

Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan

Sustainability Appraisal Report

May 2013

NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Introduction

This is the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) report of the Tattenhall Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Sustainability Appraisal ensures that the proposals presented in the Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development. It assesses the Plan's environmental, social and economic effects, incorporating the legal requirements of the EU Strategic Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (The SEA Directive). It has supported the plan making process and the testing of proposals for future development in Tattenhall.

Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan

Prior to the Localism Act receiving royal ascent in December 2012, the Government welcomed applications from communities to become 'Neighbourhood Planning Front Runners' to trial the preparation of Neighbourhood Development Plans. Tattenhall and District Parish Council were successful with their application to this process and were awarded Front Runner status as a Second Wave Neighbourhood Planning Pilot in March 2011.

Once made the Neighbourhood Plan will set out where future development should take place in Tattenhall, the type and quality of that development and ensure that it meets local objectives and needs.

Sustainability Appraisal Work to Date

Work on the SA of the emerging Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan began in May 2012 with the preparation of Draft Screening Determination on the need for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). This concluded at that time that the Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have a significant environmental effect and an SEA was required.

In August 2012 the Council consulted the statutory SEA consultees on a draft Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report on behalf of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group. To expedite the SA process the SEA Screening Determination was consulted on at the same time.

The final Tattenhall SA Scoping Report published alongside this SA report sets out baseline information by topic and highlights sustainability issues and trends for the Tattenhall and District Parish area. The Scoping Report includes the sustainability appraisal framework against which the proposals in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan have been assessed.

An interim sustainability appraisal was carried out on the draft Neighbourhood Plan in October 2012. The findings and recommendations of the interim appraisal were taken into account in preparing the final version of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Appraisal Methodology

The interim sustainability appraisal has focused on the planning elements of the Neighbourhood Plan, assessing the Plan's Objectives and planning policies.

The preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan has been an iterative process, led by a clear idea and vision for the future of the village. This meant that alternative policy options were not generated as part of its development.

The likely sustainability effects tested through the appraisal have been informed by the baseline data and evidence gathered as part of the Tattenhall SA Scoping Report.

Results of the Assessment

The appraisal of the Neighbourhood Plan's policies has been completed as a whole plan assessment. The effects of the Plan's policies have been described and identified using a set of assessment measures highlighting whether the Plan as a whole will have a positive, negative or neutral impact on, or no relationship to the achievement of an objective. The appraisal against each objective is accompanied by a commentary highlighting the significance of effects and any mitigation measures where required.

The appraisal has revealed that the Neighbourhood Plan performs well and will help to deliver sustainable development in the Parish. It concludes and recommends that:

- The Neighbourhood Plan could lead to very positive effects in respect of enhancing biodiversity and habitats, the historic environment, landscape character, meeting housing needs and creating a safe environment.
- The final proposed plan includes stronger measure than at the draft stage to address climate change and to securing the use of renewable energy.
- Positive effects are predicted for water, land and resources, access to services and economic development.
- There is some uncertainty over the Plan's effects on local air quality given that new development could result in more car traffic.
- In relation to flood risk and natural resources the plan does not have any direct link to these SA objectives. However, impacts of new

development on these objectives would be controlled by policies in higher level plans and does not need to be specifically addressed by the Neighbourhood Plan.

- There is some uncertainty in how the Neighbourhood Plan policies would operate in relation to redevelopment of brownfield land, in light of the of the Borough's 5-year housing land supply shortfall, status of current Local Plan policies on housing and that the Council is at the early stages of the preparation of the new Local Plan for the borough.
- Under the existing policies scenario the application of existing and emerging development plan policies is likely to have similar effects to the Neighbourhood Plan, although positive effects are enhanced by the Neighbourhood Plan in relation to biodiversity and habitats, the historic environment, landscape character and housing needs.

Monitoring

Monitoring should focus on any significant environmental effects of policies in the Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan will sit within a suite of planning policies at the neighbourhood, local and national level. The Local Plan for the borough will be subject to monitoring and this should inform the monitoring regime for the Neighbourhood Plan. However, there is merit in having a selection of locally specific indicators to monitor the specific policies in the Neighbourhood Plan. Given the nature of a Neighbourhood Plan there is scope for this to be both a qualitative and quantitative assessment of the effect of the plan using both local ad hoc knowledge of what has happened in the area over a year as well as more formalised monitoring.

The information gathered can then be used to produce a commentary on where the plan has been used to influence the decision making process and how effective it was. The local community are well placed to do this.

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This is the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Tattenhall Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- 1.2 Sustainability Appraisal ensures that the proposals presented in the Plan contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development and assesses the Plan's environmental, social and economic effects, incorporating the legal requirements of the EU Strategic Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (The SEA Directive). It has supported the plan making process and the testing of proposals for future development in the Parish.
- 1.3 This report includes in section 2 an overview of the content of the Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan. Section 3 sets out the background to the appraisal and outlines the appraisal methodology whilst section summarises the results of the appraisal. Section 5 provides advice on how the monitoring of the significant effect of the Plan policies should be carried out. The full assessment of the Plan policies is set out at Appendix 2 of the report.

2 THE TATTENHALL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

- 2.1 Prior to the Localism Act receiving royal ascent in December 2012, the Government welcomed applications from communities to become 'Neighbourhood Planning Front Runners' to trial the preparation of Neighbourhood Development Plans. Tattenhall and District Parish Council were successful with their application to this process and were awarded Front Runner status as a Second Wave Neighbourhood Planning Pilot in March 2011.
- 2.2 The Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan is being produced by a Neighbourhood Planning Working Group that includes Parish Council members, representatives from the local community and Cheshire Community Action, with support provided by Cheshire West and Chester Council Officers, Rural Innovation and IBI Taylor Young.
- 2.3 The Neighbourhood Plan went through a process of early consultation and evidence gathering in autumn 2011. A Vision and Objectives document was then prepared which was sent to every household in the parish as part of a 4 week consultation during June 2012. Throughout July to November 2012 the Vision and Objectives proposals, responses to community engagement exercises and local evidence were used to develop the draft Neighbourhood Plan. Consultants IBI Taylor Young were appointed to support this process. This was subject to consultation in November 2012.
- 2.4 All the comments to the 6 week statutory local consultation exercise were analysed and fed into the final draft Neighbourhood Plan. The final version of the Plan includes a set of 6 policies covering housing, local character, economy, local services, transport, landscape and environment. Whilst the Neighbourhood Plan is first and foremost a land-use document a number of issues falling outside of the planning system's remit were identified by the local community during consultation events. Alongside its core policies the Plan therefore includes a number of aspirations to encourage interventions by wider stakeholders. These are included within each topic where relevant.
- 2.5 Once made the Neighbourhood Plan will set out how future development should take place in Tattenhall, the type and quality of that development and will seek to ensure that it meets local objectives and needs. The Plan will aim to make Tattenhall an even better place to be, now and for future generations.

