use through partnership working 2. Continue to support sustainable housing markets 3. Have a sound understanding of the vacancy trends and triggers through research, monitoring and better techniques for improving the quality of primary data. 4. Reduce the impact of empty properties and derelict land on communities 5. Make effective use of the enforcement toolkit 6. Continue to raise awareness of the community and partner organisations of the work of the Empty Property Team 7. Explore opportunities for long term funding to sustain the strategy beyond 2011 	Ensure that the Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs prioritise and facilitate the re-use of existing buildings over new and re-development.
Wirral Cultural Strategy 2002-2007	<p>Wirral's Cultural Strategy aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop services which are in touch with the people of Wirral, influenced by them and responsive to their changing needs and expectations. • Develop policies, services and activities that address the national cross-cutting agendas of public health, community safety, social inclusion, environmental sustainability, regeneration and lifelong learning and to address the local authority's corporate objectives. • Improve access to culture and cultural activities for all people, widening the user base and persuading users to continue taking part. • Inform people in a clear and positive manner about what is available, as well as when, where and how they can participate. • Offer value-for-money services, which are friendly, welcoming and measurable against published criteria. <p>Includes Cultural and Leisure Strategy Survey</p> <p>Other relevant documents:</p> <p>Wirral Parks and Open Spaces Strategy Wirral Playing Pitch Assessment – Strategy and Action Plan 2004.</p>	The Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs should reflect and support the delivery of the aims in the Cultural Strategy which have spatial planning implications, in particular, ensuring that cultural and sports facilities are accessible to all sectors of the community.

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Wirral Biodiversity Action Plan	<p>Five broad objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maintain and where practicable to enhance the quality and range of wildlife habitats and ecosystems on Wirral; • To maintain and where practicable to enhance overall populations and natural ranges of native species on Wirral • To contribute to the conservation of internationally and nationally important and threatened species • To increase public awareness of and involvement in conserving biodiversity; • To identify priorities for habitat and species conservation and set realistic targets and timescales for these. <p>9 habitat and 16 species action plans included</p>	<p>The Core Strategy and relevant DPDs should reflect and support the delivery of those priorities which have spatial planning implications, in particular safeguarding and enhancing the habitats and species identified in the Wirral BAP. In addition, it should identify all designated wildlife sites and apply the appropriate level of protection.</p>
Wirral LA21 Action Plan	<p>LA21 Action Plan published in 2000. Not updated LA21 principles now incorporated into new strategies and plans across the Council. Key principles are to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote healthy and productive lifestyles in harmony with the environment. • Conserve Wirral's heritage, actively encouraging schemes which improve Wirral's quality of life. • Make better use of local and global resources. • Develop skills that have very little impact on the environment, and minimise waste. • Set targets and regularly review progress towards sustainability. • Accept individual and collective responsibility for the global environment. • Promote local assets. • Maintain bio-diversity. • Encourage partnerships between the Council and the community, • Encourage personal and community ownership of local schemes. • Embrace community initiatives on Local Agenda 21 themes. • Involve young people in decisions being made about their environment. • Raise awareness of LA21 issues. • Promote LA21 to as wide an audience as possible. • Share information with the community. 	<p>The Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs should reflect and support the delivery of those principles that have spatial planning implications. In particular, they should include policies that are economically, socially and environmentally balanced and that promote sustainable development.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree what can be done to move towards a better long-term future 	
NHS Wirral Strategic Plan 2008-13	<p>Describes how local health services and other local agencies will contribute to improving health and health care</p> <p>The Strategic Plan responds to key health needs, seeking to promote choices. Its aim is to improve life expectancy and reduce inequalities. The PCT will drive improvements in the main causes of mortality and unhealthy lifestyles in Wirral - alcohol, cancer, cardiopulmonary disease, cardiovascular disease, mental health, obesity, smoking, and sexual health. The PCT will address the needs of an increasingly ageing population and will work with partners to ensure that it responds to the needs of vulnerable children and young people. The plan sets out a vision of 'NHS Wirral – Working Together for a Healthier Future'</p> <p>To achieve this vision, NHS Wirral has four strategic aspirations to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • involve and empower people • target inequalities through effective partnerships • ensure excellence in our health services • be a high performance, high reputation organisation 	A particularly important issue for the Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs is ensuring that the spatial planning framework for the Borough contributes to a reduction in health inequalities.
An Economic Strategy for Rural Merseyside: Local Authority Summary for Wirral	<p>The Strategy document sits beneath the Sub Regional Economic Strategy for Rural Merseyside and sets out the key issues for Wirral, under the headings of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demographic and Social Background • Household Income • Structure of the Rural Economy • Employment • Analysis of GVA <p>It sets out five Strategic Priorities which seek to ensure the Rural Area identified by Wirral makes the maximum contribution to the local economy possible.</p>	<p>The Core Strategy and relevant DPDs should apply the following strategic priorities that have been identified for developing rural Merseyside:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing Land to Deliver Value to All • Maximising Productivity and Competitive Businesses • Developing Rural Destinations • Planning for Multi - Functional Rural Settlements <p>Creating the Skills Needed for Transformation</p>

