

Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council

Integrated Assessment of The Homes, Spaces and Places Plan – Options and Preferences

Non-Technical Summary

Reference: 01

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This report takes into account the particular instructions and requirements of our client. It is not intended for and should not be relied upon by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this Summary

This purpose of this report is to explain and summarise the Integrated Appraisal Report (IA) which identifies the potential sustainability impacts of implementing the Homes, Spaces, Places Plan (the 'Plan'). The IA has been produced by Ove Arup & Partners (Arup) on behalf of Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (The Council). This summary is to explain the IA process undertaken to support the development of the Plan.

1.2 The Homes, Spaces and Places Plan

Homes, Spaces, Places is the second part of Tameside's Local Plan, known as a part two local plan, and it is just one of the documents which will form the development plan for Tameside. The purpose of the Homes, Spaces, Places Plan, is to set the long-term vision and spatial strategy for the borough up to 2042, provide development management policies, designate and allocate land for various purposes, and support the delivery of infrastructure. The plan includes a series of policies organised by seven themes, including People, Environment, Homes, Jobs, Travel, Places, and Centres, with the addition of the Spatial Framework policies.

These themes have been built around the Plan's objectives, which were assessed during the Compatibility Assessment portion of the IA (see Section 3.1 for the Compatibility Assessment). They are as follows:

- **Homes:** To ensure that new housing provides a range of suitable and affordable homes to meet residents' needs, whilst making efficient use of land.
- **Jobs:** To enable all residents to share in the benefits of economic growth.
- **Centres:** To support the borough's centres to thrive, be vibrant and attractive and safe spaces where people choose to spend time.
- **Travel:** To enable everyone to travel safely, conveniently and reduce congestion.
- **Places:** To deliver development that makes a positive contribution to the character, heritage and identity of Tameside.
- **Environment:** To ensure that new development responds positively to climate change and ecologically sensitive locations.

- **People:** To reduce health inequalities, improve health outcomes and enable the provision of services and infrastructure to support new and existing communities.

2. IA Methodology

2.1 Purpose and Scope of the IA

As part of the preparation of the Plan, the IA has been undertaken to promote sustainable development, health and equality issues and ensure that they are considered as the plan is being prepared. The IA helps to guide the development of the Plan, by testing the Plan at each stage, against an agreed list of objectives. These objectives focus on potential sustainability, health, social and economic impacts if the Plan was implemented.

At each stage the IA then suggests ways to improve the Plan. There is a series of national and European legislation that the IA process should meet. The list below highlights which assessments and requirements have been addressed through this approach:

- Sustainability Appraisal (SA): this is mandatory under national legislation (section 19 (5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA): this is mandatory under European and national legislation (Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (which transpose the European Directive 2001/42/EC into English law)).
- Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA): this is a way of showing that the plans, policies and strategies proposed by the GM Authorities meet the Equality Act 2010.
- Health Impact Assessment (HIA): there is no statutory requirement to undertake HIA, however it has been included to add value and depth to the assessment process.

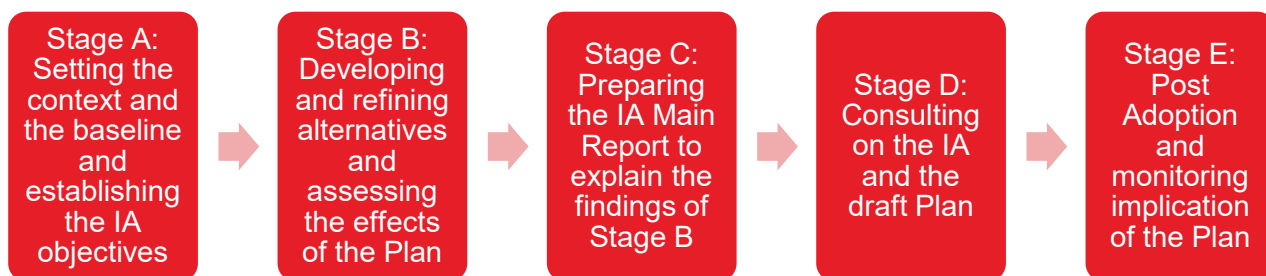
Further information on each of these assessments and their requirements can be found in the Main Report.

