

An aerial photograph of an urban area, likely Greenwich, London, showing a river, a bridge, and various buildings and green spaces. The image is in grayscale with a light blue tint.

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

(INCORPORATING STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT)

for

Thamesmead and Abbey Wood
Supplementary Planning Document
December 2009



the **landscape** partnership

The Landscape Partnership is registered with the Landscape Institute, the Royal Town Planning Institute, and is a member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment

The Landscape Partnership

Registered office

Greenwood House

15a St Cuthberts Street

Bedford

MK40 3JB

Registered in England No. 2709001

London

Tunnel Wharf
121 Rotherhithe Street
London SE16 4NF

t. (020) 7252 0002
t. (020) 7237 1003
e. tlp@london.tlp.uk.com

Bedford

Greenwood House
15a St Cuthberts Street
Bedford MK40 3JB

t. (01234) 261 315
f. (01234) 327 129
e. tlp@bedford.tlp.uk.com

Woodbridge

Ancient House Mews
Church Street
Woodbridge
Suffolk IP12 1DH

t. (01394) 380 509
f. (01394) 386 050
e. tlp@woodbridge.tlp.uk.com

Norwich

Jonathan Scott Hall
Thorpe Road
Norwich
Norfolk NR1 1UH

t. (01603) 230 777
f. (01603) 622 864
e. tlp@norwich.tlp.uk.com

Cork*

t. (00 353) 21 496 9224
f. (00 353) 21 496 9012
e. corkinfo@csrlandplan.ie

Dublin*

t. (00 353) 1 661 0419
f. (00 353) 1 661 0431
e. info@csrlandplan.ie

Galway *

t. (00 353) 91 735 040
f. (00 353) 91 767 346
e. corkinfo@csrlandplan.ie

* Associated offices

Directors:

Sarah M Reynolds
BSc (Hons) DipLD MA MLI

Dianne Western
BA DipLA MLI

Jonathan Billingsley
MA (Oxon) BPhil MLI

Paul Mathews
BA(Hons) DipLA MLI

Consultant:

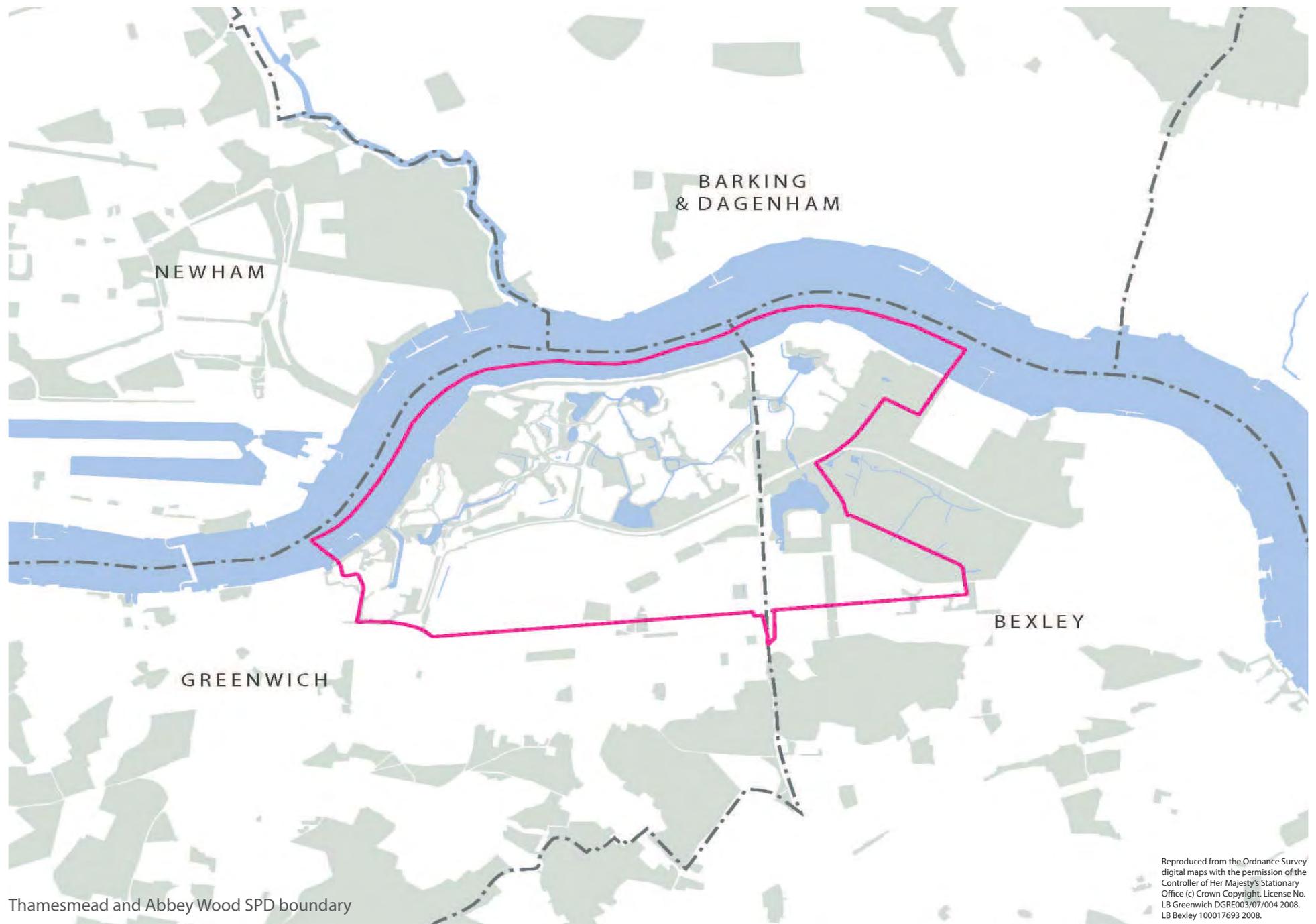
Christopher H Stratton
OBE DipLA (Glos) FLI MRTPI

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Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD boundary

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1. Summary and outcomes

Non-technical summary

This Sustainability Appraisal Report has been prepared for the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

The Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD aims to improve design and development, the environment, open spaces, sustainability, sustainable transport, community, neighbourhoods and local centres, employment, the economy and governance within Thamesmead and Abbey Wood. Thamesmead and Abbey Wood are located on the boundary between the London Borough of Bexley and the London Borough of Greenwich. Each borough will adopt the elements of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD of relevance to them.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is a process used to inform the production of planning documents. It attempts to predict and highlight the anticipated significant effects of implementing the SPD. SA identifies actions that may assist in enhancing positive effects of the SPD and heightening the certainty of those effects occurring. Should any negative impacts be identified in the SA process, the SA suggests direction to reduce or mitigate expected negative effects.

Notably, effects of the SPD have been considered with reference to the social, environmental and economic baseline situation of the London Borough of Bexley, the London Borough of Greenwich and

Thamesmead and Abbey Wood. The likely future scenarios expected from the baseline trends are predicted and used in the assessment. The baseline situation is included in Appendices 2 – 5.

In general, the SA has found that the impact of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD is primarily local. The SPD will have a neutral impact in the short term and a positive impact in the medium to long term. The impact of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD will be of moderate to minor significance.

Importantly, no adverse sustainability effects were identified through the SA of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD. The beneficial effects of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD could be maximised through the Environmental Impact Assessment of site specific proposals and consideration of the SPD by the London Borough of Bexley and the London Borough of Greenwich in the production of other planning documents.

The SA is an iterative process and therefore the significant sustainability effects have been considered in the production of the SPD. The SA has therefore assisted in reducing uncertainties and improving the expected outcomes of the SPD.

The SPD will be monitored using indicators developed from the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood baseline situation. The

London Borough of Bexley and the London Borough of Greenwich already monitor the social, environmental and economic situation in their boroughs, monitoring of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD during its implementation will be a part of this process.

Likely significant effects of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD

The Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD is likely to have a significant beneficial impact at the local level on the following:

- The quality of landscapes and townscapes, including open space
- Limiting air pollution and improving air quality
- Creating places, spaces and buildings that are well designed, integrate with and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of local character
- Improving the quality and cleanliness of where people live
- Improving the health and well being of the population
- Reducing and preventing crime and fear of crime
- Providing everyone with the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment
- Reducing poverty and social exclusion, encouraging a sense of place community identity and belonging
- Improving access to essential facilities and services, especially where there is a disadvantage

The impact of the SA (incorporating SEA)

The SA has been prepared concurrently with the SPD and sustainability issues have been fully integrated into the process of producing the SPD.

Consultation

Consulting on the draft SPD and SA Report represents Stage D of the SA process (see Table 2). Stage D will be completed following the finalisation of this SA Report below.

2. Background

The purpose of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SA (incorporating SEA)

Urban Practitioners have been appointed to prepare the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD by the London Boroughs of Bexley and Greenwich. Independent consultants The Landscape Partnership have been selected to prepare a SA (incorporating SEA) of the SPD. This report comprises Stages B and C of the SA (incorporating SEA) process for the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD.

'Planning Policy Statement 12' asserts that regard should be given to the chain of conformity in SA within each Local Authority to prevent duplication of research (CLG, 2004). The SA Report considers the contents of the London Borough of Bexley SA Reports listed below.

- 'SA Report Planning Obligations Guidance' (final consultation draft, March 2008)
- 'SA Report Bexley Sustainable Design and Construction Guide' (29th October 2007)
- 'SA Report Lamorbey Planning Brief' (8th September 2007)
- 'SA Report Bexleyheath Civic Offices Planning Brief' (13th July 2007)
- 'SA Report Affordable Housing' (9th March 2006)
- 'SA Report Design for Living Bexley's Residential Design Guide' (21st January 2006)

The contents of the following London Borough of Greenwich SA Reports are also considered in this SA Report.

- 'Core Strategy Initial Sustainability Appraisal' (February 2008)
- 'SPD for the Kidbrooke Development Area Final SA Report' (June 2008)
- 'SA of the London Borough of Greenwich Planning Obligations Strategy' (October 2007)

This document provides an outline of the planning policy context, baseline data and sustainability objectives. The objectives of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD are then assessed against the sustainability objectives to ensure that the document is compatible with general sustainability aims and with the objectives of Bexley and Greenwich London Boroughs' Local Development Frameworks.

The relationship between sustainable development and sustainability appraisal

Sustainable development is the central theme of 'Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development' (HMSO, 2005), which sets the government's overarching planning policy. The role of sustainable development is reflected within emerging planning policy and legislation. 'Securing the Future: Delivering the UK Sustainable Development Strategy' (HMSO, 2005) aims: 'to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations'.

The Strategy sets out the UK principles for achieving sustainable development as:

- Living within environmental limits
- Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society
- Achieving a sustainable economy
- Promoting good governance
- Using sound science responsibly

The Strategy identifies the following areas for immediate action:

- Sustainable consumption and production
- Climate change and energy
- Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement
- Creating sustainable communities and a fairer world

SA is a tool for Local Authorities, assisting in the identification of sustainable approaches for dealing with key planning issues and environmental concerns. The purpose of SA is to promote sustainable development through the integration of social, environmental and economic considerations into the planmaking process, key to achieving sustainable development. Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal

The SEA Directive came into force in the UK through 'The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004'. Under the requirements of the Directive and the Regulations specific types of plan must be subject to an SEA, which involves the systematic identification and evaluation of environmental consequences of implementing plans and policies. SEA applies to the preparation of new or revised

Development Plan Documents and SPD in addition to a range of other plans.

SEA is focused primarily on environmental impacts, whilst SA considers social, environmental and economic sustainability. The key output for SEA is an Environmental Report that describes the environmental assessment process and likely significant effects of the plan and reasonable plan options. The output of SA is an SA Report encompassing SEA information, in addition to the assessment of social and economic impacts.

