



# Annual Monitoring Report 2009





# Executive Summary

## Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report

1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009

### 1. Introduction

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act requires every local planning authority to produce an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for submission to the Secretary of State.

This is the fifth Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for the Knowsley Local Development Framework (LDF). It covers the period from 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009. It describes the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of Knowsley and progress on key planning objectives such as housing delivery, town centre regeneration and economic development. It also contains information on the effectiveness of policies within the Replacement Knowsley Unitary Development Plan and progress on the preparation of the Local Development Framework.

### 2. The Borough of Knowsley

The Borough of Knowsley contains the four main townships of Huyton, Kirkby, Prescott/Whiston and Halewood together with the smaller villages of Cronton and Knowsley Village and extensive countryside areas designated as Green Belt. Chapter 2 of the AMR contains a description of each of these areas and their role in the Liverpool City Region.

### 3. Knowsley in 2009

#### Population and deprivation

The population of Knowsley has been in decline for 25 years but has stabilised over the last 10 to 15 years. The population is projected to increase over the coming years, but the structure of the population is changing to a more aging population. Although life expectancy has increased, the Borough is ranked among the worst in the Country. In the 2001 Census, almost ¼ of residents said that they had a limiting long-term illness. An increasing aging population may make this problem worse.

Despite significant progress made in recent years, Knowsley is still ranked high in all measures of deprivation. It has a high crime rate compared to many other areas and a low measure of educational attainment. Although educational attainment continues to increase, the level for the Borough is still among the lowest in the country. The level of educational attainment for boys is particularly low.

Households in the Borough are comparatively large with a high proportion containing dependant children and lone parent households. The number of households in Knowsley is projected to rise by 7,000 over the Local Development Framework plan period.

#### Housing needs and housing delivery

The Council commissioned a housing needs study in 2007 which concluded that there is a strong indication of an affordability problem in Knowsley. The Study found that 9.7% of residents consider their homes to be inadequate of whom 57.6% said that they could not afford to move to a home of suitable size. The study found that some types of accommodation were in surplus in some areas of the Borough while in deficit in other areas. The Council has commissioned a refresh of the housing needs study using data for the 2008 – 2009 financial year. Although the report is yet to be finalised, early indications show that there is still an affordability problem in Knowsley. In 2008/9, 34 affordable dwellings were completed and 124 were demolished.

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A total 309 dwellings were completed in 2008/9. All of the dwellings were in accessible locations and 97% were on land that had previously been developed.

The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the North West was published in 2008. It required that new housing completions should total an average of at least 450 dwelling completions per year from 2003 until 2021. This figure is net i.e. in addition to demolition replacements. To date (i.e. from 2003 up to 2009) there has been shortfall of 1,517 net dwelling completions compared to the RSS requirement for this period. This has been largely due to there having been a large number of demolitions in Action Areas (primarily North Huyton) and a downturn in the economy.

In order to meet the 2008 RSS requirement, an average of 592 dwellings will have to be built each year from 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2021. This includes the 450 requirement in the RSS, plus an allowance to make up the shortfall from 2003-2009, plus a further allowance for replacement of anticipated demolitions. The AMR has identified sufficient land to accommodate over 4,200 dwellings on sites allocated in the Unitary Development Plan or which have planning permission for new dwellings. The bulk of these can be delivered in the next five years i.e. from April 2009 until March 2014. If 592 dwellings were to be built each year, sufficient land will be available for over 7 years.

A Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) is currently being developed in partnership with Sefton and West Lancashire Councils. The draft SHLAA<sup>(1)</sup> was published in June for a 6 week consultation period. The draft findings identified a 5-year deliverable supply of housing land and a further supply of "developable" housing land within the urban area. The total amount of land identified equates to under 10 years supply in total which is well short of the 15 year supply needed for the Local Development Framework Core Strategy.

As part of its Local Development Framework, the Council has published a Core Strategy Issues and Options paper<sup>(2)</sup>. This will be subject to public consultation between November 2009 and January 2010. This identifies three strategic options which will address the shortfall of land for housing development in different ways.

The submitted draft of the North West Plan Partial Review requires Knowsley to identify land for ten permanent pitches and five transit Gypsies and Travellers pitches before 2016. There are currently no permanent or transit pitches in the Borough. The Local Development Framework will need to consider how and where site(s) for Gypsies and Travellers can be provided.

### Employment and the Economy

54,840 of the Borough's residents are in employment. Generally, pay levels for residents are lower than in other Boroughs. The average house price is 4.8 times the average annual pay for a full-time worker.

Car ownership is low in Knowsley but the Borough has a high proportion of persons travelling to work by car. A high proportion of people who work in the Borough live outside the Borough. A high proportion of residents who work are employed outside of the Borough. This suggests that there is a mismatch between jobs provided and resident's skills. It also indicates a possible significant contribution to carbon emissions with resultant impact on climate change and lowering of air quality.

The Borough has 146.6 ha of land that is allocated in the Knowsley replacement UDP for employment purposes or which has planning permission for employment uses. The Council has, in partnership with Sefton, West Lancashire and Halton Councils been working on a

1 Knowsley MBC: Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment - consultation draft, WYG June 2009

2 Knowsley Local Development Framework Core Strategy: Issues and Option paper, November 2009

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joint Employment Land and Premises study. The draft study<sup>(3)</sup> states that only 83 ha is available or will be available for employment development within three years. The study concluded that the Local Development Framework will need to identify an additional 95 to 111 ha of additional employment land for the period up to 2026. It also stated, however, that up to 63 hectares could be provided through the remodelling of the existing employment areas. The LDF Core Strategy Issues and Options Paper sets out options to address the shortage of employment land.

### Town centres and retailing

Knowsley's town centres perform a valuable shopping function for local residents. They do, however, suffer from high levels of 'leakage' of expenditure to other centres. The Local Development Framework will have to consider how the vitality and viability of the town centres can be enhanced. Knowsley also has 20 smaller local centres plus a number of smaller parades some of which are experiencing difficulties. A key issue for the Council to address is how a sustainable and successful future for Knowsley's local shopping centres and parades can be ensured.

### Environmental issues and waste management

The Borough contains 4,644 ha of land that is designated as Green Belt. This represents 54% of the Borough. The Borough also contains a large number of open spaces including some maintained to Green Flag standard. The quality of the rivers in the Borough has improved in the last year and there are no Air Quality Management Areas. The Local Development Framework will need to consider the effect that development has on the environment

Last year, almost 75% of municipal waste generated in Knowsley was disposed of by landfill. The Local Development Framework will need to consider ways of reducing waste and encouraging re-use, recycling, composting, and energy recovery so that the amount of land fill disposal is reduced.

## **4. Effectiveness of current planning policies**

Current planning policies for Knowsley are set out in the Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West (published 2008) and the Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan (UDP - adopted in June 2006). The UDP comprised 82 policies. Under the new planning system, policies were automatically 'saved' for three years after adoption of the Plan i.e. up to June 2009 in the case of Knowsley's UDP. Policies could continue to be 'saved' beyond that date, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, provided they were still up to date and compliant with the new planning system.

The Council applied to the Secretary of State to "save" most of the policies in the UDP. In a direction dated June 2009<sup>(4)</sup>, the Secretary of State approved the extension of all but four policies. The policies which are not to be saved i.e. which no longer form part of the adopted UDP are:

- Policy H1: Strategic Housing Land Requirements;
- Policy S3: Huyton Town Centre;
- Policy S8: Location of Development for Town Centre Uses; and
- Policy T4: Major Highway Schemes

The four policies that were not 'saved' beyond June 2009 were allowed to lapse because (in the case of policy H1) the housing target of 230 completions per annum was superseded by the higher target of 450 per annum in the new RSS. In the case of policy S8 the policy was not in line with emerging changes to retail policy at the national level. Policy S3 and T4 were

3 Joint Employment Land Study Consultation Draft Report, 2009, BE Group

4 Letter from Deputy Regional Director of Government Office for the North West to Knowsley Council dated 12 June 2009 entitled "saved policies"

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allowed to lapse as the developments proposed in these policies had been completed. The Council intends that the policies which are still "saved" following the Secretary of State's direction will be replaced by policies to be set out in new LDF documents, primarily the Core Strategy and the Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Documents.

Generally the UDP policies have been successful in meeting the UDP's objectives, although further progress is needed in some areas such as town centre regeneration.

### **5. Progress on the Local Development Framework**

The preparation of the Local Development Framework is a continuous process. The Local Development Scheme (which identifies which documents are to be produced over a three year period) was last updated in 2008. More up to date information is available in a "real time" update which is kept on the Council's website. Generally, production of the Local Development Framework has progressed but there have been some necessary delays.

The Core Strategy was delayed due to further evidence gathering. The Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document will follow one year behind the Core Strategy.

A formal commitment has been agreed by the Merseyside Districts and Halton Council to produce a joint Merseyside Waste Development Plan Document (Waste DPD). The proposed Waste DPD is Merseyside's preferred approach to implementing the principles of sustainable waste management for all waste streams. It is intended to develop the joint Waste DPD towards adoption in 2012.

The Tower Hill (Kirkby) Action Area Supplementary Planning document (SPD) was adopted on 18 April 2007 but a planning application has not been submitted due to the downturn in the economy. There has however been good progress in implementing the regeneration proposals in the North Huyton Action Area Supplementary planning Document, adopted in February 2007. The SPDs covering "Greenspace Standards and New Development" and "Householder Developments" were also adopted in 2007 and are used by the Council to help determine planning applications.

It is anticipated that the Design Quality in New Development and the Ensuring a Choice of Travel SPDs will be adopted early in 2010.

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### Policy Implications

The Local Development Framework (LDF) should include policies that ensure the continued success of the Council's population stabilisation strategy. It should also aim provide a sustainable and diverse population.

Deprivation and education will need continuing policy intervention with skills and attainment levels being addressed and the underlying causes of deprivation and disadvantage being tackled

The LDF should consider if it should be meeting the employment needs of residents or encouraging all employment and why higher paid employees are choosing to live outside of the Borough.

The change in the age structure will have implications for housing, employment, and health provision. It will need to be carefully considered in the preparation of future planning policies.

The surplus of some house types in some areas and deficit in other areas needs to be addressed in the LDF.

The LDF needs to ensure that development is built in sustainable locations. It will need to decide whether the shortfall in land for housing and employment should be met on land that is currently in the Green Belt or whether a contribution from adjacent local authorities will be required to meet the shortfall towards the latter end of the period to 2026. Building in the Green Belt could affect the ability of the Council to ensure that at least 65% of new dwellings are built on Brownfield land.

More affordable accommodation is required in all sectors.

The LDF should identify site(s) that can accommodate the number of permanent and transit pitches for Gypsies and Travellers contained in the revised RSS.

The LDF will need to consider how the number of VAT registration each year can be increased.

The LDF will need to consider how a sustainable and successful future be ensured for town centres and local shopping centres and parades.

The LDF will need to ensure that if a development contributes to climate change then its effect is mitigated against. It will need to consider of ways of reducing the amount of waste being sent to landfill and how more energy can be generated from renewable sources.

The LDF will need to ensure that future development does not adversely affect the natural environment including river water, air quality, and sites of environmental importance. It will also need to ensure that future development does not adversely affect the built environment especially Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas.

The LDF will need to ensure that it supports the Merseyside Local transport Plan and the Council's Greenspace Strategy.

The LDF should consider whether the standards for greenspace provision in the urban area need to be changed. Do they reflect the up to date sporting and recreational needs of the community?

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# 1. Introduction

## Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report

1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009

**1.1** The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires every local planning authority, each year, to produce an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for submission to the Secretary of State. Government guidance on the content of AMRs is set in the document *Local Development Framework Monitoring: A Good Practice Guide, ODPM, 2005*. This document is in line with that guidance.

**1.2** This is the fifth Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for the Knowsley Local Development Framework (LDF). Although the report covers the period from 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009, in line with Department for Communities and Local Government advice, progress on the Local Development Framework subsequent to 31 March 2009 is also included.

**1.3** The purpose of the AMR is to assess the implementation of the Local Development Scheme (LDS) and to assess the extent to which policies in Local Development Documents (LDDs) are being achieved. Until the local development documents are produced, this, and subsequent reports, will monitor the effectiveness of “saved” policies from the Replacement Unitary Development Plan (adopted in June 2006).

**1.4** The format of the report is:

- The Borough of Knowsley (section 2) describes the Borough and its townships.
- Knowsley in 2009 (section 3) provides a backdrop against which the effects of policy implementation can be considered.
- Effectiveness of Current Planning Policies (section 4) considers how effective the Unitary Development Plan has been in meeting its objectives.
- Progress on the Local Development Framework (section 5) considers how effective the authority has been in implementing its Local Development Scheme.
- Conclusions (section 6) considers the implications for the Local development Framework.

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# 1 Introduction

# The Borough of Knowsley 2

## 2. The Borough of Knowsley

**2.1** The Metropolitan Borough of Knowsley came into being on 1 April 1974. It takes its name from the village of Knowsley where the Earls of Derby have lived at Knowsley Hall since the 14th century.

**2.2** In the remainder of this report, references to Knowsley refer to the Borough of Knowsley not the village of Knowsley.

**2.3** Knowsley is located between Liverpool to the west and St. Helens to the east. To the north is Sefton and West Lancashire and to the south is Halton. Knowsley's relationship to its neighbouring authorities is very important and this report reflects that fact. The Borough is well connected with the M62, M57 and A580 (East Lancashire Road) and 4 rail lines passing through the Borough, while the M58 lies just outside the northern boundary of the Borough.

**2.4** The Borough comprises a belt of towns, suburbs and countryside. The Borough covers an area of 8,620ha, of which 4,644ha is designated as Greenbelt. The largest urban areas are Kirkby, Huyton, Prescott, Whiston and Halewood. Each of Knowsley's communities has its own quite different historical background and particular characteristics.

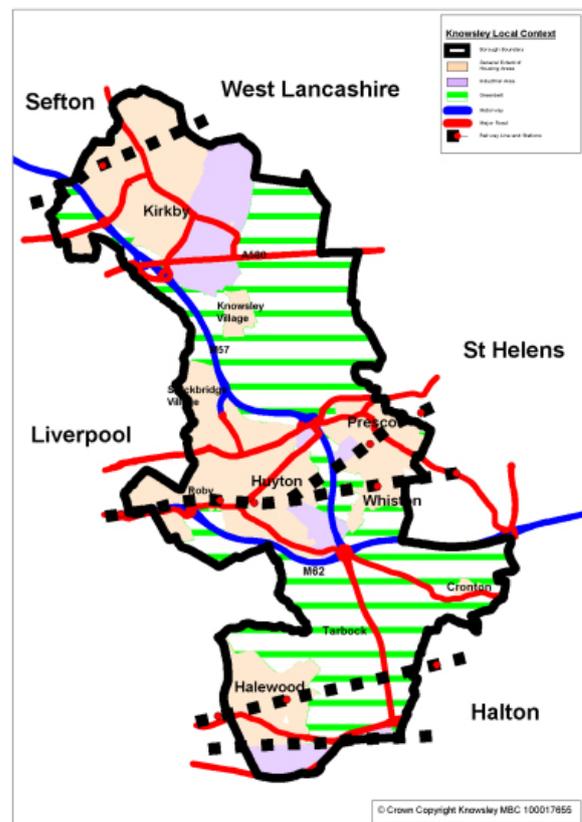
**2.5** The communities within Knowsley are, probably more so than almost any other metropolitan area, a creation of the 20th century. With the exception of Prescott and a few other smaller older settlements, the majority of the existing development in the area now known as Knowsley took place between the 1920s and the mid 1970s. Much of this expansion was as a result of Liverpool over-spill development. The trend of increasing population ceased in the early 1970s and was followed by a massive population loss in the 1980s; a much smaller loss in the 1990s; and a stabilisation of population since 2000.

### Kirkby

**2.6** Kirkby is located in the north of the Borough and forms the second largest settlement in Knowsley. It is a free standing town separated from Liverpool to the west by a narrow strip of Green Belt. It is easily accessible from the M57 and M58 motorways and is served by a station on the Liverpool / Wigan railway line and a local bus station. More than 16,700 people are employed in south Kirkby where Knowsley Business Park and Knowsley Industrial Park are located.

**2.7** Kirkby town centre was developed in the post war period and provides shops, a market and other services mainly for local residents. The town centre has had very little investment in the last 30 years, has a poor quality environment, and is currently under performing. The centre has no major anchor food store and has a very limited non-food offer which is focused towards discount stores.

**2.8** Kirkby has high levels of deprivation and is in need of urgent investment and regeneration. There are substantial regeneration opportunities in Kirkby including potential for a major new development in Kirkby Town Centre, underpinned by Everton Football Club. This is subject to the approval of the Secretary of State who is expected to make a decision



## 2 The Borough of Knowsley

by the end of November 2009. The Tower Hill housing area in Kirkby is also designated in Knowsley's Replacement Unitary Development Plan as an Action Area for comprehensive regeneration.

### Huyton

**2.9** Huyton is located in the centre of the borough and forms the largest of Knowsley's townships. It is physically connected with the eastern suburbs of Liverpool and is well connected to other areas by road, rail, and local bus services. Huyton is home to a large proportion of Knowsley's residents. It also has an important employment role as it contains the Huyton and Kings Business Parks.

**2.10** Huyton is the main administrative centre for the Borough and the town centre has a strong retail function which centres around a large Asda supermarket. There is high customer satisfaction for the range and quality of shops in the centre. There is, however, a limited evening economy and has scope for public realm improvements. Huyton also contains smaller scale shopping facilities at the district centres in Liverpool Road (North Huyton) and Stockbridge Village.

**2.11** Deprivation levels are acute in North Huyton and adjoining Stockbridge Village. A comprehensive regeneration programme being undertaken in North Huyton which includes substantial house building.

### Prescot and Whiston

**2.12** Prescot originated in mediaeval times and had a thriving urban community based on the town's watch making and cable manufacturing industries. The cable manufacturing industry has contracted in recent years, but a range of new employment opportunities have been provided, for example in the new Prescot Business Park.

**2.13** Prescot's town centre is based on an original mediaeval market town plot layout and contains many interesting old buildings and public spaces. It also contains an indoor centre built in the 1980s. Both the indoor centre and the older shops are suffering from low rental levels and high vacancy rates. The Cables retail park, located to the south of the town centre was opened in 2000. It is very successful with a large Tesco supermarket and non food retail units.

**2.14** Prescot has good transport connections, being located close to the A57 and M57, and it has a station on the Liverpool to Manchester railway line. There are significant regeneration and redevelopment opportunities in Prescot focussing on the town's heritage and the redevelopment of the former BICC Cables works on the south side of the town.

**2.15** Prescot is physically linked to Whiston which, although a mainly residential area, has an important role as the location for Whiston Hospital. Prescot and Whiston are also connected to suburban areas in St Helens to the east. Whiston does not have a town centre of its own but its close links to Prescot mean that the two towns can be regarded as a combined entity in terms of their role in the city region.

### Halewood

**2.16** Halewood is located in the south of Knowsley and benefits from proximity to Liverpool John Lennon Airport, the Manchester Warrington train line and A562 road. Halewood is smaller in size compared to the other centres however one of the borough's key employers, Jaguar Land Rover, is located here. There is a small district shopping centre at Ravenscourt, constructed in the post war period, which has become rundown and is now undergoing comprehensive regeneration. Generally, the southern parts of the borough are less deprived than the northern areas, however, concentrations of severe deprivation are still evident in the south west of Halewood. There is a need to complete the regeneration of Ravenscourt shopping area and maximise opportunities for development associated with the car plant.

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**2.17** Knowsley contains the popular tourist attractions of Knowsley Safari Park and the National Wildlife Centre. The National Wildflower Centre has received the English Tourist Board Quality Assured Visitor Attraction and the North West Tourist Board Small Visitor Attraction of the Year awards.

