Knowsley Local Plan: Core Strategy

Soundness Self-Assessment Checklist

Core Strategy Submission Document
July 2013

1) <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

1.1 This self assessment demonstrates how the Knowsley Local Plan: Core Strategy has been prepared in a manner which satisfies the tests of soundness and other requirements of plan making which are set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and in the Government's planning policy for gypsy and traveller sites. It should be read alongside other documents submitted with the Plan (see paragraph 1.3 below).

1.2 The tests of soundness (from para. 182 of the NPPF) are summarised below.

<u>THE NPPF TESTS OF SOUNDNESS</u>

1. **Positively Prepared: based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements**

   This means that the Plan should be based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development. The NPPF has 12 principles through which it expects sustainable development can be achieved.

2. **Justified: the most appropriate strategy when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence**

   This means that the Plan should be based on a robust and credible evidence base involving:
   - Research/fact finding: the choices made in the plan are backed up by facts; and
   - Evidence of participation of the local community and others having a stake in the area.

   The Plan should also provide the most appropriate strategy when considered against reasonable alternatives. These alternatives should be realistic and subject to sustainability appraisal. The Plan should show how the policies and proposals help to ensure that the social, environmental, economic and resource use objectives of sustainability will be achieved.

3. **Effective: deliverable over its period based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities**

   This means the Plan should be deliverable, requiring evidence of:
   - Sound infrastructure delivery planning;
   - Having no regulatory or national planning barriers to delivery;

- Delivery partners who are signed up to it; and
- Coherence with the strategies of neighbouring authorities.
- The Plan should be flexible and able to be monitored.

The Plan should indicate who is to be responsible for making sure that the policies and proposals happen and when they will happen. The Plan should be flexible to deal with changing circumstances, which may involve minor changes to respond to the outcome of the monitoring process or more significant changes to respond to problems such as lack of funding for major infrastructure proposals. Although it is important that policies are flexible, the Plan should make clear that major changes may require a formal review including public consultation. Any measures which the Council has included to make sure that targets are met should be clearly linked to an Annual Monitoring Report.

4.   Consistent with national policy: enabling the delivery of sustainable development

The demonstration of this is a 'lead' policy on sustainable development which specifies how decisions are to be made against the sustainability criterion.

1.3   This statement sets out in detail how the Council has complied with these tests. The information is presented in Appendices A to D. These appendices are intended to act as a "sign post" and refer extensively to other supporting documents where more detailed information is available. These include:
- the Local Plan: Core Strategy (referred to hereafter as "**the Plan**");
- the numerous evidence base documents which have been prepared to support the Plan;
- Technical Reports prepared by the Council;
- documents associated with the sustainability and other appraisals which have informed the preparation of the Plan; and
- documents associated with the stakeholder engagement process which has informed the preparation of the Plan.

1.4   Where specific documents are referred to the Core Strategy examination library references are given (e.g.SD01, TR05, EB17 etc).

1.5   **Appendix A (Overall NPPF Compliance Table)** is based on the template published by the Planning Advisory Service in January 2013. This sets out how the Plan preparation has met the soundness tests. Under the "positively prepared" test the table demonstrates how the Plan will promote the 13 principles of sustainable development in the NPPF.

1.6   **Appendix B Assessment Matrix of National Policy and Local Plan / Saved Policy Coverage** provides an overview of how the Local Plan, Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Local Plan and Saved UDP Policies will in

combination provide content which relates to NPPF and other extant national policies.

1.7 **Appendix C Assessment of Consistency of Saved UDP Policies with National Policy** provides an overview of the extent to which the UDP saved policies identified in the Local Plan Core Strategy (Appendix C) remain consistent with the NPPF.

1.8 **Appendix D Planning Policy for Traveller Sites – Self Assessment** is (like Appendix A) based on the template published by the Planning Advisory Service in January 2013. This demonstrates how the approach in the Core Strategy and proposed Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies document will comply with the national "Planning Policy for Traveller Sites" published by CLG in March 2012. This national policy document should be read in conjunction with the NPPF and aims to *"….ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers, in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic life of travellers whilst respecting the interests of the settled community".*

1.9 The Council has produced a separate assessment (SD18) setting out how it has complied with the legal requirements in preparing the Plan (also based on a template provided for this purpose by the Planning Advisory Service). A further statement (SD14) sets out how the Council has complied with the duty to cooperate introduced by the Localism Act 2011.

APPENDIX A)

OVERALL NPPF COMPLIANCE TABLE

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
Positively Prepared: *the plan should be prepared based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development*		
Vision and Objectives Has the LPA clearly identified what the issues are that the DPD is seeking to address? Have priorities been set so that it is clear what the DPD is seeking to achieve? Does the DPD contain clear vision(s) and objectives which are specific to the place? Is there a direct relationship between the identified issues, the vision(s) and the objectives? Is it clear how the policies will meet the objectives? Are there any obvious gaps in the policies, having regard to the objectives of the DPD? Have reasonable alternatives to the quantum of development and overall spatial strategy been considered? Are the policies internally consistent? Are there realistic timescales related to the objectives? Does the DPD explain how its key policy objectives will be achieved?	• Sections of the DPD and other documents which set out (where applicable) the vision, strategic objectives, key outcomes expected, spatial portrait and issues to be addressed. • Relevant sections of the DPD which explain how policies derive from the objectives and are designed to meet them. • The strategic objectives of the DPD, and the commentary in the DPD of how they derive from the spatial portrait and vision, and how the objectives are consistent with one another. • Sections of the DPD which address delivery, the means of delivery and the timescales for key developments through evidenced infrastructure delivery planning. • Confirmation from the relevant agencies that they support the objectives and the identified means of delivery.	The key spatial planning issues facing Knowsley and each of its constituent communities are summarised in chapter 2 of the Local Plan: Core Strategy (CS) (CS01). Further detail is set out in the Sustainability Appraisal (SD07) report, various other appraisal and evidence base documents and the Technical Reports which have been published with the Plan. These documents are listed in the examination library. The vision and objectives flow clearly from the issues identified and are set out in chapter 3 of the Plan. The vision and objectives relate to the specific issues faced by the Borough for example the need to narrow the gap in deprivation levels which exist between different parts of Knowsley and between Knowsley and other Boroughs. Policies SD1 and CS1-27 of the Plan specifically address the vision and objectives. Links between each policy and the objectives are set out in a box entitled "Policy Links and Delivery" after each policy. The delivery mechanisms for each policy are also set out in the "Policy Links and Delivery" boxes. These include for example development

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
	• Information in the local development scheme, or provided separately, about the scope and content (actual and intended) of each DPD showing how they combine to provide a coherent policy structure.	management processes, other plans and strategies of the Council and its partner organisations and other planning policy documents. In some cases delivery will be through more detailed policies to be developed in the future Knowsley Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies document or in Supplementary Planning Documents. The role of the separate documents which will make up the Knowsley Local Plan is clearly set out in the Knowsley Local Development Scheme 2013 (PP10). The documents will combine to form a coherent and comprehensive spatial planning strategy for Knowsley. Timescales for delivery of important infrastructure are set out (insofar as is practicable) in the Knowsley Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) (SD06). The Council has engaged extensively with key infrastructure providers in developing the Plan and there are no significant objections from any of the infrastructure delivery agencies of a nature which could threaten delivery of the Plan. The policies within the Plan are internally consistent. Policy CS26 "Waste Management" describes how the Plan will link to the Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Local Plan (PP04), which is the only other Local Plan document to have

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		been submitted for examination to date covering the Borough. Appendix C of the Plan explains how the Plan policies will dovetail with "saved" policies in the current Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan (PP01), some of which will lapse on adoption of the Core Strategy while others will continue to be "saved" beyond this point. The timescale for delivery of the vision and objectives (by 2028) is considered to be realistic. The Council has considered a range of reasonable alternatives in developing the Plan and each of its policies. These are explained in the Issues and Options Paper (2009) (CS06) and the Preferred Options Report (2011) (CS04). The "Accounting for Assessments" (SD16) document explains how the results of the sustainability and other appraisals have been used to inform the development of the final Plan policies. The "Accounting for Preferred Options Consultation" (SD17) document explains how the Council has responded to the consultation responses received at Preferred Options stage in drafting the final Plan policies.
The presumption in favour of	• An evidence base which establishes	The Plan has been positively prepared, seeking

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sustainable development (NPPF paras 6-17) Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change, unless: —any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or —specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted.	the development needs of the plan area (see Justified below) and includes a flexible approach to delivery (see 'Section 3 Effective', below). • An audit trail showing how and why the quantum of development, preferred overall strategy and plan area distribution of development were arrived at.	opportunities to meet the development needs of Knowsley between 2010 and 2028. The policies (for example for housing, employment and retail growth) draw on a range of evidence including objectively-undertaken needs assessments. The Plan incorporates flexibility throughout, being mindful of the long term plan period (up to 2028) incorporating a number of economic and policy cycles. Targets where provided are annual averages, recognising that delivery of new housing and employment floorspace will vary over the years of the Plan. A contingency of land supply beyond the Plan period is also provided. With regard to the delivery of new housing and affordable housing, the Council's approach reflects the principles of the NPPF regarding deliverability. This includes the setting of realistic housing targets which can be delivered during the plan period (see Technical Report: Planning for Housing Growth (TR01), as well as realistic affordable housing provision, which can be delivered without compromising the economic viability of development (see Economic Viability Assessment (EB06). The "Planning for Housing Growth" Technical Report (TR01) sets out a wide range of different

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		approaches to determining the required amount of housing development which have been considered by the Council. It sets out clearly why the figure of 450 dwelling completions per annum from 2010-2028 has been chosen. The "Planning for Housing Growth" Technical Report also sets out factors which have been taken into account in determining the distribution of future between Knowsley's township areas. The "Planning for Employment Growth" Technical Report (TR02) performs a similar role for employment development by assessing alternative methods for deriving the target for future employment land provision. With regard to planning for housing and employment growth, Knowsley has a severe long term shortage of available land to meet needs over the plan period. The Council has adopted a pragmatic approach to this issue, including a localised review of Green Belt boundaries as set out in Policy CS5 and its supporting evidence. This approach seeks to balance meeting needs with recognising the constraints on land availability within the urban area. The "Green Belt" Technical Report (TR03) sets out how locations for future review of Green Belt to

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		meet development needs have been determined. This includes ensuring that such locations are in places where the sustainability and regeneration benefits of development are maximised and where the development will help to meet a local need whilst minimising the impact of future development on the integrity of the Green Belt in Knowsley. The Council has prepared a Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) (EB04) which sets out objectively assessed needs for affordable housing in Knowsley. Policy CS15 takes account of this evidence, whilst also reflecting the requirements of the NPPF with regard to viability (pp 173 – 177). The "Retail" Technical Report (TR04) assesses the evidence base in relation to future needs for retail and other town centre development based where justified upon the findings of the Knowsley Town Centres and Shopping Study parts 1 and 2 (EB12 an EB13). There is an extensive audit trail of how the proposed strategy has been developed. This was initially set out in the Preferred Options Report (CS04) and then in for example the topic specific Technical Reports referred to above. The "Strategic Context" Technical Report (TR06) gives further detail on how the Plan has been developed in the context of the changing policy

