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1

Introduction

The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) process is an integral part of the production of the Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) and its primary purpose is to promote sustainable development.

Sustainable development is a term that covers environmental, social and economic issues. In the 2005 UK Sustainable Development Strategy 'Securing the Future', the Government has identified five key themes:

1. Respecting the limits of the planet's environment, resources and biodiversity to improve our environment and ensure that the natural resources are unimpaired.
2. Meeting the diverse needs of all people in existing and future communities - promoting personal wellbeing, social cohesion and inclusion, and creating equal opportunity for all.
3. Building a strong, stable and sustainable economy providing prosperity and opportunities for all and efficient use of resources.
4. Actively promoting effective, participative

systems of governance in all levels of society to engage people's creativity, energy, and diversity.

5. Ensuring policy is developed and implemented on the basis of strong scientific evidence whilst taking into account public attitudes and values.

The SA is a process by which the likely significant environmental, social and economic effects of a plan can be identified and reported. It enables potential adverse impacts to be identified at an early stage and where possible avoided, or reduced by mitigation.

Every DPD needs to be accompanied by a SA. This is required by the Strategic Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, which incorporate the requirements of the EU Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive 2001/42/EC.

The first stage of the SA process involves the production of a scoping report, whose purpose is to establish whether the right information is being focussed on and to ascertain whether there are any further issues that need to be

addressed in the full SA report.

It also seeks to ascertain whether the assessment criteria proposed are appropriate, comprehensive and robust enough to support the DPD during the later stages of public consultation and examination.

This Scoping Report has been prepared for consultation. It sets out the proposed sustainability objectives and assessment framework that will be used to assess the potential impacts of allocating land for different uses within the Borough.

The Council welcomes your comments on the content of this Scoping Report. Any responses received will be taken into account and will help inform the adopted sustainability objectives and assessment framework for the Site Allocations DPD.

Where to view the documents

You can view the Site Allocations DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and the accompanying associated documents (outlined in chapter 2) either online or at your local council office or public library:

- Online:
www.allerdale.gov.uk/siteallocations
- At the Council offices:
Workington: Allerdale House, New Bridge Street
Maryport: Town Hall, Senhouse Street
Wigton: Customer Service Centre, Market Hall, Church Street
Cockermouth: Customer Service Centre, Fairfield car park
- At public libraries:
Aspatria Library: The Brandshaw
Cockermouth Library: Main Street
Maryport Library: Lawson Street
Silloth Library: Solway Community School, Liddell Street
Wigton Library: High Street
Workington Library: Vulcans Lane

How to Comment

To comment on the Site Allocations DPD Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report document you can

- Download the comments form from our website:

www.allerdale.gov.uk/siteallocations

and email the completed form to:

siteallocations@allerdale.gov.uk

- Request a hard copy of the comments form from:

**Planning Policy
Allerdale Borough Council
Allerdale House
Workington
Cumbria
CA14 3YJ**

Or by telephoning **01900 702610**

Comments forms should be returned by post to the above address or handed in at the Council's offices at Allerdale House, Workington. Office opening are 8:45am - 5:00pm Monday to Thursday and 8:45am - 4:30 pm on Fridays.

Although it is preferable if comments are submitted on the comments form, emails or letters to the addresses listed above are also welcome.

Please contact the Planning Policy Team by email at siteallocatons@allerdale.gov.uk or by telephoning 01900 702610 if you would like more information on the consultation, help making a comment or you would like this document in an alternative format.

All comments regarding the Site Allocations DPD Sustainability Scoping Report document must be received by 22 November 2013, no later than 4pm.

2

Setting the context of the Site Allocations DPD

The Site Allocations DPD constitutes Part 2 of the replacement Allerdale Local Plan. It follows on from the Strategic and Development Management Policies DPD, which forms Part 1.

The Strategic and Development Management Policies DPD sets out the framework for the Site Allocations DPD by:

- Identifying the settlement hierarchy for the Borough comprising of five tiers:
 - Principal Service Centre
 - Key Service Centres
 - Local Service Centres
 - Limited Growth Villages
 - Infill/Rounding Off Villages
- Setting out the future role, function and spatial objectives of each of the five tiers of the settlement hierarchy
- Indicating the level of housing and employment development for each of the five tiers of the settlement hierarchy

As the strategic policy framework is set by Policy S3 of the Strategic and Development Management Policies DPD, the Site Allocations DPD will be restricted to two

principal roles:

1. Identifying sites for allocation within the
 - Principal Service Centre
 - Key Service Centres
 - Local Service Centres

This will be done in accordance with the role function, spatial objectives and level of development set out for each tier as indicated in policy S3. A broad range of uses such as housing, employment, open space and nature conservation will be considered.
2. Defining revised development boundaries for the Principal and Key Service Centres, Local Service Centres and Limited Growth Villages

Allerdale Borough Council is at the first stage in the production of the Site Allocations DPD. This stage involves three separate pieces of work:

- (a) Establishing the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal and assessment methodology
- (b) Establishing the type of sites for which land must be found and the issues to be addressed

- (c) Establishing the methodology for the assessment of sites

Establishing the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal and assessment methodology

This SA Scoping Report has been prepared for consultation to ensure that the scope and level of detail of the final SA is appropriate and will cover the key sustainability issues.

It provides a review of plans, policies and programmes that are relevant to the preparation of the DPD and an overview of the Borough from economic, social and environmental perspectives. From this the key sustainability issues have been identified, which in turn have informed the appraisal framework and criteria proposed.

Establishing the type of sites for which land must be found and the issues to be addressed

A Discussion Paper has been produced for consultation to help establish the scope of the Site Allocations DPD. It sets out the spatial issues for each key topic area that are

identified in the Strategic and Development Management Policies DPD and the types of sites that could be allocated and/or designated.

This document can be viewed online at www.allerdale.gov.uk/siteallocations or any local council office or library.

Establishing the methodology for the assessment of sites

This Site Assessment Methodology document has been produced for consultation. Its purpose is to set the framework and criteria for the assessment of sites.

The objective is to ensure that landowners, land agents, developers, statutory consultees and local communities are confident that that the proposed approach to assessing the suitability of sites submitted for consideration will be appropriate, consistent and transparent.

This document can be viewed online at www.allerdale.gov.uk/siteallocations or any local council office or library.

3

Defining sustainability appraisal requirements

The sustainability appraisal process

The European Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (2001/142/EC) requires the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment. The objectives of this directive are:

‘[...] to provide a high level of protection to the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development.’

This is translated into UK law under Section 39 (2) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (“the 2004 Guidance”), which require that a sustainability appraisal (SA) must be undertaken for all new development plan documents.

The 2004 Guidance states that the environmental requirements of the Directive must be incorporated into the SA process and,

in addition, it must also consider economic and social objectives.

The 2005 document ‘Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents’ (“the 2005 Guidance”) advocates a five-stage approach to the process as follows:

- Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope.
- Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects.
- Stage C: Preparing the SA Report.
- Stage D: Consulting on the preferred options of the DPD (or Draft SPD) and the SA Report.
- Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the DPD/SPD.

Table 1 summarises the sections within the SA procedure that meet the requirements of SEA.

Table 1: SEA Requirements and Relationship with SA

Requirements	SA Stage where requirements are met
Preparation of an environmental report in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme and reasonable alternatives taking into account the geographical scope of the plan or programme are identified, described and evaluated. (Art. 5 and Annex 1):	
a. An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes;	A
b. The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme;	A
c. The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;	A
d. Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC	A
e. The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation;	A
f. The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors;	B, C

Table 1: SEA Requirements and Relationship with SA (contd)

Requirements	SA Stage where requirements are met
g. The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme;	B, C
h. An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information;	B, C
i. A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Article 10;	C, E
j. A non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings;	B, C
<p>Consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the environmental report (Art. 5.4) • Authorities with environmental responsibility and the public shall be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the accompanying environmental report before the adoption of the plan or programme (Art. 6.1, 6.2) • Other EU Member States, where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that country (Art. 7) 	<p>A</p> <p>B, D</p> <p>B, D</p>
Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultation into account in decision-making (Art. 8)	D

Table 1: SEA Requirements and Relationship with SA (contd)

Requirements	SA Stage where requirements are met
<p>Provision of information on the decision:</p> <p>When the plan or programme is adopted, the public and any countries consulted under Art. 7 shall be informed and the following made available to those so informed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan or programme as adopted; • A statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme and how the environmental report pursuant to Article 5, the opinions expressed pursuant to Article 6 and the results of consultations entered into pursuant to Article 7 have been taken into account in accordance with Article 8, and the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of other reasonable alternatives dealt with • The measures decided concerning monitoring (Art. 9 and 10) 	D
<p>Monitoring of the significant environmental effects of the plan's or programme's implementation (Art. 10)</p>	E
<p>Quality assurance: environmental reports should be of a sufficient standard to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive (Art.12)</p>	

4

Sustainability appraisal scoping tasks

Sustainability Appraisal Stage A

Stage A of the process involves setting the context of the sustainability appraisal (SA) against which the Site Allocations DPD will be assessed. The 2005 Guidance identifies 5 key tasks within stage A, which are identified in Table 2.

Table 2: Key Tasks of Stage A

A1	Identifying other relevant policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives to document how the plan is affected by outside measures.
A2	Collecting baseline information to provide an evidence base for sustainability issues, effects, prediction and monitoring.
A3	Identifying sustainability issues and problems to help focus the Sustainability Appraisal and develop sustainable plan objectives and options.
A4	Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework to provide a means by which the sustainability of the plan can be appraised.
A5	Consulting on the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal to ensure the appraisal covers the key sustainability issues.

Task A1

This task involves reviewing the plans and programmes that may be relevant to the Site Allocations DPD in order to identify any social, environmental and economic objectives contained within them that should be reflected in the SA process. It will also identify key sustainability issues that might influence the preparation of the Site Allocations DPD.

A number of plans and programmes were identified and their implications for the Site Allocations DPD and SA assessed. A summary of these and key findings are presented in chapter 5. The full results of the review are presented in Appendix 1.

The plans and programmes reviewed include:

- International and EU level initiatives such as Directives and Sustainability Conventions.
- National level policies and strategies such as the National Planning Policy Framework, White Papers and the UK Sustainable Development Strategy.
- Other relevant social, environmental and economic plans and strategies at the county and local level.

Compliance with SEA Directive:

The SEA Directive requires that the Environmental Report should provide information on:

“[...] the relationship [of the plan or programme] with other relevant plans and programmes” (Annex I (a))

Task A2

Both the SA guidance and the SEA Directive require information to be set out on

‘[...] the relevant aspects of the state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without the implementation of the plan or programme’

This task involves reviewing baseline data in relation to social, economic and environmental issues. The data, where available, should show trends in order to establish whether the situation is getting better or worse. The data should also be compared to that at other geographical levels.

Task A2 will help in the identification of key sustainability issues in the area (Task A3) and

will feed also into the development of the SA Framework (Task A4) as relevant objectives and indicators will be developed based on the issues identified.

The review of economic, social and environmental baseline data in relation to the Borough is set out in chapter 6. The review encompasses the questions, where relevant, that are set out in ‘A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive’ (ODPM, 2005):

- What is the current situation? What do trends and projections indicate for the future?
- How far is the current situation from any established thresholds or targets?
- Are particularly sensitive or important elements of the economy, physical environment or community affected e.g. skills shortages, endangered species or rare habitats and vulnerable social groups?
- Are the problems reversible or irreversible, permanent or temporary?
- How difficult would it be to offset or remedy any damage?
- Have there been significant cumulative

effects?

Compliance with SEA Directive

The SEA Directive requires that the Environmental Report should provide information on:

“[...] relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme” and “the environmental characteristics of the areas likely to be significantly affected.” (Annex I (b), (c))

Task A3:

This task involves identifying sustainability issues to help develop appraisal objectives and assessment criteria.

The review of relevant plans and programmes and objectives (Task A1) and the collection and review of social, economic and environmental baseline data (Task A2) will assist in the completion of this task.

As the purpose of the Site Allocations DPD is to allocate sites in accordance with the development framework set out in the Strategic

and Development Management Policies DPD, some of the sustainability issues identified for the Strategic and Development Management Policies DPD continue to be relevant and have therefore been carried over.

The key sustainability issues that are considered relevant to the Site Allocations DPD are outlined in chapter 7.

Compliance with the SEA Directive

The SEA Directive requires that the Environmental Report should provide information on:

“[...] any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC” (Annex I (c))

Task A4:

This task involves developing the SA framework, using the information and finding from the provisions three stages: A1, A2 and A3. From this contextual data and information

the sustainability objectives, indicators and targets will be developed.

The SA framework jointly developed with the other planning authorities in the Cumbria sub-region (and used to appraise the Strategic and Development Management Policies DPD (Allerdale Local Plan Part 1) has been used as a basis for the appraisal of the Site Allocations DPD.

However, the 2005 Guidance states that Sustainability Appraisals should reflect the nature and scope of the DPD to which they relate. As the Site Allocations DPD differs in focus from the Strategic and Development Management Policies DPD, the Cumbrian SA framework has been modified to enable it to be used to appraise individual sites.

As part of the exercise a screening exercise has been undertaken in order to identify which of the 16 objectives and 51 sub-objectives in the Cumbria SA framework were relevant to the Site Allocations DPD.

15 of the 16 of the sustainability objectives are considered to be relevant. Only 28 of the 51 sustainability sub-objectives are considered to

be relevant, which is indicative of the narrower scope of the Site Allocations DPD.

The proposed SA assessment framework for the Site Allocations DPD is outlined in chapter 8.

Task A5:

This task involves consulting relevant authorities, the public and other key stakeholders on the scope of the appraisal and the key issues and possible options for solutions

A key component of the sustainability appraisal process is consultation with stakeholders and agreement. The consultation throughout this period will be in accordance with:

- Article 6 of the European Union Directive 2001/42/EC.
- Regulations set out in the Environmental Assessments of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.
- Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 (as amended).

In order to meet the requirements of the SEA

Directive the views of the three statutory environmental bodies (i.e. English Heritage, Natural England and the Environment Agency) must be sought in relation to the scope and level of detail of the environmental information to be included in the SA Report.

In addition, Government guidance states that it is desirable for other bodies to be consulted as considered appropriate and they should seek to ensure that there is a balance between these bodies with those concerned with social, environmental and economic issues. Therefore the consultation will also extend to those individuals, agencies and bodies identified in the adopted Allerdale Statement of Community Involvement.

The proposed methodology for the consultation on the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal is outlined in chapter 9.

5

Task A1: Review of relevant policies, plans and programmes

The 2005 Guidance requires that scoping reports set out the context for the sustainability appraisal. This involves reviewing the policies, plans, and programmes that have implications for the Site Allocations DPD as well as identifying relevant sustainability objectives within the Plan Area

The higher level plans and programmes at the international or European level have little direct relevance to the detail within the Site Allocations DPD, other than on a contextual basis. Whilst many of these will not have a direct impact on the Site Allocations DPD, it was considered important to list these as they have influenced the Strategic and Development Management Policies DPD, which in turn will influence the allocation of sites.

The broad perspective of the higher level plans tends to be reflected in the lower level plans at the national or regional level. These have more of a direct influence as they identify sustainability issues and objectives at the local level that can be incorporated into the SA framework.

There are a number of key messages arising

from the review that will need to be taken into account in the Site Allocations DPD, which can be summarised as follows:

Population

- Ensure that the development needs as a result of population growth and the increase in single person households are met
- Plan for the social needs of older people, including suitable housing provision

Health and deprivation

- Reduce the disparity in levels of socio-economic deprivation between the less and more prosperous communities
- Ensure that local communities have access to adequate healthcare facilities
- Ensure that local communities have access to sports and leisure facilities
- Protect the environment and human health from pollution

Economy and employment

- Support economic growth and regeneration
- Support the diversification of the industrial base
- Improve educational and skills attainment

- Support and diversify the tourism sector
- Focus on town centres for developments that attract a large number of people especially retail and office uses
- Support the growth of the knowledge economy and the development of the environmental technology and nuclear sectors

Transport and accessibility

- Reduce the need to travel by taking an integrated approach to land use and transport
- Ensure that developments incorporate design elements that enable good accessibility for those with disabilities
- Ensure that new development is located in areas that reduce dependency on the private car

Housing

- Support the creation of a mixed and balanced housing market
- Ensure the accommodation needs of gypsies, travellers and travelling show people are met
- Provide affordable housing to help meet

identified needs

Climate change and flooding

- Reduce levels of air, noise and light pollution
- Take a holistic approach to managing flood risk and consider the interrelationship between development and water management
- Reduce energy use, increase the efficiency of energy used and increase renewable and low carbon energy generation
- Reduce the production of waste and consumption of materials and promote recycling
- Ensure that all developments follow sustainable design principles in terms of the function and layout of new development and buildings
- Encourage the reuse of previously developed land

Crime and safety

- Create cohesive communities and promote social inclusion
- Create safer, more secure communities with

less fear of crime

Cultural heritage

- Protect the historic assets and landscapes
- Protect and enhance local character, distinctiveness and sense of place
- Ensure that local communities have access to arts and cultural facilities

Physical and community infrastructure

- Ensure that adequate physical and community infrastructure is provided to support growth and development
- Encourage high standards of design in new development
- Improve access to green space, including ecological functional green space
- Ensure that local communities have access to adequate healthcare facilities
- Ensure that local communities have access to sports and leisure facilities
- Protect the open countryside and nationally protected landscapes
- Identify and develop a network of strategic green infrastructure

Natural environment

- Protect and restore biodiversity, geology and geomorphology
- Protect important wildlife habitats and species
- Safeguard and seek to improve air quality, soil and water quality
- Protect the best and more versatile agricultural land
- Maximise opportunities to remediate contaminated land

A full list of plans, policies and programmes (PPP) reviewed is provided in Appendix 1, which identifies:

- The key objectives relevant to the plan and SA
- The key targets and indicators relevant to the plan and SA
- The implications for the plan and SA
- The relevant Sustainability Objectives.

6

Task A2: Economic, social and environmental characteristics

The 2005 Guidance requires that scoping reports provides an overview of the social, economic and environmental situation in order to identify the main issues within the area covered by the development plan document.

Furthermore, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)¹¹, paragraph 158 states:

“[...] Each local planning authority should ensure that the Local Plan is based on adequate, up-to-date and relevant evidence about the economic, social and environmental characteristics and prospects of the area. Local planning authorities should ensure that their assessment of and strategies for housing, employment and other uses are integrated, and that they take full account of relevant market and economic signals.”

Baseline information has been collected under the following topic headings:

- 6A: Population and demography
- 6B: Health and deprivation
- 6C: Economy and employment
- 6D: Transport and accessibility
- 6E: Housing
- 6F: Climate change and flooding
- 6G: Crime and safety
- 6H: Cultural heritage
- 6I: Physical and community infrastructure
- 6J: Natural environment

The data review and commentary seeks to answer the following questions in accordance with the 2005 Guidance:

- How good or bad is the current situation? Do trends show that it is getting better or worse?
- How far is the current situation from any established thresholds or targets?
- Are particularly sensitive or important elements of the receiving environment affected, e.g. vulnerable social groups, non-renewable resources, endangered species, rare habitats?
- Are the problems reversible or irreversible, permanent or temporary?
- How difficult would it be to offset or remedy any damage?
- Have there been significant cumulative or synergistic effects over time?

Overview of the area

Allerdale is located in Cumbria in the northwest of England and is bordered to the west by the Solway Firth and Irish Sea, and to the north across the Solway, Scotland. Within Cumbria, Allerdale's neighbours include Carlisle City Council and Eden District Council to the east and to the south Copeland and South Lakeland District Councils. The southeast

quarter of the Borough (an area of 763km²) lies within the Lake District National Park.

The Borough is predominately rural in nature with an overall population density of 78 people per square kilometre making it in 2011 the 19th least densely populated local authority. This is most noticeable in the north where settlements are small and dispersed while the main urban centres are located in the south, where the majority of the population resides.

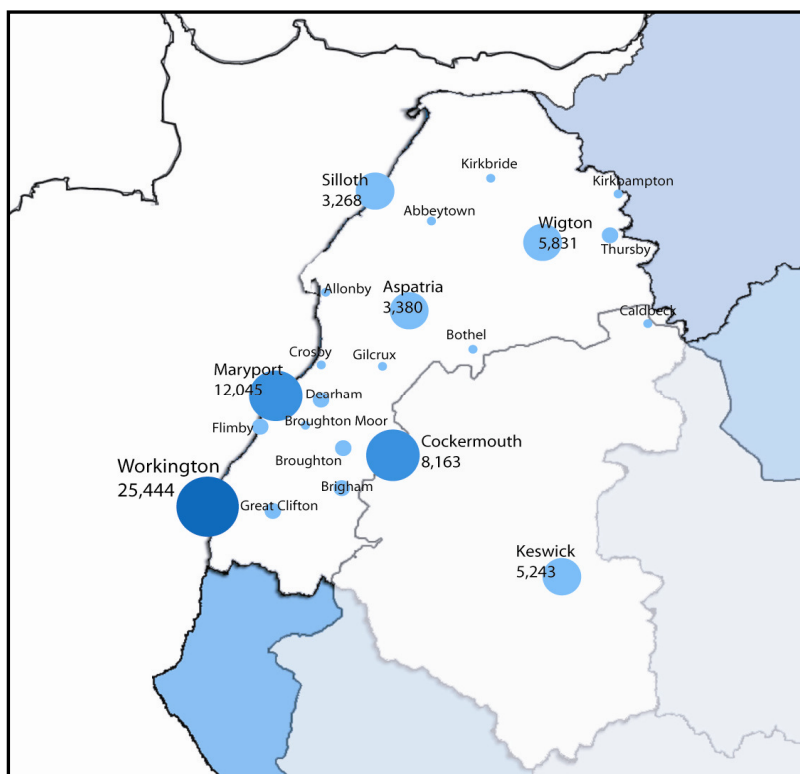


Fig 1: Allerdale administrative area and key settlements

6A: Population and demography

In 2011 the total population of Allerdale reached 96,400. The population of the Borough has remained relatively stable over the last 20 years, with an increase of only 300 residents over the period 1991-2011.

However there has been two distinct trends within this timeframe: a decline in population between 1991-2001, which has been reversed

during the subsequent 10 years 2001-2011. Fig 2 illustrates the mid-year population estimates, with only 1991, 2001 and 2011 representing the actual recorded resident population. The jump between 2010 and 2011 illustrates the under-estimation made between 2002-2010

This growth trend is forecast to continue over the next 10 years as a result of a rise in birth rates and in-migration.

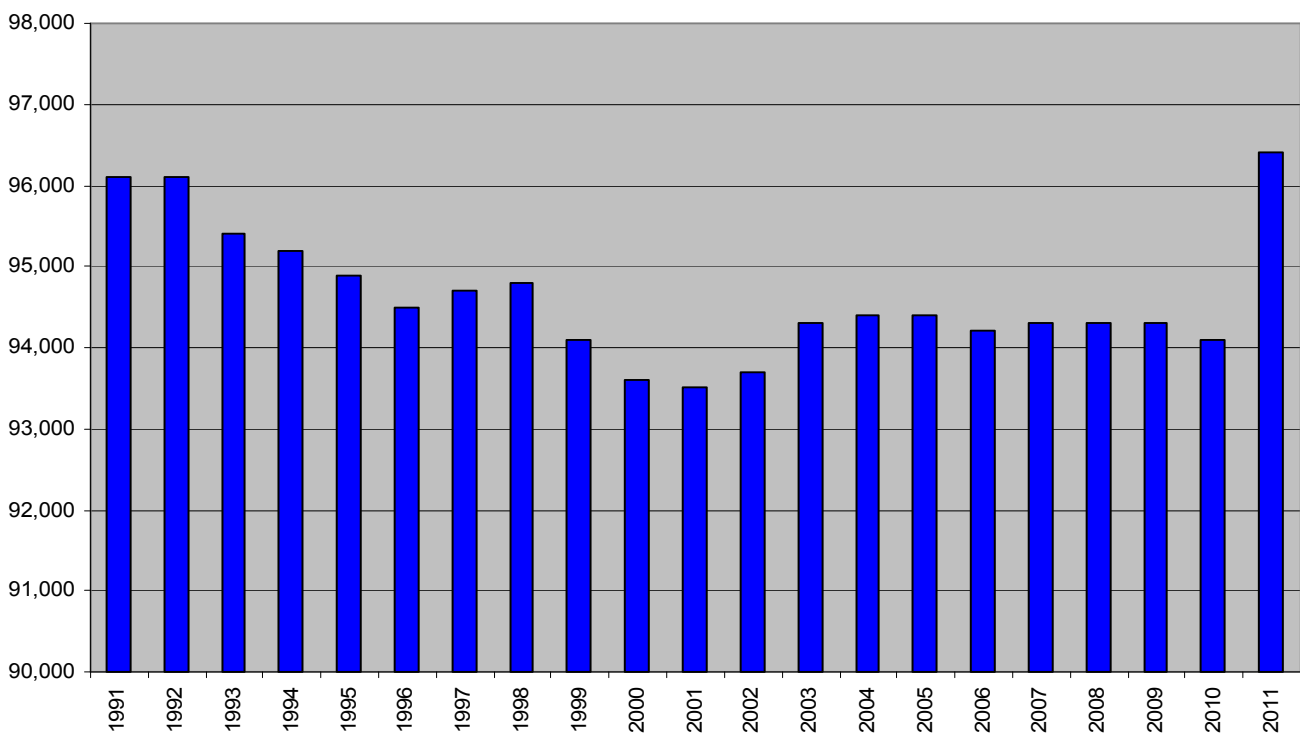


Fig 2: Population growth in Allerdale 1991-2011 (Mid-year population estimates, ONS)

As Fig 3 illustrates, Allerdale has an older population profile than both the North West Region and England. There is an under-representation of residents in the younger age cohorts (0-4, 5-14, 15-19) in the Borough and an over-representation in the older age cohorts (45-64 and 65+). The most noticeable demographic trend is the lower proportion of residents within the 20-44 age group, which suggests that the Borough suffers from high levels of out-migration.