## 2 The Borough of Knowsley

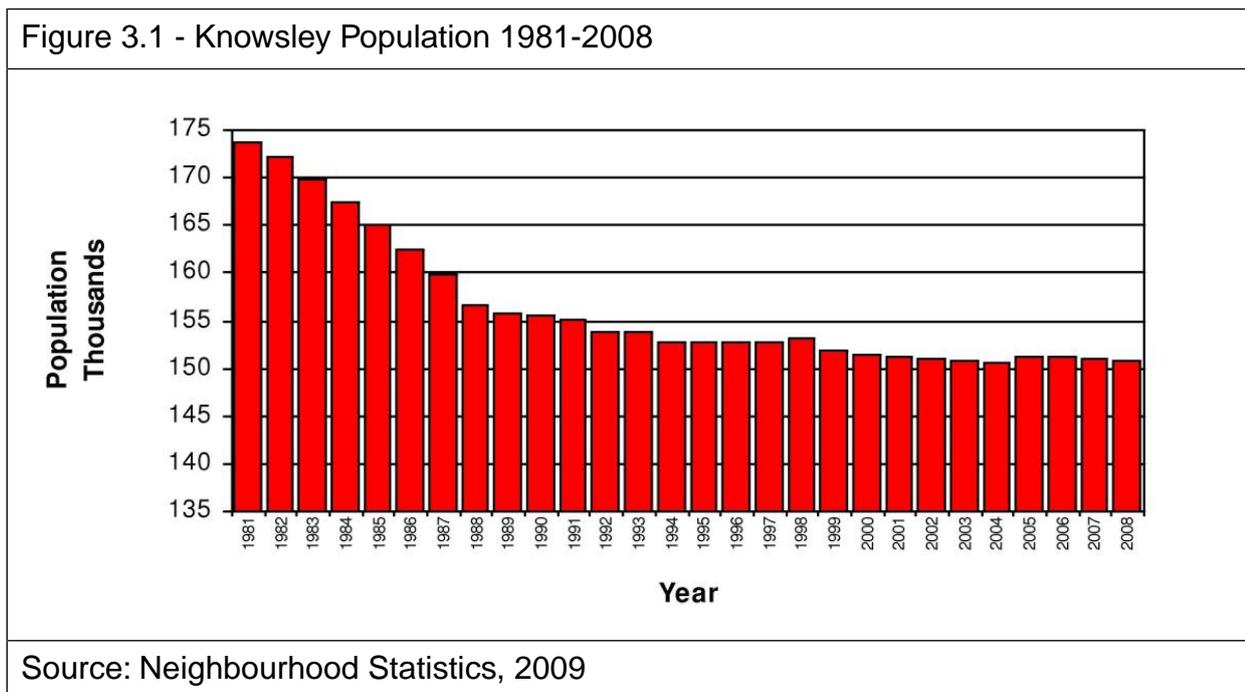
### 3. Knowsley in 2009

**3.1** This chapter summarises the state of Knowsley on key social, economic and environmental issues. It is used to measure how effective current policy has been, whether further policy intervention is required, and provide a baseline against which future changes in policy can be measured.

**3.2** This Annual Monitoring Report reports on the revised Core Output Indicators included in *Regional Spatial Strategy and Local Development Framework Core Output Indicators – Update 2/2008*. The Core Output Indicators, and where the information can be found in this report, are described within Appendix A. It also reports on Local Indicators which cover information describing the local circumstances and issues facing the Borough which are not part of the Core Output Indicators.

#### Population

**3.3** It is estimated that the population of Knowsley in June 2008 was 150,800. This is 100 less than in 2007. Figure 3.1 shows that after 25 years of significant decline, the population shows signs of stabilisation and illustrates the success of the Council's population stabilisation strategy.

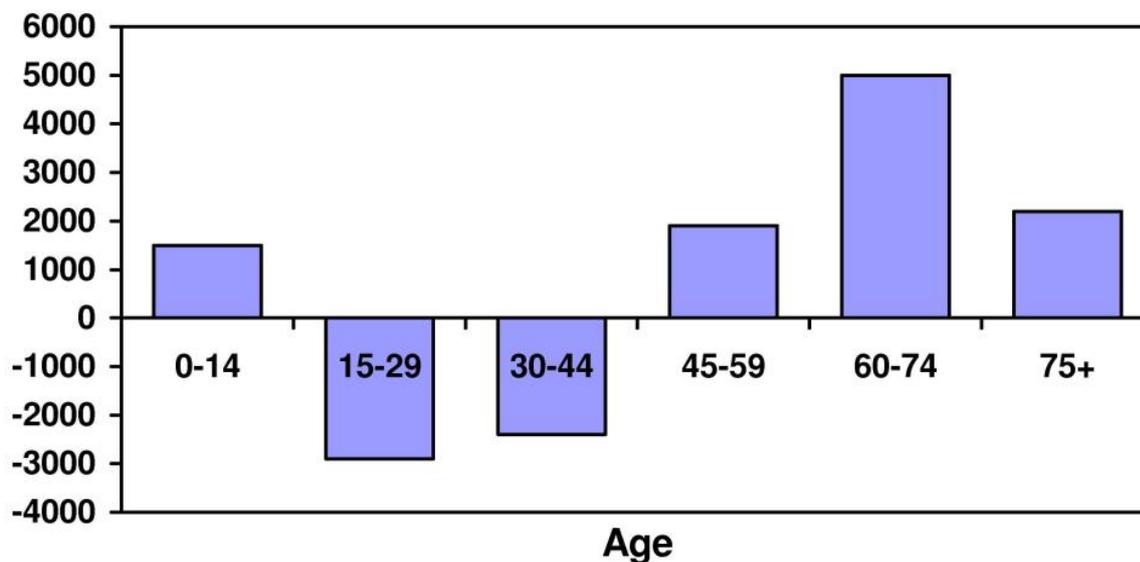


**3.4** The fall in population between 1981 and 2008 masks a significant change in the structure of the population. The number of persons aged under 20 fell by 33.4% while the number of persons aged 60+ rose by 21.7%. In 1981, 34.6 % of the population was aged under 20; by 2008 this had fallen to 26.2. The proportion of persons aged 60 plus rose from 14.4% to 20.3%.

**3.5** The 2006 based population projection, shown in Figure 3.2, indicates what will happen if past population trends continue. It is projected that by 2021 the number of persons aged under 15 will increase by 1,500. The number of persons age 15-59 is projected to fall by 3,400 while the number of persons aged 60+ is projected to increase by 7,200. If past trends continue there will, therefore, be an overall population increase of 5,300.

### 3 Knowsley in 2009

Figure 3.2 - Knowsley Population Projection 2006 to 2021



Source: Office for National Statistics, 2007

**3.6** Table 3.1 shows that the population is predominantly white (95.8%). This is significantly above the percentage for Liverpool but is in line with the rest of Merseyside.

Table 3.1 - Ethnicity (2007)

	Number (thousands)	Percentage					
		Knowsley	Halton	Liverpool	Sefton	St. Helens	Wirral
White: British	144.5	95.8	96.2	88.2	96.4	95.4	94.9
White: Non British	2.1	1.4	1.5	3.3	1.4	1.9	2.1
Mixed	1.7	1.1	0.8	2.0	0.7	0.8	0.9
Asian including Asian British	1.0	0.7	0.7	2.3	0.7	0.9	1.0
Black including Black British	0.7	0.5	0.3	2.0	0.3	0.4	0.5
Chinese	0.6	0.4	0.3	1.7	0.3	0.4	0.5
Other	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.2

Source: Resident Population Estimates by Ethnic Group, 2007

**3.7** According to the 2001 Census, 86.4% of residents said that they were either in good or fairly good health, 24.7% however said that they had a limiting long-term illness. Knowsley had the highest proportion of households in Greater Merseyside that had one or more persons with a limiting long-term illness.

## Knowsley in 2009 3

**3.8** *Life expectancy at birth by health and local authorities in the United Kingdom, 2005-2007* (ONS, 2008) gives the life expectancy for males in Knowsley as 74.9 years and for females as 79.2 years. For males this was 0.5 years higher than for the previous year while for females it was 0.2 years higher than for the previous year. In life expectancy terms, Knowsley is ranked 364th for males and 365th for females out of the 374 districts in the England and Wales.

### Deprivation

**3.9** The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is produced for the Government to identify the distribution of deprivation across the nation. Information is analysed at Super Output Area (SOA) lower level. SOAs are subdivisions of wards.

**3.10** In order to identify different types of deprivation, six measures of deprivation have been produced. For each measure, each district across England is given a rank, with a rank of 1 indicating that the district is the most deprived in the Country and 354 as the least deprived. Table 3.2 shows the ranking of the different measures for both 2004 and 2007.

Measure of Deprivation	2004 Rank	2007 Rank
Rank of employment scale - the number of people who are employment deprived.	30	45
Rank of income scale – the number of people who are income deprived.	38	50
Rank of SOA score - calculated by averaging the super output area scores in each district after they have been population weighted. This measure is useful because the more deprived neighbourhoods may have more extreme scores.	3	5
Rank of SOA rank - calculated by averaging the super output area ranks in each district after they have been population weighted. This measure is useful because it summarises the whole district, including both deprived and less deprived neighbourhoods.	8	8
Extent rank – is the proportion of a districts population living in the most deprived SOAs in the country and portrays how widespread high levels of deprivation are	8	8
Local Concentration rank – is an important way of identifying district's hotspots of deprivation and is derived from a population weighted average of the ranks of a district's most deprived SOAs containing exactly 10% of the district population	1	2
Source: Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004,2007		

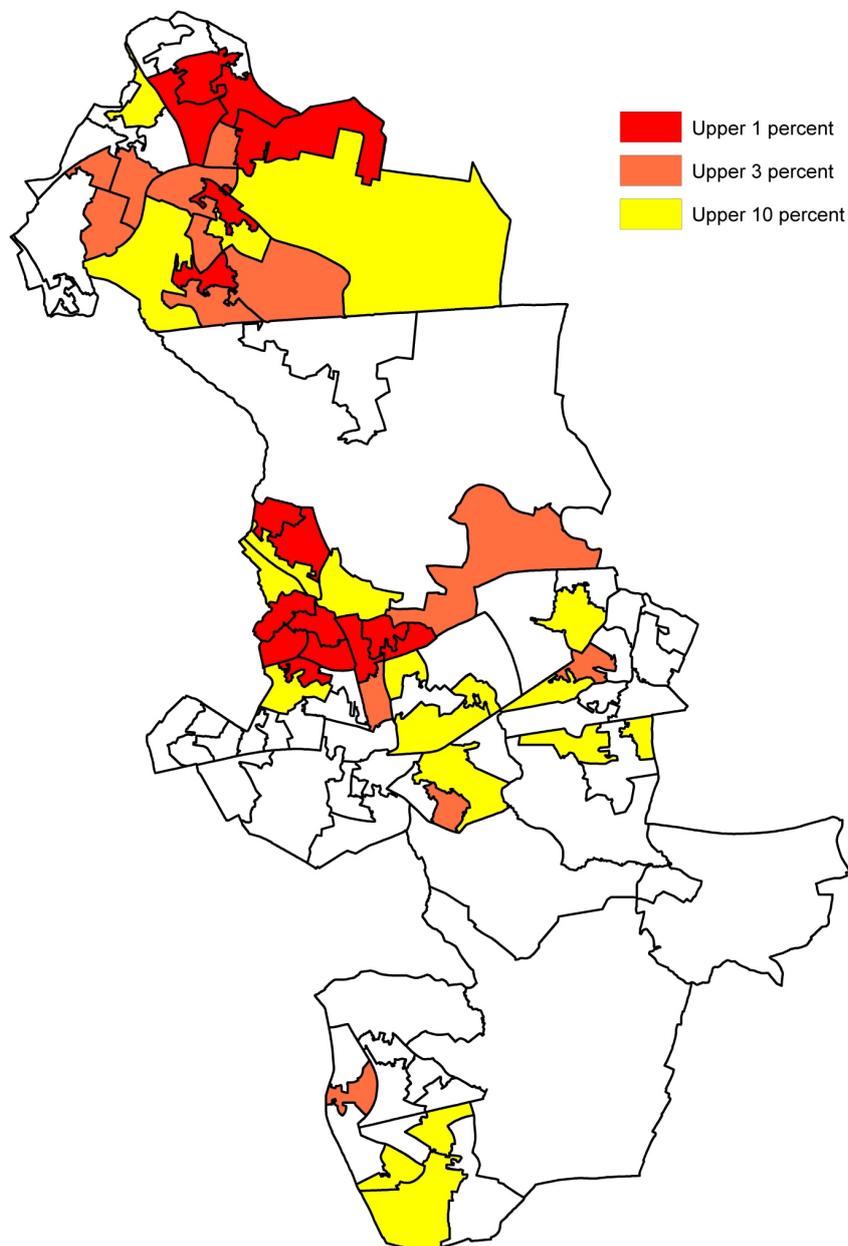
**3.11** Knowsley ranked high in all categories especially in the categories of Local Concentration, Rank of Super Output Area (SOA) score, Rank of SOA rank, and Extent rank.

**3.12** An important measure of deprivation is the percentage of the population who live in SOAs ranked in the upper ten percent most deprived nationally. In Knowsley's case 46.2 % of the population live in the worst ten percent SOAs. This was an improvement on the 2004 figure of 52.2%.

## 3 Knowsley in 2009

**3.13** Figure 3.3 shows the SOAs that are ranked in the upper ten percent most deprived nationally. It also shows that areas in north Huyton and north Kirkby are in the worst 1 percent in the country.

**Figure 3.3 – Deprivation**



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### Crime

**3.14** The Council is a member of the Safer Knowsley Partnership together with the Police, the Fire Service, the Primary Care Trust and Housing Associations. The Partnership is working to tackle crime using many different approaches.

**3.15** In 2008/9 over 12,500 crimes were recorded in Knowsley. This is around 4,000 less than recorded in 2006/7 and represents a 24% reduction over the two year period. Substantial achievements were made in some key areas with theft from motor vehicle reducing by over 1,000 offences (54%). Theft of a motor vehicle also experienced a reduction over the two year period with 200 fewer vehicles being reported stolen – a reduction of 35%.

## Knowsley in 2009 3

**3.16** In 2008/9 there were just less than 10,000 recorded incidents of anti-social behaviour. This is a reduction of over 6,000 (39%) from 2006/7. Criminal Damage also experienced a reduction during this period with nearly 2,000 less offences - a reduction of 36%.

### Education

**3.17** Residents in the Borough generally have a low level of skill and educational attainment. Table 3.3 shows the proportion of students aged 15 achieving 5+ A\*-C grades at GCSE level. It shows a continued increase but, at 63.1%, Knowsley was ranked 133 out of 151 local authorities and was the lowest on Merseyside. In Knowsley, the difference between the proportion of girls and boys achieving 5+ A\*-C grades was significant (69.7% for girls and 57.0% for boys). Knowsley was ranked the lowest in England for students achieving 5+ A\*-C grades including English and Mathematics (49.7%). Knowsley also has the highest proportion in the Country of 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment, or training (14.4%).

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
National 5+ A*-C	56.8%	59.0%	61.4%	65.3%	69.7%
KMBC 5+ A*-C	44.4%	48.7%	51.1%	56.4%	63.1%
National including English and Mathematics	44.7%	45.6%	46.3%	47.6%	49.7%
KMBC including English and Mathematics	25.5%	26.0%	26.7%	29.7%	33.3%

### **Policy Implications**

The LDF should include policies that ensure the continued success of the Council's population stabilisation strategy. It should aim provide a sustainable and diverse population and tackle the underlying causes of deprivation and disadvantage in the borough.

The change in the age structure will have implications for housing, employment, and health provision. It will need to be carefully considered in the preparation of future planning policies.

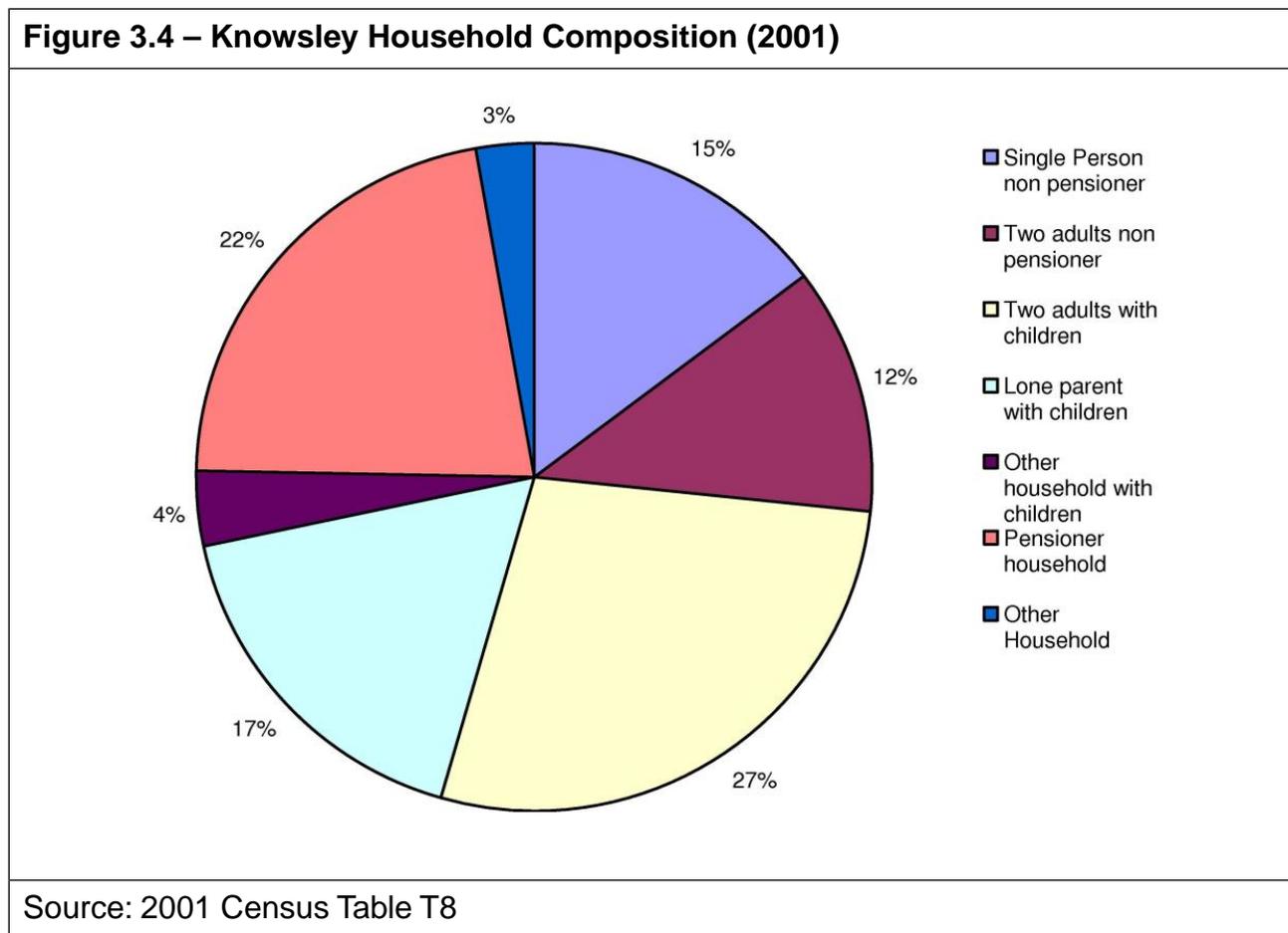
Deprivation and educational attainment will need continuing policy intervention.

### 3 Knowsley in 2009

#### Housing

##### Households

**3.18** Figure 3.4 shows the household composition of Knowsley in 2001. Knowsley had the highest proportion of households in Greater Merseyside with dependent children (35.4%) and lone parent households (17.3%). Knowsley also had the second lowest percentage of all pensioner households (21.9%) and single person households (29.0%) in Merseyside.



**3.19** The Department for Communities and Local Government estimates that in 2006 there were 62,175 households within the Borough giving an average household size of 2.4 persons per dwelling. Knowsley therefore has the highest average household size in Greater Merseyside.

**3.20** Table 3.4 shows the forecast change in the number of households in the Borough. This is based on an estimate of the number of households in 2006 and a projection calculated using past trends; it does not represent need.

**Table 3.4 – Knowsley Household Forecast 2006 to 2026**

Year	2006	2011	2016	2021	2026	Change 2011 - 2026
Number	63,000	65,000	68,000	70,000	72,000	7,000
% Change		3.2	4.6	2.9	2.9	10.7

Source: Communities and Local Government

## Knowsley in 2009 3

Note: household projections are an indication of the likely increase in households given the continuation of recent demographic trends.

Numbers have been rounded to the nearest thousand.

**3.21** The number of households in Knowsley is projected to rise by 7,000 over the Local Development Framework plan period (2011-2026). This is due largely to the increase in the number of single-person households caused by elderly people living longer, higher rates of separation and divorce, and more young people forming single households of their own.

### Dwellings

**3.22** In 2001, 11.7% of dwellings in Knowsley were detached, 39.4% were semi-detached, 37.2% were terraced, and 11.7% were flats. Knowsley had the second lowest percentage of detached dwellings in Greater Merseyside with only Liverpool having a lower rate. The percentage was almost half that for the whole of England.

**3.23** Table 3.5 shows that, in 2001, 61.7% of dwellings in the Borough were owner occupied, 24.9% were rented from the Council, 6.6% were rented from a Registered Social Landlord (RSL), and 6.8% were privately rented or persons living rent free. Knowsley had the second lowest percentage of owner occupied dwellings in Greater Merseyside. In 2002 all Council rented stock was transferred to the Knowsley Housing Trust.

	Knowsley		Halton	Liverpool	Sefton	St Helens	Wirral	Greater Merseyside
	No	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Owned / Buying	37,374	61.7	65.8	52.6	74.2	69.1	72.9	64.9
Rented from council	15,065	24.9	14.0	17.4	10.5	18.9	10.9	15.3
Other social rented	4,024	6.6	13.6	14.8	5.5	5.0	5.7	9.0
Private rented / Living rent free	4,091	6.8	6.6	15.2	9.9	7.0	10.5	10.7

Source: 2001 Census Table T8

**3.24** Table 3.6 and figure 3.5 show the net change in the number of dwellings between 2002/3 and 2008/9. In the early years there was a low number of net dwellings completed because of the demolition of a large number of dwellings in the North Huyton and Tower Hill (Kirkby) Action Areas. Development to replace demolished dwellings in North Huyton has now commenced. The net number of dwellings completed is expected to increase in the coming years as replacement dwellings are built.