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		environment.
Policies in Local Plans should follow the approach of the presumption in favour of sustainable development so that it is clear that development which is sustainable can be approved without delay. All plans should be based upon and reflect the presumption in favour of sustainable development, with clear policies that will guide how the presumption should be applied locally.	• A policy or policies which reflect the principles of the presumption in favour of sustainable development (see model policy at www.planningportal.gov.uk).	Policy SD1 is based on the "model policy" as accessed from the Planning Portal and establishes a presumption in favour of sustainable development. This Policy is also included in the Merseyside and Halton Waste Joint Local Plan (PP04).
Objectively assessed needs The economic, social and environmental needs of the authority area are addressed and clearly presented in a fashion which makes effective use of land and specifically promotes mixed use development, and take account of cross-boundary and strategic issues. Note: Meeting these needs should be subject to the caveats specified in Paragraph 14 of the NPPF (see above).	• Background evidence papers demonstrating requirements based on population forecasts, employment projections and community needs. • Technical papers demonstrating how the aspirations and objectives of the DPD are related to the evidence, and how these are to be met, including from consultation and associated with the Duty to Co-operate.	As set out above, the Core Strategy is based on a sound understanding of the development needs of Knowsley. Further details are in the Technical Reports referred to e.g. in relation to housing growth (TR01), employment growth (TR02) and retail (TR04). The Accounting for Preferred Options Consultation (SD17) sets out how the results of consultation undertaken at that stage have been used to inform the Plan. The Duty to Co-operate Statement (SD14) sets out how the outcomes from co-operation with neighbouring local authorities and other public bodies concerning strategic cross boundary issues have informed the Plan. Mixed use development is promoted where appropriate for example in the six Principal Regeneration Areas (see policies CS9 to CS14).

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		The caveats in paragraph 14 of the NPPF have been taken into account. A key issue here is that exceptional circumstances exist justifying a review of Green Belt boundaries to meet housing and economic development needs – see the Technical Reports on "Green Belt" (TR03), "Planning for Housing Growth in Knowsley" (TR01) and "Planning for Employment Growth" (TR02) together with the supporting text for policy CS5 for further details.
NPPF Principles: Delivering sustainable development		
1. Building a strong, competitive economy (paras 18-22)		
Set out a clear economic vision and strategy for the area which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth (21),	• Articulation of a clear economic vision and strategy for the plan area linked to the Economic Strategy and LEP Strategy where appropriate.	The Spatial Vision on page 26 and 27 of the Core Strategy sets out a range of economic goals to be achieved by 2028 (particularly in its second paragraph). Strategic Objective 1 sets out the key objective of encouraging and maintaining sustainable economic and employment growth in Knowsley. Policy CS4 "Economy and Employment" summarises how the Council will build on the economic strengths of Knowsley whilst addressing key challenges. The Technical Report "Planning for Employment Growth" (TR02) summarises how the Plan will complement the Knowsley Economic

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		Regeneration Strategy (2013) (PG32) and help to deliver the key economic drivers identified by the Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).
Recognise and seek to address potential barriers to investment, including poor environment or any lack of infrastructure, services or housing (21)	• A criteria-based policy which meets identified needs and is positive and flexible in planning for specialist sectors, regeneration, infrastructure provision, environmental enhancement. • An up-to-date assessment of the deliverability of allocated employment sites, to meet local needs, (taking into account that LPAs should avoid the long term protection of sites allocated for employment use where there is no reasonable prospect of an allocated site being used for that purpose) para (22)	The Council recognises the potential barriers to investment in Knowsley and seeks to address these for example by designating its largest industrial area (Knowsley Industrial Park) as a Principal Regeneration Area. A separate regeneration framework has also been published for this area which includes measures to address infrastructure constraints. The Knowsley Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) (SD06) identifies key infrastructure requirements associated with the delivery of the Plan. Key transport requirements to support economic growth are addressed through the Merseyside Local Transport Plan (PG23) (see policy CS7 for further detail). Evidence concerning transport infrastructure requirements concerning the Plan as a whole and the broad development locations is provided in the Transport Feasibility Study (EB10) and Transport Modelling Report (EB11). The Council's evidence base with regard to employment includes the Joint Employment Land and Premises Study (EB07) and the Technical Report: Planning for Employment Growth (TR02).

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		This evidence considers the existing supply of employment land within Knowsley, within existing industrial areas, and also allocated sites under the Unitary Development Plan (UDP). The assessment covers the overall quantum, quality and locations of the employment land supply. Knowsley's existing employment land is grouped in five main locations (see Policy CS4, part 2), and the Council considers it appropriate to maintain these as the main areas for development of employment uses during the Plan period. The Council recognises the importance of safeguarding employment land (see CS4, part 7), and seeks to ensure that existing employment uses and allocated sites will be safeguarded except where there is no current or likely future demand for employment uses on the site, or where other uses would bring wider benefits. This approach is consistent with para.22 of the NPPF. An example of an existing employment area where the Council will accept alternative uses as part of a comprehensively formulated mixed use development is in South Prescot – see policy CS13.
2. **Ensuring the vitality of town centres (paras 23-37)**		
Policies should be positive, promote competitive town centre environments,	• The Plan and its policies may include	The Council has completed a comprehensive evidence base relating to town centres and retail,

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
and set out policies for the management and growth of centres over the plan period (23)	such matters as: definition of networks and hierarchies; defining town centres; encouragement of residential development on appropriate sites; allocation of appropriate edge of centre sites where suitable and viable town centre sites are not available; consideration of retail and leisure proposals which cannot be accommodated in or adjacent to town centres.	including within the Town Centres and Shopping Study (EB12, EB13) and the Technical Report: Planning for Retail Growth (TR04). Policy CS6 within the Plan reflects this evidence by setting out a detailed hierarchy of centres and identifying the appropriate role of each centre in providing town centre and retail functions. The Plan (in policy CS6, the area priorities in chapter 6 and through more specific guidance in respect of Kirkby and Prescot town centres in policies CS10 and CS14 respectively) also identifies the key opportunities for investment in each centre. The Plan (for example in policies CS10 and CS14) also recognises the need to diversify the role of Knowsley's town centres including encouraging alternative uses such as residential. Policy CS10 will permit the southerly expansion of Kirkby town centre in line with the evidence. Policy CS14 recognises the need to integrate Prescot town centre more effectively with Cables Retail Park which is to the south of this centre including a review of town centre boundaries in this area. The allocation of development sites within and around the town centres and the definition of town centre boundaries will be undertaken in the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
Allocate a range of suitable sites to meet the scale and type of retail, leisure, commercial, office, tourism, cultural, community services and residential development needed in town centres (23)	• An assessment of the need to expand (the) town centre(s), considering the needs of town centre uses. • Primary and secondary shopping frontages identified and allocated.	The Council's evidence based approach has indicated a need for expansion of Kirkby Town Centre's retail function, for which Policy CS10 gives more detail. The Council intends to set out detailed town centre boundaries as well as primary and secondary shopping frontages within the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies and via a supporting allocation on the Policies Map. These will be produced subsequent to the adoption of the Core Strategy.
3. Supporting a prosperous rural economy (para 28)		
Support sustainable economic growth in rural areas. Planning strategies should promote a strong rural economy by taking a positive approach to new development. (28)	• Where relevant include a policy or policies which support the sustainable growth of rural businesses; promote the development and diversification of agricultural businesses; support sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments, and support local services and facilities.	Most of Knowsley's employment areas are located within or adjacent to the urban area, within identifiable industrial or business parks. However, the Council recognises that the rural economy within Knowsley is significant, including agricultural activities and opportunities for formal and informal recreation and tourism uses (e.g. Knowsley Safari Park). Policy CS4 (parts 1 i) and j) recognises the priority to support the diversification of the rural economy within Knowsley. Paragraph 5.30 of the Plan recognises that there is scope for more detailed policies regarding appropriate diversification and development of these aspects of the Knowsley economy to be developed in the Local Plan: Site

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		Allocations and Development Policies document. Policies G4 and G5 of the current Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan (PP01) cover rural diversification issues and will continue to be "saved" until the new Site Allocations and Development Policies document is prepared (see Schedule of UDP policies in Appendix 3 of the Plan).
4. Promoting sustainable transport (paras 29-41)		
Facilitate sustainable development whilst contributing to wider sustainability and health objectives. (29) Balance the transport system in favour of sustainable transport modes and give people a real choice about how they travel whilst recognising that different policies will be required in different communities and opportunities to maximise sustainable transport solutions will vary from urban to rural areas. (29) Encourage solutions which support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and congestion (29) including supporting a pattern of development which, where reasonable to do so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes	• Joint working with adjoining authorities, transport providers and Government Agencies on infrastructure provision in order to support sustainable economic growth with particular regard to the facilities referred to in paragraph 31. • Policies encouraging development which facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport and a range of transport choices where appropriate, particularly the criteria in paragraph 35. • A spatial strategy and policy which seeks to reduce the need to travel through balancing housing and employment provision.	The Council has undertaken a comprehensive Health Impact Assessment (SD12) of the development of the Plan, which demonstrates compliance with NPPF pp 29. The findings of this have where appropriate been fed into the Plan (see the "Accounting for Assessments" document – SD16). Wider sustainability and health benefits will be promoted for example by objective 9 of the Plan and implemented via policy CS2 "Development Principles". Throughout the preparation of the Plan, the Council has worked with partners including neighbouring authorities, highway authorities and the Passenger Transport Executive (Merseytravel) regarding provision of transport infrastructure. This is demonstrated in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (SD06) which accompanies the Plan, as well as within the Duty to Cooperate Statement (SD14)

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
of transport. (30) Local authorities should work with neighbouring authorities and transport providers to develop strategies for the provision of viable infrastructure necessary to support sustainable development. (31) Opportunities for sustainable transport modes have been taken up depending on the nature and location of the site, to reduce the need for major transport infrastructure. (32) Ensure that developments which generate significant movement are located where the need to travel will be minimised and the use of sustainable transport modes can be maximised (34) Plans should protect and exploit opportunities for the use of sustainable transport modes for the movement of goods or people. (35) Policies should aim for a balance of land uses so that people can be encouraged to minimize journey lengths for employment, shopping, leisure, education and other activities. (37) For larger scale residential developments in particular, planning	• Policy for major developments which promotes a mix of uses and access to key facilities by sustainable transport modes. • If local (car parking) standards have been prepared, are they justified and necessary? (39) • Identification and protection of sites and routes where infrastructure could be developed to widen transport choice linked to the Local Transport Plan.	which sets out wider joint working approaches. Policy CS7 sets out how the Council will encourage a sustainable transport system including through the promotion of walking, cycling and public transport, and rollout of infrastructure for low carbon emission vehicles. The Plan makes provision for both employment and housing in each of Knowsley's townships. It will also promote a wider choice of market sector housing and thereby counterbalance the existing high levels of in-commuting particularly within higher skill sectors. The Council recognises that high levels of commuting to Liverpool are likely to continue and will address this by integrating the Plan with key transport initiatives e.g. the electrification of the Liverpool- Manchester rail line which is a key priority in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (SD06). By enhancing the retention of retail spend in Knowsley's town centres (see policy CS6) the CS will reduce the reliance that Knowsley residents have on travelling out of the Borough for shopping opportunities. Policy CS7 (part 2) requires major development attracting a lot of traffic to be located where it is

