



Waltham Forest Local Development Framework

Core Strategy- Preferred Options

Draft Sustainability Appraisal

**Spatial Planning Team
London Borough of Waltham Forest**

December 2009

Sustainability Appraisal Report

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1. Non- Technical Summary

1.1.1 Context

- 1.1.2 The Government requires that all local planning authorities test their plans using sustainability appraisal to ensure that they do not conflict with the aims of sustainable development. This report investigates the likely significant impacts on the borough in terms of the contribution towards sustainability that could arise if the preferred options and approaches proposed for the London Borough of Waltham Forest Local Development Framework Core Strategy are implemented.
- 1.1.3 Each preferred option is assessed in terms of the overall balance of impacts on an agreed set of Sustainability Appraisal objectives (the 'SA Framework'). This methodology is outlined in the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and has been developed through consultation. This appraisal is part of a process, which seeks to achieve preferred options and ultimately policies, which are in line with the principles of sustainable development. A copy of the SA Scoping Report is available on the Council's website at www.walthamforest.gov.uk/ldf
- 1.1.4 This SA Report evaluates the likely effects of the proposed 11 Strategic Objectives and the 11 Core Policies against the Council's SA Framework
- 1.1.5 The Report has determined that the draft policy approach taken by the emerging Core Strategy generally advances Waltham Forest's growth in a sustainable manner. Care will need to be taken to ensure that future development does not exacerbate flood risk, waste problems and energy and water consumption, this may be assessed in greater detail on a site by site basis and/or through the Development Management Policies DPD.

1.2 Purpose of this document

- 1.2.1 This document is the Draft Core Strategy 'Preferred Options' Sustainability Appraisal Report and seeks to determine the performance in sustainability terms, of the preferred options but does not seek to pre-judge the approach which the Core Strategy should adopt. Its role is to assist with the identification of the appropriate approach, in sustainability terms, to predict implications for sustainable development and put forward recommendations for improvement where necessary.
- 1.2.2 The Issues and Options Paper was appraised against the SA Framework which was determined through the LDF Sustainability

Scoping Report published in October 2008. The scoping report was the first stage in incorporating SA into the LDF process. It set out the review of the baseline information that has been collected so far which gives an indication of the current state of Waltham Forest and how it may change in the future. It included a draft SA Framework outlining 23 Sustainability Objectives and proposals as to how the SA would be carried out and appraised against. Through consultation with relevant statutory consultees and a wider LDF consultee base, feedback was sought on various elements of the Scoping Report, which were amended as appropriate.

- 1.2.3 The findings of the Scoping Report consultation have assisted the Council in the development and appraisal of options for the emerging Core Strategy. The Council have used the results of the Issues and Options and feedback from consultation to define its Preferred Options for each policy approach. The Preferred Options will now be subject to further SA in this paper.

1.3 The SA Process

The process so far has included;

- Collection of baseline information on the environmental, social and economic characteristics of the borough and its context;
- Identification of sustainability issues, objectives and indicators to be used in the SA to assess the likely impacts of the policies and to enable monitoring of progress in the future
- The preparation of a Scoping Report which set out the proposed method of assessment for the SA which has previously been consulted upon. This document is available on the Council website.
- An interim SA for the Issues and Options stage which was completed in-house by the Spatial Planning team.
- A draft SA that tests the likely impacts of the Preferred Options policies for development (this document), also prepared in-house.

1.4 The SA Scoping Report

The findings of the Scoping Report consultation have assisted the Council in the development and appraisal of options for the emerging Core Strategy. The SA Scoping Report identified 23 sustainability

appraisal objectives (the SA Framework) for Waltham Forest which form the SA Framework against which each policy is tested. The SA Framework is as follows:

1. Meet local housing needs through the provision of a range of tenures and sizes of new dwellings
2. Reduce crime and the fear of crime
3. Improve standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough
4. Increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural, recreational and social needs
5. Improve educational attainment in schools
6. Improve opportunities for access to education and training for all residents
7. Reduce the overall level of deprivation
8. Improve opportunities for access to local services, facilities and employment through an integrated sustainable transport system
9. Reduce production of waste and increase recycling
10. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
11. Conserve energy
12. Improve air quality through a reduction in traffic-based emissions
13. Improve water quality and ensure the efficient use of water resources
14. Reduce the risk of flooding
15. Reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity
16. Make the best use of previously developed land (PDL) and existing buildings
17. Conserve and enhance biodiversity
18. Protect the ecological integrity of Natura 2000 sites
19. Maintain and enhance the quality of the green belt and open space areas.
20. Conserve and enhance the historic built and natural environment
21. Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres
22. Improve the local economy by attracting inward investment
23. Maintain stable levels of employment in the Borough

1.4.1 Each preferred option is assessed in terms of the overall balance of impacts against this SA Framework. This methodology is outlined in the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and has been developed through consultation. This appraisal is part of a process, which seeks to achieve preferred options and ultimately policies, which are in line with the principles of sustainable development

1.5 Usefulness of SA for this document

1.5.1 Sustainability appraisal is an on-going iterative process and a valuable tool for the Planning Policy in helping to formulate robust policies for the Core Strategy. The initial recommendations of the SA process have already proved useful in helping to refine and improve the emerging policies. Examples of this include;

- Redrafting and amending some of the Strategic Objectives to ensure their compatibility with the corresponding policy.
- Applying BREEAM /Eco homes Standards to CS 4 to ensure that more robust measures are introduced for tackling climate change
- Refining CS 5 to ensure that the preference for expanding schools is to be on existing sites to ensure an efficient use of land.

- Refining CS 6 by suggesting that improved levels of internet accessibility, particularly for unemployed and disadvantaged people to help tackle social disadvantage and unemployment.
- Refining the regeneration policy CS11 to make a more rounded case for the application of Section 106 charges

1.5.2 The potential impacts of the Preferred Options have been identified and these will inform the drafting of the submission Core Strategy DPD. Where negative impacts have been identified, mitigation measures have been suggested to help to overcome these. These mitigation measures will be refined with the development of the submission Core Strategy DPD and will also be considered in the development in the Development Management and Site Specific Allocations DPD.

1.6 The next stage

1.6.1 The submission stage will contain a single SA/SEA Report which will integrate all SA work undertaken thus far into a single document which will be submitted for approval to the Planning Inspector alongside the Core Strategy.

2. Introduction and Methodology

2.1 Purpose of the SA and the SA Report

- 2.1.1 Section 39 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to be carried out on all Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents which a Local Planning Authority produces. The SA process is integral to the production of DPDs and SPDs and it enables the LPA to assess the degree to which the plans and proposals contribute towards the achievement of Sustainable Development. This understanding assists in the preparation of planning policy.
- 2.1.2 Sustainable Development is defined as “development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”. The purpose of SA is to ensure that all Development Plan Documents (DPDs) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) conform to the Government’s guiding principles of Sustainable Development, which are:
- Living within Environmental Limits
 - Ensuring a Strong, Healthy and Just Society
 - Achieving a Sustainable Economy
 - Promoting Good Governance; and
 - Using Sound Science Responsibly.
- 2.1.3 SA identifies and reports on the likely significant effects of the plan and mitigation measures which can be taken to reduce them. These effects are identified through the use of a Sustainability Appraisal framework. The SA Report details the results of the analysis of the options considered and the sustainability reasons for choosing the Preferred Options.

2.2 Approach to the SA

2.2.1 The SA has been carried out using the methodology set out in Government Guidance, (ODPM, 2005). The table below sets out how the SA process has been incorporated within the DPD process.

Table 2.1: The Sustainability Appraisal Process

Table 4.1 The Sustainability Appraisal Process
DPD Stage 1: Pre-Production - Evidence Gathering
SA Stages and Tasks
<p>Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives. • A2: Collecting baseline information. • A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems. • A4: Developing the SA framework. • A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA.
DPD Stage 2: Production
SA Stages and Tasks
<p>Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B1: Testing the DPD objectives against the SA framework. • B2: Developing the DPD options. • B3: Predicting the effects of the DPD. • B4: Evaluating the effects of the DPD. • B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects. • B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the DPDs.
<p>Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C1: Preparing the SA Report. (This stage)
<p>Stage D: Consulting on the Preferred Options of the DPD and the SA Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D1: Public participation on the Preferred Options of the DPD and the SA Report. • D2(i): Appraising significant changes.
DPD Stage 3: Examination
SA Stages and Tasks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D2(ii): Appraising significant changes resulting from representations.

DPD Stage 4: Adoption and Monitoring
SA Stages and Tasks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• D3: Making decisions and providing information.
Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the DPD. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• E1: Finalising aims and methods for monitoring.• E2: Responding to adverse effects.

2.2.2 As illustrated above, the SA has been carried out in three main stages and as such, three reports have been produced:

- The SA Scoping Report was published for a 6 week consultation period during 25 June to the 1 September 2008. The Scoping Report covered the stage 'A' tasks as set out in the table above. An amended SA Scoping Report was published in October 2008 which incorporated the consultation responses received.
- An Initial SA Report was prepared in-house and went out as part of the Issues and Options. This tested the spatial vision, the spatial objectives and the initial spatial options against the SA framework. A further, more detailed Report was carried out in-house to better inform the decision making of the policy team. The results of this and the consultation responses received have been used to inform the preparation of the Preferred Options.
- Thirdly, the Preferred Options for the Core Strategy have been assessed against the SA framework and this report documents the outcome of this process. Both documents will be available for consultation from the **11 January to the 19 February 2010.**

2.3 When the SA was Carried Out and by Whom

- 2.3.1 With the exception of the production of the SA Scoping Report, the Council has carried out the majority of the SA work for the Core Strategy in-house and it is considered that this has provided substantial benefits to an understanding of the key sustainability issues that face the Waltham Forest.
- 2.3.2 An SA Scoping Report was prepared during summer of 2008 and was published in October. The statutory consultation period ran from 25 June to 1 September 2008. An Initial SA Report was produced alongside the Issues and Options Paper and both documents were published for consultation in the same period while a more detailed Report was carried out in-house to better inform the decision making of the policy team.
- 2.3.3 This SA Report has been produced alongside the Core Strategy 'Preferred Options' report and the documents will undergo a six week consultation from Thursday 11th January to Thursday 19th February 2009.

2.4 Who was Consulted, When and How

- 2.4.1 At the Scoping Stage, a range of social, economic and environmental interests were consulted, as well as neighbouring authorities and the Statutory Bodies (Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency). The full list of consultees is set out in the SA Scoping Report. The responses have been summarised and can be downloaded from the Council's website. The responses were used in the preparation of the amended SA Scoping Report which can also be downloaded from the website www.walthamforest.gov.uk/ldf
- 2.4.2 An initial SA Report was made available for consultation as part of the Core Strategy Issues and Options paper. The three Statutory Environmental Bodies received a hard copy of the Report, while others received a leaflet which explained the SA process and raised awareness of the Initial SA Report. Responses received have been summarised and can be downloaded from the website.

2.5 How can I comment on this report?

- 2.5.1 This SA Report is being published alongside the Council's Core Strategy Preferred Options and is subject to a six week consultation from **11 January 2010 to 19 February 2010**. Any comments on this

you may have in response to the questions asked in this document must be submitted to the Council by 5pm on **19 February 2010**.

- 2.5.2 We are encouraging on line (electronic) submission of your responses. This is extremely helpful to us in managing the many representations we are likely to receive. The online submission system is also good for us all – it saves paper and postage costs and allows you to check the status of your submission at any time
- 2.5.3 However, if you cannot, or prefer not to submit on-line for any reason, we will welcome paper submissions. For all enquires relating to this document and how to submit your comments, please contact:

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London Borough of Waltham Forest
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Email: Planning.policy@walthamforest.gov.uk

Telephone: 020 8496 3000 or 020 8496 6775

2.6 The next stage

- 2.6.1 The submission stage will contain a single SA/SEA Report which will integrate all SA work undertaken in the previous report plus any submissions received into a single document which will be submitted for approval to the Planning Inspector alongside the Core Strategy.

3. Summary of Key Findings

- 3.1.1 This section presents a summary of the main impacts of the strategic objectives and draft policy approaches of the emerging Core Strategy on the SA Framework. It also outlines how the potential negative impacts of these can be mitigated against. A more detailed analysis of the objectives and policy options can be found in the appendices at the end of the Report.
- 3.1.2 The principal findings of the Draft SA for the Core Strategy Preferred Options stage suggests that the overall impact of the policies is positive, particularly in terms of economic development; environmental protection and enhancement, and their contribution to increased social cohesion in Waltham Forest. The broad aims of the policies are summaries below in table 1.1. Whilst there are a number of uncertain impacts identified, overall, the appraisal indicated the strategic objectives and policies are likely to have a positive contribution to directing spatial growth within the borough.

