

**Salford City Council**  
**Telecommunications Supplementary Planning**  
**Document**  
Sustainability Appraisal Final Report  
May 2007

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## Components that make up the SEA Environmental Report

This Sustainability Appraisal report incorporates the requirements for an Environmental Report under the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. These Regulations transpose the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (European Directive 2001/42/EC) into English law.

The places in the Sustainability Appraisal Report where the components which are required in relation to the Environmental Report are signposted in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Signpost of where in this report the different aspects of SEA Directive have been satisfied**

<b>Information to be included in an Environmental Report under the SEA Regulations</b>	<b>Relevant Sections in the SA Report</b>
An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan and its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes.	3.4 - 3.6 4.1 - 4.3
The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan.	4.4 - 4.10
The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.	4.4 - 4.10 4.16
Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan, including in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC.	4.4 - 4.10 4.16
The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or national level, which are relevant to the plan and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.	4.1 - 4.3
The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soils, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage, landscape, and the interrelationship between the above factors.	Section 6 Appendix 3
The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan.	Section 6 Appendix 3
An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties.	Section 2 Section 4 Section 5
A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring.	Section 7
A non-technical summary of the information provided above.	Section 1

# 1. SUMMARY AND OUTCOMES

- 1.1 This section provides a non-technical summary of the Sustainability Appraisal report, setting out the process and the difference that this process has made.

## **NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

- 1.2 The Telecommunications Supplementary Planning Document (TELSPD) offers guidance for those involved in the planning and design of new telecommunication development. It will also serve to inform decision makers and local communities and promote transparency, inclusiveness and consistency for all parties throughout the decision making process. It explains the council's overall approach to telecommunications development, and sets out detailed advice on government policy and the planning framework, the siting and appearance of telecommunications development, and health considerations.
- 1.3 The purpose of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is to promote sustainable development through the integration of sustainability considerations into the preparation and adoption of the SPD. The SA considers the SPD's implications, from a social, economic and environmental perspective, by assessing options and the SPD against available baseline data and sustainability objectives.
- 1.4 SA is mandatory for SPDs under the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004). SAs of SPDs should also fully incorporate the requirements of the European Directive 2001/42/EC, known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive. This Directive is transposed into English law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 – the SEA Regulations.

## **THE APPRAISAL METHODOLOGY**

- 1.5 The approach adopted to undertake the SA was based on the process set out in the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) Guidance Paper "Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents" November 2005.
- 1.6 The level of detail and the scope that the SA covered was agreed by key stakeholders involved in the SA process as part of consultation on a SA Scoping Report. This report was produced to set out the initial context and findings of the SA and the proposed approach to the appraisal process.

### **RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND OBJECTIVES**

- 1.7 The purpose of reviewing other plans and programmes and sustainability objectives is to ensure that the relationship between these documents and the SPD has been fully explored. This will in turn ensure that Salford City Council is able to act on any identified inconsistencies between international, national, regional and local objectives.
- 1.8 A range of national, regional and local strategies were reviewed as part of the SA process and no major inconsistencies were found between policies. The key links identified were with Planning Policy Statement 1 (PPS1): Delivering Sustainable Development; North West Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS13); North West Regional Assembly's Regional Sustainable Development Framework – 'Action for Sustainability' (AfS); and the City of Salford Unitary Development Plan 2004–2016.

### **BASELINE CHARACTERISTICS**

- 1.9 The collection and assessment of information and data about the current and likely future state of the policy area (City of Salford) was used within the SA to help identify sustainability problems and predict the SPD's effects. Where available, comparators, key trends and targets were identified.
- 1.10 Sources for the baseline data included: Health Inequalities in Salford – a local strategy for action (2004); Salford PCT Annual Report (2003/2004); Neighbourhood Statistics website (<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk>); Indices of Deprivation (2004); Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan (2000); Salford City Council Resident's Survey (2003/2004); and the Salford Annual Baseline Review (2005).
- 1.11 Issues and trends identified included that although the total population of Salford has stabilised over the last three years, it has decreased rapidly from 1992 and the city is still experiencing a net loss of families. Many parts of Salford are amongst the most deprived in the country. Also, the general health of the population is below the national average and crime is much higher than the national average. Average earning levels are also below the national average. However, the City is well endowed with natural and cultural assets.

### **THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK**

- 1.12 The establishment of SA objectives and criteria is central to the SA process and provides a way in which sustainability effects can be described, assessed and compared. The sustainability objectives used for the SA of the SPD were drawn from the sustainability issues identified through analysis of the baseline data and review of other plans and strategies.

- 1.13 There were 16 objectives used in total, organised under the three dimensions of sustainability: social; environmental and economic. The objectives covered a broad range of issues, including: to improve the health of the population; to improve safety and security for people and property; to reduce deprivation within the city; to ensure that everyone has access to a good home that meets their needs; to improve accessibility for all the community; to maintain and improve biodiversity, flora and fauna; to reduce vulnerability to climate change; and to maximise sustainable economic growth.

#### **APPRAISAL OF STRATEGIC OPTIONS**

- 1.14 A key requirement of the SA is to consider reasonable alternatives as part of the assessment process. The options that were assessed were formulated from the Unitary Development Plan process and the Council's intention to provide clear guidelines on which applications for mobile phone masts will be assessed and on related telecommunications issues. The options assessed were thus:

- **Do nothing / business as usual (option A):** This option is likely to have a significant negative impact on a number of the sustainability objectives. A lack of clear guidance on the design and siting of installations could restrict the development of a high quality telecommunications network and have an adverse impact on the health and well-being of the population, the quality of the environments in which people live and work, economic growth and deprivation.
- **Provide clear guidance for those involved in the planning and design of new telecommunication development about the appropriate siting and appearance of installations (option B):** This option will provide a key tool to support the development of a high quality telecommunications network whilst ensuring that the impact on the environment is minimised through the appropriate design and siting of installations.

- 1.15 The key changes and the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of each option were identified. This concluded that the preferred option was to provide clear guidance for those involved in the planning and design of new telecommunication development about the appropriate siting and appearance of installations (option B).

#### **APPRAISAL OF THE PLAN'S EFFECTS**

- 1.16 The SA provides a record of the prediction and assessment of the potential effects of the preferred option (provide SPD) and the 'do nothing' option. These were assessed against each of the 16 sustainability objectives and were given a score based on a five-point scale with one uncertain category:

++	MAJOR POSITIVE
+	MINOR POSITIVE
0	NEUTRAL
-	MINOR NEGATIVE
--	MAJOR NEGATIVE
?	UNCERTAIN

In addition, the effects of the plan were described in terms of the time period over which they will occur, whether they are probable or improbable, their geographical scale, and whether effects are permanent or temporary.

1.17 Generally the SPD performed very well against the sustainability objectives and the majority of effects identified were positive. For example, direct benefits for the City's townscapes would result from providing guidance to prevent installations that are inappropriate due to appearance or location. Encouraging the use of wi-fi technology and offering guidance on the design and siting of installations will also support the development of a high quality telecommunications network, which can improve economic competitiveness and increase employment opportunities.

1.18 Furthermore, production of the SPD allows for extensive consultation to take place, which ensures ownership of the document for residents and refinement of the guidance so that it is representative of the views of residents. This promotes more vibrant communities.