The population of the Borough is 'ageing' at a faster rate than the population nationally. More elderly people are likely to be living in Allerdale in the next 20 years due to longer life expectancy and in-migration. The issue of an aging population is not uniform across the Borough with the rural north and areas around Silloth, and Cockermouth have a greater number and proportion of elderly people.

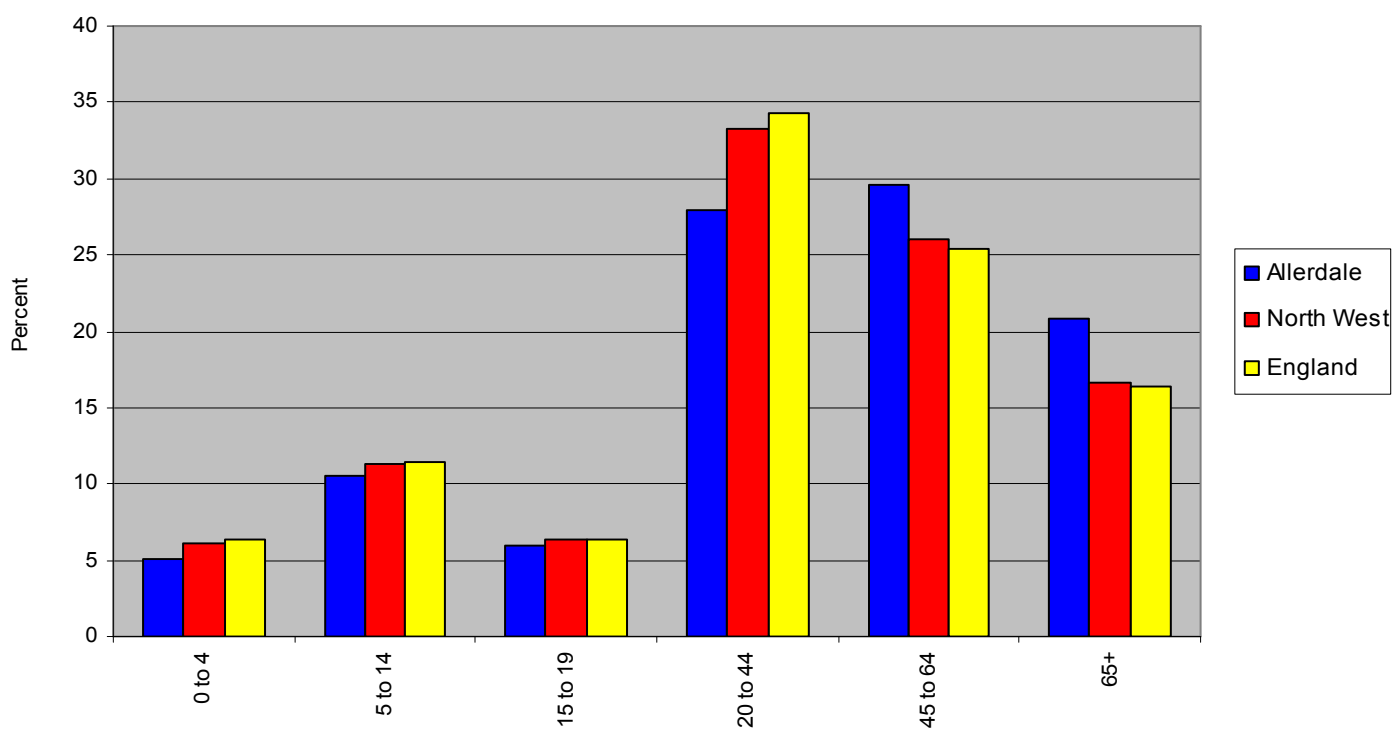


Fig 3: Age structure in Allerdale 2011 (2011 Census, ONS)

In terms of population projection there are three possible scenarios based on a range of data inputs and assumptions:

Scenario 1: The scenario considers the trend of migration change over the last 10 years

Scenario 2: This scenario bases the projected change in migration on more recent trends i.e. the last five years

Scenario 3: This scenario matches up the level

of working age population required to meet the anticipated employment requirements in the Borough going forward.

Fig 4 illustrates that based on the three scenarios, by 2026 the total population of the Borough could range between a decline of 2,883 to 89,585 and an increase of 10,763 to 102,770. (Note: the 2011 figures are based on 2008 ONS estimates)

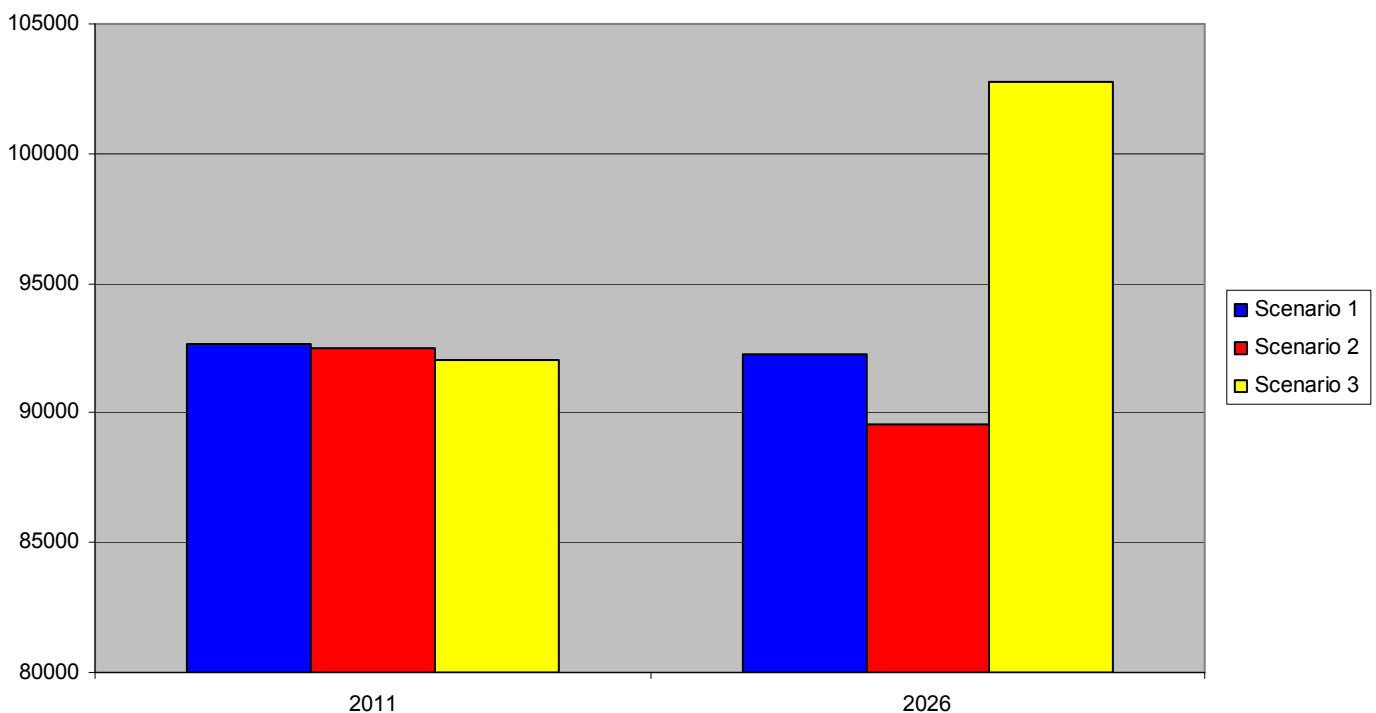


Fig 4: Forecast population growth in Allerdale 2011-2026 (CCC, GVA, 2011)

As Fig 5 illustrates, based on the same three scenarios, by 2026 the total number of households within the Borough could be range between an increase of 1,610 to 43,213 and 7,236 to 48,662. (Note: the 2011 figures are based on 2008 ONS estimates)

All household projection scenarios indicate a much higher rate of increase relative to their population change. Data from Cumbria Intelligence Observatory (CCC, 2011) suggest this is mainly contributed to the significant increase of single person and/or elderly households

Based on these projections the future annual increase in the number of households in the Borough could range between a minimum of 111 and a maximum of 497.

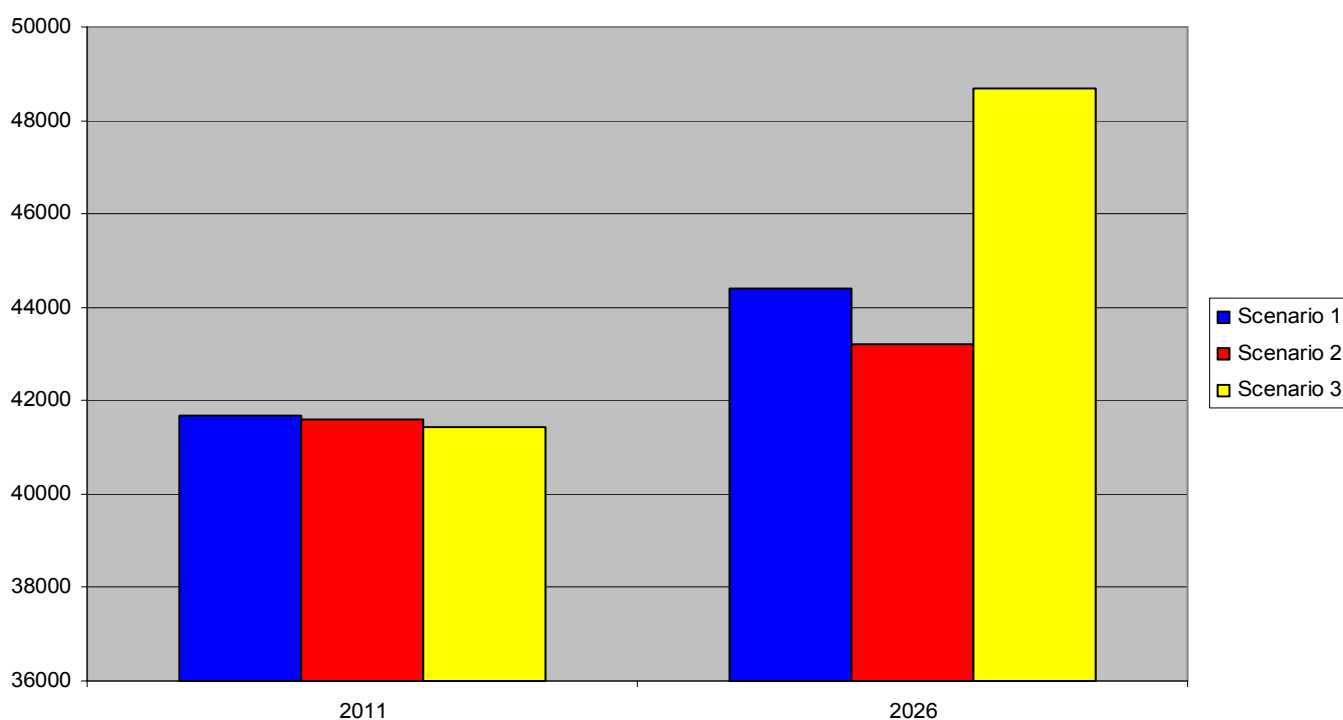


Fig 5: Forecast household growth in Allerdale 2011-2026 (CCC, GVA, 2011)

What are the Likely Future Conditions?

Based on current trends the overall population of the Borough is likely to continue to rise due to an increase in the birth rate although the rate will be dependent on the level of future economic growth.

The growth in the number of households is equally dependent on future economic prosperity, however given national trends in terms of a greater number of elderly and/or single person households the rate increase is likely to be greater than the overall population.

The three different scenarios present very different population and household growth projections for the Borough, with the need for additional homes ranging from 111 to 497 per annum.

What are the social, environmental and economic issues identified?

In terms of planning for population and household growth the following issues need to be considered:

1. Population and household increases are likely to place additional pressure on house prices, availability and affordability.
2. The ageing population of the Borough will have implications for health care needs, housing mix and other social services.
3. Future housing and employment growth will have environmental effects in terms of impacts on the landscape, biodiversity and geodiversity.

SA Objectives

The data analysed supports the inclusion of the following SA objectives in the SA framework:

SP3: To provide everyone with a decent home.

SP5: To improve the health and sense of well-being of people.

SP6: To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense local history

EN1: To protect and enhance biodiversity

EN2: To preserve, enhance and manage landscape quality

6B: Health and Deprivation

The average male in Allerdale can expect to live to 77.6 years of age and the average female 81.7. Whilst Fig 6 illustrates that these are just below county and national averages, there is a significant gap between the wards with the highest and lowest life expectancy in the district.

Residents of the Wampool ward in the rural

north have an average life expectancy of 84.2 years, whereas those in the Moss Bay ward, which is located in Workington, have an average life expectancy of 71.8 years.

It is estimated that 22% of adults in Allerdale smoke, slightly above the average for Cumbria and England. This is reflected in the rate of smoking related deaths which is also above the county and national average.

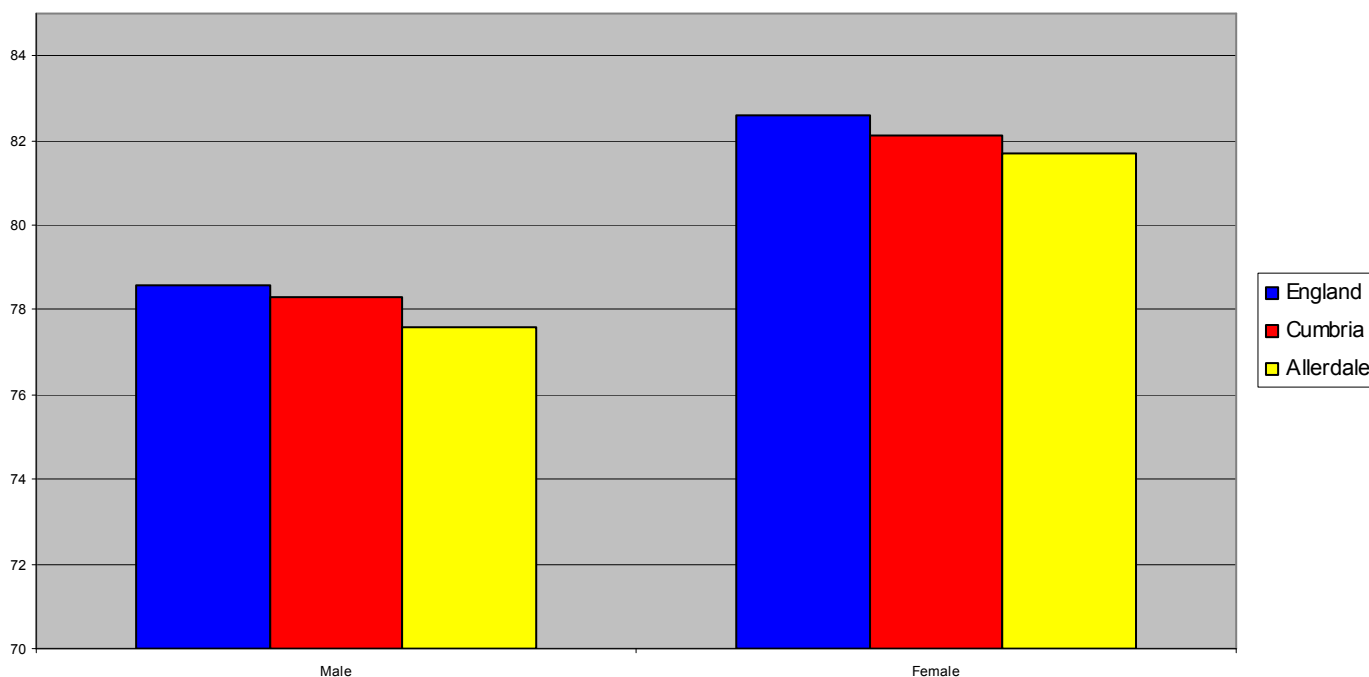


Fig 6: Life expectancy in Allerdale (ONS 2011)

The number of adults eating healthily in Allerdale is below both county and national averages. Levels of childhood obesity are above the county average with 21.7% of pupils in Allerdale classified as obese, compared to 20.8% in Cumbria (NWPHO Health Profiles, 2009-2010)

mortality rate from all cancers in Allerdale is 120 per 100,000 people, compared to 111 for Cumbria and 110 for England. The premature mortality rate from all circulatory diseases in Allerdale is 75 per 100,000 people compared to 72 for Cumbria and 67 for England (ONS, 2011).

The impact of both cancer and circulatory disease on the residents of Allerdale is greater than county and national levels. The premature

In terms of deprivation levels Fig 7 shows that Allerdale is a Borough of contrasts, with some areas of high deprivation being found adjacent to areas of extremely low deprivation. Highest levels of deprivation can be found in Workington and in Maryport. (ONS, 2010).

In contrast to this, the areas in and around Cockermouth are some of the least deprived areas of the country. Equally, areas such as Stainburn and Seaton in Workington are recorded as being within the 20% of the least deprived parts of the country, despite their close proximity to highly deprived areas.

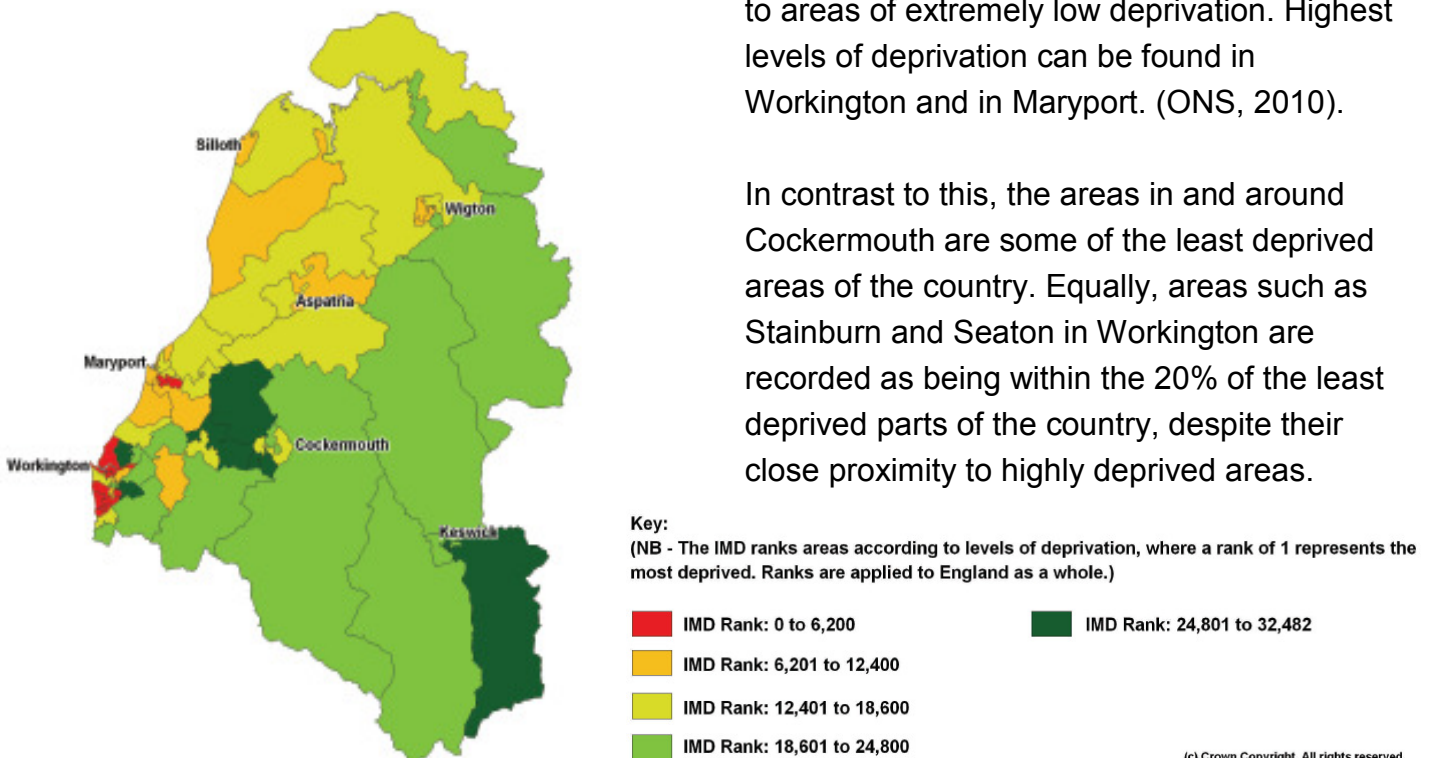


Fig 7: Index of multiple deprivation in Allerdale (ONS, 2010)

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What are the Likely Future Conditions?

It is likely that current trends will reinforce the gap between the prosperous and deprived areas of the Borough.

In the less prosperous areas of the Borough, the negative effects of socio-economic deprivation will continue to influence lifestyle choices such as smoking, alcohol consumption, lack of physical activity and poor diet. Therefore there is the potential for existing health inequalities to continue and possibly widen.

Demands on healthcare in the Borough are set to increase due to a growing population and an increasing elderly population.

What are the social, environmental and economic issues identified?

In terms of planning for health and social well-being the following issues need to be considered:

1. The disparities and inequalities between areas in the Borough with regards to health

and socio-economic deprivation and the need to reduce these.

2. Socio-economic deprivation will continue to compound the problem of poor lifestyle choices and health levels.
3. The poorest part of the Borough will continue to have low life expectancy and higher rates of premature mortality as a result of poor lifestyle choices
4. The ageing population of the Borough will have implications for health care needs and other social service needs

SA Objectives

The data analysed supports the inclusion of the following SA Objectives in the SA framework:

SP2: To improve access to services, facilities, the countryside and open spaces

SP5: To improve the health and sense of well-being of people

SP6: To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense local history

6C: Economy and employment

Fig 8 illustrates that the manufacturing and retail sectors account for the majority of employment in Allerdale, although the hotel and catering, construction and public sectors also make a significant contribution. In the rural north, agriculture is still an important sector. However, over the last three years employment within the tourism and

manufacturing sectors has fallen, which has been linked to the effects of the economic recession.

The median household income is below the national average of £24,900 however this varies greatly across the Borough (CACI Paycheck, 2012). Average weekly workplace earnings are below the national average but

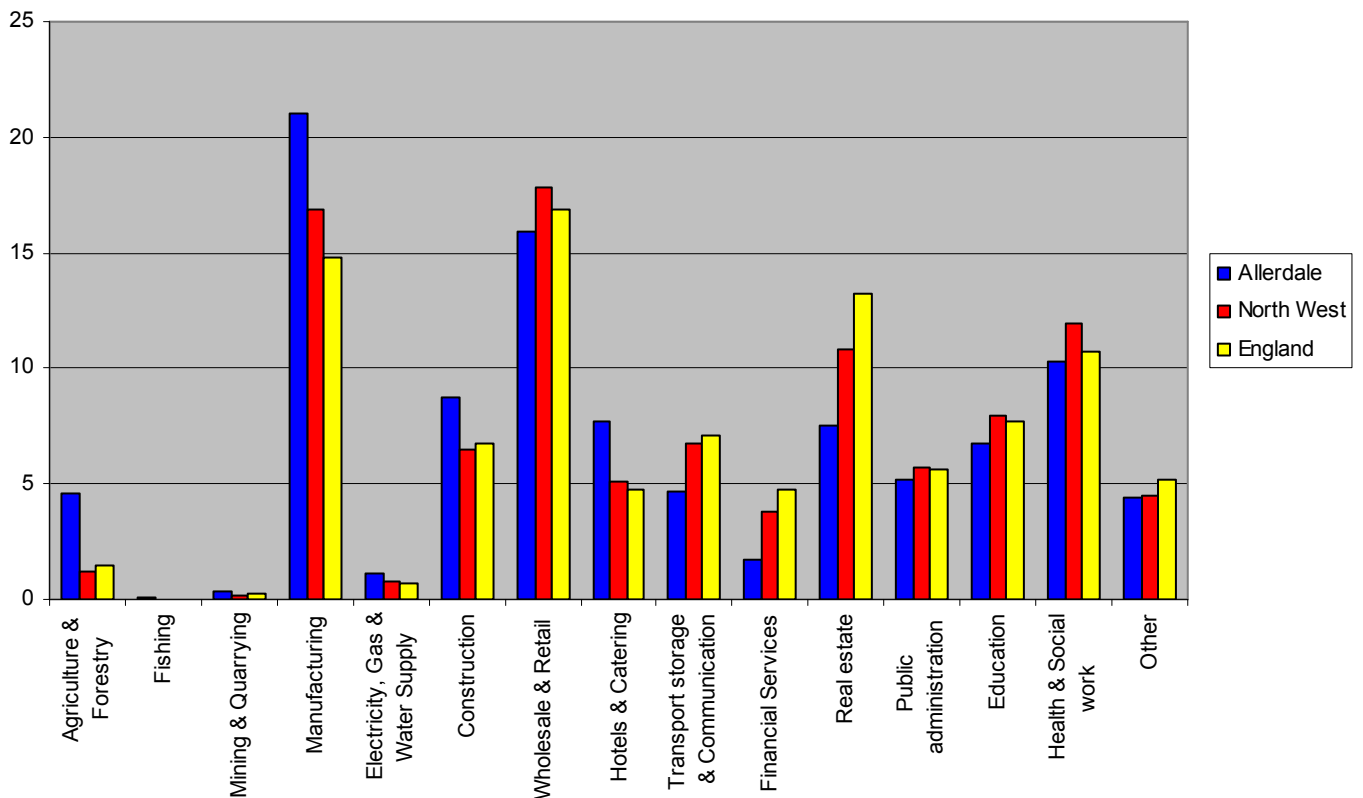


Fig 8: Industry of employment (ONS, 2011)

resident earnings are above, which indicates that those residents in high paid jobs work outside the Borough.