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
policies should promote a mix of uses in order to provide opportunities to undertake day-to-day activities including work on site. Where practical, particularly within large-scale developments, key facilities such as primary schools and local shops should be located within walking distance of most properties. (38) The setting of car parking standards including provision for town centres. (39-40) Local planning authorities should identify and protect where there is robust evidence, sites and routes which could be critical in developing infrastructure to widen transport choice. (41)		accessible by a wide choice of sustainable transport provision. The Council has adopted Local Car Parking standards in consultation with sub-regional partners in the "Ensuring a Choice of Travel" Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) (PP09). The Council intends to maintain this SPD, which is consistent with the requirements of the NPPF. This is set out in Policy CS7 of the Plan.
5. Supporting high quality communications infrastructure (paras 42-46)		
Support the expansion of the electronic communications networks, including telecommunications' masts and high speed broadband. (43) Local planning authorities should not impose a ban on new telecommunications development in certain areas, impose blanket Article 4	• Policy supporting the expansion of electronic communications networks, including telecommunications and high speed broadband, noting the caveats in para 44.	Policy CS4 (part 1 h) encourages development of digital communications and telecommunications infrastructure to facilitate home working. Policy ENV8 "Telecommunications developments" of the Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan (PP01) sets criteria for assessing planning applications for masts and

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
directions over a wide area or a wide range of telecommunications development or insist on minimum distances between new telecommunications development and existing development. (44)		other infrastructure. These do not impose any bans on such development in certain areas or set minimum distances between such development and existing development. This policy will be "saved" and then reviewed as part of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies document.
6. Delivering a wide choice of high quality housing (paras 47-55)		
Identify and maintain a rolling supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years' worth of housing against their housing requirements; this should include an additional buffer of 5% or 20% (moved forward from later in the plan period) to ensure choice and competition in the market for land. 20% buffer applies where there has been persistent under delivery of housing(47)	• Identification of: a) five years or more supply of specific deliverable sites; plus the buffer as appropriate • Where this element of housing supply includes windfall sites, inclusion of 'compelling evidence' to justify their inclusion (48) • A SHLAA	The Council's record for housing delivery in the 2003/04-2012/13 period is set out in the Housing Position Statement (SD22) and the Technical Report: Planning for Housing Growth (TR01). The Council has completed regular Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessments since 2010 in accordance with national guidance. These have been informed by engagement with a housing partnership including representation from the private sector. They have also been informed by regular "call for sites" exercises and regular engagement with prospective developers and owners of land where planning permission has been granted for housing. The Housing Position Statement (SD22) updates the position as set out in the most recent SHLAA and identifies that (as at 1 April 2013) Knowsley has an estimated capacity for 3017 dwellings which can be delivered within a five year period (i.e.

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		2013/14 – 2017/18). This exceeds the 5 year land supply requirements including a 20% buffer (which equate to 5 X 450 plus 20% or 2,700 dwellings). The Plan does not make any allowance for windfall sites and it is therefore not necessary to provide compelling evidence justifying this.
Identify a supply of developable sites or broad locations for years 6-10 and, where possible, years 11-15 (47).	• Identification of a supply of developable sites or broad locations for: a) years 6-10; b) years 11-15	The SHLAA 2012 (see above) also identifies the sites which are likely to be developable within years 6-10 and 11-15. The Housing Position Statement (SD22) updates the situation to 1 April 2013 and confirms that a supply sites with capacity for 2664 dwellings exist in the urban area to meet needs in years 6-10 (2018/19 – 2022/23) and 11-15 (2023/24 – 2027/28). An additional 129 dwellings have been identified for delivery after the plan period (2028/29 and 2029/30). The Plan will ensure there is sufficient supply up to and beyond 2028 by identifying broad locations to be removed from the Green Belt for residential development. Site allocations within these areas will be brought forward in the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies document which is scheduled for completion by the end of 2015.
Illustrate the expected rate of housing delivery through a trajectory; and set out a housing implementation strategy describing how a five year supply will be maintained. (47)	• A housing trajectory • Monitoring of completions and permissions (47) • Updated and managed SHLAA. (47)	The Council has provided an estimated housing trajectory within the supporting text of Policy CS3 (Figure 5.1). This has been updated to reflect the situation as at 1 April 2013. The Housing Position Statement (SD22) and the "Technical Report:

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		Planning for Housing Growth" (TR01) provide further details. The trajectory sets out how housing land sources are anticipated to be phased in terms of delivery over the plan period up to 2028. Paragraph 5.23 of the Plan establishes that this will be monitored annually and review mechanisms implemented if necessary to establish the required rates of delivery.

Policy CS5 sets out the approach to release of land within identified Green Belt locations to supplement urban housing land supply, when a five year deliverable supply is no longer identifiable. This release mechanism will take account of the 5-20% buffer required by paragraph 47 of the NPPF.

The Council does not consider that the removal of brownfield targets has any impact on the approach to planning for housing growth, since the Council's priority is to promote urban regeneration, including the use of previously developed sites. This is reflected in Policy CS1 and Policy CS2. |
| Set out the authority's approach to housing density to reflect local circumstances (47). | • Policy on the density of development. | Policy CS3 (part 5) establishes that a minimum density of 30 dwellings per hectare must in most cases be provided but with exceptions which are clearly stated in the policy. |

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
Plan for a mix of housing based on current and future demographic and market trends, and needs of different groups (50) and caters for housing demand and the scale of housing supply to meet this demand. (para 159)	• Policy on planning for a mix of housing (including self-build, and housing for older people • SHMA • Identification of the size, type, tenure and range of housing) required in particular locations, reflecting local demand. (50) • Evidence for housing provision based on up to date, objectively assessed needs. (50) • Policy on affordable housing and consideration for the need for on-site provision or if off-site provision or financial contributions are sought, where these can these be justified and to what extent do they contribute to the objective of creating mixed and balanced communities. (50)	The Council's approach to planning for housing growth is set out in Policy CS3 and supplementary policies. The Council is seeking to re-balance the housing market in Knowsley and promote the delivery of market and affordable housing throughout the Borough. Requirements concerning the mix of housing required are set out in Policy CS16 (Specialist and Supported Accommodation), Policy CS17 (Housing Sizes and Design Standards) and Policy CS19 (Design Quality and Accessibility in New Development). Table 7.1 (on page 112 of the Plan) sets out the currently anticipated mix of dwelling sizes required based on the findings of the Knowsley Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2010 (EB04). Policy CS15 covers the requirement for affordable housing contributions from market housing developments. This policy is based on key evidence including the SHMA (EB04) and the Economic Viability Assessment (EB06). The Council's SHMA was produced in 2010. Whilst this was prepared after the onset of the economic difficulties in 2008 the Council has prepared a Housing Market Update (SD24). This provides an update on key housing market data trends since 2010. The Technical Report: Planning for Housing

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		Growth (TR01) sets out robust justification to the Council's approach to planning for housing provision in Knowsley. Discussions have taken place with other authorities to complete a sub-regional SHMA in 2015/16.
In rural areas be responsive to local circumstances and plan housing development to reflect local needs, particularly for affordable housing, including through rural exception sites where appropriate (54). In rural areas housing should be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities.	• Consideration of allowing some market housing to facilitate the provision of significant additional affordable housing to meet local needs. • Consideration of the case for resisting inappropriate development of residential gardens. (This is discretionary)(para 53) • Examples of special circumstances to allow new isolated homes listed at para 55.	The Plan does not propose any rural exception policies for Knowsley's rural areas. This is because the communities in these areas (Knowsley Village, Cronton and Tarbock) are of insufficient size and distance from nearby urban areas to warrant this approach and there is no evidence (e.g. in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment) that a rural exception policy is justified. The overall approach to provision of affordable housing is set out in Policy CS15 which seeks to ensure that within developments of new market housing of 15 dwellings or more provision is also made for affordable housing. There is no significant pressure to develop large numbers of dwellings in residential gardens in Knowsley. In accordance with the NPPF, no allowance has been made in the Council's land supply assessments for new housing within residential gardens (see paragraph 5.20 of the Plan). The Local Plan Site Allocations and Development Policies document could provide

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		further guidance in relation to this issue if this is needed.
		The Plan contains no specific guidance concerning proposals for isolated dwellings in the Green Belt as referred to in para.55 of the NPPF. If such guidance is required this could be provided in the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
7. Requiring good design (paras 56-68)		
Develop robust and comprehensive policies that set out the quality of development that will be expected for the area (58).	• Inclusion of policy or policies which seek to increase the quality of development through the principles set out at para 58 and approaches in paras 59-61, linked to the vision for the area and specific local issues	The Plan places significant emphasis on securing good quality and well designed development, for example through policy CS2 "Development Principles" and policy CS19 "Design Quality and Accessibility in New Development". The Vision of the Plan stresses the need to provide attractive and identifiable neighbourhoods which are well connected to each other and the surrounding area.
8. Promoting healthy communities (paras 69-77)		
Policies should aim to design places which: promote community interaction, including through mixed-use development; are safe and accessible environments; and are accessible	• Inclusion of a policy or policies on inclusive communities. • Promotion of opportunities for meetings between members of the community who might not otherwise	Policy CS2 "Development Principles" stresses the need to reduce economic, environmental, education, health and other social inequalities and provide opportunities for positive lifestyle choices and health improvements.

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
developments (69).	come into contact with each other, including through mixed-use developments which bring together those who work, live and play in the vicinity; safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion; and accessible developments, containing clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas. (69)	Policy CS2 (Part 3, d) supports the provision and retention of shared space, community facilities and other local services.

Policy CS19 also addresses these matters for example by requiring new development to create spaces and places as a focal point, accommodating social interaction and active lifestyles. This policy also requires new development to take account of designing out crime principles and provide safe and secure pedestrian environments. |
| Policies should plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities and other local services (70). | • Inclusion of a policy or policies addressing community facilities and local service.

• Positive planning for the provision and integration of community facilities and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments; safeguard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services; ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernize; and ensure that housing is developed in suitable locations | The vision of the Plan aims to develop sustainable suburban townships in Knowsley, which are supported by key services and facilities. The development patterns promoted through Policy CS1, and the remaining spatial strategy policies also support this.

