Walsall Council

Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the

Walsall Site Allocations Development Plan Document (SAD)
Walsall Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP)

Incorporating

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)
Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)
Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

SA Stage 1:

Revised SA Scoping Report
Appendices

April 2013

Walsall Planning 2026: Have Your Say

Consultation 22/04/2013 to 03/06/2013

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Walsall Town Centre
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Revised SA Scoping Report:

Appendices

Contents

Note:

These Appendices should be read in conjunction with the main SA Scoping Report which has been published as a separate document.

<h1 style="text-align:center; color:blue;">APPENDIX A:</h1>

<h2 style="text-align:center;">Glossary of Abbreviations and Terms Used in this Report</h2>

Abbreviation	Term	What it Means
AA	Appropriate Assessment	Assessment of the impact of plans and projects on European Sites (nature conservation sites of international importance), required under the Habitats Directive for plans and projects which a screening assessment suggests are likely to have adverse effects on the integrity of such sites, or is inconclusive. See Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) below for details of the types of assessment that may be required.
AAP	Area Action Plan	See Development Plan Document (DPD). An area action plan (AAP) is a DPD covering an area where major regeneration or change is expected to happen. An AAP can contain site allocation policies for the area and policies to guide development. The site allocation proposals in an AAP must be shown on an Inset Map, rather than on the main Policies Map for the area.
-	Air Quality Action Plan	See also Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). Each authority with an AQMA must prepare an Air Quality Action Plan setting out the actions it will take to reduce pollutants to bring them into line within the statutory limit values. As the whole of Walsall Borough has been declared an AQMA for nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), the Council has produced an Air Quality Action Plan (2009). Land use plans such as the SAD and AAP are expected to play a role in reducing emissions.
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area	See also Air Quality Action Plan. An area where monitoring has shown that national air quality standards for particular pollutants have been exceeded, and where action is needed to bring them into line with the standard. The whole of Walsall Borough has been declared an AQMA for nitrogen dioxide (NO_2) because the statutory limit values for this pollutant have been breached in several locations in the borough. The main source of this pollutant is emissions from road transport.

Abbreviation	Term	What it Means
BCCS	Black Country Core Strategy	The Core Strategy for Walsall and the wider Black Country, which establishes the spatial strategy – the pattern of future development and growth - for the area. It also contains strategic policies on infrastructure and delivery, sustainable communities, the economy, employment and centres, transport and accessibility, environmental infrastructure, waste and minerals. The Core Strategy was adopted in February 2011.
-	Core Strategy	See Development Plan Document (DPD) and Local Development Framework (LDF). Under the previous (2004) development plan system every local planning authority was required to prepare a Core Strategy. This was intended to be the main DPD in the LDF, setting out a vision, strategic objectives and a spatial strategy for the area. While the Core Strategy could define the overall pattern of development (spatial strategy) and identify broad locations for development in the area, it did not generally allocate sites – this was the role of other DPDs, such as site allocations documents or area action plans (AAPs). Under the current planning system (2011), planning authorities do not have to prepare a separate Core Strategy, and can include strategic planning policies in a single area-wide Local Plan if they wish.
-	Development Plan	See also Local Plan. A statutory development plan covering a particular local or strategic authority area or part of a local or strategic authority area, sometimes referred to as a "Local Plan." Development plans provide a framework for development in the area they cover and guide decision making on planning applications within that area. Under Section 38 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), decisions on planning applications must be made in accordance with the development plan unless "material considerations" indicate otherwise.