Educational attainment is lower in the Borough than regional and national averages, as indicated in Fig 9, with lower proportion of working age population with Level 4 qualifications (undergraduate or postgraduate degrees) and a higher proportion with no

formal qualifications. (Neighbourhood Statistics, 2011).

There are great disparities in the level of attainment of school leavers in different areas of the Borough. In the All Saints ward (Cockermouth) over 78% of students gain five A*-C grades at GCSE compared to Aspatria ward where that figure drops to 55% (DfE, 2011)

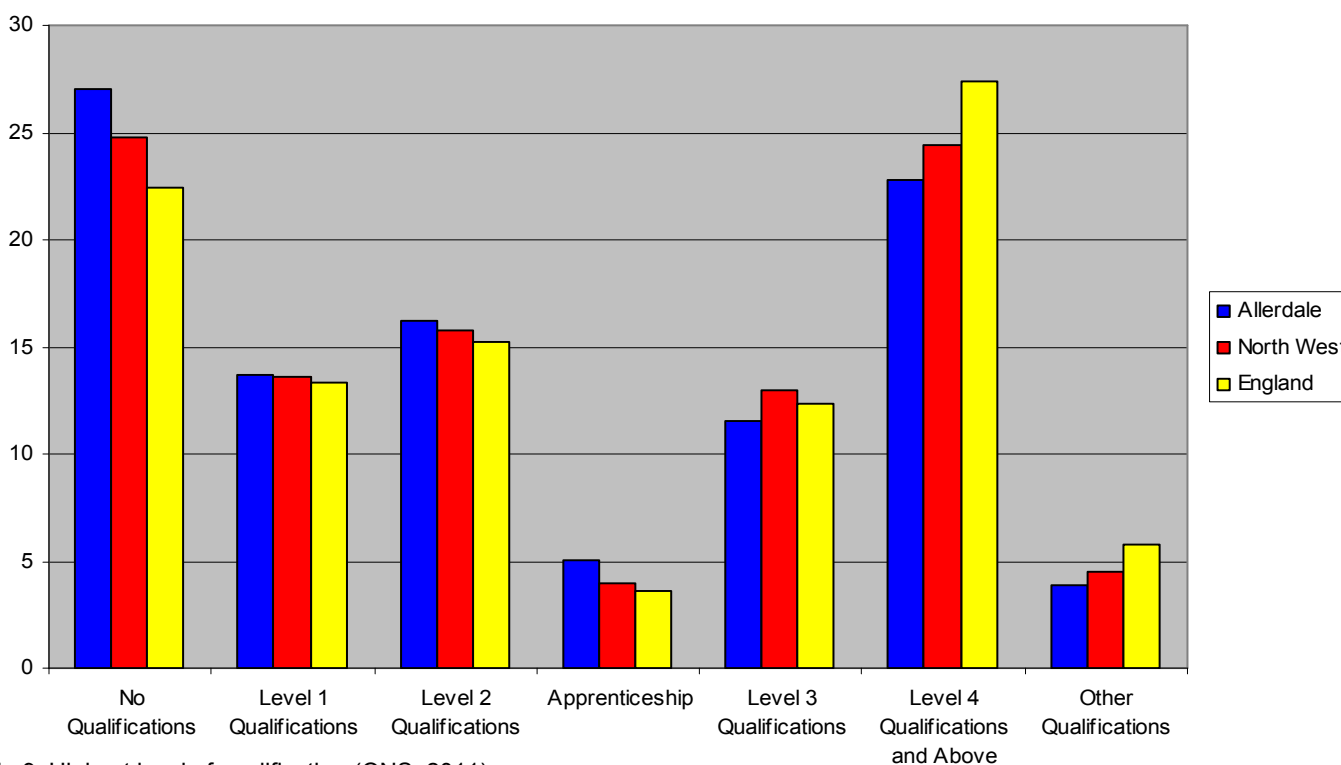


Fig 9: Highest level of qualification (ONS, 2011)

Employment Land and Premises

The main employment areas in Allerdale are located in and around the key settlements of Workington, Maryport, Cockermouth, Wigton, Silloth and Aspatria as illustrated in Fig 10. However there are a small number of sites and premises located in their rural hinterlands.



Fig 10 Location of key employment sites in Allerdale

The key employment sites can be found in Workington namely Lillyhall, Derwent Howe and Clay Flatts. Lillyhall is the principle site and has a wide variety of industrial/commercial premises in terms of size, function and quality ranging from modern office accommodation to industrial warehouse development.

Local industrial sites and premises are also available in Maryport, Wigton, Silloth and Aspatria. However the quality, accessibility and level of demand for sites and premises in these locations is relatively low.

The Cockermouth area offers a good supply of modern accessible office units which are located at the Lakeland and Europe Way business parks, plus those in the nearby Dovenby Hall Estate.

Employment land and premises studies suggest there is scope for possible de-allocation of land. Furthermore, the study concluded that there is a lack of quality premises across all uses. The provision of better quality employment land and premises will be a critical factor in supporting economic growth and industrial restructuring of the area.

Retail

Workington is the principal shopping centre in Allerdale and is the highest performing centre in terms of retail performance in West Cumbria, as illustrated in Table 3. It has a wide choice of shops and a good representation of national high street retailers.

Notwithstanding its strong performance there are weaknesses that impact upon the vibrancy and vitality of Workington town centre: it has a below average representation of convenience goods stores and suffers an above average level of vacant shops.

The other town centres within Allerdale performing a more supportive role, providing services and facilities to their local populations. Cockermouth performs strongly due to the high level of independent shops but Maryport, Wigton, Silloth and Aspatria suffer from retail leakage and above average vacancy levels.

The West Cumbria Retail Study (2009) identified a significant level of need for further retail development within Allerdale over the plan period, with both Cockermouth and Maryport having significant requirement for additional convenience goods floorspace in the near future.

	Clothing & Footwear	Books, CDs, etc.	Household	Toys, Games	Chemist	Electrical	Furniture	DIY	All Goods
Allerdale	42.8%	33.0%	44.9%	40.3%	46.5%	46.5%	47.4%	56.0%	44.0%
Workington Town Centre	38.4%	27.4%	30.7%	29.9%	26.7%	27.9%	20.0%	7.3%	27.7%
Cockermouth Town Centre	1.3%	3.0%	6.2%	4.2%	9.0%	1.2%	4.7%	4.5%	4.3%
Other Centres	1.1%	2.6%	3.6%	1.9%	10.7%	3.1%	8.2%	4.5%	3.9%
Out-of-Centre	2.0%	0.0%	4.4%	4.3%	0.1%	14.3%	14.5%	40.6%	8.0%
Copeland	16.1%	19.1%	19.8%	21.1%	34.6%	17.9%	23.0%	23.3%	21.4%
Carlisle	19.6%	14.3%	14.2%	11.2%	6.8%	12.2%	16.4%	7.8%	13.9%
Barrow-in-Furness	5.3%	4.1%	5.2%	5.2%	2.3%	3.9%	4.3%	3.7%	4.3%
Other Outside of West Cumbria	11.2%	8.4%	8.4%	7.4%	7.3%	3.7%	5.6%	4.5%	8.0%
(Internet/ Home Delivery)	5.0%	21.1%	7.5%	14.9%	2.2%	15.8%	3.4%	3.7%	8.4%

Table 3: West Cumbria Retail Study (WYG, 2009)

Tourism

Table 4 shows that Allerdale is the second most popular district for visitors in Cumbria, behind South Lakeland, accounting for 17% of all tourist numbers. Over 2 million national and international visitors are attracted to the District annually.

The industry provides an important source of income to the towns and rural communities of Allerdale. Visitor spending brings over £200 million into the local economy each year (including LDNP) and generates and sustains over 4000 jobs.

Allerdale's greatest tourism asset is the quality of its natural environment. The majority of visitors to the area consider the scenery and landscape to be the most important factor in the enjoyment of their trip (Cumbria Visitor Survey 2009).

Despite a healthy tourism sector, various studies have identified that there is a significant shortage of quality accommodation, and leisure facilities within the Borough. Greater provision of these is needed in order to broaden the appeal of the area, particularly to the luxury end of the market.

2007		Allerdale	Borrow	Carlisle	Copeland	Eden	South Lakeland	Cumbria
Tourist Numbers (000's)	Total	2,574	1,908	2,351	1,843	1,908	4,799	15,382
Tourist Days (000's)	Total	6,484	2,296	3,152	2,975	4,095	10,195	28,197
	In visitor accommodation	3,589	278	930	1,287	2,731	7,123	15,937
	At friends or relatives	350	331	385	259	192	385	1,902
	Day visitors	1,545	1,588	1,837	1,429	1,173	2,686	10,358
Expenditure (£'s millions)	Total	209.27	60.44	120.28	94.68	149.59	510.12	1144.37
	Direct	157.29	45.6	90.9	70.78	112.19	386.54	863.31
	Indirect	51.97	14.83	29.38	23.91	37.4	132.58	281.02
Employment (FTE's)	Total	4,157	1,090	2,197	1,657	2,986	8,843	20,940
	Direct	3,454	887	1,794	1,328	2,472	7,146	17,080
	Indirect	714	204	403	328	514	1,697	3,860

Table 4: Summary of tourism in Cumbria (Cumbria Vision, 2008)

What are the Likely Future Conditions?

In terms of industrial structure, the reliance on the manufacturing, construction, retail and public sectors is likely to continue. However a key objective of the current local economic development strategy is to support the diversification of the industrial base.

Below national average incomes and the disparity between wage levels in different areas of the Borough are also likely to persist given the dependency of the local economy on relatively low-wage industrial sectors and the geographical distribution of the higher and lower socio-economic groups.

The below average levels of educational attainment and labour force skills are also likely to be maintained in the short term, although it is anticipated that the further and higher education opportunities offered by West Lakes College, Energus and the Energy Coast Campus will stimulate a reversal in this trend in the medium to long term.

With regards to employment land and premises, the peripheral location of the

Borough and remoteness from strategic transport networks mean that overall demand will remain relatively low. Low levels of demand and interest will necessitate a more focussed approach in terms of directing market interest to the key sites and the possible de-allocation of underperforming sites.

In terms of retail, Workington will continue to be the highest performing centre and attention will be focussed on ensuring that it maintains its position as the principal retail centre for West Cumbria. Given the changes in retail trends, particularly the growth of on-line shopping, the weaker town centres in the Borough are likely to be more affected.

Within this context, there will be a need to support the diversification of town centres in order to broaden their visitor appeal. The application of 'towns centres first' approach will be especially important to achieve this aim.

The tourism sector in Allerdale will continue to be buoyant and constitute a significant source of income and employment. A key objective will be to safeguard the environmental assets that are the principal visitor attraction. A further requirement will be to expand the provision of

quality visitor accommodation and leisure facilities.

What are the social, environmental and economic issues identified?

In terms of planning for economy and employment the following issues need to be considered:

1. The overall weakness of the local economy, the over-reliance on low-skill sectors and below average income levels in the Borough.
2. The below average levels of educational attainment and the lack of a high-skill labour force.
3. The oversupply of employment land and premises and the need to focus attention on key employment sites that are attractive to market.
4. The oversupply of large-format industrial warehouse buildings and a lack of smaller more flexible employment space.
5. The vulnerability of town centres as a result of new retailing trends and the need to adopt a 'town centres' first approach and

encourage diversification to maintain their vitality and sustainability.

6. The importance of the quality of the natural environmental assets in terms of supporting the tourism industry and the need to safeguard this asset.

SA Objectives

The data analysed supports the inclusion of the following SA Objectives in the SA framework:

SP4: To improve the level of skills, education and training

EN1: To protect and enhance biodiversity

EN2: To preserve, enhance and manage landscape quality and character

EN3: Improve the quality of the built environment

EC1: To retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities

EC2: To improve access to jobs

EC3: To diversify and strengthen the local economy

6D: Transport and accessibility

Allerdale is somewhat remote from national transport networks (road and rail) and journeys from the main urban centres on the west coast can take up to an hour.

Connections to its nearest motorway, the M6, are either along the A66 via Keswick and Penrith or north via Carlisle along the A595

(see figure 11).

Rail services run along the West Cumbrian Coastal Railway, connecting to the West Coast Main Line at Carlisle and Lancaster (via Barrow). The line also carries a significant volume of freight. Most of the main towns with the exception of Cockermouth and Silloth, are serviced by the railway.

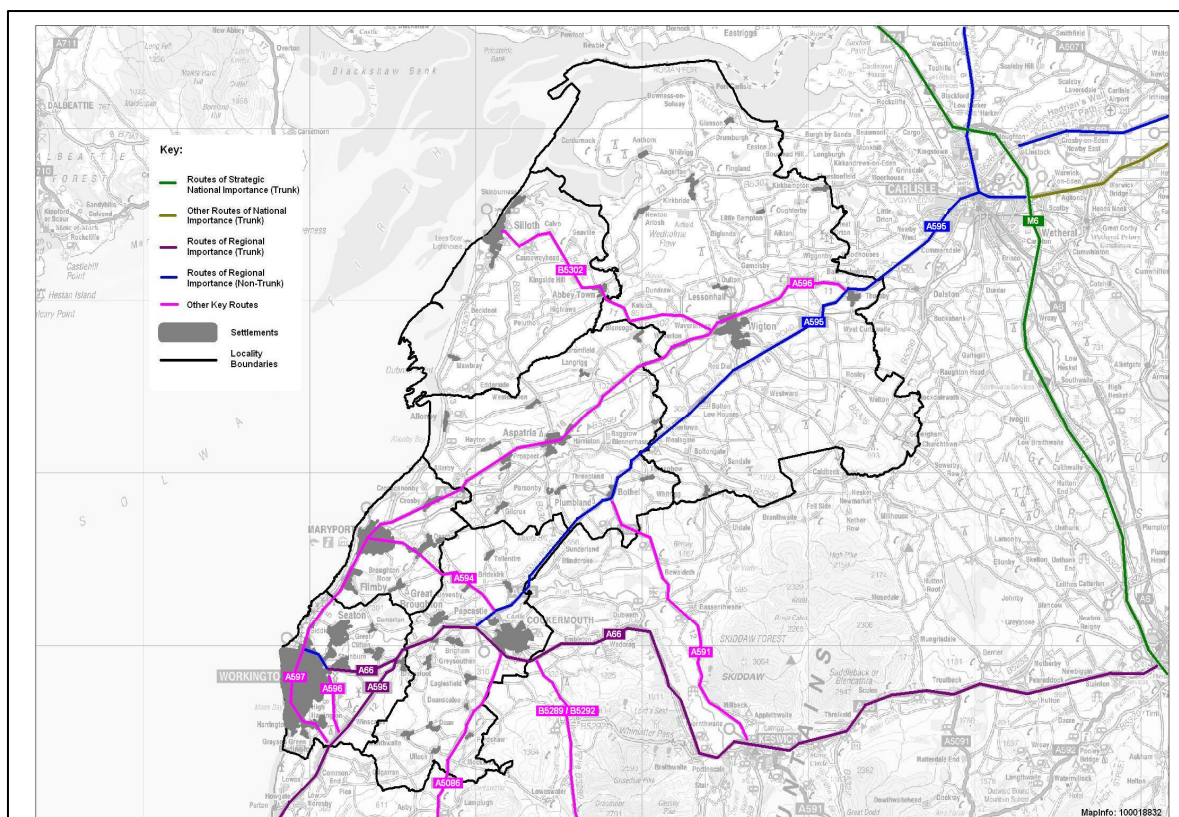


Fig 11: Road hierarchy in Allerdale

Urban areas are generally well connected by bus. However services within more rural settlements vary with some of the larger villages retaining a service while others, particularly in the north of the area have seen their routes contract or disappear altogether.

poor levels of accessibility to services and facilities. This is underpinned by both a lack of public transport options and travel distance times due to topography and the road network.

Fig 12 illustrates that due to the rural nature of the Borough many areas and residents have

The accessibility problem particularly affects low-income households, the elderly and young people who may not have access to private transport.

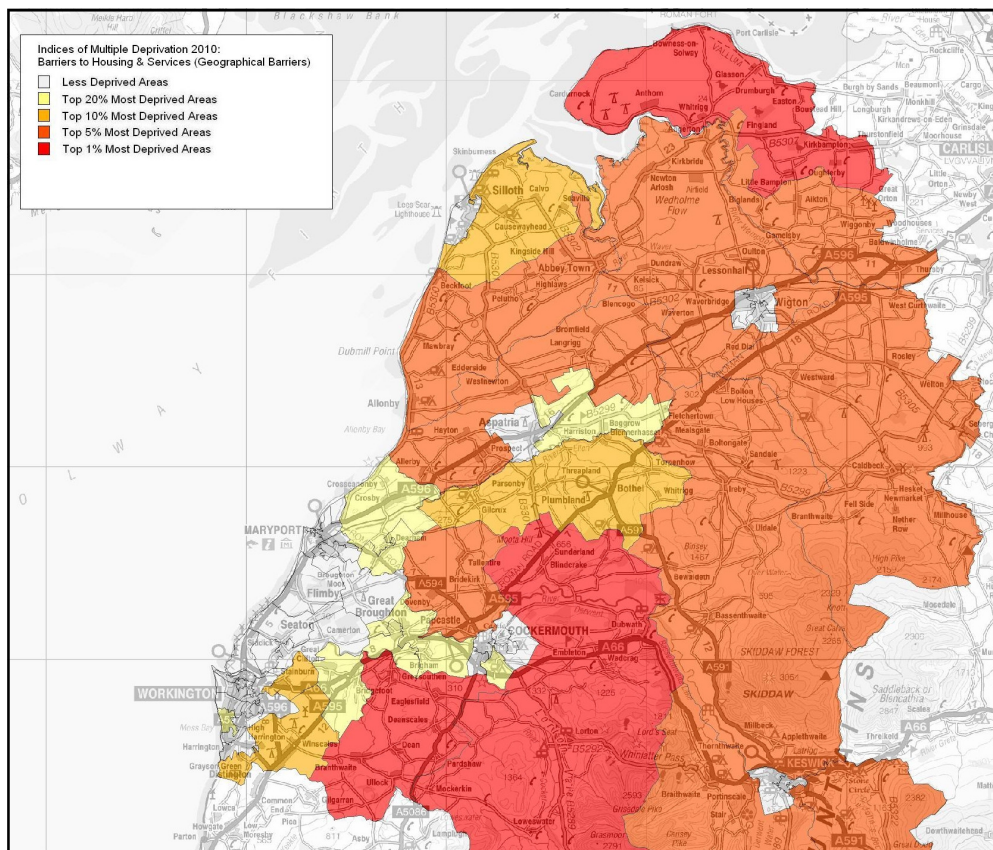


Fig 12: Accessibility to services (IMD 2010, ONS)

Fig 13 illustrates that the levels of car ownership is higher in Allerdale than nationally. This can be linked to the rural nature of the Borough, in conjunction with poor public transport coverage.

However this masks significant disparities in the levels of car ownership within the Borough.

In the areas of high deprivation there are very low levels of car ownership. In some parts of Workington nearly 55% of households have no access to a car. In contrast the rural areas in the north of the borough, as well as the villages in and around Cockermouth nearly 65% of households own two or more cars (Census, 2011)

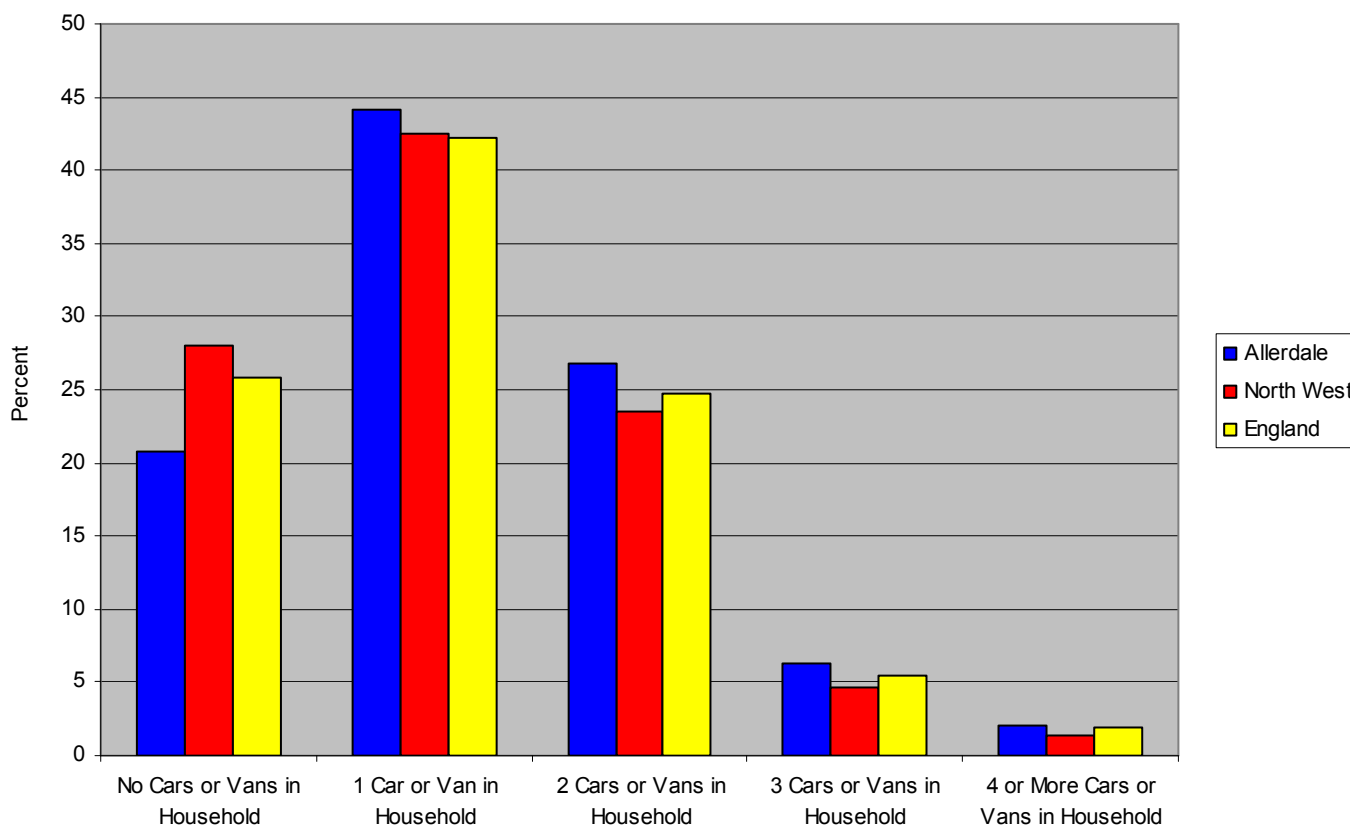


Fig 13: Car ownership in Allerdale (Census 2011, ONS)

The private car is the most popular mode of transport used to make commute to work and the level of use is above regional and national averages.

This again reflects the rural nature of the Borough and the problems in terms of accessibility, distance to services and facilities

and fragmented public transport coverage outside of the urban areas and principal highway network routes.

For many rural residents, due to the lack of public transport options, having access to a car is the only practical means of commuting to work, as highlighted in Fig 14.