2.2 IA Stages

The IA is a five-stage process, with multiple rounds of assessment as the Plan is developed. This stage of the IA process has been to assess the emerging Plan objectives, reasonable alternatives and policies against the IA objectives. The assessment has taken part of Stage B and this Non-Technical Summary and Main Report form part of Stage C, with the Plan's consultation forming part of Stage D. The structure of the IA is based on

best practice guidance. The IA process is outlined in Figure 1 and described in more detail within the Main Report.

Figure 1: IA Stages



Further information on the IA stages can be found in the Main Report.

2.3 IA Assessment Methodology

To undertake the IA stages above, the IA uses an ‘assessment framework’ against which to challenge and test the emerging Plan.

The IA Framework is made up of a series of 18 IA objectives and assessment criteria. They have been developed specifically for the Plan. The IA Framework is used to identify the likely social, economic and environmental effects of the Plan, recommend ways of avoiding or reducing any negative impacts, but importantly, also recommending ways to further enhance the policy.

Stage A, described in Figure 1, results in an IA Scoping Report, which sits alongside the IA. The Scoping Report essentially scopes out the IA, looking at current and future social, economic and environmental characteristics of Tameside and its key issues to create this bespoke framework. This has already been consulted on and published in 2023 and 2024. The IA Objectives are shown in Table 1. The Scoping Report and Main Report shows the Objectives with their assessment criteria.

Table 1: IA Objectives

Number IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	SEA Directive Topic(s)
1	Provide a sustainable supply of housing land including for an appropriate mix of	Will Homes, Spaces, Places: Ensure an appropriate quantity of housing land to meet Tameside’s
		Population

Number IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	SEA Directive Topic(s)
	<p>sizes, types, tenures in locations to meet housing need, and to support economic growth</p> <p>objectively assessed need for market housing?</p> <p>Ensure an appropriate quantity of housing land to meet Tameside's objectively assessed need for affordable housing?</p> <p>Ensure an appropriate mix of types, tenures and sizes of properties in relation to the respective levels of local demand?</p> <p>Ensure housing land is well-connected with employment land, centres and green space or co-located where appropriate?</p> <p>Support improvements in the energy efficiency and resilience of the housing stock?</p> <p>Ensure an appropriate quantity of pitches/plots to meet Tameside's Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show People's assessed needs?</p>	
2	<p>Provide a sustainable supply of employment land to ensure sustainable economic growth and job creation</p> <p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p> <p>Meet current and future demand for employment land for Tameside?</p> <p>Support education and training to provide a suitable labour force for future growth?</p>	Population

Number	IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	SEA Directive Topic(s)
		<p>Provide sufficient employment land in locations that are well-connected and well-served by infrastructure?</p> <p>Support the diversification of Tameside’s local economy?</p> <p>Support the enhancement of the vitality and viability of Tameside’s town centres?</p>	
3	Ensure that there is sufficient coverage and capacity of transport and utilities to support growth and development	<p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p> <p>Ensure that the transport network can support and enable the anticipated scale and spatial distribution of development?</p> <p>Improve transport connectivity?</p> <p>Ensure that utilities / digital infrastructure can support and enable the anticipated scale and spatial distribution of development?</p> <p>Support the transition to active and sustainable modes of transport?</p> <p>Support the delivery of a safe transport network which minimises the impact on the local environment and public health?</p> <p>Support both the existing network and creation of new cycling and walking routes?</p>	<p>Population</p> <p>Human Health</p> <p>Air</p>

Number	IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	SEA Directive Topic(s)
4	Reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	<p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p> <p>Reduce the proportion of people living in deprivation?</p> <p>Support reductions in poverty (including child and fuel poverty), deprivation and disparity across the domains of the Indices of Multiple Deprivation?</p>	<p>Population</p> <p>Human Health</p>
5	Promote equality of opportunity and the elimination of discrimination	<p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p> <p>Foster good relations between different people?</p> <p>Ensure equality of opportunity and equal access to facilities/infrastructure for all?</p> <p>Ensure no discrimination based on 'protected characteristics', as defined in the Equality Act 2010?</p> <p>Ensure that the needs of different areas, (namely urban, suburban, urban fringe and rural) are equally addressed?</p> <p>Create a sense of belonging, community cohesion and wellbeing for all members of the Tameside community?</p>	<p>Population</p> <p>Human Health</p>
6	Support improved health and wellbeing of the population and	<p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p> <p>Support healthier, active lifestyles, proactive and preventative care</p>	<p>Population</p> <p>Human Health</p>