Policy CS6 caters for the protection and enhancement of town, district and local centres, and shopping parades, including the regeneration of these where appropriate to the size and function of the centre.

The Infrastructure Delivery Plan (SD06) prepared to accompany the Core Strategy considers community facilities as one of its categories of |

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
	which offer a range of community facilities and good access to key services and infrastructure.	infrastructure. This document seeks to ensure that existing communities and new residents are supported by an appropriate range of infrastructure.
Identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities; and set locally derived standards to provide these (73).	• Identification of specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. (73) • A policy protecting existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land from development, with specific exceptions. (74) • Protection and enhancement of rights of way and access. (75)	The Council has developed a comprehensive evidence base with regard to the provision of green spaces within Knowsley, within the Greenspaces Audit (EB21) and the Playing Pitches Assessment (EB22). This evidence will be used to operate Policies CS8 and CS21 and the Greenspaces Standards and New Development SPD (PP07). Policies CS8 and CS21 protect existing greenspaces, indoor and outdoor sports facilities from development except where criteria set by these policies are satisfied. These policies also seek to maintain and improve linkages between greenspaces and public rights of way.
Enable local communities, through local and neighbourhood plans, to identify special protection green areas of particular importance to them – 'Local Green Space' (76-78).	• Policy enabling the protection of Local Green Spaces. (Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or reviewed, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period. The designation should only be used when it accords with the criteria in para 77). Policy for managing development within a local green	Existing greenspace designations are set out on the Proposals Map of the Knowsley Replacement UDP (2006). The relevant policies concerning these designations (OS1 to OS6 in the UDP) will be replaced by policy CS21 of the Core Strategy. The Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies document will include appropriate allocations on a Policies Map. Policy CS21 (part 9) includes provision for Local

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
	space should be consistent with policy for Green Belts. (78)	Green Space Designations, in accordance with the NPPF. No requests have been received by the Council from community groups wishing to promote Local Green Space designations. However, any suitable designations of this type could be made through the Site Allocations and Development Policies document. Policy CS8 seeks to promote the management of Green Infrastructure as a key method by which the natural environment can be managed, providing a wide range of benefits to the community.
9. Protecting Green Belt land (paras 79-92)		

Local planning authorities should plan positively to enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt, such as looking for opportunities to provide access; to provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation; to retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity; or to improve damaged and derelict land. (81)
Local planning authorities with Green Belts in their area should establish Green Belt boundaries in their Local Plans which set the framework for Green Belt and settlement policy. (83)
When drawing up or reviewing Green
	• Where Green Belt policies are included, these should reflect the need to:
	  o Enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt. (81)
	  o Accord with criteria on boundary setting, and the need for clarity on the status of safeguarded land, in particular. (85)
	  o Specify that inappropriate development should not be approved except in very special circumstances. (87)
		About 54% of Knowsley's land area is (as at July 2013) designated as Green Belt. The Plan will seek to enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt areas and rural villages. This aim is reflected for example in:
		• the vision (penultimate paragraph)
		• Strategic Objective 8 "Green Infrastructure and Rural Areas"
		• Policy CS4 (part 1 i)
		• Policy CS8 "Green Infrastructure" (some of the key elements of Knowsley's Green Infrastructure network are in areas designated as Green Belt).
		
		Policy CS1 establishes the requirement for some

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
Belt boundaries local planning authorities should take account of the need to promote sustainable patterns of development. (84) Boundaries should be set using 'physical features likely to be permanent' amongst other things (85)	○ Specify the exceptions to inappropriate development (89-90) ○ Identify where very special circumstances might apply to renewable energy development. (91)	locations within the Knowsley Green Belt to be reserved for future development, in the light of a shortage of appropriate and available housing and employment land within the urban area. Policy CS5 sets out the approach to Green Belt in more detail. The requirements of the NPPF are strongly reflected in the Council's approach. Criterion a) of this policy sets the general approach to development in the Green Belt (outside of reserved locations in Policy CS5). The Council's approach also demonstrates the exceptional circumstances regarding land supply which has led it to undertake a Green Belt review to meet future development needs. The five purposes of the Green Belt have been taken into account in the Green Belt Study (EB08) and Technical Report Green Belt TR03).This evidence has been used to inform the choice of which locations will be removed from the Green Belt to meet future development needs. The locations which have been identified for removal from the Green Belt are those where permanent boundaries can be established which will be as consistent as possible with the purposes of the Green Belt (see Green Belt Study – EB08). The Green Belt review has been informed by a robust sustainability appraisal of alternative locations (SD08).

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		The Plan does not re-iterate the exceptions to inappropriate development in the Green Belt which are set out in paragraphs 89 and 90 of the NPPF. The Council will address this matter in the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies document which will set out detailed development management policies regarding appropriate development in the Green Belt.
		In setting out its approach to Green Belt review the Council has had regard to paragraph 83 of the NPPF which requires that any new Green Belt boundaries should be set "…*having regard to their intended permanence in the long term*…". Through Policy CS5 and subsequent Site Allocations, the Council believes it has identified sufficient land to be removed from the Green Belt to meet housing and employment land supply requirements over the Plan period to 2028, and safeguarded land to meet these needs for a period beyond then. The Council's approach to this issue is set out in the "Green Belt" Technical Report (TR03) and Duty to Cooperate Statement (SD14).
10. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change (paras 93-108)		
Adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change taking full	• Planning of new development in	Strategic Objective 7 of the Plan sets out the aim to focus on sustainable development, recycling and

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
account of flood risk, coastal change and water supply and demand considerations. (94)	locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions. • Support for energy efficiency improvements to existing building. • Local requirements for a building's sustainability which are consistent with the Government's zero carbon buildings policy. (95))	renewable technologies, reduction of carbon emissions, and responding to the impacts of climate change. Policy C22 sets out the Council's general approach to delivering sustainable design and construction within new development, and minimising carbon emissions. This includes a range of sustainable construction principles, to be applied to new development. It also includes design targets for residential and non-residential development, consistent with national policy. The Policy also includes a caveat relating to the feasibility (economic or otherwise) of meeting design standards, including reference to Allowable Solutions. The Council promotes improved energy efficiency of existing buildings, for example through the use of the current Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP) funding regime. Whilst the Plan does not cover this point in specific detail, relevant guidance of a more general nature is provided by policy CS2 (part 2 a) and policy CS23. Additional detail can be provided if necessary in the future Site Allocation and Development Policies document.
Help increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy	• A strategy and policies to promote and maximise energy from	Policy CS23 sets out the Council's approach to provision of renewable and low carbon

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
through a strategy, policies maximising renewable and low carbon energy, and identification of key energy sources. (97)	renewable and low carbon sources, • Identification of suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources, and supporting infrastructure, where this would help secure the development of such sources (see also NPPF footnote 17) • Identification of where development can draw its energy supply from decentralised, renewable or low carbon supply systems and for co-locating potential heat customers and suppliers. (97)	infrastructure, including decentralised and renewable technology. Policy CS11 identifies Knowsley Industrial Park as a Priority Zone for the production of renewable, low carbon energy. This approach is based on evidence in the Knowsley Industrial Park Energy Network Feasibility Study (EB18) and the Knowsley Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Options Study (EB19) regarding the suitability of this location to support a strong renewable energy business sector and the development of a combined heat and power network to serve this large employment area.
Minimise vulnerability to climate change and manage the risk of flooding (99)	• Account taken of the impacts of climate change. (99) • Allocate, and where necessary re-locate, development away from flood risk areas through a sequential test, based on a SFRA. (100) • Policies to manage risk, from a range of impacts, through suitable adaptation measures	The vision (in paragraph 7) and Strategic Objective 7 establish the aim of responding to the impacts of climate change in Knowsley. The Plan has been informed by a level 1 and level 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessments (EB14 and EB15). These have been taken into account in assessing the capacity and deliverability of sites in the SHLAA (EB01) and the broad locations proposed for removal from the Green Belt to meet future development needs. Whilst none of the broad locations for removal from the Green Belt fall wholly within areas of high flood risk some of them are partially affected. This has been taken into account in assessing the developable capacity of

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		these sites – see Technical Report "Green Belt" for further details (TR03). The SFRA documents take full account of the impacts of future climate change on the extent of areas that will be at risk of flooding. Policy CS24 "Managing Flood Risk" covers the Council's approach to dealing with flood risk affecting new development and mitigating any increased risk of flooding that could arise from new development.
Manage risk from coastal change (106)	• Identification of where the coast is likely to experience physical changes and identify Coastal Change Management Areas and clarity on what development will be allowed in such areas. • Provision for development and infrastructure that needs to be re-located from such areas, based on SMPs and Marine Plans, where appropriate.	Knowsley contains no areas of coastline. Ditton Brook (which is located at the southern end of the Borough) is affected by tidal flood risk connected with the Mersey Estuary. This matter has been taken into account in the level 1 and 2 SFRA (EB14, EB15) documents and in the assessment of the future capacity of development locations in the Halewood area.
11. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment (paras 109-125)		
Protect valued landscapes (109)	• A strategy and policy or policies to create, protect, enhance and manage networks of biodiversity and	Policy CS8 "Green Infrastructure" sets out how Knowsley's green infrastructure assets will be protected, managed and/or enhanced. It also

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
	green infrastructure. • Policy which seeks to minimise the loss of higher quality agricultural land and give great weight to protecting the landscape and scenic beauty of National Parks, the Broads and AONBs.	identifies key strategic green links in Knowsley. Policy G3 of the Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan (PP01) seeks to minimise the loss of high quality agricultural land from development and is proposed to be "saved" beyond the date of adoption of the CS. Knowsley contains no National Park or AONB areas. Strategic Objective 8 aims to protect the landscape setting of Knowsley's rural communities. Protection of landscape quality is also covered in Policy CS2 "Development Principles" (part 4), policy CS8 "Green Infrastructure" (part 1c), and Policy CS19 "Design Quality and Accessibility in New Development" (part 1b).
Prevent unacceptable risks from pollution and land instability (109)	• Policy which seeks development which is appropriate for its location having regard to the effects of pollution on health, the natural environment or general amenity.	These matters are covered by Strategic Objective 7 "Manage Environmental Resources", policy CS2 "Development Principles" (part 4j), and policy CS19 "Design Quality and Accessibility in New Development" (part 2). For example part 4 of policy CS2 requires new development to recognise environmental limits and minimise any negative impact upon flood risk, air quality, water quality, land quality, soil quality, and noise or vibration levels and ensure any negative impacts are appropriately mitigated.
Planning policies should minimise	• Identification and mapping of local	The Council has drawn on a range of evidence in