3.2 The Appraisal- The Vision and Strategic Objectives

Testing Core Strategy Vision and Strategic Objectives against the SA Framework

- 3.2.1 Guidance states that it is important for the objectives of the DPD to be in accordance with sustainability principles. The Core Strategy's emerging vision and strategic objectives have therefore been tested for compatibility with the SA objectives: see the table below;
- 3.2.1 Waltham Forest's Spatial Vision Statement is as follows:

The Spatial Vision: Waltham Forest in 2026

Waltham Forest has firmly established its place in London.

We are proud of the many high quality, innovative developments that have redefined Waltham Forest as modern, stylish place in which to live and do business. While achieving this, we have still managed to retain and enhance our rich heritage and the places and spaces we all love. Our residents now expect the best services and amenities in London – and they get them! Their high expectations and aspirations are matched by the opportunities available to them easily, both locally and within the rest of East London.

Having maximised the benefits brought by the regeneration of East London, we have developed a flourishing partnership approaching to delivering services and facilities, especially with our LSP partners. We

have a strong and stable economy providing secure, well paid jobs for local people. Waltham Forest is now a magnet for emerging and new creative businesses. Our businesses are clean and green and operate from the most sustainable buildings in the country. State of the art decentralised energy systems provide the energy our workplaces and homes need in a clean and efficient way.

Our residents live in the nation's highest quality homes, built to the highest sustainable standards. They want to play their part in tackling climate change and so embrace the concept of sustainable living and act to minimise their use of energy and materials in the way they run their homes. These homes range from single person flats to large, family orientated properties. All of our homes are within the price range of anyone who wants to live in them.

The introduction of the Hall Farm Curve and the re-opening of the Lea Bridge railway station have enabled more of our residents, especially those in the north of the borough, to access the jobs and leisure opportunities of Stratford City, Canary Wharf and wider East London sub region. Bus services throughout the borough are safe and reliable and allow people to get around the borough easily. Car use is minimal as most people find it more convenient to use public transport, cycle or walk in and around the borough. As a result, the streets and spaces of Waltham Forest are vibrant and feel safe to use both day and night. Anti-social behaviour is rare and people respect each other and their environment.

Our town centres are thriving and vibrant, bringing in residents and visitors to their shopping, leisure and cultural activities. Shops and businesses offer a range of services, with many centres appealing to people looking for more specialised, niche attractions. Walthamstow is the borough's major centre, boasting one of the best markets in London. Its evening economy also helps boost our local economy attracting residents and visitors to spend their money in Waltham Forest instead of elsewhere in London. Award winning, iconic buildings have made Waltham Forest a place where people come to see what is best in modern architecture.

Our cultural and leisure facilities complement the main attractions offered by London's West End and are seen as a great way of spending a day in the Capital. Ranging from a day out in the revamped Lea Valley Regional Park to a night at the cinema followed by a meal in our many quality restaurants, our residents particularly love the choice of activities available to them on their doorstep.

Our schools and higher education institutions are amongst the best in London. The facilities and learning opportunities offered by our excellent schools and universities are benefiting all of our residents. Exam results are well within the top quartile nationally. Young people

feel empowered and play an active role in making Waltham Forest a better place for us all.

Nestled between the Lea Valley Regional Park and Epping Forest, we continue to be London’s greenest borough and attract local people and visitors who want to enjoy the Capital’s best green open areas. Our parks are safe and clean and are recognised nationally as being of the highest quality, with facilities second to none.

Our residents have convenient access to the best sporting and leisure facilities in the world, thanks to the legacy of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. People are fit, healthy and enjoy life. As a result of the success of the 2012 Olympics, Waltham Forest now forms part of a centre for national sporting excellence. The Drapers Field Urban Beach now acts as the UK’s main centre for beach volleyball – having hosted the hugely successful 2025 Beach Volleyball World Cup.

Finally, one of our proudest achievements over the past 15 years has been the manner in which we have successfully tackled the root causes of social and economic exclusion. Our community now is celebrated as one of the most diverse in the UK and is acknowledged as an exemplar of how multi-cultural Britain works to everyone’s advantage.

In 2026, our residents and businesses are justifiably proud to be from Waltham Forest.

3.3 Strategic Objectives and how they relate to the Core Strategy Policies

3.3.1 In order to guide the delivery of the Vision, the Council has developed a series of 11 strategic objectives for the Core Strategy. These 11 objectives are contained in the table below which also illustrates how they relate to the Core Strategy policies.

Table 3.1 Strategic Objectives and how they relate to the Core Strategy Policies

Objectives	Core Strategy Policy	
	Directly covered in	Also relates to:
SO 1 Ensure a continuous supply of land and homes to meet a range of housing needs including affordable housing, family housing and accommodation needs of specific groups within the community, whilst doing more to offer a range of housing choices which are of high quality in the right places	CS 1	CS 11

SO 2	Facilitate sustainable economic growth by safeguarding and enhancing an appropriate range of employment land to meet the demands of local businesses and growth sectors	CS 2,	CS 6, CS 8,
SO 3	Strengthen and improve sustainable communities, and reduce existing deprivation in the Borough, by ensuring the timely delivery of appropriate social, physical and green infrastructure.	CS 3,	CS 2, CS 4, CS 5, CS 7, CS 8, CS 9 CS 10, CS 11
SO 4	Ensure that our patterns of development and use of resources support the long term sustainability of our environment and respond to climate change in a practical and effective way.	CS 4,	CS 1, CS 2, CS 3, CS 5, CS 7, CS 8, CS 9, CS 10, CS 11
SO 5	Provide a quality of education that ensures that the young people of the Borough can capitalise on the opportunities in Waltham Forest and London, and are able to succeed and prosper	CS 5,	CS 6
SO 6	Reduce inequalities, unemployment and worklessness in the borough by improving training, employment opportunities, skills and access to jobs.	CS 6	CS 2, CS 3, CS 5, CS 8, CS 11
SO 7	Improve the health and well-being of Waltham Forest residents by positively influencing the wider and spatial determinants of health, such as physical activity and food choices	CS 7	CS 1, CS 2, CS 3, CS 4, CS 5, CS 8 CS 9, CS 10 CS 11
SO 8	Safeguard and strengthen the function of Walthamstow Town Centre, the District and Neighbourhood Centres capitalising on their respective roles for shopping, culture, leisure, tourism and employment opportunities etc and ensuring that they continue to develop as distinctive, vibrant, attractive, safe and welcoming places	CS 8	CS 2, CS 3 CS 4, CS 6, SC 7 CS 9, CS 10, CS 11
SO 9	Create positive and inclusive environments (buildings and spaces) of high quality that contribute to the distinctiveness of Waltham Forest's neighbourhoods, whilst also protecting and enhancing the borough's built heritage assets	CS 9	CS 1, CS 3, CS 4, CS 7, CS 8, CS 10, CS 11
SO 10	Ensure that Waltham Forest is a safer, more attractive place where people want to live, work and visit and where anti-social behaviour, crime and the fear of crime no longer reduces the quality of people's lives	CS 10	CS 1, CS 2, CS 3, CS 4, CS 5, CS 6, CS 7, CS 8 CS 9, CS 11
SO 11	Capitalise on redevelopment opportunities to secure physical, economic and environmental regeneration of the borough and ensure the delivery of key benefits for the wider community	CS 11	CS 1, CS 2, CS 3, CS 5,

3.4 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS FOR THE SA OF VISION & STRATEGIC OPTIONS

- 3.4.1 A detailed SA of the Strategic Objectives is contained within Appendix A, although the key outcomes and findings are contained within the following paragraphs. Overall, it is considered that the draft strategic objectives are generally very successful in seeking to achieve sustainable development. As a whole, they cover all the necessary elements of sustainability and contribute positively towards achieving this. There are not considered to be any significant conflicts between the DPD objectives and the sustainability framework, nor have any serious internal conflicts between DPD objectives been identified. Table 4.2 (overleaf) illustrates the cumulative effect of the Core Strategy objectives on the SA Framework.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS FOR THE SA OF VISION & STRATEGIC OPTIONS

Table; 3.2 Strategic Objectives and Sustainability Impacts

Strategic objectives

Sustainability Appraisal Framework

	SO 1	SO 2	SO 3	SO 4	SO 5	SO 6	SO 7	SO 8	SO 9	SO 10	SO 11
SA 1	+	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
SA 2	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
SA 3	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
SA 4	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
SA 5	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+
SA 6	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+
SA 7	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
SA 8	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+
SA 9	X	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	X
SA10	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-
SA11	X	X	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	X
SA12	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-
SA13	X	X	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	X
SA14	?	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
SA15	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+
SA16	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
SA17	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	-
SA18	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+
SA19	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
SA20	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
SA21	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
SA22	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
SA23	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

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Key symbols

Compatible	+	Possible conflict	X	No direct impact	-
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3.5 Summary of Strategic Objectives Impacts

3.5.1 Social Impacts

3.5.2 The strategic objectives will have considerable positive social impacts. There are several objectives that aim to address key social issues including affordable housing, health and employment opportunities and avoiding polarisation throughout the borough. These objectives meet several of the specific requirements set out in the SA framework, including promoting provision of high quality affordable housing, promoting a healthy safe community, ensuring accessing to local facilities and open space and tackling poverty and social exclusion.

3.5.3 In addition to these direct positive impacts, there are a number of draft objectives that will indirectly affect social elements of sustainable development. For example, objectives that seek to improve and protect open spaces and to promote high quality sustainable design and improvements to places and streets will enhance the local environment, thereby helping to improve people's health (both physical and mental) and quality of life. Objectives to promote sustainable transport will ensure better access for all residents and objectives to protect and strengthen town centres in Waltham Forest will improve resident's access to shopping and other required services such as medical supplies, post offices, banking services etc.

3.5.4 Environmental Impacts

3.5.5 From the appraisal it is clear that the draft Vision and objectives will contribute significantly to achieving the environmental aims of the sustainability framework. The Vision aims to make Waltham Forest 'The Greenest Borough in London' and has a number of supporting objectives that seek to protect open spaces, improve air quality, reduce waste, energy and water inefficiencies, minimise flood risk, promote high quality and sustainable design, reducing contamination by re-using brownfield land etc.

3.5.6 As well as having positive environmental effects, ostensibly 'green' objectives to protect open space and green belt land will have positive economic and social effects. It will ensure future development is directed to the most sustainable locations and reinforce town centre policies to make the best use of previously developed land in these areas. This should contribute to increased diversity in town centre offer and offer greater employment opportunities in the borough as well as offer greater accessibility to residents to a greater number of services.

3.5.7 Economic Impacts

- 3.5.8 All strategic objectives appear to have a positive impact on the economic SA objectives. There are a number of objectives pertaining to increasing the skills and employability of Waltham Forest's residents which should have a positive impact on both enabling residents to attain quality, high paid jobs and attracting inward investment into the borough due to a highly skilled pool of workers. This will have positive ramifications for employment levels and the vitality and viability of the boroughs town centres in terms of a greater number of people with access to disposable incomes.
- 3.5.9 The economic impacts of the strategic approaches will also have positive ramifications on environmental and social objectives. A compact, diversified town centre approach will have positive impacts on reducing the need for travel and subsequently improve emission levels and air quality. Similarly a highly diversified economy will offer increased array of services e.g. health and leisure that will be instrumental in reducing local deprivation levels.

3.6 Conclusion

- 3.6.1 It is considered that the findings contained in this report will help to advance the sustainability credentials of the draft strategic objectives and subsequently have a positive influence on the development and refinement of options for the Core Strategy. The Strategic Objectives perform very well against the SA Framework and negative impacts that have been identified are common to areas planning for growth. It is considered that the overall approach taken by the Core Strategy and mitigation measures proposed in the document will enhance Waltham Forest's ability to adapt to and minimise the negative impacts identified.
- 3.6.2 In particular, the recommendations, which highlight areas where special care will need to be taken, will help to ensure potential conflicts are avoided. The results of this appraisal should also provide a good basis for determining whether or not a potential option is likely to advance the principles of sustainability, something that the draft strategic objectives are considered overall to do particularly well. It will be important that the policies contained within the DPDs help to implement the strategic objectives, building on their success in seeking to achieve sustainable development.

3.7 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS; DRAFT POLICIES IMPACT ON SA FRAMEWORK

- 3.7.1 A detailed SA of the Draft Policies is contained within Appendix B, although the key outcomes and findings are contained within the following paragraphs.
- 3.7.2 Overall, it is considered that the draft strategic objectives are generally very successful in seeking to achieve sustainable development. The policies were grouped into three key themes as determined by the Waltham forest Sustainable Community Strategy 'Our Place in London'.