Abbreviation	Term	What it Means
DPD	Development Plan Document	See also Core Strategy, Development Plan and Local Plan. A land use plan with statutory development plan or Local Plan status, which is subject to independent examination before it can be adopted by the Council. There are various types of plan that could have DPD status, including old-style development plans (e.g. "saved" policies of the Walsall UDP 2005), Core Strategies (e.g. the Black Country Core Strategy 2011), site allocation documents (e.g. the proposed Walsall SAD) and area action plans (e.g. the proposed Walsall Town Centre AAP). Site allocation policies must be included in a DPD – the SAD and AAP are both DPDs, because both will allocate land for particular land use or development and will designate sites of environmental importance to be safeguarded.
EqIA	Equality Impact Assessment	Although there is no longer a requirement for EqIA of local authority policies and functions, the Council has retained the term EqIA to describe the assessments it still has to carry out to demonstrate Council decisions comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). An EqIA form (see Appendix C) has to be completed for all decisions requiring Cabinet approval, where they relate to policies, procedures and services that could impact on the duty. As the EqIA of the SAD and AAP will be integrated with the SA, the SA Framework has been designed to identify potential direct and indirect discrimination, and effects on promoting equality of opportunity and fostering good relations between people. The results of SA will provide evidence that the duty has been complied with.
-	Growth Network	The areas which will be the main focus for development and growth in the Black Country to 2026, as shown on the Black Country Core Strategy Key Diagram. The Black Country "growth network" is based on four strategic centres, including Walsall Town Centre, and sixteen regeneration corridors, five of which are wholly or partly in Walsall Borough.

Abbreviation	Term	What it Means
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment	Term to describe assessments of the impact of plans and projects on European Sites (nature conservation sites of international importance), required under the Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, which transposes the Habitats Directive into UK legislation. The assessments are separate to the sustainability appraisal (SA) and normally comprise a screening assessment to determine whether there are likely to be adverse effects in the first instance, followed by an "appropriate assessment" (required under the Habitats Directive") if the screening confirms this or is inconclusive. Further assessment may be required where harmful effects are identified and mitigation/ alternative options have to be considered.
HIA	Health Impact Assessment	See Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). An assessment to determine how policies or proposals will affect people's health. There is no statutory requirement to carry out a HIA for a development plan, but it is regarded as good practice, and potential effects on health have to be assessed anyway as part of the strategic environmental assessment (SEA). Walsall is an area affected by significant health problems and health inequalities, so it is a very important issue locally. It is therefore proposed to undertake an HIA of the SAD and AAP, which will be integrated with the SA. The SA Framework has been designed to identify potential negative and positive effects on health, arising from the options and proposals under consideration. The results of SA will therefore identify potential negative effects health which may have to be addressed through mitigation, as well as areas where land use policy might be able to improve health.
-	Inset Map	See Area Action Plan (AAP) and Policies Map. This is the term used to describe the map that shows sites allocated or designated in an Area Action Plan (AAP). Where there are Inset Maps, these are shown as blank areas on the planning authority's main Policies Map.

Abbreviation	Term	What it Means
JSNA	Joint Strategic Needs Assessment	Local authorities and public health authorities are required by law to produce a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). The main purposes of the JSNA are to identify the current and future health and wellbeing needs of the local population, to inform the policies and priorities of local authorities and their partners, and to agree health and social care commissioning priorities that will improve outcomes and reduce health inequalities. The JSNA is required to look at short-term and long-term health trends, referring to relevant data and the views of local people on the key issues and priorities for health.
LDF	Local Development Framework	See also Development Plan, Development Plan Document, Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Document. The Local Development Framework (LDF) was a term previously used to describe a "folder" or "portfolio" of adopted (approved) land use plans covering particular authority area. The LDF can include a range of different plans, including "saved" policies from an old-style development plan (such as the Walsall UDP), adopted development plan documents (DPDs), a statement of community involvement (SCI) and supplementary planning documents (SPDs) which expand on "saved" policies in old plans or adopted DPDs.
-	Local Plan	See also Development Plan and Development Plan Document (DPD). Local Plan is the term used in the NPPF to describe a statutory development plan prepared by a local or strategic planning authority. The Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS) and "saved" policies of the Walsall UDP 2005 have Local Plan status. The Walsall SAD and AAP will also have the same status when they are adopted. Under the previous planning system (2004), planning authorities were required to prepare separate plans covering strategic and local planning issues – see Local Development Framework (LDF). However, under the current system (2011), planning authorities can now prepare a single area-wide Local Plan if they wish.