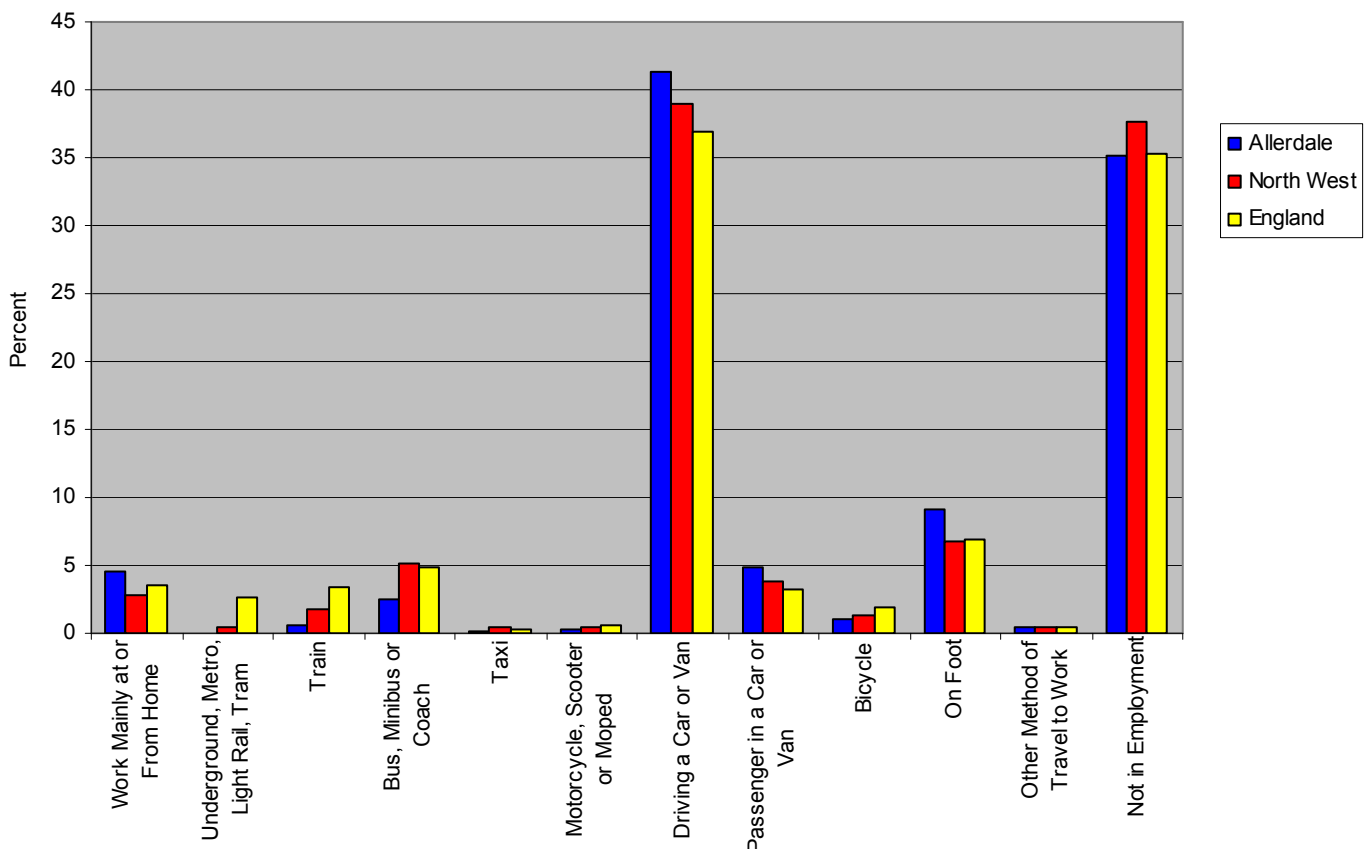


Fig 14: Mode of transport to work (Census 2011, ONS)

What are the Likely Future Conditions?

High levels of dependency on private transport modes are likely to continue due to poor rural public transport links and the rural and geographically dispersed nature of the Borough. Within this context the levels of car ownership and the number of cars on the road is likely to continue to increase.

Accessibility to services will also continue to be an issue in rural areas. Currently it is the more remote areas that are disadvantaged but given the trends in relation to ongoing contraction of rural public transport services, accessibility problems could begin to affect the more accessible rural areas .

What are the social, environmental and economic issues identified?

In terms of planning for transport and accessibility the following issues need to be considered:

1. The likely increase in the levels of car ownership in the Borough and the resultant impact on highway network capacity, levels of traffic congestion and air quality.

2. The trend of overreliance on the private car in the Borough, below average levels of use of public transport.
3. Poor levels of accessibility to services and facilities in some parts of the Borough

SA Objectives

The data analysed supports the inclusion of the following SA Objectives in the SA framework:

SP2: To improve access to services, facilities, the countryside and open spaces

SP5: To improve the health and sense of well-being of people

NR1: To improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions

EC2: To improve access to jobs

6E: Housing

There are approximately 45,500 houses within Allerdale. Fig 15 illustrates that the majority of properties are owner occupied in the Borough (69%). Around 19% of homes are rented from a housing association or social landlord, which is higher than the national average (2011 Census, Office for National Statistics).

Conversely the privately rented sector is much weaker, only accounting for 10% of dwellings within the Plan Area.

The number of homes that are owned outright is much higher than the national average. This can be partially attributed to the high rates of retirement in-migration to the area.

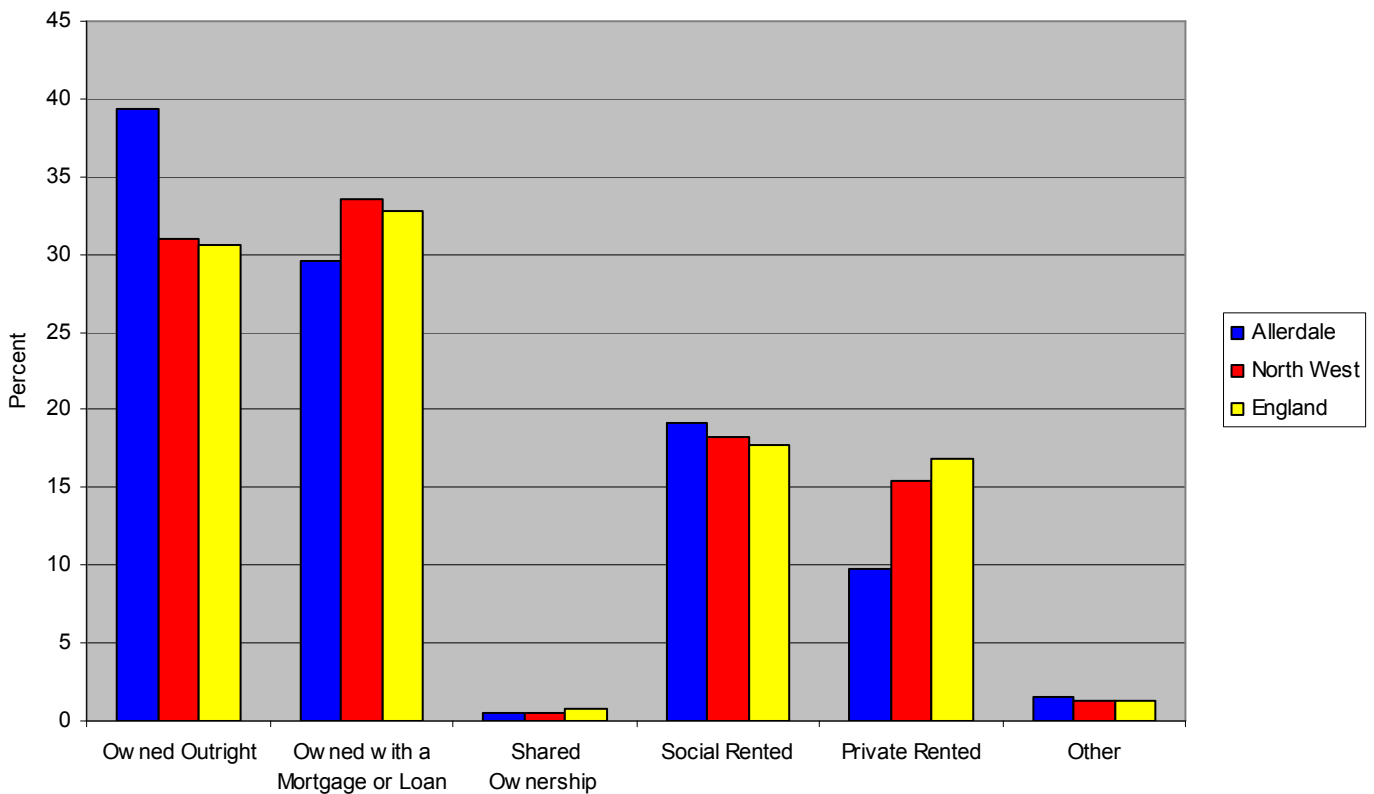


Fig 15: Tenure of housing in Allerdale (Census 2011, ONS)

Fig 16 shows that the average median house price in Allerdale is £157,000, which is significantly lower than the national average but comparable to the county average (ONS, Land registry 2012).

House prices in Allerdale have risen rapidly of the past few years, increasing almost 300% since 1996 (ONS, Land registry 2012). This has culminated in a shortage of affordable

housing, particularly in the Cockermouth area.

Prices vary considerably across the Plan Area, being lower within the west coast areas of Maryport and Workington where the average house price is less than £100,000. In Cockermouth and the surrounding rural villages prices can exceed £300,000 (Streetvalue, 2012).

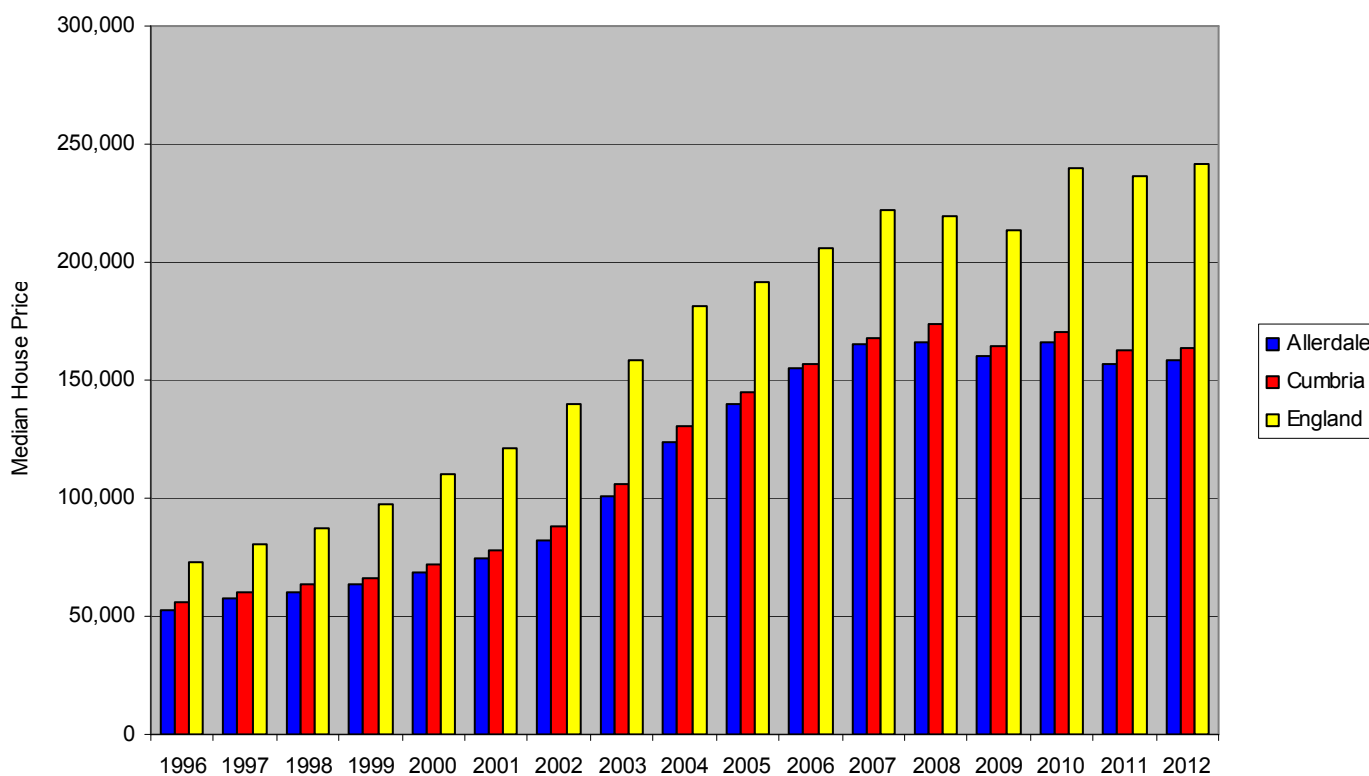


Fig 16: Average house sale price in Allerdale (Land Registry (2012))

Housing affordability within Allerdale has worsened significantly in recent years, as illustrated by Fig 17. The ratio of median house price to median earnings has risen from 3.17 in 1997 to 6.75 in 2012. It is now comparable with the national situation.

The lack of affordable housing is a problem throughout the Plan Area but is especially pronounced in Cockermouth and the

surrounding villages and within the rural settlements in northern Allerdale, where ratios reach 8.9 (Allerdale SHMA, 2011).

Within the low demand areas there is also a need for affordable housing but equal priority needs to be given to housing renewal, environmental improvements and improving the mix and quality of the housing stock.

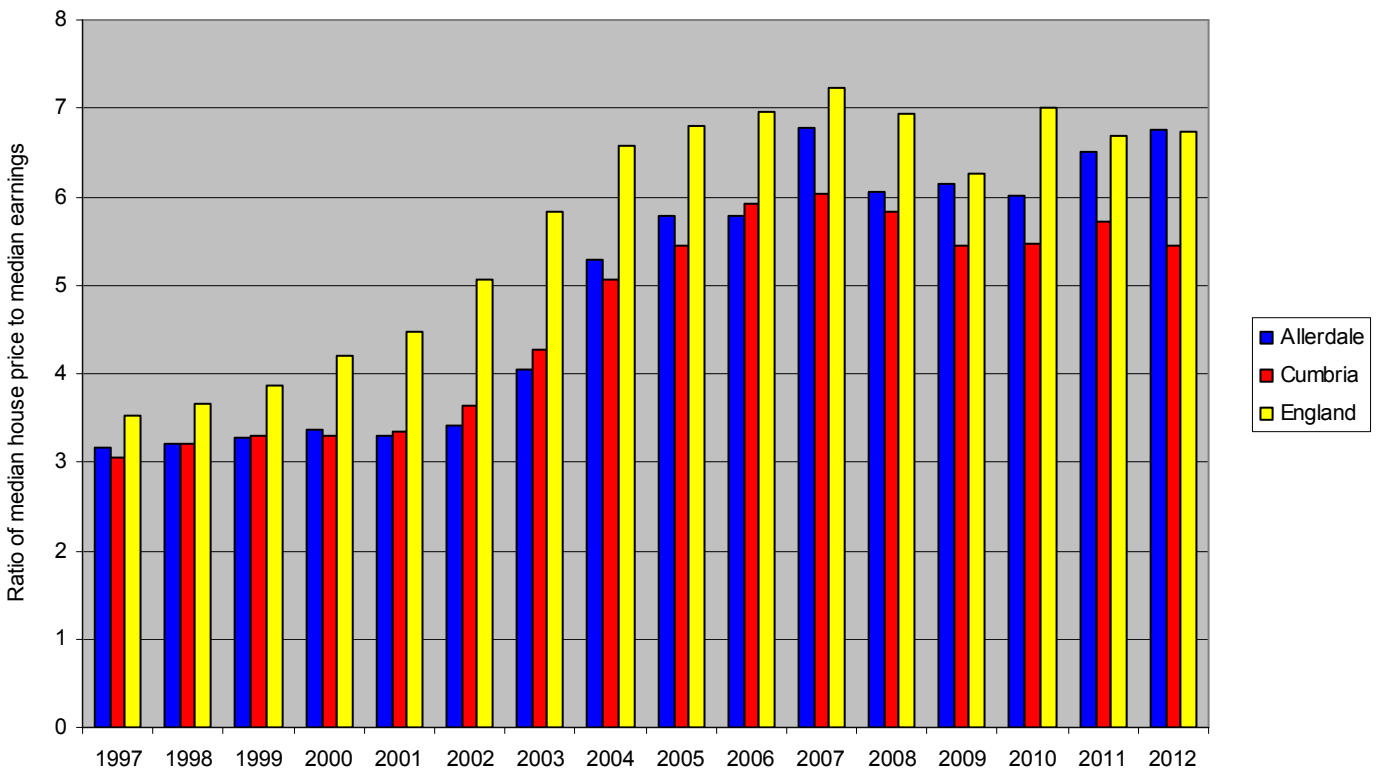


Fig 17: Median house price affordability ratio (Neighbourhood Statistics, 2012)

What are the Likely Future Conditions?

Given the slow rate of delivery of new housing within the Plan Area in recent years it is likely that the supply-demand imbalance will cause house prices to continue to rise.

Affordability problems will continue to be a significant issue within the Plan Area, with the problem worsening in areas and settlements adjacent to the historically high value areas as a result of the ripple effect.

It is likely that there will be increased demand for social housing in the future as home ownership will be beyond the means of an increasing number of residents. Equally, demand may shift to historically low-demand areas that will remain more affordable.

What are the social, environmental and economic issues identified?

In terms of planning for housing the following issues need to be considered:

1. The population and number of households is expected to grow which will put additional pressure on house prices, availability and

affordability

2. The disparities between housing market areas in terms of quality, mix and demand and the need to support the delivery of a balanced housing market.
3. The growing need for affordable housing, particularly in the high value areas
4. Encouraging housing market renewal in the low demand areas and improve the housing mix and 'offer'

SA Objectives

The data analysed supports the inclusion of the following SA Objectives in the SA framework:

- SP3: To provide everyone with a decent home
- SP5: To improve the health and sense of well-being of people
- SP6: To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense local history
- EN3: Improve the quality of the built environment

6F: Climate change and flooding

Fig 18 demonstrates that the carbon dioxide emissions per capita in Allerdale are higher than in Cumbria or the rest of the country. However, in line with the general trends, carbon dioxide emissions per capita in Allerdale declined by 1.4 kt CO₂ between 2005 and 2010.

When CO₂ emissions are broken down into

their constituent sectors (Industry and Commercial, Domestic and Road Transport), It shows that road transport emissions per capita in Allerdale are higher than those for Cumbria and England as illustrated in Fig 19.

Emissions relating to industry and commerce are significantly higher than the county and national averages, which suggests that the types of industry and commerce in Allerdale are energy-intensive compared with the

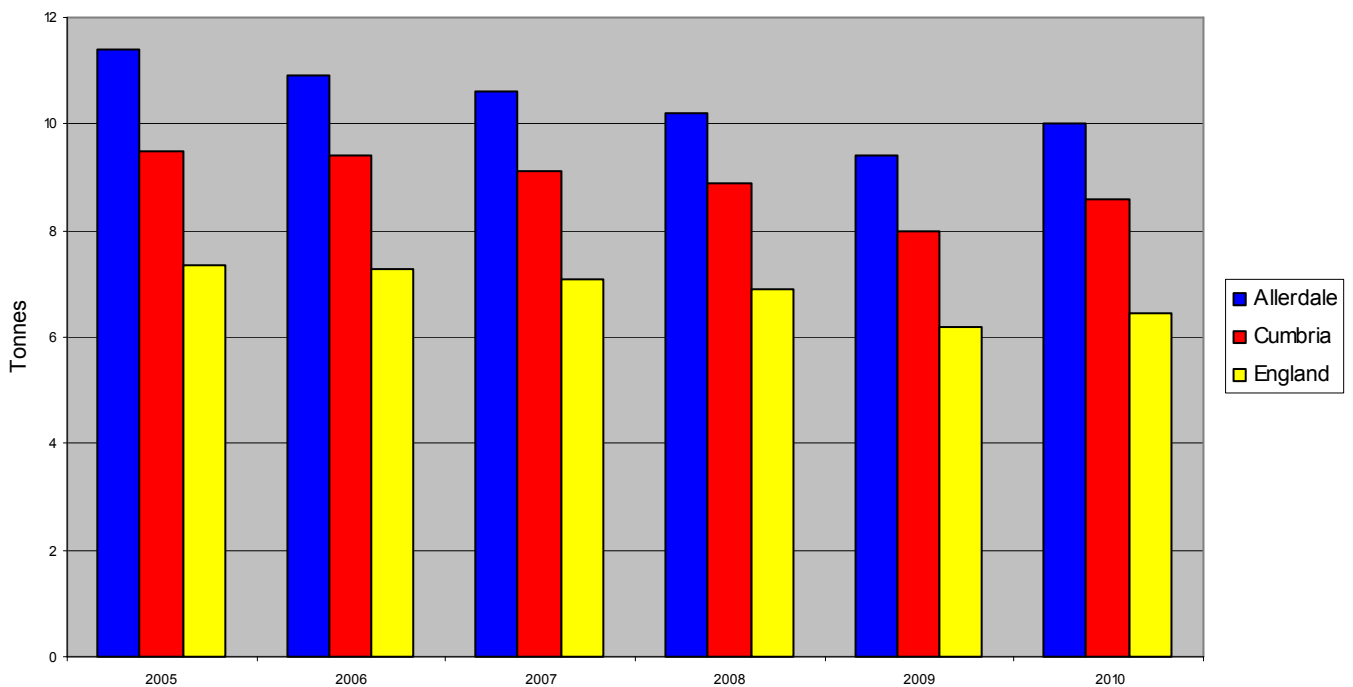


Fig 18: Carbon dioxide emissions per capita (t CO₂) (DECC/AEA, 2011)

average for the county.

Car ownership data suggests that 80% of households in the Borough own at least one car and that the majority of Allerdale's residents commute to work by driving a car or a van (see chapter on Transport and Accessibility for more information). This can be linked to the transport emission being above sub-regional and national averages.

Domestic emissions in the Borough are comparable with county and national averages.

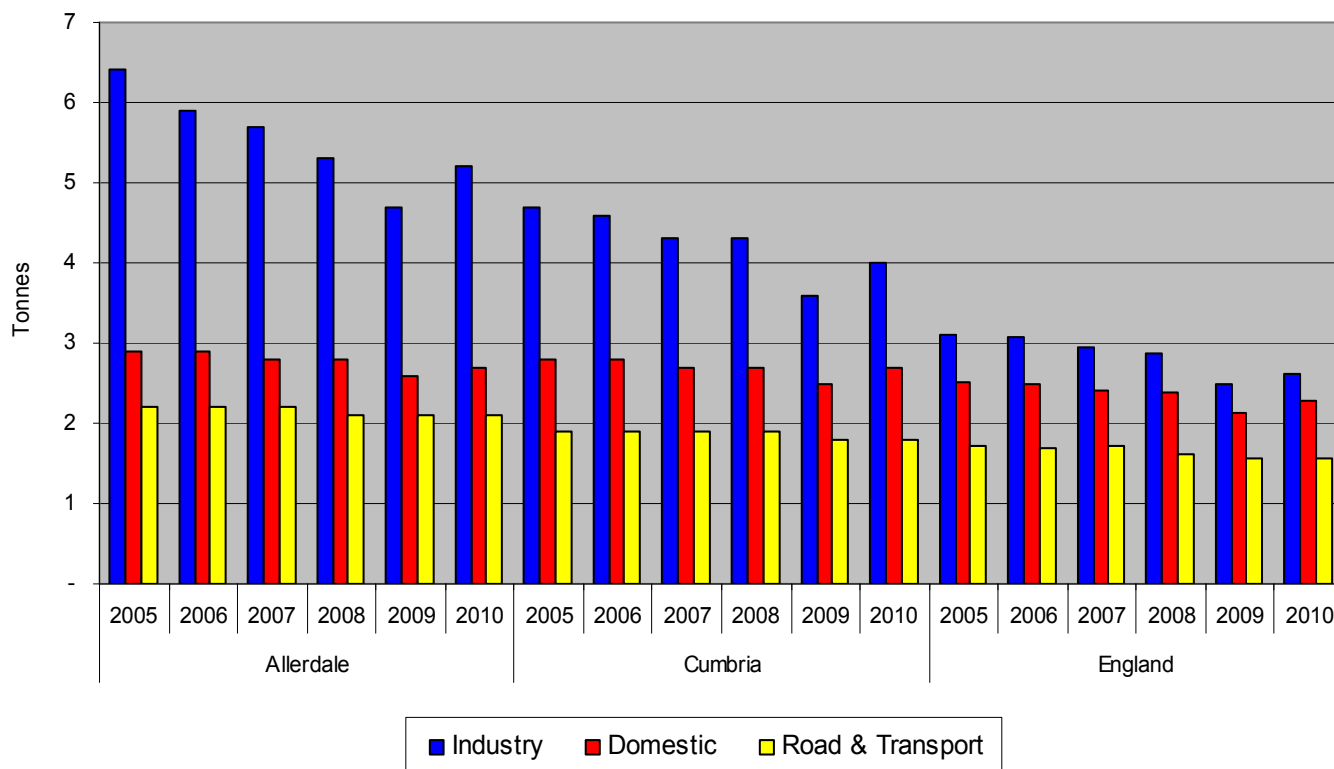


Fig 19: Carbon dioxide emissions per capita, by sector (t CO2) (DECC/AEA, 2011)

Allerdale has a significant renewable energy capacity resource and consequently is a major contributor in the generation of renewable energy at both county and regional levels. (Cumbria Renewable Energy Capacity and Deployment Report, 2011)

Table 5 shows that as of April 2011, the overall level of renewable energy currently deployed across Cumbria was 295MW of which 70% (207Mw) is located within Allerdale Local Plan Area. Current deployment in Allerdale is concentrated in 3 technologies: Wind, Energy from Waste and Plant Biomass.

The vast majority of wind energy installations are regarded as being of commercial scale.

Evidence indicates that within the Plan Area there remains a large renewable energy resource, and suggests that there is a realistic modelled potential for an extra 80MW by 2030.

This additional supply is likely to come from a mix of technologies, with the onus on micro renewable technologies and commercial wind turbine developments.

	Current Deployment 2011 (MW)	Accessible energy resource (MW)	Modelled deployment 2030 (MW)	Additional Projected Deployment to 230 (MW)
Commercial Wind	88.8	493.5	148.7	59.9
Small Scale Wind	0.4	5.7	1.9	1.5
Plant Biomass	100.0	12.6	101.2	1.2
Energy from Waste	17.9	26.7	18.8	0.8
Small scale hydropower	0.0	2.1	0.2	0.2
Micro generation	0.1	223.4	19.0	18.9
Total	207.0	764.0	290.0	83.0

Table 5: Renewable energy resource in Allerdale (Cumbria Renewable Energy Capacity and Deployment Report, 2011)

Due to its location, many of the rivers originating within the Lakeland fells traverse the Borough. Consequently many areas, especially those settlements such as Cockermouth and Workington, which have developed beside the Rivers Derwent and Cocker are prone to flooding. Table 6 identifies those areas.

