

## Appendix D

## SAD &amp; AAP - Revised SA Framework (July 2015): Revised SA Criteria and Indicators - Summary

(Revisions shown as follows: additional text underlined, text deleted struck through)

SA Topics	Relevant SEA Topics	Revised SA Objectives – July 2015	Revised SA Criteria and Indicators – July 2015	Reasons for Revisions
<b>1: Air Quality</b>	Air Climatic Factors Human Health <u>Material Assets</u>	<del>Minimise</del> <u>Reduce</u> emissions of potentially harmful air pollutants from new development in Walsall and exposure of "sensitive receptors" to poor air quality in the parts of Walsall Borough where <u>monitoring shows that</u> the national air quality objectives for <u>nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>)</u> are not being met <u>and/ or that there are high levels of other potentially harmful air pollutants</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are options likely to generate significant levels of NO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere?</li> <li>• Are options likely to generate significant amounts of other pollutants?</li> <li>• Do options involve uses likely to be harmed by exposure to high levels of NO<sub>2</sub> (e.g. in areas where limit values are already exceeded) <u>or other harmful pollutants (such as other oxides of nitrogen and particulate matter)?</u></li> </ul>	Third Criterion has been revised to reflect Revisions to SA Objective, which now addresses exposure of "sensitive receptors" to all potentially harmful pollutants rather than just nitrogen dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> ). Therefore, the Revised Criterion will assess potential exposure to all pollutants.
<b>2: Biodiversity and Geodiversity</b>	<u>Air</u> Biodiversity Flora Fauna Landscape <u>Water</u>	Conserve, protect, enhance and restore Walsall's biodiversity and geodiversity by ensuring that new development <u>contributes towards the establishment of coherent and resilient ecological networks, makes provision for enhancement of biodiversity and geological conservation wherever possible, and does not harm the integrity of European Sites or cause further loss, harm or deterioration of designated sites or other important wildlife habitats and geological features, and by identifying opportunities for new habitat creation or compromise existing ecological networks</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How will options affect protected species?</li> <li>• How will options affect European Sites and other sites designated for their national or local importance for biodiversity or geodiversity?</li> <li>• How will options affect other important wildlife habitats such as priority habitats identified in the BAP, or geological features?</li> <li>• How will options <u>affect existing ecological networks or contribute towards the development of the BCCS "environmental infrastructure network,"</u> such as the inclusion and protection inclusion of natural greenspace?</li> </ul>	Third Criterion has been revised to reflect Revisions to SA Objective, which now addresses potential impacts on existing ecological networks, as well as the extent to which they would contribute positively towards the development of the BCCS green infrastructure network. Revised Criterion will therefore also assess effects of options on existing networks.
<b>3: Climate Change</b>	Air Climatic Factors Material Assets Water	<del>Minimise</del> <u>Reduce</u> Walsall's contribution towards climate change and adapt to the unavoidable effects of climate change on the Borough, by promoting <del>low carbon/ low emission</del> developments <u>that avoid, reduce or minimise emissions of harmful greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>),</u> and by identifying opportunities to mitigate the anticipated effects on key infrastructure and other important assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are options likely to generate significant levels of CO<sub>2</sub> or other "greenhouse gases"?</li> <li>• How will options impact on vulnerability of existing or proposed infrastructure and development to the unavoidable effects of climate change?</li> <li>• How will options contribute towards the BCCS "environmental infrastructure network," such as inclusion of environmental assets likely to improve resilience to climate change effects?</li> </ul>	No Revisions to Criteria and Indicators as they include consideration of all greenhouse gas emissions and are therefore sufficient to assess the effects of Options on meeting the Revised SA Objective.