The requirements to undertake an SA and an SEA are distinct, however the UK Government approach satisfies both through a single appraisal process. 'Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents' was published in November 2005 and sets out a clear process for undertaking a SA (which fulfils the requirements for SEA) as it applies to Development Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents. This guidance will be referred to as the SA Guidance within this report.

Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD

The vision and objectives set out within the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD are provided below.

Vision

Thamesmead and Abbey Wood will become a destination of choice, defined by a series

of attractive centres and neighbourhoods. It will be characterised by new standards of design excellence and lasting improvements in quality of life.

Thamesmead town centre will be a retail and civic heart for the community, supported by a range of smaller shops and services at neighbourhood level. Abbey Wood will be a major transport interchange, and gateway to Thamesmead and connections to Thamesmead by rail and bus (including North Bexley Transit and Greenwich Waterfront Transit) will be frequent and reliable. The area's neighbourhoods will become sustainable places, with improved housing and public space, and the best use made of natural assets including the waterways.

Thamesmead and Abbey Wood's communities will be prosperous and cohesive, vibrant, enterprising and thriving.

Objectives

1. Design and development

- To promote the highest quality design for Thamesmead and Abbey Wood in order to transform the identity, experience and perception of the area
- To encourage better connections especially for cycling and walking
- To support Thamesmead town centre as a vibrant heart for Thamesmead, and develop the role of Abbey Wood in the context of Crossrail
- To celebrate the historic assets and heritage

value of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood

- To support a sequential approach to flood risk within the area covered by this SPD as informed by the draft Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and recommended by PPS25

2. Environment, open spaces and sustainability

- To place sustainability issues including flood risk, climate change, housing supply, biodiversity, land contamination, sustainable waste management and light and noise pollution at the heart of the decision making process in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood
- To make efficient use of previously developed land
- To promote the enhancement of open spaces and the delivery of multifunctional open spaces through green infrastructure
- To improve the governance and safety of open spaces in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood
- To ensure that new development creates more sustainable communities
- To take advantage of the area's water assets in relation to the alleviation of flood risk and the promotion of surface and ground water quality

3. Sustainable transport

- To promote improved transport connections both internally within Thamesmead and also to other areas in Bexley, Greenwich, East London, Dartford and Bromley
- To promote more sustainable modes of transport
- To realise the full benefits of Crossrail,

Greenwich Waterfront Transit, North Bexley Transit the Thames Clipper service and other transport initiatives

4. Community

- To support existing community facilities and promote new amenities which respond to the needs of the existing and future communities
- To provide more opportunities and activities for young people in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood
- To encourage healthy lifestyles amongst all residents
- To transform perceptions of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood and encourage civic pride amongst all residents
- To make Thamesmead and Abbey Wood a safer place

5. Neighbourhoods and local centres

- To improve the area's neighbourhoods as places to live, work and relax
- To promote a network of local neighbourhood centres
- To promote transparency in the residential market and to eradicate buy-to-let as a problem in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood
- To ensure that new housing is of high quality and responds to the needs of local people

6. Employment and economy

- To attract new businesses to Thamesmead and Abbey Wood and promote the area as a business location
- To provide opportunities for local entrepreneurs and new start-up businesses

- To enhance education and training provision in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood and to improve residents' choices and opportunities in the labour market

7. Good governance

- To promote joint working partnership and good governance in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood
- To deliver change through a wide range of regeneration initiatives and work with a wide range of stakeholders to promote the transformation of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood

[Compliance with legislation](#)

Compliance with the European Directive 2001/42/EC (the SEA Directive) 'on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment' is described in table 1.

(Table 1: Compliance with the SEA Directive)

Requirements of the Directive	Where Covered in Report
Preparation of an environmental report in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated. The information to be given is:	
a) An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes	Section 2
b) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution without implementation of the plan or programme	Section 4
c) The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected	Section 4
d) Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directive 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC	Section 4
e) The environmental protection objectives established at international, community or national level which are relevant to the programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation	Section 4
f) The likely significant effects on the environment, including:	
short, medium and long term; permanent and temporary; positive and negative; secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects on issues such as: biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors.	Section 5
g) The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and, as fully as possible, offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme.	Section 5
h) An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information	Section 5
i) A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring (in accordance with regulation 17)	Section 6
j) A non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings	Section 1
Consultation with:	
Authorities with environmental responsibility when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the environment report	Section 3
Authorities with environmental responsibility and the public to be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan and accompanying environmental report before its adoption	Section 3
Other EU Member States, where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that country	N/A
Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultations into account in decision making	Section 1

3. Methodology

Our approach

The approach to the SA of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD followed the SA process set out in the 2005 Department of Communities and Local Government document 'The Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents' (the SA Guidance). The SA Guidance presents a five stage approach to undertaking a SA. The five stage approach and the relationship with SA are shown in Table 2.

The guidance sets out a requirement to prepare the following reports.

- Scoping Report (summarising stage A work)
- SA Report (documenting stages A to C work)

A Scoping Report has been prepared to address Stage A, this SA Report addresses Stages B and C of the process. The process of addressing Stages B and C is outlined below.

Preparing SA Report

The SA process was robust and comprehensive to effectively influence the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD.

(Table 2: The SA process and relationship with SPD)

SPD Stage 1: Pre-production – Evidence gathering
SA stages and tasks
Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope
A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainable development objectives. A2: Collecting baseline information. A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems. A4: Developing the SA framework. A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA.
SPD Stage 2: Production – Prepare draft SPD
SA stages and tasks
Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects B1: Testing the SPD objectives against the SA framework. B2: Developing the SPD options. B3: Predicting the effects of the draft SPD. B4: Evaluating the effects the draft SPD. B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects. B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the SPD.
Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report
C1: Preparing SA Report.
Stage D: Consulting on draft SPD and Sustainability Appraisal Report
D1: Public participation on the SA Report and the draft SPD. D2: Assessing significant changes. D3: Making decisions and providing information.
SPD Stage 3: Adoption
SA stages and tasks
Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the SPD
E1: Finalising aims and methods for monitoring. E2: Responding to adverse effects.

The SA Report is based on the SAs prepared by the London Boroughs of Bexley and Greenwich, as the site is located on the borough boundary. Policies, plans and programmes were identified for each borough and the baseline data collected by both authorities is included in this report. Ward baseline data was used to identify common sustainability issues relating to both boroughs and Thamesmead and Abbey Wood. The common sustainability issues were used to develop the sustainability objectives and reflected within the Sustainability Framework, which identifies Thamesmead and Abbey Wood specific criteria and indicators. Both the London Borough of Bexley and the London Borough of Greenwich will monitor the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood specific indicators to provide a context for the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD.

Consultation

The SA Scoping Report has been consulted on for a period of five weeks, from 16th May to 20th June 2008, enabling the statutory consultation bodies and others to comment on the scope of the SA. Consultation responses have been received from the Environment Agency, Government Office London, English Heritage and Natural England. The consultation responses are provided in Appendix 6 and these have been fully considered in Stages B and C of the SA process.

A sustainability workshop, attended by the London Borough of Bexley, the London Borough of Greenwich, the Environment Agency, Assemblage, Urban Practitioners and The Landscape Partnership, was held on the 19th June 2008 to identify the emerging sustainability issues and incorporate these into the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD. The key sustainability issues identified during the workshop were considered in the production of this SA Report.

Stage D: Consulting on the draft SPD and SA Report (see Table 2) will be completed following the production of this SA Report.

Uncertainties and limitations

Predictions are limited by data gaps resulting from the availability of baseline information. Further details on the limitations of baseline data are provided in section 4. The SA is reliant on professional judgement which introduces an element of subjectivity.



4. Sustainability objectives, baseline and context

Plans, policies and strategies

A review of the relevant policies, plans and programmes that may influence the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood proposals and the SA framework has been completed during the scoping exercise at Stage A of the SA process, (see Table 3). This section provides an update of the review of policies, plans and programmes to set the current context.

The relationship between the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD and the objectives and targets of existing plans and programmes were considered and the key sustainable development objectives and indicators against which the likely significant effects of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood vision and objectives can be assessed were highlighted.

The relevant international, national, regional and local plans and strategies were reviewed in accordance with the national SA Guidance and the SEA Directive. The key policies, plans and programmes of relevance to Thamesmead, Abbey Wood and the SA framework were identified and these are listed in Table 3. Appendix 1 details the main objectives of the key plans, policies and programmes and relates these to pertinent issues identified at the ward level (see Appendix 1)

The purpose of the review is:

- To enable an understanding of the relationships and interdependencies between

the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD and other documents and identify any potential conflicts, constraints and challenges

- To understand the influence of plans, policies, and strategies on the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD
- To develop the SA Framework

(Table 3: Policies, plans and programmes)

International plans and programmes
Ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe
2008/50/EC
European Landscape Convention (2000)
Kyoto protocol to the UN framework convention on climate change (1992)
Johannesburg declaration on sustainable development (2002)
European spatial development perspective: Towards balanced and sustainable development of the territory of the European Union (1999)
Birds directive (79/409/EEC)
Habitats directive (92/43/EEC)
Fourth air quality daughter directive (2004/107/EC)
Environmental noise directive (2002/49/EC)
Water framework directive (2000/60/EC)
Urban wastewater treatment directive (91/271/EEC)
Waste framework directive (75/442/EEC as amended)
Landfill directive (99/31/EC)
EU 6th Environmental Action Plan (2002)
Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)
EU Biodiversity Action Plan (2008)
National plans and programmes
PPS9: Biodiversity and geological conservation (2005)
PPS12: Local development frameworks (2008)
PPG13: Transport (2001)
PPG14: Development on unstable land (1990)
PPG15: Planning and the Historic Environment (1994)
PPG16: Archaeology and Planning (2001)
PPG17: Planning for open space, sport and recreation (2002)
PPS22: Renewable Energy (2004)
PPS23: Planning and Pollution Control (2004)

PPG24: Planning and noise (1994)
PPS25: Development and flood risk (2006)
PPS25: Development and Flood Risk Practice Guide (2008)
Communities and Local Government Code for Sustainable Homes (2008)
Making Space for Water - First Government response to the autumn 2004 Making space for water consultation exercise (2005)
Strategic Environmental Assessment and climate change: Guidance for practitioners (2007)
The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations (2007)
Draft Strategy for Sustainable Construction: A consultation paper (2007)
Securing the future – UK government sustainable development strategy (2005)
Sustainable communities: Building for the future (2003)
The UK biodiversity action plan (1994)
Working within the grain of nature: A biodiversity strategy for England (2002)
The future of transport: A network for 2030, white paper (2004)
The air quality strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (2007)
Climate change – The UK programme (2006)
Meeting the energy challenge: A white paper on energy (2007)
Communities and Local Government Code for Sustainable Homes (2007)
Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (1996)
National cycling strategy (1996)
Every child matters: Change for children (2004)
Tackling health inequalities: A programme for action (2003)
Waste Strategy for England (2007)
Regional plans and programmes
The London Plan: Spatial development strategy for Greater London - Consolidated with Alterations since 2004 (2008)
The Mayor's Energy Strategy (2004)
South East London Housing Strategy 2006-2010 (2006)
The East London Green Grid Framework: The London Plan (Consolidated with Alterations since 2004) Supplementary Planning Guide (2008)
Sustainable Design and Construction: The London Plan Supplementary Planning Guidance (2006)
Thames Gateway: The Delivery Plan (2007)
Draft Regional Flood Risk Appraisal (2007)