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Wirral Economic Profile (July 2012)	<p><u>ECONOMIC PROFILE – ISSUES</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projected rising population, but an ageing population – falling working age population (5% decrease by 2030) • Concentrations of worklessness and economic activity in disadvantaged communities • Concentrations of young people not in education, employment or training • Lowest GVA per capita in the country (i.e. low economic performance) • Lowest job density in LCR – shortage of jobs in Wirral • Economy primarily made up of small or medium sized enterprises (growth has been in micro-businesses) • High levels of outward commuting to access higher paid employment • Some poorly performing employment sites, limited office market and falling land values • Low levels of VAT registered businesses • Public sector dependant. Retail and manufacturing sectors above national average. Needs to attract more employment opportunities in high value service based sectors, whilst maintaining retail and manufacturing base • Target efforts on increasing share of larger size employment bands <p><u>ECONOMIC PROFILE – STRENGTHS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GVA has increased • Good levels of skills and education amongst residents • Increasing business start-ups • Some world class businesses e.g. Unilever, Bristol Myers and maritime sector located here • Successful Wirral Apprentice programme • Micro-business growth high 	Sustainability Appraisal will enable progress against issues identified for the Borough to be monitored effectively. Relevant DPD policies should target employment development to sectors and areas of greatest need.

Plan, Programme, Strategy or Initiative	Key Objectives relevant to Development Plan Documents and Sustainability Appraisal	Implications for Development Plan Documents (DPDs)/Sustainability Appraisal
Mersey Coastal Parks Strategy	<p>The Mersey Coastal Park Strategy is a programme designed to regenerate 6.5km of coastline. The Strategy is based around six signature projects which will improve access to this long neglected stretch of coastline. The projects are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rock Ferry Waterfront Regeneration Scheme - Led by RMYC • Rock Park Conservation Area and Esplanade • Shorefields Community Park • Newlands 2 Bromborough Landfill Site • Wirral International Business Park • Eastham Country Park 	The Core Strategy seeks to support the proposals contained within the Coastal Parks Strategy provided they do not conflict with other policies.
Wirral's Housing Strategy 2011–2026	Wirral's Housing Strategy 2011–2026 sets the strategic framework for future housing policy and investment requirements in Wirral. The key strategic aims are to respond to long term changes in the population; make better use of existing housing stock; encourage people to stay within the borough; increase the availability of housing and delivering affordable homes; make homes warmer; support vulnerable people; and support employment, learning and skills.	The Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs should reflect and support the delivery of those priorities which have spatial planning implications. In particular, continued support for the delivery of affordable homes and the re-use of existing housing stock.
Wirral Housing Market Assessment and Affordable Housing Viability Study 2010	The Housing Market Assessment 2010 assesses Wirral's housing needs and identifies the scale and mix of housing and the range of tenures that the local population is likely to need over the plan period. It provides evidence for the target levels for affordable housing that could be justified and sought through new development, based on the analysis and evidence of Wirral's housing requirements. The Housing Market Assessment is supported by an Affordable Housing Viability Study, which tests the viability of the targets levels for affordable housing recommended in the Housing Market Assessment.	The Core Strategy should take account of the findings of the Housing Market Assessment and Affordable Housing Viability Study.
Wirral Heritage Strategy	The Strategy's purpose is to set out a comprehensive and integrated heritage framework for Wirral borough, which will form the basis for heritage activities in the short and medium terms and establish principles to be followed in the longer term. It has been developed with the help of national and regional strategic organisations and many local groups and stakeholders and seeks to encompass their concerns, views and aspirations.	The Core Strategy and relevant DPDs should take account of the aspirations of the Strategy.