Plan Objectives

2.6 The objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan are:

- Delivery of a housing growth strategy tailored to the needs and context of Tattenhall
- Sensitive development which protects and enriches the landscape and built setting
- Sustaining and improving excellent local facilities for existing and new residents
- Strengthening and supporting economic activity
- Seek on-going improvements to transport, to utility infrastructure and to digital connectivity
- Prioritise local distinctiveness in every element of change and growth
- Protect green-space, the landscape and support nature conservation
- Involve local people in an on-going basis in the process of plan-making, monitoring and delivery of development.

Plan Policies

2.7 Table 1 below summarises the key elements of the policies proposed in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Table 1 Policy Elements for Appraisal

Policy 1 Housing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New development of up to 30 homes will be focussed in the village of Tattenhall with the opportunity for small scale development elsewhere in the Parish recognised. • Meet affordable housing requirements as set out in the Local Plan • Housing will be in keeping with the character, grain and overall shape of the village.
Policy 2 Local Character
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respecting local character, reinforcing local distinctiveness and incorporating locally distinctive features. • Maintaining views and vistas from the village and gaps between settlements. • Retaining the village feel and sense of place. • Ensuring new development meets building for life standards and accords with the village design statement • Control of outdoor advertisements and protection of trees.
Policy 3: Local Economy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting conversion of existing buildings and small scale expansion of existing employment premises across the Parish • Small scale new build within or adjacent to Tattenhall and adjacent villages.
Policy 4: Local Facilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the vibrancy and vitality of the village centre as centre for local shops, businesses and community infrastructure • Encouraging new utility services as part of new development. • Need to address impacts on services of new development and to build in mitigation measures as required.
Transport and Communications
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing traffic impact of new development • Improved walking and cycling connections • Delivery of high speed broadband • Support for increasing car parking provision

Landscape and Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protection of designated green spaces including sites of open space, sites of sport, recreation and amenity value and sites of nature conservation value.• Promote, protect, create and restore green wildlife corridors and sites.• Ensure new development addresses visual or landscape impact.

3 APPRAISAL BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The Localism Act requires neighbourhood plans to not breach and to be otherwise compatible with EU legislation. This includes the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive.
- 3.2 The Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan was screened at the early stages of the plan process for likely significant effects on the environment. The conclusion was that a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) should be carried out on the plan's policies, as at that time the proposed content of the plan triggered the EU SEA Directive requirements. The sustainability appraisal therefore incorporates the requirements of the SEA Directive.
- 3.3 A Quality Assurance checklist has been used to ensure that the requirements of the SEA Directive have been met and fully integrated in to the sustainability process covered in this document. The Quality Assurance Checklist covers both the technical and procedural steps of the sustainability appraisal process and will be updated as the different stages of the appraisal are reached. The Quality Assurance checklist is attached as Appendix 4 to this report.

Work on Sustainability Appraisal during plan preparation

- 3.4 Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is an ongoing and iterative process. It has five stages:
- Stage A: Scoping, evidence base gathering and establishing the SA framework
 - Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing the significant effects and establishing the mechanism for monitoring the significant effects of the Neighbourhood Plan
 - Stage C: Preparing the SA Report which sets out the appraisal process and findings
 - Stage D: Consult with stakeholders on the proposed Neighbourhood Plan and the SA Report
 - Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Neighbourhood Plan once adopted.
- 3.5 Work on the SA of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan began in May 2012. In accordance with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 and European Directive 2001/42/EC a Draft Screening Determination on the need for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Neighbourhood Plan was prepared. This

concluded that the Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have a significant environmental effect and a SEA was required.

- 3.6 In August 2012 the Council consulted the statutory SEA consultees on a draft Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report on behalf of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group. To expedite the SA process the SEA Screening Determination was appended to the Scoping Report and consulted on at the same time. The scoping report has been further updated to inform the final version of the Neighbourhood Plan and is published alongside this report.
- 3.7 The SA Scoping Report sets out baseline information by topic and highlights sustainability issues and trends for the Tattenhall and District Parish area. This information is considered to be up-to-date and to avoid duplication of effort has not been repeated in this report. The Scoping Report should be read alongside this report. It outlines the sustainability framework for the SA including the sustainability objectives against which the proposals in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan will be assessed.
- 3.8 An interim sustainability appraisal was carried out on the draft Neighbourhood Plan in October 2012. The findings and recommendations of the interim appraisal along with a commentary on how these were taken into account in preparing the final version of the Plan are set out at Appendix 3.

Sustainability Appraisal Framework

- 3.9 The sustainability appraisal framework is the set of objectives and sub objectives against which the sustainability of draft Neighbourhood Plan has been assessed. The sustainability appraisal framework was developed and consulted on through the SA Scoping Report. The SA objectives and sub objectives are set out in Table 1 below.

Table 2 Tattenhall SA Framework

	Sustainability Objective	Sub-Objective
1	Address the need to mitigate and adapt to climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the Neighbourhood Plan reduce the potential impacts of climate change? • Will the Neighbourhood Plan help to minimise and reduce the emission of greenhouse gases, in particular CO2? • Will the Neighbourhood Plan ensure that new development is in accessible locations in order to reduce the need for car borne travel and / or encourage sustainable forms of transport? • Will the Neighbourhood Plan promote, enhance or create green infrastructure?
2	To reduce energy consumption, promote energy efficiency and the increase the use of energy from renewable resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the Neighbourhood Plan reduce energy consumption? • Will the Neighbourhood Plan promote energy efficiency? • Will the Neighbourhood Plan result in greater energy use from renewable resources?
3	To protect and enhance the Borough's biodiversity and wildlife habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the Neighbourhood Plan protect and promote Tattenhall's sites of ecological and nature conservation importance, and ensure they are resilient to climate change? • Will the Neighbourhood Plan provide opportunities for local habitat and species conservation enhancements?
4	To minimise the risk of flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the Neighbourhood Plan reduce the risk of flooding and avoid areas at risk from flooding?
5	To protect, maintain and improve the quality of water resources, minimise the risk of pollution and improve water efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the Neighbourhood Plan protect, maintain and improve the quality of Tattenhall's water resources? • Will the Neighbourhood Plan encourage water efficiency and promote the use of grey-water recycling / rainwater harvesting?
6	To protect air quality where it is of a high standard and improve it elsewhere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the Neighbourhood Plan improve or have an insignificant effect on local air quality, ensuring minimum impact on people's health?