Number	IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	SEA Directive Topic(s)
	reduce health inequalities	<p>and support improvements in determinants of health?</p> <p>Reduce health inequalities within Tameside and with the rest of England?</p> <p>Increase the quantity and quality of active environments, open spaces, green and blue infrastructure?</p> <p>Promote access to green and blue infrastructure, public open space, leisure and recreational facilities?</p> <p>Promote community safety and design which discourages crime?</p>	
7	Ensure access to and provision of appropriate social infrastructure	<p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p> <p>Ensure people are adequately served by key healthcare facilities and community well-being assets, regardless of socio-economic status?</p> <p>Ensure sufficient access to educational facilities for all children and working age adults?</p> <p>Promote access to and provision of appropriate community social infrastructure including playgrounds and sports facilities?</p>	<p>Population</p> <p>Human Health</p>
8	Support improved educational	<p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p>	<p>Population</p> <p>Human Health</p>

Number IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	SEA Directive Topic(s)
	<p>attainment and skill levels for all</p> <p>Improve education levels of children in the area, regardless of their background?</p> <p>Improve education and skill levels of the population of working age the area, regardless of their background?</p>	
9	<p>Promote sustainable modes of transport</p> <p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p> <p>Reduce the need to travel and promote efficient patterns of movement?</p> <p>Promote a safe and sustainable public transport network that reduces reliance on private motor vehicles?</p> <p>Support the use of sustainable and active modes of transport?</p>	
10	<p>Improve air quality</p> <p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p> <p>Improve air quality within Tameside, specifically within designated sites, Greater Manchester Combined Authority Air Quality Management Area, and other biodiversity assets?</p> <p>Minimise emissions and particulates from harmful pollutants when delivering new developments?</p>	<p>Air</p> <p>Human Health</p>

Number	IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	SEA Directive Topic(s)
		Locates development not within existing areas of poor air quality?	
11	Conserve and enhance biodiversity, green and blue infrastructure and geodiversity assets	<p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places: Protect, conserve and enhance new and existing European, nationally and locally designated wildlife and geological sites?</p> <p>Encourage enhancement and restoration of designated wildlife sites, habitats and species and protected and unique geological features?</p> <p>Support and enhance existing multifunctional green and blue infrastructure and / or contribute towards the creation of new multifunctional green and blue infrastructure?</p> <p>Ensure access to green and blue infrastructure providing opportunities for recreation, amenity and tranquillity?</p> <p>Support and safeguard local wider ecological networks including local wildlife-rich habitats?</p>	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna Human Health
12	Ensure communities, developments and infrastructure are resilient to the	<p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places: Ensure that communities, existing and new developments and infrastructure systems within</p>	Climatic Factors

Number IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	SEA Directive Topic(s)
	<p>effects of expected climate change</p> <p>Tameside are resilient to the predicted effects of climate change?</p> <p>Support the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy technology?</p> <p>Encourage the restoration and enhancement of peatlands?</p> <p>Support the delivery of nature-based solutions to climate change?</p>	
13	<p>Reduce the risk of flooding to people and property</p> <p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p> <p>Restrict development in areas of high flood risk or a greater risk of flooding?</p> <p>Ensure adequate measures are in place to manage existing and residual flood risk from all sources?</p> <p>Ensure that development does not increase flood risk due to increased run-off rates?</p> <p>Ensure development is appropriately future proof to accommodate future levels of flood risk including from climate change?</p> <p>Deliver sustainable drainage systems and promote flood</p>	<p>Water</p> <p>Climatic Factors</p>

Number IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	SEA Directive Topic(s)	
	<p>defences that reduces Tameside's vulnerability to flooding?</p> <p>Promote the use of nature-based solutions to manage flood risks?</p>		
<p>14</p>	<p>Protect and improve the quality and availability of water resources</p>	<p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p> <p>Encourage compliance with the Water Framework Directive?</p> <p>Promote management practices that will protect water features from pollution?</p> <p>Avoid consuming greater volumes of water resources than are available to maintain a healthy environment?</p> <p>Ensure that new water/waste water management infrastructure is delivered to support new development?</p> <p>Minimise the risk of pollution arising from new development?</p> <p>Encourage water efficiency and promote the use of water recycling systems?</p>	<p>Water</p> <p>Climatic Factors</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>Increase energy efficiency, encourage low carbon energy generation (including heat) and</p>	<p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p> <p>Encourage energy demand reductions and energy efficiency in new development?</p>	<p>Climatic Factors</p>

