

Sustainability Appraisal of the Bordesley Park Area Action Plan

Addendum

July 2018



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Addendum to the
Pre-Submission SA Report
to accompany the
July 2018 Submission Version of the AAP

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Acronyms

AAP	Area Action Plan
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
BCC	Birmingham City Council
BDP	Birmingham Development Plan
BREEAM	BRE Environmental Assessment Methods
CHP	Combined Heat and Power
MHC&LG	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
COMAH	Control of Major Accident Hazards
CfSH	Code for Sustainable Homes
GI	Green Infrastructure
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicle
HSE	Health and Safety Executive
PPG	Planning Practice Guidance
PPP	Policy, Plan and Programme
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SHLAA	Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment
SLINC	Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
SuDs	Sustainable Drainage Systems

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 Sustainability Appraisal (SA) provides a means to assess the economic, social and environmental effects of a plan at various points during its preparation. SA is a requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and is the process of informing and influencing the development of the Area Action Plan (AAP) to maximise the sustainability value of the plan.
- 1.1.2 The SA report has been produced in compliance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 SI No. 2204 and the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 SI No. 1633. The SA report that accompanied the pre-submission AAP also accounted for the requirements to produce an Environmental Report as per the SEA Directive 2001/42/EC.
- 1.1.3 In February 2017, Lepus Consulting (Lepus) prepared the SA of the AAP Pre-Submission version¹. Birmingham City Council have prepared the submission version of the AAP and the purpose of this Addendum is to highlight the amendments that have been made to the AAP since it was previously appraised and to address the relevancy of these amendments to SA.
- 1.1.4 It is a necessary requirement of SA/SEA to address the likely cumulative effects of the AAP in-combination with other plans and projects. This addendum will also address the potential for adverse cumulative impacts to arise as a result of the AAP in-combination with other plans and projects.

¹ Lepus Consulting (2017) Sustainability Appraisal of the Bordesley Park Area Action Plan, Sustainability Appraisal to accompany the AAP Pre-Submission Report, February 2017

2 Submission version of the AAP

2.1 The Bordesley Park Area Action Plan

2.1.1 Once adopted, the Bordesley Park AAP will form part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) and will be a formal Development Plan Document, which has statutory plan status. As such it will be a material consideration in the determination of future planning applications and development proposals for the Bordesley Park area.

2.1.2 The AAP had been developed in consultation with a range of local stakeholders and has the following delivery aims::

- A focus for growth including a wide range of employment opportunities for local people;
- High quality housing suitable for the needs of existing and new communities;
- Attractive and thriving local centres;
- Infrastructure that meets the current and future needs of business and residents;
- A connected place including enhanced public transport and a high quality pedestrian environment; and
- A clean, safe, attractive and sustainable environment in which to live and work.

2.1.3 The Birmingham Development Plan (BDP) was adopted in 2017. The BDP is the key document that sets out the overall strategic policies for the city and will in turn inform other documents dealing with specific areas or proposals (such as the Bordesley Park AAP).

2.2 Pre-submission SA

2.2.1 The version of the Bordesley Park Area Action Plan which was assessed in the February 2017 SA report was the pre-submission version. The SA report assessed the likely impacts of the AAP on each of the 23 objectives comprising the SA Framework (see **Table 2.1**). Policies proposed in the AAP were assessed as being likely to result in either positive or negligible impacts on each objective.

Table 2.1: Objectives comprising the SA Framework

SA Framework Objectives	
1	Natural resources
2	Energy use
3	Sustainable transport
4	Waste minimisation
5	Previously developed land
6	Climate change
7	Green Infrastructure
8	Historic environment
9	Biodiversity
10	Air
11	Water
12	Land contamination
13	Noise
14	Corporate social and environmental responsibility
15	Economic growth
16	Investment
17	Community influence
18	Social inclusion
19	Poverty and disadvantage
20	Health
21	Community safety
22	Affordable housing
23	Recreational activities

2.3 Amendments

2.3.1 Birmingham City Council have now prepared the version of the AAP that will be submitted to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government for Examination in Public.

2.3.2 The AAP has undergone some minor amendments since the pre-submission version that was appraised in February 2017. The pre-submission version was consulted on between March and May 2017. Each of the amendments that has been made to the AAP has been reviewed for the extent to which it is relevant to the SA and its findings.

2.3.3 Each of the amendments made to the AAP is classed as either being:

- Revisions to general and supporting text;
- Minor revisions to the wording of proposals that are not relevant to the SA or its findings;
- Updates of figures such as employment figures in light of more recent evidence; and
- Minor corrections such as revisions to dates.

- 2.3.4 No amendments have been made to the AAP that are relevant to the assessments completed, or conclusions reached, in the SA of the pre-submission AAP (prepared by Lepus in February, 2017). The findings in that report are therefore considered to remain valid in light of changes to the AAP as well as the latest evidence and recent relevant case law.
- 2.3.5 The pre-submission SA report assessed the AAP for its likely impacts on 23 different objectives comprising the SA Framework (see **Table 2.1**).

2.4 In-combination effects

- 2.4.1 The SA of the pre-submission version of the AAP assessed the likely sustainability impacts of each policy proposed in the AAP. These impacts were predominantly positive and negligible, with a limited number of potentially uncertain effects identified. The assessment text within the pre-submission SA explains in detail why largely negligible and positive impacts are expected. It can be stated with confidence in the light of recent relevant case law and best practice guidance that a significant adverse impact, arising as a result of these mostly positive or negligible impacts in-combination with other plans or projects, is unlikely.

3 Conclusion

3.1 Conclusion

- 3.1.1 The purpose of this Addendum is to highlight the amendments that have been made to the AAP since it was previously appraised and to address the relevancy of these amendments to SA.
- 3.1.2 The conclusion reached in the February 2017 SA of the pre-submission AAP remains valid. Each of the 15 policies proposed in the AAP was appraised and found to be likely to result in mostly positive sustainability effects. Mitigation measures already incorporated into the AAP, as well as those recommended within **Chapters 8** and **9** of the pre-submission SA report, will help to ensure adverse residual effects do not arise.
- 3.1.3 Significant adverse sustainability impacts, caused by the AAP alone or in combination with other plans and projects, are considered to be unlikely.



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