The flood risk in Cockermouth has the potential to affect the greatest number of properties and cause the most damage. Flooding in smaller settlements such as

Barepot, Bridgefoot and Ullock where rapid runoff leads to a fast rate of rise of floodwater also has the potential to cause significant damage.

During the November 2009 event areas worst affected by flooding from the Rivers Derwent and Cocker were Cockermouth and Workington. Following this, high risk Flood Zones 3a and 3b have been increased in extent in both towns by the Environment Agency.

Community	Primary Source of flooding	Risk to people	Properties at risk	Current economic damages, £000	Social vulnerability, Score			
					2	3	4	5
Cockermouth	Derwent/ Cocker	HIGH	161	273		13	12	1
Ullock	Marron	MEDIUM	5	33		1		
Bridgefoot	Marron/ Lostrigg Beck	HIGH	8	86			1	
Workington	Derwent	LOW	8	53	3	29	37	2
Blennerhasset	Ellen	MEDIUM	15	131		1	1	
Maryport	Ellen	LOW	69	132		1	4	
Abbeytown	Waver/ Stank Beck	LOW	8	23*		2		
Waverbridge	Waver	LOW	10	29*		2		
Kirkbride	Wampool/ Monk's Dyke	LOW	25	36		2	1	
Wigton	Wiza Beck/ Speet Gill	MEDIUM	147	686	1	2	2	1
Westnewton	Westnewton Beck	LOW	19	55*		1		

Table 6: Fluvial flood risk for key communities (Allerdale SFRA Update, 2010)

What are the Likely Future Conditions?

Carbon emissions in Allerdale have declined in recent years, mirroring national trends. Notwithstanding this, the levels remain significant and have profound impacts for climate change.

One of the biggest challenges for Allerdale is to reduce industrial and transport-related emissions. This will be difficult given that the economy of the Borough is reliant on the manufacturing sector which is energy intensive.

Similarly achieving a reduction in the transport emissions will be challenging, given the rural and geographically dispersed nature of the Borough and the reliance on private transport.

The overall contribution of renewable energy deployments to national targets will continue to increase, given the identified capacity within the Borough. However, as the Borough also has a large number of high quality landscapes and designations the impact of schemes on these natural assets will need to be carefully considered.

Increased flood risk is a consequence of climate change and the increased number of significant flood events in recent years highlights the sensitivity of the Borough in this regard. Flood risk will remain a critical issue for those communities and settlements that lie close to the Rivers Derwent and Cocker and their tributaries.

What are the social, environmental and economic issues identified?

In terms of planning for climate change and flooding the following issues need to be considered:

1. The overall reduction in CO2 emissions within the industrial, domestic and transport sectors and the need to maintain this trend.
2. The contribution that the level of car usage in the Borough makes to overall CO2 emissions and the need to support more sustainable modes of, and reduce the need to, travel.
3. That the adverse affects of climate change be mitigated by promoting energy and water efficiency in new and existing developments
4. That Allerdale has a significant renewable

energy capacity and that there is the potential for further deployment providing there are no adverse environmental and residential impacts

5. Flood risk is a significant threat to many communities in Allerdale and the need to minimise the risk to life and property by directing new development to less vulnerable locations.

SA Objectives

The data analysed supports the inclusion of the following SA Objectives in the SA framework:

NR1: To improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions

NR2: To improve water quality and resources

EN1: To protect and enhance biodiversity

EN2: To preserve, enhance and manage landscape quality and character

EN3: Improve the quality of the built environment

6G: Crime and safety

In comparison to national trends, statistically Allerdale is one of the safest parts of the country to live. However, there is a disproportionate fear of crime and concerns about anti-social behaviour in the evenings, particularly in the town centres.

Allerdale has significant issues around alcohol misuse, with rising rates of recorded crime and violent crime attributable to alcohol.

Hospital admissions for alcohol attributable conditions are also rising and rates of under 18s admitted into hospital with alcohol specific

conditions are above national and regional levels.

The wards of St Michael's, Moss Bay and St John's in Workington have particularly high incidences of crime overall. There is a strong link between deprivation and levels of crime and both St Michael's and Moss Bay fall into the 10% most deprived wards in Cumbria.

Overall, crime rates have reduced in the Borough since 2002, with a notable reduction in the cases of wounding, criminal damage and burglary. Whilst there has been an overall fall in crime, incidents of business crime are on the rise.

	April 2002 to March 2003	April 2006 to March 2007	April 2010 to March 2011
Violence Against the Person	1174	1476	1093
Wounding or Other Act Endangering Life	6	12	12
Other Wounding	698	785	445
Harassment Including Penalty Notices for Disorder	142	280	285
Common Assault	242	288	278
Robbery	22	11	11
Theft from the Person	15	30	24
Criminal Damage Including Arson	2097	2490	1342
Burglary in a Dwelling	563	192	127

Table 7: Notifiable offences recorded by the police (ONS, 2011)

What are the Likely Future Conditions?

It is likely that the Borough overall will continue with relatively low crime rates although area specific problems will continue to persist such as alcohol-fuelled crime in the town centres and deprivation-associated criminal activity in the less prosperous areas.

The fear of crime is high within the Borough despite a low crime rate and without addressing it, this fear will continue.

What are the social, environmental and economic issues identified?

In terms of planning for crime and safety the following issues need to be considered:

1. In many areas crime rates can be linked to the built environment in terms of building design and land uses.
2. More focus need to be given to the design of spaces and places to making places safer and feel more secure.
3. That the lack of wealth, opportunity and prosperity in the more deprived areas of the Borough is a key driver of crime and anti-

social behaviour

4. That excessive alcohol consumption is a key driver of crime and anti-social behaviour, particularly in the town centres.

SA Objectives

The data analysed supports the inclusion of the following SA Objectives in the SA framework:

- SP4: To improve the level of skills, education and training
- SP5: To improve the health and sense of well-being of people
- SP6: To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense local history
- EN3: Improve the quality of the built environment
- EC2: To improve access to jobs

6H: Cultural Heritage

There are over 1,500 listed buildings and 80 scheduled ancient monuments in Allerdale. In addition there are 21 conservation areas that generally fall into three different categories: historic urban centres, coastal villages and traditional rural farming villages.

Each of the Conservation Areas has its own pressures and physical problems, although there are some common problems that exist in most of them. Most have some buildings whose historic appearance has been lost or degraded by inappropriate coverings (such as pebble dash), and by the insertion of windows

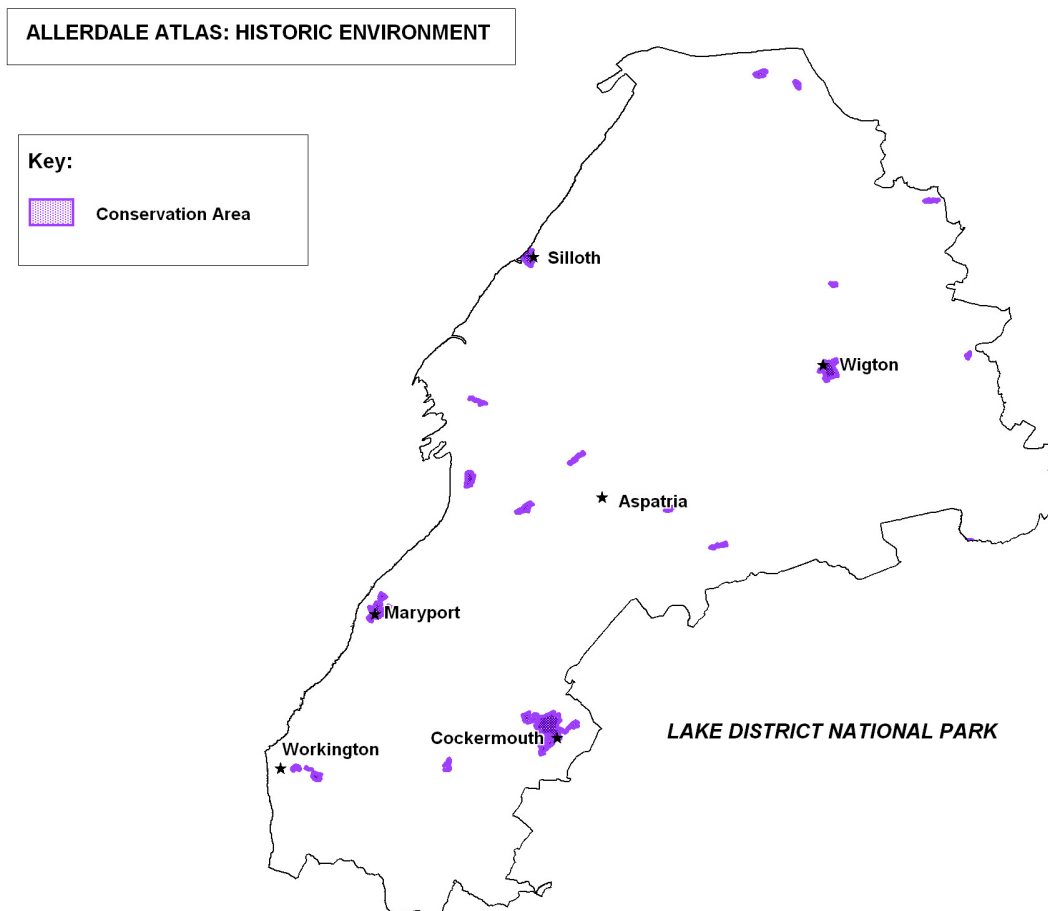


Fig 20: Location of conservation areas in Allerdale

of a style/opening method which does not fit the historic character of the building. The main towns all have areas where the quality of the public realm (i.e. public spaces such as roads, pavements, squares etc) does not adequately compliment the quality of their historic layouts and buildings.

The Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Hadrian's Wall): World Heritage Site covers a wide tract of Northwest Allerdale as illustrated in Fig 21. It was designated as a World Heritage Site by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in 1987 as part of the most complex and best preserved of the frontiers of the Roman Empire.

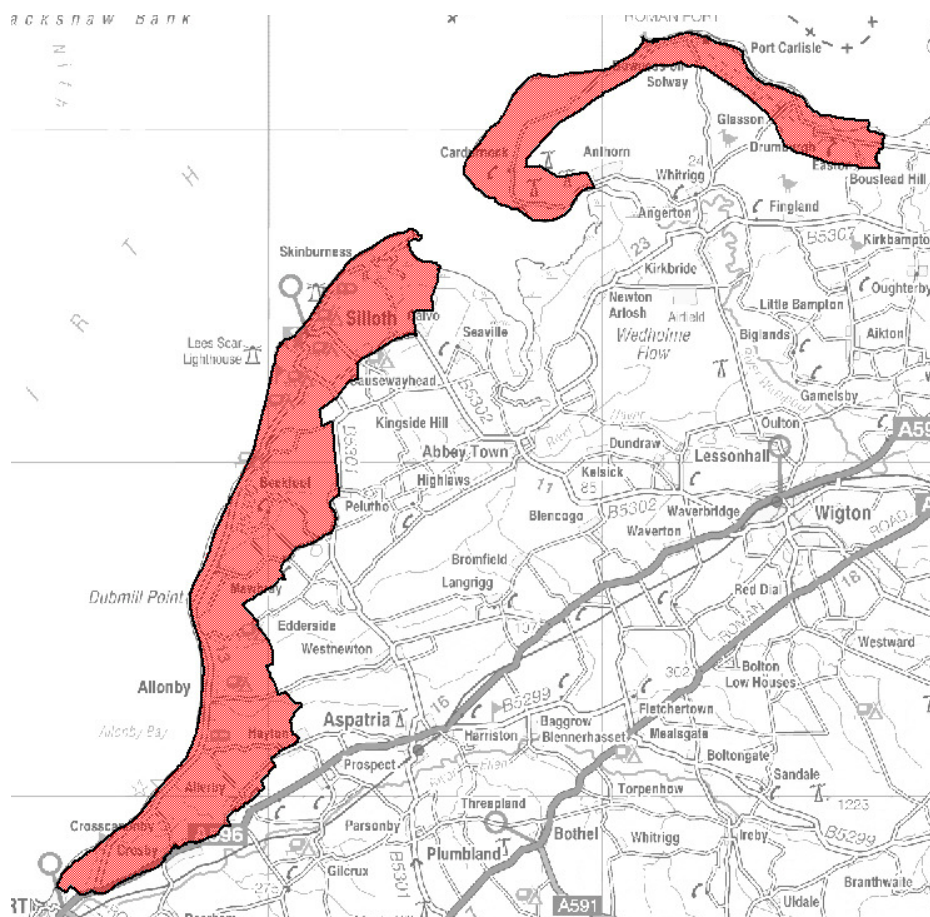


Fig 21: Location of Hadrian Wall WHS

The Hadrian's Wall Path National Trail and the Hadrian's Cycleway provide important recreation and leisure facilities for a large numbers of cyclists, walkers and visitors.

What are the Likely Future Conditions?

The heritage assets and landscapes within the Borough and their settings will need to be conserved and protected from future development and where opportunities arise, enhanced.

However it is recognised that new development that does not pose a direct risk to the significance of the assets may be permissible. Equally it is recognised that cultural heritage can be used beneficially to promote economic growth and support regeneration.

The Council intends to use its heritage assets in a positive and proactive way to bring socio-economic benefits to local communities and also to enhance the understanding of significance of them.

What are the social, environmental and economic issues identified?

In terms of planning for cultural heritage the following issues need to be considered:

1. Safeguarding historic assets and landscapes from inappropriate and harmful forms of development.
2. Using historic assets and landscapes in a positive and proactive way to contribution to economic development and regeneration objectives.
3. Improving access to and the understanding of historic assets and landscapes within the Borough.

SA Objectives

The data analysed supports the inclusion of the following SA Objectives in the SA framework:

SP6: To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense local history

EN2: To preserve, enhance and manage landscape quality and character.

EN3: Improve the quality of the built environment

6I: Physical/Community Infrastructure

An assessment of ‘highway network stress’ has been undertaken by Cumbria County Council on the principal highway links in Allerdale (A595, A596, A66).

The results presented in Table 8 indicate that none of the sectioned assessed experienced stress above 0.90 (or 90% capacity).

While this suggests that there is sufficient capacity in the highway network, it should be noted consideration was not given to the capacity of junctions. Therefore the assessment is unlikely to highlight localised highway issues that may exist.

Traffic Counter & Location	2008 Flows	
	AM Peak	PM Peak
1. A595 - East of Thursby	0.576	0.390
2. A596 - Wigton Bypass	0.248	0.190
3. B5302 - West of Wigton, between Waverbridge / Abbeytown	0.078	0.129
4. A596 - Sandraw, between Waverton / Aspatria	0.172	0.109
5. A595 - Mealsgate	0.266	0.269
6. A596 - Birkby, North East of Maryport	0.181	0.153
7. A594 - Ellenborough, East of Maryport	0.153	0.181
8. A595 - Papcastle Bypass	0.246	0.324
9. A66 - A595 to A5086, East of Papcastle	0.348	0.368
10. A66 - A5086 and A591 near Keswick	0.296	0.298
11. A66 - Between A5986 and B5289, South of Cockermouth	0.306	0.288
12. A5086 - Deanscales, South of Cockermouth	0.171	0.309
13. A596 - Washington Street, Workington	0.343	0.371
14. A596 High Street, Workington	0.321	0.343
15. A66 - Between A596 and A595	0.547	0.524
16. A596 - South East of Workington	0.162	0.196
17. A595 - Between A66 and A596	0.449	0.394
18. A597 High Harrington, Workington	0.139	0.209

Table 8: Highway network stress in Allerdale (CCC, 2009)

In terms of water supply Allerdale is part of the ‘West Cumbria Resource Zone’ which is supplied from Ennerdale Water and Crummock Water. The Zone has 62.9 million litres per day of deployable output and 58.9 million litres per day of water available for use. This is set to reduce to 51.9 million litres per day and 48.2 million litres per day by 2034/35

In terms of future demand, a significant reduction in water available for use is expected to occur in 2014/15 as a result of reduced levels of abstraction from Ennerdale Water due to biodiversity constraints. Consequently a shortfall will begin to emerge by 2014/15 and is projected to continue beyond 2030 as illustrated by Fig 22.

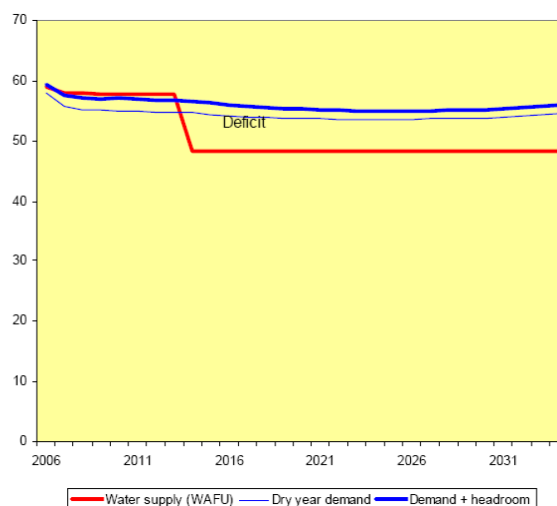


Fig 22: Supply-Demand Balance (Ml/d) (UU, 2009)

United Utilities has undertaken an assessment of all its wastewater treatment works in the Borough, which has identified significant capacity problems in some settlements. Table 9 shows that there are significant identified problems in the towns of Cockermouth and Silloth, and also in the larger villages of Brigham, Dearham and Thursby.

There are several other settlements, which, through modelling and profiling, United Utilities has identified as likely to have capacity issues in the medium term. These include the towns of Workington and Maryport and the villages of Allonby, Kirkbride, Flimby and Prospect.

United Utilities have identified that load-flow solutions may be able to overcome capacity issues in these settlements in the short term. Growth is to be profiled to the later phases of the plan period to allow the funding to be obtained for the necessary upgrades.

Red	Amber	Green
Brigham	Allonby	Aspatria
Cockermouth	Kirkbride	Abbeytown
Dearham	Wigton	Great Clifton
Thursby	Workington	Broughton
Silloth	Maryport	
	Flimby	
	Prospect	

Table 9: WwTW Capacity in Allerdale (UU, 2012)

In relation to education provision there are capacity issues within some of the primary schools in the Borough. As Table 10 demonstrates, a number of schools in the Workington, Maryport, Cockermouth, Wigton and Aspatria localities are operating with numbers on roll (NOR) in excess of, or close to, their total number of places available.

Allerdale is generally well served in terms of accessibility to primary schools. Around 92% of pupils are able to reach a primary education establishment via walking or public transport within 15 minutes and only 1% has difficulties reaching a primary school within 30 minutes of travel.

In terms of secondary education, the capacity problems are less acute. The only school whose NOR exceed the number of places available, albeit marginally, is Cockermouth.

Around 71% of pupils in Allerdale were able to reach a secondary education establishment via walking or public transport within 20 minutes. Around 8% of pupils have difficulties reaching a secondary school within 40 minutes of travel.

	Places Available	NOR JAN 13	Surplus Capacity	Capacity Level
Workington Locality				
Ashfield Infant School	162	163	0	100.6%
Beckstone Primary School	266	285	0	107.1%
Seaton CE Junior School	216	223	0	103.2%
Seaton CE Junior School	216	223	0	103.2%
St Gregory's Catholic Primary School	196	206	0	105.1%
Victoria Infant and Nursery School	162	164	0	101.2%
Maryport Locality				
Ewanrigg Junior School	160	163	0	101.9%
Flimby Primary School	105	108	0	102.9%
Netherton Infant School	69	71	0	102.9%
Our Lady & St Patrick's Catholic Primary School	161	177	0	109.9%
Cockermouth Locality				
Bridekirk Dovenby CE Primary School	105	113	0	107.6%
St Bridget's CE School	105	107	0	101.9%
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	56	59	0	105.4%
Wigton Locality				
Boltons CE School	91	96	0	105.5%
Wigton Infant School	162	164	0	101.2%
Aspatria Locality				
Blennerhasset School	28	41	0	146.4%
Richmond Hill School	161	169	0	105.0%

Table 10: Primary School Capacity in Allerdale (CCC, 2013)

Seven of the GP surgeries in Allerdale are at, or approaching full capacity. These are located in the Workington, Maryport, Cockermouth and Aspatria localities.

Around 80% of households in Allerdale were able to reach a GP surgery via walking or public transport within 15 minutes and only around 3% have difficulties reaching a GP surgery within 30 minutes of travel.

	Capacity Level
Workington Locality	
Beechwood Group Practice	94%
Dr P Crosby & Partners	64%
James Street Group Practice	95%
Oxford Street Surgery	100%
Solway Health Services	99%
Maryport Locality	
Maryport Health Services	96%
Cockermouth Locality	
Derwent House Surgery	100%
Fitz Road Surgery	84%
South Street Surgery	99%
Wigton Locality	
Caldbeck Surgery	75%
Kirkbride Surgery	84%
Wigton Group Medical Practice	100%
Aspatria Locality	
Dr D S Wheatley	83%
West Street Practice	85%
Silloth Locality	
Silloth Group Medical Practice	74%
Allerdale (ex. Keswick)	90%

Table 11: Assessment of local GP Capacity (ABC, 2010)

In terms of open space, the open space audit carried out by the Council indicated Workington is the only locality where the current level of overall provision is greater than the required standard. All other localities (Maryport, Cockermouth, Wigton, Silloth and Aspatria) demonstrate a deficit.

Across all typologies (parks and gardens, natural and semi natural space, amenity green space, children's play areas, outdoor sports spaces and allotment spaces) the deficit is highest for the provision of allotments.

The Audit also illustrates there is currently surplus capacity in the provision for swimming pools, sports halls and sufficient capacity in the provision of synthetic turf pitches. However there is an undersupply of indoor bowls facilities.

One of the key findings of the Audit is that whilst there is an adequate level of provision of open space and indoor/outdoor sports facilities, in many cases the quality is poor, which in turn has an impact on the levels of use.

What are the Likely Future Conditions?

It is likely that highway network stress will increase due to the rise in the number of cars forecast. This will have implications for highway safety and also air quality. Highway improvements will need to be secured from developer contributions, where needed, to offset any adverse impacts in this regard.

Water shortages are forecast for the Borough in the near future. This will require efficiency measures from both suppliers (in terms of reducing leakage), developers (in terms of incorporating water efficiency measure in new developments) and residents (in terms of reducing overall domestic consumption of water).

Further discussions with United Utilities have identified that load-flow solutions may be able to overcome wastewater capacity issues in the short term in some of these settlements. Notwithstanding this, United Utilities maintain that any programmed growth should be profiled to the back end of the plan period.

In terms of open space, sports and education

provision, any increased requirement as a result of population uplift caused by new development will need to be met, in part, by developers through financial contributions.

In terms of open space and sports facilities specifically, the Council will seek to ensure that both quantity and quality standards are met.

What are the social, environmental and economic issues identified?

In terms of planning for physical and community infrastructure the following issues need to be considered:

1. That stress on the local highway network is likely to increase as a result of the forecast increase in the number of cars on the road.
2. That a deficit in the provision of drinking water is likely to emerge and therefore water efficiency measures will need to be incorporated into new developments in order to reduce overall consumption
3. That wastewater treatment capacity is critical in some settlements within the Borough and the need to phase new

development and growth in those locations to allow for the necessary upgrades

4. That the likely future increase in population and the number of households will put pressure on the capacity within primary and secondary schools.
5. That the likely future increase in population and the number of households will put pressure on the healthcare capacity, particularly access to GP surgeries.
6. That the quantity and quality of open space and sports facilities in the Borough needs to be improved and that provision will need to match the likely future increase in population and the number of households.

SA Objectives

The data analysed supports the inclusion of the following SA Objectives in the SA framework:

- SP2: To improve access to services, facilities, the countryside and open spaces
- SP5: To improve the health and sense of well-being of people

SP6: To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense local history

EN1: To protect and enhance biodiversity

EN2: To preserve, enhance and manage landscape quality and character

EN3: Improve the quality of the built environment

NR1: To improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions

NR2: To improve water quality and resources

EC2: To improve access to jobs

EC3: To diversify and strengthen the local economy

6J: Natural Environment

Allerdale has a rich natural environment, recognised on an international, national and regional scale.

The far north and the Solway Firth are also internationally designated as Special Conservation Areas and Special Protection Areas. There is also an extensive spread of Sites of Special Scientific Interest across the Plan Area, which are nationally protected.

Designated Sites within Allerdale	
Special Protection Area (SPA)	Upper Solway Flats and Marshes (covers wider area than Allerdale)
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	A total of 49 SSSIs are designated within the Borough. This amounts to 34,874 hectares of land
Local Nature Reserves (LNR)	Harrington Nature Reserve and Siddick Ponds Nature Reserve
UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitats	Allerdale contains 8 out of the 10 UK BAP Priority Habitats. This amounts to 26,692 hectares of land

Table 12: Designated Sites within Allerdale (Cumbria BN, 2012) (Natural England, 2013)

In terms of the quality of protected sites, Natural England has surveyed the SSSIs within the Borough. Table 12 indicates that only 11% are in a favourable condition but many sites (80%) that were previously in an unfavourable condition are now considered to be in the process of recovery.