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<b>4: Communities and Population</b>	Human Health Population Material Assets	Support the development of strong, sustainable and inclusive communities in Walsall by developing <u>high quality well designed</u> housing that <del>reflects</del> <u>meets current and future</u> housing needs in locations that <u>support the transition to a low carbon future and are resilient to the unavoidable effects of climate change, have a good standard of amenity and are accessible to existing and planned employment areas and social infrastructure; enable the development of appropriately located new social infrastructure where there is a need, and by ensuring ensure</u> that other new developments will have a positive effect on the quality of life for local communities, <u>and will not be harmful to their amenity, health and well-being</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <del>Are options likely to improve the attractiveness of Walsall as a place to live, encouraging people to stay or move into the area?</del></li> <li>• <u>Does the quantity and quality of housing meet identified needs?</u></li> <li>• How will options affect the amenity, quality of life and wellbeing of existing local communities?</li> <li>• Are options likely to help reduce poverty and deprivation affecting the western and central parts of the Borough?</li> <li>• <del>Will options help to deliver high quality market and affordable housing to meet BCCS requirements, particularly in areas of local housing need?</del></li> <li>• Will options help to deliver housing in locations that meet BCCS and UDP standards for accessibility to jobs, shops, open spaces and other essential social infrastructure?</li> </ul>	Revisions to Criteria and Indicators to reflect Revisions to SA Objective. First Criterion relating to improving attractiveness of area has been removed as this is covered by other SA Objectives. Fifth Criterion relating to housing delivery has been moved to First Criterion and amended to specifically address effects on meeting local housing requirements.
<b>5: Cultural Heritage</b>	Cultural Heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage Landscape	Conserve, protect and enhance Walsall’s cultural heritage by encouraging better management of conservation areas and historic parks and gardens, by identifying appropriate, viable and beneficial uses for vacant historic buildings, and by ensuring that new development does not compromise the quality or character of heritage assets and their settings or destroy features or archaeology of national or local importance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are options likely to enhance and/ or encourage better management of conservation areas, particularly those areas on the “at risk” register?</li> <li>• Are options likely to help conserve buildings of architectural or historic interest, including Great Barr Hall which is "at risk," and other vacant/ derelict historic buildings (<u>e.g. Highgate Brewery</u>), by identifying appropriate and viable new uses for them?</li> <li>• Are options likely to encourage appropriate management of historic parks and gardens, including Great Barr Park which is "at risk"?</li> <li>• How will options affect archaeological sites/ remains, including Scheduled Monuments and other sites identified on the <del>Black Country HERS</del> <u>Wolverhampton and Walsall HER</u>?</li> <li>• How will options contribute towards the BCCS “environmental infrastructure network,” such as the inclusion and protection of important heritage assets and their settings?</li> </ul>	Revisions to Second and Fourth Criteria to reflect the need to measure effects on identifying solutions for important vacant buildings (example given), and the need to amend the reference to the Historic Environment Record (HER), which now covers Wolverhampton and Walsall only.

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<b>6: Economy and Centres</b>	Population Material Assets	Promote sustainable, low carbon economic growth and retain businesses and jobs in Walsall by identifying and safeguarding sufficient land for employment and training of the right quality in <u>appropriate and accessible</u> locations to meet the needs of local businesses and potential investors, <u>without compromising the amenity of local communities or the operation of other businesses, by helping to address barriers to sustainable economic growth and investment where possible, such as providing new infrastructure where it is needed to support existing and future businesses</u> , and by identifying opportunities for retail, office and leisure development in centres to meet anticipated requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How will options support business growth, investment and job retention or creation within the Borough, particularly in sectors not currently well represented?</li> <li>• How will options improve access to education and vocational training for the local workforce, particularly young people?</li> <li>• How will options affect BCCS requirements for provision of readily available employment land suitable for development with B1b, B1c, B2 and B8 uses, <u>or help deliver the infrastructure needed to support industrial development and economic growth in Walsall Borough?</u></li> <li>• How will options impact directly on the environment and on the amenity, health and well-being of local communities from air pollution, noise and other potential nuisances?</li> <li>• How will options help local businesses to diversify and move towards a sustainable, low carbon economy?</li> <li>• How will options support the delivery and retention of “town centre” uses of an appropriate type and scale in the <u>Town Centre and Local Centres</u>, including the delivery of the BCCS requirements for new comparison shopping and office floorspace in the Town Centre?</li> </ul>	Third Criterion has been revised to reflect Revisions to SA Objective, which now includes making provision for the infrastructure needed to support existing and future businesses, where a need has been identified hence the Criterion needs to assess the effects on provision of such infrastructure.
<b>7: Equality and Diversity</b>	Human Health Population Material Assets	Reduce <del>inequality</del> <u>inequalities</u> which result from <u>social-economic disadvantage</u> by ensuring that the diverse needs of communities in Walsall are <del>considered when planning housing and other developments to be used by the public, by ensuring that specific needs are addressed where possible, by supporting development that would help reduce poverty and social and economic deprivation, and by improving access to key services and facilities met by planned housing and other developments, and ensure that groups or individuals with protected characteristics, as defined in the Equalities Act 2010, do not suffer direct or indirect discrimination as a result of policies that are included or omitted, including ensuring that developments intended for use specifically by protected or disadvantaged groups, or by them in conjunction with others, are in accessible locations, which are not exposed to significant environmental problems and are likely to be resilient to climate change effects</del>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are options likely to have different impacts on people with "protected characteristics," compared to people in general?</li> <li>• How will options help to deliver the BCCS <del>caravan pitch</del> requirements for <u>sites for gypsies, travellers and travelling show people</u>, and other special housing requirements identified in local housing needs assessments?</li> <li>• How will options help to reduce inequality, poverty and social and economic deprivation for local communities, particularly communities with a high proportion of vulnerable groups, <u>for example by ensuring that sites provided to meet specific needs are not exposed to unacceptable environmental problems or vulnerable to climate change effects?</u></li> <li>• How will options promote inclusive communities by ensuring that any new jobs, shops, open spaces and social infrastructure provided are accessible to all people living in the communities they are meant to serve?</li> </ul>	Second and Third Criteria revised for clarification. Second Criterion Revised to clarify that we are assessing effects on delivery of sites for gypsies, travellers and travelling show people rather than pitches. Third Criterion revised to clarify that we are assessing potential differential effects of locating sites aimed at meeting specific needs in potentially vulnerable locations.