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Wirral Climate Change Action Plan	The Council's Climate Change Strategy has concentrated on initiatives based on awareness, adaption, energy and transport. An initial target to achieve a 20% reduction in carbon emissions by 2010 was achieved at the end of 2007. The revised headline targets agreed by the Council are to reduce carbon emissions by 60% by 2025 and to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.	Relevant policies in the Core Strategy should reflect the targets set out in the Climate Change Action Plan.
Wirral Enterprise Strategy (2007)	Embracing Change: an Enterprise Strategy for Wirral will set the direction for Enterprise policy in Wirral over the next decade. The Strategy identifies the key priorities that must be pursued in the short, medium and long term to bring about the desired step change in economic and enterprise performance required to close the enterprise gap with better performing locations.	Relevant Policies in the Core Strategy and DPDs should take account of the direction of the Enterprise Strategy.
Employment for All: A Full Employment Strategy for Wirral (2006)	Wirral MBC has undertaken a major strategic exercise to plan a decade of investment in the borough. Locally, the Council is keen to contribute to the economy of the Liverpool City region, and to build the aspirations of local residents.	Relevant Policies in the Core Strategy and DPDs should take account of the direction of the Employment Strategy.
Wirral Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (2011)	<p>Under these Regulations, Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs) are responsible for undertaking a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) for local flood risk, from surface runoff, groundwater and ordinary watercourses. The PFRA is a high level screening exercise which involves collecting information on past (historic) and future (potential) floods, assembling it into a preliminary assessment report, and using it to agree local surface water information and identify Flood Risk Areas (areas where the risk of flooding is significant i.e. more than 30,000 properties at risk)</p> <p>No significant historic local flooding or significant future local flood risk has been identified as part of this PFRA process and Wirral has adopted the Flood Map for Surface Water (FMfSW) for its locally agreed surface water risk.</p> <p>The local flooding that has occurred together with identified future flood risk from the surface water flood risk maps will form the basis of the Wirral Flood Risk Management Strategy and be supported by this report.</p> <p>In accordance with the Flood Risk Regulations 2009, this Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment will be reviewed in 6 yrs (2017).</p>	Relevant Policies in the Core Strategy and DPDs should take account of the Flood Risk Areas identified. The Core Strategy should follow a risk-based approach to the location of new development both in terms of the allocation of sites and the consideration of planning applications.

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Other local considerations	<p>Various objectives, most of which are directly relevant to the Core Strategy. Considerations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wirral Core Strategy evidence base studies • National Heritage List for England • National Heritage At Risk Register • Conservation Areas • National and International nature conservation designations (SPA/ SAC/ RAMSAR / SSSI) • Wirral Sites of Biological Importance update (January 2011) • Wirral Sites of Geological Importance update (September 2011) • Notified Hazardous Installations (HSE) • Airport Safeguarding Zones (CAA) • Development Plans for neighbouring local authorities – Local Plans for Sefton, Liverpool, Cheshire West and Chester (emerging), Flintshire UDP 2000 - 2015. • Environment Agency Flood Zone Mapping 	Ensure the Core Strategy and other relevant DPDs adequately cover and respond to the issues raised by the plans /programmes /initiatives set out.