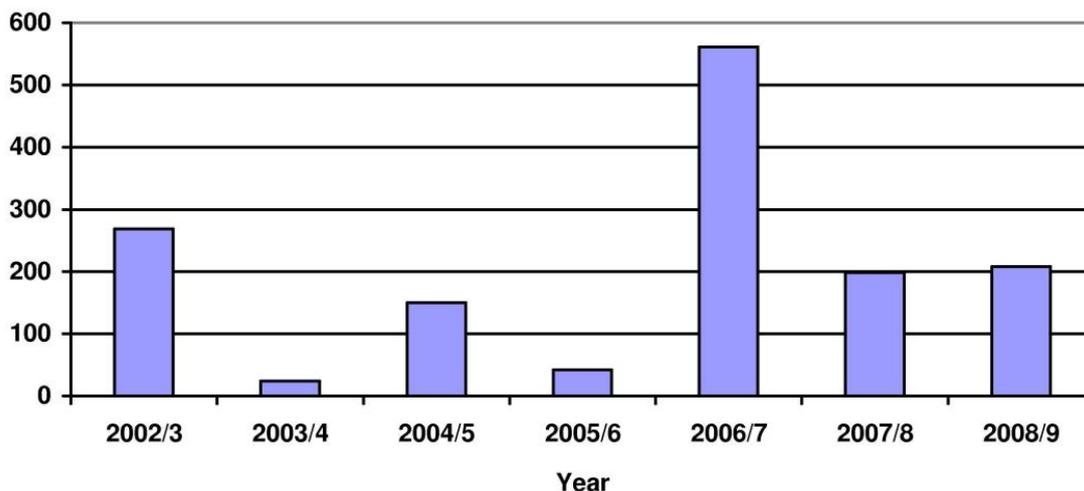
### 3 Knowsley in 2009

Table 3.6 Housing Completions and Demolitions 2002/3 to 2008/9 (Core Indicators H2(a) and H2(b))

	Completions	Demolitions	Net Change for Conversion	Net Change for Change of Use	Net Dwellings completed
2002/3	407	138	0	0	269
2003/4	490	466	0	0	24
2004/5	549	419	0	20	150
2005/6	410	368	0	0	42
2006/7	538	12	17	18	561
2007/8	308	124	-1	15	198
2008/9	309	120	15	4	208
Total	3,011	1,647	31	57	1,452
Mean	430.1	235.3	4.4	8.1	207.4

Source: Forward Planning Section, Knowsley MBC and Knowsley Housing Trust

Figure 3.5 - Net Change 2002/3-2008/9



Source: Forward Planning Section, Knowsley MBC

**3.25** There are currently 64,629 dwellings in Knowsley, of which 3073 (4.75%) are empty. This is a 0.5% rise on the reported vacancy rate last year. The increase in empty properties is due in a large part to improvements in data monitoring techniques and the ongoing regeneration initiatives in North Huyton and Kirkby. The increase is also as a result of a decline in the housing market as seen nationally. The Council is reviewing the enforcement opportunities available to reduce the level of empty properties.

## Knowsley in 2009 3

**3.26** Between April 2008 and March 2009, 309 dwellings were built. This is a similar number to the number built the previous year but significantly less than the years prior to that. Table 3.7 shows that the majority of new dwellings were completed at a density of 50 or more dwellings per hectare.

	Number of Dwellings	Percent
Gross completions at density of less than 30 dwellings per hectare (net site area of the development)	55	17.8
Gross completions at density of 30-50 dwellings per hectare (net site area of the development)	83	26.9
Gross completions at density above 50 dwellings per hectare (net site area of the development)	171	55.3
Total Completions	309	100.0

Source: Forward Planning Section, Knowsley MBC

**3.27** Table 3.8 shows that most of the houses that were built were either two bedroom (46%) or three bedroom (52%) houses. There were no one bedroom accommodation and very few four bedroom accommodation built last year and only a small proportion of completed dwellings were flats / apartments.

	1 bed	2 beds	3 beds	4 or more beds	Total
House / Bungalow	0	116	160	8	284
Flat / Apartment	0	25	0	0	25
Total	0	141	160	8	309

Source: Forward Planning Section, Knowsley MBC

**3.28** The Regional Spatial Strategy requires that at least 65% of new dwellings be built on previously developed land. Table 3.9 shows that, during the last year, the percentage of residential completions on previously developed land is significantly above the RSS requirement.

### 3 Knowsley in 2009

Table 3.9 - New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land (Core Indicator H3)	
On previously developed sites (Brownfield)	300
On 'not previously developed' sites (Greenfield)	9
Total	309
% on Previously Developed Land	97.1%
Source: Forward Planning Section, Knowsley MBC	

**3.29** Core Output indicator H6 requires that Housing Quality be monitored using Building for Life Standards. The Council's housing monitoring system has been amended to include the Building for Life standard but staff have not yet undertaken the necessary training. A member of staff will undertake the necessary training before the next Annual Monitoring Report and so enable the Council to encourage developers to build to high design standards.

#### Housing Trajectory

**3.30** Table 3.10 shows that between 2002 and 2016 the Unitary Development Plan required 3,220 dwellings to be built. This was based on the requirement contained within the Regional Planning Guidance for the North West (RPG13). This has now been superseded by the North West of England Plan Regional Spatial Strategy (2008) which requires 8,100 dwellings to be built between 2003 and 2021.

Table 3.10 - Plan period and housing targets (Core Indicator H1)			
Start of Plan period	End of Plan period	Total housing Required	Source of plan Target
2002	2016	3220	Unitary Development Plan (2006)
2003	2021	8100	Regional Spatial Strategy (2008)
Source: Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan (2006) and North West of England Plan Regional Spatial Strategy to 2021			

**3.31** In order to comply with the 2003 RSS requirement of no more than 230 dwellings per year, the Council applied a housing constraint policy from March 2005 to February 2008. When the new RSS was published in 2008, it almost doubled Knowsley's housing requirement. It also backdated the requirement to 2003 that is during the time that the Council was applying housing constraint. During the same period, a large number of properties were demolished in the North Huyton and Tower Hill Action Areas.

**3.32** Table 3.11 shows that for the period from 2003 to 2009, Knowsley's RSS requirement was to build an additional 2,700 dwellings. The demolition of dwellings in Action Areas (primarily in North Huyton), the housing constraint policy, and the backdating of housing requirement to 2003, has led to a shortfall of 1,517 dwellings. The RSS requirement is a net figure therefore any future demolitions will also have to be replaced. Apart from demolitions in North Huyton, the only other significant source of demolitions is by Knowsley Housing Trust (KHT). KHT have identified a further 475 demolitions of which 287 will be replaced resulting in a net loss of 188 dwellings. In order to meet the RSS requirement of an average of 450 per year before 2021, the shortfall of 1,517 dwellings will have to be made up, the

## Knowsley in 2009 3

future demolitions will have to be replaced, and a further 5,400 dwellings will need to be built. Table 3.11 shows that an average of 592 dwellings per year will need to be built each year to 31 March 2021.

Annualised RSS requirement from start of RSS Period (2003-2009)	2,700
Net Dwelling Completions 2003-2009	1,183
Current Shortfall in completions (2003-2009)	1,517
Net Loss through demolitions 2009 onwards	188
Annualised RSS requirement to end of RSS Period (2009-2021)	5,400
Requirement to end of RSS period	7,105
Amended annualised RSS requirement to end of RSS Period (2009-2021)	592

**3.33** Table 3.12 shows the projected rates of net additional dwellings. It is based on extant planning permissions, land allocated in the Replacement Unitary Development Plan, expected completions in Action Areas, and expected demolitions. It does not take into consideration additional windfall which has been significant in recent years (1,159 dwellings from 2006-9). There has been a downturn in the number of completions over the last two years, the projection reflects the belief that downturn will continue until 2012.

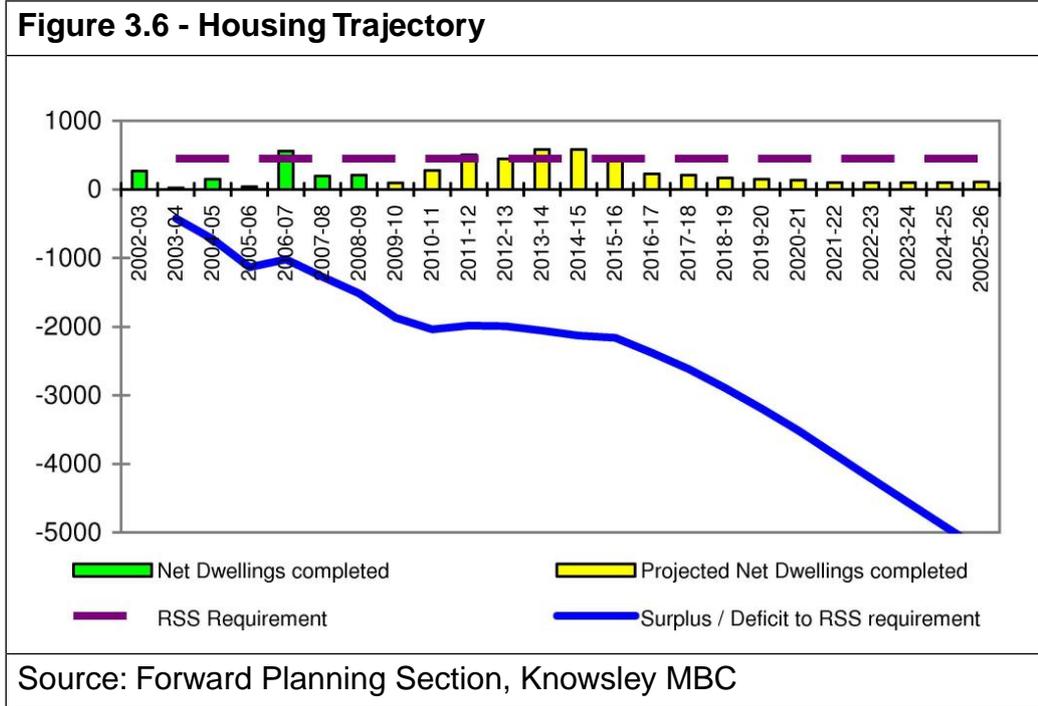
	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25
Net Additions (Core Indicator H2(c))	98	279	505	444	385	375	422	230	210	170	150	135	100	100	100	109

Source: Forward Planning Section, Knowsley MBC

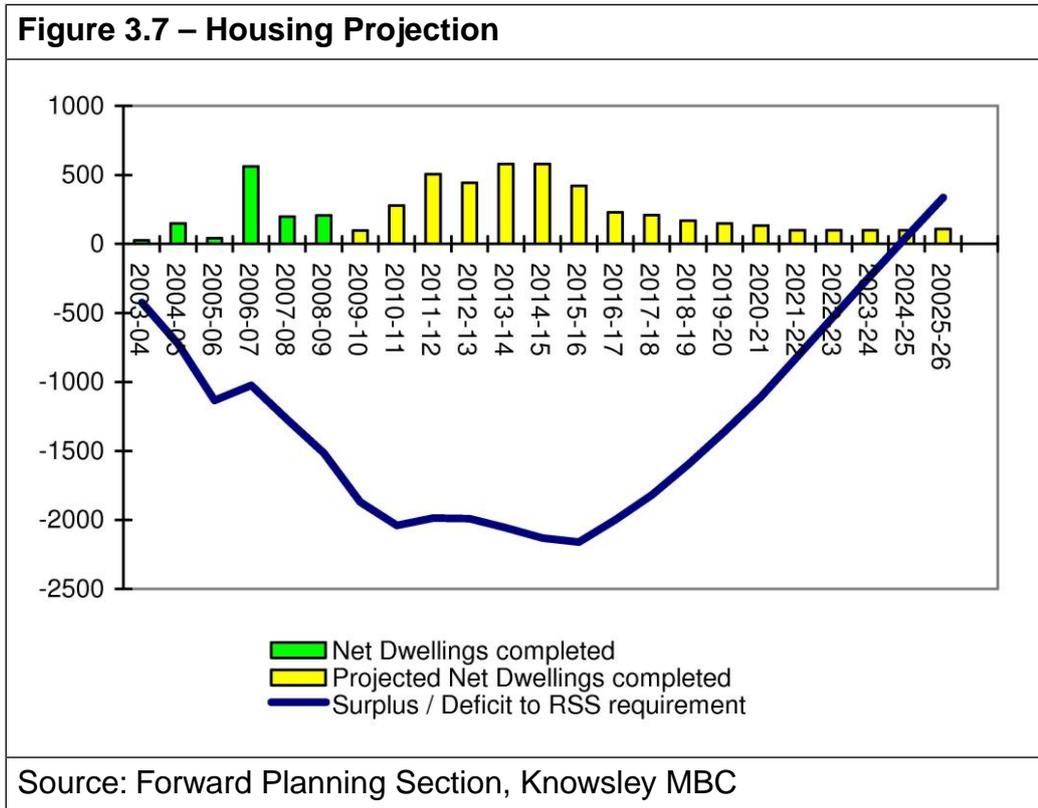
**3.34** Figure 3.6 shows the actual and projected net additional dwellings, together with the North West of England Plan Regional Spatial Strategy to 2021 (RSS) requirement (450 net dwelling completions per year) and the respective RSS's shortfall of dwellings. It shows that, when compared to the RSS requirement, there is a substantial undersupply of housing.

### 3 Knowsley in 2009

Although the undersupply is significant, additional windfall sites are expected to come forward. They can not, however, be included in these figures because a Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) has not been completed.



**3.35** As stated above, house building in Knowsley has benefited from a significant amount of windfall. Figure 3.7 shows that if, from 2015, the number of completions returns to the level of the average for the last seven years (430) and the number of demolitions per year is greatly reduced to 40 because of there being no further demolitions in North Huyton; the Borough will be able to meet the RSS requirement. In order to do this, however, a sufficient quantity of land will need to be identified through the LDF Core Strategy (see paragraph 3.37.)



## Knowsley in 2009 3

**3.36** A SHLAA is currently being developed in partnership with two neighbouring authorities. The purpose of the study was to identify land that will be required for housing for the next 15 years. The draft SHLAA was published in June for a 6 week consultation period. The draft findings identified a 5-year deliverable supply of housing land and a further supply of “developable” housing land within the urban area, which equates to under 10 years supply in total. This is well short of the 15 year supply needed for the Core Strategy.

**3.37** The Core Strategy Issues and Options paper will consider three strategic options to meet development needs. Option A – Urban Concentration would enable about 5,500 dwellings to be built in the Borough. Option B – Focussed Urban Regeneration would enable about 6,500 dwellings to be built in the Borough. Option C – Sustainable Urban extensions would enable all housing need to be built in the Borough but would result in the loss of some Green Belt land mostly after the next ten years. Under Options A and B the shortfall would have to be met in adjoining districts.

#### Five-year land supply

**3.38** PPS3 requires Local Planning Authorities to maintain a rolling five-year supply of deliverable land for housing. There are currently 3,132 dwellings with extant planning permission of which 121 is expected to be completed before 1 April 2010. Table 3.13 contains a summary of the number of residential dwellings that the Council believes are capable of being delivered within the five years from April 2010 to March 2015. Appendix 2 contains individual site details.

Expected supply with extant planning permission as at 1 April 2010	3,011
Knowsley UDP allocations (Policy H2) without planning permission as at 30th September 2009	387
Knowsley UDP allocations (Policy H3) without planning permission as at 30th September 2009	600
Knowsley UDP allocations (Policy H4) without planning permission as at 30th September 2009	225
Expected total supply at April 2010	4,223
Source: Forward Planning Section, Knowsley MBC	

**3.39** Of the sites allocated within the UDP Policy H2, former flats at Kipling Avenue (site H2), land at Thingwall Lane (site H4), and Delph Lane / Two Butt Lane (site H7) have planning permission. In recognition of the need to remediate land at Thingwall Lane, it is considered that only 150 dwellings will be completed within the site during the next five years.

**3.40** Of the sites allocated within the UDP Policy H3, full planning permission has been granted for 391 dwellings as Phase 1 within the North Huyton Action Area. Outline planning permission has been granted for the remainder of the 1,450 dwellings in North Huyton. The supporting documentation for the application indicated an intention to complete up to 950 dwellings in the Action Area by 2012. Policy H3 says that the amount of new housing development within Tower Hill will be up to 300 dwellings. Discussion with a developer has suggested that there is scope to increase the number of dwellings to 600. The figure of 600 is included within Table 3.13.

## 3 Knowsley in 2009

**3.41** Paragraph 3.31 outlines that the average number of new dwellings that need to be provided to meet RSS requirements is 594. The current five-year land supply for housing shown in Table 3.13 is therefore in excess of the requirement of the replacement RSS. The Borough has at least a five-year supply of residential sites that are deliverable (available, suitable, and achievable).

### Gypsies and Travellers Accommodation

**3.42** Circular 1/2006 says that Regional Spatial Strategies should identify the number of pitches required for each local planning authority. This should be in the light of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment undertaken by local authorities. A Merseyside Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment was undertaken by Salford Housing and Urban Studies Unit in 2008. It concluded that four permanent pitches should be provided in the Borough before 2012 with a further pitch provided between 2012 and 2016. It further concluded that ten transit pitches should be provided across Merseyside before 2016. The submitted draft of the North West Plan Partial Review requires Knowsley to identify a minimum of ten permanent and five transit pitches between 2007 and 2016.

**3.43** There are currently no permanent or transit pitches in the Borough for Gypsies and Travellers. The Local Development Framework will need to consider how and where site(s) for Gypsies and Travellers can be provided.

Permanent	Transit	Total
0	0	0

Source: Forward Planning Section Knowsley MBC

### Affordable Homes

**3.44** The Council commissioned a Housing Needs Study in 2007. It found that 9.7% of residents consider their homes to be inadequate of whom 57.6% said that they could not afford to move to a home of suitable size. It found that demand for one bedroom accommodation exceeds supply in most areas of the Borough, especially in Huyton. There is a large shortfall two bedroom accommodation, especially flats, in south Huyton. In north Huyton, however, there is a large surplus of two bedroom houses. There is a shortfall of three bedroom accommodation in Halewood and south Kirkby and there is a surplus of four bedroom accommodation in all areas except in the Prescot / Whiston / Cronton and Knowsley Village area.

**3.45** The Housing Needs Study concluded that there is a strong indication of an affordability problem in Knowsley. The Study predicted that 826 units of affordable housing would be required annually and that this should be split 50% social rented and 50% intermediate housing. These units would not necessarily be all new build as a large proportion of units could come from the second hand market. The report suggested that the Local Development Framework could consider an overall affordable housing target of up to 35% of new units from the total of all suitable sites, subject to site viability. In 2008/9, 34 affordable dwellings were completed and 124 were demolished.

**3.46** Table 3.15 shows the average price of residential property in Knowsley for March each year. House prices in March 2009 ranged between £73,280 (a decrease of £12,023 from March 2008) for a terraced house and £182,856 (a decrease of £30,003 from March 2008) for a detached property. The average price for all types of dwelling was £115,331, which was £18,923 (14.1%) lower than the previous year.

## Knowsley in 2009 3

Month	Detached (£)	Semi-Detached (£)	Terraced (£)	Maisonette / Flat (£)	All (£)
Mar-02	99,188	57,162	39,750	46,958	62,559
Mar-03	118,396	68,231	47,447	56,052	74,674
Mar-04	155,196	89,439	62,195	73,474	97,885
Mar-05	189,300	109,093	75,862	89,620	119,395
Mar-06	195,812	112,846	78,472	92,703	123,502
Mar-07	206,038	118,739	82,570	97,544	129,952
Mar-08	212,859	122,670	85,303	100,773	134,254
Mar-09	182,856	105,379	73,280	86,569	115,331

Source: Land Registry House Prices dataset, extracted 19/10/2009

**3.47** Table 3.23 shows that the average annual pay for a full-time worker in Knowsley is £24,102. While average pay increased slightly, average property prices dropped significantly. The average house price therefore dropped from 5.7 times the average annual pay for a full-time worker to 4.8 times.

**3.48** At the time of the drafting of UDP policies, it was not considered necessary to include a policy requiring the provision of affordable housing. This was because of substantial opportunities that existed for the provision of new owner occupied and shared ownership affordable housing as well as the transfer of stock between tenures.

**3.49** This position changed in line with renewed buoyancy in the North West's housing markets before the recession. While Knowsley retains a much higher than average percentage of social rented housing; there is, in most areas, a healthy demand for the tenure as low income households struggle to afford market housing. Clearance of unpopular and poor condition social rented homes and modernisation in the remaining stock in recent years have also made it a more attractive proposition.

**3.50** Table 3.16 shows that 34 units of affordable housing were completed last year but that 124 affordable dwellings were demolished. It is planned that 79 affordable dwellings will be completed in 2009/10 with a further 172 dwellings in 2010/11.

Affordable Type	Completions	Demolitions	Net Change
Rented - RSL	15	124	-109
Equity	19	0	0
Total	34	124	-90

Source: Housing Strategy, Knowsley MBC

**3.51** The Council has commissioned a refresh of the housing needs study using data for the 2008 – 2009 financial year. The study will illustrate the effects of the current economic recession on Knowsley's housing market. Although the report is yet to be finalised, early indications show that there is still an affordability problem in Knowsley.