#### **MAIN ISSUES RAISED FROM STATUTORY CONSULTATION**

1.19 Although comments were received on the content of the SPD, none of the representations questioned the content of the SA. The key main issues raised were as follows:

- Concern was raised that the document does not contain many references to the pre-application consultation process including the Traffic Light Rating system.
- Mono Consultants, responding on behalf of the Mobile Operators Association, questioned the appropriateness of the council consulting schools and colleges within 200m of a proposed installation. They believe it is more important that the level of community consultation applied to any site should be proportionate and appropriate to the merits of the individual proposal, rather than prescribed by an arbitrary radius.
- Mono Consultants also argued that stipulating that installations should normally avoid reducing the footway width to less than 2m is slightly onerous and could lead to otherwise acceptable installations, which represent the optimum environmental option, not being chosen.

### **MAIN CHANGES MADE TO THE SPD**

- 1.20 An additional section has been inserted in appendix 1 to provide information on the pre-application process.
- 1.21 A detailed summary of the representations made by organisations and persons responding to the formal consultation, along with the council's responses, can be found at Appendix C of the Consultation Statement which is available on the council's website.

### **IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING**

- 1.22 A key part of the SA process is establishing how any significant sustainability effects of implementing the SPD will be monitored. Some potential indicators have been proposed as a starting point for developing the SPD and sustainability monitoring programme. The indicators proposed are based on data already collected by the Council. It is envisaged that the monitoring will be on an annual basis, although updates of some indicators may not be available with this frequency.

### **DIFFERENCE THE PROCESS HAS MADE**

- 1.23 The SA process and the preparation of the SPD have been initiated to build upon the Council's stated ambitions in the Unitary Development Plan. Therefore the SA has found that implementing the SPD will have overall positive benefits on sustainability.
- 1.21 However some opportunities for further enhancement have been identified through the SA process and these recommendations have been incorporated in the SPD. These include:
- The encouraging of the development of a wi-fi coverage in locations where it can have the maximum benefit for the greatest number of people.
  - The inclusion of a requirement to, where necessary, use new landscaping to help screen installations.

## 2. APPRAISAL METHODOLOGY

### APPROACH ADOPTED

- 2.1 The approach adopted to undertake the SA was based on the process set out in the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) Guidance Paper “Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents” November 2005.
- 2.2 Table 2 below sets out the SA stages and tasks, based on those listed in the Government guidance.

**Table 2: Sustainability Appraisal stages and tasks**

<b>PRE-PRODUCTION</b>
<p><b>Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding the scope.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and review other relevant plans, programmes and sustainable development objectives that will affect or influence the SPD.</li> <li>• Collect relevant social, environmental and economic baseline information.</li> <li>• Identify key sustainability issues for the SA to address.</li> <li>• Develop the SA framework, consisting of the sustainability objectives, indicators and targets.</li> <li>• Test the SPD objectives against the sustainability objectives and whether the SPD objectives are consistent with one another.</li> <li>• Produce Scoping Report and carry out necessary consultation with key stakeholders on the scope of the appraisal and the key issues and possible options for solutions.</li> </ul>
<b>PRODUCTION</b>
<p><b>Stage B: Developing and Refining Options</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out appraisal of the SPD options and make recommendations for improvement.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stage C: Appraising the effects of the draft SPD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Predict the effects and carry out detailed assessment of the effects of the draft SPD.</li> <li>• Propose measures to maximise beneficial effects and mitigate adverse effects.</li> <li>• Develop proposals for monitoring.</li> <li>• Prepare the final SA Report along with the draft SPD.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stage D: Consultation on the SA Report and Draft SPD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consult on the final SA Report along with the draft SPD.</li> <li>• Carry out, where necessary, appraisal of any significant changes made as a result of representations.</li> </ul>
<b>ADOPTION AND MONITORING</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inform consultees that SPD has been adopted.</li> <li>• Issue statement summarising information on how the SA results and consultees’ opinions were taken into account, reasons for choice of options and proposals for monitoring, including in relation to any recommended changes.</li> <li>• Make SPD and SA Report available for public viewing.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stage E: Monitoring implementation of the SPD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor significant effects of the SPD to identify at an early stage any unforeseen adverse effects.</li> <li>• Undertake appropriate remedial action where necessary.</li> </ul>

## **TIMETABLE AND RESPONSIBILITY**

2.3 The timing of key SA outputs and tasks is set out in Table 3 below.

**Table 3: Timetable of SA outputs and tasks**

<b>TASK</b>	<b>TIMETABLE</b>
Preparation of the SA Scoping Report	September 2006
Consultation on SA Scoping Report	September – October 2006
Appraisal of strategic options	December 2006
Preparation of responses to comments from consultees	December 2006
Preparation of SA Report	December 2006
Statutory Consultation	February – March 2007
Appraisal of changes to SPD where necessary	April 2007 – May 2007
Adoption of the SPD and publishing of SA report	July 2007
Monitor effects of the Guidance to identify adverse outcomes	Ongoing

2.4 A team of planning officers from Urban Vision undertook the SA.

## **CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS**

2.5 In September 2006 an SA Scoping Report was produced to set out the initial context and findings of the SA and the proposed approach to the rest of the appraisal. The aim was to ensure that the SA was comprehensive and would address all relevant issues and objectives, by enabling input from key stakeholders and consultation bodies at an early stage in the process.

2.6 The Scoping Report set out an initial assessment of:

- The relationship between the SPD and other relevant plans and programmes.
- Relevant sustainability objectives established at the national, regional and local level.
- The current environmental, social and economic baseline and any trends.
- The likely key sustainability issues.

2.7 The Report also set out the proposed methodology for the SA, giving details of its proposed level of detail and scope.

2.8 Comments on the Scoping Report were invited from the four consultation bodies required by the SEA Regulations (English Nature, English Heritage, Environment Agency, Countryside Agency) together with other key consultees representing social, economic and environmental interests in the City of Salford, namely GONW and NWRA.

### 3. Background

#### **PURPOSE OF SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL**

- 3.1 The purpose of SA is to promote sustainable development through better integration of sustainability considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans. The objective of this SA is to inform the development of the Telecommunications Supplementary Planning Document (TELSPD). The SA considers the SPD's implications from a social, economic and environmental perspective, by assessing options and the SPD against available baseline data and sustainability objectives.
- 3.2 SA is mandatory for Local Development Documents (LDD) under the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. These Documents include Development Plan Documents (DPD) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD).
- 3.3 This SA Report is the key output of the SA process, documenting the work carried out during the appraisal of the SPD.

#### **PLAN OBJECTIVES AND CONTENT**

- 3.4 The city council recognises that modern telecommunications systems have a vital part to play in our national life. Telecommunications development can create significant social and economic benefits; however, there is a need for installations to be sited in locations that maximise these benefits whilst keeping the environmental impact of such development to a minimum. To ensure consistency and fairness when determining applications for telecommunications development Telecommunications SPD has been produced.
- 3.5 There are 3 key objectives of the TELSPD:
- |   |
|---|
| 1. To ensure installations are located sensitively in order to minimise environmental impact                              |
| 2. To secure the highest possible quality of design for all installations   |
| 3. To support the provision of high quality telecommunications networks that support economic growth and social inclusion |
- 3.6 The TELSPD is split into 11 sections. These are:
- Introduction
  - Process for Producing this Document
  - Telecommunications Development – Understanding the Issues

- Health and Safety Considerations
- Policy Context and SPD Objectives
- Processing Applications
- Planning Policies
- Implementation, Monitoring and Review
- Annex A – Frequently Asked Questions
- Annex B – The Mobile Operators' Ten Commitments
- Annex C – Glossary

### **COMPLIANCE WITH THE SEA DIRECTIVE/REGULATIONS**

- 3.7 In accordance with the Government's guidance on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), SAs of SPDs should also fully incorporate the requirements of the European Directive 2001/42/EC, known as the SEA Directive. This Directive is transposed into English law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 – the SEA Regulations. While SEA and SA are distinct processes, the intention of this SA is to adopt an approach to appraisal which also meets the requirements of the SEA Directive and Regulations.