Thames Gateway London Partnership - Strategic Flood Risk Assessment of East London (2005)
Thames Estuary 2100 (2002)
Draft Thames Region Catchment Flood Management Plan (2007)
The Mayor's Energy Strategy (2001)
The Mayor's Biodiversity Strategy: Connecting with London's Nature (2002)
The Mayor's Air Quality Strategy: Cleaning London's Air (2002)
The Mayor's Economic Development Strategy: Sustaining Success (2005)
The Mayor's Cultural Strategy (2004)
The Mayor's Municipal Waste Management Strategy: Rethinking rubbish in London (2003)
The Mayor's Children and Young People Strategy (2004)
The Mayor's draft water strategy 'Water Matters' (2007)
The Mayor's climate change action plan 'Action today to protect tomorrow' (2007)
RPG9: For the South East (2001)
RPG9a for the Thames Gateway (1995)
South East London Housing Strategy (2004)
South East London Green Chain Management Plan 2003 – 2008
The London Plan Sub Regional Development Framework East London (2006)
Draft Thames Strategy East (2005)
London Thames Gateway Development and Investment Framework (2004)
Growth and Regeneration in the Thames Gateway Interregional Planning Statement (2004)
Review of the impact of aviation within the Greater London Area (2003)
Thames Gateway health services assessment (2003)
Creating sustainable communities, greening the gateway (2004)
The Thames Gateway interim plan (2006)
London City Airport Masterplan (2006)
Local plans and programmes
London Borough of Greenwich
School Planning Statement 2006-2011 (2006)
Greenwich Strategy 2006 – 2015 (2006)
Greenwich Healthier Communities Strategy 2006-2008 (2007)
Greenwich Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for the Draft Core Strategy (2008)
Greenwich Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans (various)
Greenwich Economic Development Strategy 2002 – 2007 (2002)

Education Development Plan: School organisation plan 2004 – 2009 (2004)
Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy: A New Way of Doing Business (2002)
Greenwich Draft Green Space Strategy (2005)
Greenwich Air Quality Action Plan (2002)
Draft Greenwich Strategy 2006 – 2015 (2006)
Greenwich Children and Young Peoples Plan 2006 – 2008 (2006)
Greenwich drugs, crime and disorder strategy 2005-2008 (2005)
Greenwich Healthier Communities Strategy 2006-2008 (2006)
Fit for sport: Sports strategy 2005-2009 (2005)
Greenwich Tourism Strategy 2004 – 2010 (2004)
Greenwich Biodiversity: Towards an action plan (2002)
Greenwich Business Enterprise Framework 2004 – 2008 (2004)
Greenwich Draft Regeneration Strategy 2006 – 2020 (2006)
Greenwich equality policy (2003)
Greenwich corporate equality plan 2007 – 2008 (2007)
Greenwich Draft Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for the Draft Core Strategy (2007)
Greenwich Climate Change Strategy (2008)
Emerging London Borough of Greenwich Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
London Borough of Bexley
Bexley Together – Bexley’s Community Strategy 2008-2018 (2008)
Bexley’s Education Development Plan 2002-2007 (2002)
Bexley Draft Open Space Strategy (2008)
Bexley Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans (various)
Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (2006)
Bexley’s Biodiversity Action Plan (2002)
Bexley Local Agenda 21 Strategy (1998)
Bexley Parks Strategy (2002)
Bexley Trees and Woodlands Strategy (2002)
Bexley Managing the Marshes Strategy (2006)

Consultation draft – Third round updating and screening assessment of local air quality in the London Borough of Bexley (2006)
Air quality management variation order (2007)
Bexley Local (Transport) Implementation Plan 2005/6 – 2010/11 (2007)
Road Safety Plan 2007/2008 (2007)
Draft Economic and Employment Development Plan 2007-10 (2007)
Bexley Regeneration Framework 2005-2016 (2005)
Bexley Community Safety Strategy 2005 – 2008 (2005)
London Borough of Bexley Crime and Disorder Audit 2004 (2004)
Bexley Housing Strategy 2002 – 2006 (2002)
London Borough of Bexley Homelessness Strategy 2003 – 2008 (2003)
Our Culture: A Cultural Strategy for the London Borough of Bexley 2003-2008 (2003)
Bexley Council Supporting People Five Year Strategy 2005 – 2010 (2005)
Developing Communities through sport: A sports strategy for the London Borough of Bexley 2003 – 2008 (2003)
Developing Communities through sport: A sports strategy for the London Borough of Bexley – Strategic Action Plan April 2003 – April 2008 (2004)
Lets get moving: Increasing physical activity in Bexley (2004)
Bexley playing pitch strategy: From jumpers to goalposts – Playing pitches in Bexley (2005)
Change for children – Bexley’s agreed children and young people’s plan 2006 – 2009 (2005)
Evaluation and review of the first year: Action Plan 2007 – 2008 (2008)
Bexley Health Inequalities Strategy – Consultation draft (2004)
Caring together Bexley Carers Strategy 2003 – 2006 (2003)
Bexley waste Minimisation and Recycling Plan 2000 (2000)
Bexley Thames side environmental action plan and guidelines for the Belvedere Employment Area (2002)
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for Sustainable Design and Construction, Bexleyheath Civic Offices Planning Brief and Lamorbey Swimming Centre Planning Brief (2007)

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for the Core Strategy and Erith Area Action Plan (2006)
Sustainable design and construction guide Supplementary Planning Document (adopted 2007)
Bexley Climate Change Strategy (2008)
Emerging London Borough of Bexley Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

The above plans and strategies provide the context for the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD. Plans and strategies identified at the international, national and regional levels provide general sustainability objectives around social, economic and environmental themes. The policies of both Bexley and Greenwich London Boroughs must be considered collectively due to the unique relationship of the site with the Borough boundaries. Thamesmead and Abbey Wood lie within the Thames Gateway national growth area. Policy for the Thames Gateway sets the context for significant growth and the regeneration of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood. The London Plan has designated the Thamesmead Area as an opportunity area for regeneration and growth. The objectives identified within the above documents have aided in the development of the SA framework.

Baseline

Site description

Thamesmead and Abbey Wood are bounded by the river Thames to the

north and Bexleyheath to the south. The site is physically divided by a number of major roads, including Eastern Way, Carlyle Road, Central Way and Harrow Manorway. The site has inadequate internal connections due to over engineered roads and deteriorating and unsafe pedestrian links. The area has insufficient public transport links and there is a deficiency of social infrastructure serving the site. Thamesmead and Abbey Wood are characterised by a poor physical environment and a lack of local facilities. The town centre lacks character and vitality, whilst the riverside is isolated and underutilised. Recent regeneration activity has sought to address such physical and community issues. The Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD area is at risk from flooding and the site is within a designated Air Quality Management Area. The site is predominantly urban, and is interspersed with green areas, mature trees, hedgerows and water bodies. Thamesmead and Abbey Wood contain a number of locally designated sites. There are areas with significant

local biodiversity value, such as Erith Marsh. Lesnes Abbey to the south of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood, and Crossness Engines to the north are valuable historic assets.

Site surroundings

Recent regeneration activity has included the development of the White Heart Triangle and the East Thamesmead Business Park (Veridion Park), in addition to housing development at Summertown Way and Thamesis Point. Significant development is proposed at the Belvedere and Charlton employment areas, Erith and Woolwich town centre and Dartford/Ebsfleet by the public and private sectors.

Major transport improvements are proposed in the locality including the Thames Gateway Bridge and Silvertown Link river crossings, the extension of Crossrail to Woolwich and Abbey Wood, the planned DLR station at Woolwich and the Greenwich Waterfront transit scheme. The site context has a sufficient quantity of open space to serve the increasing population, yet improvements to the quality of open spaces are required.

Bexley and Greenwich

Baseline information for the London Boroughs of Bexley and Greenwich relevant to the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD is provided in Appendices 2, 3 and 4.

Wards

The wards relating to the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD area include Thamesmead Moorings, Abbeywood, Thamesmead East, Plumstead and Glyndon. Appendix 5 displays data pertaining to each ward, which identifies pockets of deprivation within the London Boroughs of Bexley and Greenwich.

The data in Appendix 5 has been grouped into social, environmental and economic topic areas and the issues within each topic area are related to the Borough wide topic areas. Four of the wards; Abbey Wood, Glyndon, Plumstead and Thamesmead Moorings, are in Greenwich Borough and Thamesmead East Ward is in Bexley Borough. The ranks are based on the ONS ranking system, which includes approximately 50,000 wards. As with the national data set, the lower the rank identified, the lower the quality of access.

Social

All of the wards in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood have a high population density when compared with the national average (3.77 people per hectare). Glyndon has the highest population density (89.66 people per hectare) and Thamesmead East has the lowest (26.89 people per hectare). Greenwich has the lowest average age (31.33 years), whilst Abbey Wood has the highest average

age (35.65 years). The average age of both wards is lower than the national average (38.6 years). There is a very high proportion of children and young people in Thamesmead. Thamesmead Moorings and Glyndon have the highest percentage of people travelling to work by sustainable modes (32%), just below the London average (33%). The Thamesmead and Abbey Wood wards have a relatively high number of people per car when compared with the national average (2.17). Glyndon has the highest number of people per car (3.65), whilst Thamesmead East has the lowest number of people per car (2.76). Increasing car ownership is a constraint to the sustainability of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood. Car ownership is highest in Plumstead (4542) and lowest in Glyndon (3807). Thamesmead Moorings is ranked lowest for housing quality and availability, whilst Thamesmead East has the best housing quality and availability. Home ownership is lowest in Glyndon and highest in Plumstead. All of the Thamesmead wards are ranked comparatively low for housing quality, availability and home ownership. Plumstead has the highest average house price (£174,516.00) and Thamesmead East has the lowest average house price (£122,731.00), the average house price in England is higher (£192,274.00). Crime rates are highest in Thamesmead East and lowest in Plumstead. Life expectancy is consistent for females

across all wards, whilst life expectancy is lowest for males in the Thamesmead Moorings, Abbey Wood and Glyndon wards. Health and disability is ranked lowest in Thamesmead Moorings and highest in Plumstead, whilst education and skills rank lowest in Abbey Wood and highest in Glyndon.

Environmental

Plumstead has the lowest quality living environment and Thamesmead Moorings has the best quality living environment. All of the wards in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood are ranked relatively low when compared to the national dataset. Thamesmead East has the highest percentage of land cover as green space (55%), whilst Glyndon has the lowest (21%).

Economic

Thamesmead East ward is ranked lowest for economic deprivation, income and employment. Plumstead has high levels of income and the least economic deprivation. Thamesmead Moorings has the highest level of employment. The Thamesmead and Abbey Wood wards do not vary greatly from the national average when considering full time employees aged 16-74. All of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood wards have a lower number of part time employees aged 16-74 than the national average. Thamesmead Moorings has the greatest percentage of unemployment

claimants, whilst Abbey Wood has the smallest (2.8%).

Data gaps and the availability of baseline information

As the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD is site specific narrative detail has been provided above and this is supported by baseline data at the ward and Borough levels. The baseline data collected represents work in progress and will be continually updated. The indicators selected aid in the identification of where the Boroughs' are performing well and where further work is required. Recommendations for additional data collection are included.

The key constraints to the baseline data are as follows:

- There are inconsistencies between the data collected by the London Borough of Bexley and that collected by the London Borough of Greenwich, as each authority considers different issues, over different time frames
- Much of the data available at the Borough level is not available at the ward level
- Further data collection for environmental and economic issues may be required at the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood levels
- Due to the inconsistencies between the two Boroughs and the availability of information the ward data is not directly related to the Borough data

- It is difficult to predict future trends as a precedent has not yet been established and insufficient information has been collected
- External factors may influence future trends
- Some of the information is dated (e.g. 2001 census data)

Data gaps exist in the following areas and further research is required to fill these by Bexley and Greenwich London Boroughs through the Local Development Framework monitoring process.