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
impacts on biodiversity and geodiversity (117) Planning policies should plan for biodiversity at a landscape-scale across local authority boundaries (117)	ecological networks and geological conservation interests. • Policies to promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the recovery of priority species	drafting policies relating to the natural environment, including cross boundary studies such as the Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan (LC17) and the Liverpool City Region Ecological Framework (LC06). Biodiversity matters have also been considered through other evidence base exercises, including the SHLAA (EB01) and the Green Belt Study (EB08). The Plan's commitment to the protection, management and enhancement of the biodiversity and geodiversity is reflected in the spatial vision and in Strategic Objectives 5, 7, and 8. Policy CS8 (particularly parts 1 and 2) sets out the Council's approach to maintenance and enhancement of Green Infrastructure. This will be supplemented by future site allocations which will identify areas of particular biodiversity and geodiversity value. Nature Improvement Areas (see paragraph 117 bullet 4 of the NPPF) are not defined in the Plan. However there is no obligation to identify such areas and the enhancement of biodiversity is covered in policy CS8.
12. **Conserving and enhancing the historic environment (paras 126-141)**		
Include a positive strategy for the	• A strategy for the historic	Evidence concerning the cultural and historic assets of Knowsley is set out in chapter 2 of the

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk (126)	environment based on a clear understanding of the cultural assets in the plan area, including assets most at risk. • A map/register of historic assets • A policy or policies which promote new development that will make a positive contribution to character and distinctiveness. (126)	Plan and the "Spatial Profile" Technical Report (TR05). This matter is also covered by policy CS2 "Development Principles" (part 4 b), policy CS8 "Green Infrastructure" (part 1c), the priorities for each area described in chapter 6 "Area Priorities", policy CS19 "Design Quality and Accessibility in new development "(part 1b), and policy CS20 "Managing the Borough's Historic Environment". Policy CS14 "Principal Regeneration Area – Prescot Town Centre" gives specific policy coverage for the historic assets of this historic town centre.
13. Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals (paras 142-149)		
It is important that there is a sufficient supply of material to provide the infrastructure, buildings, energy and goods that the country needs. However, since minerals are a finite natural resource, and can only be worked where they are found, it is important to make best use of them to secure their long-term conservation (142) Minerals planning authorities should plan for a steady and adequate supply	Account taken of the matters raised in relation to paragraph 143 and 145, including matters in relation to land in national / international designations; landbanks; the defining of Minerals Safeguarding Areas; wider matters relating to safeguarding; approaches if non-mineral development is necessary within Minerals Safeguarding Areas; the setting of environmental criteria; development of noise limits; reclamation	The Merseyside Minerals Study (2008) (LC05) provides evidence concerning this issue and its findings are summarised in paragraph 9.33 of the Plan. Policy CS25 affirms the Council's commitment to facilitating a steady and adequate supply of minerals to ensure that the Borough contributes towards meeting sub-regional needs. The Council intends to identify minerals safeguarding areas in the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies document, using relevant evidence (see

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
of industrial materials (146)	of land; plan for a steady and adequate supply of aggregates. This could include evidence of co-operation with neighbouring and more distant authorities.	supporting text of CS25). This will also set out detailed development management policies for proposals for minerals extraction.
Justified: *The plan should be the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence.* To be 'justified' a DPD needs to be: • Founded on a robust and credible evidence base involving: research / fact finding demonstrating how the choices made in the plan are backed up by facts; and evidence of participation of the local community and others having a stake in the area. • The most appropriate strategy when considered against reasonable alternatives.		
Participation Has the consultation process allowed for effective engagement of all interested parties?	The consultation statement. This should set out what consultation was undertaken, when, with whom and how it has influenced the plan. The statement should show that efforts have been made to consult hard to reach groups, key stakeholders etc. Reference SCI	The Report of Consultation (SD01) summarises how the Council has undertaken a series of comprehensive stakeholder engagement exercises in developing the Plan. A wide range of techniques have been used to involve different types of stakeholder including hard to reach groups. The approach which has been undertaken complies with the Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement (PP15). Targeted consultation has also taken place with key infrastructure providers to develop the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (SD06). Key stakeholders have also been involved in specific evidence base studies. For example, the Highways Agency and Merseytravel were involved

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		as stakeholders in the preparation of the evidence base on transport (EB10 and EB11).
		Key stakeholders were involved in a series of workshops at the outset of the preparation of the Plan (in 2008).The findings of these workshops are set out in the Plan Knowsley Workshops Report (EB 27).
		In 2009 the Council consulted on an Issues and Options Paper (CS06) which set out three broad options on how Knowsley may be developed and more detailed options on specific issues. The findings of this exercise were used to inform the development of a Preferred Options Report (CS04), on which consultation took place in 2011. The results of this consultation then helped to inform the drafting of the Proposed Submission version (CS03) of the Plan on which further consultation took place in November/December 2012.
		Further detail on these consultation exercises and how they have influenced the Plan are set out in: • The Core Strategy Issues and Options Paper Report of Consultation 2010 (SD05) • The Core Strategy Preferred Options Report: Report of Consultation 2011(SD04) • The "Accounting for Preferred Options" document 2012 (SD17)

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		• The Core Strategy Proposed Submission – Report of Consultation (SD01)
Research / fact finding Is the plan justified by a sound and credible evidence base? What are the sources of evidence? How up to date and how convincing is it? What assumptions were made in preparing the DPD? Were they reasonable and justified?	• The studies, reports and technical papers that provide the evidence for the policies set out in the DPD, the date of preparation and who they were produced by. AND • Sections of the DPD (at various stages of development) and SA Report which illustrate how evidence supports the strategy, policies and proposals, including key assumptions. OR • A very brief statement of how the main findings of consultation support the policies, with reference to: reports to the council on the issues raised during participation, covering both the front-loading and formulation phases; and any other information on community views and preferences. OR • For each policy (or group of policies dealing with the same issue), a very	The Plan has been informed by a very comprehensive range of evidence. Chapter 2 of the Plan "Knowsley –the Place" summarises in a general sense the key characteristics of the Borough and contains numerous footnotes and references to sources of information. Contextual evidence about the Borough is set out in the Spatial Profile Technical Report (TR05) and has been drawn from national sources such as the Office of National Statistics A wide range of specific studies have been commissioned or undertaken by the Council to inform the preparation of the Plan. These are listed in the examination library. In some cases the necessary studies have been commissioned jointly with other authorities and public bodies in the Liverpool City Region. Further detail on how evidence gathered at the City Region level has been used to tackle cross boundary strategic matters is set out in the Statement of Compliance with the Duty to Cooperate (SD14). Where a range of different sources of evidence is available to inform specific topics (for example in relation to housing, employment and retail) or the

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
	brief statement of the evidence documents relied upon and how they support the policy (where this is not already clear in the reasoned justification in the DPD).	evidence is slightly dated the Council has prepared Technical Reports which justify the approach in the Plan. These cover: • Planning for Housing Growth • Planning for Employment Growth • Green Belts • Retail • Spatial Profile • Spatial Context Evidence which is relevant to specific policies in the Plan is referred to at various points in the supporting text. For example all of the policies in chapter 5 "Spatial Strategy" (with the exception of policies CS1 and 2 which are of a more general nature) are supported by references to relevant evidence in their supporting text. In chapter 6 "Area Priorities" the key issues affecting each of the township areas are listed. These issues are drawn from the evidence presented in chapter 2 of the Plan and the supporting Technical Reports. Policies CS8 – CS14 aim to address these area specific issues. Chapter 7 to 10 of the Plan (containing policies CS15 to CS25) cover specific themes and are supported by evidence referred to in the supporting text for these policies at relevant points.

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
Alternatives Can it be shown that the LPA's chosen approach is the most appropriate given the reasonable alternatives? Have the reasonable alternatives been considered and is there a clear audit trail showing how and why the preferred approach was arrived at? Where a balance had to be struck in taking decisions between competing alternatives, is it clear how and why the decisions were taken? Does the sustainability appraisal show how the different options perform and is it clear that sustainability considerations informed the content of the DPD from the start?	• Reports and consultation documents produced in the early stages setting out how alternatives were developed and evaluated, and the reasons for selecting the preferred strategy, and reasons for rejecting the alternatives. This should include options covering not just the spatial strategy, but also the quantum of development, strategic policies and development management policies. • An audit trail of how the evidence base, consultation and SA have influenced the plan. • Sections of the SA Report showing the assessment of options and alternatives. • Reports on how decisions on the inclusion of policy were made. • Sections of the consultation document demonstrating how options were developed and appraised. • Any other documentation showing how alternatives were developed and evaluated, including a report on how sustainability appraisal has influenced the choice of strategy and	In 2009 the Council consulted on an Issues and Options Paper (CS06) which set out three broad options on how Knowsley may be developed and more detailed options on specific issues. The findings of this exercise were used to inform the development of a Preferred Options Report (CS04), on which consultation took place in 2011. Chapter 4 of the Preferred Options Report (entitled "Towards a Spatial Strategy") explains how the preferred spatial strategy in the Preferred Options Report was derived from the 3 strategic options which had previously been consulted upon at Issues and Options stage. The Preferred Options Report sets out drafts of policies CS1 to CS27. For each policy the Report sets out why the Council had adopted the approach taken in the policy together with any alternative approaches that had been considered and why these had been rejected. The results of consultation on the Preferred Options Report then helped to inform the drafting of the Proposed Submission version of the Plan (CS03) on which further consultation took place in November/December 2012. Each of the stages mentioned above was subject to a sustainability appraisal report. The report

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
	the content of policies.	published at each stage assessed the sustainability of the approaches which were proposed in the emerging Plan and also of the alternatives which were being considered. The outcomes of the appraisal at each stage helped to inform the subsequent stages of the Plan preparation. A separate sustainability appraisal has also been published of the proposed locations being considered for release from the Green Belt together with a number of alternatives promoted by representors. Key documents produced as part of this process included: • Interim Sustainability Appraisal – Core Strategy Issues and Options Paper (2009) (SD10) • Interim Sustainability Appraisal – Preferred Options Report (2011) (SD09) • Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal (2012) (SD07) • Sustainability Appraisal – Green Belt Locations (2012) (SD08) The Preferred Options Report and subsequent "Proposed Submission" of the Plan were also subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment (SD11), Equalities Impact Assessment (SD13) and Health Impact Assessment (SD12).

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		The "Accounting for Assessments" (SD16) and "Accounting for Preferred Options" (SD17) documents (2012) summarise how the outcomes of the various appraisal processes and the consultation on the Preferred Options Report informed the "Proposed Submission" draft of the Plan. The Council's Cabinet approved the Preferred Options Report on 8 June 2011 (CR03). The report for this meeting summarised why the preferred strategy and approach to key issues was being proposed. The full Council meeting on 19 September 2012 approved the "Proposed Submission" Version of the Plan for subsequent publication and submission to the Secretary of State (CR01). The report to that meeting again summarised the key issues being addressed and the justification for the approach in the Plan.

