

Sustainability Appraisal of the Balsall Heath Neighbourhood Development Plan

Scoping Report

December 2012



LEPUS CONSULTING

LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY, PLANNING AND URBAN SUSTAINABILITY



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Abbreviations

AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
BME	Black and Minority Ethnic [Groups]
CAMS	Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy
CO₂	Carbon dioxide
DCLG	Department of Communities and Local Government
Defra	Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
HMA	Housing Market Areas
IMD	Indices of Multiple Deprivation
LAQMA	Local Air Quality Management Area
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
LPA	Local Planning Authority
LTP3	West Midlands Local Transport Plan 2011-31
NDP	Neighbourhood Development Plan
NO₂	Nitrogen Dioxide
NVQ	National Vocational Qualification
ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PM₁₀	Particulates
PPPs	Policies, plans and programmes
RSDF	Regional Sustainable Development Framework
RSS	Regional Spatial Strategy
SA	Sustainability appraisal
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SFRA	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
SINC	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
SLINC	Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
SPZ	Source Protection Zones
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
STW	Sewage Treatment Works
UKCIP	UK Climate Impacts Programme
WMU	Water Management Unit



1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This document is the Scoping Report for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Balsall Heath NDP. The Scoping Report has been prepared by Lepus Consulting on behalf of the Balsall Heath Neighbourhood Planning Forum and comprises the first stages of the SA for the Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- 1.1.2 Scoping is the process of deciding the scope and level of detail of an SA, including the relevant background and environmental issues, the assessment methods to be used, and the structure and contents of the SA Report. Documenting this process, the Scoping Report sets out the scope of, and methodology for the SA of the Neighbourhood Development Plan and summarises the tasks and outcomes of the first stage of the SA process.

1.2 The Neighbourhood Development Plan

- 1.2.1 Under the Localism Act 2011 local communities are able to prepare Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP) for their area. NDPs represent more detailed and locally specific development plans that guide spatial planning and decisions relating to development proposals in an area.
- 1.2.2 The Balsall Heath NDP will set out detailed policies and proposals which will guide and direct future land use within Balsall Heath. The NDP will conform to policies and proposals laid out within higher tier plans comprising currently the Birmingham Plan (UDP), the emerging Birmingham Development Plan (Core Strategy) and other Supplementary Planning Document (SPDs) relevant to Birmingham.
- 1.2.3 The NDP will follow the procedures and requirements laid down in the Localism Act, The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, and The Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) Regulations 2012.
- 1.2.4 Overall the Balsall Heath NDP will reflect the wishes, needs, and aspirations of the local community. This will be achieved through consultation and final referendum.
- 1.2.5 The aims of the Neighbourhood Development Plan are as follows:
- To promote a sustainable and healthy community in Balsall Heath which satisfies the social and economic needs of the population while protecting and enhancing the environment (Objective 3 and SP1/3/4);
 - To create a 'heart' for the community in the form of a physical focus for community activities and social interaction (SP3/17/19/21);
 - To protect and enhance the range of commercial and social uses within the local centres of Moseley Road and Ladypool Road (SP19/20/21);
 - To enhance the range and quality of housing in the area to better match the needs of local families and their right to decent housing (SP2/26/27);
 - To promote the capacities of the area to provide suitable local jobs and training opportunities while contributing to the economic well-being of the city and wider area (SP1/3/16/52);
 - To enhance the physical environment of the area in terms of the effective and healthy use of green infrastructure, open space, the quality of the street scene and the reduction of pollution (SP5/6/11/45/46/48/53/54);
 - To conserve and effectively utilise the heritage assets of the area, especially the listed buildings in Moseley Road local centre (SP3, SP50);

- To improve the connectivity of the area in terms of the movement of people and goods and the availability of digital communication (SP33/34/35/36/37/41);
- To reduce car dependency and promote walking, cycling and public transport (SP35);
- To improve the availability of renewable energy and sustainable waste management facilities (SP5/8/9/42/44); and
- To provide a framework within which the Neighbourhood Forum and its partners can work together to achieve the above aims.

1.3 The Balsall Heath Area

1.3.1 The Balsall Heath NDP area is located within the Sparkbrook Ward in the Hall Green district of Birmingham. It is located approximately two kilometres to the south east of Birmingham city centre. The Belgrave Middleway (A4540) and Highgate Road border the plan area to the north. It is bordered to the west by the Pershore Road (A441) and to the east by Stoney Lane. The southern boundary of the Balsall Heath NDP skirts the Edgbaston Cricket Ground.

1.3.2 The population of Balsall Heath is approximately 15,000. It comprises a large proportion of multicultural and ethnic communities with a range of health needs. Balsall Heath has been identified as a one of 31 priority neighbourhood with a range of health needs and areas of high deprivation. Despite pockets of high deprivation there are a number of vibrant centres that help support the local economy and support local distinctiveness and identity.