Bexley

- Quality of surroundings – Overall crime and percentage of planning permissions implemented for major schemes designed to reduce crime and anti social behaviour
- Biodiversity – Biodiversity Action Plan targets and progress
- Climate change – Several indicators within the key topic area
- Flood risk – Several indicators within the key topic area
- Land, soil and water – Area of statutory contaminated land
- Transport – Several indicators within the key topic area
- Economic growth – Several indicators within the key topic area

Greenwich

- Town centres and retail – Several

indicators within the key topic area

- Public health – Hospital waiting times, patients, type of health issues
- Skills and employment training – Several indicators within the key topic area
- Natural resource consumption – Several indicators within the key topic area
- Future employment and the requirement for employment land – Several indicators within the key topic area
- Traffic volumes – Several indicators within the key topic area
- CO2 emissions – Several indicators within the key topic area
- Detailed biodiversity and landscape information – Several indicators within the key topic area

Ward level

- Biodiversity and environmental protection – several indicators within this key topic area
- Natural and environmental resources – several indicators within this key topic area
- Climate change and air quality – a review of Borough data is required to determine ward level information
- Land use and development patterns – a review of Borough data is required to determine ward level information
- Cultural heritage and conservation – a review of Borough data is required to determine ward level information

- Economic development and activity - several indicators within this key topic area.

Current and likely future situation

It was difficult to predict future trends for much of the baseline information due to data gaps, the lack of precedent and the influence of external factors.

Thamesmead and Abbey Wood sustainability issues

The key issues arising at the ward level, the sustainability issues identified for each borough and comments from the Environment Agency, GO London and English Heritage have been used to develop the sustainability issues, relating directly to Thamesmead and Abbey Wood as detailed in table 4.



Key sustainability issues/problems	Opportunities and implications	Relationship to SA objectives
Social issues		
Resident satisfaction with sports, leisure and culture facilities	Opportunities to include leisure and culture facilities in the SPD. Opportunities to create improved access links to essential facilities and services.	Objective 14 and objective 19
Provision of and access to essential services	Opportunities to create improved access links to essential facilities and services.	Objective 9, objective 10 and objective 19
Adequate access to public transport, connectivity, ease of movement and safety	Opportunities to encourage sustainable modes of transport and accessibility for those less able. Opportunities to encourage route and service enhancements.	Objective 10 and objective 19
Pockets of deprivation within Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	Opportunities to encourage sustainable design elements to contribute to a healthier and safer environment, in addition to socio economic development programmes, such as skills and training.	Objective 13, objective 17, objective 19
Fear of crime	Opportunity to reduce the incidence of crime and vandalism through design out crime principles.	Objective 15
The quality of housing	Opportunity to incorporate best practice design principles and implement the Code for Sustainable Homes.	Objective 13, objective 20 and objective 21
Education and skills	Opportunities to create and enhance education opportunities, in addition to socio economic development programmes such as skills and training.	Objective 18
Environmental issues		
Increasing car use, high carbon dioxide emissions and poor air quality	Opportunities to increase provision of sustainable modes of transport. Opportunities to encourage an increased number of journeys by walking, cycling and public transport through design.	Objective 7, objective 8, objective 9, objective 10 and objective 19
Improvement of and access to Biodiversity Action Plan species and habitats	Opportunities to include provision for species and habitat protection and enhancement. Opportunities to conserve and enhance areas of importance for wildlife within Thamesmead and Abbey Wood. Opportunities for incorporating bird nesting and roosting sites into new structures and incorporating green roofs into design proposals.	Objective 1, objective 2 and objective 3

(Table 4: Thamesmead and Abbey Wood sustainability issues)

Flood risk	Opportunities to require flood risk assessment at the planning application stage. Opportunities to consider flood risk management, infrastructure construction and maintenance. Use of Sustainable Urban Drainage and soft landscaping, where viable. Development should provide for rain water harvesting, where viable.	Objective 4 and objective 8
Water resources	Opportunities to encourage water conservation and incorporate water conservation into the design. Use of Sustainable Urban Drainage and soft landscaping. Development should provide for rain water harvesting.	Objective 3 and objective 13
Quality of the water environment	Opportunities for provision of mitigation of surface water run off, including Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems. Opportunity to improve the water quality environment by the sustainable remediation of land affected by contamination.	Objective 3 and objective 13
The quality of the townscape, views and vistas	Opportunities for improvement to the public realm. Design improvements to Thamesmead town centre. Opportunities to incorporate best practice design to improve the image and perception of the area.	Objective 2, objective 11, objective 12, objective 13, objective 6
The quality of landscapes and open space	Opportunities to provide additional open space and enhance existing open space.	Objective 2, objective 11, objective 12, objective 13
Land quality and contamination	Opportunities to ensure that land quality and contamination issues are adequately addressed in planning applications. Encourage land remediation. Bring brownfield land into more active and beneficial use.	Objective 3
Waste management	Opportunities to increase facilities for recycling.	Objective 5
Management of the historic environment	Opportunities to maintain and enhance historic areas, buildings and their settings.	Objective 2, objective 11, objective 12 and objective 17
Economic issues		
Attraction of inward investment		Objective 22, objective 23
Unemployment and employment opportunities	Opportunities to enhance local training and employment opportunities.	Objective 16, objective 18 and objective 23
The quality of employment areas	Opportunities to encourage sustainable design and construction of employment areas. Opportunities for public realm improvements in employment areas.	Objective 16 and objective 23
The level of income	Opportunities to enhance local training and employment opportunities.	Objective 16 and objective 23
Access to employment	Opportunities to enhance local training and employment opportunities.	Objective 16, objective 18 and objective 23

SA (incorporating SEA) framework

A set of sustainability objectives has been derived from the policies, plans and programmes identified within Table 3, the social, environmental and economic baseline, the consultation responses to the Scoping Report and the key sustainability issues. The borough wide sustainability objectives, criteria and indicators are consistent with those developed for the London Borough of Bexley's Core Strategy and the London Borough of Greenwich's Core Strategy to facilitate effective monitoring. Additional monitoring will be required to address the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood indicators, which will be used to monitor the SPD. The sustainability objectives will be used to appraise the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD.

Table 5 identifies the criteria and indicators for each Borough for each of the sustainability objectives, in addition to the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood criteria and indicators, which will be used to monitor the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD.



(Table 5: Sustainability objectives, criteria and indicators)

Sustainability objective	Criteria	Indicator
Biodiversity and environmental protection		
1. To protect, restore and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna	Bexley	
	Headline indicator: Condition of sites of special scientific interest	
	Will it conserve sites of importance for nature conservation?	Total area of sites of importance for nature conservation
	Will it maintain and enhance species diversity and avoid harm to protected species?	Net loss of areas protected by nature conservation designations
	Will it maintain and enhance deciduous woodland cover?	Total area of local nature reserves
	Will it encourage the protection of trees?	% of SSSI's in favourable condition
		Area of land managed for wildlife – requires further investigation
		Area of deciduous woodland – requires further investigation
	Greenwich	
	Protect specifically designated wildlife sites and sites of special scientific interest	Number and size of 'Wildlife Sites'
	Protect habitats and species, particularly those considered to be of importance	% of SSSI's in good condition
	Provide opportunities for the creation of new habitats and links between existing habitats	Implementation of the BAP
	Enhance the ecological value of the relevant area	Number of planning approvals that have included habitat creation
	Achieve Biodiversity Action Plan targets	Site area of habit lost to development
	Reduce habitat fragmentation	% of land designated for particular quality or amenity value (greenspace vs wildlife sites)
		The number of habitat areas created under section 106 agreements
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	Will it protect, restore and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna?	Percentage of land cover as green space
	Will it protect, restore and enhance priority habitats?	Loss of designated sites
	Will it improve ecological links between existing wildlife sites?	Loss of priority habitat in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood
Will it improve opportunities for habitat creation?	Development proposals incorporating habitat creation	

2. To protect, restore and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes including open spaces	Bexley	
	Will it improve the landscape, ecological quality and character of the Borough?	Number of green flag parks
	Will it decrease litter in urban areas and open spaces?	Access to public open spaces
	Will it enhance the quality of the townscape and the public realm areas?	Number of schools working towards eco school award
	Will it promote the regeneration of the natural and built environment	Percentage and number of vacant properties
		Percentage of residents satisfied with parks and open spaces
	Greenwich	
	Protect both local and metropolitan open land	Percentage of the land within the Borough that is identified as open space
	Increase the quantity of parks and nature reserves in the Borough	Extent of land dedicated for open space purposes under section 106 agreements
	Improve the quality of the open space network and green links	Number of planning approvals that have included habitat creation.
		Extent of open space lost to development
		Extent of open space deficiency areas
		Percentage of population located within an open space deficiency area
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
Will it enhance the living environment in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood?	The quality of the living environment	
Will it reduce areas of deficiency in access to natural greenspace?	Accessible Natural Greenspace standards	
Will it increase tree cover?	Number of single and group TPOs	
Natural and environmental resources		
3. To improve land, soil and water quality, reduce contamination and encourage the sustainable use of these resources	Bexley	
	Headline indicators: Domestic water use and availability; Rivers of good or fair quality	
	Will it minimise development on greenfield sites?	Percentage of new development on greenfield land
	Will it ensure that where possible new development occurs on derelict, vacant and underused previously developed land?	Percentage of new development built on previously developed land
	Will it reduce water consumption?	Density of new development
	Will it improve water quality?	Area of statutory contaminated land

3. Continued		Number of 'sites of potential concern' with respect to land contamination	
		Water consumption per head	
		Percentage of rivers assessed as being of good or fair environmental quality	
	Greenwich		
	Improve the water quality of rivers and groundwater supplies		Percentage of waterways in the local area in good or fair quality
	Improve water efficiency in new development		Average household water use per capita
	Encourage water efficient retrofitting of existing development		Health of groundwater resources.
	Limit water consumption to levels supportable by natural process and storage systems		Chemical and biological quality of local water systems
	Discourage development that may result in significant adverse impacts on the natural drainage and river system		The number of applications approved incorporating water conservation techniques
	Protect soil quality by restricting development that may result in contamination of land		The number/percentage of houses with water efficient fittings and appliances
	Reduce quantity of unremediated contaminated land		Proportion of new homes built on previously developed land
	Require contaminated land to be remediated as part of any development proposal		Number of contaminated sites remediated to make suitable for new development
	Improve understanding contaminated sites and remediation requirements		Number of sites contaminated as a result of new development
			Number of planning applications approved with a soil contamination assessment/report
			BVPI216a and BVPI216b figures
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood		
	Will it represent sustainable use of land?		Percentage of each land use class
	Will it meet the requirements of the Water Framework Directive?		Status of the waterbodies in the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood area
	Will surface water be managed using sustainable drainage techniques to improve water quality?		Percentage of new development on previously developed land
	Will it encourage sustainable remediation of contaminated brownfield sites?		Site wide investigations and remediation strategies submitted with planning applications
Will it contribute to water and sewerage infrastructure, without placing pressure on existing provision?		Development providing water and sewerage infrastructure	