## 4. SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES, BASELINE AND CONTEXT

### LINKS TO OTHER STRATEGIES, PLANS AND OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 The purpose of reviewing other plans and programmes and sustainability objectives is to ensure that the relationship between these documents and the SPD has been fully explored. This will in turn ensure that Salford City Council is able to act on any identified inconsistencies between international, national, regional and local objectives.
- 4.2 Table 4 below shows a list of the plans and strategies that were reviewed as part of the SA.

**Table 4: List of all Plans, Programmes and Strategies reviewed as part of the SA.**

<b>INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EC Directive - Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Fauna and Flora 92/43/EEC.</li> <li>• EC Directive - Establishing a framework for the Community action in the Field of Water Policy</li> <li>• Sustainable Communities: People, Places and Prosperity (A 5-year Plan from the ODPM) 2005.</li> <li>• Sustainable Communities: Homes for all (A 5-year Plan from the ODPM) 2005.</li> <li>• PPG 2 Green Belts.</li> <li>• PPG3 Housing.</li> <li>• PPG8 Telecommunications</li> <li>• PPG 13 Transport.</li> <li>• PPG 15 Planning and the Historic Environment.</li> <li>• PPG 25 Development and Flood Risk.</li> <li>• PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development.</li> <li>• PPS 6 Planning For Town Centres</li> <li>• PPS 7 Sustainable Development in Rural Areas.</li> <li>• PPS 9 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation</li> <li>• PPS12 Local Development Frameworks</li> <li>• PPS 22 Renewable Energy.</li> <li>• PPS 23 Planning and Pollution Control.</li> <li>• Code of Best Practice on Mobile Phone Network Development 2002.</li> <li>• Ten Commitments to Best Siting Practice 2001. Mobile Operators Association (MOA)</li> <li>• Safer Places: The Planning System and Crime Prevention.</li> <li>• Waste Strategy for England and Wales 2000.</li> <li>• Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland 2000.</li> <li>• Climate Change: The UK Programme.</li> <li>• Community Leadership and Climate Change – Guidance for Local Authorities.</li> <li>• The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.</li> <li>• Environment Act 1995.</li> <li>• Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).</li> <li>• Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.</li> <li>• Securing The Future: delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy 2005.</li> <li>• Quality of Life Counts: Indicators for a Strategy for Sustainable Development for the United Kingdom.</li> <li>• UK Biodiversity Action Plan.</li> <li>• Working with the Grain of Nature: A Biodiversity Strategy for England 2002.</li> <li>• Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy.</li> </ul>
<b>REGIONAL</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Strategy towards 2020 (The Regional Economic Strategy for the NW).</li> <li>• Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) (RPG13)</li> <li>• NWRA's Regional Sustainable Development Framework – 'Action for Sustainability' (AfS).</li> <li>• North West Regional Housing Strategy 2003.</li> <li>• North West Innovation Strategy</li> <li>• Regional Waste Strategy for the North West 2004.</li> </ul>
<b>LOCAL</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Salford Unitary Development Plan 2004–2016.</li> </ul>

- Making the future happen in Salford: Our strategy for housing in Salford 2004-2006.
- City of Salford Housing Market Demand Study
- Community Plan – Our Vision for Salford 2001-2006.
- Salford Community Safety Strategy 2005-2008

4.3 No inconsistencies between policies were found. The key links identified were with Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development; North West Regional Spatial Strategy; North West Regional Assembly's Regional Sustainable Development Framework – 'Action for Sustainability' (AfS); and the City of Salford Unitary Development Plan 2004–2016.

### **BASELINE CHARACTERISTICS AND THE FUTURE BASELINE**

4.4 According to the latest mid-2003 population statistics, there were 216,200 people living in Salford of whom 49.1% were male and 50.9% were female. Children under five accounted for approximately 6% of the population. Between 1982 and 2002 the population of Salford decreased by 12.6%. This was the 2<sup>nd</sup> greatest decrease in the UK. In Salford, 6 out of 20 wards are in the 5% most deprived wards and 9 are in the 10% most deprived wards. In 2003, the Gross weekly wage rate for Salford was £424, which is marginally lower than the average for the northwest (£437) and the national average (£438). The level of unemployment in the City (3.9%) is also above the national average (3.2%).

4.5 Life expectancy in Salford is the lowest in the whole of Greater Manchester. Male life expectancy in Salford is on average 3.1 years less than the national average. For women, the difference is 2.5 years. The main killers are heart disease and cancers. With regard to other health considerations, according to a 2004 survey, there were approximately 8,000 diabetics in Salford. It was thought that this figure may double over the next 10 years. In 2001, 49,312 (22.8%) of people suffered with a limiting long term illness.

4.6 Crime in the City is significantly higher than the national average. Table 5 below, which relates to crimes recorded by the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships across the country, compares the crime rates in Salford to the national average. In particular, it highlights that burglary rates are more than double the national average.

**Table 5: Comparison of Crime rates in Salford and England**

<b>Key Offences</b>	<b>England (2002/2003)</b>	<b>Salford (2002/2003)</b>
Violence against the person (per 1000 population)	16.0	18.3
Sexual offences (per 1000 population)	0.9	1.1
Robbery offences (per 1000 population)	2.1	4.7
Burglary offences (per 1000 population)	20.2	43.7
Vehicle crime offences (per 1000 population)	18.7	33.4

- 4.7 The City of Salford is made up of a number of diverse landscapes. To the east of the City is central Salford that forms part of the regional centre. This area is largely urbanised. The western fringes of the City are more rural in character and include large areas of green belt. The majority of this green belt also forms the City's mossland area, which is a valuable conservation and nature resource of international importance. Habitats across the city are also highly diverse and include wet woodlands, lowland hay meadow, lowland dry acid grassland, lowland heath, and lowland raised bog. Within Salford there are 33 Sites of Biological Importance (SBIs), some of which include priority habitats as identified in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.
- 4.8 Pollutant levels in Salford (ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide) are all classified as being low, meaning that their effects are unlikely to be noticed by individuals with sensitivity to air pollution. With regard to the River Irwell, its chemistry and biology is classed as poor with fish largely absent.
- 4.9 With regard to the city's cultural and landscape heritage, there are 275 Listed Buildings, 3 Scheduled Ancient Monuments, 2 Historic Parks, 16 Conservation Areas and over 300 Tree Preservation Orders in Salford.
- 4.10 Sources for the baseline data included: Health Inequalities in Salford – a local strategy for action (2004); Salford PCT Annual Report (2003/2004); Neighbourhood Statistics website (<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk>); Indices of Deprivation (2004); Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan (2000); Salford City Council Resident's Survey (2003/2004); and the Salford Annual Baseline Review (2005).

### **DATA COLLECTION LIMITATIONS**

- 4.11 The collection of some of the baseline data is infrequent or is not specific to the City, which can distort slightly the baseline situation. Also, the collection of baseline data is ongoing. New information may emerge, therefore, with relevance to the appraisal.

### **THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK**

- 4.12 The establishment of SA objectives and criteria is central to the SA process. The SA framework, based on these objectives provides a way in which sustainability effects can be described, assessed and compared. Sustainability objectives are distinct from those of the SPD, but in some cases will overlap.
- 4.13 The sustainability objectives used for the SA of the SPD were drawn from the sustainability issues identified through analysis of the baseline data and review of other plans and strategies.