7	To reduce the consumption of natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the Neighbourhood Plan result in the prudent use of natural resources? • Will the Neighbourhood Plan promote the use of secondary/recycled aggregates?
8	To protect and enhance land and soil quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the Neighbourhood Plan impact on the quality of soils?
9	To optimise the re-use of previously developed land and buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the Neighbourhood Plan promote redevelopment on brownfield land as a priority?
10	Achieve sustainable waste management by reducing the production of waste, increasing opportunities for recycling and reducing the amount of waste being sent for final disposal to landfill.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the Neighbourhood Plan result in new or enhanced waste management facilities to meet the waste management needs of Tattenhall?
11	To preserve and enhance sites, features, areas and settings of archaeological, historical and cultural heritage importance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the Neighbourhood Plan ensure the continued protection and enhancement of Tattenhall's built heritage, including its conservation area and historic buildings?
12	To protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the landscape and townscape, maintaining local distinctiveness and sense of place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the Neighbourhood Plan protect and reinforce Tattenhall's landscape setting? • Will the Neighbourhood Plan enhance and respect Tattenhall's local and built character? • Will the Neighbourhood Plan increase the provision of Open Space to address deficits? • Will the Neighbourhood Plan protect and enhance the provision of green infrastructure and its wider multifunctional benefits?
13	Improve health and social inclusion, whilst reducing inequality, and valuing diversity and equality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the Neighbourhood Plan meet the health needs of Tattenhall and its residents? • Will the Neighbourhood Plan improve access to services in Tattenhall?

14	To provide sufficient housing to meet identified needs including affordable housing, and specialist groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the Neighbourhood Plan contribute to and meet the identified housing needs for Tattenhall?
15	To create a safe environment to live in and reduce the fear of crime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the Neighbourhood Plan reduce opportunities for crime and therefore, levels of crime? Will the Neighbourhood Plan affect the fear of crime and feelings of safety? Will the Neighbourhood Plan improve road safety?
16	To support sustainable economic growth and competitiveness, and provide opportunities for ongoing private sector investment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the Neighbourhood Plan continue to provide opportunities for the creation of new business and enterprise in Tattenhall? Will the Neighbourhood Plan minimise the loss / displacement of existing businesses? Will the Neighbourhood Plan contribute to meeting the employment needs of Tattenhall?
17	To develop and enhance the visitor economy/tourism.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the Neighbourhood Plan promote tourism and the visitor economy in Tattenhall?
18	To promote regeneration of deprived areas and deliver urban / rural renaissance and improve image.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the Neighbourhood Plan deliver rural renaissance and regeneration in Tattenhall? Will the Neighbourhood Plan improve economic conditions? Will the Neighbourhood Plan support rural diversification?
19	To maintain and improve the vitality and viability of City, town and local centres.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the Neighbourhood Plan safeguard and improve Tattenhall's shops, services and leisure facilities, to meet the needs of the community?

Assessment technique

- 3.10 The SA of the Plan focuses on the assessing the plan's objectives and plan's policies against the SA objectives.
- 3.11 The appraisal of the Neighbourhood Plan has been undertaken as a 'whole plan' assessment, whereby the planning policies of the Neighbourhood Plan as a whole are assessed against each of the SA objectives.
- 3.12 The draft planning policies of the Neighbourhood Plan have been appraised against the Tattenhall SA Framework using a set of measures detailed in Table 3 below.
- 3.13 The appraisal of the Plan's policies against each SA objective is accompanied where relevant by a commentary, which identifies any possible mitigation measures that could enhance the plan's performance and describes the result of the assessment.
- 3.14 The assessment of the plan and its likely effects has been informed by the baseline data and evidence gathered as part of the Tattenhall SA Scoping Report.
- 3.15 The timescale over which the effects will manifest themselves – short, medium or long term, whether they will be permanent or temporary, and any possible cumulative, secondary or synergistic effects are also considered, identified and described in the appraisal commentary where relevant.

Table 3 Assessment Measures

Effect	Description and Key
Very Positive	The Neighbourhood Plan contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective
Positive	The Neighbourhood Plan contributes to the achievement of the objective but not significantly
Neutral	The Neighbourhood Plan does not have an effect on the achievement of the objective
Negative	The Neighbourhood Plan detracts from the achievement of the objective but not significantly
Very Negative	The Neighbourhood Plan detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective
No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the Neighbourhood Plan and the achievement of the objective, or the relationship is negligible
Uncertain	The Neighbourhood Plan has an uncertain relationship to the objective, the effect is dependent on how the Plan is implemented or there is insufficient information to make an assessment

Developing the Plan Strategy and Options

- 3.16 The SEA directive requires the consideration and appraisal of reasonable alternative plan options in the assessment of the Neighbourhood Development.
- 3.17 The preparation of the draft Neighbourhood Plan has been an iterative process. Its direction of travel has been informed by extensive public consultation and a clear vision about how the Parish should develop. An exhaustive process of identifying, exploring and testing options has therefore not been appropriate or necessary in this instance.

Existing Policies

- 3.18 To help quantify the likely effects of producing a Neighbourhood Plan a 'do nothing' option has also been assessed. This identifies the likely sustainability impacts that would occur if the Neighbourhood Plan was not adopted and existing policies at the national, regional and Borough level were in place.
- 3.19 The 'do nothing' appraisal has been undertaken on the basis that in the short term the adopted Chester Local Plan and National Planning Policy Framework will be in effect¹, and in the medium to long term the National Planning Policy Framework and the new Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (currently under preparation).

Technical Difficulties Encountered

- 3.20 The SEA Directive requires the identification of any difficulties, such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how encountered when undertaking the sustainability appraisal. The following difficulties arose during the appraisal:
- Conformity and Weight – there is still some uncertainty over the alignment of the Neighbourhood Plan with the current and emerging development plan for the Borough and its weight in decision making. This appraisal has assumed that the adopted Chester Local Plan and NPPF will be part of the policy context for the Plan in the short term, the NPPF and the new Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan in the medium to longer term. The Plan could also strengthen the role of the Tattenhall Village Design Statement.

¹ It has been assumed the North West Regional Spatial Strategy will have been revoked in line with the revocation order due to come into effect 20 May 2013 at the time the Neighbourhood Plan would be made.

- Guidance on Appraising Neighbourhood Plans – firm guidance on the requirement for a sustainability appraisal of Neighbourhood Development Plans is still emerging. Knowledge and experience of the SA processes and requirements for other planning documents has therefore been drawn upon to appraise the Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan and to determine the appraisal methodology.
- Options – No alternatives have been proposed to the policies in the draft Plan, however its preparation has been an iterative process guided by a clear vision. Identifying options has not been necessary in this instance.

4 RESULTS OF THE ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 An appraisal of the Neighbourhood Plan's objectives and policies has been undertaken against the SA Framework. The results of this appraisal help to identify and describe the likely sustainability impacts of the Plan.

Testing of SA and Neighbourhood Plan Objectives

- 4.2 It is important that the objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan are in accordance with sustainable development principles and at the strategic level do not conflict with the SA objectives. The compatibility of the Plan's objectives with the SA objectives has therefore been tested as set out at Appendix 1. There is no association between a number of the SA objectives and the Plan objectives, but where there is a link the Plan's objectives are compatible with and support the SA objectives. There are no evidence of conflict between the Plan's and the SA objectives.