4. To reduce tidal fluvial and surface water flood risk	Bexley	
	Headline indicator: Properties at risk of flooding – requires further investigation	
	Will it reduce the risk of tidal (sea) and fluvial (rivers and watercourses) flooding to people and property?	Number of planning consents granted against Environment Agency advice on flooding issues
		Number of new planning consents with Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems – requires further investigation
	Greenwich	
	Decrease the likelihood of pollutants being discharged into water systems	High Level Target 12
	Ensure that new development is protected against 1 in 100 year flood events	Number of planning applications which have had Surface Water Flood Risk Assessments approved by the agency and incorporate sustainable urban drainage systems
	Ensure that all new developments include sustainable urban drainage systems and on site treatment of pollutants	Number of new developments setback from watercourses
	Discourage development that may result in adverse impacts and encourage development that will result in positive impacts on the natural drainage and river system	Quantity and frequency of flooding events of the downstream catchment
		Extent of development considered to be at risk in a 1 in 100 year flood event
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	Will it result in decreased fluvial flood risk at 1 in 100 year probability? Will it result in decreased tidal flood risk at 1 in 200 year probability?	Results of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment breach analysis
	Does development include flood resistance and resilience techniques?	Number of planning applications resulting in implementation of flood resistance and resilience
		Number of planning applications which have had surface water FRAs approved by the Environmental Assessment and include SUDS
		Impact on biodiversity in drainage ditches and ground water
Does it support the implementation of the Environment Agency Thames Estuary 2010 document?	Results of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment breach analysis.	
	Flood risk assessments submitted with planning applications and approved by the Environmental Assessment	

5. To minimise the production of waste, increase landfill diversion and promote sustainable waste management and recycling	Bexley	
	Headline indicator: Household waste and recycling	
	Will it lead to reduced consumption of materials and resources?	Amount of waste by type – household, commercial and municipal
	Will it reduce household waste?	Number of kg of waste collected per head
	Will it increase waste recovery and recycling?	Percentage of households with waste recycled and composted
	Will it reduce hazardous waste?	Total tonnage of household waste sent for recycling
		% of total tonnage of household waste arisings which have been recovered to heat, power and other energy sources
	Greenwich	
	Reduce the amount of waste produced as a result of development	Percentage of waste being recycled
	Encourage sustainable development practices and the use of sustainable building materials	Implementation of recycling and re-use programs
	Encourage the reduction, reuse or recycling of waste	
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	Will it result in improved waste management (including residential, business and construction waste)?	Waste arising per unit area of constructed development
Will it create energy from waste?	% of waste used for energy	
Will it meet energy efficiency targets?	% of waste recovered, re-used and recycled	
6. To reduce light and noise pollution	Greenwich	
	Reduce ambient noise, especially from traffic	Number of complaints received by the Council's in relation to light and noise pollution
	Encourage effective land use and spatial planning to minimize opportunities for light and noise pollution	Extent of housing exposed to high traffic corridors and flood lighting (i.e. sports pitches)
	Reduce light pollution	
	Minimise the level of noise and vibration	
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	Will it reduce light and noise pollution concerns?	Light and noise pollution complaints
Will it increase properties suffering from noise pollution from London City Airport?		

Climate change and air quality		
7. To limit air pollution levels, to adhere to levels set out in the national air quality strategy and improve overall air quality	Bexley	
	Headline indicator: Days when pollution is moderate or higher	
	Will it improve air quality?	Background levels of particulate matter PM10, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and ozone measured at air quality monitoring stations
		% of days when air quality was v. good
	Greenwich	
	Reduce overall CO2 emissions	Number of new developments that emit air pollution (i.e. industrial development)
	Encourage development that has minimal air pollution side effects	Number of new developments that incorporate sustainable development initiatives to minimize pollution output
	Minimise the extent of development that increases local CO2 emissions	Mode of travel to work and distance traveled to work
	Improve public transport accessibility and efficiency	Accessibility of alternative modes of transport
	Minimise dependence on the private motor vehicle	Percentage of total energy consumption being supplied via renewable energy sources
	Promote the use of renewable energy	
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	Is the local population affected by poor air quality?	The correlation between air pollution and social deprivation
	Will it encourage sustainable design of new buildings and landscapes, including preparing for the impacts of climate change?	Number of developments achieving excellent ratings in the Code for Sustainable Homes and Building Research Establishments Environmental Assessment Method

8. To reduce negative contributions to climate change, to reduce vulnerability to climate change and to improve the localities ability to adapt to climate change	Bexley	
	Headline indicator: Emissions of greenhouse gases – requires further investigation	
	Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses by reducing energy consumption?	Carbon dioxide emissions produced by energy use and transport
	Will it lead to an increased proportion of energy needs being met from renewable resources?	Energy consumed from renewable resources – requires further investigation
	Will it encourage sustainable design and construction?	Number of planning consents for renewable technologies – requires further investigation
		Number of new residential units encompassing energy efficient design/ layout or features and compliance with BREEAM guidelines very good or higher standard – requires further investigation
		Number and type of energy efficiency measures implemented for new developments – requires further investigation
	Greenwich	
	Reduce overall CO2 emissions.	Mode of travel to work
	Encourage energy efficient development, particularly in relation to household energy consumption	Accessibility of alternative modes of transport

8. Continued	Provide accessible, user friendly alternative modes of transport.	Transport share of Greenhouse Gas emissions
	Minimise dependence on the private motor vehicle	Kyoto reduction targets of CO2 emissions
	Promote the use of renewable energy	Energy use per household.
	Reduce overall CO2 emissions	Percentage of energy from renewable sources
	Encourage energy efficient development	Number of buildings built that satisfy the Code for Sustainable Homes
	Encourage use of local suppliers and the consumption of local produce	Percentage of total energy consumption being supplied via renewable energy sources
	Encourage development that uses sustainable building materials with long life spans and capable of adapting to all weather conditions	Energy use per household
	Promote the use of renewable energy	Percentage of energy from renewable sources
		Number of buildings built that satisfy the Code for Sustainable Homes
		Mode of travel to work
		Number of buildings that use sustainable building materials and are designed to maximise solar efficiency
		Extent of development contained within close proximity to areas of potential flooding
		Percentage of total energy consumption being supplied via renewable energy sources
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	Will it reduce negative contributions to climate change?	Mode of travel to work
		Distance travelled to work
Extent of development including measures to reduce greenhouse gas and carbon dioxide emissions.		
Number of planning permissions resulting in surface water run-off to greenfield sites or otherwise acceptably accommodated within a sustainable scheme incorporating the effects of climate change		

Land use and development patterns		
9. To reduce the need to travel by delivering more sustainable patterns of urban development, to reduce car dependency and to encourage sustainable modes of transport	Bexley	
	Headline indicator: Average journey length by purpose – requires further investigation	
	Will it reduce traffic volumes?	Traffic flow information from screenlines
	Will it increase provision and proportion of journeys made using modes other than the car?	Density of new residential development
		Percentage of new residential completions complying with maximum parking standards
		Resident travel by modes to work
		Length in km designated walking and cycling network
		Map showing public transport accessibility levels and location of railway stations, bus routes and the cycle network – access to non-car transport
	Greenwich	
	Encourage strong local business links, the use of local suppliers and the consumption of local produce	Mode of travel, particularly to commute to and from work
	Spatially plan urban development so as to promote accessibility and integration of services and reduce the need to travel	Average distances to travel to work
	Reduce dependence on the private car, by spatially planning urban growth that encourages travel by walking, cycling, bus, and train	Number of community members that work locally
	Appropriately plan urban development so as to avoid exacerbating local traffic congestion	
Thamesmead and Abbey Wood		
Will it reduce the distance travelled to work?	Mode of travel to work	
Will it promote the use of sustainable modes?	Distance travelled to work	
10. To promote sustainable urban living	Greenwich	
	Provide/improve access for all residents of the area to green spaces	Percentage of residents that are within walking distance of parks, neighbourhood centres and community services
	Ensure the role and function of neighbourhood centres is maintained	Percentage of people who work in the local area
	Maintain/improve the public right of way network	Percentage of people that use local community facilities and services
	Encourage wider range of shops and services in neighbourhood centres	Mode of transport used by community members to commute to and from work

	Promote urban development that recognises and responds to local environmental, economic and social issues and constraints	
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	Will it reduce the distance travelled to work?	Mode of travel to work
	Will it promote the use of sustainable modes?	Distance travelled to work
	Will it result in an improved network of accessible green space and connected footpaths and cycleways?	Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards
	Will the network link to the wider green grid of the London Borough of Bexley and the London Borough of Greenwich?	Lengths of footpaths and cycleways
Cultural heritage and conservation		
11. To sustain and, where appropriate, enhance areas and buildings designated for their historic and/or archaeological interest and protect their settings	Bexley	
	Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value?	Number of conservation areas and those with management action plans
		Number of Registered parks and gardens at risk
		Number of listed buildings and scheduled ancient monuments at risk
	Greenwich	
	Protect buildings and areas of historic or cultural significance, particularly within conservation areas	Number and site area of Conservation Areas
	Protect sites of archaeological and historic importance and their settings	Grade 1 and 2 buildings at risk.
		Number of Ancient Monuments destroyed or at risk
		Number of sites of archaeological significance destroyed or at risk
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	Does it maintain and enhance the heritage of the built environment?	Number of conservation areas
	Will it enhance access to the historic environment?	Number of conservation areas with management plans
	Will it contribute to a better understanding of the historic environment?	Number of listed buildings
		Number of listed buildings at risk
Number of scheduled ancient monuments		
Number of scheduled ancient monuments at risk		

12. To create places, spaces and buildings that are well designed, integrated with and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of the local character	Greenwich	
	Encourage an analysis of local distinctiveness	Number of developments that incorporate innovative and sustainable building measures
	Promote innovative development	Number of developments that are approved with the incorporation of masterplans and design guidelines/codes
	Promote the use of master plans and other design tools such as design briefs/guides/codes	
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	To increase the design standards of development proposals	Number of schemes nominated for and/or awarded a design award (e.g. Civic Trust)
	To bring vacant or derelict land into use to improve local appearance	Area of vacant and/or derelict land remaining undeveloped
Population and a just society		
13. To improve the quality and cleanliness of where people live	Bexley	
	Headline indicator: Quality of surroundings	
	Will it improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live?	Percentage of residents who are satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live
	Will it encourage a sense of community identity and welfare?	% of people satisfied with the cleanliness standards in their area
	Greenwich	
	Maintain and enhance the quality of the public realm, particularly in places of gathering such as town centres and community parks	No of complaints regarding quality of the public realm and/or litter
	Ensure new development positively contributes to the public realm	Extent of vandalism/graffiti in the local area
	Implement stringent waste management program/s	Community satisfaction with the environmental quality of town centres and parks
	Minimise opportunities for graffiti and vandalism	
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	To protect the quality of the water environment	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood defence grounds or water quality
	To prevent environmentally damaging development	Number of applications where an Environmental Impact Assessment concludes there would be an unacceptable impact on the environment

14. To improve the health and wellbeing of the population	Bexley	
	Headline indicator: The life expectancy for men and women	
	Will it reduce death rates?	Standard mortality ratios for all ages and under 75 years of age for all causes, Coronary Heart Disease, Circulatory Disease and Cancer
	Will it encourage healthy lifestyles?	Access to public open space
	Will it reduce health inequalities?	Total number of visits to leisure centres per 1000 population
		Proportion of trips undertaken by walking or cycling
		Number of allotments
		Requires further investigation
	Greenwich	
	Encourage healthy lifestyles, including the provision of transport choice.	Life expectancy rates.
	Promote equal access to community services and facilities that underpin quality of life.	Proportion of elderly in the local population.
	Improve the quality and extent of open space, sporting and recreation facilities within the Borough	Accessibility of health services (i.e. average distance from households to medical centres)
	Promote cross cultural interaction and integration	Identification of health concerns for local residents.
		Amount of open space per 1000 population
Mortality and infant mortality rates		
Thamesmead and Abbey Wood		
Will it improve the health and well being of the population?	The general health of the population	
15. To reduce and prevent crime and fear of crime	Bexley	
	Will it reduce levels of crime?	Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households
	Will it reduce fear of crime?	Vehicle crimes per 1,000 population
		Number of incidents of vandalism, graffiti and fly tipping reported to Council
		Percentage of residents surveyed who feel fairly safe or very safe after dark whilst outside in their local area
		Percentage of residents surveyed who feel fairly safe or very safe during the day whilst outside in their local area
	Greenwich	
	Reduce the actual levels of crime	Crime rates (including the number of alcohol and anti social behaviour incidents)