Abbreviation	Term	What it Means
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework	The main national policy guidance document on planning and development, which has replaced most of the previous planning policy guidance notes and statements (the only exceptions being PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management and several Minerals Policy Guidance Notes). The NPPF has introduced a "presumption in favour of sustainable development" which is defined as development complying with the guidance in the document. The NPPF is supplemented by Technical Guidance on minerals and flood risk and other informal guidance notes.
PPP	Plans, Programmes and Policies	A term used to describe all existing policy documents relevant to the content of a new plan or programme requiring sustainability appraisal (SA), which will have a bearing on the policies and proposals in the plan, such as identifying key objectives the plan needs to address, setting the framework for the plan, establishing a requirement for the plan to be produced, or limiting its scope. These documents may form part of a hierarchy of plans, policies and programmes in terms of their scope and coverage (i.e. international, national, regional, sub-regional and local).
-	Policies Map	See Development Plan Document (DPD) and Local Plan. Formerly called a Proposals Map, this is the term now used to describe a map covering the whole of a planning authority's area, showing sites that are allocated or designated in a Development Plan Document (DPD) / Local Plan. The map has to be on an Ordnance Survey base, usually at a fairly small scale, because it has to cover the whole of the authority's area. Sites allocated or designated in an Area Action Plan (AAP) are not shown on the main Policies Map, but on a separate Inset Map which is usually at a bigger scale. Where there are Inset Maps, these are shown as blank areas on the main Policies Map.

Abbreviation	Term	What it Means
PSED	Public Sector Equality Duty	This is a legal duty for the Council under the Equality Act 2010, which came into effect in April 2011. Under the duty, all public bodies, including Walsall Council, must pay due regard to the implications of their decisions for equality, including the potential effects on people with "protected characteristics." The Council is required not only to eliminate negative outcomes, but also to consider potentially positive ones. An important way of demonstrating that the Council has paid due regard to the duty is through "equality analysis." Walsall Council's approach to this is to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) when considering implementing new policies, procedures and services, or changes to existing ones. See EqIA for further details.
RC	Regeneration Corridors	See Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS) and Strategic Centres (SC). The regeneration corridors are the main areas where housing and employment development and growth is expected to take place in the Black Country up to 2026, forming the main elements of the BCCS "growth network." The sixteen regeneration corridors are based on major transport corridors, linking the four strategic centres to each other and to other important locations such as district and local centres. Five regeneration corridors are either wholly or partly in Walsall Borough: RC5: Loxdale - Moxley, RC6: Darlaston – Willenhall - Wednesfield, RC7: Bloxwich – Birchills - Bescot, RC8: Hill Top and RC15: Brownhills.
SAD	Site Allocations Document	A development plan document (DPD) identifying site allocations and other important designations, which have clearly defined boundaries. When preparing a SAD, any new sites or amendments to existing allocated sites which will result in changes to the adopted Proposals Map must be shown. When the SAD is adopted, the Council must amend the Proposals Map to reflect these changes.