SCS Theme 1; Managing Policy and Change

- Policy CS 1 'Improving Housing Quality and Choice with the right kinds of homes in the right kind of places'
- Policy CS 2 'Create a more economically balanced population to increase local spending power, generate jobs and tackle concentrations of deprivation and low aspiration'
- Policy CS 3 'Cultivate civic participation, cohesion and independent living so everyone feels they belong'
- Policy CS 4 'Respond to climate change in a practical and effective way'

SCS Theme 2; Creating Wealth and Opportunity for Residents

- Policy CS 5 'Provide children and young people with the skills and confidence to achieve their ambitions and compete in the global economy'
- Policy CS 6 'Achieve full employment'
- Policy CS 7 'A Healthy Borough'

SCS Theme 3; Retaining More Wealth within the Borough

- Policy CS 8 'Create vibrant town centres with an attractive cultural, leisure and commercial offer'
- Policy CS 9 'Transform the Design and Quality of Public Space'
- Policy CS 10 'Improving Safety and reduce Anti-Social Behaviour'
- Making the Most of Regeneration in the East of London'

- 3.7.3 As with the strategic objectives these draft policies were then tested against the SA Framework. A cumulative effect table is illustrated in Table 3.3 (overleaf).

3.7.4 Cumulative effect table of draft policies impacts on the SA Framework

Table; 3.3 Core strategy and Sustainability Impacts

		Core Strategy Policies										
		CS 1	CS 2	CS 3	CS 4	CS 5	CS 6	CS 7	CS 8	CS 9	CS 10	CS 11
Sustainability Appraisal Framework	SA 1	++	+	-	X	-	-	-	+	?	-	++
	SA 2	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	++	+
	SA 3	+	+	+	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	++
	SA 4	+	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++
	SA 5	-	-	+	-	++	+	+	-	-	-	+
	SA 6	-	+	+	-	++	++	+	-	+	-	+
	SA 7	+	+	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
	SA 8	+	+	++	++	+	+	++	++	+	+	+
	SA 9	X	X	+	++	?	-	-	X	+	-	X
	SA10	?	?	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	?
	SA11	X	X	+	++	?	-	+	?	+	+	X
	SA12	+	+	+	++	?	+	+	+	+	+	+
	SA13	X	X	+	++	?	-	+	X	+	-	X
	SA14	?	?	+	+	?	-	+	?	+	-	?
	SA15	+	++	+	+	+	-	+	+	?	-	+
	SA16	++	+	++	++	+	-	+	++	+	-	++
	SA17	+	+	+	++	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
	SA18	?	?	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	+
	SA19	+	?	+	++	+	-	++	+	+	+	+
	SA20	+	?	+	?	?	-	+	+	++	?	+
	SA21	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	+	?
	SA22	+	++	+	+	+	++	+	++	++	+	?
	SA23	+	++	+	+	+	++	+	++	++	+	++

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Impact	Symbol
Major positive	++
Positive	+
Major negative	xx
Negative	x
Neutral (no affect identified)	-
Uncertain	?

3.8 Summary of Draft policy's approach and its impact on the SA Framework

3.8.1 The SA found that for the most part, the policies were likely to progress the SA Objectives, but that in a limited amount of cases some policies could be strengthened to have more beneficial sustainability effects, and in particular to attempt to offset the significant environmental effect of substantial growth in the Borough. The overall policy approach taken by the Preferred Options Approach may be summarised as follows.

- All new development will be required to follow high quality urban and sustainable design and construction principles, considering need for new buildings, location, best use of land, reducing impacts on environment, best use of resources, use of renewable energy and achieving high environmental standards. Sustainable transport and travel patterns will be essential to reducing impacts on the local area. The additional cost to developers of implementing these requirements may be initially prohibitive (leading to a possible negative impact on housing supply in Waltham Forest) however the long-term benefits are considered to out-weigh the negatives.
- The Borough will be required to provide more dwellings (760 units as per the requirements set by the GLA), including affordable homes and decide where to locate them. Ideally they should be built on previously developed (brownfield) land. They should not harm acknowledged nature conservation, landscape, townscape, or environmental interests. They should be on sites within walking or cycling distance of existing or planned facilities and employment, thereby reducing reliance on the car. Preferably the housing location should be well served by public transport. A sustainable option for housing would propose to mix houses with essential services on previously developed land in or near town and district centres.
- Green open areas and corridors are integral to key environmental processes and help to improve air quality, maintain soil quality, provide drainage and are vital to encourage and enhance biodiversity. The open environment and river corridors will continue to be enhanced and protected. Broad measures to reduce risk from flooding and restricting development in floodplains are proposed but it is likely that the further guidance will be issued through the Site Specific Allocations and the Development Management Policies DPDs and/or assessed on a site-by-site basis.
- There are pockets of deprivation within the Borough particularly in the southern wards. Local community and health facilities, infrastructure and services will be provided near to where they are needed, especially in areas of relative deprivation. Sufficient

high quality education and training will benefit personal well-being and support the local economy. This would be implemented by the Council in conjunction with a large number of different partners to seek to reduce disadvantage and ensure a range of opportunities are provided to create cohesive and healthy communities.

- Locations with good public transport accessibility such as Walthamstow and Blackhorse Lane should be exploited by concentrating uses which attract a lot of people such as larger offices, in these locations. A mix of uses is important to maintain viability and vitality of the town and local centres. It is critically important to strike a balance between protecting the environment (particularly the Natura 2000 sites, floodplains, important biodiversity areas etc) and enabling the economy to thrive.
- Some negative impacts were identified in relation to policies 1, 2, 4, 8, 11 and for the most part, relate to environmental issues. These were largely attributed to the likely impact that increased spatial growth and attendant development pressures will lead to an increased demand for energy and water and result in additional waste in the borough. The potential impacts on flood risk, biodiversity and Natura 2000 sites (particularly in the Blackhorse Lane and North Olympic Fringe area) will need to be examined both in terms of a borough-wide assessment and in the case of individual applications on a case-by-case basis. However as many of these relate to the potential impacts of new development it is generally considered that there are mitigation measures identified that could be put in place to address these. These mitigation measures are outlined below in table 3.1.

3.9 Proposed Mitigation Measures

3.9.1 As well as identifying possible negative impacts as a result of the draft policies and objectives, Council is required to identify mitigation measures that could off-set these potential impacts. The table below sets out the proposed mitigation measures which have been identified to overcome the negative sustainability issues identified.

Table 1.1 Table of proposed Mitigation Measures

Table of Proposed Mitigation Measures	
Sustainability Issue	Proposed Mitigation Measures
Increased number of homes and business/employment within the Borough could lead to increased waste, increased noise and light pollution and increased flood risk as well as placing pressure on water supply.	<p>Ensure that waste is managed in accordance with the waste hierarchy and North London Waste Plan and that new developments are designed to reduce noise and light pollution and surface water run-off.</p> <p>Businesses & homes should be encouraged to reduce, reuse and recycle</p> <p>Pay close attention to the findings of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment when allocating sites for new development.</p>
Focusing development on brownfield sites could have a detrimental impact on biodiversity.	<p>Assessments will be carried out on those sites which are progressed in order to understand their biodiversity value.</p> <p>Redevelopment may afford the opportunity to remediate contamination and increase biodiversity in some cases</p> <p>Biodiversity contributions will be sought as part of a package of Section 106 measures where appropriate.</p>
Increased noise, air and light pollution in Town Centres as a result of focusing employment and retail growth in these areas.	<p>Ensure that new developments are designed to reduce noise and light pollution and ensure that public transport is improved as a way to reduce congestion within this area.</p>
Focusing development in some of Boroughs centres e.g. Blackhorse Lane could exacerbate flood risk.	<p>Ensure that the SFRA is fully considered when allocating sites for development.</p> <p>Development of sites within floodplains will be required to demonstrate how they will minimise flood risk</p>
Increased noise and light pollution as a result of new development.	<p>This will depend on exact locations and design. At the strategic level, the Core Strategy should promote high quality design which reduces impact on its surroundings.</p>
New development could place pressure on the historic environment, particularly within the town centres.	<p>Any proposals must take account of Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings and the Core Strategy seeks to safeguard the historic environment through the ' Core Policy Area.</p>

Requiring increased levels of affordable housing may impact on the economic viability of sites and result in them being left undeveloped, thus having a detrimental impact on regeneration.	An economic viability assessment will be undertaken and the final levels of affordable housing required will reflect its findings.
Design out Crime (or similar) standards may conflict with the existing townscape and built heritage, reduce opportunities to increase vegetation and tree planting and increase light pollution.	This should be assessed for potential impacts on a site-by-site basis or at pre- planning application stage.
Increasing the Boroughs level of renewable energy production from both on-site standalone provision may have a detrimental impact on the landscape/townscape.	This will be addressed at the site specific level. Where on-site provision is required, this will need to be sensitively incorporated into a schemes design and where standalone renewable energy developments are proposed any sites considered will undergo Sustainability Appraisal through the Site Specific Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD.
Seeking to safeguard the landscape may conflict with increasing the supply of renewable energy within the Borough.	This issue will need to be considered on a site-by-site basis through the Site Specific Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD.
Increasing the focus on greenspaces within the Borough and promoting their use as walking and cycling corridors could create demand for these spaces to be lit, leading to increased noise and light pollution.	Should it be considered necessary to light such spaces, sensitive designs which reduce light pollution and solar powered lighting will need to be considered in order to minimise impact.
An increase in allotment provision could have a detrimental impact on the landscape and townscape of the Borough	Allotment sites will be carefully selected through the Site Allocations and Policies DPD. Each site will undergo sustainability appraisal. All developments will need to comply with advice set out within the Design SPG.
Requiring a range of developer contributions and sustainable design standards could impact on the economic viability of sites, thus having a detrimental impact on regeneration by leaving brownfield sites undeveloped.	The developer contributions required will be negotiated on a site-by-site basis taking the economic viability of the site

3.9.2 Uncertainties and Risks

3.9.3 Sustainability Appraisal is an uncertain process which requires assumptions to be made regarding the impacts of the policies proposed on the basis of limited or inadequate data. Most of the impact predictions made in this report are therefore subject to some uncertainty and entail risks.

3.9.4 There are two main uncertainties within the report. Firstly, the limited availability of baseline data in some cases makes it difficult to identify the current situation and the likely impact future development may have. Secondly, as the Core Strategy sets out strategic policy, it is often difficult to identify sustainability impacts as these will depend on the exact location, scale and design of individual proposals. The Site

Specific Allocations and Development Management Policies DPDs will be subject to a comprehensive Sustainability Appraisal in order to identify and mitigate against sustainability impacts on a site-by-site basis.

- 3.9.5 Uncertainties relating to baseline data will be resolved through monitoring. Uncertainties associated with impact prediction will be addressed at the planning application stage where more specific information is available and the actual impacts can be identified. Some impacts will be more clearly identified and mitigated against through the Site Specific Allocations DPD Allocations and Blackhorse Lane, North Olympic Fringe and Walthamstow Town Centre Area Action Plan DPDs.

3.9.6 **Habitat Regulations Assessment**

- 3.9.7 It was difficult in some cases to assess the impact of the Core Strategy policies on the Boroughs Natura 2000 areas at Epping Forest and the Lee Valley. Due to statutory obligations and the specialist nature of the assessment, Council will produce a Habitat Regulations Assessment which should better determine how the proposed policies will affect these areas.

Appendix 1- Strategic Objectives Appraisal;

Justification

SO 1 Ensure a continuous supply of land and homes to meet a range of housing needs including affordable housing, family housing and accommodation needs of specific groups within the community, whilst doing more to offer a range of housing choices which are of high quality in the right places

This objective will have an obvious positive impact on the sustainability framework objective to meet the Borough's housing needs. It is also expected to have a positive effect on reducing crime in Waltham Forest and deprivation levels (by reducing social tensions) and on health (by providing suitable accommodation to meet the varying needs of its residents). The provision of additional housing in the Borough is also expected to maintain and enhance the local economy as additional residents will mean that there is an additional demand for local goods and services.

The additional provision of homes in the Borough however is likely to lead to additional levels of waste, water and energy consumption. The Council may also find it difficult to ensure a 'continuous' supply of developable land for housing without using greenfield land which would have a number of negative sustainability impacts. It is recommended that the strategic objective is amended to include a reference to 'maximising under-utilised land' in order to meet Waltham Forest's housing targets.

However it is expected that these majority of these negative effects can be mitigated against through the application of new technologies such as sustainable construction methods (e.g. Lifetime Home Standards) and through adherence to the waste hierarchy. Provision of more housing, especially where it meets the needs of particular groups, including those with specialist housing needs, brings benefits which should outweigh the negative impacts in terms of pollution and greater use of resources particularly if mitigation factors are included.

Recommendation

The phrase 'continuous supply of land' is disingenuous and could be changed to indicate that Council will endeavour to maximise the use of its brownfield land in order to meet its housing targets or similar.

SO2 Facilitate sustainable economic growth by safeguarding and enhancing an appropriate range of employment land to meet the demands of local businesses and growth sectors

Ensuring that there is a range and consistent supply of employment opportunities will have positive effects on the Boroughs local economy, employment levels and attempts to attract inward investment to Waltham Forest. An objective to meet the needs of local businesses will require that residents access to high quality education and training to ensure that a match between skills and jobs is achievable thereby having a knock-on effect for improving educational attainment in schools and access to training.