Neighbourhood Plan Policies

- 4.3 The appraisal has revealed that when measured against the sustainability objectives for Tattenhall, the Neighbourhood Plan should perform well and will help to deliver sustainable development in the Parish.
- 4.4 Given that the policy framework is set out more clearly than at draft stage the overall assessment is more certain at this stage. The full appraisal matrix is set out in Appendix 2. In summary the assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan has revealed that:
- The Neighbourhood Plan could lead to very positive effects in respect of enhancing biodiversity and habitats, the historic environment, landscape character, meeting housing needs and creating a safe environment. The Plan seeks to promote, protect, create and restore wildlife corridors, sites and habitats within the Parish, extending green spaces and providing new nature conservation areas where possible. Although the Plan promotes new development within the District it sets out specific policies to ensure that new development protects and enhances the area's character and built heritage.
 - The Neighbourhood Plan includes stronger measure than at the draft stage to address climate change and to secure the use of renewable energy. The Plan scores positively against these SA objectives. The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to secure development that improves environmental performance including both energy efficiency measures and green energy generation. The plan policies also support the development of green infrastructure, helping to address the effects of climate change and secure the use of renewable/low carbon energy.

- Positive effects are predicted for water, land and resources, access to services and economic development. The Plan could maintain and in some cases improve the quality of Tattenhall's water resources and result in the prudent use of land and resources. The Plan would provide policies to support Tattenhall's services and facilities, ensuring that it continues to be a thriving rural community.
- There is some uncertainty over the Plan's effects on local air quality. Promoting development in a rural location is likely to result in increased car borne travelling, but the Plan also proposes to increase the provision of local cycling and pedestrian infrastructure throughout the Parish and improve the distribution of high speed broadband which could reduce this impact. Increased car borne travelling could also be an accepted side-effect of development in rural areas.
- In relation to flood risk and natural resources the plan does not have any direct link to these SA objectives. However, impacts of new development on these objectives would be controlled by policies in higher level plans and does not need to be specifically addressed by the Neighbourhood Plan.
- There is some uncertainty in how the Neighbourhood Plan policies would operate in relation to redevelopment of brownfield land, in light of the of the Borough's 5-year housing land supply shortfall, status of current Local Plan policies on housing and that the Council is at the early stages of the preparation of the new Local Plan for the borough. This issue could take precedent over some of the Neighbourhood Plan's proposals, but this would be dependent on variables that include the application of policies, the weight attached to the Council's emerging Local Plan and the Neighbourhood Plan in decision making. In the medium to longer term very positive effects are more likely.
- Under the existing policies scenario the application of existing and emerging development plan policies is likely to have similar effects to the Neighbourhood Plan, although positive effects are enhanced by the Neighbourhood Plan in relation to biodiversity and habitats, the historic environment, landscape character and housing needs. This is due to the prescriptive and locally distinctive requirements that are to be sought through the Neighbourhood Plan in relation to these topics.
- There could be a greater risk over the short term of undermining the use of previously developed land, the character of Tattenhall and not supplying housing that genuinely meets local needs if the Neighbourhood Plan is not in effect.

5 MONITORING

- 5.1 An important part of the SA framework is the SA monitoring framework to monitor the actual impacts of the Neighbourhood Plan against the SA Objectives and sustainability issues for the local area.
- 5.2 Monitoring should focus on any significant effects of policies in the Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan will sit within a suite of planning policies at the neighbourhood, local and national level. The Local Plan for the borough will be subject to monitoring and this should inform the monitoring regime for the Neighbourhood Plan. However, there is merit in having a selection of locally specific indicators to monitor the specific policies in the Neighbourhood Plan. Given the nature of a Neighbourhood Plan there is scope for this to be both a qualitative and quantitative assessment of the effects of the Plan. This can use both local ad hoc knowledge of what has happened in the area over a year as well as more formalised monitoring.
- 5.3 Information that could be systematically gathered at the Neighbourhood Plan level to assist with monitoring includes:
- Details of all planning applications and their outcomes within the District each year including details of S106 agreements, traffic impacts, building for life assessments, car parking provision, energy efficient measures, green energy associated with them.
 - Activity in relation to the removal and cutting back of trees in the village
 - Changes in local shops and services
- 5.4 This information can then be analysed to look at issues such as:
- Scale and location of new development proposed
 - Percentage of enabling market housing in any exceptions schemes brought forward
 - Percentage of affordable housing in new housing schemes
 - Number of applications submitted with a building for life assessment included
 - Provision of new or enhanced green/open spaces.
- 5.5 The information gathered can then be used to produce a commentary on where the plan has been used to influence the decision making process and how effective it was. The local community are well placed to do this.

APPENDIX 1: ASSESSMENT OF NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AND SA OBJECTIVES

		Objective Key ✓-Compatible ?-Uncertain ~-No Link X-Conflicting							
		Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan Objectives							
SA Objective		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Housing	Landscape	Local Facilities	Economy	Transport & access	Local distinctiveness	Green and open space	Involvement
1	Climate Change	✓	~	~	~	✓	~	✓	~
2	Energy	✓	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
3	Bio-diversity	~	~	~	~	~	~	✓	~
4	Flooding	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
5	Water	~	~	~	~	~	~	✓	~
6	Air	~	~	~	~	✓	~	✓	~
7	Re-sources	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
8	Land & Soil	~	✓	~	~	~	~	✓	~
9	Previously Developed Land	~	✓	~	~	~	~	~	~
10	Waste	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
11	Historic	✓	✓	~	~	~	✓	~	~
12	Landscape & townscape	✓	✓	~	~	~	✓	✓	~
13	Health and well being	~	~	✓	~	~	~	✓	✓
14	Housing	✓	✓	~	~	~	~	✓	~
15	Safety	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
16	Economy	~	~	✓	✓	✓	~	~	~
17	Tourism	~	~	✓	✓	~	~	~	~
18	Re-generation	~	~	✓	✓	~	✓	~	~
19	Vitality and Viability	✓	~	✓	✓	~	✓	~	~

Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan Objectives

- 1 Delivery of a housing growth strategy tailored to the needs and context of Tattenhall
- 2 Sensitive development which protects and enriches the landscape and built setting
- 3 Sustaining and improving excellent local facilities for existing and new residents
- 4 Strengthening and supporting economic activity
- 5 Seek ongoing improvements to transport, to utility infrastructure and digital connectivity
- 6 Prioritise local distinctiveness in every element of change and growth
- 7 Protect greenspace, the landscape, and support nature conservation
- 8 Involve local people in an ongoing basis in the process of plan making, monitoring and delivery of development