Abbreviation	Term	What it Means
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment	An assessment of the impact of certain policies, plans and programmes on the environment. European and UK legislation defines the types of documents that must be assessed, and the matters that must be examined. A SEA is mandatory for all plans that set the framework for decision-making on land use and development. As there are many overlaps between SEA and sustainability appraisal (SA), to avoid unnecessary duplication SEA is normally integrated with the sustainability appraisal (SA).
SC	Strategic Centres	See Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS) and Regeneration Corridors (RC). The strategic centres are the most important centres in the Black Country, the "hubs" of the BCCS "growth network," linked to each other and to other important locations by the sixteen regeneration corridors. The strategic centres will be the main foci for growth and development of "town centre" uses (retail, office and leisure) up to 2026. The strategic centre for Walsall Borough is Walsall Town Centre, which is the subject of the AAP.
SA	Sustainability Appraisal	An appraisal that is carried out at the start of the preparation of a DPD to ensure that the policies and proposals in the document will be sustainable. The SA is carried out at the same time as the Strategic Environmental Assessment.
-	Spatial Strategy	A strategy which establishes the pattern of future development and growth in a particular area. This is set out in the Core Strategy, and is shown in diagrammatic form on a Key Diagram. The spatial strategy for the Black Country is to focus most development and growth within a "growth network" shown on the Key Diagram. The strategy is also expressed in five related policies, CSP1 – CSP5.

Abbreviation	Term	What it Means
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document	A plan which supplements or expands on the "saved" policies in an old-style plan, such as the Walsall Unitary Development Plan, or policies in an adopted development plan document (DPD). A SPD may not allocate or identify land for development itself, although it can provide further guidance on the development of sites allocated in an adopted DPD or old-style plan.
UDP	Unitary Development Plan	See Development Plan and Local Plan. A UDP is an old-style development plan, prepared by unitary planning authorities prior to 2004. The "saved" policies in a UDP have with statutory development plan/ Local Plan status. The current Walsall UDP was adopted in 2005. In 2007, the Secretary of State determined which policies should be "saved" until replaced by new policies. Some of the "saved" UDP policies have since been replaced by the Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS). The Council has published an annotated version of the UDP showing which "saved" policies from the Walsall UDP are still in place. The site allocations on the UDP Proposals Map and Walsall Town Centre Inset Map have not changed, but will be reviewed and replaced by a new Policies Map and a new Town Centre Inset Map which will form part of the SAD and AAP. The AAP will also replace the UDP policies for Walsall Town Centre.

APPENDIX B

Summary of Information for SEA Environmental Reports

Annex I of SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)
Schedule 2 of SEA Regulations 2004 (SI 2004 No. 1633)

1. An outline of the contents and main objectives of the plan or programme, and of its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes.

2. The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme.

3. The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.

4. Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds and the Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC as amended).

5. The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.

6. The likely significant effects on the environment, including short, medium and long-term effects, permanent and temporary effects, positive and negative effects, and secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects, on issues such as –
   a) biodiversity;
   b) population;
   c) human health;
   d) fauna;
   e) flora;

f) soil;

g) water;

h) air;

i) climatic factors;

j) material assets;

k) cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage;

l) landscape; and

m) the inter-relationship between the issues referred to in sub-paragraphs (a) to (l).

7. The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme.

8. An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information.

9. A description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with regulation 17.

10. A non-technical summary of the information provided under paragraphs 1 to 9.

APPENDIX C

Walsall Council Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) Form:
Policies, Procedures and Services
(June 2012)

Date proposal started		
Date proposal completed (due or actual date)		

Proposal name	
Directorate	
Service	
Responsible Officer	

1	What is the purpose of the proposal?	Yes / No	New / revision
	Policy		
	Procedure		
	Internal service		
	External service		
	Other - give detail		

2	**What are the intended outcomes, reasons for change, who it is intended to benefit and how the proposal can impact on equality groups?**

3	**Summarise your business case, engagement and consultation.**

4	**How does the proposal help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act?**

5	**How does the proposal help to advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it;**

6	**How does the proposal help to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.**

7	**Does your proposal impact on any other service that jointly could have a severe impact on particular equality groups? If yes, give details**	**Yes / No**

8	What justifiable action does the evidence, engagement and consultation suggest you take?	Yes / No
A	No major change required	
B	Adjustments needed to remove barriers or to better promote equality	
C	Continue despite possible adverse impact	
D	Stop and rethink your proposal	

Action and Monitoring plan

Ref	Date	Action	Responsibility	Timescale	Outcome	