- 4.14 There were 16 objectives used in total, organised under the three dimensions of sustainability: social; environmental and economic. The objectives covered a broad range of issues, including: to improve the health of the population; to improve safety and security for people and property; to reduce deprivation within the city; to ensure that everyone has access to a good home that meets their needs; to improve accessibility for all the community; to maintain and improve biodiversity, flora and fauna; to reduce vulnerability to climate change; and to maximise economic growth.
- 4.15 The SA Framework can be found at appendix 1.

### **KEY SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES AND PROBLEMS**

- 4.16 The Issues and trends identified are summarised in Table 6 below.

**Table 6: Key Sustainability Issues**

<b>KEY ISSUES</b>
<b>Social</b>
The total population of Salford has stabilised over the last three years, however, it has decreased rapidly from 1992 and the city is still experiencing a net loss of families.
According to the Indices of Deprivation, 2004, 45% (9 out of 20) of Salford's wards are in the lowest 10% of wards for deprivation.
As a City, Salford's population generally suffers from poor health with both men and women having a lower life expectancy than others in Greater Manchester.
Crime in Salford is significantly higher than the national average. In particular, burglary is more than double the national average and vehicle crime is close to double the national average.
There are a significant number of people in Salford who are temporarily or permanently disabled.
<b>Environmental</b>
Salford has a significant number of natural environmental assets including vast areas of Greenbelt and Mosslands, SBIs, TPOs and water resources such as lakes, rivers and ponds. These natural assets must be protected and enhanced for the benefit of the City and local biodiversity.
The level of water pollution in Salford is significant and restricts the development of biodiversity. In addition the UK has pledged to reduce its emissions of greenhouse gases by 15% below 1990 levels by 2010.
Salford also has an impressive array of cultural heritage assets which must be preserved and enhanced. These assets include Listed Buildings, Ancient Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas, Historic Parks
Large parts of Salford are susceptible to flooding (0.5% - 1.3% chance of flooding, except in extreme conditions)
<b>Economic</b>
Earning levels in Salford are marginally lower than the national average. However, unemployment is higher (3.9% in Salford, 3.3% national average).

## 5. APPRAISAL OF STRATEGIC OPTIONS

- 5.1 One of the key requirements of SA is to consider reasonable alternatives as part of the assessment process. During the development of the draft SPD, two options were considered, assessed and debated.
- 5.2 The aim of options appraisal is to assess the sustainability of all options against the sustainability framework. This process enables comparison between options, highlighting any potential implications on sustainability. The appraisal of options also enables recommendations for mitigation of negative impacts and suggestions for modifications to the preferred option, as presented by the SPD.
- 5.3 The preferred approach, presented by the SPD, is to provide clear guidance for those involved in the planning and design of new telecommunication development about the appropriate siting and appearance of installations (option B). Clearly within this option, there are a number of sub-options around its detailed implementation, for example, what guidance should be provided to ensure telecommunication installations are appropriately designed. However, given the specificity and number of potential options, it is considered more appropriate to consider these matters as part of the discussion and consultation on the policy document, and not as part of the SA process. However, an alternative option was also considered: “do nothing/ business as usual” (i.e. have no guidance).

### **CHARACTERISTICS OF THE OPTIONS**

- 5.4 **Option A: Do nothing / business as usual.**
- 5.5 Option A would result in a lack of clear guidance on suitable locations for telecommunication installations. It could also lead to a lack of clarity on appropriate designs of installations. This could act as a barrier to securing a high quality telecommunications network within the City and could also have an adverse impact on residential amenity, economic growth, greenhouse gas emissions and the quality of the environments in which people live and work.
- 5.6 **Option B: Provide clear guidance for those involved in the planning and design of new telecommunication development about the appropriate siting and appearance of installations.**
- 5.7 Option B would deliver a key tool to support the development of a high quality telecommunications network whilst ensuring that the impact on the environment is minimised through the appropriate design and siting of installations.

## **SUMMARY OF THE APPRAISAL OF STRATEGIC OPTIONS**

5.8 The matrix in appendix 2 confirms that Option B performs best in terms of sustainability in comparison with the other options:

- **Do nothing / business as usual (option A):** This option is likely to have a significant negative impact on a high proportion of the social, environmental and economic sustainability objectives. A lack of clear guidance on the design and siting of installations could restrict the development of a high quality telecommunications network and have an adverse impact on the health and well-being of the population, the quality of the environments in which people live and work, economic growth and greenhouse gas emissions. A more detailed explanation of how this option will affect each of the sustainability objectives is included at appendix 2.
- **Provide clear guidance for those involved in the planning and design of new telecommunication development about the appropriate siting and appearance of installations (option B):** This option would deliver a key tool to support the development of a high quality telecommunications network whilst ensuring that the impact on the environment is minimised through the appropriate design and siting of installations. Again, a detailed explanation of how this option will affect each of the sustainability objectives is included at appendix 2

5.9 The preferred option is to provide clear guidance for those involved in the planning and design of new telecommunication development about the appropriate siting and appearance of. This option is delivered by the SPD.

## 6. APPRAISAL OF PLAN'S EFFECTS

- 6.1 The appraisal of the plan's effects can be found in the matrix at appendix 3, which provides a record of the prediction and assessment of the potential effects of the SPD, and the 'do nothing' option. The plan objectives were scored on a five-point scale with one uncertain category against each of the sustainability objectives:

++	MAJOR POSITIVE
+	MINOR POSITIVE
0	NEUTRAL
-	MINOR NEGATIVE
--	MAJOR NEGATIVE
?	UNCERTAIN

In addition, the effects of the plan were described in terms of the time period over which they will occur, whether they are probable or improbable, their geographical scale, and whether effects are permanent or temporary.

### **POTENTIAL OVERALL EFFECTS OF THE SPD**

- 6.2 The matrix at appendix 3 shows that the majority of the sustainability objectives are affected positively by the implementation of the SPD.
- 6.3 The policies of the SPD that seek to ensure installations are located sensitively would deliver benefits for the health and well-being of the population by preventing installations that adversely affect visual or residential amenity. By ensuring that installations are not located within visibility splays the guidance on the siting of installations could also have direct benefits for highway safety.
- 6.4 With regard to the policies of the SPD that seek to secure the highest possible quality of design for all installations, direct improvements to the City's townscapes and landscapes would result from securing installations that have less impact on the street scene. By supporting the development of a high quality telecommunications network the design policies could also indirectly benefit greenhouse gas emissions, economic growth and social exclusion.
- 6.5 Furthermore, production of the SPD allows for extensive consultation to take place, which ensures ownership of the document for residents and refinement of the guidance so that they are representative of the views of residents. This promotes more vibrant communities.

- 6.6 Mitigation and enhancements to the Telecommunications SPD to improve how the document performs against the sustainability objectives are limited. The SPD seeks to minimise the environmental impact of new installations without compromising network coverage. It is acknowledged that permitting larger installations could improve coverage, however, this could compromise visual amenity. Conversely smaller, less intrusive installations could be encouraged but this is likely to be to the detriment of network coverage. It is considered that the guidance in the SPD strikes the correct balance. A policy to encourage the provision of wi-fi coverage where it could have maximum benefit for the greatest number of people will enhance the contribution the document makes to reducing deprivation, improving the education and skills of the population, and increasing accessibility for all the community.