It is assumed that the locations will be in the most accessible locations for sustainable transport e.g. offices in town centres and this will have a positive effect on the; re-use of previously developed land in these areas; improved local air quality through reduction in the amount traffic based emissions; and avoidance of green belt and open space and floodplain areas. Through clustering of businesses, there may also be opportunities to reduce waste and encourage joint synergistic recycling attempts. 'Enhancing' employment land is likely to result in improved landscaping and provide opportunities for increased biodiversity e.g. roof gardens particularly if this employment is likely to change from heavy industrial uses to office or tertiary services.

The intensifying employment land however is likely to result in an increased demand on energy and water supplies that will need to be assessed on a site-by-site basis and the ability of technology to ensure a more efficient use e.g. on-site CHP stations,

Recommendation

This objective could be amended to include 'safeguarding employment land in accessible locations' to ensure that sustainable transport is a factor in the location of business. The objective could also include a reference to identifying and targeting (employment) growth sectors such as ICT or jobs in the Green Economy.

SO 3 Strengthen and improve sustainable communities, and reduce existing deprivation in the Borough, by ensuring the timely delivery of appropriate social, physical and green infrastructure.

This objective tends to have strong positive social impacts particularly regarding reducing deprivation levels. Mixed, balanced areas with reduced polarisation should help to improve community safety as people will not tend to feel excluded but more a part of the community and therefore less likely to commit crime against other members of their community.

The provision of social and green infrastructure (schools, health services, additional parks etc) in proximity to where it is most need is has obvious positive impacts on the SA framework regarding; health, Increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural,

recreational and social needs; Improve opportunities for access to education and training for all resident; Improve opportunities for access to local services, facilities and employment through an integrated sustainable transport system;

A more safe and accessible Borough is likely to result in more people walking and cycling with subsequent positive reinforcing impacts for reducing pollution levels, energy consumption and improving health (through both incidental exercise and in terms of access to facilities). The delivery of green infrastructure should have a positive knock on effect for increasing biodiversity; protecting and enhancing open spaces; and conserving and enhancing the natural environment. Similarly a balanced, safe and well designed community is more likely to attract inward investment and employment opportunities and make the boroughs centres more vital and viable.

SO 4: Ensure that our patterns of development and use of resources support the long term sustainability of our environment and respond to climate change in a practical and effective way.

This objective will have numerous positive impacts on the SA Framework particularly in terms of energy and water conservation, air quality and waste. Reuse of materials will ensure that less non-renewable resources are required and waste is reduced. Similarly, open spaces, Natura 2000 sites and floodplains would be protected and sustainable designs could incorporate additional biodiversity opportunities through green roofs, soft landscaping etc. A concerted effort to reduce pollution would have a positive impact on air quality

Sustainable patterns of development would imply that brownfield land and town centre location is favoured allowing best use of previously developed land and buildings and accessible by sustainable transport. This would have positive impacts on town centre viability and vitality, local employment levels and ability to attract modern employers. Remediation of brownfield land in these locations will have positive impacts for soil quality and possibilities of further biodiversity opportunities. In a social context improved access to services, open spaces and a reduction in local pollution levels will have a positive multiplier effect on resident's health and welfare.

There may be a slight possibility of conflict between the objective to incorporate sustainable designs and the objective to provide a range of housing in the borough as the additional cost to developers (e.g. a requirement to include SUDS) may be prohibitive and subsequently reduce the amount of new homes in the Borough. Similarly new forms of sustainable construction and design or 'retro-fitting' for example double glazing windows may also conflict with townscape character or conservation areas as older buildings are traditionally less energy efficient. However the long-term benefits and outweigh the short term costs (in terms of the future costs of failure to enact environmentally-friendly designs)

SO 5: Provide a quality of education that ensures that the young people of the Borough can capitalise on the opportunities in Waltham Forest and London, and are able to succeed and prosper.

This objective has largely positive social and economic impacts. If residents are provided with good quality of education it should have the effect reducing inequalities and deprivation and increasing opportunities for everyone will directly tackle poverty and social exclusion in Waltham Forest. Reducing inequalities through improving the quality of education will have a very positive economic impact for Waltham Forest, as more local people will be able to actively participate in the economy, reducing unemployment with improved job prospects and income capacity. Employers and new businesses are more likely to locate in Waltham Forest due to the supply of skilled labour also reinforcing the vitality and viability of the boroughs centres.

SO 6: Reduce inequalities, unemployment and worklessness in the borough by improving training, employment opportunities, skills and access to jobs.

The emphasis of this objective is to ensure that employment opportunities are accessible by ensuring a match between skills and available jobs. This has very similar impacts to SO 5 and has the effect of reducing inequalities and local deprivation by opening up access to employment opportunities. A subsequent long-term benefit will be to the local economy should accrue as better educated and trained residents will have improved accessibility to high quality jobs and disposable incomes.

SO 7 Improve the health and well-being of Waltham Forest residents by positively influencing the wider and spatial determinants of health, such as physical activity and food choices

This objective has mostly positive social and environmental impacts. In terms of the SA Framework, its is particularly relevant to the SA Framework aim to; improve standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough and reducing the overall level of deprivation.

It is assumed that protecting and enhancing open spaces and landscapes is an implicit factor in "influencing the wider and spatial determinants of health". This would have a positive impact on air quality and reducing emissions; conserving and enhancing biodiversity; protecting the ecological integrity of Natura 2000 sites; maintain and enhance the quality of the green belt and open space areas; reducing flood risk, maintain and enhance the historic built and natural environment and make the best use of previously developed land. This is due to the fact that if green spaces are protected and are unsuitable for development than a more efficient use of brownfield land will occur. Improvements to open spaces will make them more attractive and safe; thereby encourage their use for outdoor activity, improving people's health and feelings of safety.

SO 8 Safeguard and strengthen the function of Walthamstow Town Centre, the District and Neighbourhood Centres capitalising on their respective roles for shopping, culture, leisure, tourism and employment opportunities etc and ensuring that they continue to develop as distinctive, vibrant, attractive, safe and welcoming places.

This objective is likely to have positive economic and social impacts in particular. The objective is a 'town centre' approach that seeks to strengthen and diversify the offer of all centres. Focusing a range of development opportunities in Walthamstow and other centres is likely to greatly enhance the viability and vitality of these areas as well as creating additional employment, shopping and service provision. A mix of uses is more sustainable in the long-run as the centres will not be overly-reliant on one type of employment. New residents, office workers and visitors can help support the retail economy. There are likely benefits in terms of social infrastructure as additional health, leisure and services are likely to be attracted to locate in these areas and increased footfall and should result in a safer environment.

The environmental benefits centre on the fact that the provision of a range of facilities close to home will reduce the need to travel. A town centre approach is likely to have positive effects for the re-use of previously developed land and buildings and subsequently protecting green belt and open space areas. The objective enhance will give opportunity to improve the local built and natural environment (giving further opportunities for diversity) particularly in Walthamstow, Blackhorse Lane and the North Olympic Fringe Area. Public realm and traffic improvements could help reduce dominance of vehicles on the town centre environment and lead to healthier lifestyles through an increase in incidental exercise.

An increase in development in these areas is likely to lead to increased waste and place an additional strain on the demand for energy and water at least in the short-term. However this may be off-set somewhat by employing more efficient energy and water-saving technologies in the design of new buildings etc and collective waste.

SO 9 Create positive, responsive and inclusive environments (buildings and spaces) of high quality that contribute to the distinctiveness of Waltham Forest's neighbourhoods, whilst also protecting and enhancing the borough's built heritage assets

This objective is likely to have positive social and environment positive impacts in particular and directly impacts the SA objective to conserve and enhance the historic built and natural environment. Well designed and sustainable places and developments will greatly enhance the urban environment and add to people's quality of life.

It should also have a positive effect on the following SA Framework objectives: make the best use of previously developed land and buildings and maintaining the quality of open space areas. 'Inclusive environments' would suggest that walking and cycling are prioritised having a positive effect on reducing energy use, improving air quality and health. This would also have positive implications for improving the accessibility to essential services and community facilities. This will reduce local deprivation levels and should have a positive effect on reducing crime levels through increased footfall of these areas.

Attractive places and streets help create a more appealing urban environment, helping to create vibrant places helping to attract business and visitors to the borough, helping sustain the local economy. Similarly the Boroughs built heritage e.g. through conservation areas may lead to an increase in tourism helping to diversify the economy and create new jobs.

SO 10 Ensure that Waltham Forest is a safer, more accessible and inclusive place where people want to live, work and visit and where anti-social behaviour, crime and the fear of crime no longer reduces the quality of people's lives

This strategic objective scores well in a high number of SA Framework objectives. The objective implies that there will be direct positive impact on the SA Objective to; reducing crime and the fear of crime;

An 'accessible...inclusive community' also implies the following; increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural, recreational and social needs improving the standard of health and well being of those in the Borough;; reduce the overall level of deprivation; improve opportunities for access to local services, facilities and employment through an integrated sustainable transport system. Ensuring an adequate supply of the right type of housing for the varying needs of the Boroughs residents will also be a key aim of this objective to promote 'inclusiveness'.

The also implies that there will there will be a concerted effort to reduce private travel in the Borough presumably through improved cycling, walking and public transport provision and also an ability to manage resources efficiently. This will have positive impacts on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, reducing (and recycling) waste; conserving energy; improving air quality through a reduction in traffic-based emissions. In order to achieve this it will be necessary to make a more efficient use of land (particularly in or near town and local centres). Likely positive impacts of this include; better use of PDL and existing buildings; reducing contamination and safeguarding soil quality and quantity, conserving and enhancing biodiversity, maintaining the quality of the green belt and open space areas and conserving and enhancing the historic and built environment.

A 'sustainable community' is one with an established and vital local economy which will support employment and attract investment thereby scoring will in

economic SA framework terms. There are no negative implications or impacts identified with this objective.

SO 11 Capitalise on redevelopment opportunities to secure physical, economic and environmental regeneration of the borough and ensure the delivery of key benefits for the wider community

This objective aims to maximise the social, economic and environmental benefits that accrue through the implementation of key regeneration projects. While the objective is general and non-specific, it can be assumed that the will have positive effects similar to all previous objectives above but will be primarily based in the regeneration areas.

As with other objectives that relate to planning for growth in the Borough, there will be likely negative impacts with additional demand for energy and water (and increased waste) which will need to be mitigated against as indicated in table 1.1.

Appendix 2 - Draft Policy Matrices

Individual Preferred Options policy matrices

This section presents the appraisal matrices used to appraise the following elements of the draft Core Strategy. The 'Preferred Options' Report consists of 11 policy approaches which are listed below.

These policies were tested against the 23 Sustainability Objectives identified in the Scoping Report that comprise the SA Framework.

1. Meet local housing needs through the provision of a range of tenures and sizes of new dwellings
2. Reduce crime and the fear of crime
3. Improve standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough
4. Increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural, recreational and social needs
5. Improve educational attainment in schools
6. Improve opportunities for access to education and training for all residents
7. Reduce the overall level of deprivation
8. Improve opportunities for access to local services, facilities and employment through an integrated sustainable transport system
9. Reduce production of waste and increase recycling
10. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
11. Conserve energy
12. Improve air quality through a reduction in traffic-based emissions
13. Improve water quality and ensure the efficient use of water resources
14. Reduce the risk of flooding
15. Reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity
16. Make the best use of previously developed land (PDL) and existing buildings
17. Conserve and enhance biodiversity
18. Protect the ecological integrity of Natura 2000 sites
19. Maintain and enhance the quality of the green belt and open space areas.
20. Conserve and enhance the historic built and natural environment
21. Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres
22. Improve the local economy by attracting inward investment
23. Maintain stable levels of employment in the Borough

The impact of each of the policies/ preferred options on the SA objective was scored as follows;

Table: Sustainability Appraisal Scoring Criteria

Major positive	++
Positive	+
Major negative	xx
Negative	x
Neutral (no affect identified)	-
Uncertain	?

The assessment is based on the current situation and trends for each objective, including where there are particular problems. This information is contained in the LDF Core Strategy SA Scoping Report, and has been referred to throughout the process of compiling the matrices. Unless specified otherwise, the potential effects identified within the matrices are direct and permanent.