	Minimise opportunities for crime and anti social behaviour through appropriate design of new development	Results of fear of crime surveys
	Reduce the fear and perception of crime	
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	Will it reduce and prevent crime and fear of crime?	Crime statistics
16. To provide everyone with the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment	Bexley	
	Headline indicator: Proportion of working age people in employment – requires further investigation	
	Will it help to improve earnings?	Ratio of jobs to working age population
	Will it reduce unemployment?	Percentage and level of unemployment
	Will it reduce long term unemployment?	Percentage of long term unemployed
	Will it provide jobs at higher skill levels?	Requires further investigation
	Will it provide jobs in the knowledge industries?	% of 16-18 year olds not in education, training or employment
		Requires further investigation
		Employment by occupation
	Greenwich	
	Increase the number and diversity of employment opportunities	Unemployment rates
	Increase opportunity for skills based training and education	Time since last worked
	Encourage residents to gain employment that is relevant to their skills and experience	Economic activity of Greenwich residents
	Improve accessibility to key employment sites, town and neighbourhood centres	Socio-economic classification
		Gross Value Added
Thamesmead and Abbey Wood		
Will it increase employment?	Economic activity of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood residents	
Will it increase income?	Income of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood residents	
Will it reduce deprivation?	Deprivation in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	

Social inclusion		
17. To reduce poverty and social exclusion, encourage a sense of place, community identity and belonging	Bexley	
	Headline indicator: Indicators of success in tackling poverty and social exclusion (children in low income households, adults without qualifications and in workless households, elderly in fuel poverty)	
	Will it reduce poverty and social exclusion in those areas most affected?	Indices of multiple deprivation Proportion of the population who live in wards that rank within the most deprived 10% and 20% in the country % of people who feel that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together
	Greenwich	
	Promote cross cultural interaction and integration	Diversity of resident ethnicity and religion
	Encourage community gatherings and events	Crime rates
	Promote development that reinforces a sense of character and contributes to the identity of Greenwich	Number of residents attending community gatherings/events
	Promote and facilitate local public artwork	Resident surveys
	Promote out of school youth programs and events	
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	Will it reduce poverty and social exclusion?	Barriers to housing and services Crime statistics Income of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood residents
	18. To improve the education and skills of the population overall	Bexley
Headline indicator: Percentage of pupils aged 15 achieving five or more A* to C grade GCSEs		
Will it improve the qualifications and skills of the population?		Percentage of young people in full time education
Will it help fill key skill gaps?		Percentage of working age population qualified to NVQ levels 1 – 4 (level 4 equals degree level) Requires further investigation
Greenwich		
Promote the attainment of higher education levels		Percentage of students achieving five or more GCSE passes at A* - C
Encourage the opportunity for residents to gain employment relevant to their skills		Number of student places per 1000 of population
Improve access to skills based learning and training, particularly for young people		Average distance of households to primary and secondary schools

	Provide community libraries and centres that provide the community with readily available access to information and knowledge	Number of people participating in skills based learning programmes Average household distance to community libraries and centres
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	Will it improve educational performance and skills?	Educational performance of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood residents
		Skills statistics
19. To improve access to essential facilities and services especially where there is disadvantage	Bexley	
	Headline indicator: Access to key services – requires further investigation	
	Will it improve access to essential local facilities and services?	Map to show locations of essential services
	Will it encourage provision of essential community services?	Map to show public open spaces and deficiency
	Will it make access easier for those without a car?	Visits to/usage of museums and libraries
	Will it improve access for those with disabilities?	Percentage of residents satisfied with sports and leisure facilities, libraries, museums and galleries, theatres and concert halls
		Proportion of population within 400 metres of a bus stop
		Percentage of population within 800 metres of a railway station
		Percentage of local authority owned buildings open to the public where all public areas are suitable for and accessible by disabled people
		Percentage of total length of footpaths and other rights of way that were easy to use by members of the public
	Greenwich	
	Provide access for all relating to age, gender, disability, race and faith	Accessibility of alternative modes of transport. (i.e. average distance of households to bus stations)
	Maintain and improve upon community, culture, leisure and recreational activities available within the community	Index of Multiple Deprivation (range average ward ranks)
	Improve accessibility to community services	Percentage of low income households
Provide all areas and members of the community easy access to passenger transport	Percentage of children living in low income households	
Provide employment and other opportunities for unemployed, especially long term unemployed and the disabled	Number of new developments in the subject area that incorporate non-discriminatory access	

	Ensure health services and facilities re readily accessible to the entire community and can be accessed by means other than private cars	Average distance of households and bus stations to health/ medical centres
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	Will it improve access to facilities and services?	Indices of deprivation rank of access to facilities and services
		Access to key services
	Bexley	
	Headline indicator: Percentage of unfit homes	
	Will it increase access to affordable housing for all social groups?	Affordable housing completion figures – with breakdown of social rented, intermediate and key worker homes
	Will it encourage a range of housing types and sizes?	Housing completion figures
	Will it reduce homelessness?	Housing needs survey
	Will it reduce fuel poverty?	Unfit dwellings
		Homelessness figures – number of homeless households
		% of households in fuel poverty situation
	Greenwich	
20. To provide everyone with the opportunity to live in a decent, affordable and appropriate home	Meet affordable housing needs and address the current affordable housing deficit	Annual affordable housing completions
	Increase accessibility of affordable housing, particularly for the young, the disabled and key workers	Percentage total dwelling completions attributed to affordable housing
	Improve the quality and mix of affordable housing provision	Number of people on the housing waiting list
		Affordable housing deficit
		Percentage/number of affordable houses considered to be 'non-decent'
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	Will it improve the availability of affordable housing?	Household tenure
Will it enhance access to housing?	Barriers to housing	
	Dwelling stock by council tax band	
	Housing demand	
	Greenwich	
21. To ensure a mixed housing supply to support a diverse community	Provide a range of building types including flats, terrace homes, detached homes	Number of housing completions
	Provide a range of different sized dwellings including but not limited to 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms	Composition of new housing developments (i.e. number and percentage of each type of housing)

	Ensure a range of dwelling types to create diversity in streets and neighbourhoods	Household types residing in the Borough
	Provide housing that meets the needs of the community	
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
	Does it contribute to a mixed and balanced housing tenure?	Housing tenure
Economic development and activity		
22. To encourage and accommodate sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth, reducing disparity in economic performance	Bexley	
	Headline indicator: Total output of the economy (requires further investigation)	
	Will it encourage new businesses and improve business development and opportunities?	Requires further investigation
	Will it improve the resilience of businesses and the economy?	Requires further investigation
	Will it promote growth in key sectors or clusters?	Job density of new businesses
	Will it enhance the image of the area as a business location?	Requires further investigation
	Will it improve job density?	
	Will it reduce skills shortages?	
	Greenwich	
	Achieve efficiency and vitality of economic activities and employment centres	Investment in business per annum
	Increase investment in people, community services, equipment, employment, infrastructure and other assets	Employment number – jobs work based
	Increase the diversity of employment opportunities within the Borough	Employment rate – percentage of people working age in employment
	Promote business investment and employment in areas that support a higher skilled and educated workforce	Amount of investment in infrastructure and community services
	Support the voluntary sector and community run business	New (VAT registered) businesses surviving three years
	Enhance the opportunity for business development and competitiveness	Percentage of working age population with NVQ3 or higher qualification
	Improve the level of investment into, and accessibility of, community services and infrastructure	Gross value Added (GVA) £/head
	Provide the opportunity to live and work in the town	Number of residents employed locally
	Provide sufficient new job opportunities that meet the needs of both existing and new community members	Average weekly earnings by residents

	Reduce unemployment levels	Proportion of people claiming unemployment benefit who have been out of work for more than a year	
	Share benefits of prosperity fairly	Types of employment provided and the required level of training.	
	Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence	Percentage of working age population with NVQ3 or higher qualification	
	Improve the level of investment into community services and infrastructure	Gross value Added (GVA) £/head	
	Improve educational and skills based training opportunities within the Borough	Proportion of people claiming unemployment benefit who have been out of work for more than a year	
	Increase investment in people, community services, equipment, employment, infrastructure and other assets	Employment rate – percentage of people working age in employment	
	Increase the diversity an number of employment opportunities within the Borough to meet the needs of both existing and future residents	Socio-economic status	
		Types of employment provided and the required level of training	
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood		
	Will it encourage sustainable economic growth?	Income of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood residents	
Economically active Thamesmead and Abbey Wood residents			
Deprivation statistics			
Thamesmead and Abbey Wood unemployment claimants			
23. To encourage and accommodate the indigenous economy and potential inward investment	Bexley		
	Headline indicator: Total investment as a percentage of GDP – requires further investigation		
	Will it encourage indigenous business?	Number of new businesses established	
	Will it encourage inward investment?	The percentage of new businesses surviving two years after start up	
	Will it make land and property available for business development?	Requires further investigation	
		Employment land availability – requires further investigation	
	Greenwich		
	Improve the quality of visitor experiences to Greenwich	Number of tourists visiting the Borough each year	
	Improve public transport accessibility to Greenwich	Annual tourism expenditure in the Borough	
	Maintain and improve the inherent attractiveness and character of Greenwich	Number of overnight stays in hotels and temporary accommodation	
	Build upon and/or improve existing tourist attractions	Number of employees working in the tourism sector	
	Increase diversity of businesses in the Borough	New (VAT registered) businesses surviving three years.	
	Increase the number of large business operating within Greenwich	Proportion of new small and large business in Greenwich	

	Improve the quality and function of Town and Neighbourhood Centres	Industry sectors of associated with new businesses
	Improve the quality and accessibility of key employment sites	
	Promote business investment and employment in areas that support a higher skilled and educated workforce	
	Support the voluntary sector and community run business	
	Enhance the opportunity for business development and competitiveness	
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	
Will it benefit the local economy and encourage inward investment?	Income of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood residents	
	Economically active Thamesmead and Abbey Wood residents	
	Deprivation statistics	
	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood unemployment claimants	

Significant effect indicator	
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5. Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD SA (incorporating SEA)

B1: Testing the SPD objectives against the SA framework

Table 6 provides a matrix to identify the extent of compatibility between the objectives of the September 2008 draft of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD and the SA objectives. From this, it was concluded that:

- the objectives of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD are broadly compatible with the SA social, environmental and economic sustainability objectives
- the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD should place further emphasis on sustainable modes of transport within objective 3
- The SPD objectives could make further provision for the protection of buildings of architectural or historic interest and their settings
- The SPD objectives should also address land contamination, sustainable waste management, light and noise pollution and housing supply
- No potential conflicts are identified and the cumulative impacts are positive. Cumulative impacts are addressed further within section 5



(Table 6: SPD and SA compatibility matrix)

SA objective Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD Objective	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1. Design and development	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0
2. Environment, open spaces and sustainability	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Transport	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	0
4. Community	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0
5. Neighbourhoods and local centres	0	+		0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	0
6. Employment and economy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	+
7. Good governance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cumulative effects of objectives	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0

Key to Symbols: + positive compatible – possible conflict 0 neutral ? uncertain or insufficient information

(Table 7: Summary of sustainability objectives)

Biodiversity and environmental protection
1. To protect, restore and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna
2. To protect, restore and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes, including open space
Natural and environmental resources
3. To improve land, soil and water quality, reduce contamination and encourage the sustainable use of these resources
4. To reduce tidal, fluvial and surface water flood risk
5. To minimise the production of waste, increase landfill diversion and promote sustainable waste management and recycling
6. To reduce light and noise pollution
Climate change and air quality
7. To limit air pollution levels, to adhere to levels set out in the national air quality strategy and improve overall air quality
8. To reduce negative contributions to climate change, to reduce vulnerability to climate change and to improve the localities ability to adapt to climate change
Land use and development patterns
9. To reduce the need to travel by delivering more sustainable patterns of urban development, to reduce car dependency and to encourage more sustainable modes of transport
10. To promote sustainable urban living

Cultural heritage and conservation
11. To sustain and, where appropriate, enhance areas or buildings designated for their historic and/or archaeological interest and protect their settings
12. To create places, spaces and buildings that are well designed, integrate with and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of the local character
Population and a just society
13. To improve the quality and cleanliness of where people live
14. To improve the health and well being of the population
15. To reduce and prevent crime and fear of crime
16. To provide everyone with the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment
Social inclusion
17. To reduce poverty and social exclusion, encourage a sense of place, community identity and belonging
18. To improve the education and skills of the population overall
19. To improve access to essential facilities and services, especially where there is disadvantage
20. To provide everyone with the opportunity to live in a decent, affordable and appropriate home
21. To ensure a mixed housing supply to support a diverse community
Economic development and activity
22. To encourage and accommodate sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth, reducing disparity in economic performance
23. To encourage and accommodate the indigenous economy and potential inward investment

B2: Developing the SPD options

The implementation of the objectives within the emerging Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD was tested against the SA sustainability objectives and the 'no change impact' if the draft SPD was not implemented. The results are provided in Table 8 below.