## 3 Knowsley in 2009

**3.52** The Council is also in the process of developing a Strategic Housing Market Assessment that will act as an evidence base for the Local Development Framework. It is recognised that future housing and planning policy will need to bring about a more sustainable tenure pattern in the Borough. Working with housing association partners, tenure diversification programmes could play an important part in this process. It is anticipated that opportunities for such “mixed communities” initiatives will be available in North Huyton, Tower Hill (Kirkby) and other existing residential areas such as Stockbridge Village.

### Policy Implications

The LDF will need to decide whether the shortfall in land for housing provision should be met on land that is currently in the Green Belt or whether a contribution from adjacent local authorities will be required to meet the shortfall towards the latter end of the period to 2026. Building in the Green Belt could affect the ability of the Council to ensure that at least 65% of new dwellings are built on Brownfield land.

The surplus of some house types in some areas and deficit in other areas needs to be addressed in the LDF.

Additional affordable accommodation is required in all sectors.

The LDF should identify site(s) that can accommodate the number of permanent and transit pitches for Gypsies and Travellers contained in the revised RSS.

## Economy

**3.53** Table 3.17 shows that there is 123.4 ha of land allocated for employment purposes that do not have planning permission. This is significantly below the 188.54 ha allocated in the 1998 Unitary Development Plan. There is, however, a further 15.4 ha of sites in the Primarily Industrial Areas that are appropriate locations for B1, B2 and B8 uses. There is a further 7.8 ha of land that has planning permission but where development has not commenced. Generally speaking, land that is available for employment purposes are for a mix of employment types. Only 34.7% of land available for employment purposes is on Brownfield sites.

Table 3.17 - Employment land available – by type (1008/9) (Core Indicator BD3)			
Employment Type (Use Classes Order 1987)	Area (ha)	Area on Brownfield land	% on Brownfield land
Allocation without Planning Permission			
Business (B1) or General Industry (B2)	7.9	7.9	100.0
Business (B1) or General Industry (B2) or Storage / Distribution (B8)	107.5	39.2	36.5
Business (B1) or General Industry (B2), or Hotel (C1)	8.0	1.4	17.8
Sub Total	123.4	48.6	39.4
Sites in Primarily Industrial Area			

## Knowsley in 2009 3

Business (B1) or General Industry (B2) or Storage / Distribution (B8)	15.4	0.4	0.2
Sites with Planning Permission, not started			
Business (B1)	0.2	0.0	0.0
Offices (B1a)	0.7	0.7	100.0
Business (B1) or General Industry (B2) or Storage / Distribution (B8)	5.7	0.0	0.0
Storage / Distribution (B8)	1.2	1.2	100.0
Sub Total	7.8	1.9	24.1
Grand Total	146.6	50.8	34.7
Individual site details are contained in Appendix E.			

**3.54** The *Joint Employment Land Study Consultation Draft Report (2009)* study assessed the supply, need, and demand for sites in four districts - Halton, Sefton, West Lancashire, and Knowsley. The study found that about 83 hectares of the Borough's economic land supply is available or will be so within three years. The study concluded that Knowsley needs an additional 95 to 111 hectares of employment land in the period up to 2026.

**3.55** Option A of the Core Strategy Issues and Options Paper does not make any provision for new employment land within Knowsley over and above that already identified. There would therefore be a shortfall of approximately 100ha which would have to be provided in adjoining districts.

**3.56** Option B would involve an active programme for remodelling Knowsley's Industrial Parks. The Employment Land and Premises study estimates that 64 hectares of additional employment land can be created in this way. Under this approach there would therefore be a shortfall of between 30 and 45 ha of land but this will increase by up to an additional 15 ha if part of the Pirelli site in Prescot is lost to housing. Under this option, the shortfall of up to 60 ha will have to be met in adjoining districts.

**3.57** Under option C, a number of locations will need to be explored as potential options for employment development but may result in the loss of Green Belt land.

**3.58** Table 3.18 shows that, at 32,901 m<sup>2</sup>, there has been a considerable increase in the amount of employment floorspace completed this year. The majority of development occurred in the Knowsley Industrial and Business Parks. Further details of completed industrial / commercial floorspace can be found in Appendix D. For general industry and mixed uses, a large proportion of development was on Greenfield sites. The four Greenfield sites consisted of two on the Knowsley Business Park, one on Huyton Business Park, and one on Kings Business Park.

### 3 Knowsley in 2009

Table 3.18 - Total of additional employment floorspace by type (2008/9)

Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type (Use Classes Order 1987).	All Floorspace (Core Indicator BD1)		Previously Developed Land (Core Indicator BD2)	
	Floorspace in metres(gross)	Floorspace in metres (net)	Floorspace in metres (gross)	% of total gross
Business Offices (not financial and professional services e.g. banks, estate agents etc.) - Use Class B1(a)	6,911	6,911	780	11.3
Business Research – Use Class B1(b)	0	0	0	0.0
Business Light Industry – Use Class B1(c)	6,950	6,950	6,950	100.0
General Industry – Use Class B2	4,055	4,055	1,910	47.1
Storage or Distribution – Use Class B8	592	61	592	100.0
Mixed Use	14,393	14,393	6,335	44.0
Total	32,901	32,370	16,567	50.4

**3.59** *Knowsley The Borough of Choice – Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 –2023 Knowsley Partnership (2008)* identifies the Borough's economic performance as a challenge. Despite recent progress, economic performance in Knowsley still lags behind the UK and North West average. The strategy identifies a need for an additional 233 VAT registrations per year to bring the number of businesses in Knowsley up to the UK average.

**3.60** Table 3.19 shows the number of VAT registrations and de-registrations between 2002 and 2007. During this period there has been an average net change of 67.5 per year.

Table 3.19 VAT Registrations and De-registrations 2002-2007

Date	Registrations	De-registrations	Net change	Stocks at end of year
2002	205	160	45	1,730
2003	195	155	40	1,770
2004	210	130	80	1,850
2005	230	155	75	1,920
2006	210	165	45	1,970
2007	255	135	120	2,085

Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 16 October 2009]

## Knowsley in 2009 3

Town Centres

**3.61** A two part study is being undertaken of Knowsley's town centres and local shopping parades and centres. The first part of the study undertook a "health check" of Huyton, Prescot, and Kirkby and an assessment of 20 local centres plus a number of smaller parades. The second part will assessment of need for retailing and other town centre uses over the lifetime of the Core Strategy.

**3.62** *Town Centres and Shopping Study, Volume 1: Current expenditure patterns and health checks, Roger Tym & Partners, May 2009* states that Knowsley's town centres Huyton, Prescot and especially Kirkby are failing to perform well as locations for shopping, leisure and others town centres uses and suffer from high levels of 'leakage' of expenditure to other centres. The report suggests that a number of local centres are experiencing difficulties

**3.63** Table 3.20 shows that all of the 'town centre uses' were developed in out of centre locations. Office development occurred on two sites, of which one was on a site that had previously been developed. The sites were in the Kings Business Park (a regional investment site) and on Ashcroft Road on the Knowsley Industrial Park.

Table 3.20 - Total amount of floorspace (m2) for 'town centre uses' built 2008/9 (Core Indicator BD4)					
	Shops (A1)	Financial and Professional Services (A2)	Other Offices (B1a)	Assembly and Leisure (D2)	Total
Gross	0	0	6,911	0	6,911
In Centre	0	0	0	0	0
Edge of Centre	0	0	0	0	0
Out of Centre	0	0	6,911	0	6,911
% of gross on previously developed land	0	0	11.3	0	11.3
Individual site details are contained in Appendix 5.					

**3.64** Knowsley has 20 smaller local centres plus a number of smaller parades. The *Town Centres and Shopping Study 2009* suggests that local centres at Park Brow Drive in Kirkby and at Byron Avenue / Melton Avenue in Whiston are experiencing difficulties together with the major local centre in Hillside Road in Huyton, six medium sized local centres (Longview Drive and Manor Farm Road, Huyton; Bewley Drive / Broad Lane, Old Rough Lane, and Moorfield, Kirkby; and Molyneux Drive, Prescot) and several of the more minor parades. A key issue for the Core Strategy to address is how to ensure a sustainable and successful future for Knowsley's local shopping centres and parades.

## 3 Knowsley in 2009

### Policy Implications

The LDF will need to decide whether the shortfall in land for employment land should be met on land that is currently in the Green Belt or whether a contribution from adjacent local authorities will be required to meet the shortfall towards the latter end of the period to 2026.

The LDF will need to consider how the number of VAT registration can be increased year on year to that identified in the Sustainable Communities Strategy.

The LDF will need to consider how a sustainable and successful future can be ensured for town centres and local shopping centres and parades.

### Workforce

**3.65** In 2001, 54,840 of the Borough's residents were in employment, of whom 43% worked in Knowsley, and 47% worked in the rest of Greater Merseyside. 53,102 people worked in Knowsley, of whom 44% also lived in the area, and 48% lived in the remainder of Greater Merseyside.

**3.66** The borough has a heavy reliance on specific employment sectors. Table 3.21 shows that the most significant employment sector in Knowsley is the Public Administration, Education & Health sector (34.2%). This sector includes Council employees and employees of Whiston Hospital who make up a significant part of it. The manufacturing sector, including Jaguar Land Rover, also makes a significant contribution to the local economy (20.7%).

	Knowsley		North West	GB
	Number	%	%	%
Total employee jobs				
Full-time	40,300	71.5	69.2	69
Part-time	16,000	28.4	30.8	31
Manufacturing	11,600	20.7	12.4	10.6
Construction	2,500	4.4	5.1	4.9
Distribution, hotels & restaurants	9,800	17.5	23.7	23.3
Transport & communications	2,200	4.0	5.6	5.9
Finance, IT, other business activities	8,800	15.7	19.4	21.6
Public administration, education & health	19,300	34.2	28.2	26.9
Other services	1,900	3.4	4.6	5.2

Source: ONS Annual Business Inquiry employee analysis

**3.67** Table 3.22 shows that Knowsley is under represented in managerial and professional occupations. It has the lowest representation in Greater Merseyside in these occupations. Professional occupations are at a level of less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the rate for Great Britain.

## Knowsley in 2009 3

	Knowsley		North West (%)	Great Britain (%)
	Number	%		
Managers and senior officials	7,300	11.3	14.9	15.6
Professional occupations	5,200	8.0	11.7	13.1
Associate professional & technical occupations	7,400	11.6	13.9	14.6
Administrative and secretarial occupations	8,700	13.6	12.1	11.4
Skilled trades occupations	6,800	10.6	10.8	10.7
Personal service occupations	8,000	12.4	8.5	8.3
Sales and customer service occupations	5,300	8.3	8	7.5
Process, plant and machine operatives	7,200	11.2	8.2	7
Elementary occupations	8,200	12.8	11.5	11.3

Source: Annual Population Survey April 2008 to March 2009

**3.68** The Borough has Low average wage levels for residents and mismatch in wages between local residents and those working in the Borough. Table 3.23 shows the average weekly wage for residents in full-time employment. At £474, Knowsley residents receive £100 less than the average weekly wage for Great Britain. Although Knowsley residents receive the lowest average weekly wage on Merseyside, people who work in Knowsley receive the highest average weekly wage (£547).

	Knowsley (£)	North West (£)	Great Britain (£)
Gross weekly pay			
Full Time Workers	474.2	531.2	578.2
Male Full Time Workers	523.6	581.9	635.9
Female Full Time Workers	410.8	455.2	487.7
Hourly Pay			
Full Time Workers	12.15	13.47	14.63
Male Full Time Workers	12.87	14.31	15.61
Female Full Time Workers	11.13	12.11	12.97

Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings - resident analysis

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## 3 Knowsley in 2009

**3.69** The Borough has high levels of worklessness. In March 2009, the number of persons claiming Job Seeker's Allowance was 6,164. This represented 6.6% of the residents of working age which is up from 4.2% in March 2008. The number of claimants aged 18-24 rose by 45% during the same period. The number of persons claiming benefit for twelve months or more fell by 30 to 565, however number of persons claiming for six months or more rose by 480. This means that 28% of persons claiming benefit have been claiming for 6 months or more.

### Policy Implications

The Local Development Framework (LDF) needs to address skills and attainment levels of residents.

It should consider whether it should be seeking to meet the employment needs of residents or encouraging all types of employment.

The reasons why higher paid employees are choosing to live outside of the Borough should be identified and addressed.

## Environment

### Minerals

**3.70** Core indicators M1 and M2 require that production of primary land won aggregates and production of secondary and recycled aggregates be monitored. However, very limited data is currently available regarding primary and secondary aggregates in the North West. This is largely a result of commercial confidentiality issues surrounding producers; aggregate and mineral producers are under no statutory requirement to report their production to Minerals Planning Authorities. The Regional Aggregates Working Party (RAWP) produces an Annual Monitoring Report which details primary land won aggregate production in the North West and at sub-regional level, however information contained in this report is used in the Annual Monitoring Report on the Regional Spatial Strategy and therefore it was not considered necessary to include in the Knowsley AMR.

**3.71** Data regarding the production of primary and secondary aggregates was deemed insufficiently comprehensive or robust to permit a meaningful assessment. Considerable further work is required to determine an appropriate data source which provides information at a local level. It may be necessary to work with RAWP and the other Merseyside Authorities to address this issue at a sub-regional level.

### Waste

**3.72** The Joint Merseyside Waste Development Plan Document is being prepared by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of Knowsley and the other Councils in Greater Merseyside. It will be concerned with the scale, location and type of facilities required to manage all types of waste. It will also seek to reduce the amount of waste generated and move waste management away from landfill disposal.

**3.73** Table 3.24 shows the amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type. 74.9% of municipal waste was disposed of by landfill. This is down from 83.0% last year.

## Knowsley in 2009 3

	Municipal Waste 2008/09	
	Tonnes	%
Landfill	46,665	74.9
Incineration with Energy from Waste	-	-
Incineration without Energy from Waste	-	-
Recycled/ composted	15,622	25.1
Other	-	-
Total waste arisings	62,287	100.0
Source: Directorate of Neighbourhood Services		

**3.74** In May 2009, planning permission was granted for the erection of a waste gasification plant in Knowsley Business Park. The plant will be able to handle up to 96,000 tonnes per annum of non-hazardous waste. It will convert the waste into high pressure steam which will be used to produce electricity and / or will be supplied directly to adjacent customers.

**3.75** On 5 October, the Council introduced a food waste recycling service. Over 4,000 households have opted to take part in the scheme. It has resulted in more than 42 tonnes of food waste being collected in the first four weeks. It is hoped that more residents will take up this option so that the amount of biodegradable waste sent to landfill is reduced.

#### Renewable Energy

**3.76** It is important that the Borough positively encourages and accommodates renewable energy generation as much as possible. However, some renewable energy installations could conflict with other planning interests such as the Green Belt in rural areas and, in urban areas, the character and setting of neighbourhoods.

**3.77** Policy MW7 of the replacement UDP states that proposals for new development required in connection with the generation of energy from renewable sources will be encouraged and permitted. It also states that any large scale new residential, commercial and industrial developments will be required to generate at least 10% of the predicted energy requirements from renewable sources, where this is practicable and viable given the type of development proposed, its location and design. Core Output indicator E3 requires that permission and completion of renewable energy generation be monitored by type, that is by Wind Onshore, Solar Photovoltaics, Hydro, and Biomass. This is currently not monitored. An information system is currently being developed and will be used to report in next year's Annual Monitoring Report.

#### Land at risk from flooding

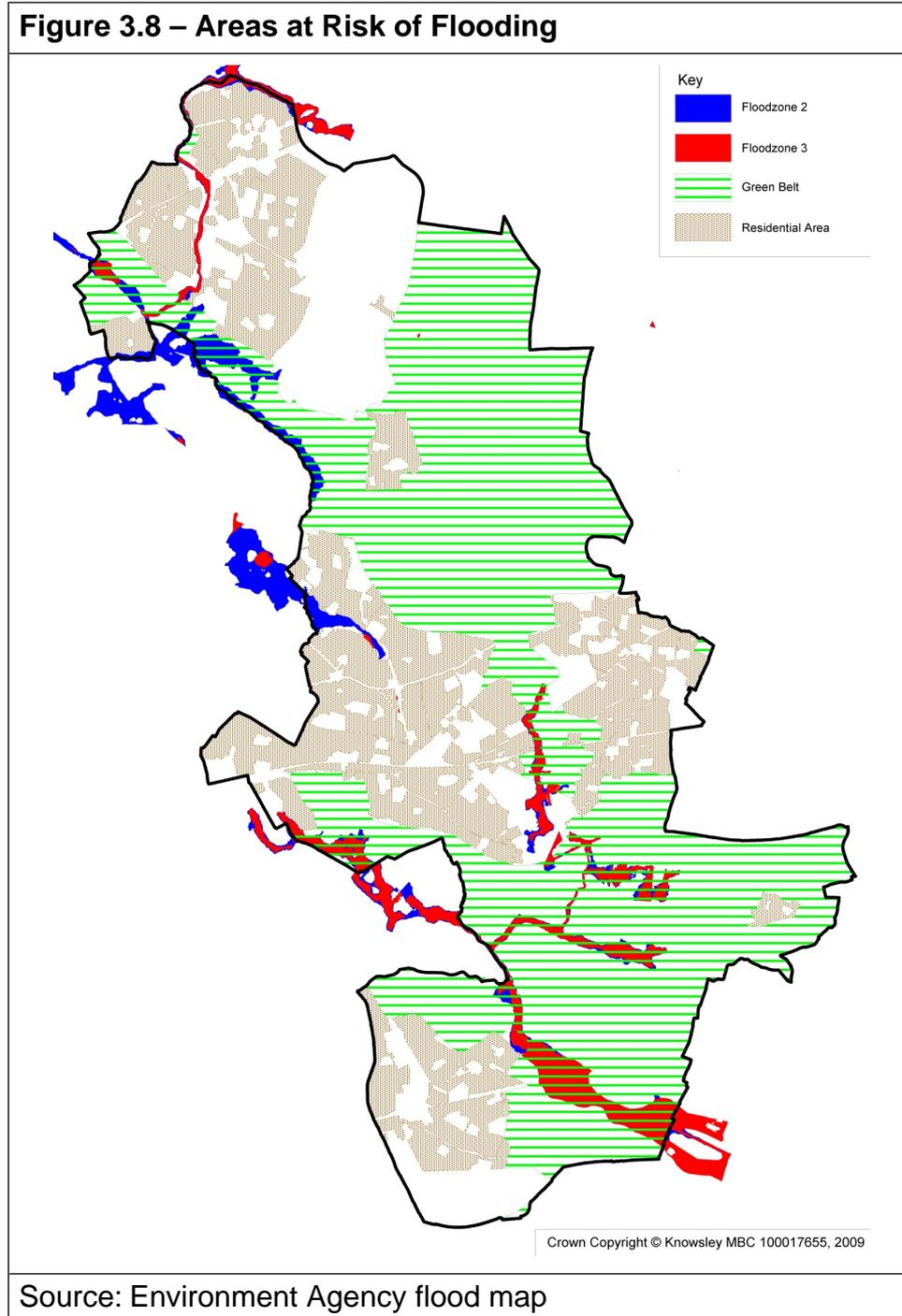
**3.78** Planning Policy Statement 25: Development and Flood Risk states that local planning authorities should undertake a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) to inform the preparation of their Local Development Documents. SFRAs refine the information provided by Environment Agency flood maps, taking into account flooding from all sources.

**3.79** Consultants completed a joint SFRA for Knowsley and Sefton in 2009. In Knowsley it will now inform the preparation of the Core Strategy and subsequent Development Plan Documents. It will also provide a framework for the future direction of development within the Borough.

### 3 Knowsley in 2009

**3.80** Knowsley has 472ha of land, containing 557 properties, which has a medium probability of flooding (greater than a 1 in 100 chance each year) of which 263 properties in 306 ha of land has a high probability of flooding (less than 1 in 100 chance each year).

**3.81** Figure 3.8 shows that the majority of land at risk of flooding is in the Green Belt. The SFRA demonstrates that Flood Zone 3 could increase as a result of climate change and spread into existing residential and commercial areas.



**3.82** Where a proposed development could be at risk of flooding, or could unacceptably increase the risk of flooding elsewhere, and inadequate mitigation is provided, the Environment Agency will usually object to the planning application. Where a Flood Risk Assessment is not provided as part of a planning application, the Environment Agency may object to the proposed development until such time as a satisfactory Flood Risk Assessment is provided.

## Knowsley in 2009 3

**3.83** Table 3.25 shows that the Environment Agency objected to two planning applications on flood defence grounds. On both occasions a flood risk assessment was requested by the Environment Agency. Applicants on the applications produced flood risk assessments that were accepted and the objection was subsequently withdrawn.

Planning Application Number	Address	Nature of Proposed Development	Reason for Agency Objection	Outcome
08/00471/FUL	Riverside Education Centre, Stretton Way, Huyton	Other - Minor	PPS25/TAN15 - Request for FRA / FCA	Flood Risk Assessment accepted – objection withdrawn
08/00530/FUL	Tarmac (Concrete), Ellis Ashton Street, Huyton	Heavy Industry/Warehousing - Minor	PPS25/TAN15 - Request for FRA / FCA	Flood Risk Assessment accepted – objection withdrawn

Source: Knowsley MBC Planning Services

**3.84** The Environment Agency may also object to a planning application when water quality is considered to be at risk of being degraded. This includes pollution at a water abstraction point, pollution to surface water, and unsatisfactory means of disposal of sewage. No representations were received from the Environment Agency on water quality grounds in relation to any planning applications received between April 2008 and March 2009.