Number IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	SEA Directive Topic(s)
	<p>reduce greenhouse gas emissions</p> <p>Encourage development that incorporates energy generation to achieve carbon emission reductions?</p> <p>Promote a proactive reduction in direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions emitted within Tameside?</p> <p>Promote the use of renewable and low carbon energy schemes?</p>	
16	<p>Conserve and/or enhance landscape, townscape, heritage assets and their setting and the character of Tameside?</p> <p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p> <p>Improve landscape quality and the character of open spaces and the public realm?</p> <p>Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting?</p> <p>Respect, maintain and strengthen local character and distinctiveness including the setting of the Peak District National Park?</p> <p>Promote high quality design in context with its urban and rural landscape?</p> <p>Protect or enhance the significance of designated and non-designated heritage assets?</p>	<p>Landscape</p> <p>Cultural Heritage</p>
17	<p>Ensure that land resources are</p> <p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p>	<p>Soil</p>

Number	IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	SEA Directive Topic(s)
	<p>allocated and used in an efficient and sustainable manner to meet the housing and employment needs of GM, whilst reducing land contamination</p>	<p>Support the development of previously developed land and other sustainable locations?</p> <p>Protect the best and most versatile agricultural land / soil resources from inappropriate development?</p> <p>Protect soils of high environmental value in both a general and local context?</p> <p>Encourage the redevelopment of derelict land, properties, buildings and infrastructure, returning them to appropriate uses?</p> <p>Support reductions in land contamination through the remediation and reuse of previously developed land?</p> <p>Encourage the protection of peat?</p>	Material Assets
18	<p>Promote sustainable consumption of resources and support the implementation of the waste hierarchy</p>	<p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p> <p>Support the sustainable use of physical resources?</p> <p>Safeguard existing supply of natural resources?</p> <p>Promote movement up the waste hierarchy?</p> <p>Promote reduced waste generation rates?</p>	Material Assets

Number	IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	SEA Directive Topic(s)
		Encourage recycling and composting of waste and avoid landfill?	
16	Conserve and/or enhance landscape, townscape, heritage assets and their setting and the character of Tameside?	<p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places: Improve landscape quality and the character of open spaces and the public realm?</p> <p>Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting?</p> <p>Respect, maintain and strengthen local character and distinctiveness including the setting of the Peak District National Park?</p> <p>Promote high quality design in context with its urban and rural landscape?</p> <p>Protect or enhance the significance of designated and non-designated heritage assets?</p>	Landscape Cultural Heritage
17	Ensure that land resources are allocated and used in an efficient and sustainable manner to meet the housing and employment needs of GM, whilst	<p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places: Support the development of previously developed land and other sustainable locations?</p> <p>Protect the best and most versatile agricultural land / soil resources from inappropriate development?</p>	Soil Material Assets

Number IA Objective	Assessment Criteria	SEA Directive Topic(s)
	<p>reducing land contamination</p> <p>Protect soils of high environmental value in both a general and local context?</p> <p>Encourage the redevelopment of derelict land, properties, buildings and infrastructure, returning them to appropriate uses?</p> <p>Support reductions in land contamination through the remediation and reuse of previously developed land?</p> <p>Encourage the protection of peat?</p>	
18	<p>Promote sustainable consumption of resources and support the implementation of the waste hierarchy</p> <p>Will Homes, Spaces, Places:</p> <p>Support the sustainable use of physical resources?</p> <p>Safeguard existing supply of natural resources?</p> <p>Promote movement up the waste hierarchy?</p> <p>Promote reduced waste generation rates?</p> <p>Encourage recycling and composting of waste and avoid landfill?</p>	Material Assets

The Plan has been assessed against these IA objectives to understand their effects on these matters. We've assessed the Plan's objectives, policies and reasonable alternatives against each IA objective to understand the potential effects it may have if implemented. This is scored by using the assessment outcomes shown in Table 2. These are described

in greater detail in the Main Report. The types of effects are also considered over the short-, medium- and long-term, temporary or permanent, direct or indirect, scale of effect, cumulative and synergistic effects.