Managing Population and Change

CS 1 ‘Improving Housing Quality and Choice with the right kinds of homes in the right kinds of places’

The Council will seek to facilitate the provision of the right kind of homes in the right places and support the creation of sustainable, high quality and affordable neighbourhoods for residents by:

- A. Delivering housing supply to exceed our target of 665 homes annually by prioritising the allocation of large brownfield sites for housing in Walthamstow Central, Blackhorse Lane and the North Olympic Fringe growths areas, encouraging investment in small site housing development, making the most efficient use of existing housing estate sites and bringing empty homes back into use. Ensuring all sites are or will be well serviced by public transport and provide convenient access to employment opportunities and social infrastructure;
- B. Delivering the maximum amount of affordable housing on all sites within the borough with a capacity of 10 or more to exceed our target of delivering 363 affordable homes annually.
- C. Achieve a 60:40 split of social to intermediate homes to ensure a balanced variety of homes are provided to meet the needs of residents in a manner that supports the development of sustainable communities;
- D. Protecting family housing through resisting the conversion of existing properties, preventing the loss of existing family homes and maximising the number of new developments providing larger homes;
- E. Ensuring all new housing meets high amenity standards in accordance with the Mayor’s Housing Design SPD with particular focus on ensuring the internal and external design standards enable a high quality of life to be enjoyed by residents over changing family lifecycles and that developments contribute to the overall enhancement of the neighbourhood;
- F. Making efficient use of housing land whilst ensuring the density of development is consistent with the character of the area, public transport capacity and social infrastructure capacity;
- G. Creating more sustainable, attractive, mixed and balanced communities that retain residents by ensuring that the sizes, types and tenures of new housing meet the identified priority need of new and existing households at local and sub-regional level, including families, older people, people with special support needs, and young adults

- H. Ensuring sufficient good quality, appropriately located residential pitches are provided to satisfy the unmet need specified in the London Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment.

CS 1 'Improving Housing Quality and Choice SA matrix table

SOCIAL	Impact
1. Meet local housing needs through the provision of a range of tenures and sizes of new dwellings	++
2. Reduce crime and the fear of crime	+
3. Improve standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough	+
4. Increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural, recreational and social needs	+
5. Improve educational attainment in schools	-
6. Improve opportunities for access to education and training for all residents	-
7. Reduce the overall level of deprivation	+
8. Improve opportunities for access to local services, facilities and employment through an integrated sustainable transport system	+
ENVIRONMENTAL	
9. Reduce production of waste and increase recycling	X
10. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	?
11. Conserve energy	X
12. Improve air quality through a reduction in traffic-based emissions	+
13. Improve water quality and ensure the efficient use of water resources	X
14. Reduce the risk of flooding	?
15. Reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity	+
16. Make the best use of previously developed land (PDL) and existing buildings	++
17. Conserve and enhance biodiversity	+
18. Protect the ecological integrity of Natura 2000 sites	?
19. Maintain and enhance the quality of the green belt and open space areas.	+
20. Conserve and enhance the historic built and natural environment	+
ECONOMIC	
21. Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres	+
22. Improve the local economy by attracting inward investment	+
23. Maintain stable levels of employment in the Borough	+

Commentary

This policy sets out the amount of residential development to be accommodated within the Borough during the plan period and the broad locations where this development will be focused. The central thrust of the policy is to deliver (and in some cases exceed) housing targets and would generally have a number of very positive sustainability impacts in terms of providing a range of housing across the borough and also in terms of tackling social exclusion by meeting the housing needs of various groups. Safeguarding family housing in the borough, this will encourage families to stay in Waltham Forest, who would otherwise be forced to leave the borough due to a lack of appropriate accommodation. The impact of this could encourage more community cohesion in areas of the borough, and reduce the fear of crime. In the medium to long term this could help to reduce the incidence of crime.

The policy emphasises that brownfield land is prioritised when allocating large sites for residential development in the main regeneration areas of Walthamstow, Blackhorse Lane and the North Olympic Fringe. This should have positive impacts on making best use of previously developed land and make offer possibilities to remediate contaminated land and offer new biodiversity opportunities in these areas. The additional amount of new housing in the Borough will lead to an increased demand for goods and services in Waltham Forest with obvious positive economic impacts for its town centres and retail parades.

The negative and unknown sustainability impacts identified include the probability that increasing the provision of more family homes within the Borough will lead to an increased amount of waste being produced and will need to manage this in accordance with the waste hierarchy. All development will increase and energy water consumption; however this will be mitigated against through the provisions in CS1 and the emerging Development Control Policies DPD as well as improved Building Regulations relating to water and energy efficiency. Flood risk may also be an important issue. The fact that housing development is slated for Blackhorse Lane and other areas near the Lea Valley could lead to pressure to develop flood plains within the towns or could exacerbate flood risk through increasing run-off. Close attention will need to be paid to the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and the Core Strategy will set out strategic policy on managing flood risk.

Overall, it is considered that the possible (long-term) adverse effects of this policy can be greatly reduced through the mitigation measures set out above and/or examined on a site-by-site basis. The policy's generally positive sustainability credentials reflects the fact that the broad intentions of the option are to locate developments in a way which reduces the need to travel (in town centres thus increasing their vitality and viability) and also ensures that the necessary facilities required for Waltham Forest's residents are provided. This enables this option to meet a number of the sustainability criteria relating to air quality, sustainable modes of travel, healthy communities and social inclusion. This option also places a requirement on

developments to provide sustainable buildings and therefore achieves positive impacts in relation to high quality design and (long-term) energy conservation as new buildings tend to be more energy efficient than older ones.

Recommendations

None identified

CS 2 ‘Create a more economically balanced population to increase local spending power, generate jobs and tackle concentrations of deprivation and low aspiration’

The Council will enable the expected increase in jobs, facilitate the intensification and reduction of surplus employment land and provide local people with the skills required to obtain new jobs being created by:

- A) Intensifying, upgrading and securing existing employment lands in the regeneration areas of Blackhorse Lane, the Northern Olympic Fringe Area Wood Street, and Walthamstow Town Centre;
- B) Promoting, managing and, where appropriate, protecting Strategic Industrial Locations (SILs) in accordance with the London Plan.
- C) Taking a more flexible approach to employment land allocation so that non-designated employment land and premises that are no longer viable and surplus to requirements can be released. This released land will be allocated on a sequential needs basis. Priority will be given to social infrastructure, followed by mixed use development that incorporates compatible residential development, especially affordable housing.
- D) Seeking opportunities for growth and development in the borough’s regeneration areas, with Walthamstow Town Centre and Blackhorse Lane as preferred locations for office developments, including as part of mixed use schemes.
- E) Encouraging a mix of employment facilities and types, including the provision of facilities suitable for small and medium sized enterprises,
- F) Maximising the Borough’s potential as a desirable location for creative/cultural industries by providing attractive, high quality sites with high speed internet connections.
- G) Promoting Green industries and ensuring that new industries and employment facilities address climate change objectives set out in policy CS4.
- H) Supporting new Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) in the regeneration areas of Blackhorse Lane, Northern Olympic Fringe Area, Wood Street, and Walthamstow Town Centre.
- I) Incorporating estate improvements such as signage, surfacing, landscaping, lighting, safety measures and energy efficient measures:
- J) Directing business developments to appropriate locations across the borough to reduce the need to travel and enhance the accessibility of jobs being created.
- K) Supporting local enterprise development, employment and training schemes for Waltham Forest residents in accordance with the Waltham Forest’s Strategy for Enterprise, Employment & Skills as set out within the Enterprise, Employment and Skills Strategy (5 Year Plan) and Action Plan and policy CS6.

CS 2 'Economically Balanced population' policy SA matrix table

SOCIAL	Impacts
1. Meet local housing needs through the provision of a range of tenures and sizes of new dwellings.	+
2. Reduce crime and the fear of crime	+
3. Improve standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough	+
4. Increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural, recreational and social needs	++
5. Improve educational attainment in schools	-
6. Improve opportunities for access to education and training for all residents	+
7. Reduce the overall level of deprivation	+
8. Improve opportunities for access to local services, facilities and employment through an integrated sustainable transport system	+
ENVIRONMENTAL	
9. Reduce production of waste and increase recycling	X
10. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	?
11. Conserve energy	X
12. Improve air quality through a reduction in traffic-based emissions	+
13. Improve water quality and ensure the efficient use of water resources	X
14. Reduce the risk of flooding	?
15. Reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity	++
16. Make the best use of previously developed land (PDL) and existing buildings	+
17. Conserve and enhance biodiversity	+
18. Protect the ecological integrity of Natura 2000 sites	-
19. Maintain and enhance the quality of the green belt and open space areas.	+
20. Conserve and enhance the historic built and natural environment	+
ECONOMIC	
21. Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres	++
22. Improve the local economy by attracting inward investment	++
23. Maintain stable levels of employment in the Borough	++

Commentary

This policy is considered to have generally positive sustainability impacts. Increasing community access to local job opportunities is an important measure in reducing poverty and social exclusion. Jobs are targeted for the 4 key regeneration areas of Blackhorse Lane, Walthamstow, Wood Street and the Northern Olympic Fringe. Besides retaining the necessary stock of employment land to meet the needs of businesses, the preferred policy approach seeks to increase access to employment opportunities for residents by addressing skills deficits and promoting targeted skills training through developer contributions and local labour agreements.

There are assumed positive benefits to improving social cohesion resulting from this policy. As social infrastructure is prioritised when considering surplus de-designated employment land it can be reasonably expected that additional health, education and community services will become available leading to a reduction in local deprivation levels. Additional housing may also be possible as part of the sequential testing for redundant employment sites, therefore mixed-use schemes or live/work units are likely to occur ensuring that a wider range of housing tenures and employment are available in the Borough. Local crime levels should fall through the re-use and intensification of previous employment sites which may have been idle at evenings at weekends.

CS 2 D (offices) Policy seeks to locate offices in Walthamstow and Blackhorse Lane. Offices are an important component of town centre vitality and viability and something which is mutually reinforcing, and locating them in town centres help makes them accessible to those with or without a car thereby helping encourage modal shift to sustainable transport with attendant benefits for local air quality, reducing emissions etc. Improved landscaping and lighting etc should also benefit the local environment as well the remediation of previously contaminated heavy industrial uses. As the broad locations for employment tend to be in existing sites and town centres this is considered that this will have substantial positive impacts on ensuring that the best use of previously developed land and buildings.

Most negative impacts are considered to be as a result of the policy's aim to intensify employment uses leading to a probable increase in waste and water and energy usage etc. It is inevitable that facilitating development, particularly business development, will increase waste generation (though these factors may be tempered in some cases by a likely change of use from traditional heavy industry to tertiary uses). This can also be mitigated against to some extent by design policies in the emerging Development Management Policies DPD and Design Guide SPD or by examining individual cases on a site-by-site basis.

Recommendation

Possibly include reference to other types of business to improve employment mix and to maximise employment opportunities that are relevant to Waltham Forest for example hotels in town centres for the 2012 Olympics.

CS 3 ‘Cultivate civic participation, cohesion and independent living so everyone feels they belong’

The Council will ensure that social infrastructure within Waltham Forest caters to the needs of the existing community as well as future populations, through the following means:

- A. There will be resistance of the loss of community facilities, and where the loss of these facilities is justified it will seek to ensure that resulting development compensates these uses to ensure no net loss;
- B. There will be support for the retention and enhancement of existing facilities and promotion of multi-purpose facilities that can provide a range of services and facilities to the community at one accessible location;
- C. Promotion of innovation in service provision and recognising that there are a range of modes appropriate for providing for all parts of the community:
- D. New development will be required to contribute towards the provision of community facilities to meet the needs of new communities and mitigate impacts on existing communities; and
- E. Wherever possible facilities, including libraries, health facilities, leisure facilities and community centres, should be located in centres or other accessible locations to maximise community access, sustainable transport and build a sense of local community identity.
- F. New facilities will need to demonstrate how they will tackle climate change.

CS 3 'Civic Participation' policy SA matrix table

SOCIAL		Impacts
1.	Meet local housing needs through the provision of a range of tenures and sizes of new dwellings	-
2.	Reduce crime and the fear of crime	+
3.	Improve standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough	+
4.	Increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural, recreational and social needs	++
5.	Improve educational attainment in schools	+
6.	Improve opportunities for access to education and training for all residents	+
7.	Reduce the overall level of deprivation	++
8.	Improve opportunities for access to local services, facilities and employment through an integrated sustainable transport system	++
ENVIRONMENTAL		
9.	Reduce production of waste and increase recycling	+
10.	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	+
11.	Conserve energy	+
12.	Improve air quality through a reduction in traffic-based emissions	+
13.	Improve water quality and ensure the efficient use of water resources	+
14.	Reduce the risk of flooding	+
15.	Reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity	+
16.	Make the best use of previously developed land (PDL) and existing buildings	++
17.	Conserve and enhance biodiversity	+
18.	Protect the ecological integrity of Natura 2000 sites	-
19.	Maintain and enhance the quality of the green belt and open space areas.	+
20.	Conserve and enhance the historic built and natural environment	+
ECONOMIC		
21.	Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres	+
22.	Improve the local economy by attracting inward investment	+
23.	Maintain stable levels of employment in the Borough	+

Commentary

This Preferred Option would have a number of very positive sustainability impacts particularly regarding social cohesion and access for all. Existing facilities will be protected and/or enhanced and this will have direct positive impacts on the SA Framework objective to Increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural, recreational and social needs, thus also reducing local deprivation levels. Fostering a sense of community and local identity as well as offering increased activity may also contribute to a long term reduction in crime and fear of crime.