#### Biological river water quality

**3.85** Table 3.26 shows an assessment of the quality of biological life in rivers. It is produced by comparing the number of small animals and insects in a sample of water with water from an unpolluted river. It shows that, in 2006, no stretch of river in Greater Merseyside could be described as being in “Good” biological condition.

District	Good %	Fair %	Poor %	Bad %	Total km
Knowsley	0.0	50.1	49.9	0.0	26.1
Halton	0.0	13.2	79.4	7.4	11.6
Liverpool	0.0	21.5	78.5	0.0	10.2
Sefton	0.0	47.0	40.3	12.7	26.8
St. Helens	0.0	60.7	34.1	5.2	30.1
Wirral	0.0	34.9	65.1	0.0	31.0
North West	56.0	33.9	8.7	1.4	4705.4

Source: Environment Agency Biology General Quality Assessment 2006

## 3 Knowsley in 2009

**3.86** In Knowsley, 26.1 km of river was tested of which 50.1% was in fair condition and 49.9% in poor condition. This is an improvement on the previous year when 41% was in fair condition and 59% was in poor or bad condition. This is a considerable improvement on two years ago when 25% was in fair condition and 75% was in poor or bad condition.

### Chemical river water quality

**3.87** Table 3.27 shows an assessment of the amount of ammonia and oxygen in rivers.

District	Good %	Fair %	Poor %	Bad %	Total km
Knowsley	7.5	57.4	8.5	26.6	28.1
Halton	11.0	54.6	26.4	8.0	29.2
Liverpool	6.7	75.9	11.6	5.8	12.7
Sefton	7.5	84.0	5.9	2.6	47.5
St. Helens	37.5	47.3	15.2	0.0	38.2
Wirral	0.0	13.5	61.2	25.3	31.0
North West	63.2	28.9	7.0	0.8	5424.5

Source: Environment Agency Biology General Quality Assessment 2006

**3.88** In 2006, 7.5% of the length of rivers in Knowsley could be described as “Good”, 57.4% as “Fair” and 35.1% as either “Poor” or “Bad”. Overall the condition of the chemical content continued to improve between 2005 and 2006 with a reduction of the percentage of river length reducing from 32.9% to 22.6% in the “Bad” category and an increase from 0.4% to 7.5% in the “Good” category.

### Air

**3.89** Part IV of the Environment Act requires that local authorities assess the air quality in their area against national objectives. Where air quality in an area fails to meet these standards, the authority must declare an Air Quality Management Area and devise an Air Quality Action Plan. Local air quality is continually monitored by the planning system and traffic information to ensure that all Air Quality Objectives are met. There are no Air Quality Management Areas within the Borough.

### Green Belt

**3.90** Green Belts have five purposes:

- to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas;
- to prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another;
- to assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment;
- to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; and
- to assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.

**3.91** The Green Belt also has recreational, health and environmental benefits. The Borough contains 4,644 ha of land that is designated as Green Belt. This represents 54% of the Borough.

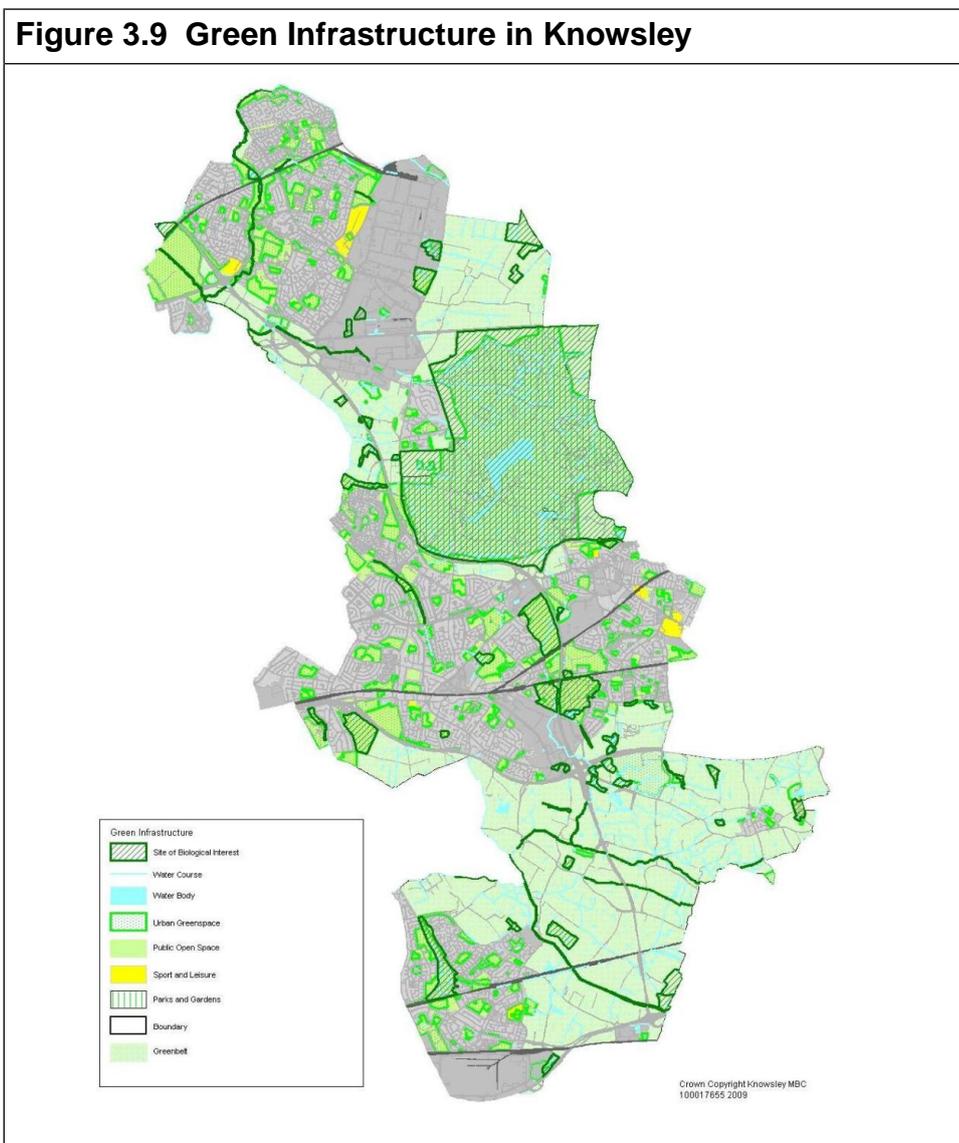
## Knowsley in 2009 3

**3.92** Policy RDF 4 says that there is no need for any exceptional substantial strategic change to Green Belt before 2011. It further states that after 2011 the presumption will be against exceptional substantial strategic change. The Core Strategy Issues and Options Paper includes three spatial options including an option for Sustainable Urban Extensions. This option acknowledges that, in order to meet the Borough's development needs in the later years of the plan period, there may be a need to enlarge the urban area into areas currently defined as Green Belt.

### Urban Greenspace, Sport and Recreation

**3.93** The Borough's natural environment and network of greenspaces is one of its greatest assets. The urban areas contain a network of open spaces of various types, which contribute hugely to the quality of life and health of Knowsley's residents and the image of the Borough. They form part of what is now called "green infrastructure"

**Figure 3.9 Green Infrastructure in Knowsley**



**3.94** The urban areas contain a network of open spaces, some of which is high quality. This includes some of the borough's parks with green flag status or linked to popular tourist destinations such as Knowsley Safari Park, the grounds of Knowsley Hall and the National Wild Flower Centre.

### 3 Knowsley in 2009

**3.95** The Borough contains eight open spaces that are managed to Green Flag Award standard (see Table 3.28). This represents 17.3% of the open space that is eligible for a Green Flag award. This year Sawpit Park and Mc Goldrick Park were successful in achieving the standard.

**3.96** The Council's Greenspace Strategy, when adopted, will identify key objectives for the protection and enhancement of green space. It will identify additional open spaces that it intends will be managed to Green Flag Standards. The Local Development Framework will need to support this strategy.

Court Hey Park, Huyton	13.4
Henley Park, Whiston	2.4
King George V Playing Fields, Huyton	13.7
Knowsley Cemetery, Whiston	2.2
Mc Goldrick Park, Huyton	4.9
Millbrook Park Millennium Green, Kirkby	13.9
St. Chad's Gardens, Kirkby	1.3
Sawpit Park, Huyton	1.2
Source: Knowsley MBC -Directorate of Neighbourhood Delivery	

**3.97** The Greenspace Standards and New Development Supplementary Planning Document was adopted in November 2007. It sets minimum standards for the quality, quantity and accessibility of different forms of greenspace in the urban area. The general principle is that where there is a "surplus" of a particular type of greenspace there may be scope to redevelop some of the areas for other uses, however this is not the case where the area is in "deficit". The approach aims to ensure that investment in the Borough's urban greenspaces is targeted to those areas in greatest need. It has been utilised to draw out appropriate contributions from developers to help improve the quantity, quality and accessibility of the Borough's greenspaces.

**3.98** The Council is currently undertaking a new audit of open spaces to highlight the areas in the Borough facing the greatest quantitative need for different types of greenspaces and those areas where the spaces need to be improved in quality or made more accessible. A key issue for the Core Strategy is whether the standards for greenspace provision in the urban area need to be changed. Do they reflect the up to date sporting and recreational needs of the community?

#### Sites of Environmental Importance

**3.99** Knowsley does not have any Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, or Ramsar sites. It does however have 64 Sites of Biological Interest, 4 Sites of Local Geological Interest and 1 Local Nature Reserve. Table 3.29 shows a summary of their general location. Appendix 6 contains a full listing of sites. Details of all site evaluations can be obtained by contacting the Council's Directorate of Regeneration, Economy and Skills.

## Knowsley in 2009 3

Site Location:	Sites of Biological Interest	Sites of Local Geological Interest	Local Nature Reserve
Sites in North Kirkby	6	0	1
Sites in South Kirkby	9	1	0
Sites in Prescott, Whiston and Cronton	18	1	0
Sites in North Huyton, Stockbridge Village and Knowsley Village	8	2	0
Sites in South Huyton	7	0	0
Sites in Halewood and Tarbock	16	0	0
Source: Replacement Unitary Development Plan, 2006			

**3.100** Seven of the sites in Table 3.29 were monitored by Merseyside Environment Advisory Service (MEAS) during 2008 as part of the ten year rolling programme of all sites. The sites monitored in the summer of 2008 were:

- Mine Waste, Cronton
- Huyton Lane wetland, Huyton
- Pex hill country park
- Halewood Triangle
- Flood Plain, Ditton Brook, Halewood
- Stadt Moers
- Big water and Big water wood, Halsnead

**3.101** The Flood Plain at Ditton Brook has lost approximately 1.5 ha of land to agriculture. Five of the sites are owned and managed by the Council with the privately owned site not under any formal management. Of concern is that:

- burning, rubbish and tipping was recorded six times at four sites. Big Water and Big Water Wood was found to have a large amount of tipping and litter;
- invasive species were recorded at five sites in Knowsley. Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam were recorded at two sites each; and
- six out of the seven sites monitored were found to be under some form of management. Three sites were recorded as management being positive for conservation; two sites were recorded as negative for conservation.

Loss	Addition	Total
1.5	0	-1.5

## 3 Knowsley in 2009

### Listed buildings

**3.102** A Listed Building is a structure which is included on a statutory list because it is recognised for its special architectural or historic interest. Knowsley has 98 listings covering 120 listed buildings of which 1 is Grade I, 3 are Grade II\*, and 116 are grade II. There are currently no Knowsley listed buildings on the national buildings at risk register. See Appendix H for a register of listed buildings in Knowsley.

### Conservation Areas

**3.103** A Conservation Area is an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. They are often focused on Listed Buildings; but not always. It is the overall character of the area which the designation of a Conservation Area seeks to preserve or enhance, rather than just the individual buildings.

**3.104** There are 15 conservation areas within Knowsley. Table 3.31 shows their locations. Three of the conservation areas are designated as Article 4 conservation areas where certain permitted development rights have been withdrawn. In 2005 a Conservation Area Appraisal was drafted for each area. A Conservation Area Appraisal re-assesses the character of a conservation areas and notes any changes which have occurred since its designation such as new developments or changes to specific buildings and streetscapes.

**3.105** As part of the continuing process, conservation management plans will be drafted for each of the conservation areas with management proposals for a five year period.

Table 3.31 - Conservation Areas
Conservation Area
Prescot Town Centre
Old Hall Lane, Kirkby
Ingoe Lane, Kirkby
Ribblers Lane, Kirkby
South Park Road, Kirkby
North Park Road, Kirkby
Huyton Church, Huyton
The Orchard, Huyton
Victoria Road/Church Road, Huyton
Roby, Huyton
Halewood Village
Knowsley Village
Tarbock Village
Tarbock Green
Town End, Cronton

**3.106** There are currently no designated ancient monuments in Knowsley.

## Knowsley in 2009 3

**3.107** Merseyside Archaeological Services have ownership of the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and are contracted by the Council to update and manage the data sets.

Derelict and Previously Developed Land (PDL)

**3.108** Table 3.32 contains a summary of the 2008 National Land Use Database (NLUD) of previously developed land (PDL) and buildings that are vacant. It is an important record that will assist in helping the Borough maximise the use of previously developed land and buildings.

**3.109** In 2008 Knowsley had 147 vacant building and sites covering 227.0 ha.

Table 3.32 - National Land Use Database (2008)		
	Number of sites	Area (ha)
Previously developed land now vacant.	86	96.8
Vacant buildings.	10	1.2
Derelict land and buildings.	25	39.6
Previously developed land or buildings currently in use and allocated in Unitary Development Plan or with planning permission.	15	85.3
Previously developed land or buildings currently in use with redevelopment potential but no planning allocation or permission.	11	4.1
Total	147	227.0
Source: Forward Planning Section, Knowsley MBC		

**3.110** Previous surveys excluded sites smaller than 0.25 ha. The 2008 survey, however, included all sites irrespective of size.

## 3 Knowsley in 2009

### Policy Implications

If the Borough is to meet the land requirements identified in the draft employment and housing land studies, some changes to Green Belt are likely to be required.

The Local Development Framework (LDF) needs to ensure that development is built in sustainable locations and does not adversely affect the built environment especially Listed Buildings and Conservation Area.

It will also will need to ensure that it does not adversely affect the natural environment including river water, air quality, and sites of environmental importance.

The LDF will need to consider ways of reducing the amount of waste being sent to landfill.

It will need to consider how more energy can be generated from renewable sources and ensure that if a development contributes to climate change then its effect is mitigated against.

The Merseyside Local Transport Plan and the Council's Greenspace Strategy should be supported through the LDF.

The LDF should consider whether the standards for greenspace provision in the urban area reflect the sporting and recreational needs of the community.

## Infrastructure

### Transport

**3.111** Many issues relating to transport are dealt with through the second Merseyside Local Transport Plan (LTP2) which contains the detailed strategy policies, proposals and programme for investment in transport. The second Merseyside Local Transport Plan covers the period from 2006 – 2011 and work has started on its replacement which will be the third Local Transport Plan for the region. The aims and objectives of the second Local Transport Plan will be interlinked with the aims of the emerging Core Strategy to provide for the integration of land use and transport planning.

**3.112** The Council is currently developing the "Ensuring a Choice of Travel Supplementary Planning Document". It will seek to guide development into the most sustainable locations and enhance provision of walking and cycling routes.

**3.113** Table 3.33 shows car ownership in 2001 when 41.8 % of households did not have access to a car. This was the second highest in Greater Merseyside with only Liverpool having a lower car ownership. Table 3.34, however, shows that it did have a large proportion of persons in employment (excluding home workers) who travel to work by car (66%).

	Knowsley		North West	England
	Number	%	%	%
Households with no cars or vans	25,287	41.8	30.2	26.8
Households with one car or van	24,745	40.9	43.5	43.7
Households with two cars or vans	8,946	14.8	21.5	23.6

## Knowsley in 2009 3

Households with three cars or van	1,274	2.1	3.7	4.52
Households with four or more cars or vans	301	0.5	1.02	1.39
Source: 2001 Census				

	Number	Percent
Bus	37	13.1
Car / van	195	68.9
Cycle	3	1.1
Taxi	5	1.8
Train	11	3.9
Walk	29	10.2
Other	3	1.1
Source: Countywide Household Travel Interview Survey 2008		

**3.114** The Regional Spatial Strategy (2008) sets maximum parking standards for each development determined by the type of use and size of development. Table 3.35 shows the number of completed retail, industry and leisure developments complying with the car-parking standards.

Development types.	Number of new developments completed.	Number of new developments on sites complying with Regional Transport Strategy maximum parking standards.	Percentage complying with Regional Transport Strategy parking standards.
New retail developments (UCO class A)	0	0	
New industrial and commercial developments (UCO class B)	11	10	91%
New leisure developments (UCO class D)	0	0	
Individual site details are contained in Appendix 5.			

**3.115** One development was six spaces in excess of the RSS (2008) car parking provision of 8 places. Additional spaces were required for vehicles being serviced and recovery vehicles.

## 3 Knowsley in 2009

**3.116** Table 3.36 shows how accessible new residential development is to essential services. It shows that all new residential development has been built in sustainable locations.

Table 3.36 – Amount of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of: a GP; a hospital; a primary school; a secondary school; areas of employment; and a major retail centre(s).		
	Number of dwellings	Percentage
Residential Development within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP	309	100
Residential Development within 30 minutes public transport time of a hospital	309	100
Residential Development within 30 minutes public transport time of primary school	309	100
Residential Development within 30 minutes public transport time of a secondary school	309	100
Residential Development within 30 minutes public transport time of area of employment	309	100
Residential Development within 30 minutes public transport time of major retail centre	309	100
Source: Transport Section Knowsley MBC		

**3.117** In March 2000 the Department for Transport produced 'Tomorrow's Roads – Safer for Everyone'. It outlined the Government's road safety strategy and put forward new casualty reduction targets to be achieved by 2010 when compared to 1994-1998 baseline average figures. The national targets are:

- a 40% reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents; and
- a 50% reduction in the number of children killed or seriously injured.

**3.118** As a whole, Merseyside has agreed to a stretched target of a 55% reduction in the number of children killed or seriously injured. In order to achieve this Knowsley's target has been stretched further to require a 64% reduction. Knowsley is currently on target to achieve this reduction.

**3.119** Tables 3.37 and 3.38 show the number of casualties for all people and also for children.

Table 3.37 – Number of people killed or seriously injured in Road Traffic Accidents						
District	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Knowsley	53	63	66	56	53	57
Liverpool	339	303	282	230	195	180
St Helens	87	81	70	70	51	70
Sefton	106	121	94	100	89	100
Wirral	196	202	198	170	157	145

## Knowsley in 2009 3

Merseyside	781	770	710	626	545	552
Source: 2020 Knowsley Ltd on behalf of Knowsley MBC						

Table 3.38 – Number of children killed or seriously injured in Road Traffic Accidents						
District	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Knowsley	12	15	15	11	9	8
Liverpool	68	64	62	43	39	31
St Helens	12	14	14	9	3	11
Sefton	12	19	17	11	15	17
Wirral	32	26	38	33	24	14
Merseyside	136	138	146	107	90	81
Source: 2020 Knowsley Ltd on behalf of Knowsley MBC						

## Summary

**3.120** The population of Knowsley has been in decline for 25 years but has stabilised over the last 10 to 15 years. The official population projections from 2006 show an increase to 2021. The structure of the population is moving to a more aging population. Although life expectancy has increased, the Borough is ranked among the worst in the Country. In 2001, a large proportion of residents (24.7%) said that they had a limiting long-term illness. An increasing aging population may increase this problem.

**3.121** Knowsley is ranked high in all measures of deprivation. It has a high crime rate and a very low measure of educational attainment. Although educational attainment continues to increase, it is still among the lowest in the country. The level of educational attainment for boys is particularly low. Educational attainment remains a priority for the Council and its partners. Knowsley has the highest proportion of 16 to 18 year olds that is not in education, employment or training.

**3.122** There are currently 64,629 dwellings in Knowsley, of which 3073 (4.75%) are empty.

**3.123** Households in the Borough are comparatively large with a high proportion containing dependant children. There is also a high proportion of lone parent families. The number of households is projected to rise by 9,000 by between 2006 and 2026.

**3.124** Generally, pay levels for residents is low. The average house price is 4.8 times the average annual pay for a resident working full-time.

**3.125** The Council commissioned a housing needs study in 2007. It concluded that there is a strong indication of an affordability problem in Knowsley. The Study predicted that 826 units of affordable housing would be required annually and that this should be split 50% social rented and 50% intermediate housing. These units would not necessarily all be new build as a large proportion of units could come from the second hand market. Last year 34 affordable dwellings were completed and 124 were demolished.