### **SECONDARY, CUMMULATIVE AND SYNERGISTIC EFFECTS**

- 6.7 Secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects were considered during the assessment.
- 6.8 The cumulative, secondary and synergistic impacts of the SPD are generally positive. For example, maintaining and enhancing the quality of landscapes and townscapes, by providing guidance to prevent insensitively located installations, could improve the attractiveness of the City as a place to live, work or visit. . In addition, the consultation exercises that support the production of the SPD could help to develop better community relationships for other projects.

### **MAIN ISSUES RAISED FROM STATUTORY CONSULTATION**

- 6.9 Although comments were received on the content of the SPD, none of the representations questioned the content of the SA. The key main issues raised were as follows:
- Concern was raised that the document does not contain many references to the pre-application consultation process including the Traffic Light Rating system.
  - Mono Consultants, responding on behalf of the Mobile Operators Association, questioned the appropriateness of the council consulting schools and colleges within 200m of a proposed installation. They believe it is more important that the level of community consultation applied to any site should be proportionate and appropriate to the merits of the individual proposal, rather than prescribed by an arbitrary radius.
  - Mono Consultants also argued that stipulating that installations should normally avoid reducing the footway width to less than 2m is slightly onerous and could lead to otherwise acceptable installations, which represent the optimum environmental option, not being chosen.

#### **MAIN CHANGES MADE TO THE SPD**

- 6.10 An additional section has been inserted in appendix 1 to provide information on the pre-application process.
- 6.11 A detailed summary of the representations made by organisations and persons responding to the formal consultation, along with the council's responses, can be found at Appendix C of the Consultation Statement which is available on the council's website.

#### **THE DIFFERENCE THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL PROCESS HAS MADE**

- 6.12 The SA process and the preparation of the SPD have been initiated to build upon the Council's stated ambitions in the replacement Unitary Development Plan. Therefore the SA has found that implementing the SPD will have overall positive benefits on sustainability.
- 6.13 However some opportunities for further enhancement have been identified through the SA process and these recommendations have been incorporated into the SPD. These include:
- The encouraging of the development of a wi-fi coverage in locations where it can have the maximum benefit for the greatest number of people.
  - The inclusion of a requirement to, where necessary, use new landscaping to help screen installations.

## 7. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

- 7.1 The significant sustainability effects of implementing the SPD will be monitored to help identify unforeseen adverse effects and to enable remedial action to be taken.
- 7.2 The Council is required to prepare Annual Monitoring Reports to assess the implementation of the Local Development Scheme and the extent to which policies in the Local Development Documents are being achieved. The SPD will be included in this process.
- 7.3 Table 7 below shows the indicators that form part of the SA Framework.

**Table 7: Indicators**

• "Percentage of people who like the neighbourhood they live in" to act as a proxy.
• % Change in total number of VAT registered businesses in the area
• Average gross weekly wage.
• Pollutant levels in Salford (Ozone, Nitrogen Dioxide, Sulphur Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide)
• Total unemployment in Salford.

**APPENDIX 1:  
SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK**

Topic Area	Objective	Key Criteria	Indicators	Data Source
<b>SOCIAL</b>				
<b>Human Health</b>	To improve the health of the population	Does the TSPD ensure high quality environments throughout the City, which in turn will make a contribution to the health and well-being of the population?	"% of people who like the neighbourhood they live in" to act as a proxy.	Quality of Life Survey
<b>Education</b>	To improve the education and skills of the population	Will the TSPD provide opportunities for skills development or improve educational standards?	No significant impact.	
<b>Crime &amp; Safety</b>	To improve safety and security for people and property	Does the TSPD encourage safety and security for people, buildings and/or vehicles?	No significant impact.	
<b>Deprivation and Poverty</b>	To reduce deprivation within the city	Does the TSPD support an increase in household incomes/wealth? population can use?	Average gross weekly wage	New Earnings Survey: workplace based statistics by SOC
<b>Housing</b>	To ensure that everyone has access to a good home that meets their needs	Will the TSPD ensure an adequate supply of a diverse range of housing types appropriate to the needs of the community?	No significant impact.	
<b>Neighbourhoods and Community</b>	To promote vibrant communities which participate in decision making	Will all sections of the local community have the opportunity to be involved in the preparation of the TSPD?	"% of people who like the neighbourhood they live in" to act as a proxy	Quality of Life Survey

Topic Area	Objective	Key Criteria	Indicators	Data Source
		Will it improve neighbourhood satisfaction?		
<b>Accessibility</b>	To improve accessibility for all the community	Does the TSPD support improved accessibility (e.g. for disabled people)?  Does the TSPD support the development of more sustainable forms of transport?	No significant impact.	
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL</b>				
<b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</b>	To maintain and improve biodiversity, flora and fauna	Will the TSPD help conserve and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna?	No significant impact.	
<b>Water</b>	To improve the quality of waterways	Will the TSPD make a positive contribution to the improvement of the City's waterways?  Will TSPD minimise the amount of surface water runoff?  Will the TSPD minimise or help reduce the level of pollution entering the water table?	No significant impact.	
<b>Climatic Factors</b>	To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality  To reduce vulnerability to climate change	Will the TSPD make a positive contribution towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions?  Will the TSPD minimise susceptibility to flooding?	Pollutant levels in Salford (Ozone, Nitrogen Dioxide, Sulphur Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide)  No significant impact.	Air quality archive website: <a href="http://www.airquality.co.uk/archive/bulletin.php?type=Current">http://www.airquality.co.uk/archive/bulletin.php?type=Current</a>

Topic Area	Objective	Key Criteria	Indicators	Data Source
<b>Material Assets</b>	Prudent and efficient use of energy and natural resources	Does the TSPD help reduce the need to travel, thus conserving energy?	Pollutant levels in Salford (Ozone, Nitrogen Dioxide, Sulphur Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide)	Air quality archive website: <a href="http://www.airquality.co.uk/archive/bulletin.php?type=Current">http://www.airquality.co.uk/archive/bulletin.php?type=Current</a>
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	To protect and enhance the historic environment	Will the TSPD protect and enhance sites, features, buildings and areas of historical interest?  Will the TSPD enhance the setting of sites, features, buildings and areas of historical interest?	"% of people who like the neighbourhood they live in" acts as proxy	Quality of Life Survey
<b>Landscape and Townscape</b>	To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	Will the TSPD support the improvement of townscapes and landscapes?  Will TSPD make a positive contribution to improving design?	"% of people who like the neighbourhood they live in" acts as proxy	Quality of Life Survey

## ECONOMIC

Topic Area	Objective	Key Criteria	Indicators	Data Source
Economic Health	<p>To maximise sustainable economic growth</p> <p>To ensure good quality employment opportunities are available to all</p>	<p>Will the TSPD improve the image of the area as a place to invest?</p> <p>Will it improve business development and enhance competitiveness?</p> <p>Will the TSPD encourage local employment opportunities?</p>	<p>Total unemployment in Salford</p> <p>% change in total number of VAT registered businesses in the area</p>	<p>Salford Baseline Review</p> <p>Audit Commission website / NOMIS</p>