The policy states that it is a preference to have community facilities located in centres for accessibility reasons it can be assumed that this will entail making better use of previously developed land and buildings in these areas and with knock on positive impacts sustainable travel and on local air quality through a reduction in traffic based emissions, reducing energy use etc. This will have also have positive implications for the SA objective to protect open space and green belt areas.

Similarly, if new community buildings are to demonstrate how they will tackle climate change, than this will have positive implications for waste management, flood risk, energy and water conservation, and possibly offer further opportunities to increase biodiversity, soil remediation and open space management. The aim to co-locate facilities could result in a more co-ordinated effort to manage waste and encourage further recycling e.g. through shared 'bring sites'.

Finally, many community centres offer part-time educational courses after working hours which would result in increased opportunities for access to education and training. Similarly this may have a positive knock-on effect for the local evening/weekend economy as well as employment as these community facilities would likely to remain open after normal working hours. Finally, Waltham Forest is more likely to attract inward investment if the borough was perceived to be balanced and cohesive than if the opposite was the case.

Recommendation

A more explicit reference to 'one stop shops' (and include a reference to Council services as part of 'community facilities') could be included in the text as a means of using land more efficiently and improving ease of access to necessary required facilities.

The policy could be strengthened by the inclusion of a bullet point recommending that 'Access by Design'/Access for All' principles be applied to all major developments to ensure that buildings are accessible to all which would improve social cohesion.

The policy could be strengthened with the addition of a bullet point to include; Council will seek to co-locate housing for specific groups e.g. the elderly in

new community developments and facilities (particularly relating to health and social activities). This could be included in the policy and would make a positive contribution to the SA Frameworks objective of meeting local housing needs through the provision of a range of tenures and sizes of new dwellings.

CS 4 ‘Respond to climate change in a practical and effective way’

In responding to climate change, the London Borough of Waltham Forest will seek to holistically address issues relating to minimising climate change, adapting to climate change, protection and enhancement of the natural environment, sustainable waste management and sustainable transport.

A) Minimising and Adapting to Climate Change

Waltham Forest will seek to minimise and adapt to climate change by: Prioritising the reduction of CO₂ emissions in new and existing buildings and ensuring design, construction and occupation minimises energy use, makes use of energy from the most efficient sources, and achieves applicable CO₂ reductions from renewable energy where viable;

Requiring new and existing development to be designed and constructed to take account of the impacts of climate change over their lifetime including flooding, drought and overheating; and to not put people or property at unacceptable risk;

Setting Waltham Forest specific requirements for environmental performance of new and existing development in line with appropriate standards such as BREEAM, Code for Sustainable Homes and EcoHomes assessments;

Establishing a system for improving existing buildings’ resilience to climate change and energy and water efficiency, this will be applied through area and/or site specific requirements;

Working with partners to promote and facilitate the delivery of decentralised energy systems in appropriate areas of borough, particularly areas of existing high energy demand and areas of high growth, namely the regeneration areas of Walthamstow, Blackhorse Lane and the North Olympic Fringe.

B) Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment

Waltham Forest will seek to protect and enhance the natural environment and biodiversity, and improve the community’s access to nature, through new development and improvements to existing open space.

C) Sustainable Waste Management

Waltham Forest will seek to manage its waste in a sustainable manner by promoting the reduction of waste produced in the borough, increasing the reuse of waste and materials wherever possible, and seeking to increase recycling of waste. To support this, development should provide adequate and well designed facilities for recycling, storage and collection of waste.

To ensure there is sufficient land for waste management purposes, Waltham Forest will work in partnership with the North London Boroughs of Barnet,

Camden, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, and Islington to produce the Joint North London Waste Plan and apply its policies to waste development. Additionally the Council will safeguard existing waste facilities within Waltham Forest.

D) Developing a Sustainable Transport Network

Waltham Forest will seek to develop a sustainable transport network to help support economic growth in an efficient and environmentally sustainable way. The Council will therefore seek to reduce the need for travel and encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport.

This will be achieved by; the promotion of mixed use development in appropriate circumstances; the careful location of high trip-generating development; requiring the provision of robust Transport Assessments and Travel Plans so that the transport impacts of new developments can be properly assessed, mitigated and managed; ensuring appropriate parking is provided to meet the needs of the development, without undermining the use of sustainable modes; permitting low-car and car-free development in appropriate locations, linked to the provision of car clubs where required; Improving conditions for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users through the securing of developer contributions; considering proposals which make use of waterborne transport favourably.

CS 4 'Climate Change' SA matrix table

SOCIAL	CS4
1. Meet local housing needs through the provision of a range of tenures and sizes of new dwellings	X
2. Reduce crime and the fear of crime	-
3. Improve standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough	++
4. Increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural, recreational and social needs	+
5. Improve educational attainment in schools	-
6. Improve opportunities for access to education and training for all residents	-
7. Reduce the overall level of deprivation	+
8. Improve opportunities for access to local services, facilities and employment through an integrated sustainable transport system	++
ENVIRONMENTAL	
9. Reduce production of waste and increase recycling	++
10. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	++
11. Conserve energy	++
12. Improve air quality through a reduction in traffic-based emissions	++
13. Improve water quality and ensure the efficient use of water resources	++
14. Reduce the risk of flooding	+
15. Reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity	+
16. Make the best use of previously developed land (PDL) and existing buildings	++
17. Conserve and enhance biodiversity	++
18. Protect the ecological integrity of Natura 2000 sites	+
19. Maintain and enhance the quality of the green belt and open space areas.	++
20. Conserve and enhance the historic built and natural environment	?
ECONOMIC	
21. Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres	+
22. Improve the local economy by attracting inward investment	+
23. Maintain stable levels of employment in the Borough	+

Commentary

Preferred Option CS 4A (Minimising and Climate Change) would have mostly positive sustainability objectives by setting targets for environmental performance, reducing carbon emissions from buildings and promoting patterns of land use which reduce the need to travel by car. Policy may help reduce heating and lighting costs for new householders and therefore address one of the principle causes of fuel poverty with related impact on health. Building sustainable buildings can help promote the image of the borough and increase employment in related green industries from which deployed products are sought.

Preferred CS B (Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment) would have wide-ranging positive sustainability impacts, as green open areas are integral to key environmental processes and help to improve air quality, maintain soil quality, provide drainage and are vital to encourage and enhance biodiversity. This option would also promote social cohesion by encouraging all groups to use open spaces for both leisure and walking and cycling, while a high quality natural environment is likely to be more attractive to companies (particularly service based) to locate in Waltham Forest and would also maximise regeneration and economic growth by providing job and training opportunities. It is considered that this option may have negative impacts in terms of housing development since it would protect Waltham Forest's open spaces for any form of development.

Preferred Option CS 4C (Sustainable Waste Management) will have a positive sustainability impact by seeking to reduce the amount of waste produced in the borough and providing options for the future waste management. The preferred approach will also seek to minimise the use of non renewable resources by encouraging recycling. It is also considered that there may be further opportunities for increased employment and access to training as part of an emerging 'Green Economy'.

Preferred Option CS 4E (Developing a Sustainable Transport Network) would have entirely positive sustainability impacts, particularly in terms of reducing reliance on private motorised transport and the associated benefit that this would have on air quality and healthy communities. The promotion of public transport would also help to tackle social exclusion by providing a transportation option which is accessible to all. Because it aims to overcome barriers to pedestrian movement and promote cycleways, the policy should have a positive impact on indicators relating to accessibility (especially to parks and open spaces). To the extent that people take up the new opportunities to walk and cycle, this should tend to reduce car use and reduce the fear of crime as parks and green routes become more popular. Consequently, the policy should also have a positive impact on pollution levels in the town centres and retail precincts.

These policy objectives however may have negative impacts in terms of housing provision, economic growth and the protection of the historic environment as higher environmental standards often restrict opportunities for

growth and development by placing greater restrictions on what types of development are feasible and permissible. Similarly, the incorporation of renewable energy technologies within existing buildings can often be at the detriment of the protected historic environment for example double glazed windows in conservation areas. These negative effects could however be mitigated by using viability assessments to determine whether expectations in relation to higher environmental standards for particular schemes are reasonable (taking into account other constraints).

Recommendation

It may be advisable to specify how much of a new developments energy requirements will need to be produced on-site in order to give clearer guidance to developers.

Creating Wealth and Opportunity for Residents

CS 5 ‘Provide children and young people with the skills and confidence to achieve their ambitions and compete in the global economy’

Access to Education is essential in ensuring the prosperity of the Borough’s residents and reducing existing deprivation. As the main educational provider, the Council will ensure that all young people in the borough have access to high quality educational facilities.

- A. Appropriate educational capacity will be provided in schools to ensure that young residents in the Borough are able to easily access education in proximity to their homes.
- B. Nursery, pre-school, school and further / higher education facilities will be well designed, energy efficient and highly sustainable, well related to neighbourhood services and amenities, and easily accessible by sustainable transport modes.
- C. Wherever possible, the Council will ensure that educational establishments have access to local playing fields and sporting facilities, ensuring education is contributing to healthy lifestyles in the Borough’s young people.
- D. Development of educational establishments should contribute positively to borough’s environment, with opportunities for linking in with the wider physical environment considered, such as the development of habitat space to contribute to biodiversity networks.
- E. Proposals for the redevelopment of redundant educational sites should support the creation of sustainable, linked communities. Educational establishments should include, where appropriate, provision for community use in addition to their educational functions.

CS 5 'Young People Skills' policy matrix

SOCIAL	Impact
1. Meet local housing needs through the provision of a range of tenures and sizes of new dwellings	-
2. Reduce crime and the fear of crime	+
3. Improve standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough	+
4. Increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural, recreational and social needs	+
5. Improve educational attainment in schools	++
6. Improve opportunities for access to education and training for all residents	++
7. Reduce the overall level of deprivation	+
8. Improve opportunities for access to local services, facilities and employment through an integrated sustainable transport system	+
ENVIRONMENTAL	
9. Reduce production of waste and increase recycling	?
10. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	+
11. Conserve energy	?
12. Improve air quality through a reduction in traffic-based emissions	?
13. Improve water quality and ensure the efficient use of water resources	?
14. Reduce the risk of flooding	?
15. Reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity	+
16. Make the best use of previously developed land (PDL) and existing buildings	+
17. Conserve and enhance biodiversity	+
18. Protect the ecological integrity of Natura 2000 sites	-
19. Maintain and enhance the quality of the green belt and open space areas.	+
20. Conserve and enhance the historic built and natural environment	?
21. Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres	+
22. Improve the local economy by attracting inward investment	+
23. Maintain stable levels of employment in the Borough	+

Assumptions made

That the preference to provide additional educational capacity and/or to expand schools is on existing school sites (thus ensuring an efficient use of land).

Commentary

The general policy approach is to ensure that there are adequate schools and higher and further education provision to meet the needs of the community. It has a direct positive impact on the SA Framework objective to: Improve opportunities for access to education and training for all residents and also should help to promote higher educational attainment in schools. This will have positive impacts on tackling deprivation and unemployment levels and should promote social cohesion. Shared community facilities and recreational uses (such as shared sports facilities) represent an efficient use of land, protecting green spaces and should lead to healthier lifestyles. Access to a quality education should have also have a positive impact on reducing crime levels in the borough.

Schools will be located near residents thereby offering sustainable transport opportunities with subsequent positive multiplier effects on reducing traffic based emissions and improving local air quality. It is assumed that new educational places will be provided where existing facilities are located therefore representing an efficient use of previously developed land and should result in the protection of open spaces in the borough. However this would need to be balanced with the added pressures on travel and biodiversity, (though the policy explicitly promotes the use of habitat space).

The negative impacts relate to the fact that additional educational places will likely result in an increase in water, energy consumption and lead to an increase in the amount of waste. However it is recognised that these may be off-set in the future through the policy's commitment to ensure high quality design of new/renovated educational buildings that look to incorporate energy and water saving technologies. Disturbance to local residents as a result of larger schools may occur as a result of additional traffic generated (particularly for nursery, pre-school and primary school children) and attendant local air pollution. While not included as an objective in the SA Framework it would appear that additional noise and light pollution on residents could occur due to shared facilities remaining open longer than usual and possible mitigation measures (e.g. noise attenuation fences, parking etc) would also need to be addressed at the application stage. Flood risk would also need to be assessed here.

In terms of employment levels and economic development in the borough generally, in the long run ensuring that Waltham Forests' young people are equipped with skills and training is more likely to ensure that employers are attracted here and that there are stable employment levels in the Borough (even allowing for the relatively high levels of out-commuting that currently exist). Longer opening hours for shared facilities should also assist in the

development of the evening and weekend economy. It is considered that the policy has generally excellent long term sustainability credentials, the positives generally outweigh the negatives and that the negative or 'uncertain' impacts can be mitigated against through good design and care at the application stage.