	Area (Ha)	% Total Area Assessed
Favourable	3918.94	11.25
Unfavourable recovering	28219.76	80.91
Unfavourable no change	2268.06	6.50
Unfavourable declining	458.41	1.32
Part destroyed	9.29	0.03
	34874.46	100.00

Table 13: Condition of SSSIs in Allerdale (Natural England,

The area provides a range of important habitats for a number of key protected species. Coastal areas are recognised as being home to Natterjack Toads and the Small Blue Butterfly. Great Crested Newts, Otters and Red Squirrels are also found throughout the Plan Area.

The area in and around Dean Moor is recognised as a Hen Harrier Protection Zone and the marshes of northern Allerdale provide

important habitat for wild geese and swans (Cumbria County Council Biodiversity Data Network).

There are a number of Species Action Plans set out within the Cumbria Biodiversity Action Plan that are of relevance to Allerdale:

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| Mammals: | Bats |
| | Red squirrel |
| | Water vole |
| Birds: | Barn owl |
| | Song thrush |
| Fish: | Vendace |
| Amphibians: | Great crested newt |
| | Natterjack toad |
| Butterflies: | Pearl-bordered fritillary |
| | Marsh fritillary |
| Moths: | Netted carpet moth |
| Dragonflies: | Variable damselfly |
| Mosses: | Slender green feather |
| Lichen: | Lobaria amplissima |
| Vascular plants: | Juniper |

Allerdale contains very high quality landscapes with two areas of national designation: the Lake District National Park to the east and the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to the west and north (see Fig 23)

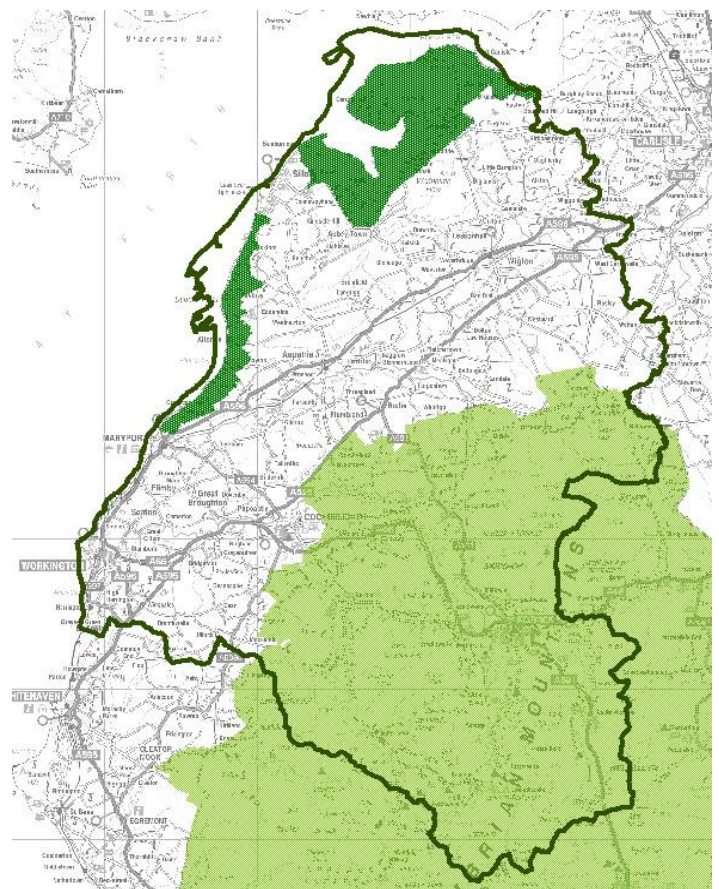


Fig 23: Nationally designated landscapes in Allerdale

Although the Lake District National Park lies within the Borough it does not form part of the Plan Area. However decisions in relation to development and growth in locations close to the boundary must have regards to the potential impact on its setting. This particularly relates to the town of Cockermouth.

Within the Plan Area the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty covers the coastal strip north of Maryport and over the border into Carlisle (see Fig 24). It contains many important biodiversity features protected by international and national designations.

The area also has significant archaeological and historical assets, including the internationally designated Frontiers of the Roman Empire - Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site.

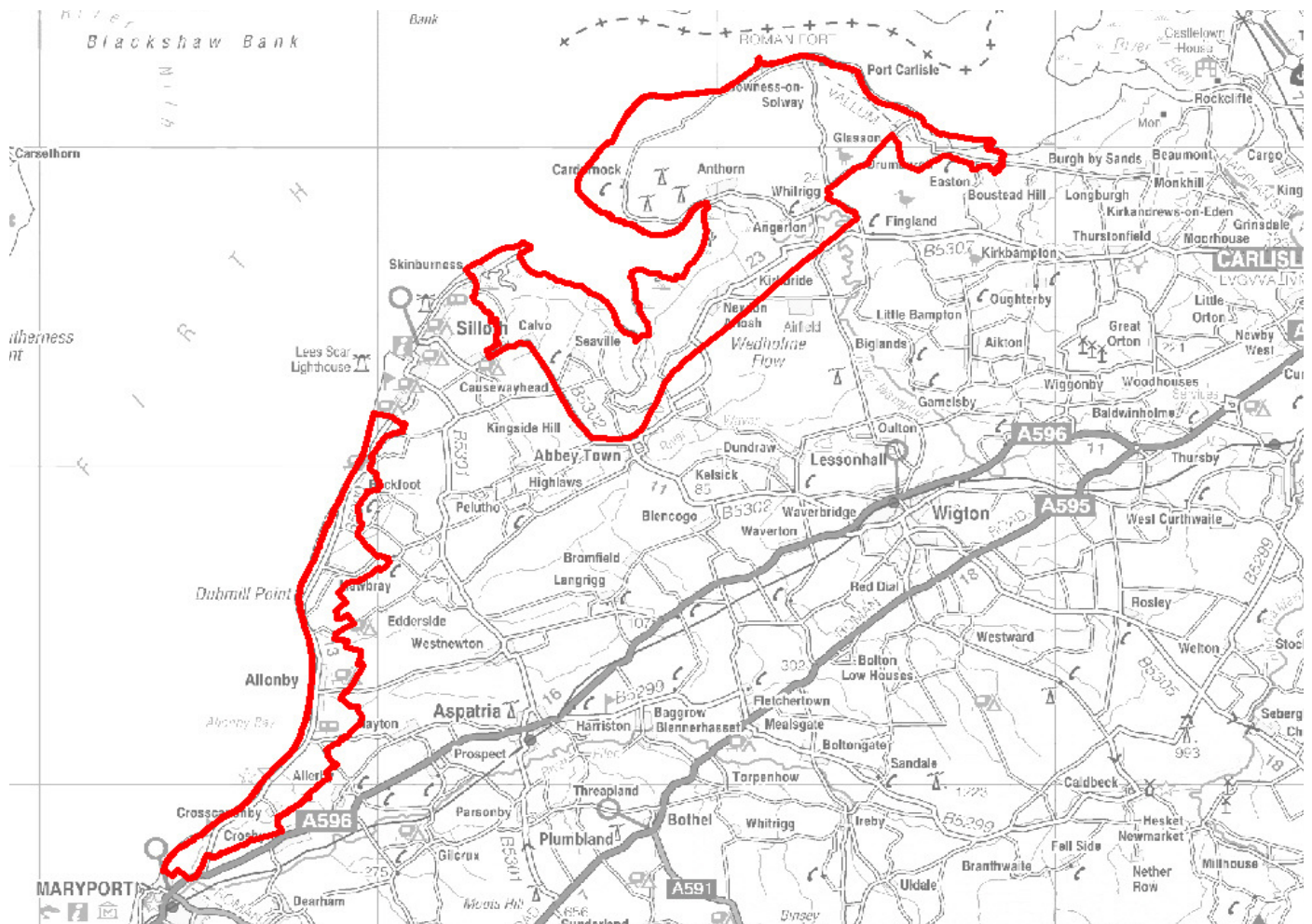


Fig 24: Solway coast AONB area

The Cumbria Landscape Character Assessment and Toolkit identifies that physical and cultural influences have combined to create the unique and distinctive character of the rural landscape of the county (see Fig 25)

The area is characterised by a diversity of landscapes and these variations and differences are represented by thirteen landscape types:

- Type 1: Bay and Estuary
- Type 2: Coastal Margins

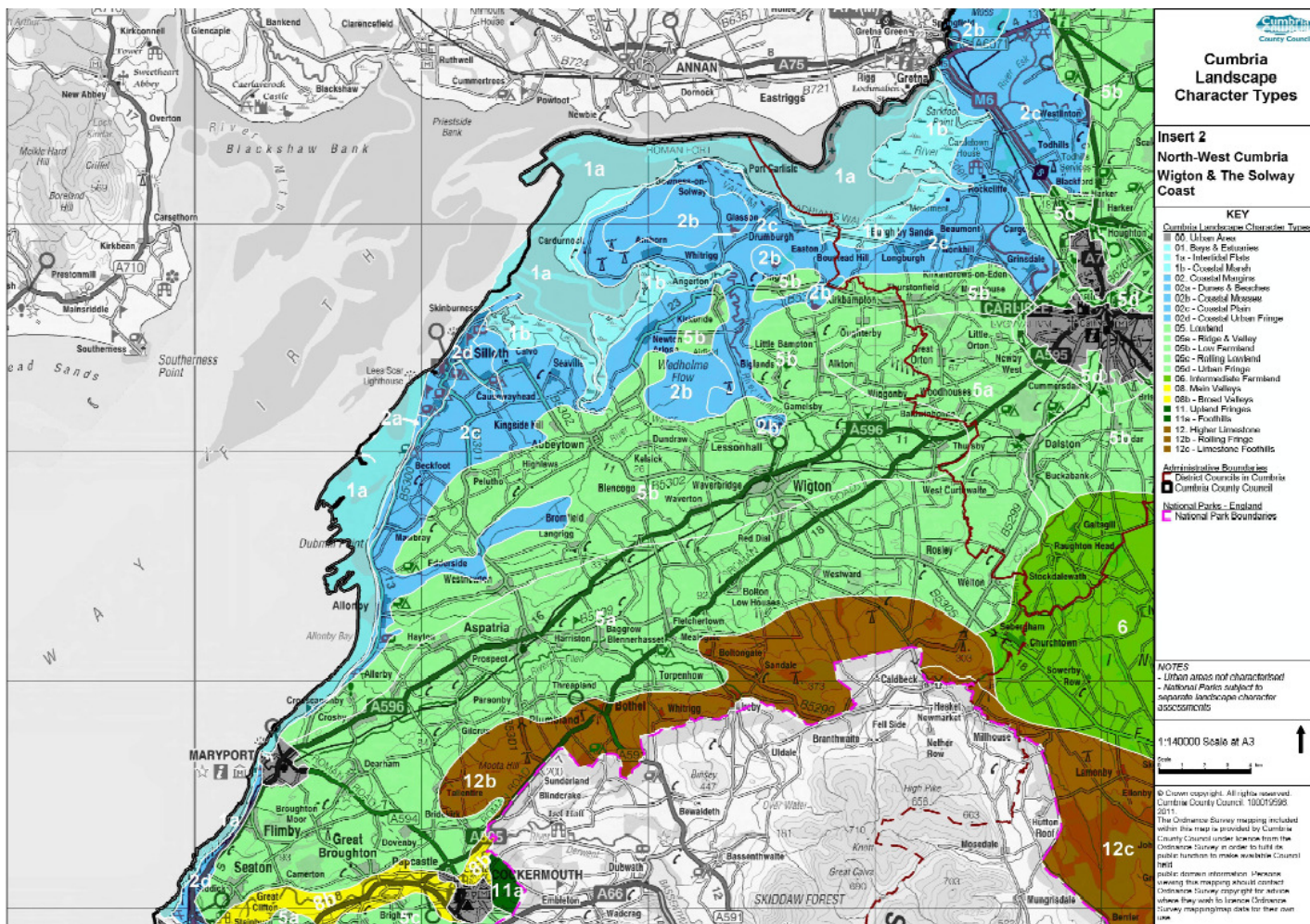


Fig 25: Landscape types in Allerdale (CCC, 2010)

- Type 3: Coastal Limestone
- Type 4: Coastal Sandstone
- Type 5: Lowland
- Type 6: Intermediate Farmland
- Type 7: Drumlins
- Type 8: Main Valleys
- Type 9: Intermediate Moorland and Plateau
- Type 10: Sandstone Ridge
- Type 11: Upland Fringes
- Type 12: Higher Limestone
- Type 13: Fells and Scarp

What are the Likely Future Conditions?

In terms of biodiversity it is anticipated that both environmental and planning policy frameworks will continue to support protect and enhance biodiversity assets.

Evidence suggests that the SSSIs located within the plan area have suffered a deterioration in condition. However, it is expected that this coordinated approach will sustain the ongoing recovery of the SSSIs located within the plan area.

These policy frameworks will also seeks to safeguard protected wildlife species and their

habitats. However there are a number of projected species 'at risk' (such as Hen Harriers and Small Blue Butterfly) and these will continue to be vulnerable into the future. Ensuring their prosperity and survival in the area will need to be given high priority.

With regards to landscape, the most popular and visited areas (and habitats and species within) will continue to be under pressure from human impacts. In order to safeguard landscape character, minimise adverse impacts and ensure that the assets that make the Borough a popular visitor destination the landscape must be protected from unsympathetic development and land uses.

What are the social, environmental and economic issues identified?

In terms of planning for the natural environment the following issues need to be considered:

1. Protect biodiversity and geodiversity assets, including SSSI s and SPAs from harmful and unsympathetic forms of development
2. Prevent the decline in the numbers of

protected species and safeguard their associated habitats from destruction and disturbance from new development

3. Safeguard the landscape character of the borough from unsympathetic forms of development in particular the nationally designated landscapes of Lake District National Park and Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

landscape quality and character

NR1: To improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions

NR2: To improve water quality and resources

SA Objectives

The data analysed supports the inclusion of the following SA Objectives in the SA framework:

SP2: To improve access to services, facilities, the countryside and open spaces

SP5: To improve the health and sense of well-being of people

SP6: To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense local history

EN1: To protect and enhance biodiversity

EN2: To preserve, enhance and manage

7

Task A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems

Tasks A1 (review of the plans, policies, strategies and guidance influencing the Site Allocations DPD) and A2 (collection of and analysis of baseline data) has enabled the sustainability issues and problems affecting the Borough to be identified.

The issues have been set out under the headings of economic, social and environmental. There are a number of issues that cut across more than one category, these have only been included under one heading.

Economic Issues

- Diversify the local economy
- Attract inward investment and generate higher paid jobs.
- Reduce the disparity between the deprived and prosperous areas within the Borough.
- Encourage the establishment of research and development institutions.
- Reduce the widening regional disparities in wealth, reflected in the low level in Growth Value Added.
- Ensure that sustainable economic development occurs in the right place at

the right time.

- Address the poor accessibility to the national transport networks.
- Ensure the viability and vitality of key centres.
- Widen the skills base.
- Address long term and structural unemployment.
- Ensure protection and enhancement of the built/ historic environment.
- Protect and enhance landscape and biodiversity as a resource for the natural economy

Social Issues

- Improve access to affordable and balanced housing markets.
- Reduce the number of vacant and derelict properties.
- Improve access to services and facilities in rural areas.
- Reduce the need to travel.
- Improve public transport provision in rural areas.
- Reduce the level of reliance on the private

car.

- Stem the loss of young people, particularly graduates.
- Reduce the levels of deprivation within certain areas of the Borough
- Improve levels of health in deprived areas.
- Reduce the fear of crime.
- Improve access to green spaces and the countryside.

Environmental Issues

- Protect and enhance natural resources, biodiversity and geodiversity.
- Conserve and enhance the character and quality of the landscape.
- Encourage energy efficient development.
- Restore and protect land and soil
- Protect local distinctiveness and enhance townscape character.
- Protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments and their settings.
- Promote the use of renewable energy resources and water efficient design in new developments.

- Reduce the risks from flooding
- Protect and improve water quality and conservation
- Management and maintenance of landscape and heritage
- Encourage renewable energy and energy efficiency and reduce the need to travel.
- Encourage the recycling of waste by the provision of facilities in new development.
- Protection of good grade agricultural land
- Encourage renewable energy and energy efficiency and reduce the need to travel.
- Effects of global warming and rise in sea levels.

8

Task A4: Developing the sustainability appraisal framework

The SA framework used for assessing local plans was developed jointly with other Cumbrian local planning authorities, Cumbria County Council's Sustainability Officer and the statutory agencies. The 16 objectives are structured around the four national objectives for sustainable development:

1. Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
2. Effective protection of the environment
3. Prudent use of natural resources
4. Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.

Government guidance on undertaking sustainability appraisals makes it clear that the SA Report (including its framework) should reflect the nature and scope of the DPD to which it relates. It also states that the SA objectives within the framework should be manageable and measurable in order to help monitor whether the key objectives of the DPD are being met.

Accordingly, the SA framework that has been developed to assess the social, environmental and economic impacts of the Site Allocations DPD is significantly different from the SA

framework that accompanies the Strategic and Development Management Policies DPD. The primary reason for this relates to the fact that the Strategic and Development Management Policies DPD has a much greater remit than the Site Allocations DPD and covers a wider range of sustainability issues.

Therefore a screening exercise has been undertaken in order to identify which sustainability objectives and sub-objectives within the SA framework are relevant to the Site Allocations DPD.

The results of the screening exercise are shown in Table 14. Those considered to be applicable to the Site Allocations DPD are highlighted in green and those not considered applicable are highlighted in red.

Table 14: Results of sustainability objectives screening exercise

Sustainability Objectives		Sub-Objectives	Can the Site Allocations DPD contribute to this sub-objective?	
Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone				
SP1	To increase the level of participation in democratic processes	Increase community involvement and participation in the democratic process	Yes	Allocate sites in locations where village halls and community centres are within walking distance or are accessible by sustainable transport
SP2	To improve access to services, facilities, the countryside and open spaces	Improve accessibility to key services and facilities	Yes	Allocate sites in locations where essential services and facilities are either in walking distance or are accessible by public transport
				Protect existing shops and facilities in town centres and rural areas. Identify sites for new services and facilities where there is an identified need
		Ensure that physical access to transport facilities, buildings and public spaces are suitable for those with a disability	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
		Improve access to sports facilities, open space and the wider countryside	Yes	Allocate sites in locations where Green Infrastructure is within walking distance or accessible by public transport.
			Protect existing areas of functional open space and provide new areas in locations where deficiencies have been identified	
SP3	To provide everyone with a decent home.	Ensuring the delivery of good quality resource efficient housing	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
		Ensuring the affordable housing is available to all	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
SP4	To improve the level of skills, education and training	Increase the level of educational attainment and improve the skills base	Yes	Allocate sites in locations where education and training facilities are within walking distance or are accessible by sustainable transport
				Allocate new sites for skills and education purposes and safeguard existing sites for future expansion where there is a identified deficiency or (future) need
		Recognise the need for people to adapt to economic change and retrain where necessary	Yes	Allocate sites in locations where education and training facilities are within walking distance or are accessible by sustainable transport
				Allocate new sites for skills and education purposes and safeguard existing sites for future expansion where there is a identified deficiency or (future) need
		Enable people to live sustainable lifestyles	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies

Table 14: Results of sustainability objectives screening exercise (contd)

Sustainability Objectives		Sub-Objectives	Can the Site Allocations DPD contribute to this sub-objective?	
SP5	To improve the health and sense of well-being of people.	Ensure accessibility to healthcare services and improve health inequalities associated with income, lifestyle and diet	Yes	Allocate sites in locations where healthcare facilities are within walking distance or are accessible by sustainable transport Allocate new sites for healthcare purposes and safeguard existing sites for future expansion where there is a identified deficiency or (future) need
		Create a healthy and safe working and living environment with low rates of crime and disorder	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
SP6	To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open minded communities with a strong sense of local history.	Improve sense of community identity, sense of place and local history	Yes	Allocate sites in locations where village halls and community centres are within walking distance or are accessible by sustainable transport
		Increase participation in arts and cultural activities	Yes	Allocate sites in locations where arts and cultural facilities are within walking distance or are accessible by sustainable transport Allocate new sites for arts and cultural facilities purposes and safeguard existing sites for future expansion where there is a identified deficiency or (future) need
		Provide opportunities for recreation and increase participation in sports	Yes	Allocate sites in locations where recreational and sports facilities are within walking distance or are accessible by sustainable transport Allocate new sites for recreational and sports facilities and safeguard existing sites for future expansion where there is a identified deficiency or (future) need
Effective protection of the environment				
EN1	To protect and enhance biodiversity.	Protect and conserve rare, declining, threatened and indigenous habitats and species	Yes	Allocate sites for development in locations that minimise the impact/risk to existing biodiversity and geodiversity assets Designate new sites of biodiversity/geodiversity interest and safeguard existing sites
		Ensure biodiversity sustainability by enhancing conditions to retain viability of the resource	Yes	Allocate sites for development in locations that minimise the impact/risk to the functioning and role of existing wildlife corridors Designate new wildlife corridors and safeguard existing corridors
		Minimise adverse impacts on species and habitats through human activities and development	Yes	Allocate sites for development that minimise the impact on protected sites and species and/or local importance

Table 14: Results of sustainability objectives screening exercise (contd)

Sustainability Objectives	Sub-Objectives	Can the Site Allocations DPD contribute to this sub-objective?		
EN2	To preserve, enhance and manage landscape quality and character for future generations.	Protect local landscape quality, distinctiveness and character for unsympathetic changes	Yes	Allocate sites for development that would have the least landscape impact
		Protect the character, appearance and setting of world heritage sites (WHS), designated archaeological sites (DAS) and historic parks and gardens (HPG)	Yes	Allocate sites for development that would minimise impact on the interests of WHS, DAS and HPG
		Sustain and extend tree cover, hedgerows, woodlands	Yes	Allocate sites that would minimise loss of tree cover, hedgerows and woodlands
EN3	To improve the quality of the built environment.	Conserve features of historic and archaeological importance	Yes	Allocate sites that would minimise impact on features of historic and archaeological importance
		Ensure that new development is of high quality, sympathetic to the character of the built environment and strengthens local distinctiveness	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
		Promote the re-use of buildings, sustainable design/construction and the use of locally sourced materials	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
		Guide inappropriate development away from flood risk areas	Yes	Allocate sites in low risk Flood Zones
		Reduce noise levels and light pollution	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
Sustainable use and management of natural resources				
NR1	To improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	Ensure that air quality is not adversely affected and seek to improve it where necessary	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
		Limit or reduce the emission of greenhouses gases and other air pollutants	Yes	Allocate housing and employment sites in locations that reduce the need to travel and/or are accessible by public transport
		Encourage the use of clean low carbon energy efficient technologies	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
		Maximise the use of energy from renewable resources	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
		Reduce the need to travel and encourage a switch from private car to public/sustainable transport modes	Yes	Allocate housing and employment sites in locations accessible by bus and rail Safeguard land around existing stations to enable future expansion
		Mitigate against the impacts of climate change	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies

Table 14: Results of sustainability objectives screening exercise (contd)

Sustainability Objectives	Sub-Objectives	Can the Site Allocations DPD contribute to this sub-objective?		
NR2	To improve water quality and water resources.	Maintain and where possible improve the quality of all water resources	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
		Minimise the risk of water pollution from all resources	Yes	Allocate sites in locations that minimise the risk of pollution of water resources
		Ensure that SUDS are widely used	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
		Encourage the effective management of water	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
NR3	To restore and protect land and soil.	Encourage development on brownfield sites and remediate contaminated soils	Yes	Allocate sites on brownfield land in preference to greenfield wherever possible
		Minimise the loss of greenfield sites and areas of open space to development	Yes	Allocate sites that avoid the loss of open space wherever possible
				Protect existing areas of functional open space and provide new areas in locations where deficiencies have been identified
		Prevent soil degradation and the pollution of soil	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
NR4	To manage mineral resources sustainably, minimise waste and encourage recycling	Safeguard identified mineral resources	Yes	Allocate sites outside of mineral safeguarding areas
		Increase re-use, recovery and recycling of industrial, commercial and household waste	Yes	Delivery will be supported by the Waste and Minerals Local Plan
		Promote the use of energy recovered from waste	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
Building a sustainable economy				
EC1	To retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities.	Increase the number, variety and quality of employment opportunities.	Yes	Allocate housing sites in locations where key employment sites are either in walking distance or are accessible by public transport
				Protect existing key employment sites and identify sites for new employment sites where there is an identified need
		Support local companies and help local businesses develop export markets	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
		Retain a skilled workforce and graduate in Cumbria	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies

Table 14: Results of sustainability objectives screening exercise (contd)

Sustainability Objectives	Sub-Objectives	Can the Site Allocations DPD contribute to this sub-objective?		
EC2	To improve access to jobs	Increase access for all to a range of jobs through improved training, sustainable transport and communications	Yes	Allocate housing sites in locations where employment and training facilities are either in walking distance or are accessible by public transport
				Protect existing education and training facilities and identify sites for new employment sites where there is an identified need
		Locate new employment opportunities in the areas of greatest need	Yes	Allocate sites in locations that meet the identified needs of both the urban and rural economies of the Borough
EC3	To diversify and strengthen the local economy	Provide buildings and infrastructure to encourage inward and private sector investment	Yes	Allocate employment sites in locations that would be attractive to inward investors
				Protect and safeguard key employment sites to allow future expansion
				Protect and safeguard future strategic infrastructure sites/routes
		Stimulate the use of local companies, local products and services and provide other forms of community benefit	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
		Increase the environmental performance of local companies	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies
		Encourage innovation, enterprise and diversification in rural areas	Yes	Allocate rural employment sites where there is an identified need/shortfall
	Improve the competitiveness and productivity of the local economy	No	Delivery will be supported by strategic and development management policies	

Table 14 shows that, whilst 15 of the 16 of the sustainability objectives are considered to be relevant, only 28 of the 51 sub-objectives are considered so. This is indicative of the narrower scope of the Site Allocations DPD.