(Table 8: Assessment of options)

SA objective:	Option 1: No change				Option 2: Implementation of the September 2008 draft Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD			
	Short term	Medium term	Long term	Comments	Short term	Medium term	Long term	Comments
1. To protect, restore and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna	0	0	?	Currently the majority of green spaces and links are not managed for biodiversity, which could potentially have a negative impact in the long term	0	+	++	Enhancing the multifunctional use of the parks and open spaces in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood will result in long term improvements to biodiversity, flora and fauna
2. To protect, restore and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes, including open space	-	-	-	Whilst regeneration initiatives are underway, these lack a coordinated approach. Open spaces are currently underutilised	-	+	++	Diversification of the green infrastructure will enhance the landscape, whilst objectives for the regeneration of urban centres and housing stock will enhance the townscape
3. To improve land, soil and water quality, reduce contamination and encourage the sustainable use of these resources	?	?	?	Borough wide policy is in place to address these issues, but site specific guidance is required and there is insufficient information available at the local level	?	?	+	The re use of previously developed land will address land and soil contamination issues. The prevention of pollution through the Environmental Assessment of development proposals is recommended within the SPD. Efficient water use will be required within developments
4. To reduce tidal, fluvial and surface water flood risk	0	0	-	The original plan for Thamesmead includes many flood risk mitigation features. However, climate change will have implications in the long term	0	+	+	Management of flood risk will be in accordance with Planning Policy Statement 25, and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems will be required in all development. The proposed measures will aid in addressing the implications of climate change
5. To minimise the production of waste, increase landfill diversion and promote sustainable waste management and recycling	?	?	?	Borough wide policy is in place to address these issues, including a proposed anaerobic digester waste facility in the vicinity of White Heart Triangle. However, site specific guidance is required and there is insufficient information available at the local level	?	?	+	The requirement for new development to demonstrate how waste will be managed and minimised will promote sustainable waste management and recycling. However, the existing situation is not addressed.

6. To reduce light and noise pollution	?	?	?	Borough wide policy is in place to address these issues, site specific guidance is required and there is insufficient information available at the local level	?	?	?	The SPD does not address light and noise pollution
7. To limit air pollution levels, to adhere to levels set out in the national air quality strategy and improve overall air quality	-	--	---	Use of sustainable modes of transport is currently low in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood, emissions of carbon dioxide are high and air quality is poor. The trend will continue without intervention	-	+	+	The principal cause of air pollution in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood is use of the private car, therefore measures to improve the sustainable transport network will reduce air pollution. However, the additional future development in the area will bring an increase in population and additional cars to the area which will reduce the positive impacts of sustainable transport initiatives to some extent.
8. To reduce negative contributions to climate change, to reduce vulnerability to climate change and to improve the localities ability to adapt to climate change	-	--	---	Improvements to the network for sustainable modes of transport and further consideration of flood risk is required to reduce contributions and adapt to climate change	-	+	++	Encouragement of sustainable transport will reduce negative contributions to climate change. Compliance with Planning Policy Statement 25, the requirement for Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems will improve the ability of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood to adapt to climate change
9. To reduce the need to travel by delivering more sustainable patterns of urban development, to reduce car dependency and to encourage more sustainable modes of transport	-	--	---	Use of sustainable modes of transport is currently low in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	-	+	++	Measures to improve the sustainable transport network are key consideration within the SPD
10. To promote sustainable urban living	-	--	---	The urban centres currently lack vitality and walking, cycling and public transport connections are poor	-	+	++	Measures to promote sustainable urban living within the SPD include provision for walking, cycling and public transport and improvements to Thamesmead's urban centres. The proposed urban farm will provide a good practice example for domestic scale food production.

11. To maintain and, where appropriate, enhance areas or buildings designated for their historic and/or archaeological interest and protect their settings	0	0	?	Local assets such as Lesnes Abbey to the south of the study area, and Crossness Engines to the north are currently underutilised and long term impacts are uncertain	0	+	+	Lesnes Abbey is not considered within the SPD, however, improved visitor facilities are proposed at Crossness Engines
12. To create places, spaces and buildings that are well designed, integrate with and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of the local character	--	--	--	Urban centres in Thamesmead lack vitality and, with the exception of Southmere, green spaces are underutilised	--	+	++	The quality and vitality of urban centres and the use of green spaces in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood would be improved through the implementation of the SPD
13. To improve the quality and cleanliness of where people live	--	--	---	The physical environments of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood are currently poor	--	+	++	The quality and vitality of urban centres and the use of green spaces in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood would be improved through the implementation of the SPD
14. To improve the health and well being of the population	++	++	++	The health and well being of the population in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood is generally good due to the young age profile	++	+++	+++	Enhancements to community and leisure facilities and attractions would further enhance the health and well being of the population
15. To reduce and prevent crime and fear of crime	--	-	+	Crime rates are high in the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood wards, initiatives for young people and work with the metropolitan police is underway, which may reduce crime in the medium to long term	--	+	++	Community safety interventions will be required in all development proposals and community safety initiatives will continue to be supported
16. To provide everyone with the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment	--	--	?	Though there is some disparity between the wards, Thamesmead and Abbey Wood currently have high levels of unemployment overall, existing regeneration initiatives may reduce unemployment in the long term	--	+	++	Employment is a key issue within the SPD, measures are included to enhance skills and improve access to job opportunities

17. To reduce poverty and social exclusion, encourage a sense of place, community identity and belonging	-	--	---	Thamesmead and Abbey Wood lack a sense of place, due to the poor physical environment and transient local population	-	+	++	Landscape and townscape enhancements and improvements to essential facilities and services will encourage a sense of place
18. To improve the education and skills of the population overall	--	--	--	Pockets of education and skills deprivation exist within Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	--	+	++	Employment is a key issue within the SPD, measures are included to enhance skills and improve access to job opportunities
19. To improve access to essential facilities and services, especially where there is disadvantage	-	--	---	Local centres lack vitality and Thamesmead and Abbey Wood have poor sustainable transport links	-	+	++	The enhancement of local centres and the sustainable transport network will improve access to essential facilities
20. To provide everyone with the opportunity to live in a decent, affordable and appropriate home	--	-	+	Housing renewal is underway, however further support is required	--	+	++	Comprehensive renewal of housing is promoted, where appropriate, and the SPD attempts to address the significant number of buy to let properties
21. To ensure a mixed housing supply to support a diverse community	--	-	+	Housing renewal is underway, however further support is required	--	+	++	The SPD encourages a mixed and balanced community in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood
22. To encourage and accommodate sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth, reducing disparity in economic performance	--	--	--	Prosperity and economic growth are generally low in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood, there is disparity between the wards	--	+	+	Enhanced training opportunities and increased employment floorspace will reduce disparity in economic performance
23. To encourage and accommodate the indigenous economy and potential inward investment	--	--	--	The quality of employment areas in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood is currently poor and the area does not attract sufficient inward investment	--	+	+	An inward investment strategy is proposed to attract businesses to White Heart Triangle and Veridion Park
<p>Key</p> <p>+ positive - negative 0 neutral ? uncertain</p> <p>+ minor +++ major</p>								

From the above assessment, it was concluded that the implementation of the draft SPD policies would represent an improvement to the baseline situation in relation to all of the sustainability objectives, with the exception of light and noise pollution.

The sustainability workshop and stage B1 and B2 of the SA process allowed the emerging sustainability issues to be considered in the formulation of the SPD. The SPD has responded to the findings of the test for compatibility of objectives (Table 6) and the assessment of options (Table 8) by including reference to sustainable modes of transport within the objectives for Thamesmead and Abbey Wood, emphasising the importance of sustainable patterns of transport and movement, introducing specific guiding principles in relation to heritage and supporting the realisation of borough wide sustainability targets. The SPD has also addressed the outcome of the initial sustainability appraisal through reference to land contamination, sustainable waste management, light and noise pollution and housing supply within objective 2. The prediction and evaluation of effects described below assesses the impacts of the SPD following these amendments.

B3 and B4: Predicting and evaluating the effects of the June 2009 SPD

Table 9 below details the prediction and evaluation of effects of the June 2009 SPD when assessed against the SA sustainability objectives.

The impact of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD is primarily local, which is the level at which priority improvements are necessary. Measures to address climate change will have a wider impact.

The SPD focuses on improving Thamesmead and Abbey Wood through requirements from new development and supporting existing initiatives, therefore effects will be experienced in the medium to long term.