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<b>8: Health and Wellbeing</b>	<u>Air</u> Human Health <u>Landscape</u> <u>Material Assets</u> Population <u>Soil</u> <u>Water</u>	Improve the health and well-being of Walsall residents and address health inequalities by ensuring that new development supports healthy lifestyles and wellbeing and does not present unacceptable risks to <u>the health, safety and well-being of local communities and people who visit Walsall for work, shopping or leisure, by developing new health and social care infrastructure where there is a need</u> , and by ensuring that health and social care facilities are accessible to those they are meant to serve <u>and are likely to be resilient to climate change effects</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How are options likely to affect the general health and well-being of Walsall residents, particularly in parts of the Borough where there are high levels of health problems?</li> <li>• Are options likely to increase risks to <del>human</del> <u>the health, safety and well-being of residents or those who visit Walsall for work, shopping or leisure, from existing and potential environmental problems or hazards, or from potential new hazards?</u></li> <li>• Are options likely to encourage healthy and active lifestyles by improving access to sport and recreational facilities or incorporating opportunities for walking and cycling?</li> <li>• Are options likely to ensure that health and social care facilities are provided <u>where there is a need, and that such facilities will be appropriately located, on sites that are accessible to the people they are meant to serve and will not be potentially vulnerable to risks from climate change (e.g. from flooding)?</u></li> </ul>	Second and Fourth Criteria revised to reflect Revisions to SA Objective, and for clarification. Revisions to Second Criterion are to clarify that effects on health and safety risks for visitors to Walsall will be assessed as well as risks to Walsall residents. Revised Fourth Criterion will include assessment of effects on delivery of new health and social care facilities in appropriate locations, avoiding areas likely to be vulnerable to climate change effects.
<b>9: Landscape and Townscape</b>	<u>Cultural Heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage</u> <u>Flora</u> <u>Fauna,</u> Landscape <u>Material Assets</u> <u>Soil</u> <u>Water</u>	Conserve, protect and enhance the landscape and townscape by developing an environmental infrastructure network for Walsall that protects valued areas and provides opportunities to improve areas of lesser quality, and by ensuring that new development is well designed, of a type and scale appropriate to its surroundings, and respects the character of buildings, spaces and other features where they contribute positively to the environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are options likely to adversely affect the openness and permanence of the Green Belt?</li> <li>• How will options contribute towards the BCCS “environmental infrastructure network,” such as the inclusion and protection of locally valued areas of landscape and townscape?</li> <li>• Are options likely to contribute positively towards landscape and townscape, by respecting and enhancing locally distinctive buildings, features and spaces, or improving areas where the landscape or townscape is of poor quality?</li> </ul>	No Revisions to Criteria and Indicators as no revisions have been made to the SA Objective.