APPENDIX 2: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL MATRIX

SA Objective	Sub Objective/Appraisal Criteria	Assessment of Effects		Commentary
		Neighbourhood Plan (Relevant Policies)	Existing and Emerging Policies	
Address the need to mitigate and adapt to climate change	Will the Neighbourhood Plan reduce the potential impacts of climate change?	Policy 2: Local Character		Effects of the Plan The Neighbourhood Plan promotes and actively encourages new development with improved environmental performance both in relation to energy efficient and green energy generation. Use of the Building for Life Standard will work towards ensuring future proofed homes are delivered. Seeking improved movement by cyclists and pedestrians within and between the Parish's settlements, providing for new public rights of way and deliver high speed broadband could help to reduce CO ₂ emissions from car-borne travel. Creating new wildlife corridors and extending existing green spaces in the Parish could also help to realise the benefits of green infrastructure which will assist with the mitigation and adaptation to the effects of climate change. The positive effects associated with each of these proposals are likely to increase over the medium and longer term with application of the Plan's policies, cumulatively having a greater effect.
	Will the Neighbourhood Plan help to minimise and reduce the emission of greenhouse gases, in particular CO ₂ ?			Existing Policies The NPPF requires local planning authorities to adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Although increasingly outdated and un-specific on the issue of climate change, cumulatively policies in the Chester Local Plan are also likely to have a similarly positive effect on meeting this objective.
To reduce energy consumption, promote energy efficiency and increase the use of energy from renewable resources	Will the Neighbourhood Plan ensure that new development is in accessible locations in order to reduce the need for car borne travel and / or encourage sustainable forms of transport?	Policy 5: Transport and Communications		
	Will the Neighbourhood Plan promote, enhance or create green infrastructure?			
To reduce energy consumption, promote energy efficiency and increase the use of energy from renewable resources	Will the Neighbourhood Plan reduce energy consumption?	Policy 2: Local Character		Effects of the Plan The Neighbourhood Plan proposes to secure new development that incorporates features to improve environmental performance including energy efficiency and green energy generation. The positive effects of the Plan in relation to this objective are likely to increase over the medium and longer term with increased application of the Plan's policies and have a permanent impact.
	Will the Neighbourhood Plan promote energy efficiency?			Existing Policies The NPPF requires local planning authorities to promote energy from renewable and low carbon sources to supply new development. The Chester Local Plan does not set a specific local policy requirement for energy efficiency or renewable energy production, but proposals to encourage these measures are outlined in the emerging CWaC Local Plan.
To protect and enhance the Borough's biodiversity and wildlife habitats	Will the Neighbourhood Plan result in greater energy use from renewable resources?			
To protect and enhance the Borough's biodiversity and wildlife habitats	Will the Neighbourhood Plan protect and promote Tattenhall's sites of ecological and nature conservation importance, and ensure they are resilient to climate change?	Policy 6: Landscape and Environment		Effects of the Plan The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to promote, protect, create and restore wildlife corridors, sites, habitats and green spaces within the Parish, extending green spaces and providing new nature conservation areas where possible. These measures will make a positive contribution to this objective. There is no direct relationship between the Plan and the resilience of nature assets to climate change, although Plan measures that could mitigate and reduce the effects of climate change could also have an indirect positive effect on this objective. The positive effects of the Plan in relation to this objective are likely to increase over the medium and longer term with increased application of the Plan's policies and be permanent.
	Will the Neighbourhood Plan provide opportunities for local habitat and species conservation enhancements?			Existing Policies Cumulatively policies in the NPPF, Chester and CWaC Local Plans could result in similar positive effects when assessed against this objective. However, the Neighbourhood Plan sets out specific policy guidance for the creation of wildlife corridors and protection of green spaces, alongside the retention of local features such as hedgerows, woodland and ponds, likely to be important for local wildlife. It could therefore increase positive effects

APPENDIX 2: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL MATRIX

SA Objective	Sub Objective/Appraisal Criteria	Assessment of Effects		Commentary
		Neighbourhood Plan (Relevant Policies)	Existing and Emerging Policies	
To minimise the risk of flooding	Will the Neighbourhood Plan reduce the risk of flooding and avoid areas at risk from flooding?	No relevant policies		<p>Effects of the Plan</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan does not specifically address flooding. Parts of Tattenhall are identified as being susceptible to flooding. This reflects the hierarchy of planning policy and that any potential risks will be appropriately addressed in accordance with flood management policies in the adopted Local Plan and National Planning Policy Framework. It does not need to be specifically addressed by the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>Existing Policies</p> <p>The NPPF, Chester and CWaC Local Plans set out specific guidance on the management of flood risk and could therefore have a very positive effect on this objective.</p>
To protect, maintain and improve the quality of water resources, minimise the risk of pollution and improve water efficiency	<p>Will the Neighbourhood Plan protect, maintain and improve the quality of Tattenhall's water resources?</p> <p>Will the Neighbourhood Plan encourage water efficiency and promote the use of grey-water recycling / rainwater harvesting?</p>	<p>Policy 2: Local Character</p> <p>Policy 6: Landscape and Environment</p>		<p>Effects of the Plan</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan does not specifically address the protection of water resources but does seek the protection of key wildlife and wetland sites and features. Creating and enhancing wildlife corridors has the potential to have an indirect positive effect on the ecological status and quality of Keys Brook and Golbourne Brook. This reflects the hierarchy of planning policy and that any potential impacts will be appropriately addressed in accordance with water management policies in the adopted Local Plan and National Planning Policy Framework and other development regulations. The Neighbourhood Plan proposes to secure new development that incorporates features to improve environmental performance which would include water efficiency measures.</p> <p>Existing Policies</p> <p>The NPPF, Chester and CWaC Local Plans would still require development proposals to take account of water resources in the Tattenhall area. However, setting out specific policies for the creation and enhancement of local wildlife corridors, the Neighbourhood Plan could potentially increase any positive effects.</p>
To protect air quality where it is of a high standard and improve it elsewhere	Will the Neighbourhood Plan improve or have an insignificant effect on local air quality, ensuring minimum impact on people's health?	<p>Policy 1: Housing</p> <p>Policy 3: Local Economy</p> <p>Policy 5: Transport and Communications</p>		<p>Effects of the Plan</p> <p>Seeking to improve movement by cyclists and pedestrians within and between Tattenhall's settlements will help the Neighbourhood Plan to improve local air quality. The housing and economic policies that seek to allow new business, tourism and hospitality developments could increase the need for car-borne travelling in the District due to its rural location with potential impacts on air quality. However, the Neighbourhood Plan's proposals for sustainable modes of local transport and securing high speed broadband could reduce this impact. The Neighbourhood will sit in a hierarchy of plans that will seek to protect and improve air quality and the effect of these policies working together should be positive.</p> <p>Existing Policies</p> <p>Cumulatively policies in the NPPF, Chester and CWaC Local Plans could result in a similar assessment outcome when assessed against this policy, although there is a short term risk of greater permanent negative effects arising from new housing development.</p>