Effective: the plan should be deliverable over its period and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities.
To be 'effective' a DPD needs to:
- Be deliverable
- Demonstrate sound infrastructure delivery planning
- Have no regulatory or national planning barriers to its delivery
- Have delivery partners who are signed up to it
- Be coherent with the strategies of neighbouring authorities
- Demonstrate how the Duty to Co-operate has been fulfilled

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
- Be flexible - Be able to be monitored		
Deliverable and Coherent • Is it clear how the policies will meet the Plan's vision and objectives? Are there any obvious gaps in the policies, having regard to the objectives of the DPD? • Are the policies internally consistent? • Are there realistic timescales related to the objectives? • Does the DPD explain how its key policy objectives will be achieved?	• Sections of the DPD which address delivery, the means of delivery and the timescales for key developments and initiatives. • Confirmation from the relevant agencies that they support the objectives and the identified means of delivery, such as evidence that the plans and programmes of other bodies have been taken into account (e.g. Water Resources Management Plans). • Information in the local development scheme, or provided separately, about the scope and content (actual and intended) of each DPD showing how they combine to provide a coherent policy structure. • Section in the DPD that shows the linkages between the objectives and the corresponding policies, and consistency between policies (such as through a matrix).	Policies SD1 and CS1-27 of the Plan specifically address the vision and objectives. Links between each policy and the objectives are set out in a box entitled "Policy Links and Delivery" after each policy. There is a need to ensure new housing is delivered at the annual average of 450 dwellings proposed in policy CS3. The Plan proposes a review of Green Belt in 10 broad locations to achieve this and the employment land requirements (see below). The phasing mechanism in policy CS5 "Green Belt" will ensure that Green Belt land in the locations chosen is brought forward for housing development sufficiently quickly to meet the overall target and that a sufficient choice of deliverable sites is available at all times to provide a 5 year housing supply plus 5-20% flexibility factor as required by the NPPF (para.47). There is a need to ensure new employment land is delivered sufficient to meet the target of 183.5 hectares (see policy CS4 and table 5.1). The phasing mechanism in policy CS5 will ensure that the land proposed for release from the Green Belt for this purpose will be available for development sufficiently quickly to maintain a range of sites as required by policy CS4.

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		Policies CS9-CS14 identify regeneration objectives for 6 Principal Regeneration Areas. Information about the delivery of these areas is set out in the supporting text to these policies.
		The delivery mechanisms for each policy are also set out in the "Policy Links and Delivery" boxes. These include for example development management processes, other plans and strategies of the Council and its partner organisations and other planning policy documents. In some cases delivery will be through more detailed policies to be developed in the future Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies document or in Supplementary Planning Documents.
		The role of the separate documents which will make up the Knowsley Local Plan is clearly set out in the Knowsley Local Development Scheme 2013 (PP10). The documents will combine to form a coherent and comprehensive spatial planning strategy for Knowsley.
		Timescales for delivery of important infrastructure are set out (insofar as is practicable) in the Knowsley Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) (SD06). The Council has engaged extensively with key infrastructure providers in developing the Plan

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		and there are no significant objections from any of these agencies of a nature which could threaten delivery of the Plan. The policies within the Plan are internally consistent. Policy CS26 "Waste Management" describes how the Plan will link to the Joint Merseyside and Halton Waste Local Plan (PP04), which is the only other Local Plan document to have been submitted for examination to date covering the Borough. Appendix C explains how the Plan policies will dovetail with policies in the current Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan (PP01), some of which will lapse on adoption of the Core Strategy while others will continue to be "saved" beyond this point. The timescale for delivery of the vision and objectives (by 2028) is considered to be realistic. The Plan links strongly with other Council strategies e.g. covering housing, economic development and greenspaces.
Infrastructure Delivery • Have the infrastructure implications of the policies clearly been identified? • Are the delivery mechanisms and timescales for implementation of the	• A section or sections of the DPD where infrastructure needs are identified and the proposed solutions put forward.	Timescales for delivery of important infrastructure are set out (insofar as is practicable) in the Knowsley Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) (SD06). The Council has engaged extensively with key infrastructure providers in developing the Plan

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
policies clearly identified? • Is it clear who is going to deliver the required infrastructure and does the timing of the provision complement the timescale of the policies?	• A schedule setting out responsibilities for delivery, mechanisms and timescales, and related to a CIL schedule where appropriate. • Confirmation from infrastructure providers that they support the solutions proposed and the identified means and timescales for their delivery, or a plan for resolving issues. • Demonstrable plan-wide viability, particularly in relation to the delivery of affordable housing and the role of a CIL schedule.	and the IDP and there are no significant objections from any of these agencies of a nature which could threaten delivery of the Plan. For those key infrastructure delivery partners which are subject to the "duty to cooperate" further information on the outcomes of the engagement which has taken place is in the "Statement of Compliance with the Duty to Cooperate" (SD14). The Knowsley IDP (SD06) sets out the schedule of delivery of key infrastructure items, mechanisms and timescales. Policy CS27 "Planning and Paying for New Infrastructure" sets out the approach towards funding infrastructure including through developer contributions. This includes potential to pursue a Community Infrastructure Levy but only if justified by evidence e.g. on viability. The Knowsley Economic Viability Assessment (2012) (EB06) comprehensively assesses the impact of the Plan policies e.g. related to affordable housing, Code for Sustainable Homes, design standards on development viability in Knowsley. This will be used to make any future decisions about CIL.
Co-ordinated Planning Does the DPD reflect the concept of	• Sections of the DPD that reflect the plans or strategies of the local	The "Strategy for Knowsley: A Borough of Choice" (2013) (PG31) is the overarching document which

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
spatial planning? Does it go beyond traditional land use planning by bringing together and integrating policies for development and the use of land with other policies and programmes from a variety of agencies / organisations that influence the nature of places and how they function?	authority and other bodies • Policies which seek to pull together different policy objectives • Expressions of support/representations from bodies responsible for other strategies affecting the area •	sets out the vision and action plans of Knowsley Council and other organisations which collectively comprise the Knowsley Partnership. This document acted as a refresh of the Borough's previous Sustainable Community Strategy (PG31a). The Plan links closely with the vision of the Borough Strategy which is replicated on page 1 of the Plan. Other local and city regional strategies e.g. related to housing, economic development, transport, health, greenspaces and low carbon development are reflected at various parts of the Plan and its supporting Technical Reports. The links between the Plan and the 4 priorities of the Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership are set out in paragraph 5.27 of the Plan and the "Planning for Employment Growth" Technical Report (TR02).
Flexibility • Is the DPD flexible enough to respond to a variety of, or unexpected changes in, circumstances? • Does the DPD include the remedial actions that will be taken if the policies need adjustment?	• Sections of the DPD setting out the assumptions of the plan and identifying the circumstances when policies might need to be reviewed. • Sections of the annual monitoring report and sustainability appraisal report describing how the council will monitor: a. the effectiveness of policies	The Plan and its supporting evidence base refer at various points to key assumptions and trends that have been used to derive the Plan policies. Examples of this include: • Rates of delivery of new land for employment development are set out in the "Planning for Employment Growth" Technical Report (TR02) • The rates of retention of retail spend in Knowsley's town centres are set out in the

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
	and what evidence is being collected to undertake this b. changes affecting the baseline information and any information on trends on which the DPD is based • Risk analysis of the strategy and policies to demonstrate robustness and how the plan could cope with changing circumstances • Sections within the DPD dealing with possible change areas and how they would be dealt with, including mechanisms for the rate of development to be increased or slowed and how that would impact on other aspects of the strategy and on infrastructure provision • Sections of the DPD identifying the key indicators of success of the strategy, and the remedial actions which will be taken if adjustment is required.	"Retail" Technical Report (TR04). • Rates of delivery of housing development from different sources have informed the trajectory for housing delivery as set out in the "Planning for Housing Growth" Technical Report (TR01). The supporting text to policy CS3 sets out the approach to monitoring the delivery of housing development and instituting a review of this policy if this is necessary. Chapter 5 of the Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal (2012) sets out the approach to monitoring the sustainability effects of the Plan. The approach set out will satisfy the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations. The chapter identifies the monitoring indictors that will be considered for use in the Council's Monitoring Reports. The Council intends to continue to produce Monitoring Reports on an annual basis. These Reports will include a regular assessment of progress in achieving the Plan policies and recommendations to address any shortfall in achieving these. The risks to delivery of key aspects of the Plan and details of how these have informed the strategy are

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		set out in the "Planning for Housing Growth", "Planning for Employment Growth" and "Retail" Technical Reports (TR02 and TR04). The "Green Belt" Technical Report (TR03) assesses constraints which could impact on scale and rate of delivery of development in the areas proposed to be removed from the Green Belt. The Knowsley Local Plan Monitoring Framework (2013) (SD15) sets out further detail on how the Plan will be monitored.
Co-operation • Is there sufficient evidence to demonstrate that the Duty to Co-operate has been undertaken appropriately for the plan being examined? • Is it clear who is intended to implement each part of the DPD? Where the actions required are outside the direct control of the LPA, is there evidence that there is the necessary commitment from the relevant organisation to the implementation of the policies?	• A succinct Duty to Co-operate Statement which flows from the strategic issues that have been addressed jointly. A 'tick box' approach or a collection of correspondence is not sufficient, and it needs to be shown (where appropriate) if joint plan-making arrangements have been considered, what decisions were reached and why. • The Duty to Co-operate Statement could highlight: the sharing of ideas, evidence and pooling of resources; the practical policy outcomes of co-operation; how decisions were reached and why; and evidence of having effectively co-operated to	The Duty to Cooperate Statement (2013) (SD14) sets out how the Council has co-operated with neighbouring local authorities and other prescribed public bodies in preparing the Plan. This Statement defines the key cross boundary strategic matters and what the outcomes of cooperation have been in addressing each issue. The cooperation which has taken place includes extensive preparation of evidence on a joint basis with neighbouring local authorities. This has included the Overview Study (2011) which considered housing and employment land requirements and land supply across the whole City Region. It also includes further studies which have in some cases been carried out by smaller groupings of authorities. Further details are set out in the Duty to Cooperate Statement.