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<b>10: Material Resources</b>	<p><u>Climatic Factors</u>  <u>Human Health</u>                      Material Assets  <u>Soil</u>  <u>Water</u></p>	<p>Use Walsall’s material resources prudently and efficiently <del>and in ways that will protect the environment and human health</del>, by safeguarding mineral resources and mineral and waste infrastructure, by addressing identified mineral supply requirements, by supporting proposals <del>likely to that would</del> reduce waste and <del>provide the infrastructure needed to manage unavoidable waste arising in Walsall in ways that will make optimum use of resources and divert as much as possible away from landfill</del> <u>manage unavoidable waste in accordance with the “waste hierarchy,” and by enabling the provision of the infrastructure needed for treatment, transfer and disposal of waste and manufacture and distribution of mineral products in appropriate locations, where operations will not endanger human health, or cause unacceptable harm to the environment, or the amenity and wellbeing of local communities</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How are options likely to affect mineral resources and <u>existing</u> mineral and waste infrastructure, including infrastructure for bulk transport of materials by rail?</li> <li>• How are options likely to maintain supplies of mineral resources needed to support the local economy and contribute towards <u>sub-regional the requirements for waste and mineral development identified in the BCCS?</u></li> <li>• Are options likely to minimise waste and facilitate management of unavoidable waste arising in Walsall <u>in accordance with the “waste hierarchy” i.e. in ways that will divert as much waste away from landfill as possible and optimise the use of resource?</u></li> <li>• <u>Are options likely to deliver new waste treatment, transfer and disposal infrastructure, and new mineral development, in appropriate locations, where harmful impacts on health and the environment can be avoided?</u></li> </ul>	<p>Criteria and Indicators have been amended to reflect Revisions to SA Objective and for clarification. Amendments to the First and Third Criteria are to clarify that we will assess effects on existing infrastructure and management of waste in accordance with the “waste hierarchy,” in line with revised national policy guidance. Amendments to the Second and Fourth Criteria are aimed at assessing effects on meeting the requirements identified in the BCCS, which are what the SAD is expected to address.</p>
<b>11: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy</b>	<p>Climatic Factors                      Material Assets  <u>Population</u></p>	<p>Reduce Walsall’s reliance on non-renewable, carbon based energy sources, by minimising energy consumption, by increasing the capacity available to generate energy and fuel from renewable and low carbon sources <u>including waste that cannot be re-used or recycled, by identifying opportunities for co-location of new energy generating infrastructure near to complementary land uses where there is scope to use residual heat</u>, and by delivering more affordable, secure and reliable supplies of energy to local communities and businesses <u>in ways that will not generate harmful pollutants or have other adverse effects on the environment, and will be resilient to climate change effects</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are options likely to help reduce Walsall’s energy and fuel consumption, particularly from sources that generate significant CO<sub>2</sub> emissions such as housing, businesses and transport?</li> <li>• Are options likely to increase Walsall’s capacity to generate energy and fuel from renewable and low carbon sources?</li> <li>• <u>Would options have potential to contribute towards the development of “district heating” networks, for example, would they generate residual heat which could be exported to adjacent developments, or could they use residual heat generated by adjacent developments?</u></li> <li>• Are options likely to improve access to more affordable and reliable energy supplies for local households and businesses?</li> </ul>	<p>New Criterion added to reflect Revisions to the SA Objective. The new Criterion will assess effects on delivery of “district” heating networks/ opportunities for co-location of energy generators near potential “customers” for residual heat and power, in line with revised national policy guidance.</p>