APPENDIX 2: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL MATRIX

SA Objective	Sub Objective/Appraisal Criteria	Assessment of Effects		Commentary
		Neighbourhood Plan (Relevant Policies)	Existing and Emerging Policies	
To reduce the consumption of natural resources	<p>Will the Neighbourhood Plan result in the prudent use of natural resources?</p> <p>Will the Neighbourhood Plan promote the use of secondary/recycled aggregates?</p>	No relevant policies		<p>Effects of the Plan</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan does not specifically address the consumption of natural resources. This is as this is covered by other plans at the Borough level.</p> <p>Existing Policies</p> <p>The use of secondary/recycled aggregates would be promoted wherever possible.</p>
To protect and enhance land and soil quality	<p>Will the Neighbourhood Plan impact on the quality of soils?</p>	<p>Policy 1: Housing Growth</p> <p>Policy 2; Local Character</p> <p>Policy 3: Local Economy</p> <p>Policy 4: Landscape and Environment</p>		<p>Effects of the Plan</p> <p>By proposing new development the Neighbourhood Plan could affect the quality of soils, however there is no accurate method of identifying their quality. Healthy soils around Tattenhall are likely to provide a number of benefits – supporting wildlife, the rural landscape, food production and the preservation of cultural heritage. Each of these features could be protected or in some cases enhanced through elements in each of the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan, helping to ensure that the high quality soils that create them could be indirectly safeguarded. Potential loss of best and most versatile agricultural land would be resisted in line with the adopted Local Plan and the NPPF. Positive effects are likely to occur over the lifetime of the plan and have a permanent impact.</p> <p>Existing Policies</p> <p>The existing development plan for the area will seek to resist the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land and could also deliver features that would protect or enhance the quality of soils, although the scope of policies is likely to be broader and less prescriptive compared to the Neighbourhood Plan. There is still no accurate method of identifying the quality of soils at the Borough level.</p>
To optimise the re-use of previously developed land and buildings	<p>Will the Neighbourhood Plan promote redevelopment on brownfield land as a priority?</p>	<p>Policy 1: Housing Growth</p> <p>Policy 2: Local Character</p> <p>Policy 3: Local Economy</p>		<p>Effects of the Plan</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan sets out the strategy for new housing, employment, retail and tourism development coming forward and provides policies for new buildings for employment, developments. The strategy for housing allows for Greenfield development but also supports the use of previously developed land wherever possible. However the strategy supports the release of sites to support incremental growth of the settlement in line with meeting the local housing requirements. There is some uncertainty in how the Neighbourhood Plan policies would operate in light of the of the Borough's 5-year housing land supply shortfall, status of current Local Plan policies on housing and that the Council is at the early stages of the preparation of the new Local Plan for the borough. Any effects are likely to be permanent.</p> <p>Existing Policies</p> <p>The Chester Local Plan and NPPF encourage the reuse of previously developed land wherever possible, however there is particular uncertainty at the current time with the potential for more development on Greenfield land in the short term due to the Borough's 5-year housing land supply shortfall, status of current Local Plan policies on housing and that the Council is at the early stages of the preparation of the new Local Plan for the borough. Any effects are likely to be permanent</p>

APPENDIX 2: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL MATRIX

SA Objective	Sub Objective/Appraisal Criteria	Assessment of Effects		Commentary
		Neighbourhood Plan (Relevant Policies)	Existing and Emerging Policies	
Achieve sustainable waste management by reducing the production of waste, increasing opportunities for recycling and reducing the amount of waste being sent for final disposal to landfill.	Will the Neighbourhood Plan result in new or enhanced waste management facilities to meet the waste management needs of Tattenhall?	Policy 2: Local character		<p>Effects of the Plan</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan will require housing developments to provide adequate storage for waste and recycling bins in line with the building for life guidelines therefore supporting. However, it is outside the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan to provide the waste management needs of the District as this will be provided by plans, strategies and provisions at a higher level</p> <p>Existing Policies</p> <p>The Local Plan provides policies for managing waste and the provision of waste management facilities.</p>
To preserve and enhance sites, features, areas and settings of archaeological, historical and cultural heritage importance	Will the Neighbourhood Plan ensure the continued protection and enhancement of Tattenhall's built heritage, including its conservation area and historic buildings?	Policy 1: Housing Policy 2: Local Character Policy 3: Economy Policy 6: Landscape and environment		<p>Effects of the Plan</p> <p>Proposals for new development within and around Tattenhall have the potential to undermine the District's character and built heritage, but the Neighbourhood Plan proposes policies to ensure these continue to be protected and enhanced. Working as a whole the Plan seeks to reinforce the distinctive character of the Tattenhall village and its surroundings, providing clear guidance on how new development should be brought forward. The Neighbourhood Plan integrates the policies of the Tattenhall Village Design Statement into the strategy for new development. Then VDS provides specific design guidelines that could reinforce the Plan's ability to meet this objective, with permanent effects.</p> <p>Existing Policies</p> <p>The NPPF, Chester and CWaC Local Plans recognise the importance of protecting the built environment. They contain policies for the enhancement and protection of conservation areas, listed buildings and buildings of local architectural or historic interest. Supplemented by the Tattenhall Village Design Statement they could have a similar positive effect, although the Neighbourhood Plan and its policies could reinforce the use of design guidance specific to the District.</p>
To protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the landscape and townscape, maintaining local distinctiveness and sense of place.	Will the Neighbourhood Plan protect and reinforce Tattenhall's landscape setting? Will the Neighbourhood Plan enhance and respect Tattenhall's local and built character? Will the Neighbourhood Plan increase the provision of Open Space to address deficits? Will the Neighbourhood Plan protect and enhance the provision of green infrastructure and its wider multifunctional benefits?	Policy 1: Housing Policy 2: Local Character Policy 3: Local Economy Policy 6: Landscape and environment		<p>Effects of the Plan</p> <p>Proposals for new development within and around Tattenhall have the potential to undermine the District's character, however the Plan should ensure that new developments are of a scale and standard that complements the character and setting of Tattenhall and the District, retaining important views and vistas across the surrounding countryside. There is a particular risk that housing developments could however come forward without full regard to the character of the village. Locally important green spaces are protected, extended and wildlife corridors established. The wider benefits of green infrastructure should be realised. The Plan recognises the importance of protecting and enhancing local community infrastructure, but sites of open space value are protected.</p> <p>Existing Policies</p> <p>Local and national policies should ensure the continued protection of landscape and character, but in the short term there is a particular and greater risk that housing developments could take precedent over these considerations. When supplemented by the Tattenhall Village Design Statement the existing development plan could have a similar positive effect in these respects. The Local Plan sets out guidelines for the provision of open space, and broad policies that could protect and enhance green infrastructure assets, though more prescriptive policies in the Neighbourhood Plan could potentially achieve a greater positive effect in this respect.</p>