Recommendations

That the policy explicitly states that in the case of the expansion of education premises the preference to do so will need to be on existing sites to minimise the impact on open land and to maintain open space for exercise, promoting health and well-being unless it can be proven that more sustainable alternatives do not exist and that any loss of open space or community facilities can be off-set elsewhere.

It is possible to add; 'The developers of new homes will have to take into account the potential need to contribute to the provision (Planning Obligations Strategy) of primary and secondary school places in the Borough'

CS 6 ‘Maximise Employment Opportunities’

The Council will reduce inequalities, worklessness and unemployment in the Borough by increasing skills, training and employment opportunities to ensure that residents can benefit from economic growth. This will be achieved by:

- A) Ensuring major developments provide financial contributions towards employment and training initiatives.
- B) Supporting local labour agreements developers to provide on-site employment, training and apprenticeship opportunities for local people both during the construction phase and post-construction.
- C) Encouraging jobs brokerage initiatives to require developers to work in partnership with local employment and training programmes and delivery agencies in order to maximise opportunities for local people.
- D) Supporting the City Strategy Pathfinder/Worknet programme to successfully deliver in-to-work, skills and training services to the most vulnerable and deprived sections of the community.
- E) Promoting local small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and supporting local business agreements which can benefit local SMEs.
- F) Promoting the delivery of additional educational and training facilities in new and existing developments and encouraging learning providers to re-shape courses to match the forecast needs of business growth sectors in terms of skills and knowledge.
- G) Promoting investment in public transport to improve the accessibility of jobs, particularly in growth areas in the region, for residents in all areas of the borough.
- H) Improving levels of internet accessibility, particularly for unemployed and disadvantaged people
- I) Providing sufficient community facilities in order to enhance the role that voluntary, community, cultural and faith organisations perform in motivating unemployed people, particularly in low-employment localities and hard-to-reach populations, by providing work placements and volunteering opportunities.

CS 6 Matrix – ‘Maximise Employment opportunities’

SOCIAL	Impact
1. Meet local housing needs through the provision of a range of tenures and sizes of new dwellings	-
2. Reduce crime and the fear of crime	+
3. Improve standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough	+
4. Increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural, recreational and social needs	+
5. Improve educational attainment in schools	+
6. Improve opportunities for access to education and training for all residents	++
7. Reduce the overall level of deprivation	++
8. Improve opportunities for access to local services, facilities and employment through an integrated sustainable transport system	+
ENVIRONMENTAL	
9. Reduce production of waste and increase recycling	-
10. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	-
11. Conserve energy	-
12. Improve air quality through a reduction in traffic-based emissions	-
13. Improve water quality and ensure the efficient use of water resources	-
14. Reduce the risk of flooding	-
15. Reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity	-
16. Make the best use of previously developed land (PDL) and existing buildings	-
17. Conserve and enhance biodiversity	-
18. Protect the ecological integrity of Natura 2000 sites	-
19. Maintain and enhance the quality of the green belt and open space areas.	-
20. Conserve and enhance the historic built and natural environment	-
ECONOMIC	
21. Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres	+
22. Improve the local economy by attracting inward investment	++
23. Maintain stable levels of employment in the Borough	++

Commentary

The overall aim of the policy is to ensure the skills set of the Borough's residents match the requirements of existing and emerging job opportunities.

This policy would have a number of very strong positive sustainability impacts particularly concerning social cohesion and strengthening the local economy by matching skills with local business needs. The role of local community leaders, faith groups and voluntary opportunities is recognised and should result in the integration of people traditionally excluded from the labour market. This approach would provide skills to support local enterprises development therefore encouraging local sustainable economic growth.

The process of matching skills to jobs is likely to have positive effects on tackling local deprivation levels which would in turn lead to a reduction in crime levels. There is explicit emphasis on targeting key work skills such as retail and healthcare which would also likely to result in improved access to health in Borough. Furthermore this option would support training schemes and jobs for local residents maximising the benefits of regeneration as employers would be more likely to consider locating in Waltham Forest if there was a strong availability of workers in the borough with the required skills.

Retaining wealth in the Borough is one of the three key objectives of the Sustainable Community Strategy 'Our Place in London', and ensuring that local skills match employment opportunities is an effective way of achieving this outcome. In the long term the provision of a wider range of local employment opportunities will help limit levels of out commuting to the Central London area and employment areas in other London Boroughs thus improving the vitality of town centres and help limit congestion and traffic-based emissions in the Borough as future employment is likely to be based within easy access of sustainable transport options.

Recommendations

None

CS 7 ‘A Healthy Borough’

The Council will use spatial planning to improve the health and well-being of Waltham Forest residents by influencing the wider determinants of health and improving access facilities which can improve health. This will be done through the following ways:

- A) Protecting the existing open spaces such as Green Belt, Metropolitan Open Land, playing pitches and parks. Development on open space will only be allowed in exceptional circumstances and where it can be shown that the proposed development will provide essential social infrastructure or significant community benefits that could not otherwise be achieved.
- B) Wherever possible, new public open spaces should be provided especially in areas of open space deficiency. Where feasible improvement to the poorest quality open spaces should be secured;
- C) Increasing access to opportunities for formal physical activity through development of better quality Leisure Centres and improvement of the quality, safety and inclusive accessibility of open spaces.
- D) Promoting everyday, incidental exercise by developing a better quality public realm which is conducive to higher levels of exercise from walking and cycling;
- F) Protecting people and the environment from unsafe, unhealthy and polluting activities;
- G) Promotion of increased access to affordable nutritious food and education by encouraging people to grow their own food and limiting of the proliferation of unhealthy foods;
- H) Ensuring appropriate and equitable access to clinical health services across the borough;
- I) Services that are accessible and inclusive to all potential users regardless of age, ability, gender or socio-economic status

CS 7 'A Healthy Borough' policy SA matrix

SOCIAL	Impact
1. Meet local housing needs through the provision of a range of tenures and sizes of new dwellings	-
2. Reduce crime and the fear of crime	+
3. Improve standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough	++
4. Increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural, recreational and social needs	+
5. Improve educational attainment in schools	+
6. Improve opportunities for access to education and training for all residents	+
7. Reduce the overall level of deprivation	+
8. Improve opportunities for access to local services, facilities and employment through an integrated sustainable transport system	++
ENVIRONMENTAL	
9. Reduce production of waste and increase recycling	-
10. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	+
11. Conserve energy	+
12. Improve air quality through a reduction in traffic-based emissions	+
13. Improve water quality and ensure the efficient use of water resources	+
14. Reduce the risk of flooding	+
15. Reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity	+
16. Make the best use of previously developed land (PDL) and existing buildings	+
17. Conserve and enhance biodiversity	+
18. Protect the ecological integrity of Natura 2000 sites	+
19. Maintain and enhance the quality of the green belt and open space areas.	++
20. Conserve and enhance the historic built and natural environment	+
ECONOMIC	
21. Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres	+
22. Improve the local economy by attracting inward investment	+
23. Maintain stable levels of employment in the Borough	+

Commentary

This policy is generally considered to have largely positive impacts on the sustainability framework particularly regarding meeting social and environmental objectives. It has a direct positive impact on the SA objective to; improve standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough. Enabling access to health facilities is considered to be a key instrument in tackling deprivation while ensuring ease of access to attractive green space is beneficial to health including physical health, and psychiatric well being. Encouraging people to grow their own food and encouraging greater education of the benefits of health and education should also help reduce deprivation levels.

The promotion of the enhancement of green spaces and strategic corridors is likely to have positive impacts in terms of encouraging more sustainable methods of transport, biodiversity opportunities, reduced emissions/ better air quality, water and energy conservation efforts etc The fear of crime may be reduced due to increased patronage and upgrading of these of these areas. Ensuring access to a range of healthy food is a key component in addressing health inequalities while the perception of Waltham Forest as a green and healthy borough is more likely to attract inward investment and jobs than if the case was otherwise.

An earlier SA appraisal undertaken by Council as part of the recently adopted Hot-Food Takeaways SPD indicated that limiting of the proliferation of unhealthy foods had minor benefits in terms of improving the standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the borough, conserving the historic built and natural environment through reduction of odours, litter) and maintaining and enhancing the vitality and viability of the Boroughs town centres (by improving the town centre offer).

Recommendations

Upgrading the Public Realm by Council to promote accessibility is normally financed through development contributions (Section 106 agreements). Do we need to say this?

Do we need a bullet point suggesting that we will work with other health partners in the Public Health Partnership to prevent ill-health and reduce health inequalities in the borough for example, 'Stop Smoking' organisations (high levels in WF)

Retaining More Wealth within the Borough

CS 8 'Create vibrant town centres with an attractive cultural, leisure and commercial offer'

Healthy and vibrant centres are vital to the Waltham Forest economy. There is already a well established network of centres in the borough made up of Walthamstow (as Major Centre), District and Neighbourhood Centres. The Council will promote the development of these centres as the principal focus and catalyst for future growth and revitalisation in the provision of town centre services and facilities. In the short to medium term, it will be important to allow Walthamstow Town Centre to consolidate its position as a major centre. However in addition, investment will be directed to other district and neighbourhood centres as determined by need and impact considerations. In implementing this strategy, the following policy mechanisms will apply:

- A) New proposals for town centre uses including retail, leisure, office, entertainment, hotel, cultural and service uses will be directed to the designated centres through the 'sequential test' and ensuring that the scale of development proposed in a centre is appropriate to the role and character of the centre and its catchment,
- B) Creation of a sustainable pattern/distribution of town centre uses in the borough generally by consolidating retail activities within compact retail core areas and through careful management of changes of use,
- C) Resisting proposals likely to have a harmful impact on the vitality and viability of the designated centres/parades,
- D) Encouraging greater differentiation and specialisation between centres with regard to their 'offer' and place setting,
- E) Promoting the rejuvenation of town centres areas through the redevelopment of under used sites and premises and the encouragement of mixed use developments.
- F) Supporting the establishment and operation of Business Improvement Districts to create an improved environment for business and secure improvements in town centre performance.

CS 8 'Vibrant town centres' policy matrix

SOCIAL	Impact
1. Meet local housing needs through the provision of a range of tenures and sizes of new dwellings	+
2. Reduce crime and the fear of crime	+
3. Improve standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough	+
4. Increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural, recreational and social needs	+
5. Improve educational attainment in schools	-
6. Improve opportunities for access to education and training for all residents	-
7. Reduce the overall level of deprivation	+
8. Improve opportunities for access to local services, facilities and employment through an integrated sustainable transport system	++
ENVIRONMENTAL	
9. Reduce production of waste and increase recycling	X
10. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	+
11. Conserve energy	?
12. Improve air quality through a reduction in traffic-based emissions	+
13. Improve water quality and ensure the efficient use of water resources	X
14. Reduce the risk of flooding	?
15. Reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity	+
16. Make the best use of previously developed land (PDL) and existing buildings	++
17. Conserve and enhance biodiversity	+
18. Protect the ecological integrity of Natura 2000 sites	-
19. Maintain and enhance the quality of the green belt and open space areas.	+
20. Conserve and enhance the historic built and natural environment	+
ECONOMIC	
21. Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres	++
22. Improve the local economy by attracting inward investment	++
23. Maintain stable levels of employment in the Borough	++

Commentary

This policy essentially is town centre focussed which aims to protect and enhance the existing centres and sets out in broad locations for retail, leisure, cultural and a range of other uses normally associated with town centre development over the course of the plan period.

The policy would have a range of positive sustainability impacts, most notably concerning sustainable economic growth through the designation of areas for retail and support for Waltham Forest's areas of specialist shopping. The fact that mixed-use development is promoted here is likely to result in an increase in housing provision in or near town centres, district centres and retail parades. Additional retail, leisure and cultural activities should result in a diversified and more balanced, vibrant local economy with opportunities to enhance the weekend/evening economy (the '18 Hour economy') and subsequent employment levels and help tackle local deprivation levels.

Environmental improvements should result from the employment of under-utilised or vacant sites as remediation of contaminated or wasteland may offer increased possibilities for biodiversity. Compact centres will reduce the need for private transport and promote incidental exercise, with additional positive impacts on reusing old buildings, increasing economic viability and resulting in less pressure on open spaces and green belt land. Other benefits of this option include maintain access for all to shops and services, respecting the built environment by ensuring that development is of an appropriate scale and maximising the benefits of regeneration by protecting local shops and local employment through careful town centre management.

A potential negative impact may result in a more active town centre economy leading to, increased travel movements, additional requests for parking and poorer local air quality. However, the town centres in the borough are reasonably accessible in terms of public transport provision and this should help to mitigate any increased travel movements. The increase in retail and leisure provision is also likely to generate additional waste and water usage. Unknown impacts relate to flood risk, light and noise measures which should be assessed on a site-by-site basis and/or in the Development Management and Site Allocations document.