Table 2: IA Assessment Outcomes

Score	Assessment Description
++	Very positive effect
+	Positive effect
?	Uncertain
-	Negative effect
--	Very negative effect
O	Neutral/no effect

Combined symbols are sometimes used in the assessment (e.g. '+/ ?' or '- / ?'). Where this occurs, it is because there is a strong likelihood of positive/negative effects, but that there is insufficient information to achieve certainty at this stage. Alternatively, there may be a combination of positive or negative effects, depending on how the option under consideration is eventually delivered.

Further information on the IA methodology can be found in the Main Report.

3. Assessment Results

3.1 Compatibility Assessment

An assessment of the Plan's Objectives has been undertaken. The draft Plan objectives are the objectives guiding the Plan overall, including the future overall development strategy, thematic policies and site allocations. This assessment has been undertaken to help with the development of the Plan's Objectives by ensuring that IA matters are considered. The Plan Objectives that have been assessed are:

- **Homes:** To ensure that new housing provides a range of suitable and affordable homes to meet residents' needs, whilst making efficient use of land.
- **Jobs:** To enable all residents to share in the benefits of economic growth.
- **Centres:** To support the borough's centres to thrive, be vibrant and attractive and safe spaces where people choose to spend time.
- **Travel:** To enable everyone to travel safely, conveniently and reduce congestion.
- **Places:** To deliver development that makes a positive contribution to the character, heritage and identity of Tameside.
- **Environment:** To ensure that new development responds positively to climate change and ecologically sensitive locations.
- **People:** To reduce health inequalities, improve health outcomes and enable the provision of services and infrastructure to support new and existing communities.

The Main Report outlines more information on the method used to assess these objectives.

The assessment found that all but one of the Plan objectives were compatible or very compatible with the IA objectives. The assessment highlighted areas of strength within the Plan objectives, about improving transport, utility and community services/infrastructure and promoting of opportunities for everyone. The assessment found that there were no Plan objectives scored as incompatible or very incompatible against the IA objectives. IA objective 18 was the only objective found to be considered as uncertain and neutral across the seven Plan objectives. Therefore, the following enhancement was suggested for plan writers to consider:

Plan objectives could make explicit reference to the need to promote sustainable consumption of resources and the waste hierarchy (for example the safeguarding of Tameside's natural resources, reducing waste generated in the future where possible, supporting recycling measures, avoiding utilising landfill where possible and the sustainable use of resources) efficiently and effectively.

This shows that the IA objectives have been considered, and IA matters have been incorporated into the Plan's objectives. Therefore, the Plan objectives provide a robust foundation for the Plan.

To support the assessment of the Plan's objectives, they have been included as part of the Equality Impact Statement's Screening Assessment, included as part of Appendix A of the Main Report for completeness. Overall, the Plan objectives received neutral scores against all the protected characteristics.

3.2 Assessment of Plan Policies

The proposed thematic policies for the Plan have been assessed in relation to the 18 objectives outlined in the IA framework. In several instances, where policies have a weaker alignment against certain objectives, this is due to the criteria being primarily addressed by a different Thematic Policy Chapter. It should be noted that the Plan must be considered as a whole, and it is recognised that it is not desirable or practicable to have all objectives covered by every policy.

The assessment findings identified a number of strengths in the thematic policies when assessed against the IA objectives. In particular, the policies scored well in terms of providing a sustainable supply of housing land. Policy HSP S1 supports housing and economic growth but lacks explicit mention of affordable housing and Policy HSP S2 had a weaker alignment due to unclear housing land provision. Policies in the 'Centres' and 'Environment' Thematic Policy Chapters are mostly neutral, with some exceptions for energy efficiency and residential uses. The 'Homes', 'Jobs', 'People', 'Travel', and 'Places' chapters have mixed or neutral scores, with recommendations to improve housing connectivity and energy efficiency. Key enhancements include referencing affordable housing and supporting residential diversification.

Policies also scored positively against the objective for providing a sustainable supply of employment land to ensure sustainable economic growth and job creation. The 'Spatial Framework' policies had mixed scores, with Policy HSP S1 making good provisions for

employment land but lacking retail provisions. 'Centres' policies had a strong alignment in terms of town centre revitalisation, 'Travel' policies received positives for logistics, and 'Places' policies had mixed scores, with positives for heritage assets and site designs. Enhancements suggested including adding retail provisions, highlighting renewable energy benefits, and improving connectivity in employment areas.