APPENDIX 2: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL MATRIX

SA Objective	Sub Objective/Appraisal Criteria	Assessment of Effects		Commentary
		Neighbourhood Plan (Relevant Policies)	Existing and Emerging Policies	
Improve health and social inclusion, whilst reducing inequality, and valuing diversity and equality.	<p>Will the Neighbourhood Plan meet the health needs of Tattenhall and its residents?</p> <p>Will the Neighbourhood Plan improve access to services in Tattenhall?</p>	<p>Policy 1: Housing Growth</p> <p>Policy 2: Local Character</p> <p>Policy 3: Local Economy</p> <p>Policy 4: Local Facilities</p>		<p>Effects of the Plan</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to retain, support and enhance Tattenhall's local community infrastructure. It sets out to sustain local businesses and ensure that the centre of Tattenhall village is prioritised as a thriving focal point for local shops, services and facilities. The Plan recognises the need to achieve a balanced community, supporting young people and elderly residents alike. Positive effects are likely to increase with application of the Plan's policies and have a long lasting effect.</p> <p>Existing Policies</p> <p>Cumulatively policies in the development plan could also result in positive effects judged against this objective. It provides policies that seek to protect and allow the development of new services in rural communities, though the Neighbourhood Plan could possibly achieve a greater positive effect by providing specific local guidelines.</p>
To provide sufficient housing to meet identified needs including affordable housing, and specialist groups.	Does the Neighbourhood Plan contribute to and meet the identified housing needs for Tattenhall?	Policy 1: Housing		<p>Effects of the Plan</p> <p>The Plan supports meeting the identified needs of the area as will be set out in the new Local Plan for the borough, currently in preparation. The Neighbourhood Plan strategy will ensure that proposals for new housing development bring forward a mix of housing types and tenures to suit local requirements including affordable housing requirements.</p> <p>Existing Policies</p> <p>Existing policies should deliver housing to meet the Borough's housing demands, but in the short term there is a greater risk that development may come forward without regard to the specific local circumstances of need given the Borough's 5-year housing land supply shortfall, status of current Local Plan policies on housing and that the Council is at the early stages of the preparation of the new Local Plan for the borough. A 40% affordable housing requirement would be applied to eligible housing schemes in the Tattenhall area.</p>
To create a safe environment to live in and reduce the fear of crime.	<p>Will the Neighbourhood Plan reduce opportunities for crime and therefore, levels of crime?</p> <p>Will the Neighbourhood Plan affect the fear of crime and feelings of safety?</p> <p>Will the Neighbourhood Plan improve road safety?</p>	<p>Policy 2: Local Character</p> <p>Policy 5: Transport and Communications</p>		<p>Effects of the Plan</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to improve safe and enjoyable movement by pedestrians and cyclists throughout the District and promotes the creation of locally distinctive design that meet building for life standards. Positive effects are likely to increase over time in line with application of the Plan's policies, having a long lasting beneficial effect.</p> <p>Existing Policies</p> <p>The NPPF, Chester and CWaC Local Plans would seek to achieve provision for cyclist and pedestrians in new development and measures to improve safety, particularly in residential areas.</p>
To support sustainable economic growth and competitiveness, and provide opportunities for ongoing private sector investment.	<p>Does the Neighbourhood Plan continue to provide opportunities for the creation of new business and enterprise in Tattenhall?</p> <p>Will the Neighbourhood Plan minimise the loss / displacement of existing businesses?</p> <p>Will the Neighbourhood Plan contribute to meeting the employment needs of Tattenhall?</p>	Policy 3: Local Economy		<p>Effects of the Plan</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to support a thriving local economy, setting out proposals to allow new commercial premises and extensions to existing businesses in the District and support for business in the countryside. The Plan could therefore have a positive effect in relation to this objective. The effects of these policies will however be dependent on the acceptability of proposals, which would be considered on their merits and impacts. Positive impacts are likely to increase over time with application of the Plan's policies.</p> <p>Existing Policies</p> <p>The NPPF, Chester and CWaC Local Plans would allow proposals for economic development in the rural area, subject to criteria.</p>

APPENDIX 2: SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL MATRIX

SA Objective	Sub Objective/Appraisal Criteria	Assessment of Effects		Commentary
		Neighbourhood Plan (Relevant Policies)	Existing and Emerging Policies	
To develop and enhance the visitor economy/tourism.	Does the Neighbourhood Plan promote tourism and the visitor economy in Tattenhall?	Policy 3: Local Economy		Effects of the Plan The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to support hospitality and tourism uses in the District and could therefore make a long lasting, permanent positive contribution to meeting this objective. However, this would be dependent on the acceptability of proposals, which will be considered on their merits and impacts. Existing Policies The development plan would allow tourism development in the rural area and Tattenhall, supporting this objective.
To promote regeneration of deprived areas and deliver urban / rural renaissance and improve image.	Will the Neighbourhood Plan deliver rural renaissance and regeneration in Tattenhall? Will the Neighbourhood Plan improve economic conditions? Will the Neighbourhood Plan support rural diversification?	Policy 1: Housing Policy 2: Local Character Policy 3: Local Economy Policy 4: Local Facilities		Effects of the Plan The Neighbourhood Plan's housing growth, local economy and facility proposals should ensure that Tattenhall continues to be a thriving, vibrant rural community. The positive effects of the Plan are likely to increase over time with the application of its policies and have a long lasting impact. Existing Policies Existing policies would have a positive effect when judged against this objective.
To maintain and improve the vitality and viability of City, town and local centres.	Will the Neighbourhood Plan safeguard and improve Tattenhall's shops, services and leisure facilities, to meet the needs of the community?	Local Facilities Local Economy		Effects of the Plan The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to retain, support and enhance Tattenhall's local community infrastructure. It sets out to sustain local business, support a thriving local economy and ensure that the centre of Tattenhall village is prioritised as a thriving focal point for local shops, services and facilities to meet the needs of the community. Positive impacts are likely to increase over time. Existing Policies Existing policies would have a positive effect when judged against this objective.

APPENDIX 3: INTERIM SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FINDINGS AND ACTIONS

Findings of Interim Sustainability Appraisal

The appraisal of the draft Neighbourhood Plan found that when measured against the sustainability objectives for Tattenhall, the Neighbourhood Plan should perform well and help to deliver sustainable development in the Parish. However, there was some uncertainty over the performance of some of the policies, and no relationship between some of the sustainability objectives and the elements of the plan appraised. But, overall the plan was assessed as likely to have a positive sustainability effect.

In summary the assessment of the draft Neighbourhood Plan revealed:

- Very positive effects in respect of enhancing biodiversity and habitats, the historic environment, landscape character and meeting housing needs.
- Positive effects in respect of addressing climate change, securing the use of renewable energy, water, land and resources, access to services and economic development.
- Uncertainty over the Plan's effects on local air quality, employment, commercial and tourism development.
- Some matters were raised in relation to flood risk and use of natural resources and the Plan's role in managing these. However, it was recognised that the management of these issues is covered by policies in higher level plans.
- Uncertainty in the short term over how successful the Neighbourhood Plan will be in prioritising the reuse of brownfield land, protecting the scale and character of Tattenhall and meeting local housing needs. This is due to possible tensions between the Neighbourhood Plan and the Borough's current 5- year housing land supply shortfall. In the medium to longer term very positive effects are more likely.
- The application of existing and emerging development plan policies is likely to have similar effects to the Neighbourhood Plan, although the Neighbourhood enhances some of the positive effects over an above the existing policy framework.
- There could be a greater risk over the short term of undermining the use of previously developed land, the character of Tattenhall and not supplying housing that genuinely meets local needs if the Neighbourhood Plan is not in effect.