**APPENDIX 2:  
APPRAISAL OF STRATEGIC OPTIONS**

SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVE	OPTION A (Do nothing)		OPTION B (Planning Obligations SPD)	
	Effect	Comments / Mitigation	Effect	Comments / Mitigation
To improve the health of the population	-	Having no SPD does not provide any opportunities to provide information on the perceived health risks associated with telecommunications installations. No SPD is likely to lead to poorer quality installations in less appropriate locations due to a lack of siting and design guidance. Together these could have a negative impact on the health and well-being of the general population. Having no SPD could limit the development of a high quality and comprehensive telecommunications network. This will have significant communication implications for all section of the community, including the emergency services.	+	Having an SPD provides an opportunity to provide information about the perceived health implications of telecommunications installations. The SPD is likely to lead to higher quality installations in more appropriate locations due to siting and design guidance. Together these could have a positive impact on the health and well-being of the general population. The SPD will help to support the development of a high quality and comprehensive telecommunications network, which will lead to significant communication benefits for all section of the community, including the emergency services.
To improve the education and skills of the population	-	Not producing a SPD will mean there is a lack of guidance about the perceived health implications of telecommunications installations. Having no SPD could also restrict the development of a high quality and comprehensive telecommunications network, which would have significant implications for all section of the community and will restrict a potential medium for education purposes.	+	Producing a SPD provides an opportunity to explain/educate people about the perceived health implications of telecommunications installations. The SPD will help to support the development of a high quality and comprehensive telecommunications network, which could have significant benefits for all section of the community and provide an important medium for education purposes.
To improve safety and security for people and property	-	Not producing a SPD could restrict the development of a high quality and comprehensive telecommunications network. This will have significant communication implications for all section of the community, including the emergency services.	+	The SPD will support the development of a high quality and comprehensive telecommunications network. This will have significant communication benefits for all section of the community, including the emergency services.
To reduce deprivation within the city	-	Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations, telecommunications development could be restricted to the detriment of economic growth, social inclusion, and deprivation within the city.	+	By supporting the provision of high quality telecommunications networks that support economic growth and social inclusion, the SPD could help to reduce deprivation within the City.
To ensure that everyone has access to a good home that meets their needs	-	Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations, telecommunications development could adversely affect residential amenity. However, the policies of the UDP and the Development Control process should ensure that residential amenity is protected from poorly designed/sited installations irrespective of whether specific supplementary guidance is produced.	+	Producing an SPD could secure improved design and siting of installations, which would minimise the impact of telecommunications development on residential amenity. However, the policies of the UDP and the Development Control process should ensure that residential amenity is protected from poorly designed/sited installations irrespective of whether specific supplementary guidance is produced.
To promote vibrant communities which participate in decision making	-	The production of the Telecommunications SPD would give people an opportunity to have their say on what guidance should be incorporated into the document.	+	The production of the Telecommunications SPD would give people an opportunity to have their say on what guidance should be incorporated into the document.
To improve accessibility for all the community	-	Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations the development of a telecommunications network could be constrained and access to information and services restricted.	+	Providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations could support the development of a telecommunications network that improves access to information and services.
To maintain and improve biodiversity, flora and fauna	0	Unlikely to have any significant impact	0	Although impact would be negligible SPD does provide an opportunity to encourage landscaping with new installations
To improve the quality of watercourses	0	Unlikely to have any significant impact	0	Unlikely to have any significant impact

To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality	-	Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations, telecommunications development could be restricted. Consequently, an opportunity to reduce the need to travel would have been missed, which would have a detrimental impact on air quality and greenhouse gas emissions.	+	Producing a SPD provides an opportunity to support the development of a high quality telecommunications network by encouraging the use of wi-fi technology and by offering guidance on the design and siting of installations. A high quality telecommunications network can reduce the need to travel, which can lead to reduced greenhouse gas emissions and an improvement in air quality.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	0	Unlikely to have any significant impact	0	Unlikely to have any significant impact
Prudent and efficient use of energy and natural resources	-	Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations, telecommunications development could be restricted. Consequently, an opportunity to reduce the need to travel would have been missed, which would have a detrimental impact on the prudent use of energy and resources.	+	Producing a SPD provides an opportunity to support the development of a high quality telecommunications network by encouraging the use of wi-fi technology and by offering guidance on the design and siting of installations. A high quality telecommunications network can reduce the need to travel to work, shop, etc., which would lead to a more prudent use of energy and resources.
To protect and enhance the historic environment	-	A lack of guidance on the siting and design of telecommunications installations in conservation areas or within the setting of a listed building, could lead to installations that have a detrimental impact on the historic environment. However, the policies of the UDP should ensure that city's cultural heritage is protected from unsympathetic development.	+	By providing guidance on the design and siting of telecommunications installations in conservation areas or within the setting of a listed building, the SPD could protect the historic environment.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	-	Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations, telecommunications development could adversely affect visual amenity and the quality of landscapes and townscapes. However, the policies of the UDP and the Development Control process should ensure that city's landscapes and townscapes are protected from poorly designed/sited installations.	+	Producing an SPD could secure installations are sensitively located and secure designs that minimise impact on visual amenity, which would reduce the impact of telecommunications development on the quality of landscapes and townscapes.
To maximise sustainable economic growth	-	Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations, telecommunications development could be restricted. This could have an adverse impact on investment in the City, the competitiveness of firms and economic growth.	+	Producing a SPD that encourages the use of wi-fi technology and offers guidance on the design and siting of installations will support the development of a high quality telecommunications network which attracts investment to the City, help firms remain competitive and supports economic growth.
To ensure good quality employment opportunities are available to all	-	Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations, telecommunications development could be restricted. This could have an adverse impact on economic competitiveness and employment opportunities. In addition, opportunities for different patterns of working, such as working from home, could be constrained.	+	Encouraging the use of wi-fi technology and offering guidance on the design and siting of installations will support the development of a high quality telecommunications network, which improves economic competitiveness and increases employment opportunities. In addition, a high quality telecommunications network can support new patterns of work, such as working from home, which can provide additional employment opportunities for sections of the community.
<b>SUSTAINABILITY SUMMARY</b>	<b>It is clear that the Telecommunications SPD is likely to have a significant positive impact on a high proportion of the sustainability objectives above. It will provide a key tool in supporting the development of a high quality telecommunications network whilst ensuring that the impact on the environment is minimised through the appropriate design and siting of installations.</b>			

**APPENDIX 3:  
SUMMARY OF THE EFFECTS OF THE SPD**

**‘DO NOTHING’**

SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVE	Timescale			Certainty	Scale	Permanent ?	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	Comments	Mitigation
	0-3 years	3-10 years	10+ years						
<b>Social Objectives</b>									
To improve the health of the population	-	-	-	High	City wide	Long-term		Having no SPD does not provide any opportunities to provide information on the perceived health risks associated with telecommunications installations. No SPD is likely to lead to poorer quality installations in less appropriate locations due to a lack of siting and design guidance. Together these could have a negative impact on the health and well-being of the general population. However, the policies of the UDP and the Development Control process should ensure that poorly designed installations are avoided, irrespective of whether specific supplementary guidance is produced.	Produce a SPD that provides guidance/information on the perceived health risks associated with telecommunications installations.  Produce a SPD with clear guidance on the design and siting of telecommunications installations.
To improve the education and skills of the population	-	-	-	Medium	City wide	Long-term	Potential impact on education achievement	Having no SPD could restrict the development of a high quality telecommunications network, which could limit the use of a potential medium for education purposes.	Produce a SPD to encourage the development of a high quality telecommunications network.
To improve safety and security for people and property	-	-	-	High	City wide	Long-term		Not producing a SPD could restrict the development of a comprehensive telecommunications network, which could have significant communication implications for all section of the community, including the emergency services.	Produce a SPD to encourage the development of a high quality telecommunications network.
To reduce deprivation within the city	-	-	--	High	City wide	Long-term	If the image of the City is one of deprivation, this could lead to less inward investment and inward migration which can have a compound impact on deprivation	Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations, telecommunications development could be restricted to the detriment of economic growth, social inclusion, and deprivation within the city.	Produce a SPD with clear guidance on the design and siting of telecommunications installations.
To ensure that everyone has access to a good home that meets their needs	-	-	-	Medium	City wide	Long term	Cumulative impact of poor quality development	Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations, telecommunications development could adversely affect residential amenity. However, the policies of the UDP and the Development Control process should ensure that residential amenity is protected from poorly designed/sited installations irrespective of whether specific supplementary guidance is produced.	Produce a SPD with clear guidance on the design and siting of telecommunications installations.