## 3 Knowsley in 2009

**3.126** The 2007 Housing Needs Study found that 9.7% of residents consider their homes to be inadequate of whom 57.6% said that they could not afford to move to a home of suitable size. It found that demand for one bedroom accommodation exceeds supply in most areas of the Borough, most significantly in Huyton. Last year in Knowsley, no one bedroom accommodation was built. There is a large shortfall of two bedroom accommodation, mainly flats, in south Huyton; in north Huyton, however, there is a large surplus of two bedroom houses. There is a shortfall of three bedroom accommodation in Halewood and south Kirkby. There is a surplus of four bedroom accommodation all areas except in the Prescott / Whiston / Cronton and Knowsley Village area.

**3.127** The Study suggested that the Local Development Framework could consider an overall affordable housing target of up to 35% of new units from the total of all suitable sites, subject to site viability.

**3.128** The Council has commissioned a refresh of the housing needs study using data for the 2008 – 2009 financial year. The study will illustrate the effects of the current economic recession on Knowsley's housing market. Although the report is yet to be finalised, early indications show that there is still an affordability problem in Knowsley.

**3.129** The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the North West was published in 2008 but with a start date of 2003 for its housing target. The demolition of dwellings in Action Areas, the housing restraint policy, the backdating of housing requirement to 2003, together with a downturn in the economy, has led to a shortfall of 1,517 dwellings. The Council has been advised by Knowsley Housing Trust (KHT) of further demolitions in addition to the demolitions in North Huyton. On the sites released by the 475 demolitions, KHT have identified proposed redevelopments comprising a total of 287 dwellings resulting in a net loss of 188 dwellings.

**3.130** In order to meet the 2008 RSS requirement, an average of 592 dwellings will have to be built each year to 2021. This includes the 450 requirement, plus shortfall in the first six years, plus replacement of demolitions. The Council has identified sufficient land to accommodate over 4,200 dwellings. These can be delivered in the next five years. If 592 dwellings were to be built each year, sufficient land will be available for over 7 years.

**3.131** A Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) is currently being developed in partnership with two neighbouring authorities. The purpose of the study was to identify land that will be required for housing for the next 15 years. The draft SHLAA was published in June for a 6 week consultation period. The draft findings identified a 5-year deliverable supply of housing land and a further supply of "developable" housing land within the urban area, which equates to under 10 years supply in total. This is well short of the 15 year supply needed for the Core Strategy.

**3.132** In order for the RSS housing requirement to be met land will need to be provided for approximately 10,000 new dwellings. The Core Strategy Issues and Options paper will consider three strategic options to meet development needs. Option A – Urban Concentration would enable about 5,500 dwellings to be built in the Borough. Option B – Focussed Urban Regeneration would enable about 6,500 dwellings to be built in the Borough. Option C – Sustainable Urban extensions would enable all housing need to be built in the Borough but may result in the loss of some Green Belt land mostly after the next ten years. Under Options A and B the shortfall would have to be met in adjoining districts.

**3.133** The submitted draft of the North West Plan Partial Review requires Knowsley to identify a minimum of ten permanent and five transit Gypsies and Travellers pitches between 2007 and 2016. There are currently no permanent or transit pitches in the Borough. The Local Development Framework will need to consider how and where site(s) for Gypsies and Travellers can be provided.

**3.134** There is currently 146.6 ha of land that is available for employment purposes, the vast majority of which is available for all employment types. The *Joint Employment Land Study Consultation Draft Report (2009)*, however, found that about 83 hectares is available

## Knowsley in 2009 3

or will be so within three years. The study concluded that Knowsley needs an additional 95 to 111 hectares of employment land in the period up to 2026, although up to 63 hectares could be provided through the remodelling of the existing employment areas.

**3.135** The Core Strategy Issues and Options Paper includes three spatial options including an option for Sustainable Urban Extensions. This option acknowledges that, in order to meet the Borough's development needs in the later years of the plan period, there may be a need to enlarge the urban area into areas currently defined as Green Belt.

**3.136** Last year there has been a considerable increase in the amount of employment floorspace completed. The majority of development occurred in the Knowsley Industrial and Business Parks.

**3.137** Knowsley's town centres of Huyton, Prescot and especially Kirkby are failing to perform well as locations for shopping, leisure and others town centres uses and suffer from high levels of 'leakage' of expenditure to other centres.

**3.138** Knowsley has 20 smaller local centres plus a number of smaller parades some of which are experiencing difficulties. A key issue for the Core Strategy to address is how can we ensure a sustainable and successful future for Knowsley's local shopping centres and parades?

**3.139** 54,840 of the Borough's residents are in employment. Car ownership is low but the Borough has a high proportion of persons travelling to work in the Borough by car. The majority of people who work in the Borough live outside the Borough. The majority of residents who work are employed outside of the Borough. Although Knowsley residents receive the lowest weekly wage on Merseyside, people who work in Knowsley receive the highest weekly wage.

**3.140** The second Merseyside Local Transport Plan covers the period from 2006 – 2011 and work has started on its replacement which will be the third Local Transport Plan for the region. The aims and objectives of the second Local Transport Plan will be interlinked with the aims of the emerging Core Strategy to provide for the integration of land use and transport planning.

**3.141** The Council is currently developing a transport SPD to be called "Ensuring a Choice of Travel". It will seek to guide development into the most sustainable locations and enhance provision of walking and cycling routes.

**3.142** Last year, almost 75% of municipal waste was disposed of by landfill.

**3.143** The Borough contains 4,644 ha of land that is designated as Green Belt. This represents 54% of the Borough. The Borough also contains a large number of open spaces including some maintained to Green Flag standard. The quality of the rivers in the Borough has improved in the last year and there are no Air Quality Management Areas within the Borough. The majority of land that is at risk of flooding is in the Green Belt.

## 3 Knowsley in 2009

## Effectiveness of Current Planning Policies 4

## 4. Effectiveness of Current Planning Policies

**4.1** The Replacement Unitary Development Plan (UDP) for Knowsley was adopted by the Council on 14th June 2006. The UDP, together with the Regional Spatial Strategy forms the “development plan for the Borough.

**4.2** Table 4.1 contains the objectives of the Unitary Development Plan, its targets and the indicators used to assess how effective the policies have been to achieve the objectives.

Table 4.1 Unitary Development Plan Objectives		
Objective	Related Policies	Targets
1. To provide additional housing in a range of locations consistent with the requirements of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West.	H1 H2	Net 230 dwellings/ year. Priority to urban regeneration to be built on Brownfield sites.
Policy H1 lapsed on 14 June 2009. Policy H2 allocated 8 sites for housing development. Three of the sites currently have planning permission but development has not commenced on any of the sites. The new Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) requirement is 450 dwellings per year but, since 2003, there has been an average of less than 300 net completions per year. This is because there has been a large number of demolitions in Action Areas and a housing constraint policy in line with the now lapsed H1 policy and the old RSS limit.		
2. To provide a better choice of housing in terms of tenure, type and market sector which will meet the needs and aspirations of the community.	H3	Wider choice of housing in Tower Hill and North Huyton Action Areas.
Last year no one bedroom accommodation and very few 4 bedroom accommodation were built. Most accommodation was either two bedroom (46%) or three bedroom (52%) houses. Only a small proportion of completed dwellings were flats / apartments. Development has commenced in North Huyton Action Area but the economic downturn has delayed commencement of the Tower Hill (Kirkby) Action Area.		
3. To provide a comprehensive range of employment sites and premises of different sizes, types and locations, and to safeguard existing employment land and buildings that are needed.	EC2 EC5	105.2 ha of land was allocated for employment uses.
There is currently 146.6 ha of land that is available for employment purposes, the vast majority of which is available for all employment types. The Consultation Draft Employment Land Study, however, found that about 83 hectares is available or will be so within three years. The study concluded that Knowsley needs an additional 95 to 111 hectares of employment land in the period up to 2026.		
4. To facilitate development that safeguards or creates employment, particularly in the North West Development Agency’s target growth sectors.	CP1 EC4	Within the Strategic Employment Locations the main priority will be the provision of new industrial or business uses which will safeguard or provide jobs.
There is currently 123.4 ha of land that is allocated but without planning permission in the Strategic Employment Locations		

## 4 Effectiveness of Current Planning Policies

Table 4.1 Unitary Development Plan Objectives

Objective	Related Policies	Targets
5. To improve the provision of shopping, leisure and other uses normally associated with town centres, consistent with local needs, whilst protecting and enhancing the viability and vitality of town, district and local centres in Knowsley.	S1, S3, S4, S5, S6, S8	To maintain the position of Kirkby, Huyton and Prescot town centres in the Merseyside hierarchy.
<p>Policy S3 and S8 lapsed on 14 June 2009. Development has been secured in Huyton on the former Asda Site. Knowsley's town centres of Huyton, Prescot and especially Kirkby are failing to perform well as locations for shopping, leisure and others town centres uses and suffer from high levels of 'leakage' of expenditure to other centres.</p>		
6. To accommodate improvements to the transport network (consistent with the proposals set down in the Merseyside Local Transport Plan), which will support the regeneration objectives of the Plan.	T1, T2, T3, T4	Priority is given to schemes which would provide for development in accordance with the Local Transport Plan.
<p>Policy T4 lapsed on 14 June 2009. Schemes such as improvements to the M62 / M57 / A5300 and the link road to serve the south of Prescot has been completed. The Mersey Tram Scheme may no longer be developed due to lack of finances. The proposed new railway station at Headbolt Lane has also not commenced.</p>		
7. To protect and where possible increase opportunities for education, recreation, exercise and play for people in the borough where a need is demonstrated.	OS3 OS4 OS7	Development affecting an existing playing pitch or other formal sporting facility will not be permitted if it would result in any of the community areas having less than 1.85 hectares of playing pitches and other formal sporting facilities provision / 1000 residents available for public use.
<p>The Greenspace Standards and New Development SPD has been utilised to draw out appropriate contributions from developers to help improve the quantity, quality and accessibility of the Borough's greenspaces.</p>		
8. To locate major new development where it is accessible by a choice of walking, cycling and public transport, thereby minimising the need to travel by car.	S1 T1 T5 T6 T7	Proposals for major retail and town centre use development must be in locations which are, or which are capable of being made, easily accessible by public transport, walking and cycling. Priority is given to schemes which provide an enhanced provision of walking and cycling routes. New development should preserve and where possible enhance the walking and cycling network.

## Effectiveness of Current Planning Policies 4

Table 4.1 Unitary Development Plan Objectives		
Objective	Related Policies	Targets
It is anticipated that the Ensuring a Choice of Travel SPD will be adopted in March 2010.		
9. To make efficient use of previously developed land and buildings in providing land for new development.	H2, EC2	Development on Greenfield sites only in exceptional circumstances. At least 65% of new residential development to be on Previously Developed Land.
In the last year 97% of houses built were built on land that had previously been developed. For employment land, 50% of developed floorspace was on land that had previously been developed. Only 34.7% of land that is available for employment purposes is on land that has previously been developed.		
10. To ensure that waste management, minerals and energy production proposals accord with strategic sustainability objectives for Merseyside and the region as a whole and comply with best environmental practice.	MW1 MW2 MW4 MW5 MW7	Proposals for the winning and working of minerals in Knowsley should seek to demonstrate that they are environmentally acceptable.  A reduction in the amount of waste going to landfill. Achieve regional waste management self-sufficiency in the North West.  Large scale new residential, commercial and industrial developments to produce at least 10% of predicted energy requirements from renewable resources.
The amount of waste going to landfill reduced last year to 74.9%. The Waste Development Plan Document will look toward making Merseyside self sufficient in waste management. Last year, 11 planning permissions contained a condition that required developments to produce at least 10% of their predicted energy need from renewable resources.		
11. To protect the openness and character of the Green Belt from inappropriate development.	CP2 G1 ENV8	To protect the openness and character of the Green Belt from inappropriate development.
Indications from the draft Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment and the draft Employment Land and Premises Study indicate that an extension of the urban areas into the Green Belt may be required in the later years of the Local Development Framework plan period.		
12. To support the rural economy by encouraging appropriate forms of rural diversification, and protecting agricultural land of the best and most versatile quality from permanent loss.	G3 G4	Agricultural land grades 1, 2 and 3A will be protected.

## 4 Effectiveness of Current Planning Policies

Table 4.1 Unitary Development Plan Objectives

Objective	Related Policies	Targets
<p>Although these policies were used on only a few occasions it does not mean that they are not useful and needed. It is not known how many proposals did not come to application stage because of constraints contained within the policy.</p> <p>The issues and option paper recognises that the Core Strategy will need to strike a balance between the conservation and protection of the countryside and the promotion of a viable rural economy.</p>		
13. To protect and where possible enhance the contribution made by open space to visual and residential amenity, ecology, culture, communities, health, access and strategic functions of space.	OS1 OS2 OS3 OS4 OS5	Substantial residential areas should have 0.5 ha general amenity use / 1000 residents, 0.05 ha allotments / 1000 residents, 0.2 ha for children's play / 1000 residents, and 1.85 ha of formal sporting facilities available for public use / 1000 residents.
<p>The Greenspace Standards and New Development SPD has been utilised to draw out appropriate contributions from developers to help improve the quantity, quality and accessibility of the Borough's greenspaces. Open spaces may come under increasing pressure for development because of the shortage of housing and employment land.</p>		
14. To protect and manage Knowsley's sites and species of nature conservation importance (including those identified as requiring protection in the North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan) and encourage a net gain in the biodiversity resource.	CP2 ENV9 ENV10	No loss or significant adverse effect on nature conservation interests. Development proposals will not be permitted where there is evidence that they would harm, directly or indirectly, a legally protected species or its habitat.
<p>Seven of the sites of environmental importance were monitored by Merseyside Environment Advisory Service during 2008 as part of a ten year rolling programme of all sites.</p> <p>Of concern is that sites have been used for burning rubbish and tipping; also invasive species such as Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam were found on some sites. Since the Flood Plain at Ditton Brook was last monitored it has lost approximately 1.5 ha of land to agriculture.</p>		
15. To ensure that new development protects or enhances the Borough's stock of trees, hedges and woodland.	CP2 DQ1 DQ4	Where tree loss is unavoidable the applicant will be required to make adequate provision for their replacement, normally including two new trees for each tree lost.
16. To ensure that buildings and features which represent the best of Knowsley's historic heritage are preserved or enhanced.	DQ1 DG5 DQ6 DG7 DG8 DQ9 ENV8	New development within or close to a Conservation Area must preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the Area. The Council will prepare Conservation Area Appraisals for each Conservation Area.

## Effectiveness of Current Planning Policies 4

Table 4.1 Unitary Development Plan Objectives		
Objective	Related Policies	Targets
Conservation Area Appraisals have been prepared for each Conservation Area. Conservation management plans will be drafted for each of the conservation areas with management proposals for a five year period.		
17. To ensure that new development protects or enhances the quality of air, land and the water environment in Knowsley.	ENV1	Development will not be permitted which is likely to cause significant harm to amenity as a result of impact on any of the following: a) Air quality; b) The quality of land and soil (due to contamination); or c) The quality of the water environment.
There are no Air Quality Management Areas in the Borough. Although 50% of Knowsley's river can be described as biologically "poor" and over 35% of Knowsley's rivers are either chemically "poor" or "bad", the condition continues to improve.		
18. To stimulate a high design quality in new development which will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• help to create a sense of place and pride in Knowsley and its constituent communities;</li> <li>• respond to and enhance the character of the townscape and landscape; and</li> <li>• make the Borough a more attractive place to live and invest in.</li> </ul>	CP3 DQ1 DQ3 DQ5 DQ7 DQ8	Protect and enhance the environment and amenities of people who live, work in and visit Knowsley. New development should be of a high quality design which will enhance the characteristics of the immediately surrounding area.
The Development Quality policies have been extensively used to ensure high quality design.		
19. To ensure that the design of new development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provides for good levels of amenity and does not cause harm to amenities that ought to be protected in the public interest;</li> <li>• provides a good level of accessibility to the whole community (including the less mobile) making appropriate and safe provision for vehicle parking, walking, cycling and public transport; and</li> <li>• discourages criminal activity.</li> </ul>	T1 T6 T7 T9 T10 DQ2	Priority is given to schemes which provide an enhanced provision of walking and cycling routes. All proposals for new development, or for the change of use of existing buildings, will be required to have adequate access for the less mobile or those who have sensory impairments.
It is anticipated that the Ensuring a Choice of Travel SPD will be adopted in March 2010.		

## 4 Effectiveness of Current Planning Policies

**4.3** The Replacement UDP comprised 82 policies which have generally been successful in meeting the UDP's objectives although further progress is needed in some areas such as town centre regeneration. Under the new planning system, policies can be 'saved' for three years after adoption of the Unitary Development Plan. Policies can continue to be 'saved' beyond three years, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, provided that they are still up to date and are compliant with the new planning system. On 12 June 2009, the Secretary of State approved the extension of "saving" of all but four policies beyond 16 June 2009. The four policies which are not to be saved and are therefore no longer part of the adopted UDP are:

- Policy H1: Strategic Housing Land Requirements
- Policy S3: Huyton Town Centre
- Policy S8: Location of Development for Town Centre Uses
- Policy T4: Major Highway Schemes

**4.4** The four policies that were not 'saved' beyond June 2009 were allowed to lapse because (in the case of policy H1) the housing target of 230 completions per annum was superseded by the higher target of 450 per annum in the new RSS. In the case of policy S8 the policy was not in line with emerging changes to retail policy at the national level. Policy S3 and T4 were allowed to lapse as the developments proposed in these policies had been completed.

**4.5** A copy of the direction from the Secretary of State stating which policies have been saved is available on the Council's LDF web page (<http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/LDF>).

**4.6** Appendix I contains details of how "saved policies" will be replaced. Generally:

- the vision, strategic objectives and core policies (set down in chapters 3 and 4 of the UDP) will be replaced by LDF's Core Strategy;
- the strategic policies (listed in the UDP as "part 1" policies) concerning housing, economic, retail/town centres, transport, Green Belt, urban greenspace, development quality, minerals, and environmental protection will be replaced by the LDF's Core Strategy;
- the land allocations for housing, economic and shopping development would be replaced by the Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document;
- development control policies will be replaced by Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document, and
- policies on waste management will be replaced by the joint Merseyside Development Plan Document on Waste.

## Progress on the Local Development Framework 5

### 5. Progress on the Local Development Framework

**5.1** The purpose of this chapter is to set out the progress on the production of the Local Development Framework.

**5.2** Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, local authorities are required to produce a portfolio of documents called a Local Development Framework (LDF).

**5.3** Transitional arrangements in the Act allowed local authorities to progress the production of development plans already commenced under the previous Act. The Knowsley Unitary Development Plan (UDP) was adopted by the Council on 14 June 2006 under the transitional arrangements.

**5.4** The LDF and Regional Spatial Strategy together form the statutory "development plan" for the Borough. The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the North West was published on 30 September 2008. All new LDF documents now have to be in general accordance with it.

**5.5** The first document to be produced as part of the Knowsley Local Development Framework (LDF) was the Local Development Scheme (LDS). The LDS is a project plan for the LDF.

**5.6** The purpose of the LDS is to:

- list the other documents that will form part of the LDF,
- outline the timetable showing when each stage of production will take place,
- list the policies in the adopted Unitary Development Plan that will continue to operate, i.e. be 'saved',
- describe the relationship between the documents that are to be produced, and
- outline how progress will be monitored.

**5.7** The preparation of the Local Development Framework is a continuous process and the Local Development Scheme is updated periodically to identify which documents are to be prepared in the subsequent three years. The Council published a second revision to the LDS in January 2009. A copy of the current LDS is available on the Council's LDF web page (<http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/LDF>) together with a "real time" update of progress of LDF documents.

#### Production of the Local Development Framework

Document Title	Stage	LDS Date	Actual date
Core Strategy	Public participation: Issues and Options	May / June 2009	Now likely to be November 2009 to January 2010
	Public Participation: Preferred Options	January / February 2010	Now likely to be September to October 2011
	Date for Publication	September 2010	Now likely to be March 2011
	Submission To Secretary of State	November 2010	Now likely to be May 2011
	Examination in public	April 2011	Now likely to be October 2011
	Adoption	September 2011	Now likely to be March 2012

## 5 Progress on the Local Development Framework

Table 5.1 Local Development Framework Current Progress

Document Title	Stage	LDS Date	Actual date
Site Allocations & Development Policies Development Plan Document	Public participation: Issues and Options	May / June 2010	Dates to be confirmed subject to progress on the Core Strategy.
	Public Participation: Preferred Options	January / February 2011	Dates to be confirmed subject to progress on the Core Strategy.
	Date for Publication	September 2011	Dates to be confirmed subject to progress on the Core Strategy.
	Submission To Secretary of State	November 2011	Dates to be confirmed subject to progress on the Core Strategy.
	Examination in public	April 2012	Dates to be confirmed subject to progress on the Core Strategy.
	Adoption	September 2012	Dates to be confirmed subject to progress on the Core Strategy.
Joint Merseyside Waste Development Plan Document	Public participation: Issues and Options Report	Complete	April 2007
	Public participation: preferred options and proposals	June / July 2009	Now likely to be February to March 2010.
	Date for Publication	February 2010	Now likely to be November 2010.
	Submission To Secretary of State	April 2010	Now likely to be February 2011.
	Examination in public	August / September 2010	Now likely to be May to June 2011.
	Adoption	May 2011	Now likely to be February 2012.
Ensuring a Choice of Travel SPD	Public Participation: Draft SPD	June 2009	Now likely to be January 2010
	Adoption & Publication	August 2009	Now likely to be March 2010
Design Quality in New Development SPD	Public Participation: Draft SPD	May 2009	Now likely to be March 2010
	Adoption & Publication	July 2009	Now likely to be June 2011

## Progress on the Local Development Framework 5

Document Title	Stage	LDS Date	Actual date
Annual Monitoring Report	Publication	December each year	December 2009

**5.8** Table 5.1 shows the milestones contained within the second review of the Local Development Scheme (LDS) together with the date that the stage was achieved or likely to be achieved.