	Summary baseline situation/ targets	Predicted effects					Justification for assessment Include recommendations for mitigation and improvement
		Indicator	Nature of effect	Assessment of effect			
				Short term	Medium term	Long term	
1. To protect, restore and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thamesmead East has the highest percentage of land cover as green space, Glyndon has the lowest There is a significant network of green spaces and links, the majority of these are not managed for biodiversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it protect, restore and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna? Will it protect, restore and enhance priority habitats? Will it improve ecological links between existing wildlife sites? Will it improve opportunities for habitat creation? 	High local impact	0	+	++	Enhancing the multifunctional use of the parks and open spaces in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood and securing the implementation of biodiversity action plans will result in long term improvements to biodiversity, flora and fauna
2. To protect, restore and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes, including open space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All of the wards in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood have a relatively low quality living environment when compared to the national average There is a significant network of green spaces and links which is not realising its full potential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it enhance the living environment in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood? Will it reduce areas of deficiency in access to natural greenspace? 	High local impact	-	+	++	Diversification of the green infrastructure will enhance the landscape, whilst objectives for the regeneration of urban centres and housing stock will enhance the townscape
3. To improve land, soil and water quality, reduce contamination and encourage the sustainable use of these resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land, soil and water quality has not been identified as a significant issue in Thamesmead or in Abbey Wood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it represent sustainable use of land? Will it meet the requirements of the Water Framework Directive? Will surface water be managed using sustainable drainage techniques to improve water quality? Will it encourage sustainable remediation of contaminated brownfield sites? 	Low local impact	?	+	++	The SPD requires that land contamination is placed at the heart of the decision making process. Decision making, coupled with the re use of previously developed land will address land and soil contamination issues. The prevention of pollution through the Environmental Assessment of development proposals is recommended within the SPD. Efficient water use will be required within developments

(Table 9: Prediction and evaluation of effects)

4. To reduce tidal, fluvial and surface water flood risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thamesmead includes many flood risk mitigation features, these do not consider climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it result in decreased flood risk? Does development include flood resistance and resilience techniques? 	High regional impact	0	+	+	Management of flood risk will be in accordance with Planning Policy Statement 25, and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems will be required in all development. The proposed measures will aid in addressing the implications of climate change
5. To minimise the production of waste, increase landfill diversion and promotesustainable waste management and recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential anaerobic digestion facility at White Heart Triangle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it result in improved waste management (including residential, business and construction waste)? 	High regional impact	?	+	+	The SPD requires that sustainable waste management is placed at the heart of the decision making process. It is essential that decision makers address the existing situation. The requirement for new development to demonstrate how waste will be managed and minimised will promote further sustainable waste management and recycling.
6. To reduce light and noise pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban level of light and noise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it reduce light and noise pollution concerns? 	Medium local impact	?	?	+	The SPD requires that light and noise pollution is placed at the heart of the decision making process. Further data collection is required so that decisions can be based on current information.
7. To limit air pollution levels, to adhere to levels set out in the national air quality strategy and improve overall air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Though there is a relatively low number of people per car in comparison with the national average, increasing car ownership has led to high emissions of carbon dioxide and poor air quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the local population affected by poor air quality? Will it encourage sustainable design of new buildings and landscapes, including preparing for the impacts of climate change? 	High regional impact	-	+	++	The principal cause of air pollution in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood is use of the private car, therefore measures to improve the sustainable transport network will reduce air pollution. However, the additional future development in the area will bring an increase in population and additional cars to the area which will reduce the positive impacts of sustainable transport initiatives to some extent.
8. To reduce negative contributions to climate change, to reduce vulnerability to climate change and to improve the localities ability to adapt to climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing flood risk mitigation features do not consider climate change, Thamesmead and Abbey Wood suffer from high emissions of carbon dioxide and poor air quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it reduce negative contributions to climate change? 	Minor international impact	-	+	++	Encouragement of sustainable transport will reduce negative contributions to climate change Compliance with Planning Policy Statement 25, the requirement for Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems will improve the ability of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood to adapt to climate change

<p>9. To reduce the need to travel by delivering more sustainable patterns of urban development, to reduce car dependency and to encourage more sustainable modes of transport</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car ownership is increasing in the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood wards, the use of sustainable modes of transport is currently low 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it reduce the distance travelled to work? • Will it promote the use of sustainable modes? 	<p>High local impact</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>++</p>	<p>Measures to improve the sustainable transport network are key consideration within the SPD and the document supports the promotion of sustainable modes of transport.</p>
<p>10. To promote sustainable urban living</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban centres lack vitality and the use of sustainable modes of transport is currently low • Will it promote the use of sustainable modes? • Will it result in an improved network of accessible green space and connected footpaths and cycleways? • Will the network link to the wider green grid of the London Borough of Bexley and the London Borough of Greenwich? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it reduce the distance travelled to work? 	<p>High local impact</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>++</p>	<p>Measures to promote sustainable urban living within the SPD include provision for walking, cycling and public transport and improvements to Thamesmead's urban centres. The proposed urban farm will provide a good practice example for domestic scale food production.</p>
<p>11. To maintain and, where appropriate, enhance areas or buildings designated for their historic and/or archaeological interest and protect their settings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local assets such as Lesnes Abbey and Crossness Engines are currently underutilised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does it maintain and enhance the heritage of the built environment? • Will it enhance access to the historic environment? • Will it contribute to a better understanding of the historic environment? 	<p>Medium regional impact</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>The strategic principles of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD state that historic sites, assets, features and landscapes should be respected within development proposals. In addition, improved visitor facilities are proposed at Crossness Engines and Lesnes Abbey will be protected. Includes recognition of the 1960s heritage of the area.</p>

12. To create places, spaces and buildings that are well designed, integrate with and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of the local character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban centres in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood lack vitality There is a significant network of green spaces and links which is not realising its full potential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase the design standards of development proposals To bring vacant or derelict land into use to improve local appearance 	High local impact	--	+	++	The quality and vitality of urban centres and the use of green spaces in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood would be improved through the implementation of the SPD
13. To improve the quality and cleanliness of where people live	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All of the wards in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood have a relatively low quality living environment when compared to the national average 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To protect the quality of the water environment To prevent environmentally damaging development 	High local impact	--	+	++	The quality and vitality of urban centres and the use of green spaces in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood would be improved through the implementation of the SPD
14. To improve the health and well being of the population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The health and well being of the population in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood is generally good due to the young age profile 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it improve the health and well being of the population? 	Low local impact	++	+++	+++	Enhancements to community and leisure facilities and attractions would further enhance the health and well being of the population
15. To reduce and prevent crime and fear of crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thamesmead and Abbey Wood crime rates are currently high 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it reduce and prevent crime and fear of crime? 	High local impact	--	+	++	Community safety interventions will be required in all development proposals and community safety initiatives will continue to be supported
16. To provide everyone with the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thamesmead and Abbey Wood currently have a high level of unemployment overall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it increase employment? Will it increase income? Will it reduce deprivation? 	High local impact	--	+	++	Employment is a key issue within the SPD, measures are included to enhance skills and improve access to job opportunities
17. To reduce poverty and social exclusion, encourage a sense of place, community identity and belonging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thamesmead and Abbey Wood suffer from a poor physical environment and transient local population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it reduce poverty and social exclusion? 	High local impact	-	+	++	Landscape and townscape enhancements and improvements to essential facilities and services will encourage a sense of place

18. To improve the education and skills of the population overall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education and skills deprivation exists within pockets in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it improve educational performance and skills? 	High local impact	--	+	++	Employment is a key issue within the SPD, measures are included to enhance skills and improve access to job opportunities
19. To improve access to essential facilities and services, especially where there is disadvantage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban centres lack vitality and the use of sustainable modes of transport is currently low 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it improve access to facilities and services? 	High local impact	-	+	++	The enhancement of local centres and the sustainable transport network will improve access to essential facilities
20. To provide everyone with the opportunity to live in a decent, affordable and appropriate home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood wards are ranked comparatively low for housing quality, availability and home ownership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it improve the availability of affordable housing? Will it enhance access to housing? 	High local impact	--	+	++	Comprehensive renewal of housing is promoted, where appropriate, and the SPD attempts to address the significant number of buy to let properties
21. To ensure a mixed housing supply to support a diverse community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood wards are ranked comparatively low for housing quality, availability and home ownership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does it contribute to a mixed and balanced housing tenure? 	High local impact	--	+	++	The SPD encourages a mixed and balanced community in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood
22. To encourage and accommodate sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth, reducing disparity in economic performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prosperity and economic growth are low in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it encourage sustainable economic growth? 	High local impact	--	+	+	Enhanced training opportunities and increased employment floorspace will reduce disparity in economic performance
23. To encourage and accommodate the indigenous economy and potential inward investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment areas in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood are poor quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it benefit the local economy and encourage inward investment? 	High local impact	--	+	+	An inward investment strategy is proposed to attract businesses to White Heart Triangle and Veridion Park

The key conclusions from the above assessment are:

- The impact of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD is mainly positive and of moderate to minor significance
- Light and noise pollution have been adequately addressed within the SPD as a result of the SA (SEA) process

Cumulative effects

The cumulative effects of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD arise from the interaction of more than one policy with the same receptor and the interaction of the effects of the proposals with the same receptors. The cumulative impacts identified are positive and the majority have major significance at the local level. The cumulative impacts of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD are described in Table 10.





(Table 10: Cumulative impacts)

SPD proposals	Effect	Causes	Significance
The promotion of high quality design, enhancement to open spaces, enhancement of community facilities, and improved neighbourhoods and local centres	The combined impacts of these proposals will result in a major local positive impact on landscape, townscape and open space	Improvements to the landscape, townscape and open space	Major local significance
Encouraging better connections for walking and cycling, placing climate change at the heart of the decision making process and promoting sustainable transport connections	The combined impacts of these proposals will result in a major local positive impact on air pollution and a minor international positive impact on climate change	A reduction in air pollution emissions	Major local significance
Encouraging better connections for walking and cycling, placing flood risk and climate change at the heart of the decision making process and promoting sustainable transport connections	The combined impacts of these proposals will result in a minor international positive impact on reducing contributions to climate change, vulnerability to climate change and adaptability to climate change	A reduction in negative contributions to climate change and an improved ability to manage climate change	Minor international significance
Promoting more sustainable modes of transport, encouraging better connections for walking and cycling, enhancing urban centres and aiming to create sustainable communities	The combined impacts of these proposals will result in a major local positive impact on reducing the need to travel, reducing car dependency and encouraging sustainable modes of transport	Increased use of sustainable modes of transport and increased access to local facilities and services	Major local significance

Enhanced sustainable modes of transport, support to local facilities and services, enhanced openspace, greater access to employment and joint working	The combined impacts of these proposals will have a major local positive impact on sustainable urban living in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	Increased use of sustainable modes of transport and increased access to local facilities and services, open space and employment	Major local significance
Promotion of high quality design and improvements to neighbourhoods as places to live, work and relax	The combined impacts of these proposals will have a major local positive impact on design and local character	Well designed buildings that consider the local context	Major local significance
Promotion of high quality design, enhancement of open spaces and improvements to neighbourhoods as places to live, work and relax	The combined impacts of these proposals will have a major local positive impact on the quality and cleanliness of where people live	Good quality development, open spaces and neighbourhoods	Major local significance
Encouraging better connections for walking and cycling, delivery of multifunctional open spaces, promoting healthy lifestyles	The combined impacts of these proposals will have a major local positive impact on the health and well being of the population	Increased walking and cycling, use of open spaces and healthier lifestyles amongst all residents	Major local significance
Improving the safety of open spaces and making Thamesmead and Abbey Wood safer places	The combined impacts of these proposals will have a major local positive impact on reducing and preventing crime and fear of crime	Measures to improve safety	Major local significance
Enhanced transport network, attraction of businesses and improved education and training	The combined impacts of these proposals will have a major local positive impact on providing everyone with the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment	Access to employment elsewhere and improved employment opportunities in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	Major local significance



Transforming the identity, experience and perception of the area, creating sustainable communities, encouraging civic pride, improving neighbourhoods and working with stakeholders	The combined impacts of these proposals will have a major local positive impact on reducing poverty and social exclusion, and encouraging a sense of place, community identity and belonging	Improved perception of Thamesmead and Abbey Wood and a sense of civic pride amongst residents	Major local significance
Encouraging better connections, supporting existing community facilities, promoting new amenities and improving the network of local centres	The combined impacts of these proposals will have a major local positive impact on access to essential facilities and services	Better transport links to essential facilities and services and a greater number of facilities and services in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood	Major local significance



6. Implementation

The planning framework

The assessments which directly relate to the SA of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD include Health Impact Assessment, Equality Impact Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment. These will be required for any future significant developments in the area.

B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the SPD

The Thamesmead and Abbey Wood specific 'significant effect indicators' identified in table 5 will be monitored in relation to the social, economic and environmental effects of the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD. 'Significant effect indicators' are those which measure a high and negative baseline impact, as identified within table 9. Monitoring will take place during the implementation of the SPD and will be completed by both the London Borough of Bexley and the London Borough of Greenwich. Monitoring will be incorporated into the existing timescales and processes relating to the two London Boroughs' Annual Monitoring Reports.



Appendices