To promote vibrant communities which participate in decision making	-	-	-	High	City wide	Long-term	Reduction in ownership of the planning process	The production of the Telecommunications SPD would give people an opportunity to have their say on what guidance should be incorporated into the document.	Produce an SPD with extensive consultation.
To improve accessibility for all the community	-	-	-	High	City wide	Long-term	Restricted access to information and services could lead to deprivation and social exclusion	Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations the development of a telecommunications network could be constrained and access to information and services restricted.	Produce a SPD to encourage the development of a high quality telecommunications network.
<b>Environmental Objectives</b>									
To maintain and improve biodiversity, flora and fauna	0	0	0	High	N/A	N/A		Unlikely to have any significant impact	
To improve the quality of watercourses	0	0	0	High	N/A	N/A		Unlikely to have any significant impact	
To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality	-	-	-	Medium	City wide	Uncertain		Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations, telecommunications development could be restricted. Consequently, an opportunity to reduce the need to travel would have been missed, which would have a detrimental impact on air quality and greenhouse gas emissions.	Produce a SPD to encourage the development of a high quality telecommunications network that reduces the need to travel.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	0	0	0	High	N/A	N/A		Unlikely to have any significant impact	
Prudent and efficient use of energy and natural resources	-	-	-	Medium	City wide	Uncertain		Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations, telecommunications development could be restricted. Consequently, an opportunity to reduce the need to travel would have been missed, which would have a detrimental impact on the prudent use of energy and resources.	Produce a SPD to encourage the development of a high quality telecommunications network that reduces the need to travel.
To protect and enhance the historic environment	-	-	-	Medium	City wide	Long term		A lack of guidance on the design and siting of telecommunications installations in conservation areas or within the setting of a listed building, could lead to installations that have an adverse impact on the historic environment. However, the policies of the UDP should ensure that city's cultural and landscape heritage is protected from unsympathetic development.	Produce an SPD with guidance on the design and siting of telecommunications installations in conservation areas or within the setting of a listed building.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	-	-	-	Medium	City wide	Long term	Cumulative impact of poor quality development	Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations, telecommunications development could adversely affect visual amenity and the quality of landscapes and townscapes. However, the policies of the UDP should ensure that city's landscapes and townscapes are protected from poorly designed/sited installations.	Produce an SPD to provide guidance on the design and siting of telecommunications installations

## Economic Objectives

To maximise sustainable economic growth	-	-	--	High	City wide	Long-term	Reduced employment opportunities	Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations, telecommunications development could be restricted, which would have an adverse impact on investment, competitiveness and economic growth.	Produce a SPD to encourage the development of a high quality telecommunications network that supports economic growth and social inclusion.
To ensure good quality employment opportunities are available to all	-	-	--	High	City wide	Long-term	Synergistic impact could be slower economic growth	Without providing clear guidance on the design and siting of installations, telecommunications development could be restricted. This could have an adverse impact on economic competitiveness and employment opportunities. In addition, opportunities for different patterns of working, such as working from home, could be constrained.	Produce a SPD to encourage the development of a high quality telecommunications network that supports economic growth and social inclusion.
<b>SUSTAINABILITY SUMMARY</b>	It is evident that the 'do nothing approach' could have several negative impacts on the sustainability objectives. By failing to support the development of a high quality telecommunications network through providing guidance on the design and siting of telecommunications installations the impact could be to reduce the health and well-being of the population, reduce the quality of the environments in which people live and work, and to adversely affect economic growth and employment opportunities.								

## SITING OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS INSTALLATIONS

SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVE	Timescale			Certainty	Scale	Permanent ?	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	Comments	Mitigation
	0-3 years	3-10 years	10+ years						
<b>Social Objectives</b>									
To improve the health of the population	+	+	+	High	City Wide	Long term		By providing policies to ensure installations are sensitively located, the SPD can make a positive contribution to the health and well being of the population by ensuring telecommunications development occurs in appropriate locations.	
To improve the education and skills of the population	+	+	+	Medium	City Wide	Long term	Potential impact on education achievement	Encouraging the use of wi-fi technology and providing clear guidance to applicants on the siting of telecommunications installations could support the development of a high quality telecommunications network, and expand the use of a potential medium for education purposes.	Encourage the use of wi-fi where it can have maximum benefit for the greatest number of people.
To improve safety and security for people and property	+	+	+	High	City Wide	Long term		The SPD will include guidance on siting installations to ensure that they are not located where they would adversely affect highway safety (for example, within visibility splays).	
To reduce deprivation within the city	+	+	++	Medium	City Wide	Long term	Reducing deprivation could improve the image of the City, this could lead to increased inward investment and inward migration	Producing a SPD that provides clear guidance to applicants on the siting of installations will support the provision of a high quality telecommunications network that supports economic growth and reduces social inclusion and deprivation within the City.	Encourage the use of wi-fi where it can have maximum benefit for the greatest number of people.
To ensure that everyone has access to a good home that meets their needs	+	+	+	Medium	City wide	Long term		Producing an SPD could secure sensitively located installations, which would minimise the impact of telecommunications development on residential amenity. However, the policies of the UDP and the Development Control process should ensure that residential amenity is protected irrespective of whether specific supplementary guidance is produced.	
To promote vibrant communities which participate in decision making	+	+	+	High	City wide	Long-term	The consultation exercises could increase ownership of the planning process.	The production of the Telecommunications SPD would give people an opportunity to have their say on what guidance should be incorporated into the document.	More intensive consultation
To improve accessibility for all the community	+	+	+	High	City Wide	Long term	Improved access to information and services could reduce deprivation and social exclusion	Providing clear guidance on the siting of installations could support the development of a telecommunications network that improves access to information and services.	Encourage the development of a wi-fi coverage and a high quality telecommunications network where it can have maximum benefit for the greatest number of people.

Environmental Objectives										
To maintain and improve biodiversity, flora and fauna	0	0	0	High	N/A	N/A			Unlikely to have any significant impact	
To improve the quality of watercourses	0	0	0	High	N/A	N/A			Unlikely to have any significant impact	
To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality	+	+	+	Medium	City wide	Uncertain			Providing clear guidance to applicants on the siting of installations could support the development of a high quality telecommunications network that reduces the need to travel, which would lead to reduced greenhouse gas emissions and an improvement in air quality.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	0	0	0	High	N/A	N/A			Unlikely to have any significant impact	
Prudent and efficient use of energy and natural resources	+	+	+	Medium	City wide	Uncertain			Providing clear guidance to applicants on the siting of installations could support the development of a high quality telecommunications network that reduces the need to travel, which could lead to a more prudent use of energy and resources.	
To protect and enhance the historic environment	+	+	+	Medium	City wide	Long term			By providing guidance on the siting of telecommunications installations in conservation areas or within the setting of a listed building, the SPD could protect the historic environment. However, the policies of the UDP and the Development Control process should ensure that City's cultural and landscape heritage is protected from unsympathetic development.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	Medium	City wide	Long term	Maintaining and enhancing the quality of landscapes and townscapes can secure places where people want to live, work or visit.		By providing clear guidance on the siting of installations, the SPD could minimise the impact of telecommunications development on visual amenity and maintain the quality of landscapes and townscapes. However, the policies of the UDP and the Development Control process should ensure that City's landscapes and townscapes are protected from poorly sited installations.	More restrictive policies could be added to protect landscapes and townscapes. However, it is considered that the SPD strikes the correct balance between encouraging the development of a high quality telecommunications network and safeguarding visual amenity from installations in inappropriate locations, which detract from townscapes and landscapes.
Economic Objectives										
To maximise sustainable economic growth	+	+	++	Medium	City wide	Long-term	Increased employment opportunities		Producing a SPD that encourages the use of wi-fi technology and provides clear guidance to applicants on the siting of installations could support the development of a high quality telecommunications network, which can attract investment to the city, help firms remain competitive and support economic growth.	Encourage the development of a wi-fi coverage and a high quality telecommunications network where it can have maximum benefit for economic growth
To ensure good quality employment opportunities are	+	+	++	Medium	City wide	Long-term	Synergistic impact could be faster economic growth		Producing a SPD that encourages the use of wi-fi technology and provides clear guidance to applicants on the siting of installations	Encourage the development of a high quality telecommunications network where it can have maximum benefit for maximising employment