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
	plan for issues which need other organisations to deliver on, common objectives for elements of strategy and policy; a memorandum of understanding; aligned or joint core strategies and liaison with other consultees as appropriate.	The 5 Merseyside authorities and Halton Council have prepared the Joint Merseyside and Halton Waste Local Plan (PP04). This has passed its examination in public stage and is expected to be adopted in 2013.
Monitoring • Does the DPD contain targets, and milestones which relate to the delivery of the policies, (including housing trajectories where the DPD contains housing allocations)? • Is it clear how targets are to be measured (by when, how and by whom) and are these linked to the production of the annual monitoring report? • Is it clear how the significant effects identified in the sustainability appraisal report will be taken forward in the ongoing monitoring of the implementation of the plan, through the annual monitoring report?	• Sections of the DPD setting out indicators, targets and milestones • Sections of the current annual monitoring report which report on indicators, targets, milestones and trajectories • Reference to any other reports or technical documents which contain information on the delivery of policies • Sections of the current annual monitoring report and the sustainability appraisal report setting out the framework for monitoring, including monitoring the effects of the DPD against the sustainability appraisal	The Knowsley Local Plan Monitoring Framework (2013) (SD15) sets out targets and indicators against which the success of the Plan will be assessed. The approach to monitoring in previous Monitoring Reports will be reviewed to reflect the new indicators and targets being introduced. The Council has provided an estimated housing trajectory within the supporting text of Policy CS3. This sets out how housing land sources are anticipated to be phased in terms of delivery over the plan period up to 2028. Paragraph 5.23 establishes that this will be monitored annually and review mechanisms implemented if necessary to establish the required rates of delivery. Chapter 5 of the Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal (2012) (SD07) sets out the approach to monitoring the sustainability effects of the Plan. The approach set out will satisfy the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations. The chapter identifies the monitoring

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		indicators that will be considered for use in the Council's Monitoring Reports.
Consistent with national policy: *the plan should enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the Framework.* The DPD should not contradict or ignore national policy. Where there is a departure, there must be clear and convincing reasoning to justify the approach taken.		
• Does the DPD contain any policies or proposals which are not consistent with national policy and, if so, is there local justification? • Does the DPD contain policies that do not add anything to existing national guidance? If so, why have these been included?	• Sections of the DPD which explain where and how national policy has been elaborated upon and the reasons. • Studies forming evidence for the DPD or, where appropriate, other information which provides the rationale for departing from national policy. • Evidence provided from the sustainability appraisal (including reference to the sustainability report) and/or from the results of community involvement. • Reports or copies of correspondence as to how representations have been considered and dealt with.	A key challenge being addressed in the Plan is that exceptional circumstances exist to require a review of Green Belt boundaries to meet future development needs. The approach to this review is summarised in the supporting text of policy CS5 with further detail set out in the "Green Belt" Technical Report (TR03).

APPENDIX B)

ASSESSMENT MATRIX OF NATIONAL POLICY AND LOCAL PLAN / SAVED POLICY COVERAGE

Appendix B Assessment Matrix of National Policy and Local Plan / Saved Policy Coverage

APPENDIX C)

ASSESSMENT OF CONSISTENCY OF SAVED UDP POLICIES WITH NATIONAL POLICY

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
Policy H2: Sites Allocated for Housing Development	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 17, 20, 34 - 35, 37 - 38, 47, 49, 70, 95, 110 - 111, 120, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 173 - 174, 181.	The table within the policy includes a number of land allocations which have subsequently been developed since 2006; this does not however prejudice the implementation of Policy H2 in association with the Local Plan: Core Strategy in terms of the remaining allocations. No weight can be attributed to sub-point 2 as UDP Policy H1 is no longer saved and housing supply restrictions do not conform to the principles of the NPPF.	This policy is intended to be saved to ensure consistency with the Proposals Map in so far as the status of the remaining housing allocations. Housing allocations are anticipated to be reviewed, revised and added to as part of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies, at which time this policy will be replaced.
Policy H4: Development Opportunity Site (Valley Road, Kirkby)	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 21, 34 - 35, 37 - 38, 47, 49, 70, 95, 110 - 111, 120, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 173 - 174, 181.	No weight can be attributed to sub-point 2 due to UDP Policy H1 no longer remaining saved and housing supply restrictions not conforming to the principles of the NPPF.	This policy is saved to ensure consistency with the Proposals Map in so far as the status of the site and its suitability for residential or a mix of residential and small scale community or commercial uses. This allocation is intended to be reviewed, revised and / or amended as appropriate as part of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies, at which time this policy will be replaced. The current policy approach in UDP Policy H4

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
			is sufficiently flexible so as not to preclude redevelopment for alternative uses where such a proposal would comply with the Local Plan: Core Strategy and the NPPF.
Policy H5: Development within Primarily Residential Areas	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 17, 20, 34 - 35, 37 - 38, 47, 49, 57 - 61, 65, 70, 95, 110 - 111, 120, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 173 - 174, 181.	Sub point 2 (b) can no longer be attributed significant weight in circumstances where NPPF Paragraph 65 applies. No weight should be attributed to sub-point 3 due to Policy H1 no longer remaining saved and housing supply restrictions not conforming to the principles of the NPPF. Windfall housing is acceptable provided it accords with the broader policy requirements of the site in question.	This policy is saved to ensure consistency with the Proposals Map in so far as the areas considered suitable for residential uses. These allocations are intended to be reviewed, revised and / or amended as appropriate as part of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies at which time this policy will be replaced. The current policy approach in UDP Policy H5 is sufficiently flexible so as not to preclude redevelopment for alternative uses where such a proposal would comply with the Local Plan: Core Strategy and the NPPF.
Policy H6: Treatment and Redevelopment of Housing Clearance Sites	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 9, 14 - 17, 20, 47, 49, 109, 111, 150 - 152, 154, 174.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF in so far as encouraging the effective re-use of previously developed land, maximising available housing land supply and promoting sustainable

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
			development. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy H7: Provision of Flats for Nursing and Residential Homes, Hostels and Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 9, 14 - 17, 20, 39, 47, 49, 57 - 61, 65, 123, 150 - 152, 154, 173, 181.	No weight should be attributed to sub-point 2 due to Policy H1 no longer remaining saved and housing supply restrictions not conforming to the principles of the NPPF. Windfall housing is acceptable provided it accords with the broader policy requirements of the site in question.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy H8: Extensions and Alterations to Residential Properties	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 9, 14 - 17, 20, 47, 49, 53, 57 - 61, 150 - 152, 154, 173 - 174.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
Policy EC2: Sites Allocated for Employment Development	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 21, 22, 33 - 35, 37, 51, 57 - 61, 65, 70, 95, 110 - 111, 120, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 173 - 174, 181.	The table within the policy include a number of land allocations which have subsequently been developed since 2006; this does not however prejudice the implementation of Policy EC2 in association with the Local Plan: Core Strategy in terms of the remaining allocations.	This policy is intended to be saved to ensure consistency with the Proposals Map in so far as the status of the remaining employment land allocations. Employment development allocations are anticipated to be reviewed, revised and added to as part of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies at which time this policy will be replaced.
Policy EC3: Primarily Industrial Areas	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 21, 22, 33 - 35, 37, 51, 57 - 61, 65, 70, 95, 110 - 111, 120, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 173 - 174, 181.	Point 2 (a) and (c) of Policy EC3 will need to be attributed limited weight, as the requirements are stricter than in circumstances where Paras. 51 or 65 of the NPPF apply.	This policy is intended to be saved to ensure consistency with the Proposals Map in so far as the status of the remaining available employment land and will be replaced by the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy EC4: Regional Investment Site - Kings Business Park	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 21, 22, 33 - 35, 37, 57 - 61, 65, 70, 79 - 81, 95, 110, 120, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 173 - 174, 181.	Kings Business Park is no longer identified as a Regional Investment Site following the revocation of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) and the closure of the North West	This policy is intended to be saved to ensure consistency with the Proposals Map in so far as the status of the remaining available employment land and will be replaced by the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
		Regional Development Agency. Nevertheless Policy EC4 is relevant to inform development proposals as the location remains a high quality employment site which is suitable to provide opportunities for the Liverpool City Region's target employment sectors.	Policies.
Policy E6: Tourism and Cultural Development	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 21, 23, 24, 28, 70, 95, 110, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 174, 181.	Point 2 (b) of Policy EC6 will need to be attributed limited weight, in circumstances where Para. 65 of the NPPF applies.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy S2: Diversification of Uses within Existing Centres	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 21, 23, 34 - 35, 37 - 38, 47, 49, 57 - 61, 65, 70, 109 - 111, 120, 123, 150 - 152, 154, 174, 181.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
Policy S7: Local Centres and Parades	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 21, 23, 34 - 35, 37 - 38, 47, 49, 57 - 61, 65, 69 - 70, 95, 109 - 111, 120, 123, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 174, 181.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy S9: Shop Fronts and Security Shutters	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 17, 20, 23, 57 - 61, 65, 69, 150 - 152, 154, 174.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy S10: Advertisements	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 17, 20, 57 - 61, 65, 67, 150 - 152, 154, 174.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy T5: Location of Major Traffic Generating New	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 18, 20, 29 - 31, 33 - 35, 37 - 38, 95, 110, 150	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
Development	- 152, 154, 156 - 157, 174 - 181.		intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy T7: New Development and Walking & Cycling Routes	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 18, 20, 29 - 31, 34 - 35, 37 - 38, 75, 81, 95, 110, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 173, 174 - 181.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy T8: Transport Assessments	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 18, 20, 29 - 35, 37, 95, 110, 124, 150 - 152, 154, 174 - 181.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy T9: Travel Plans	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 18, 20, 29 - 37, 95, 110, 124, 150 - 152, 154, 174 - 181.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
Policy T10: Access for the Less Mobile	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 17, 20, 29, 35, 50, 57 - 59, 61, 65, 69 - 70, 150 - 152, 154, 174.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy T10: Taxi Facilities	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 17, 20, 29 - 30, 40, 109, 123, 150 - 152, 154, 174.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy G3: Agricultural Land	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 17, 81, 89, 95, 109, 110, 112 - 113, 143, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 174,	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
	181.		of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy G4: Rural Diversification	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 21, 25, 28, 34, 37, 81, 89, 95, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 173, 174, 181. PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management Paragraph; 21.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy G5: Existing Major Developed Sites in the Green Belt	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 17, 19 - 21, 57 - 61, 65, 80, 81, 89, 95, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 173, 174, 181.	Point 1 (e) of Policy G5 will need to be attributed limited weight, given that it exceeds the requirements of Para. 89 of the NPPF.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
Policy G6: Conversion or Change of Use of Existing Buildings in the Green Belt	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 17, 19 - 21, 28, 47, 49, 55, 57 - 61, 65, 81, 89, 90, 95, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 174. PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management Paragraph; 21.	Points (c) and (d) of Policy G6 will need to be attributed limited weight in circumstances where Para. 65 of the NPPF applies. Point (g) of Policy G6 will need to be attributed limited weight, given that it exceeds the requirements of Para. 28 of the NPPF.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy G7: Alteration, Extension or Replacement of Existing Dwellings in the Green Belt	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 17, 47, 49, 55, 57 - 61, 65, 81, 89, 95, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 174.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy G8: Agricultural or Equestrian Development	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 21, 28, 57 - 61, 65, 81, 89, 95, 112, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 173, 174.	Points 3 (a), 3 (b) and 4. of Policy G8 will need to be attributed limited weight in terms of consideration of equestrian development given the requirements exceed Para. 89 of the NPPF relating to outdoor recreation.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
Policy OS7: Educational Uses and Sites	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 21, 38, 57 - 61, 65, 70, 72, 95, 150 - 152, 154.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy DQ2: Security in the Built Environment	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 9, 14 - 17, 20, 57 - 61, 65, 69, 125, 150 - 152, 154, 174.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy DQ3: Gateway Sites and Corridors	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 20, 23, 57 - 61, 65, 69 - 70, 150 - 152, 154, 156, 174.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy DQ4: Trees and Development	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 9, 14 - 17, 57 - 61, 65, 95,	Consideration of Policy DQ4 must be mindful of the context of Para. 173 of	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
	118, 150 - 152, 154, 156, 173, 174, 176 -177.