The following step involved developing a series of appraisal questions and indicators for each relevant SA sub-objective, in order to provide a framework for the assessment of sites.

The appraisal questions break each EA sub-objective into a number of (inter) related questions. These questions have then been translated into a number of spatially-orientated indicators. This is presented in Table 15.

Table 15: Appraisal questions and indicators for site assessment

SA Objective	Sub Objective	Appraisal Questions	Indicator
Social progress that meets the needs of everyone			
SP1 To increase the level of participation in the democratic process	Increase community involvement and participation in the democratic process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it encourage participation in the democratic process? Will it help members of society to participate in the democratic process? 	Proximity to village hall, civic building or community centre
SP2 To improve access to services and facilities, the countryside and open spaces	Improve accessibility to key services and facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it improve access to shops and services which provide for people's day to day needs? Will it help retain essential local facilities? Will it reduce the need to travel by private car? 	Proximity to shop Proximity to GP/Community Hospital <i>Proximity to village hall, civic building or community centre</i> Proximity to primary school Proximity to secondary school Proximity to bus stop Proximity to train station
	Improve access to sports facilities, open space and the wider countryside	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it promote healthy lifestyles and improve opportunities for walking and cycling? Will it improve access to the Green Infrastructure network? Will it improve access to sports facilities? Will it result in a loss of open space? 	Proximity to cycle route; Proximity to Public Right of Way (PROW); Proximity to park/public open space; Proximity to sports facility/pitch/hall. Would involve loss of open space?
SP4 To improve the level of skills education and training	Increase the level of educational attainment and improve the skills base	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it increase the level of participation and attainment in education and training? Will it help Borough residents adapt to economic change and obtain new skills and training where necessary? Will it contribute to reducing unemployment? 	<i>Proximity to primary school</i> <i>Proximity to secondary school</i> Proximity to further/higher education facilities Proximity to training facilities

Table 15: Appraisal questions and indicators for site assessment (contd)

SA Objective	Sub Objective	Appraisal Questions	Indicator
SP5 To improve the health and sense of wellbeing of people	Ensure accessibility to healthcare services and improve health inequalities associated with income, lifestyle and diet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it promote healthier lifestyles and better quality of life? Will it improve access to healthcare? Will it encourage a safe working and living environment with low rates of crime and disorder? 	<i>Proximity to health services;</i> <i>Proximity to park/public open space</i> <i>Proximity to sports facility/pitch/hall</i> <i>Proximity to cycle route;</i> <i>Proximity to PROW;</i>
SP6 To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open minded communities with a strong sense of local history	Improve sense of community identity, sense of place and local history	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it increase the opportunities to engage with others in the community and take part in local activities? Will it facilitate the promotion and appreciation of local history? 	<i>Proximity to village halls, civic building or community centre</i>
	Increase participation in arts and cultural activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it increase the opportunity to take part in the arts and cultural activities? 	Proximity to cultural facility (cinema, museum, theatre, art gallery, concert hall)
	Provide opportunities for recreation and increase participation in sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it promote healthy, active lifestyles? Will it improve access to the Green Infrastructure network? Will it improve access to sports facilities? Will it result in a loss of open space? 	<i>Proximity to cycle route;</i> <i>Proximity to PROW;</i> <i>Proximity to public open space.</i> <i>Proximity to public/community sports facility/pitch/hall.</i> <i>Would involve loss of open space?</i>

Table 15: Appraisal questions and indicators for site assessment (contd)

SA Objective	Sub Objective	Appraisal Questions	Indicator
Effective protection of the environment			
EN1 To protect and enhance biodiversity	<p>Protect and conserve rare, declining, threatened and indigenous habitats and species</p> <p>Ensure biodiversity sustainability by enhancing conditions to retain viability of the resource</p> <p>Minimise adverse impacts on species and habitats through human activities and development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity? • Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interests? • Will it minimise adverse impacts on species and habitats through new development and human activity? 	<p>Proximity to internationally designated sites: Special Srea of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Area (SPA)</p> <p>Proximity to nationally designated sites: Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</p> <p>Proximity to regionally/ locally designated sites : Local Nature Reserves (LNR), Local Wildlife Sites (LWS), Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitats (BAP-PH)</p>
EN2 To preserve and enhance landscape quality and character	<p>Protect local landscape quality, distinctiveness and character for unsympathetic changes</p> <p>Protect the character, appearance and setting of world heritage sites (WHS), designated archaeological sites (DAS) and historic parks and gardens (HPG)</p> <p>Sustain and extend tree cover, hedgerows, woodlands</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it protect landscape quality, distinctiveness and character? • Will it protect character, appearance and setting of world heritage sites, designated archaeological sites, historic parks and gardens? 	<p>Proximity to Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)</p> <p>Proximity to Lake District National Park (LDNP)</p> <p>Proximity to Hadrian's Wall WHS</p> <p>Proximity to Sites of Archeological Interest</p> <p>Proximity to historic park or garden</p> <p>Would involve development within sensitive landscape?</p>
EN3 To improve the quality of the built environment	<p>Conserve features of historic and archaeological importance</p> <p>Guide inappropriate development away from flood risk areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it protect and enhance the character and appearance of the Borough's archaeological sites, historic buildings, townscape and conservation areas? • Will inappropriate development be guided away from flood risk areas? • Where development is permitted will risks to people and property be properly mitigated? 	<p>Proximity to Conservation Area</p> <p>Proximity to Listed building(s)</p> <p>Proximity to SAM</p> <p>Proximity to high risk Flood Risk Zones</p>

Table 15: Appraisal questions and indicators for site assessment (contd)

SA Objective	Sub Objective	Appraisal Questions	Indicator
Sustainable use and management of natural resources			
NR1 To improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions	Reduce the need to travel and encourage a switch from private car to public/ sustainable transport modes Encourage the use of clean low carbon energy efficient technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it reduce the need to travel by car and promote travelling by alternative means such as public transport, cycling or walking? Will it facilitate switching the transport of goods from road to rail or water? Will it maximise the use of energy from renewable resources? 	<i>Proximity to bus stop</i> <i>Proximity to train station</i> <i>Proximity to cycle route;</i> <i>Proximity to PROW</i>
NR2 To improve water quality and water resources	Minimise the risk of water pollution from all resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it lead to the pollution or lowering of quality a watercourse? Will it have an adverse effect on water resources? 	Proximity to watercourse Proximity to Groundwater Source Protection Zone
NR3 To restore and protect land and soil	Encourage development on brownfield sites and remediate contaminated soils Minimise the loss of greenfield sites and areas of open space to development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it make reuse of a previous developed site? Will it minimize the loss of greenfield sites, area of open spaces and amenity and productive land? 	Would involve development within Agricultural Land Classification Grade 1, 2 and 3a? <i>Would involve loss of open space?</i> Would involve development of brownfield land?
NR4 To manage mineral resources sustainably, minimize waste and encourage recycling	Safeguard identified mineral resources Increase re-use, recovery and recycling of industrial, commercial and household waste Promote the use of energy recovered from waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it increase the reuse, recovery and recycling of waste? Will it protect mineral resources 	Proximity to recycling facilities Proximity to minerals safeguarding areas

Table 15: Appraisal questions and indicators for site assessment (contd)

SA Objective	Sub Objective	Appraisal Questions	Indicator
Building a sustainable economy			
EC1 To retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities	Increase the number, variety and quality of employment opportunities;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it increase the number, variety and quality of employment opportunities, including those offered by tourism, social enterprise and inward investment? • Will it safeguard/enhance key employment sites • Will it support rural enterprise? 	<i>Proximity to further/ higher education</i> <i>Proximity to training/ skills provider</i> Would involve loss of valuable employment land?
EC2 To improve access to jobs	Increase access to a range of jobs through improved training, sustainable transport and communications. Locate new employment opportunities in the areas of greatest need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it improve access to training facilities • Will allow access to employment sites by sustainable transport modes? • Will it lead to the location of new employment opportunities in areas of greatest need? • Will it allow access to the high-speed broadband network? 	<i>Proximity to key employment sites</i> <i>Proximity to bus stop</i> <i>Proximity to train station</i> <i>Proximity to cycle route;</i> <i>Proximity to PROW</i> Ability to connect to high-speed broadband network
EC3 To diversify and strengthen the local economy	Provide buildings and infrastructure to encourage inward and private sector investment Encourage innovation, enterprise and diversification in rural areas Support research and development into environmental and other new key sector technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it help create the right environment and infrastructure to encourage private sector investment? • Will it support the development and expansion of local firms? • Will it encourage diversification, innovation and entrepreneurship? • Will it support the development of the rural economy? 	<i>Proximity to key employment sites</i> <i>Proximity to further/ higher education</i> <i>Proximity to training/ skills provider</i> <i>Proximity to bus stop</i> <i>Proximity to train station</i>

The indicators identified in Table 15 have been developed into a series of assessment criteria to be used to appraise the sustainability of individual sites. These are set out in Table 16.

The assessment criteria set out a range of distance parameters that will be used to assess the performance of the site in relation to identified sustainability objectives. These distances will be measured 'as the crow flies' using GIS mapping

The distance threshold to assess accessibility to shops, services and facilities has been taken from guidance within Manual for Streets (DfT, 2007; 2010) which identifies 2km as a distance where walking could reasonably replace car journeys. The distance thresholds to assess impacts on biodiversity, geodiversity and heritage assets have been developed based on those used by other local planning authorities elsewhere in England who have applied a 400m distance.

The distance parameters have been categorised, in terms of sustainability, by using a traffic light system:

- Red: The site performs poorly against the relevant suitability indicator
- Amber: The site performs adequately against the relevant suitability indicator
- Green: The site performs well against the relevant suitability indicator

The site assessment will be recorded in a tabular format which shows for each site:

- The indicators assessed
- A colour coding (red/amber/green) for each of the factors identified according to the impact or suitability of the site.

The purpose of the traffic light system above is to allow visual comparison between the sites in terms of the factors assessed.

The objective is to identify those sites that perform poorly against the majority of the assessment indicators and therefore do not meet the sustainability objectives set out for the Site Allocations DPD.

Table 16: Site assessment criteria

Indicator	Suggested Criteria	Relevant to Development Type	Relevant SA Objective
Distance to village hall civic building	Site >3km Site between 2km and 3km Site <2km from village hall / civic building	Housing	SP1, SP6
Distance to shop selling day to day goods	Site >3km Site between 2km and 3km Site <2km from shop selling day to day goods	Housing	SP2
Distance to social facility (pub, café, restaurant)	Site >3km Site between 2km and 3km Site <2km from social facility	Housing Employment	SP2, SP6
Distance to health service (GP, Community Hospital)	Site >5km Site between 2km and 5km Site <2km from GP	Housing	SP2, SP5
Distance to primary school	Site >3km Site between 2km and 3km Site <2km from primary school	Housing	SP2, SP4
Distance to secondary school	Site >5km Site between 3km and 5km Site <3km from secondary school	Housing	SP2, SP4
Distance to bus stop (in the case of rural settlements a daily service to nearest PSC/KSC, there and back)	Site >2km away from bus stop Site between 400m and 2km Site <400m away from bus stop	Housing Employment Open Space	SP2, NR1
Distance to rail station	Site >5km away from railway station Site between 2km and 5km Site <2km away from railway station	Housing Employment Open Space	SP2, NR1
Distance to cycle path (GIS)	Site >3km away from cycle path; Site 2-3km away from cycle path; Site <2km away from cycle path	Housing Employment Open Space	SP2, SP5, SP6, NR1
Distance to PROW (GIS)	Site >2km away from public footpath; Site 1-2km away from cycle path; Site <1km away from public footpath	Housing Employment Open Space	SP2, SP5, SP6, NR1
Distance to publicly accessible open space	Site >3km away from POS Site 2-3km away from POS Site <2km away from POS	Housing Employment Open Space	SP2, SP5, SP6
Will it result in loss of public open space?	Yes No	Housing Employment Open Space	SP2, SP5, SP6
Distance to publicly accessible sports facility / pitch	Site >5km away from sports facility/pitch Site between 2km and 5km Site <2km away from sports facility/pitch	Housing Employment Open Space	SP2, SP5, SP6

Table 16: Site assessment criteria (contd)

Indicator	Suggested Criteria	Relevant to Development Type	Relevant SA Objective
Distance to further / higher education	Site >5km away from FE/HE facility Site between 2km and 5km Site <2km away from FE/HE facility	Housing Employment	SP4
Distance to training / skills provider	Site >5km away from training facility Site between 2km and 5km Site <2km away from training facility	Housing Employment	SP4
Distance to cultural facility (theatre, gallery, museum, concert hall)	Site >5km away from cultural facility Site between 2km and 5km Site <2km away from cultural facility	Housing	SP6
Impact on internationally protected sites (SAC, SPA)	Contains SAC/SPA or is adjacent to (<400m) to SAC/SPA Site lies within 400-800m of SAC/SPA Site lies >800m from SAC/SPA	Housing Employment Open Space	EN1
Impact on nationally protected sites (SSSI)	Contains SSSI or is adjacent to (<400m) to SSSI Site lies within 400-800m of SSSI Site >800m from SSSI	Housing Employment Open Space	EN1
Impact on regionally/locally protected sites (Local Nature Reserve, Local Wildlife Site, or area of Biodiversity Action Plan priority Habitat, RIGGS)	Contains locally protected site or is adjacent to (<400m) of locally protected site Site lies with 400-800m of locally protected site Site >800m from locally protected site	Housing Employment Open Space	EN1
Is the site outside of Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) areas, 1, 2 or 3	Lies within Grades 1 and 2 Lies within Grade 3 Lies within Grade 4 and 5	Housing Employment Open Space	EN1
Effect on the AONB	Within or is adjacent to (<400m) AONB and there is the potential for negative impacts. Within or is adjacent to (<400m) AONB but there is no potential for negative impacts. Not within or adjacent to (>400m) AONB, or site is proposed for open space	Housing Employment	EN2
Effect on setting of LDNP	Site within 400m of NP and there is the potential for negative impacts. Site 400-800m of NP but there is no potential for negative impacts. Site >800m from NP, or site is proposed for open space	Housing Employment	EN2
Effect on Hadrians Wall WHS	Within or is adjacent to (<400m) WHS and there is the potential for negative impacts. Within or is adjacent to (<400m) WHS but there is no potential for negative impacts. Not within or adjacent to (>400m) WHS, or site is proposed for open space	Housing Employment	SP6, EN2, EN3
Effect on landscape character	Within a landscape identified as having moderate-high sensitivity Within a landscape identified as having moderate sensitivity Within a landscape identified as having low-moderate sensitivity	Housing Employment	EN2

Table 16: Site assessment criteria (contd)

Indicator	Suggested Criteria	Relevant to Development Type	Relevant SA Objective
Effect on Listed Building	<p>Contains or is adjacent to (<400m) a listed building and there is the potential for negative impacts.</p> <p>Contains or is adjacent to (<400m) a listed building but there is no potential for negative impacts.</p> <p>Not on or adjacent to (>400m) a listed building, or site is proposed for open space</p>	Housing Employment	SP6, EN3
Effect on SAM/archaeological site	<p>On a SAM/sensitive archaeological site or is adjacent to (<400m) a SAM/ sensitive archaeological site with the potential for negative impacts</p> <p>Adjacent to (<400m) a SAM/sensitive archaeological site but there is no potential for negative impacts</p> <p>Not on adjacent to (>400m) to a SAM, or site is proposed for open space</p>	Housing Employment	SP6, EN3
Effect on conservation area	<p>Within or is adjacent to (<400m) a Conservation Area and there is the potential for negative impacts.</p> <p>Within or is adjacent to (<400m) a Conservation Area but there is no potential for negative impacts.</p> <p>Not within or adjacent to (>400m) a Conservation Area, or site is proposed for open space</p>	Housing Employment	SP6, EN3
Flood Risk	<p>Site is within Flood Risk Zone 3b</p> <p>Site is within Flood Risk Zone 2 or 3a</p> <p>Site is within Flood Risk Zone 1, or site is proposed for open space</p>	Housing Employment	EN3
Efficient use of land	<p>Greenfield site</p> <p>Partial Brownfield site</p> <p>Brownfield site</p>	Housing Employment Open Space	NR3
Distance to recycling facilities	<p>Site >5km away from recycling facilities;</p> <p>Site within 1-5km of recycling facilities;</p> <p>Site within 1km of recycling facilities</p>	Housing	NR4
Access to key employment sites	<p>Site >5km away from key employment area;</p> <p>Site between 2km and 6km from key employment area;</p> <p>Site <2km away from key employment area</p>	Housing	EC1, EC2
Located within HSE PADHI Inner Zone	<p>Yes</p> <p>No</p>	Housing Employment	SP5
Located within HSE PADHI Middle Zone	<p>Yes</p> <p>No</p>	Housing	SP5
Potential noise problems with the site – either for future occupiers or for adjacent/ nearby occupiers arising from allocation of the site?	<p>Significant adverse effect</p> <p>Adverse effect / effect that can be mitigated</p> <p>No adverse effect</p>	Housing Employment	SP5

9

Task A5: Consulting on the scope of the sustainability appraisal

This Scoping Report sets out the approach the Council intends to adopt when producing the sustainability appraisal for the Site Allocations DPD.

The Regulations require that Local Planning Authorities consult relevant authorities, the public and other key stakeholders on the content of sustainability appraisal scoping reports.

The consultation will be undertaken in accordance with;

- Article 6 of the European Union Directive 2001/42/EC.
- Regulations set out in the Environmental Assessments of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.
- Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2012.

In order to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive the views of the three statutory environmental bodies (i.e. English Heritage, Natural England and the Environment Agency) must be sought

In addition, Government guidance states that it is desirable for other bodies to be consulted as considered appropriate and they should seek to ensure that there is a balance between these bodies with those concerned with social, environmental and economic issues. Therefore the consultation will also extend to those individuals, agencies and bodies identified in the adopted Allerdale Statement of Community Involvement.

The purpose of this consultation is to ensure that:

1. The SA is comprehensive and robust enough to support the DPD during the later stages of full public consultation.
2. Advise on the appropriateness of the sustainability objectives.
3. Advise on the appropriateness of the key sustainability issues.
4. Advise on the comprehensiveness of the baseline data.

The following questions should be used to guide the formation of a consultation response to this Scoping Report:

1. Are there other relevant policies, plans, programmes or sustainable development objectives that will affect or influence the DPD?
2. Do you agree that the baseline data presented is both comprehensive appropriate?
3. Do you have, or know of, any additional relevant evidence which should be added to that already listed?
4. As far as you are aware, are there any inaccuracies in the data presented?
5. Do you agree that these are the key sustainability issues for Allerdale?
6. Are you aware of any issues which, in your opinion, should be added, or any that should be removed?
7. Are the objectives suitable in the context of Allerdale?
8. Are there any additional objectives that should be included or should any be removed?
9. Do the indicators provide a relevant measure for the associated objective? If not then please suggest additional indicators.
10. Do you have any further comments on the

information in the Sustainability Appraisal Framework?

The details on how to make representations, the addresses to which representations should be sent and by when, are outlined in chapter 1.

10

Appendix A1: Review of plans and programmes

This appendix includes the full list of plans, programmes and sustainability policy objectives reviewed, as referred to in chapter 5. The review determines and identifies:

1. The key objectives relevant to the plan and sustainability appraisal (SA)
2. The key targets and indicators relevant to the plan and SA
3. The implications for the plan and SA
4. The relevant Sustainability Objectives.

Appendix A1: List of plans and programmes reviewed and identified SA objectives

Key Objectives Relevant to the Plan and SA	Key Targets and Indicators Relevant to the Plan and SA	Implications for the Land Allocations DPD
International		
EC Council Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 79/409/EEC (1979)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The maintenance of the favourable conservation status of all wild bird species across their distributional range (Article 2) with the encouragement of various activities to that end (Article 3); The identification and classification of Special Protection Areas for rare or vulnerable species listed in Annex I of the Directive, as well as for all regularly occurring migratory species, paying particular attention to the protection of wetlands of international importance (Article 4). 	<p>Target actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of protected areas; Upkeep & Management; Re-establishment of destroyed biotopes. <p>The Directive and its amending Acts are designed to protect 182 bird species living naturally in the wild, including their nests, eggs and habitats</p>	<p>Protect wild bird species and prevent the degradation and loss of habitats</p> <p>SA Objectives: EN1– Protect and enhance biodiversity EN2 - Preserve and enhance landscape quality and character NR2 - Improve water quality and resources NE3 - Restore and protect soil and land</p>
EC Council Directive on the Conservation of Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora 92/43/EEC (1992)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora in the European territory of the Member States to which the Treaty applies" (Article 2.1) To maintain or restore, at favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of Community interest (Article 2.2); 	<p>Designed to protect some 253 habitats types, some 200 animals and 434 plant species</p>	<p>Promote the maintenance of biodiversity and safeguard protected habitats and species</p> <p>SA Objectives: EN1– Protect and enhance biodiversity EN2 - Preserve and enhance landscape quality and character NR2 - Improve water quality and resources NR3 - Restore and protect soil and land</p>
EC Council Directive 96/61/EC on Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (1996)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applies an integrated environmental approach to the permitting and ongoing regulation of certain industrial activities. It aims to achieve a high level of protection of the environment by preventing or, where that is not practical, reducing emissions into the air, water (including discharges to sewer) and land. 	<p>No targets/indicators.</p>	<p>Safeguard pollution sensitive development from potentially polluting development .</p> <p>SA objective: EN3 - improve the quality if the built environment. NR1 - Improve local air quality NR2 - Improve water quality and resources NR3 - Restore and protect soil and land</p>

Air Quality Framework Directive (96/62/EC) (1996)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define and establish objectives for ambient air quality in the community designed to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole; Assess the ambient air quality in Member States on the basis of common methods and criteria; Obtain adequate information on ambient air quality Maintain ambient air quality where it is good and improve it in other cases. 	<p>Set European wide Limit Values which form the basis of the national air quality objectives in national legislation</p>	<p>Reduce need to travel and encourage the use of renewable energy.</p> <p>SA objective NR1 - improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse emissions</p>
Kyoto Protocol (1997)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established to limit emissions of a basket of six greenhouse gases: carbon dioxide; methane; nitrous oxide; fluorinated gases (hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulphur hexafluoride). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce greenhouse emissions by 5% of 1990 levels over the period 2008-2012; The UK has a Kyoto protocol agreement of 12.5 reductions over the same period. 	<p>Reduce need to travel and encourage the use of renewable energy.</p> <p>SA objective NR1 - improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse emissions</p>
Noise Directive 2000/14/EC (2000)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor the environmental problem by drawing up strategic noise maps; Informing and consulting the public about noise exposure, its effects and the measures considered to address noise; Address local noise issues by requiring authorities to draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary 	<p>No targets/indicators.</p>	<p>Safeguard pollution sensitive development from potentially polluting development .</p> <p>SA objective: EN3 - improve the quality if the built environment.</p>
The Water Framework Directive 00/60/EC (2000)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote sustainable water use based on a long term protection of available water resources through integrated water and land management using river basins; Contribute to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts; Ensure the progressive reduction of pollution of ground water and prevent its further pollution. 	<p>All inland and coastal water to reach good ecological and chemical status by 2015.</p>	<p>Safeguard water quality and resources</p> <p>SA objective NR2 - Improve water quality and water resources.</p>

Guiding Principles for Sustainable Spatial Development of the European Continent (2000)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting territorial cohesion through a more balanced social and economic development of regions and improved competitiveness; • Encouraging development generated by urban functions and improving the relationship between town and countryside; • Promoting more balanced accessibility; • Developing access to information and knowledge; • Reducing environmental damage; • Enhancing and protecting natural resources and the natural heritage; • Enhancing the cultural heritage as a factor for development; • Developing energy resources while maintaining safety; • Encouraging high quality, sustainable tourism; • Limitation of the impacts of natural disasters. 	<p>No targets/indicators.</p>	<p>Promote the principle of Sustainable Development.</p> <p>SA objectives: All</p>
A Sustainable Europe for a Better World: A European Union Strategy for Sustainable Development (2001)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit climate change and increase the use of clean energy. • Address threats to public health (e.g. hazardous chemicals and food safety); • Manage natural resources more responsibly (including reducing waste generation, halting the loss of biodiversity and protecting and restoring habitats and natural systems); • Improve the transport system and land use management including a shift from road to rail, water and public passenger transport; • Combat poverty and social exclusion; • Deal with the economic and social implication of an ageing population. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 1% per year over 1990 levels up to 2020 • By 2020 ensure that chemicals are only produced and used in ways that do not pose significant threats to human health and the environment; • Halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010; • Ensure that the share of road transport in 2010 is no greater than in 1998 	<p>Promote the principle of Sustainable Development.</p> <p>SA objectives: All</p>