available to all							and reduced social exclusion	could support the development of a high quality telecommunications network, which can improve economic competitiveness and increase employment opportunities. In addition, a high quality telecommunications network can support new patterns of work, such as working from home, and provide employment opportunities for sections of the community.	opportunities
<b>SUSTAINABILITY SUMMARY</b>	<p>These policies can be seen to have significant positive benefits for a number of the sustainability objectives. They provide guidance that would improve the siting of telecommunications installations to ensure installations are located sensitively in order to minimise visual impact.</p> <p>This in turn can have positive benefits for the health and well-being of the population and can improve the quality of the City's landscapes and townscapes. By encouraging the development of a high quality telecommunications network, including the provision of wi-fi technology, the guidance could also have positive benefits with regard to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, maximising sustainable economic growth and increasing employment opportunities.</p> <p>In addition, production of the policies within SPD allows for extensive consultation to take place, which ensures ownership of the policies for residents and refinement of those policies so that they are representative of the views of residents.</p>								

## DESIGN OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS INSTALLATIONS

SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVE	Timescale			Certainty	Scale	Permanent ?	Secondary, cumulative, synergistic	Comments	Mitigation
	0-3 years	3-10 years	10+ years						
<b>Social Objectives</b>									
To improve the health of the population	+	+	+	High	City Wide	Long term		By providing guidance on the design of installations, the SPD can make a positive contribution to the health and well being of the population by ensuring installations do not have an adverse impact on residential amenity. However, the policies of the UDP should ensure that residential amenity is protected irrespective of whether specific supplementary guidance is produced.	The SPD seeks to minimise the environmental impact of new installations without compromising network coverage. It is acknowledged that permitting larger installations could improve coverage, however, this could compromise visual amenity. Conversely smaller, less intrusive installations could be encouraged but this is likely to be to the detriment of network coverage. It is considered that the guidance in the SPD strikes the correct balance.
To improve the education and skills of the population	+	+	+	Medium	City Wide	Long term	Potential impact on education achievement	Providing clear guidance to applicants on the design of telecommunications installations could support the development of a high quality telecommunications network, and expand the use of a potential medium for education purposes.	
To improve safety and security for people and property	0	0	0	High	N/A	N/A		Policies on the design of installations are unlikely to have a significant impact on the safety and security of people and property	
To reduce deprivation within the city	+	+	++	Medium	City Wide	Long term	Reducing deprivation could improve the image of the city, this could lead to increased inward investment and inward migration	Producing a SPD that provides clear guidance to applicants on the design of installations will support the provision of a high quality telecommunications network that supports economic growth and reduces social inclusion and deprivation within the City.	
To ensure that everyone has access to a good home that meets their needs	+	+	+	Medium	City wide	Long term		Producing an SPD with policies to secure the highest possible standard of design would minimise the impact of telecommunications development on residential amenity.	It is acknowledged that permitting larger installations could improve coverage, however, this could compromise visual amenity. Conversely smaller, less intrusive installations could be encouraged but this is likely to be to the detriment of network coverage. It is considered that the guidance in the SPD strikes the correct balance.
To promote vibrant communities which participate in decision making	+	+	+	High	City wide	Long-term	The consultation exercise could increase ownership of the planning process.	The production of the Telecommunications SPD would give people an opportunity to have their say on what guidance should be incorporated into the document.	More intensive consultation
To improve accessibility for all the community	+	+	+	High	City Wide	Long term	Improved access to information and services could reduce deprivation and social exclusion	Providing clear guidance on the design of installations could support the development of a telecommunications network that improves access to information and services.	

Environmental Objectives										
To maintain and improve biodiversity, flora and fauna	0	0	0	High	N/A	N/A		Unlikely to have any significant impact – but the document could encourage the planting of native species to screen installations	Where necessary, encourage the use of landscaping to screen the installation	
To improve the quality of watercourses	0	0	0	High	N/A	N/A		Unlikely to have any significant impact		
To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality	+	+	+	Medium	City wide	Uncertain		Providing clear guidance to applicants on the design of installations could support the development of a high quality telecommunications network that reduces the need to travel, which would lead to reduced greenhouse gas emissions and an improvement in air quality.		
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	0	0	0	High	N/A	N/A		Unlikely to have any significant impact		
Prudent and efficient use of energy and natural resources	+	+	+	Medium	City wide	Uncertain		Providing clear guidance to applicants on the design of installations could support the development of a high quality telecommunications network that reduces the need to travel, which could lead to a more prudent use of energy and resources.		
To protect and enhance the historic environment	+	+	+	Medium	City wide	Long term		By providing guidance on the design of installations in conservation areas or within the setting of a listed building, the SPD could protect the historic environment. However, the policies of the UDP should ensure that City's cultural and landscape heritage is protected from unsympathetic development.		
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	Medium	City wide	Long term	Maintaining and enhancing the quality of landscapes and townscapes can secure places where people want to live, work or visit.	By providing clear guidance on the design of installations, the SPD could minimise the impact of telecommunications development on visual amenity and maintain the quality of landscapes and townscapes.	It is acknowledged that permitting larger installations could improve coverage, however, this could compromise visual amenity. Conversely smaller, less intrusive installations could be encouraged but this is likely to be to the detriment of network coverage. It is considered that the guidance in the SPD strikes the correct balance	
Economic Objectives										
To maximise sustainable economic growth	+	+	++	Medium	City wide	Long-term	Increased employment opportunities	Producing a SPD that provides clear guidance to applicants on the design of installations could support the development of a high quality telecommunications network, which can attract investment to the City, help firms remain competitive and support economic growth.		
To ensure good quality employment opportunities are available to all	+	+	++	Medium	City wide	Long-term	Synergistic impact could be faster economic growth and reduced social exclusion	Producing a SPD that provides clear guidance to applicants on the design of installations could support the development of a high quality telecommunications network, which can improve economic competitiveness and increase employment opportunities.		

**SUSTAINABILITY  
SUMMARY**

These policies can be seen to have significant positive benefits for a number of the sustainability objectives. They provide guidance that would help to secure the highest possible quality of design for all installations.

This in turn can have positive benefits for the quality of the City's landscapes and townscapes and protect the historic environment. By encouraging the development of a high quality telecommunications network the guidance could also have positive benefits with regard to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, maximising sustainable economic growth and increasing employment opportunities.

In addition, production of the policies within SPD allows for extensive consultation to take place, which ensures ownership of the policies for residents and refinement of those policies so that they are representative of the views of residents.