The policies also aligned well with Objective 11, which aims to conserve and enhance biodiversity, green and blue infrastructure, and geodiversity assets. The 'Environment' Thematic Policy Chapter strongly aligned due to its focus on protecting biodiversity and nature conservation sites. 'People' and 'Places' policies also scored positively, emphasising green spaces and enhancing landscapes. The key enhancement suggested is to include references to safeguarding ecological networks in new employment development decisions.

The assessment findings also identify areas of weakness or uncertainty within the Thematic Policy Chapters. Policies scored poorly with reference to promoting sustainable modes of transport. While Policy HSP S1 within the 'Spatial Framework' Thematic Policy Chapter strongly aligns with this objective by improving accessibility through sustainable travel modes, the other Thematic Policy Chapters showed weak alignment. This could be attributed to a lack of focus on promotion of sustainable transport and active travel infrastructure and ensuring energy efficiency. Recommendations to enhance alignment include explicitly linking growth with sustainable, public, and active transport, incorporating opportunities from local energy plans, and improving travel efficiency.

There was also a weak alignment around improving air quality. Most policies under the 'Spatial Framework' and 'Centres' Thematic Policy Chapters scored neutral or uncertain, lacking direct references to air quality. Enhancements suggested emphasising public transport and active connections in centres and specifying air quality impact assessments. 'Homes' policies were neutral, with recommendations to avoid poor air quality areas for new developments, whilst 'Jobs' policies could benefit from measures to minimise emissions, and 'Travel' policies could include additional reference to sustainable construction practices.

Policies had a weaker compatibility with regard to reducing the risk of flooding to people and property, due to insufficient references to flood risk management. The 'Environment' and 'Places' chapter showed mixed scores, with some positive alignment for managing flood risk but weaker alignment in terms of restricting development in high-risk areas and

using nature-based solutions. The 'Homes', 'Jobs', and 'Travel' chapters also lacked flood risk mitigation and adaptation considerations, and it is recommended that they include measures for protecting new developments. Key enhancements include specifying surface water runoff requirements, protecting transport infrastructure, restricting development in flood-prone areas, and including flood risk adaptation in new developments.

The mitigation and enhancement recommendations outlined will further strengthen the Plan and future projects in the plan area, and therefore the plan as a whole. It is noted that there are interrelationships between the IA objectives, particularly where the thematic policies are concerned. These have been drawn out in the summaries and recommendations where relevant.

4. IA Conclusions

4.1 Summary

This report summarises the process and the findings of the IA of the Plan's Objectives and thematic policies. The preparation of the IA has strengthened the sustainability of the Plan.

The assessment findings identified a number of strengths in the thematic policies when assessed against the IA objectives. In particular, the policies scored well in terms of providing a sustainable supply of housing land; providing a sustainable supply of employment land to ensure sustainable economic growth and job creation; and conserving and enhancing biodiversity, green and blue infrastructure and geodiversity assets; all which support the overarching objectives of the Plan. However, the assessment findings also identify areas of weakness or uncertainty within the Thematic Policy Chapters in terms of promoting sustainable transport; improving air quality; and promoting equality of opportunity.

In some instances, where policies have a weaker alignment against certain objectives, this is primarily due to criteria being addressed through a different Thematic Policy Chapter. It should be noted that the Plan must be considered as a whole, alongside the wider planning context including Places for Everyone and the Greater Manchester Joint Waste and Minerals Development Plans, and it is recognised that it is not desirable or practicable to have all objectives covered by every policy. Key mitigation and enhancement recommendations have been outlined under the IA objectives below, highlighting opportunities to further strengthen the Plan and future projects in the plan area, and therefore the plan as a whole.

Following the consultation of the Plan, consultee comments will be considered and where appropriate, changes made to the IA. This will be shown in an addendum to the Main Report. After this, the Plan will be developed further with a further round of assessment undertaken as part of the IA process to support the Plan's development. The assessment outputs from this will also be shared as part of a future consultation on the Local Plan.

For further information on suggested enhancement or mitigation, see the full assessment tables in the appendix of the IA Main Report.

4.2 Next Steps

Following the consultation of the Plan, consultee comments will be considered and where appropriate, changes made to the IA. This will be shown in an addendum to this Report. After this, the Plan will be developed further with a further round of assessment undertaken as part of the IA process to support the Plan's development. The assessment outputs from this will also be shared as part of a future consultation on the Local Plan.