- The Core Strategy and the Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document were delayed with public participation on the Issues and Options likely to commence in November 2009. The Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document will follow one year behind the Core Strategy.
- A formal commitment has been agreed by the Merseyside Districts and Halton Council to produce a joint Merseyside Waste Development Plan Document (Waste DPD). The proposed Waste DPD is Merseyside's preferred approach to implementing the principles of sustainable waste management for all waste streams. The Waste DPD will ensure the right mixes of sites are identified, to maximise the potential for driving waste up the hierarchy. The start of the Preferred Options stage will now take place in February / March 2010. It is intended that the joint Waste DPD will be adopted in 2012.
- Public participation on the Ensuring a Choice of Travel SPD will now commence in January 2010 with likely adoption in June 2010.
- Public participation on the Design Quality in New Development SPD will now commence in January 2010 with likely adoption in June 2010.
- The 2008 Annual Monitoring Report was submitted to the Secretary of State before the deadline of 31 December 2008. This report will be submitted to the Secretary of State before the deadline of 31 December 2009.

## 5 Progress on the Local Development Framework

## 6. Conclusions

**6.1** The population of Knowsley has been in decline for 25 years but has stabilised over the last 10 to 15 years. The population is projected to increase over the coming years, but the structure of the population is changing to a more aging population. Although life expectancy has increased, the Borough is ranked among the worst in the Country. In the 2001 Census, a large proportion of residents (24.7%) said that they had a limiting long-term illness. An increasing aging population may make this problem worse.

**6.2** Despite significant progress made in recent years, Knowsley is still ranked high in all measures of deprivation. It has a high crime rate compared to many other areas and a low measure of educational attainment. Although educational attainment continues to increase, the level for the Borough is still among the lowest in the country. The level of educational attainment for boys is particularly low.

**6.3** Households in the Borough are comparatively large with a high proportion containing dependant children and lone parent households. The number of households in Knowsley is projected to rise by 7,000 over the Local Development Framework plan period.

**6.4** The Council commissioned a housing needs study in 2007 which concluded that there is a strong indication of an affordability problem in Knowsley. The Study found that 9.7% of residents consider their homes to be inadequate. 57.6% of them said that they could not afford to move to a home of suitable size. The study found that:

- demand for one bedroom accommodation exceeds supply in most areas of the Borough, most significantly in Huyton (in Knowsley last year no one bedroom accommodation was built);
- there is a large shortfall two bedroom accommodation, mainly flats, in south Huyton, however, in north Huyton there is a large surplus of two bedroom houses;
- there is a shortfall of three bedroom accommodation in Halewood and south Kirkby; and
- there is a surplus of four bedroom accommodation in all areas except in the Prescott / Whiston / Cronton and Knowsley Village area.

**6.5** The Study predicted that 826 units of affordable housing would be required annually and that this should be split 50% social rented and 50% intermediate housing. These units would not necessarily all be new build as a large proportion of units could come from the second hand market. It suggested that the Local Development Framework could consider an overall affordable housing target of up to 35% of new units. The Council has commissioned a refresh of the housing needs study using data for the 2008 – 2009 financial year. Although the report is yet to be finalised, early indications show that there is still an affordability problem in Knowsley. Last year 34 affordable dwellings were completed and 124 were demolished.

**6.6** There are currently 64,629 dwellings in Knowsley, of which 4.75% are empty. The Council is reviewing the enforcement opportunities available to reduce the level of empty properties.

**6.7** Last year 309 dwellings were completed. All of the dwellings were in accessible locations and 97% were on land that had previously been developed.

**6.8** The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the North West was published in 2008 but with a start date of 2003 for its housing target. A Housing Constraint Policy operated in Knowsley from 2005 to 2008 to restrict the number of dwellings being built in excess of the 2003 Regional Spatial Strategy housing target and to protect the priorities of Action Areas. This has contributed to a shortfall of 1,517 dwellings on the 2008 RSS requirement.

**6.9** In order to meet the 2008 RSS requirement, an average of 592 dwellings will have to be built each year to 2021. This includes the 450 RSS requirement, plus shortfall in the first six years, plus replacement of demolitions. Sufficient land has been identified to accommodate over

## 6 Conclusions

4,200 dwellings on sites allocated in the UDP and on site that have planning permission. These can be delivered in the next five years i.e. from April 2009 to March 2014. If 592 dwellings were to be built each year, sufficient land will be available for over 7 years.

**6.10** A Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) is currently being developed in partnership with two adjoining authorities. The purpose of the study was to identify a sufficient quantity of land that will enable the provision of housing that will be required during the next 15 years. The draft SHLAA was published in June for a 6 week consultation period. The draft findings identified a 5-year deliverable supply of housing land and a further supply of “developable” housing land within the urban area. This equates to under 10 years supply in total which is well short of the 15 year supply needed for the Core Strategy.

**6.11** The Core Strategy Issues and Options paper will consider three strategic options to meet development needs. Option A – Urban Concentration would enable about 5,500 dwellings to be built in the Borough. Option B – Focussed Urban Regeneration would enable about 6,500 dwellings to be built in the Borough. Option C – Sustainable Urban extensions would enable all housing need to be built in the Borough but would result in the loss of some Green Belt land mostly after the next ten years. Under Options A and B the shortfall would have to be met in adjoining districts.

**6.12** Car ownership is low but the Borough has a high proportion of persons travelling to work by car. A high proportion of people who work in the Borough live outside the Borough. A high proportion of residents who work are employed outside of the Borough. This suggests that there is a mismatch between jobs provided and resident’s skills. It also shows a possible contribution to climate change and lowering of air quality.

**6.13** 54,840 of the Borough’s residents are in employment. Generally, pay levels for residents is low. The average house price is 4.8 times the average annual pay for a resident working full-time.

**6.14** The submitted draft of the North West Plan Partial Review requires Knowsley to identify land for a minimum of ten permanent pitches and five transit Gypsies and Travellers pitches before 2016. There are currently no permanent or transit pitches in the Borough. The Local Development Framework will need to consider how and where site(s) for Gypsies and Travellers can be provided.

**6.15** The Borough has 146.6 ha of land that is allocated in the UDP for employment purposes, within employment areas, or has planning permission for employment uses. The *Joint Employment Land Study Consultation Draft Report (2009)*, however, states that only 83 ha is available or will be available within three years. The study concluded that the Local Development Framework will need to identify an additional 95 to 111 ha of additional employment land for the period up to 2026. It also stated, however, that up to 63 hectares could be provided through the remodelling of the existing employment areas. Under option A of the Core Strategy Issues and Options Paper there would be a shortfall of approximately 100ha which would have to be provided in adjoining districts. Option B would result in a shortfall of up to 60 ha that would have to be met in adjoining districts. Under option C, a number of locations will need to be explored as potential options for employment development but this may include in the loss of Green Belt land.

**6.16** Knowsley’s town centres of Huyton, Prescot and Kirkby perform a valuable shopping function for local residents. They are, however, failing to perform well as locations for shopping, leisure and other town centres uses and suffer from high levels of ‘leakage’ of expenditure to other centres. The Local Development Framework will have to consider how the vitality and viability of the town centres can be enhanced. Knowsley also has 20 smaller local centres plus a number of smaller parades some of which are experiencing difficulties. A key issue for the Core Strategy to address is how a sustainable and successful future for Knowsley’s local shopping centres and parades can be ensured.

## Conclusions 6

**6.17** Last year, almost 75% of municipal waste was disposed of by landfill. The Local Development Framework will need to consider ways of reducing waste and encouraging re-use, recycling, composting, and energy recovery so that the amount of land fill disposal is reduced.

**6.18** The natural environment is generally fair. The quality of the rivers in the Borough has improved in the last year and there are no Air Quality Management Areas. The Local Development Framework will need to consider the effect that proposed development will have on the environment.

### Effectiveness of current planning policies

**6.19** The Replacement UDP comprised 82 policies which have generally been successful in meeting the UDP's objectives although further progress is needed in some areas such as town centre regeneration.

**6.20** Under the new planning system, policies were automatically 'saved' for three years after adoption of the Plan i.e. up to June 2009 in the case of Knowsley's UDP. Policies could continue to be 'saved' beyond that date, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, provided they were still up to date and compliant with the new planning system.

**6.21** The Council applied to the Secretary of State to "save" most of the policies in the UDP. In a direction dated June 2009<sup>(5)</sup>, the Secretary of State approved the extension of all but four policies. The policies which are not to be saved i.e. which no longer form part of the adopted UDP are:

- Policy H1: Strategic Housing Land Requirements
- Policy S3: Huyton Town Centre
- Policy S8: Location of Development for Town Centre Uses
- Policy T4: Major Highway Schemes

**6.22** The four policies that were not 'saved' beyond June 2009 were allowed to lapse because (in the case of policy H1) the housing target of 230 completions per annum was superseded by the higher target of 450 per annum in the new RSS. In the case of policy S8 the policy was not in line with emerging changes to retail policy at the national level. Policy S3 and T4 were allowed to lapse as the developments proposed in these policies had been completed. The Council intends that the policies which are still "saved" following the Secretary of State's direction will be replaced by policies to be set out in new LDF documents, primarily the Core Strategy and the Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Documents.

### Progress on the Local Development Framework

**6.23** The preparation of the Local Development Framework is a continuous process. The Local Development Scheme (which identifies which documents are to be produced over a three year period) was last updated in 2008. More up to date information is available in a "real time" update which is kept on the Council's website. Generally, production of the Local Development Framework has progressed but there have been some necessary delays.

**6.24** The Core Strategy was delayed due to further evidence gathering. The Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document will follow one year behind the Core Strategy.

<sup>5</sup> Letter from Deputy Regional Director of Government Office for the North West to Knowsley Council dated 12 June 2009 entitled "saved policies"

## 6 Conclusions

**6.25** A formal commitment has been agreed by the Merseyside Districts and Halton Council to produce a joint Merseyside Waste Development Plan Document (Waste DPD). The proposed Waste DPD is Merseyside's preferred approach to implementing the principles of sustainable waste management for all waste streams. It is intended to develop the joint Waste DPD towards adoption in 2012.

**6.26** The Tower Hill (Kirkby) Action Area Supplementary Planning document (SPD) was adopted on 18 April 2007 but a planning application has not been submitted due to the downturn in the economy. There has however been good progress in implementing the regeneration proposals in the North Huyton Action Area Supplementary planning Document, adopted in February 2007. The SPDs covering "Greenspace Standards and New Development" and "Householder Developments" were also adopted in 2007 and are used by the Council to help determine planning applications.

**6.27** It is anticipated that the Design Quality in New Development and the Ensuring a Choice of Travel SPDs will be adopted early in 2010.

## Core Output Indicators A

**Appendix A Core Output Indicators**

Ref.	Description	Indicator
BD1	Total amount of additional employment floorspace – by type	Table 3.20 and Appendix D
BD2	Total Amount of employment floorspace on previously developed land – by type	Table 3.18 and Appendix D
BD3	Employment land available – by type	Table 3.17 and Appendix E
BD4	Total amount of floorspace for ‘town centre uses’	Table 3.20
H1	Plan period and housing targets	Table 3.10
H2(a)	Net additional dwellings – in previous years	Table 3.6
H2(b)	Net additional dwellings – for the reporting year	Table 3.6
H2(c)	Net additional dwellings – in future years	Table 3.12 and Appendix B
H2(d)	Managed delivery target	Paragraph 3.32 and Table 3.11
H3	New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land	Table 3.9
H4	Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller)	Table 3.14
H5	Gross affordable housing completions	Table 3.16
H6	Housing Quality – Building for Life Assessments	Paragraph 3.29
E1	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding and water quality grounds	Table 3.25
E2	Change in areas of biodiversity importance	Table 3.30
E3	Renewable energy generation	Paragraph 3.77
M1	Production of primary land won aggregates by mineral planning authority	Paragraph 3.70
M2	Production of secondary and recycled aggregates by mineral planning authority	Paragraph 3.71
W1	Capacity of new waste management facilities by waste planning authority	Paragraph 3.74
W2	Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type by waste planning authority	Table 3.24

# A Core Output Indicators

# Projected Dwelling Completions by Site B

























## B Projected Dwelling Completions by Site

## Net Completions and 2008 RSS Requirement C

## Appendix C Net Completions and 2008 RSS Requirement

Year	Completion	Demolition	Change of Use / Conversion	Net Dwellings completed	Projected Net Dwellings completed	Dwellings so far in RSS	RSS Requirement	Cumulative RSS Requirement	Surplus / Deficit to Cumulative RSS requirement
2000-01	372	170		202		24	450	450	-426
2001-02	430	236		194		174	450	900	-726
2002-03	407	138	0	269		216	450	1350	-1134
2003-04	490	466	0	24		777	450	1800	-1023
2004-05	549	419	20	150		975	450	2250	-1275
2005-06	410	368	0	42		1183	450	2700	-1517
2006-07	538	12	35	561		1281	450	3150	-1869
2007-08	308	124	14	198	98	1560	450	3600	-2040
2008-09	309	120	19	208	279	2065	450	4050	-1985
2009-10	318	220			505	2509	450	4500	-1991
2010-11	463	184			444	2894	450	4950	-2056
2011-12	605	100			375	3269	450	5400	-2131
2012-13	519	75			422	3691	450	5850	-2159
2013-14	460	75			230	3921	450	6300	-2379
2014-15	450	75			210	4131	450	6750	-2619
2015-16	422	0			170	4301	450	7200	-2899
2016-17	230	0							
2017-18	210	0							
2018-19	170	0							

## C Net Completions and 2008 RSS Requirement

Year	Completion	Demolition	Change of Use / Conversion	Net Dwellings completed	Projected Net Dwellings completed	Dwellings so far in RSS period	RSS Requirement	Cumulative RSS Requirement	Surplus / Deficit to Cumulative RSS requirement
2019-20	150	0	0	150	150	4451	450	7650	-3199
2020-21	135	0	0	135	135	4586	450	8100	-3514
2021-22	100	0	0	100	100	4686	450	8550	-3864
2022-23	100	0	0	100	100	4786	450	9000	-4214
2023-24	100	0	0	100	100	4886	450	9450	-4564
2024-25	100	0	0	100	100	4986	450	9900	-4914
2025-26	109	0	0	109	109	5095	450	10350	-5255

## Land Developed for Employment D

## Appendix D Land Developed for Employment

Planning Application Number	Address	Description	Employment Type	Floorspace (m2) gross	Location	Brownfield	Additional Car Parking Places
04/00937/FUL	Land at Junction of Wilson Road and Link Road, Huyton, Knowsley	Erection of single storey 929sqm industrial unit (B2) comprising 2 no 186sqm units and 2 no 278sqm units with exit route for buses.	B2	929	Out of Centre	No	14
05/00950/FUL	Land adjacent News International, Penrhyn Road	Erection of industrial unit (use class B2), together with alteration to existing vehicular/pedestrian access and construction of associated car parking area	B2	1216	Out of Centre	No	15
07/00746/FUL	Units 16-21, Lion Court, KingsBusinessPark, Prescott	Erection of 6 no. two storey offices with associated car parking and landscaping	B1(a)	6131	Out of Centre	No	199
07/01110/FUL	Ainsworth Lane / Penrhyn Road	Erection of 5 no. commercial buildings (Use Classes B1(c), B2 and B8)	B1(c),B2,B8	8058	Out of Centre	No	151
04/00480/FUL	Land off Deltic Way, KnowsleyIndustrial Park, Kirkby, Knowsley	Erection of 1 no new industrial unit with ancillary office to first floor (B1/ B2 & B8 )	B1/B2/B8	235	Out of Centre	Yes	9
06/00087/FUL	Premises To Rear Of Robcliffe Ltd Ellis Ashton Street Huyton Knowsley L36 6B	Erection of 3 no. Industrial units	B1(c),B2,B8	360	Out of Centre	Yes	14

## D Land Developed for Employment

Planning Application Number	Address	Description	Employment Type	Floorspace (m2) gross	Location	Brownfield	Additional Car Parking Places
06/00369/FUL	Land Formerly Part Of BICC, Cables Way, Prescott, Knowsley	Erection of 11 buildings to accommodate use class B1 managed workspace and office units with associated access, carparking and landscaping.	B1	6950	Out of Centre	Yes	242
06/00541/FUL	Land To Rear Of Acorn Business Centre, Lees Road, Knowsley Industrial Park, Kirkby, Knowsley	Erection of 14 no. Industrial units.	B1(c), B2, B8	1466	Out of Centre	Yes	26
06/00810/FUL	Site Opposite Junction Of Stockpit Road/Ashcroft Road, Knowsley Industrial Park, Kirkby,	Erection of two storey building comprising 1 no. Office unit and 4 no. Industrial units with associated office accommodation, together with construction of car parking & associated works	B1/B2/B8	1224	Out of Centre	Yes	34
07/00144/FUL	Land at Webber Road	Erection of 30 no. Industrial units (use classes B1/B2/B8), associated car parking and landscaping.	B1/B2/B8	5740	Out of Centre	Yes	112
08/00352/FUL	C Four Industries, Yardley Road, Knowsley Industrial Park	Erection of steel portal frame industrial unit	B2	592	Out of Centre	Yes	0
Source: Forward Planning Section Knowsley MBC							

## Employment Land Available by Type E

**Appendix E Employment Land Available by Type****Indicator 1d (i) Employment Land Available by Type**

Reference	Address	Site Area (ha)	Use	Brownfield
<b>Allocation without Planning Permission</b>				
2	Roscoe's Wood, Cronton Road, Huyton (NB site not suitable for B8 uses)	7.9	B1/B2	Yes
	<b>B1/B2 Total</b>	7.9		
1	Ford/Jaguar Expansion Land, Speke Boulevard, Halewood	18.4	B1/B2/B8	No
6	Perimeter Road / Acornfield Road	7.7	B1/B2/B8	No
7	Depot Road	3.2	B1/B2/B8	No
8	Marl Road	0.5	B1/B2/B8	No
9	Arbour Lane	1.4	B1/B2/B8	Yes
10	Hornhouse Lane	3.0	B1/B2/B8	No
12	Britonwood	6.4	B1/B2/B8	No
13	Moss End Way (East)	2.1	B1/B2/B8	No
14	Moss End Way (West)	4.2	B1/B2/B8	No
15	North Perimeter Road / Moss End Way	5.3	B1/B2/B8	No
17	School Boys Plantation, Randles Road	0.5	B1/B2/B8	No
18	Ainsworth Lane / Penrhyn Road	0.7	B1/B2/B8	No
20	Davis' Pits, Randles Road	0.3	B1/B2/B8	No
23	Land at junction of Penrhyn Road/School Lane	0.6	B1/B2/B8	No
24	Land Between Randles Road and School Lane	1.2	B1/B2/B8	No
25	Part of Dairy Crest/Kraft site, A580	3.6	B1/B2/B8	Yes
27	Penrhyn / Villiers Road	2.1	B1/B2/B8	Yes
31	Land adjacent to Knowsley rail freight terminal, Depot Road	1.0	B1/B2/B8	No
32	Land adjacent to Ethel Austin Site, Ainsworth Lane	2.3	B1/B2/B8	No

## E Employment Land Available by Type

### Indicator 1d (i) Employment Land Available by Type

Reference	Address	Site Area (ha)	Use	Brownfield
33	Land at corner of A580/Moorgate Lane	3.3	B1/B2/B8	No
35	Land adjacent Delphi Delco, Hornhouse Lane, adjacent to junction with South Boundary Road	1.9	B1/B2/B8	No
36	Land between Villiers Court and Overbrook Lane	0.5	B1/B2/B8	No
37	Land to the east of Cross Huller, Randles Road/Gellings Road/School Lane	1.0	B1/B2/B8	No
38	Land north of Kodak, Acornfield Road	3.3	B1/B2/B8	No
41	Land adjacent to BASF Coatings and Inks Ltd, Ellis Ashton Street	0.9	B1/B2/B8	No
42	Land adjacent 2 Gladeswood Road, Kirkby Industrial Park	0.5	B1/B2/B8	Yes
174	Pirelli North	2.3	B1/B2/B8	Yes
175	Pirelli South	29.4	B1/B2/B8	Yes
	<b>B1/B2/B8 Total</b>	107.5		
118	Kings Business Park, Liverpool Road, Prescot, Knowsley	1.4	B1/B2, C1	Yes
182	Kings Business Park	6.6	B1/B2, C1	No
	<b>B1/B2, C1 Total</b>	8.0		
	<b>Total Allocation without Planning Permission</b>	123.4		

### Sites in Primarily Industrial Area

103	Land between St. Ivel And Yorkshire Metals, located off East Lancashire Road, Kirkby, Knowsley	8.3	B1/B2/B8	No
166	Woodward Road	0.9	B1/B2/B8	No
167	County Road / Arbour Lane	0.6	B1/B2/B8	No
169	Wilson Road / Brickfields	0.6	B1/B2/B8	No
170	Rear of Garage, Wilson Road	0.7	B1/B2/B8	No