Recommendations in Interim Sustainability Appraisal and actions taken in preparing final Neighbourhood Plan

Recommendation	Action
1. The positive performance of the Neighbourhood Plan could be enhanced and more certain by giving a number of its proposals more local emphasis and detail.	Final Plan now includes specific land use policies with local emphasis plus a number of local aspirations to encourage interventions by wider stakeholders.
2. In relation to retaining, supporting and enhancing important local community infrastructure, it could usefully highlight what facilities this requirement would refer to.	Supporting text and policy 4 Local Facilities highlights what needs to be addressed and how this will be achieved for example provision of new utility provision (mains gas) diversification and enhancement of local shops and facilities and support for existing services.
3. Policies for managing traffic and road safety could be enhanced by highlighting specific local measures that should be implemented.	Policy 5 Transport has been strengthened to set out how highways impacts should be considered as part of development proposals including the stance on new car parking.
4. Outlining decision making criteria for employment proposals could provide more certainty and confidence to applicants.	Included in Policy 3 Economy.
5. The Vision for the Neighbourhood Plan makes specific reference to endorsing policies that mitigate climate change and reduce Tattenhall's carbon footprint. This should be translated into a Plan objective.	Objective not amended but additional emphasis on this added to Policy 2 Local Character.
6. The requirement for new homes to utilise sustainable forms of energy could be expanded to other forms of development, or a sustainable design policy could be explored in light of Tattenhall's high energy usage and off-grid properties.	Sustainable design and improving the environmental performance of new development is set out in Policy 2 Local Character.

<p>7. Specific identification of local open space requirements or schemes could be added into proposals for enhancing local facilities and to address open space deficits.</p>	<p>Policy 6 supports network of green spaces for sport and recreation.</p>
<p>8. A sustainability appraisal of the next draft of the Neighbourhood Plan should be undertaken.</p>	<p>This has been undertaken.</p>

APPENDIX 4: SEA QUALITY ASSURANCE CHECKLIST

The Quality Assurance Checklist below has been used to ensure that the requirements of the SEA Directive have been met and fully integrated into the sustainability process covered in this document. The Quality Assurance Checklist covers both the technical and procedural steps of the sustainability appraisal process and will be updated as the different stages are reached.

Requirements in SEA Directive	Where met in Report
Objectives and Context	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Plans purpose and objectives are made clear 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 2</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability issues including international and EC objectives, are considered in developing objectives and targets 	Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan Scoping Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA objectives are clearly set out and linked to indicators and targets where appropriate 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 2 &3</p> <p>Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan Scoping Report</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Links with related plans, programmes and targets are identified and explained 	Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan Scoping Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conflicts that exist between SA objectives and other plan objectives are identified and described 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 3 and Appendix 1</p>
Scoping	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The environmental consultation bodies are consulted in appropriate ways and at appropriate times on the content and scope of the SA report 	Yes (July 2012)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The appraisal focuses on significant issues 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 4 and Appendix 2</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical, procedural and other difficulties encountered are discussed: assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 3</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasons are given for eliminating issues from further consideration 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 3 &4</p>

Requirements in SEA Directive	Where met in Report
Options / Alternatives	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Realistic alternatives are considered for key issues and the reasons for choosing them are documented 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 3</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternatives include 'do nothing' and/or 'business as usual' scenarios wherever relevant 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 3, 4 and Appendix 2</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The sustainability effects (both adverse and beneficial) of each alternative are identified and compared 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 4 and Appendix 2</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inconsistencies between the alternatives and other relevant plans, programmes or policies are identified and explained 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 4 and Appendix 2</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasons are given for the selection or elimination of alternatives 	<p>N/A</p>
Baseline Information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and their evolution without the plan are described 	<p>Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan Scoping Report</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characteristics of the area likely to be significantly affected are described, including areas wider than the physical boundary of the plan area where it is likely to be affected by the plan where practicable 	<p>Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan Scoping Report</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficulties such as deficiencies in information or methods are explained 	<p>Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan Scoping Report</p>
Prediction and evaluation of likely significant effects	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likely significant social, environmental and economic effects are identified including those listed in the SEA Directive (biodiversity, population, human health, flora, fauna, soil, water, air, climate, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape) as relevant 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 4 and Appendix 2</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both positive and negative effects are considered and where practicable the duration of effects (short, medium or long term) is addressed 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 4 and Appendix 2</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likely secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects are identified where practicable 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 4 and Appendix 2</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inter-relationships between effects are considered where practicable 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 4 and Appendix 2</p>

Requirements in SEA Directive	Where met in Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where relevant, the prediction and evaluation of effects makes use of accepted standards, regulations and thresholds. 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 4 and Appendix 2</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methods used to evaluate the effects are described. 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 3</p>
Mitigation Measures	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and offset any significant adverse effects of implementing the plan 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 4 and Appendix 2</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issues to be taken into account in development consents are identified 	N/A
The Sustainability Appraisal Report	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is clear and concise in layout and presentation 	Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses simple, clear language and avoids or explains technical terms 	Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses maps and other illustrations where appropriate 	Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explains the methodology used 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 3</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explains who was consulted and what methods of consultation were used 	<p>Yes</p> <p>As Part of Neighbourhood Plan consultation</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified sources of information, including expert judgement and matters of opinion 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan Scoping Report</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contains a non technical summary 	Yes
Consultation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SA is consulted on as an integral Part of the plan making process 	<p>Yes</p> <p>As Part of Neighbourhood Plan consultation</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The consultation bodies, other consultees and the public are consulted in ways which give them an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinions on the Draft Plan and SA Report 	<p>Yes</p> <p>As Part of Neighbourhood Plan consultation</p>

Requirements in SEA Directive	Where met in Report
Decision making and information and the Decision	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SA Report and the opinions of those consulted are taken into account in finalising and adopting the plan 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 4 and Appendix 2</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An explanation is given of how they have been taken into account 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 4 and Appendix 2</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasons are given for choices in the adopted plan, in light of other reasonable options considered 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 2 and 3</p>
Monitoring Measures	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measures proposed for monitoring are clear, practicable and linked to the indicators and objectives used in the SA 	<p>Section 5</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring is used, where appropriate during implementation of the plan to make good deficiencies in baseline information in the SA 	<p>Post Plan Adoption</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring enables unforeseen adverse effects to be identified at an early stage (these effects may include predictions which prove to be incorrect). 	<p>Post Plan Adoption</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposals are made for action in response to significant adverse effects. 	<p>Post Plan Adoption</p>