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<b>12: Soil and Ground Conditions</b>	<p><u>Human Health</u> Material Assets Soil <u>Water</u></p>	<p>Maintain and improve the quality of Walsall's soils and land, by <u>avoiding development of greenfield land, including the "best and most versatile" agricultural land, where previously-developed land or lesser quality greenfield land is available, and</u> by encouraging development that <del>uses</del> <u>likely to use soils, land and buildings efficiently, re-use or recycle construction, demolition and excavation wastes, or</u> and brings previously developed and derelict land back into beneficial use, and by ensuring that new development deals with existing contamination and geotechnical problems and does not exacerbate existing problems or cause such problems on land not already affected</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How are options likely to affect the quality of soils and the ecosystems that depend on them?</li> <li>• Are options likely to affect agricultural land within Walsall, and if so, what effect would they have on the "best and most versatile" agricultural land?</li> <li>• Are options likely to make efficient use of land, such as re-use of previously-developed land and existing buildings <u>rather than greenfield land, and efficient use of materials, such as construction and demolition wastes?</u></li> <li>• Are options likely to increase risks to human health or the environment from existing contamination or geotechnical problems or by creating new problems?</li> </ul>	<p>Third Criterion revised to reflect Revisions to SA Objective. Revised Criterion will assess effects of development on objectives to develop on previously-developed land in preference to good quality greenfield land, and the need to apply the "waste hierarchy" when considering options that may involve generation of construction, demolition and excavation wastes.</p>
<b>13: Transport and Accessibility</b>	<p>Air <u>Climatic Factors</u> Human Health Material Assets Population</p>	<p>Deliver the transport infrastructure required to improve connectivity, reduce congestion and support economic growth in Walsall <u>and adjoining parts of the West Midlands urban area, reduce the vulnerability of transport infrastructure to climate change effects,</u> reduce the impacts of transport on the environment and on the <u>health,</u> amenity and well-being of local communities, and ensure that new employment and social infrastructure is accessible to local people by a choice of transport modes, and encourages them to make smarter and healthier transport choices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How are options likely to <u>impact on delivery of transport projects identified in the BCCS and West Midlands Local Transport Plan, and local policy objectives to</u> improve connectivity within Walsall and between Walsall and wider transport networks?</li> <li>• How are options likely to help reduce congestion on road and rail networks, for example, by improving the flow of traffic and efficiency of train services?</li> <li>• <u>Are options likely to help reduce or minimise the vulnerability of transport infrastructure to climate change effects?</u></li> <li>• Are options likely to help mitigate the harmful effects of road and rail transport on the environment and on the <u>health,</u> amenity and well-being of local communities (e.g. air quality, noise, safety)?</li> <li>• Are options likely to improve the efficiency and sustainability of freight movements by enabling goods and services to be moved by rail or inland waterway?</li> <li>• Are options likely to encourage people to make smarter, healthier transport choices, such as using public transport or cycling and walking for shorter journeys?</li> <li>• Are options likely to provide jobs, shopping facilities and other key facilities and services in centres or in other locations accessible to the communities they are meant to serve by a choice of transport modes?</li> </ul>	<p>Amendments to Criteria to reflect Revisions to SA Objective and for clarification. Revisions to First Criterion are to relate it more specifically to effects on delivery of transport projects identified in the BCCS and West Midlands Local Transport Plan, and objectives of the Walsall Transport Strategy to improve connectivity within the borough and beyond. New Criterion has been added to assess effects on vulnerability of transport infrastructure to climate change effects. Revision to Third (now Fourth) Criterion is to clarify that effects on health will be assessed as well as effects on amenity and well-being.</p>

SA Topics	Relevant SEA Topics	Revised SA Objectives – July 2015	Revised SA Criteria and Indicators – July 2015	Reasons for Revisions
<b>14: Water Environment</b>	<u>Climatic Factors</u> Material Assets <u>Soil</u> Water	Conserve and protect Walsall’s water resources, maintain water quality and reduce the risk of flooding, by minimising water consumption, by avoiding development in areas where water resources are present or areas at risk of flooding, by ensuring that new development will not have adverse impacts on hydrology <u>or water treatment and supply infrastructure, including increasing the vulnerability of such infrastructure to climate change effects, and that any waste water likely to be generated by new development</u> can be managed in ways that minimise the risk of flooding and pollution of surface and groundwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are options likely to require abstraction of significant quantities of water or increase water consumption?</li> <li>• How are options likely to affect important water resources (e.g. Primary Aquifers and Groundwater Source Protection Zones)?</li> <li>• <u>How are options likely to affect existing or planned waste water treatment infrastructure or potable water treatment and supply infrastructure, for example, by increasing vulnerability to climate change effects?</u></li> <li>• How are options likely to affect the water quality status of Walsall’s surface water bodies or groundwater, and are they likely to prevent further deterioration of water quality status?</li> <li>• Are options likely to increase the risk of flooding from drains, culverts or groundwater?</li> <li>• Are options in locations likely to be at risk of flooding, and if so, are the risks acceptable?</li> </ul>	New Criterion has been added to reflect Revisions to SA Objective. This Criterion has been added to assess effects on vulnerability of water treatment and supply infrastructure to climate change, and other potential impacts of options on water treatment and supply infrastructure.