Planning Policy for Traveller Sites Paragraph; 9, 24. | the NPPF / Policy CS21 of the Local Plan as appropriate. | consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies. |
Policy DQ5: Development in Conservation Areas	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 17, 20, 23, 57 - 61, 65, 123, 126 - 134, 136 - 138, 140 - 141, 150 - 152, 154, 174.	Consideration of Policy DQ5 must be mindful of the context of Para. 134 of the NPPF / Policy CS8 of the Local Plan, before being utilised as a reason for refusal.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy DQ7: Listed Buildings	NPPF Paragraphs; 7 - 10, 14 - 17, 20, 57 - 61, 65, 126, 128 - 134, 136, 140, 141, 150 - 152, 154, 174.	Consideration of Policy DQ7 must be mindful of the context of Para. 134 of the NPPF / Policy CS8 of the Local Plan, before being utilised as a reason for refusal.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy DQ9: Sites and Areas of Archaeological Importance	NPPF Paragraph; 7 - 10, 14 - 17, 126, 128, 129, 131, 133, 134, 139, 150 - 152, 154, 174.	Consideration of Policy DQ9 must be mindful of the context of Para. 134 of the NPPF / Policy CS8 of the Local Plan, before being utilised as a reason for refusal.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
			Development Policies.
Policy MW2: Proposals for Mineral Developments	NPPF Paragraph; 7 - 9, 14 - 20, 93, 110, 142 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 174. PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management Paragraph; 2.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy MW3: Onshore Oil, Gas and Coal Bed Methane	NPPF Paragraph; 7 - 9, 14 - 20, 110, 143 - 144, 147, 150 - 152, 154, 156 - 157, 181. PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management Paragraph; 2.	Policy MW3 when considered in isolation does not clearly distinguish between the three phases of development listed and required in NPPF Para. 147. Nevertheless the criterion is considered relevant to exploration, production and restoration phases when supplemented by the broader scope of Policy MW2.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
Policy ENV2: Noise and Vibration	NPPF Paragraph; 7 - 9, 14 - 17, 57 - 59, 61, 109 - 110, 123, 143, 144, 150 - 152, 154, 174. Planning Policy for Traveller Sites Paragraph; 9, 11. PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management Paragraph; 3, 5, 27, 29, 30, 32.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy ENV3: Light Pollution	NPPF Paragraph; 7 - 9, 14 - 17, 57 - 59, 61, 109 - 110, 125, 150 - 152, 154, 174. Planning Policy for Traveller Sites Paragraph; 9, 11. PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
	Management Paragraph; 3, 5, 27, 29, 30, 32.		
Policy ENV4: Hazardous Substances	NPPF Paragraph; 7 - 9, 14 - 17, 61, 110, 121, 144, 148, 150 - 152, 154, 164, 172, 174.

PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management Paragraph; 3, 5, 27, 29, 30, 32. | None. | This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies. |
| Policy ENV5: Contaminated Land | NPPF Paragraph; 7 - 9, 14 - 17, 58, 61, 109 - 110, 120 - 122, 143 - 144, 150 - 152, 154, 174.

PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management Paragraph; 3, 5, 27, 29, 30, 32. | None. | This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies. |

UDP Policy	Linkage, Support and Consistency with National Policy Objectives	Areas of Non-Compliance and Actions to be taken in Decision Making	Policy Status and Comments
Policy ENV6: Landfill Gas	NPPF Paragraph; 7 - 9, 14 - 17, 121, 144, 148, 150 - 152, 154, 172, 174. PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management Paragraph; 3, 5, 27, 29, 30, 32.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.
Policy ENV8: Telecommunications Development	NPPF Paragraph; 7 - 10, 14 - 17, 20, 42 - 46, 87, 126, 150 - 152, 154, 156, 157, 173, 174.	None.	This policy is saved to ensure clarity for planning application decisions whilst ensuring consistency with the NPPF. The policy is intended to be replaced following the adoption of the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.

APPENDIX D)

PLANNING POLICY FOR TRAVELLER SITES – SELF ASSESSMENT

Policy Expectations	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
Policy A: Using evidence to plan positively and manage development (para 6)		
Early and effective community engagement with both settled and traveller communities.	• Early and effective engagement undertaken, including discussing travellers' accommodation needs with travellers themselves, their representative bodies and local support groups.	Evidence relating to the needs for gypsy and traveller accommodation in Knowsley is set out in the Merseyside Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (LC04) and in the evidence base collated to support the Partial Review of the Regional Spatial Strategy. This evidence was collated by qualified consultants in accordance with best practice, including engagement with travellers, representative bodies and relevant support groups.
		The Merseyside Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (LC04) found a need for just 5 permanent pitches in Knowsley and a share of 10 transit pitches to be shared with the other authorities involved in the study (Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral) between 2007 and 2016. The Council is working with selected neighbouring authorities (Liverpool, Sefton, St.Helens, Wirral and West Lancashire) to refresh this evidence base, with appropriate qualified consultants having been appointed in April 2013. The methodology for this study has been prescribed in accordance with best practice including active engagement with the travelling community (through a traveller survey) and appropriate representatives.
Co-operate with travellers, their representative bodies and local support groups, other local authorities and relevant interest groups to prepare and	• Demonstration of a clear understanding of the needs of the traveller community over the lifespan of your	As noted above, the Council's existing evidence is being updated in 2013, to reflect the need for new primary data regarding the need for gypsy and traveller accommodation in Knowsley.

Policy Expectations	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
maintain an up-to-date understanding of likely permanent and transit accommodation needs of their areas.	development plan. • Collaborative working with neighbouring local planning authorities. • A robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of your local plan and make planning decisions.	Like previous evidence base studies, the new study is being undertaken on a sub-regional basis, with partner authorities from across the Liverpool City Region (Liverpool, Sefton, St.Helens, Wirral and West Lancashire). It is considered best practice to undertake this study jointly, to boost reliability and robustness of evidence. The Council and other participant authorities in the joint study have yet to complete the updated evidence base. However Policy CS18 commits the Council to using this evidence to determine the scale of need for pitches / sites in Knowsley over the plan period (up to 2028). In the event of a new study identifying a need for site provision the Council intends to work (in cooperation with the partner authorities if necessary) to determine the most suitable means to provide this. Account will also be taken of any viability issues concerning the nature of the provision to be made. This could involve the allocation of a site or sites in the Local Plan Site Allocations and Development Policies document.
Policy B: Planning for traveller sites (paras 7-11)		
Set pitch targets for gypsies and travellers and plot targets for travelling showpeople which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs of travellers in	• Identification, and annual update, of a supply of specific, deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5 years worth of sites against locally set target.	The Council currently has no allocated, permitted or unauthorised sites accommodating gypsy and travellers in Knowsley. As noted above, the Council is currently updating its evidence base, collaboratively with sub-regional partners, to ensure that any long

Policy Expectations	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
your area, working collaboratively with neighbouring LPAs. Set criteria to guide land supply allocations where there is identified need. Ensure that traveller sites are sustainable economically, socially and environmentally.	Identification of a supply of specific, developable sites or broad locations for growth for years 6-10, and, where possible, for years 11-15. • An assessment of the need for traveller sites, and where an unmet need has been demonstrated a supply of specific, deliverable sites been identified. • Policy which takes into account criteria a-h of para 11	term requirement for such accommodation serving Knowsley and neighbouring districts can be identified. The Council has not identified a need to produce a joint Local Plan in relation to gypsy and travellers. This is due to the progression of neighbouring authority Local Plans at a varying rate – some local authorities have Core Strategies adopted, while others are behind Knowsley in terms of the stages of preparation. However, the Council is as stated working jointly with neighbouring districts to update the Liverpool City Region GTAA. It is expected that once this new evidence is completed, this will be able to feed into the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies document. The partner authorities will be able to decide on the most appropriate pattern of site provision which could include the identification of a site or sites in Knowsley. Policy CS18 provides criteria to be applied in this site search and allocation process. Policy CS18 has been developed accounting for a range of social, economic and environmental factors.
Policy C: Sites in rural areas and the countryside (para 12)		
When assessing the suitability of sites in rural or semi-rural settings LPAs should ensure that the scale of such		The Council intends to address this matter within the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies document (in the event of any sites being considered

Policy Expectations	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
sites do not dominate the nearest settled community.		which are in rural or semi rural settings).
Policy D: Rural exception sites (para 13)		
If there is a lack of affordable land to meet local traveller needs, LPAs in rural areas, where viable and practical, should consider allocating and releasing sites solely for affordable travellers sites.	• If a rural exception site policy is used, and if so clarity that such sites shall be used for affordable traveller sites in perpetuity.	The Council intends to address this issue in the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies document. This will be addressed using updated evidence regarding the need for traveller pitches and sites in Knowsley.
Policy E: Traveller sites in Green Belt (paras 14-15)		
Traveller sites (both permanent and temporary) in the Green Belt are inappropriate development. Exceptional limited alteration to the defined Green Belt boundary (which might be to accommodate a site inset within the Green Belt) to meet a specific, identified need for a traveller site ... should be done only through the plan-making process.	• Green Belt boundary revisions made in response to a specific identified need for a traveller site, undertaken through the plan making process.	The process of allocating any sites which are needed for gypsies and travellers in Knowsley will be undertaken in the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies document, as referenced in CS Policy CS18.
Policy F: Mixed planning use traveller sites (paras 16-18)		
Local planning authorities should consider, wherever possible, including traveller sites suitable for mixed residential and business uses, having regard to the safety and amenity of the occupants and neighbouring residents.	• Consideration of the need for sites for mixed residential and business use (having regard to safety and amenity of the occupants and neighbouring residents), or separate sites in	The issue of site allocations and the specific design of such sites will be dealt with in the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies document.

Policy CS18 part 3 identifies that sites for the accommodation of Travelling Show People should account for specific requirements in relation to mixed |

Policy Expectations	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
	close proximity to one another. • N.B. Mixed use should not be permitted on rural exception sites	use sites.
Policy G: Major development projects (para 19)		
Local planning authorities should work with the planning applicant and the affected traveller community to identify a site or sites suitable for relocation of the community if a major development proposal requires the permanent or temporary relocation of a traveller site.	• Where a major development proposal requires the permanent or temporary relocation of a traveller site, the identification of a site or sites suitable for re-location of the community.	This situation does not exist in Knowsley at present.

For more information log on to
www.knowsley.gov.uk/LocalPlan

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or email customerservices@knowsley.gov.uk

Knowsley Council