EU Sixth Environmental Action Plan (2002) Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To stabilise the atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases at a level that will not cause unnatural variations of the earth's climate; To achieve a quality of the environment where the levels of man made contaminants, including different types of radiation, do not give rise to significant impacts on or risk to human health; To avert the threats to the survival of many species and their habitats in Europe: completion of the Natura 2000 network, new biodiversity action plans, protecting landscapes, protecting the marine environment, prevent industrial and mining accidents and a strategy for protecting soils; To ensure the consumption of renewable and non-renewable resources does not exceed the carrying capacity of the environment; To achieve a de-coupling of resource use from economic growth through significantly improved resources efficiency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieve an 8% reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases by 2008-2012 compared to 1990 levels To achieve a reduction in the number of people regularly affected by long term high levels of noise from an estimated 100 million people in the year 2000 by around 10% by 2010 and 20% by 2020; Reduce the quantity of waste going to final disposal by around 20% by 2010 compared to 2000, and 50% by 2050; Reduce the volumes of hazardous waste generated by 20% by 2010 compared with 2000, and 50% by 2020. 	<p>Reduce the need to travel, minimise noise pollution and support waste recycling.</p> <p>SA objectives: NR1 - Improve local air quality NR2 - Improve water quality and resources NR3 - Restore and protect soil and land EN3 - Improve the quality of the built environment and promote energy efficiency NR1 - Improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions SP5 - Improve health and sense of well being.</p>
Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take appropriate and necessary legislative or administrative measures that will ensure the conservation of habitats of wild fauna and flora as well as the conservation and protection of the threatened natural habitats; Pay careful attention to the protection of important areas for the migratory species referred to and are located in suitable location with regards to the migratory pathways used for wintering, stop, food finding, breeding or moulting; Prohibit the deliberate damage or destruction of the breeding or resting areas of selected species. 	<p>No targets/indicators.</p>	<p>Promote the maintenance of biodiversity and safeguard protected habitats and species</p> <p>SA Objectives: EN1- Protect and enhance biodiversity EN2 - Preserve and enhance landscape quality and character NR2 - Improve water quality and resources NR3 - Restore and protect soil and land</p>

Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (1979)		
<p>To promote, co-operate in and support research relating to migratory species; To endeavour to provide immediate protection for migratory species; and to endeavour to conclude Agreements covering the conservation and management of migratory species.</p>	<p>No targets/indicators.</p>	<p>Safeguard sites used by migratory birds</p> <p>SA objectives: EN1 – Protect and enhance biodiversity EN2 - Preserve and enhance landscape quality and character.</p>
EC Council Directive 85/337/EEC & 97/11/EC on the Assessment of the Effects of certain Public Private Projects on the Environment (1985)		
<p>Identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 11, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human beings, fauna and flora • Soil, water, air, climate and the landscape 	<p>No targets/indicators.</p>	<p>Promote the maintenance of biodiversity and safeguard protected habitats and species</p> <p>SA Objectives: EN1 – Protect and enhance biodiversity EN2 - Preserve and enhance landscape quality and character NR2 - Improve water quality and resources NR3 - Restore and protect soil and land</p>
EC Council Directive 99/31/EC on the Landfill of Waste (1999)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste must be treated before being landfilled; • Hazardous waste within the meaning of the Directive must be assigned to a hazardous waste landfill • Landfills for non-hazardous waste must be used for municipal waste and for non-hazardous waste; • Landfill sites for inert waste must be used only for inert waste; 	<p>No targets/indicators.</p>	<p>Support waste minimisation measures and recycling.</p> <p>SA objectives: NR4 - Manage mineral resources sustainably and minimise waste</p>
EC Council Directive 2001/42/EC The Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment (2001)		
<p>To provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.</p>	<p>No targets/indicators.</p>	<p>The Site Allocations will be subject to a Sustainability Appraisal.</p>

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (1987)		
<p>To promote the conservation of wetlands and waterfowl by establishing nature reserves on wetlands and provide adequately for their wardening; To ensure, as far as possible, the compensation of lost habitat; To encourage research and the exchange of data and publications regarding wetlands and their flora and fauna; To endeavour through management to increase waterfowl populations on appropriate wetlands; and to promote the training of personnel competent in the fields of wetland research, management and wardening.</p>	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Promote the maintenance of biodiversity and safeguard protected habitats and species</p> <p>SA Objectives: EN1 – Protect and enhance biodiversity EN2 - Preserve and enhance landscape quality and character NR2 - Improve water quality and resources NR3 - Restore and protect soil and land</p>
National - Strategies and White Papers		
Government Forestry and Woodlands Statement (DEFRA, 2013)		
<p>Seeks to maximise the environmental, economic and social benefits of trees and woodlands forests, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that trees, woods and forests are resilient to and mitigate the impacts of climate change • Protecting and enhancing the environmental resources of water, soil, air, biodiversity and landscapes • Protecting and enhancing the cultural and amenity values of trees and woodland • Increasing the contribution that trees, woods and forests make to the quality of life • Improving the competitiveness of woodland businesses and promote the development of new or improved markets for sustainable woodland products 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Prioritise the safeguarding of existing trees and woodland</p> <p>SA objective: SP5 - Improve the health and sense of well-being of people EN1 - Protect and enhance biodiversity EN2 - Preserve and enhance landscape quality NR1 - Improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions NR2 - Improve water quality and water resources NR3 - Restore and protect land and soil EC1 – retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities</p>

The national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England (DEFRA/EA, 2011)		
<p>Seeks to reduce the threat of flooding and coastal erosion, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putting in place long-term plans to manage these risks and making sure that other plans take account of them • Avoiding inappropriate development in areas of flood and coastal erosion risk and being careful to manage land elsewhere to avoid increasing risks • Building, maintaining and improving flood and coastal erosion management infrastructure and systems to reduce the likelihood of harm to people and damage to the economy, environment and society • Increasing public awareness of the risk and encouraging them to take action to make their property more resilient • Improving the detection, forecasting and issue of warnings of flooding • Planning for and coordinating a rapid response to flood emergencies 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Locate development away from areas of high flood risk and potential coastal erosion</p> <p>SA objective: EN1 - Protect and enhance biodiversity EN2 - Preserve and enhance landscape quality NR2 - Improve water quality and water resources NR3 - Restore and protect land and soil</p>
White Paper: Healthy Lives, Healthy People - Our strategy for public health in England (DOH, 2010)		
<p>Seeks to protecting the population from serious health threats, help people live longer, healthier lives and improving the health of the poorest sections of communities, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving maternal health to reduce infant mortality and the numbers of low birth-weight babies. • Improve children's health and development to improve educational attainment • Reduce inequalities in health and life expectancy • Improving physical and mental health by getting people into work. • Changing adults' health/lifestyle behaviour to reduce illness and costs to society, such as cancer, vascular dementias and circulatory diseases 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Support the provision of healthcare services</p> <p>Support the provision of facilities for leisure, sport and recreation</p> <p>Protect important open space</p> <p>SA objectives: SP5 - Improve the health and sense of well-being of people</p>

<p>Air Quality Strategy for England, Wales and Northern Ireland (DEFRA et al, 2007)</p>		
<p>Sets out air quality objectives and policy options to further improve air quality in order to benefit public health and provide important benefits to quality of life and help to protect the environment, by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing best practicable protection to human health by setting health-based objectives for air pollutants • Contributing to the protection of the natural environment through objectives for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems • Describing current and future levels of air pollution • Providing a framework to improve air quality. 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Locate development in sustainable locations which reduces the need to travel</p> <p>Protect the natural environment</p> <p>SA objectives: NR1 - Improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions</p>
<p>White Paper: Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon - Making Sustainable Local Transport Happen (DfT, 2011)</p>		
<p>Enable people to make more sustainable transport choices and build a balanced, dynamic low carbon economy by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling individuals' access to employment and key services • Reducing the levels of carbon emitted by transport • Making travelling on foot, by bike or on public transport more attractive • Supporting the development of electric and other ultra-low emission vehicles • Spending on key rail projects such as high speed rail and Crossrail 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Improve accessibility to services and employment</p> <p>Encourage the use of sustainable transport modes</p> <p>Safeguard and support the delivery of strategic infrastructure</p> <p>SA objectives: SP2 - improve access to services and facilities NR1 - improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse emissions EC2 - improve access to jobs EC3 - strengthen and diversify the local economy</p>

<p>Seeks to ensure that rural businesses to make a sustainable contribution to, and benefit from, national growth, by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting business, particularly SME's • Supporting farming • Facilitating access to broadband to make services more accessible <p>Seeks to ensure that rural people to have fair access housing, transport and public services, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preventing the from the loss of local services • Recognising the higher cost of living in rural areas in terms of housing and transport 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Ensure an adequate supply of employment land and premises in rural areas</p> <p>Safeguard the loss of rural services, facilities and amenities</p> <p>Support the delivery of affordable rural housing</p> <p>SA objectives: SP2 - improve access to services and facilities SP3 - to provide everyone with a decent home EC1– retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities EC2– improve access to jobs EC3 - diversify the local economy</p>
<p>A Sustainable Future For Cycling (DETR/Cycling England, 2008)</p>		
<p>Seeks to encourage people to cycle more and ensure that cycling plays a significant part in all local authority plans to promote sustainable transport modes, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving cycle safety through better training • Facilitating increased levels of cycling by improving and expanding the cycle network • Ensuring cycle parking facilities are available at all major destinations (including town centres, shopping developments, educational establishments, hospitals and leisure facilities) 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Support the expansion of local cycle networks</p> <p>Ensure development is accessible by sustainable transport modes</p> <p>SA objectives: SP2 - improve access to services and facilities SP5 - Improve the health and sense of well-being of people NR1 - Improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions EC2– improve access to jobs</p>

<p>Sets out the strategy to maintain the energy security (physical and price) needed for domestic and business consumers in the UK, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing measures to mitigate the risk of domestic disruptions • Using the mechanisms available (metering, building regulations) to increase the energy efficiency of new development • Maximising the production of UK oil and gas reserves • New investment in energy transmission systems to ensure network reliability • Supporting low carbon energy sources such as nuclear and renewables • Commercialisation of Carbon Capture Storage technology 	<p>By 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% of priority habitats in favourable or recovering condition • At least 50% of SSSIs in favourable condition • No net loss of priority habitat and an increase in the priority habitats by at least 200,000 ha • At least 17% of land and inland water of importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, conserved • At least 15% of degraded ecosystems restored as a contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation. • In excess of 25% of English waters contained in a Marine Protected Area network 	<p>Safeguard and enhance biodiversity assets</p> <p>SA objectives: EN1 - to protect and enhance biodiversity NR2 - to improve water quality and water resources</p>
<p>Natural Environment White Paper: The Natural Choice - securing the value of nature (DEFRA, 2011)</p>		
<p>Seeks to improve the quality of our natural environment across England, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halting the decline in habitats and species and the degradation of landscape • Promoting an integrated approach to nature conservation in order to create a resilient ecological network • Developing a green economy by promoting sustainable economic growth and safeguarding our 'natural capital' • Creating healthy natural environments as a way of regenerating and enhancing neighbourhoods • Enabling fair access to a natural environment to strengthening the connections between people and nature 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Safeguard and enhance biodiversity assets</p> <p>Safeguard landscape character</p> <p>Facilitate access to the countryside</p> <p>SA objectives: EN1 - Protect and enhance biodiversity EN2 - Preserve and enhance landscape quality NR1 - Improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions NR2 - Improve water quality and water resources NR3 - Restore and protect land and soil</p>

<p>Sets out the strategy to maintain the energy security (physical and price) needed for domestic and business consumers in the UK, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing measures to mitigate the risk of domestic disruptions • Using the mechanisms available (metering, building regulations) to increase the energy efficiency of new development • Maximising the production of UK oil and gas reserves • New investment in energy transmission systems to ensure network reliability • Supporting low carbon energy sources such as nuclear and renewables • Commercialisation of Carbon Capture Storage technology 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Support renewable energy production</p> <p>Safeguard and support the delivery of strategic infrastructure</p> <p>SA objectives: EN3 - Improve the quality of the built environment NR1 - Improve air quality and reduce greenhouse emissions EC3 - Diversify and strengthen the local economy</p>
<p>Mainstreaming Sustainable Development (DEFRA, 2011)</p>		
<p>Seeks to stimulate economic growth, maximise wellbeing and protect the environment, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a greener economy by maximising growth, whilst decoupling it from impacts on the environment • Supporting the long term transition to secure, affordable, low carbon energy • Protecting and enhancing the natural environment • Helping to improve prosperity and quality of life. 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Ensure that development meets sustainable development principles</p> <p>All SA objectives: All</p>

Planning (Listed Building and Conservation) Act (1990)		
Provides the legislative framework to ensure the protection and conservation of listed buildings across the UK.	No targets/indicators	Safeguard the character of historic assets SA objective: EN3 - Improve the quality of built environment
Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)		
Provides the legislative framework to ensure the protection of wild birds, other animals and plants within the British Countryside.	No targets/indicators	Protect protected habitats and species from development SA objective: EN1 - Protect and enhance biodiversity
National - Planning Policy		
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012)		
<p>New simplified national planning policy framework (NPPF) to replace previous planning policy guidance and statements. It aims to support economic growth but also to promote strong communities and the need to protect and enhance the environment. Core principles include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support a genuinely plan-led system and plan positively for growth • Presumption in favour of sustainable development • Secure high quality design standards • Take account of the roles and character of different areas • Support transition to a low carbon future • Contribute to conserving and enhancing the natural environment and reducing pollution • Prioritising the use of previously developed land • Promote mixed use development • Conserve heritage assets • Manage patterns of growth to make full use of public transport, walking and cycling • Take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing and deliver facilities and services to meet local needs 	No targets/indicators	<p>Ensure that development meets sustainable development principles</p> <p>SA objectives: All</p>

Planning Policy For Traveller Sites (DCLG, 2012)		
<p>Government's planning policy for traveller sites which aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure LPAs make own assessment of need Work collaboratively to meet need through identification of land including setting pitch and plot targets Plan for sites over a reasonable timescale Promote more private traveller site provision Reduce number of unauthorised developments Ensure accessibility to services and facilities 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Allocate sufficient pitches and plots to meet need and a rolling five-year supply of deliverable sites.</p> <p>SA objectives: All</p>
Planning For Growth (Ministerial Statement) 2011)		
<p>Ensure that the sustainable development needed to support economic growth is able to proceed as easily as possible. Key messages include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for Local Authorities to identify and meet the housing, business and other development needs of their areas • Local Authorities to work collaboratively to meet the requirements of strategic housing market areas. • Support the delivery of strategic infrastructure necessary to support growth. 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Provide the required supply and mix of housing</p> <p>Provide an adequate supply of employment land and premises</p> <p>Support improvements to the local transport network and services</p> <p>SA objectives: SP3 - to provide everyone with a decent home SP4 - improve skills, education EC1 – retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities EC2– improve access to jobs EC3 - strengthen and diversify the local economy</p>

Future North West (Englands North West, 2010)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets out a vision for the North West with the following objectives: • Make the North West a world-class place for nuclear technologies, renewable energy and low carbon goods and services. • Ensure the North West adapts to the implications of unavoidable climate change. • Stimulate key sectors, including housing, transport and industry, to develop low carbon, resource efficient solutions and alternatives. • Develop our world class sporting, culture and quality of place offer. • Increase the potential of the workforce by improving employment opportunities, enterprise and skills. • Build on our strong third sector and social enterprise. • Revitalise areas with deep-seated economic and social challenges and build strong communities. • Tackle the serious challenges raised by multiple disadvantage. • Address the implications of demographic change for our workforce and services. • Secure a high-quality housing offer in locations which support sustainable economic growth and communities. • Ensure high-quality digital connectivity. • Improve internal connectivity through a sustainable transport infrastructure which better connects opportunity and need. • Develop the critical infrastructure the region needs to support sustainable economic growth. • Safeguard the natural environment and develop green infrastructure. 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Ensure that development meets sustainable development principles</p> <p>SA objectives: All</p>

<p>North West River Basin Management Plan (2009)</p> <p>Sets out the pressures facing the water environment in the North West River Basin District and outlines the actions that will address them, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing diffuse pollution associated with rural land management practices including the designation of Water Protection Zones • Preventing biodiversity loss through pollution or river basin change and support the delivery of habitat restoration and/or improvement projects • Mitigating against the effects of pollution caused by road runoff • Supporting the delivery of flood protection schemes • Promoting the use of Sustainable Drainage Schemes (SuDS) Reducing leakage through active leakage control and customer supply pipe repair policies • Promoting water efficiency in homes and businesses 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Minimise and control sources of water pollution</p> <p>Protect and enhance biodiversity</p> <p>Promote water efficiency and minimise surface water run-off</p> <p>SA objectives: EN1 - Protect and enhance biodiversity EN2 - Preserve and enhance landscape quality NR2 - Improve water quality and water resources</p>
<p>Planning For Growth (Ministerial Statement) 2011)</p> <p>Sets out a strategy for sustainable coastal defence along the North West coast. The key objectives of the strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing the risks from coastal erosion or sea flooding to protect human life and property • Preventing or minimising any adverse impacts on sites of archaeological importance • Avoiding any adverse effect on infrastructure, e.g. roads, car parks, railways, ports and harbours, slipways etc. • Addressing land drainage and water quality concerns • Sustaining and where possible enhancing the coastal landscape. • Sustaining and where possible enhancing biodiversity • Retaining and where possible enhancing areas and accesses important for recreation and amenity 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Minimise the risk of coastal erosion to life and property</p> <p>Safeguard strategic infrastructure</p> <p>Protect and enhance biodiversity, landscape and historic assets</p> <p>Protect and maintain countryside and coastal access</p> <p>SA objectives: SA objectives: SP2 - improve access to services and facilities EN1 - Protect and enhance biodiversity EN2 - Preserve and enhance landscape quality NR2 - Improve water quality and water resources EN3 - Improve the quality of the built environment</p>

Sub-regional—plans and strategies		
Cumbria's Economic Ambition (2012)		
<p>Seeks to put in place the building blocks to create an inclusive and prosperous economy by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying and utilising those opportunities that will support business investment and growth along the M6 corridor • Ensure that our local communities derive the optimum benefit from the substantial investment in the Energy /Low Carbon economy • Increase the opportunities for local people to access high value jobs, • Encourage the growth of the rural economy of Cumbria, including the roll-out of Superfast Broadband • Support the creation of high quality learning environments and access to job opportunities 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Support job creation, skills development and economic growth</p> <p>SA objective: SP4 - Improve the level of skills, education and training EC1 – retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities EC3 - Diversify and strengthen the local economy</p>
Cumbria LEP Business Plan (2013)		
<p>Aims to develop Cumbria's economy while maintaining its uniqueness in terms of landscape, culture and quality of life, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspiring and supporting businesses to reach their potential - locally, nationally and internationally • Ensuring motivated and skilled people, both employees and entrepreneurs • Ensuring the right infrastructure to support business competitiveness and growth • Using Cumbria's environment as a key economic asset 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Locate development away from areas of high flood risk and potential coastal erosion</p> <p>SA objective: EN1 - Protect and enhance biodiversity EN2 - Preserve and enhance landscape quality NR2 - Improve water quality and water resources NR3 - Restore and protect land and soil</p>

<p>A Cultural Strategy for Cumbria (2002) Seeks to create an environment where everyone has the opportunity to take part in a diverse range of cultural activity of the highest quality, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a partnership approach to optimising cultural assets; • Establishing a framework of cultural opportunities in life-long learning; • Supporting creative and cultural industries • Maximising the level of external investment in Cumbria's cultural sector; • Encourage cultural activity by strategic planning of facility provision; • To community regeneration through cultural activity • To promote cultural activity that contributes to health and well-being; 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Support cultural industries and facilitate cultural activity</p> <p>SA objectives: SP5 - Improve the health and sense of well-being of people SP6 - Create vibrant, active and inclusive communities with a strong sense of local history EC3 - strengthen and diversify the local economy</p>
<p>Cumbria Sub-regional spatial strategy (2008) Seeks to build upon the strengths of the county and address problems in order to unlock the economic potential, by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building safe, strong and inclusive communities • Improving accessibility between people and places • Safeguarding world class environmental quality • Minimising carbon emissions and mitigating the impacts of climate change • Improving health and well-being of local communities • Building a sustainable and prosperous economy 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Ensure that new development contributes to social, economic and environmental sustainability objectives</p> <p>SA objectives: All</p>

Cumbria Local Transport Plan (2012)		
<p>Provide a transport system/highway network that everyone can access that supports the development of a sustainable and prosperous low carbon economy and ensures Cumbria's outstanding environment can be enjoyed, by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining Cumbria's roads, pavements, paths and cycle ways • Making sure strategic road links are able to support economic growth • Maximising the benefits of the county rail network; • Reducing the barriers to people using public transport • Maximising the potential of the Port of Workington to support the Energy Coast • Reduce carbon emissions from road transport • Enabling more people walking and cycling to school and to work 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Improve accessibility to services and employment</p> <p>Encourage the use of sustainable transport modes</p> <p>Safeguard and support the delivery of strategic infrastructure</p> <p>SA objectives: SP2 - improve access to services and facilities NR1 - improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse emissions EC2- improve access to jobs EC3 - strengthen and diversify the local economy</p>
Cumbria Historic Environment Strategy (2005)		
<p>Set out how the role of historic environment in delivering social, economic and environmental benefits within the County, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustaining the historic environment of Cumbria for present and future generations • Promoting Cumbria's historic environment as a public resource for education and enjoyment • Using the historic environment as an engine for regeneration 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Safeguard historic assets and landscapes</p> <p>SA objectives: EN3—Improve the quality of the built environment</p>

Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit (2011)		
<p>Set out the strategy and criteria for the management and protection of the county's distinctive landscapes by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting landscapes which are valued so that their significant characteristics are conserved • Managing landscapes so that changes due to social, economic or environmental processes are sustainable • Planning with a strong forward-looking action to enhance, restore or create new landscapes. 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Safeguard landscape character</p> <p>SA objective: EN2 - Preserve and enhance landscape quality</p>
Cumbria Biodiversity Action Plan (2001)		
<p>Seeks to implement national biodiversity targets at the local level and raise greater awareness and understanding of Cumbria's biodiversity and wider participation in its conservation, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoring and enhancing biodiversity through favourable land management practices • Providing protection to important wildlife areas as well as optimising opportunities to create new ones • Enable people to have the opportunity to experience wildlife and engage in its conservation • Developing a database of information as to where species and areas of wildlife importance are located in order to inform and support decision-making 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Safeguard biodiversity interests, in particular protected sites and species</p> <p>SA objectives: EN1 - Protect and enhance biodiversity</p>

<p>Cumbria Sustainability Strategy (2004)</p>	<p>Provides a policy steer on sustainability issues and how they should be incorporated in decision-making with regards to environmental, social and economic plans, programmes and strategies. The principle objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing community participation in local decision-making processes • Reducing health inequalities and levels of crime and disorder • Ensuring access for all to education, jobs, goods, services and facilities including housing • Protecting and enhancing biodiversity, landscape quality and character • Reducing carbon emissions from transport and energy use and helping communities and businesses adapt to climate change • Protecting air quality, groundwater, inland and coastal waters from pollution • Protecting soil and favouring brown field sites for development • Minimising waste generation while maximising the re-use and recycling of all forms of waste • Increasing local employment opportunities, company competitiveness and survival • Encouraging entrepreneurship and business start ups 	<p>Ensure that all development decisions are underpinned by sustainable development principles</p> <p>SA objectives: All</p>
<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Deliver a mixed and balanced housing market:</p> <p>SA objectives: SP3 - Provide everyone with a decent home. SP6 - Create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities EC3 - Diversify and strengthen the local economy</p>
<p>The Cumbria Housing Strategy and Investment Plan 2011 – 2015 (2011)</p>	<p>Sets out the housing priorities for Cumbria with the objective of maintaining and creating sustainable communities, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the economy and delivering sustainable communities where the need for affordable and market housing are met. • Supporting elderly people to live independently including access to extra care housing • Supporting for housing market renewal including an increase in the choice and quality of housing stock 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>

The Cumbria Housing Strategy and Investment Plan 2011 – 2015		
<p>Sets out the strategy for elderly care and aims to increase independence, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling older people to access normal everyday activities • Increasing the opportunity to be supported in extra care housing that they either rent or buy. 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Reduce the need to travel and support the delivery of accommodation for the elderly</p> <p>SA objective: SP3 - Provide everyone with a decent home. SP6 - Create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities</p>
Cumbria Tourism Strategy 2008-2018 (2008)		
<p>Sets out the strategy for developing the tourism industry and building on existing assets, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing the tourism industry in ways which do not detract from Cumbria's natural and built landscapes. • Supporting the development of outdoor activities and adventure experiences in order to attract new markets • Promoting heritage and cultural assets such as Hadrians Wall and the links to William Wordsworth and Beatrix Potter • Supporting events and festivals to encourage people to visit the area • Encouraging locally produced arts and crafts • Improving the quantity and overall quality of visitor accommodation • Improving the quality of the public realm within the main towns and visitor destinations • Improving the transport infrastructure to enable visitors to access the main towns and visitor destinations more easily and sustainably 	<p>No targets/indicators</p>	<p>Safeguard landscape character and biodiversity assets</p> <p>Enhance the public realm and built environment</p> <p>Support the delivery of strategic transport infrastructure and sustainable transport options</p> <p>Support the development of new visitor attractions</p> <p>Safeguard historic assets and landscapes</p> <p>Support cultural and creative industries and the rural economy</p> <p>SA objectives: SP2 - To improve access to services, facilities, the countryside and open space EN1 - Protect and enhance biodiversity EN2 - Preserve and enhance landscape quality EN3 - Improve the quality of the built environment EC1 – retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities EC3 - strengthen and diversify the local economy</p>