## Employment Land Available by Type E

## Indicator 1d (i) Employment Land Available by Type

Reference	Address	Site Area (ha)	Use	Brownfield
176	Randles Road	0.3	B1/B2/B8	No
177	Ainsworth Lane, Knowsley Business Park	0.4	B1/B2/B8	Yes
184	Kipling Avenue, Huyton	3.6	B1/B2/B8	No
<b>Total Sites in Primarily Industrial Area</b>		15.4		

## Sites with Planning Permission, not started

07/00182/FUL	Land Fronting D Evans Electrical, Wilson Road, Huyton, Knowsley, L36 6JF	0.2	B1	No
05/00788/FUL	Land to rear of Delphi Delco, at junction of South Boundary Road / Hornhouse Lane, Knowsley Industrial Park, Kirkby	0.2	B1(a)	Yes
06/00886/REM	Sidney H Hooper And Co Ltd, Kirkby New Lodge, South Boundary Road, Knowsley Industrial Park, Kirkby, Knowsley, L33 7SF	0.5	B1(a)	Yes
<b>B1 Total</b>		0.9		
07/00729/FUL	Plot 5, Whiston Enterprise Park, Fallows Way	0.6	B1/B2/B8	No
06/00248/FUL	Land to North of CDMS, Fallows Way, Whiston, Knowsley	0.9	B1/B2/B8	No
07/00079/FUL	Gellings Lane / Randles Road	0.9	B1/B2/B8	No
08/00275/FUL	Davis' Pits, Randles Road	0.1	B1/B2/B8	No
07/00072/FUL	Land at junction of Gores Road / Acornfield Road	0.7	B1/B2/B8	No
09/00045/OUT	Rear of Moorgate Point, Moorgate Road	2.6	B1/B2/B8	No
<b>B1/B2/B8 Total</b>		5.7		
08/00730/FUL	Batleys Cash And Carry, Fallows Way, Whiston	1.2	B8	Yes
<b>B8 Total</b>		1.2		

## E Employment Land Available by Type

### Indicator 1d (i) Employment Land Available by Type

Reference	Address	Site Area (ha)	Use	Brownfield
<b>Total Sites with Planning Permission, not started</b>		7.8		
<b>Sites Under Construction</b>				
06/00744/FUL	Part of Yorkshire Imperial Metals off Coopers Lane.	5.1	B1/B2/B8	No
07/00354/FUL	Esselte Ltd, Wilson Road, Huyton	0.8	B2/B8	Yes
<b>Total Sites Under Construction</b>		5.9		

Note: B1 is business use including offices and light industry

B2 is general Industry

B8 is storage and distribution

## Completed Retail, Office, and Leisure Development F

## Appendix F Completed Retail, Office, and Leisure Development

Planning Application Number	Address	Description	Retail Floorspace	Office Floorspace (B1a)	Leisure / Assembly	Location	Brownfield	Additional Car Parking Places
06/00810/FUL	Site Opposite Junction Of Stockpit Road / Ashcroft Road, Knowsley Industrial Park, Kirkby,	Erection of two storey building comprising 1 no. Office unit and 4 no. Industrial units with associated office accommodation, together with construction of car parking & associated works	0	780	0	Out of Centre	Yes	34
07/00746/FUL	Units 16-21, Lion Court, Kings Business Park, Prescot	Erection of 6 no. two storey offices with associated car parking and landscaping	0	6131	0	Out of Centre	No	199

Source: Forward Planning Section Knowsley MBC

# F Completed Retail, Office, and Leisure Development

## Sites of Biological or Local Geological Interest G

**Appendix G Sites of Biological or Local Geological Interest**

<b>Site Name:</b>	<b>Site of Biological or Local Geological Interest</b>
<b>North Kirkby</b>	
Charley Wood, Kirkby	SBI
Acornfield Plantation, Kirkby	SBI / Local Nature Reserve
Mossland, west of Johnson's Cottage, Kirkby	SBI
Moss Plantation and Brown Birches, Kirkby	SBI
Simonswood Brook, Kirkby	SBI
Kirkby Brook, Northwood	SBI
<b>South Kirkby</b>	
Kraft Operational Land, Kirkby	SBI
Mill Brook, Westvale	SBI
Wango Lane Wetland, M57, Kirkby	SBI
Otis Meadow, Kirkby	SBI
Meadow, Kirkby (Mill) Brook, south of Old Hall Lane	SBI
River Alt, Kirkby	SBI
Croxteth Brook	SBI
Kirkby Brook	SBI / SLGI
Kirkby Brook Waterfall	SLGI
<b>Prescot, Whiston and Cronton</b>	
Carr Lane Lake, Prescot	SBI
Lickers Lane Wood, Whiston	SBI
Woodland, Sandfield Park, Whiston	SBI
Tushingam's Pond, Whiston	SBI
Big Water, Halsnead	SBI
Strettles Bog, Cronton Road	SBI
Mine Waste, Cronton	SBI
Pex Hill Country Park	SBI
George's Wood, Cronton	SBI
Stadt Moers Q2 and visitor centre, Whiston	SBI
Stadt Moers Park, Quadrant 4	SBI / SLGI
Rough Head Wood, Cronton	SBI

## G Sites of Biological or Local Geological Interest

<b>Site Name:</b>	<b>Site of Biological or Local Geological Interest</b>
The Old Wood, north, Halsnead	SBI
The Old Wood, south, Halsnead	SBI
Copse, south of A58, Prescott	SBI
Land, east of Fox's Bank Brook	SBI
Alder Brook, Cronton	SBI
Cronton Mineral Line	SLGI
<b>North Huyton, Stockbridge Village and Knowsley Village</b>	
Knowsley Park	SBI / SLGI
Little Wood, Stockbridge Village	SBI
Howard's Pits, Knowsley	SBI
The Roughs, Knowsley Village	SBI
Meakin's Pits, adj. M57	SBI
Aker's Pits, M57, Knowsley Village	SBI
Knowsley Brook	SBI / SLGI
River Alt, Seth Powell Way	SBI
Grassland, west of Seth Powell Way, Huyton	SBI
<b>South Huyton</b>	
Huyton Lane Wetland, Huyton	SBI
Court Hey Park, Huyton	SBI
Coppice Lane Council Depot, Huyton	SBI
Bowring Park Golf Course, south of M62	SBI
Ten Acre Pits, Huyton	SBI
Huyton and Prescott Golf Club	SBI
Stadt Moers Quadrant 3, Huyton	SBI
<b>Halewood and Tarbock</b>	
Dagger's Bridge Wood, Tarbock	SBI
Ox Lane Wood, Tarbock	SBI
Brickwall Covert, Tarbock	SBI
Cartbridge Lane Wood, Halewood	SBI
Green's Bridge Plantation, Halewood	SBI
Halewood Triangle	SBI

## Sites of Biological or Local Geological Interest G

<b>Site Name:</b>	<b>Site of Biological or Local Geological Interest</b>
Ash Lane hedge, ditch and grassland, Halewood	SBI
Flood plain, Ditton Brook, Halewood	SBI
Crab Tree Rough & Hopyard Wood North, Halewood	SBI
Netherley Brook	SBI
Netherley Brook, tributary	SBI
Mill Brook, Netherley	SBI
Ochre Brook, Tarbock	SBI
Ditton Brook, Halewood	SBI
Tarbock Green ditch	SBI
Dog Clough Brook, Tarbock	SBI

## G Sites of Biological or Local Geological Interest

## Register of Listed Buildings H

**Appendix H Register of Listed Buildings**

<b>Place</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Location</b>
CRONTON	II	1. Holly Farm House - Chapel Lane
	II	2. Cronton Cross - Hall Lane
	II	3. Gate Piers and gates at Cronton Hall - Hall Lane
	II	4. Sunnyside Farmhouse - Hall Lane
	II	5. Townsend Farmhouse - Hall Lane
	II	6. Stocks - Smithy Lane
	II	7. The Field - The Roundabout
HALEWOOD	II	8. St Nicholas Church - Church Road
	II	9. Foxhill House - Foxhill Lane
	II	10. Yew Tree House Farm - Higher Road
HUYTON	II	11. Railway Bridge - Archway Road
	II	12. Village Cross - Bluebell Lane
	II	13. Railway Bridge - Childwall Lane
	II	14. Church of St Bartholomew - Church Road, Roby
	II	15. Railway Bridge - Greystone Road
	II	16. Park Hall - Huyton Hey Road
	II	17. Newland - Huyton Hey Road including Moorland 1 Victoria Road
	II	18. Huyton Hey - Huyton Hey Road
	II*	19. Church of St Michael's - Huyton Lane
	II	20. Monument - Church of St Michael's - Huyton Lane
	II	21. Gateway 1, Church of St Michael's - Huyton Lane
	II	22. Gateway 2, Church of St Michael's - Huyton Lane
	II	23. Hurst Hall/Golf Club- Huyton Lane
	II	24. The Hazels - Liverpool Road
	II	25. Stables - The Hazels - Liverpool Road
	II	26. Milestone - Liverpool Road
	II	27. Railway Bridge - Pilch Lane East
	II	28. 66 Roby Road - Roby
	II	29. Roby Toll House - Roby Road
	II	30. Roby Cross - Roby Road
	II	31. 20 & 22 St Mary's Road
	II	32. 1,2,3,4 & 5 Station Road
	II	33. Thingwall Hall - Thingwall Lane

## H Register of Listed Buildings

Place	Grade	Location
	II	34. United Reform Church - Victoria Road
	II	35. Walled Garden - Liverpool Road
	II	36. Greenhill - The Orchard
KIRKBY	II	37. Railway Public House & Langtree Cottage - Glovers Brow
	II	38. Carters Arms Public House - Glovers Brow
	II	39. The Cottage - Glovers Brow
	II	40. The Smithy, 1 & 3 - Mill Lane
	II	41. 38 & 40 North Park Road
	II	42. 14 & 16 South Park Road
	II	43. Waverley House - South Park Road
	II	44. Whitefield House - Pigeon House, Ingoe Lane
	II	45. Corporation Rent Office - Ingoe Lane
	II	46. Dovecote - Ingoe Lane
	II	47. Sefton Cottage - Kirkby Row
	II*	48. St Chad's Church - Old Hall Lane
	II	49. Vicarage Old Hall Lane/1-2 - Austin Close
	II	50. Stables- To North of Vicarage, Old Hall Lane/3 Austin Close
	II	51. Gate Piers to South of Vicarage, entrance to Austin Close off Old Hall Lane
	II	52. Kirkby Hall Lodge - Old Hall Lane
	II	53. 63 & 65 Ribblers Lane
	II	54. 81 & 83 Ribblers Lane
	II	55. 101 & 103 Ribblers Lane
	II	56. 121 & 123 Ribblers Lane
	II	57. 118, 120 & 122 Sefton Arms Cottages, Ribblers Lane
	II	58. 16 North Park Road
	II	59. Kirkby War Memorial, Old Hall Lane (July 07)
KNOWSLEY	II*	60. Knowsley Hall - Knowsley Park and all curtilage properties.
	C	61. St Mary's Church - Knowsley Lane
	II	62. Gellings Farm House off Randles Road
	II	63. School Cottages, 224, 226 Knowsley Lane
	II	64. Littlewood Lodge
	II	65. Knowsley Vicarage - Tithebarn Lane
PRESCOT	II	66. 6 Beesley Road
	II	67. 34 Church Street – Prescott Museum

## Register of Listed Buildings H

Place	Grade	Location
	I	68. Church of St Mary
	II	69. 2 Derby Street
	II	70. 44-50 Derby Street
	II	71. 52 & 54 Derby Street (Clockface)
	II	72. Stable Block, Derby Street (Clockface)
	II	73. 30 Eccleston Street
	II	74. 3 High Street
	II	75. 11 High Street
	II	76. 37 High Street
	II	77. 48-50 St Helens Road
	II	78. 2 Vicarage Place
	II	79. 4 Vicarage Place
	II	80. 6 Vicarage Place
	II	81. 10 Vicarage Place
	II	82. 14 Vicarage Place
	II	83. Church of Our Lady Immaculate - Vicarage Place
	II	84. The Lancashire Watch Factory - Albany Road
	II	85. Detached Workshop to the rear of No. 20 Grosvenor Road
	II	86. No. 17 Atherton Street
	II	87. No. 9 Market Place with former workshop to rear
TARBOCK	II	88. Rose Cottage/Heathgate - Greensbridge Lane
	II	89. Tarbock Hall Farm House - Ox Lane
WHISTON	II	90. NE Lodge (Rainhill Lodge) to Halsnead Park - Fox's Bank Lane
	II	91. Gate Piers to NE Lodge to Halsnead Park, Fox's Bank Lane
	II	92. Old Halsnead - Fox's Bank Lane
	II	93. Barn at Snapegate - Fox's Bank Lane
	II	94. Sandfield Cottage - Lickers Lane
	C	95. St Nicholas' Church - Windy Arbor Road
	II	96. Carr House Farmhouse - Windy Arbor Lane
	II	97. Carr House Barn - Windy Arbor Road
	II	98. Ropers Bridge, Dragon Lane

Summary				
Listings	Listed Buildings	Grade 1	Grade II*	Grade II
98	120	1	3	116

# H Register of Listed Buildings

## How Policies will be Replaced |

**Appendix I How Policies will be Replaced**

<b>Policy</b>	<b>How the policy will be replaced</b>
Policy CP1 Regeneration and Development Priority Areas (Part 1 policy)	Core Strategy
Policy CP2 Environmental Assets (Part 1 policy)	Core Strategy
Policy CP3 Development Quality (Part 1 policy)	Core Strategy
Policy DQ1 Design Quality in New Development	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy DQ2 Security in the Built Environment	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy DQ3 Gateway Sites and Corridors	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy DQ4 Trees and Development	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy DQ5 Development in Conservation Areas	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy DQ6 Demolition of Buildings and Structures in Conservation Areas	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy DQ7 Listed Buildings	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy DQ8 Historic Parks and Gardens	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy DQ9 Sites and Areas of Archaeological Importance	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy EC1 Strategy for Provision of Employment Land (Part 1 policy)	Core Strategy
Policy EC2 Sites Allocated for Employment Development	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy EC3 Primarily Industrial Areas	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy EC4 Regional Investment Site: Kings Business Park	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy EC5 South Prescott Action Area	Core Strategy / Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy EC6 Tourism and Cultural Development	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy ENV1 Control of Pollution in New Development	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document

## I How Policies will be Replaced

<b>Policy</b>	<b>How the policy will be replaced</b>
Policy ENV2 Noise and Vibration	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy ENV3 Light Pollution	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy ENV4 Hazardous Substances	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy ENV5 Contaminated Land	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy ENV6 Landfill Gas	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy ENV7 Flood Risk and Drainage	Core Strategy / Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy ENV8 Telecommunications Developments	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy ENV9 Protection of Habitats and Designated Sites	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy ENV10 Protection of Species	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy G1 Development within the Green Belt	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy G2 Landscape Character and Amenities of the Green Belt	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy G3 Agricultural Land	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy G4 Rural Diversification	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy G5 Existing Major Developed Sites in the Green Belt	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy G6 Conversion or Change of Use of Existing Buildings in the Green Belt	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy G7 Alteration, Extension or Replacement of Existing Dwellings in the Green Belt	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy G8 Agricultural or Equestrian Development	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy H2 Sites Allocated for Housing Development	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy H3 North Huyton and Tower Hill (Kirkby) Action Areas (Part 1 policy)	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy H4 Development Opportunity Sites (Valley Road, Kirkby)	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document

## How Policies will be Replaced |

<b>Policy</b>	<b>How the policy will be replaced</b>
Policy H5 Development within Primarily Residential Areas	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy H6 Treatment and Redevelopment of Housing Clearance Sites	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy H7 Provision of Flats, Nursing and Residential Homes, Hostels, and Houses In Multiple Occupation (HMOs)	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy H8 Extensions and Alterations to Residential Properties	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy H9 Sites for Gypsies, Travelling Show People and other Itinerants	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy MW1 Protection, Winning and Working of Minerals Resources (Part 1 policy)	Core Strategy
Policy MW2 Proposals for Minerals Developments	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy MW3 Onshore Oil, Gas and Coal Bed Methane	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy MW4 Waste Management Strategy (Part 1 policy)	Core Strategy / Joint Merseyside Waste Development Plan Document
Policy MW5 Waste Management and Treatment Facilities	Joint Merseyside Waste Development Plan Document
Policy MW6 Landfill or Landraising	Joint Merseyside Waste Development Plan Document
Policy MW7 Renewable Energy	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy OS1 Strategy for Urban Greenspace and Sport and Recreation (Part 1 policy)	Core Strategy
Policy OS2 Urban Greenspace	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy OS3 Quantitative Standards - Public Open Space for General Amenity Use and Children's Play	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy OS4 Protection of Playing Pitches and other Formal Sporting Facilities	Open space
Policy OS5 Public Open Space and Recreational Facilities to Meet the Needs of New Development	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy OS6 Location of Major New Sporting and Recreational Facilities (Part 1 policy)	Core Strategy
Policy OS7 Educational Uses and Sites	Education

## I How Policies will be Replaced

<b>Policy</b>	<b>How the policy will be replaced</b>
Policy PA1 Planning Agreements	Core Strategy / Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy S1 Retail and Town Centre Development Strategy (part 1 policy)	Core Strategy
Policy S2 Diversification of Uses within Existing Centres	Core Strategy / Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy S4 Kirkby Town Centre Action Area	Core Strategy / Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document.
Policy S5 Prescott Town Centre	Core Strategy / Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document.
Policy S6 The Ravenscourt (Halewood) Action Area	Core Strategy / Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy S7 Local Centres and Parades	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy S9 Shop Fronts and Security Shutters	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy S10 Advertisements	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy T1 An Integrated Transport System (part 1 policy)	Core Strategy
Policy T2 Merseytram System	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy T3 Other Public Transport Schemes	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy T5 Location of Major Traffic Generating New Development	Core Strategy / Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy T6 Ensuring Choice of Travel to Serve New Developments	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy T7 New Development and Walking & Cycling Routes	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy T8 Transport Assessments	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy T9 Travel Plans	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document
Policy T10 Access for the Less Mobile	Site Allocations and Development Policies Development Plan Document

## How Policies will be Replaced |

### **Policy**

Policy T11 Taxi Facilities

Policy T12 Aerodrome Safeguarding

### **How the policy will be replaced**

Site Allocations and Development Policies  
Development Plan Document

Site Allocations and Development Policies  
Development Plan Document

## | How Policies will be Replaced

## Appendix J Bibliography

- Annual Monitoring Report on RPG13 (North West Regional Assembly, published annually)
- Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan (Knowsley MBC, 2006)
- Knowsley The Borough of Choice – Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 –2023 Knowsley Partnership (2008)
- Local Development Framework Monitoring: A Good Practice Guide (ODPM, 2005)
- Life expectancy at birth by health and local authorities in the United Kingdom, 2005-2007 (ONS, 2008)
- Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing (Communities and Local Government, 2006)
- North West of England Plan Regional Spatial Strategy to 2021 (Communities and Local Government, 2008)

## J Bibliography

## Appendix K Glossary

Annual Monitoring Report	A document produced annually that assesses the extent to which the policies in Local Development Documents are being achieved.
Green Flag Award Standard	A national standard for parks and green spaces managed by Keep Britain Tidy, the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers and Green Space.
Local Development Framework (LDF)	A portfolio of documents that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a Local Development Scheme,</li> <li>• a Statement of Community Involvement,</li> <li>• a Core Strategy,</li> <li>• Development Plan Documents, for example housing and employment land allocations,</li> <li>• Supplementary Planning Documents,</li> <li>• a Proposals Map, and</li> <li>• an Annual Monitoring Report.</li> </ul>
Office of the Deputy Prime Minister	The government department which was responsibility for planning and local government.
Output Areas (OAs)	This is the smallest area for which tables of results are published in the 2001 Census. Output Areas have an average of 125 households.
Scoping Report	A Report that describes the scope and the methodology to be used in the Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment.
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	The European Directive 2001/42/EC requires that an assessment be made of the effects that certain plans and programmes will have on the environment.
Super Output Areas (SOAs)	Super Output Areas (SOAs) were created by the Office for National Statistics to provide an improved basis for comparison of statistics across the country.  There will be three sizes of Super Output Area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lower level built up of 4 to 6 Output Areas. This level will be used for most purposes.</li> <li>• Middle level – built up of 4 to 6 Lower level SOAs</li> <li>• Upper level – boundaries not yet determined but will comprise 4 to 6 Middle level SOAs.</li> </ul>
Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)	Additional policy guidance which supplements the policies and proposals in the Development Plan.
Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	A document produced to ensure that development proceeds in a sustainable manner through the improved integration of sustainability issues into the plan making process. At the heart of the idea of sustainable development is the principle of ensuring a better quality of life for everyone, now and for future generations.

## K Glossary

Unitary Development Plan (UDP)	A borough-wide statutory development plan which that Council was required to prepare under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. It sets out the Council's proposals for the development and use of the land. The current UDP was adopted on 14 June 2006.
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**For more information log on to**  
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