Recommendation

None

CS 9 'Transform the Design and Quality of Public Space'

In Waltham Forest, we want to strengthen and protect what we already have whilst also influencing the creation of more distinctive places through greater urban design intervention. Accordingly, we manage changes to the built environment carefully to create high quality places with well designed and maintained buildings and spaces, while making the most of the borough's local distinctiveness and cultural heritage. In achieving this, we will:

- A) Give strong recognition to our spatial building blocks formed by the neighbourhoods of Chingford, Walthamstow and Leyton and Leytonstone and the unique characteristics they present as defined by the combination of common elements such as block structure, urban grain, building typology, street pattern and public realm, building density/height, richness, existence of private gardens and the presence of street trees.
- B) Create new distinctive and legible/ spaces based on a design-led approach to redevelopment particularly in the identified regeneration/growth areas.
- C) Create places of high architectural and urban design quality that are well used and valued and founded on a careful analysis and understanding of local distinctive characteristics as applicable to individual sites and the surroundings.
- D) Ensure compliance with good urban design principles including layout, connectivity legibility, form, scale, massing, materials, detailing and sustainable construction and climate change implications generally.
- E) Apply good practice design standards – in particular the CABI/HBF Building for Life criteria.
- F) Incorporate high quality inclusive design as part of a strategy to achieve an attractive, safe, healthy, accessible and sustainable environment throughout Waltham Forest, and
- G) Safeguard designated areas of historic importance such as conservation areas and archaeological priority zones and protecting buildings and spaces of historic value including listed buildings and parks and gardens of historic interest.

CS 9 'Transform public realm' policy matrix

SOCIAL	Impact
1. Meet local housing needs through the provision of a range of tenures and sizes of new dwellings	?
2. Reduce crime and the fear of crime	+
3. Improve standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough	+
4. Increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural, recreational and social needs	+
5. Improve educational attainment in schools	-
6. Improve opportunities for access to education and training for all residents	-
7. Reduce the overall level of deprivation	++
8. Improve opportunities for access to local services, facilities and employment through an integrated sustainable transport system	+
ENVIRONMENTAL	
9. Reduce production of waste and increase recycling	+
10. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	+
11. Conserve energy	+
12. Improve air quality through a reduction in traffic-based emissions	+
13. Improve water quality and ensure the efficient use of water resources	+
14. Reduce the risk of flooding	+
15. Reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity	+
16. Make the best use of previously developed land (PDL) and existing buildings	+
17. Conserve and enhance biodiversity	+
18. Protect the ecological integrity of Natura 2000 sites	+
19. Maintain and enhance the quality of the green belt and open space areas.	+
20. Conserve and enhance the historic built and natural environment	++
ECONOMIC	
21. Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres	++
22. Improve the local economy by attracting inward investment	++
23. Maintain stable levels of employment in the Borough	++

Commentary

There are a number of positive impacts of this policy when tested against the SA Framework.

Recognising and safeguarding an areas local distinctiveness, townscape values etc will have obvious positive impact on conserving and enhancing the Boroughs historic environment. The policy has a number of social and environmental benefits, a design-led approach using CABI/HBF Building for Life criteria is likely to result in developments with better integration with its surroundings and local conditions (such as flood risk), sustainable buildings, and better energy, water and waste systems (in the long-run). Additionally a design-led approach for large sites in Waltham Forest is likely to ensure that a range of housing tenures and the needs of varying house sizes are met however the likely increase in building and pre-planning costs to the developer may off-set this somewhat.

Integrated open spaces and pedestrian friendly urban design will encourage walking and incidental exercise and thus healthy lifestyles. Good legibility will provide a better environment for pedestrians and cycling routes and can encourage outdoor activity and exercise. This has obvious positive knock-on impacts for reducing the reliance on private transport and subsequently air quality, energy conservation emissions etc. Increasing the amount of tree cover through street planting can also help to raise air quality/offset car emissions and increase biodiversity.

This option would also have positive social cohesion impacts in terms of ensuring access for all by making buildings attractive, safe and easy to use. In addition a more attractive public realm and urban environment is an important aspect of increasing town centre viability and vitality in terms of attracting new businesses (particularly retail and service based) and increasing pedestrian footfall as access is more convenient for customers and employees.

CS 10 'Improving Community Safety'

The Council will aim to improve community safety and cohesion and reduce opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour by:

- A) Requiring all forms of new developments in the Borough to demonstrate that they have incorporated principles of 'designing out crime' by providing well-designed legible routes and spaces, appropriate levels of natural surveillance and activity and creating a sense of ownership and responsibility by clearly defining public and private spaces.
- B) Promoting safer streets and public realm improvements throughout the Borough, especially in areas which experience proportionally higher levels of crime.
- C) Developing a network of safe walking and cycling routes in the regeneration areas of Blackhorse Lane, Walthamstow Central and Northern Olympic Fringe Area that link homes with town centres, employment areas, recreation/leisure facilities and open space.
- D) Ensuring Waltham Forest's businesses and organisations take responsibility for reducing the opportunities for crime through effective management, maintenance and design.
- E) Providing opportunities for sporting, recreational, cultural and community based activities for people in the borough to reduce involvement in criminal activities and anti-social behaviour.
- F) Encouraging well designed security and public safety measures in buildings, spaces and transport systems.

CS 10 Safety and Crime policy matrix

SOCIAL	Impact
1. Meet local housing needs through the provision of a range of tenures and sizes of new dwellings	-
2. Reduce crime and the fear of crime	++
3. Improve standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough	+
4. Increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural, recreational and social needs	+
5. Improve educational attainment in schools	-
6. Improve opportunities for access to education and training for all residents	-
7. Reduce the overall level of deprivation	+
8. Improve opportunities for access to local services, facilities and employment through an integrated sustainable transport system	+
ENVIRONMENTAL	
9. Reduce production of waste and increase recycling	-
10. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	+
11. Conserve energy	+
12. Improve air quality through a reduction in traffic-based emissions	+
13. Improve water quality and ensure the efficient use of water resources	-
14. Reduce the risk of flooding	-
15. Reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity	-
16. Make the best use of previously developed land (PDL) and existing buildings	-
17. Conserve and enhance biodiversity	+
18. Protect the ecological integrity of Natura 2000 sites	-
19. Maintain and enhance the quality of the green belt and open space areas.	+
20. Conserve and enhance the historic built and natural environment	?
ECONOMIC	
21. Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres	+
22. Improve the local economy by attracting inward investment	+
23. Maintain stable levels of employment in the Borough	+

Commentary

This policy will have a positive impact on promoting a healthy and safe community as it will attempt to improve community safety generally. The policy will tackle well known crime 'hotspots' and should help to promote social cohesion by reducing the fear of crime through fostering a greater sense of 'ownership' of community areas and may have a greater positive impact on disadvantaged groups especially if they reside within deprived areas. Incorporating good design principles is likely to result in better supervised, legible and permeable routes to and from the Boroughs regeneration areas resulting in more trips taken by sustainable transport means.

There are also less obvious longer-term mutually reinforcing positive impacts arising from this policy. The boroughs residents are likely to avail of more sustainable forms of transport if the Borough's main centres, transport nodes and arterial routes are perceived to be safe resulting in fewer trips by private car with positive knock-on effects for health, air quality and energy use. Parks and open spaces are more likely to be upgraded if they are well used leading to positive biodiversity opportunities and more people will feel that they have increased access to community facilities and services if it is perceived to be safer to get to them. The policy is also considered to have a positive impact on employment and the economic vitality of the boroughs centres as companies and businesses are more likely to locate and remain in an area perceived to be safe and may contribute to a more active weekend and evening economy.

There is a slight possibility of a negative impact on the historic environment, townscape and conservation areas due to presence of for example, if CCTV cameras, balconies, new street lighting or other safety features were introduced but it is considered that the most negative of these impacts could be addressed at the level of the individual development.

Recommendation

None

CS 11 Making the Most of Regeneration in the East of London'

Waltham Forest is superbly positioned for change. Working with our partners, stakeholders and our communities, we will capitalise on the opportunities, benefits and linkages from the regeneration of East London. In pursuing our ambition for growth and change, we will seek to achieve greater convergence with the rest of London in delivering regeneration outcomes. Through renewal and revitalisation we will transform and improve our urban area by:

- A) Working in partnerships with a range of organisations including neighbouring boroughs, stakeholders, delivering agencies, community groups, and other private and public sectors, locally, sub-regionally and regionally to ensure that regeneration is delivered in a joined up way;
- B) Focusing regeneration activities in the key growth areas including the Area Action Plan areas of Blackhorse Lane, Walthamstow Town Centre, Wood Street and the Northern Olympic Fringe and encouraging design led regeneration in these areas;
- C) Tackling the smaller spatial concentrations of deprivation in the middle and north of the borough through action plans, planning frameworks and targeted projects.
- D) Supporting and facilitating the delivering of key improvements to our local transport network – including the reinstatement of the Hall Farm Curve and the Lea Bridge Station;
- E) Maximising funding opportunities available to the Council and its partners through developer contributions, bidding and funding regimes etc;
- F) Applying a comprehensive set of actions including the establishment of Business Improvement Districts and the use of compulsory purchase powers to tackle land issues which inhibit regeneration.

CS 11 'Making most of regeneration' policy SA matrix table

SOCIAL	Impact
1. Meet local housing needs through the provision of a range of tenures and sizes of new dwellings	++
2. Reduce crime and the fear of crime	+
3. Improve standard of health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough	++
4. Increase the provision of and access to community facilities to meet local cultural, recreational and social needs	++
5. Improve educational attainment in schools	+
6. Improve opportunities for access to education and training for all residents	+
7. Reduce the overall level of deprivation	++
8. Improve opportunities for access to local services, facilities and employment through an integrated sustainable transport system	+
ENVIRONMENTAL	
9. Reduce production of waste and increase recycling	X
10. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	?
11. Conserve energy	X
12. Improve air quality through a reduction in traffic-based emissions	+
13. Improve water quality and ensure the efficient use of water resources	X
14. Reduce the risk of flooding	?
15. Reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity	+
16. Make the best use of previously developed land (PDL) and existing buildings	++
17. Conserve and enhance biodiversity	+
18. Protect the ecological integrity of Natura 2000 sites	+
19. Maintain and enhance the quality of the green belt and open space areas.	+
20. Conserve and enhance the historic built and natural environment	+
ECONOMIC	
21. Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Borough's town centres	?
22. Improve the local economy by attracting inward investment	?
23. Maintain stable levels of employment in the Borough	++

Commentary

There are many potentially positive impacts from this policy approach. By concentrating regeneration efforts in the areas of the Borough that require most attention could have a positive impact on the tackling deprivation levels, re-using old housing stock and creating new residential units, and improving access to health, leisure and community facilities. There is a focus on ensuring that residents are equipped for the knowledge economy. Regeneration of areas that are currently more deprived will help to reduce social tensions in the borough and therefore reduce levels of crime. The policy also prioritises a new rail route between Chingford and Stratford which should have a positive long term impact in terms of sustainable transport, air quality and emissions in the Borough.

The 2012 Olympics are a major catalyst for regeneration in the southern part of the Borough and the provision of, and access to new sports and leisure facilities are expected to have positive impacts on access to open space and obvious health benefits accruing from this. Similarly upgrading of the Hackney Marshes and is likely to result in a coordinated upgrading of cycling and pedestrian linkages as well as increased public transport provision in areas of Waltham Forest that will encourage access to the new facilities. Planned upgrading of the Lee Valley Park and other open spaces will have positive impacts on biodiversity, local air quality and improving the natural environment.

The unknown impacts at this stage relate to the effect that the new Stratford City development will have on the vitality and viability of the Boroughs centres and retail parades. It is likely that Waltham Forest will have to focus on more specialised markets and employment than that of Stratford rather to try to compete with it directly. Regeneration of local centres in the North Olympic Fringe area such as Leyton and Leytonstone should have a positive impact, however some residents particularly in the South of the Borough for example, may find (higher order) comparison shopping and leisure more attractive to do in Stratford than in Leyton or Walthamstow particularly if it is now more easily accessible due in part to the reopening of the Hall Farm Curve and Lea Bridge station. With regard to water, flood risk, increased waste and energy consumption the impacts of this policy will depend on the type of developments that come forward, where they are sited and on their design and construction but it is likely to lead to an increase in demand in the short run.

Recommendations

In addition to the reference to developer contributions to re-open Hall Farm Curve the policy could also state what other objectives that developer contributions could make to AAP areas and local centres. A comprehensive and (in part developer funded) set of improvements to the streetscape and public realm is likely to make the AAP areas more attractive as a place to walk and cycle. This is likely to positively impact on people's satisfaction with open spaces also have other positive, indirect consequences, because it will

encourage people to leave their car at home (thus reducing pollution levels) and should make the overall environment more attractive as a place in which to do business.