1.3.3 **Table 1.1** sets out the key facts relating to Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Table 1.1: Key facts relating to the Neighbourhood Development Plan

Body responsible for NDP preparation	Balsall Heath Neighbourhood Planning Forum (please note the NDP is the Balsall Heath Neighbourhood Planning Forum's plan, and Birmingham City Council is providing a co-ordination role.
Local Planning Authority assisting with NDP preparation	Birmingham City Council
Title of plan	Balsall Heath NDP
What prompted the plan (e.g. legislative, regulatory or administrative provision)	The Balsall Heath NDP is being prepared to reflect the introduction of the Localism Bill, which seeks to enable local communities to decide the future of the places where they live and work through the preparation of Neighbourhood Development Plans.
Subject (e.g. transport)	Neighbourhood Plan
Period covered by the plan	The period until 2026
Frequency of updates	When required
Area covered by the plan	Balsall Heath within Sparkbrook Ward (See Figure 1.1)

Purpose and/ or objectives of the plan	The Balsall Heath NDP will set out detailed policies and proposals which will guide and direct future development within the Balsall Heath area. The NDP will conform to policies and proposals laid out within higher tier plans comprising currently the Birmingham Plan (UDP), the emerging Birmingham Development Plan and other Supplementary Planning Document (SPDs) of Birmingham City Council. It will include an overall strategy for how and where development will take place, location of new homes, jobs, services and facilities. It will enable the local community to meet their needs and aspirations.	
Plan contact point	Joe Holyoak Co-ordinator of the NDP (Architect and urban designer) Studio 312 Zellig The Custard Factory Gibb Street Birmingham B9 4AA Tel: 0121 633 8918 Email: jh@joeholyoak.co.uk	Kelly Darby Senior Planning Officer Planning and Regeneration Birmingham City Council PO Box 23 Birmingham B1 1TU Tel: 0121 464 9871 Email: Kelly.darby@birmingham.gov.uk

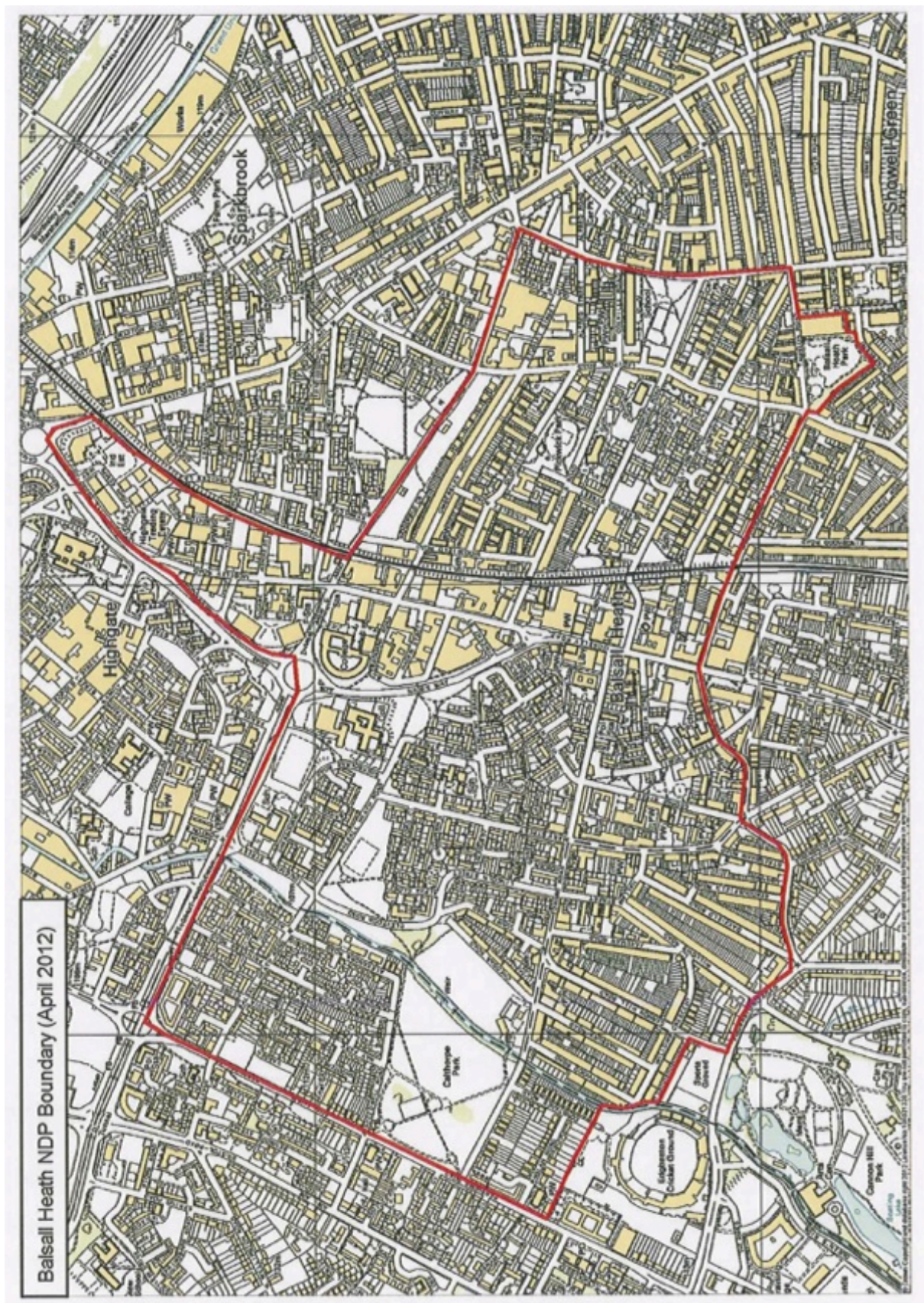


Figure 1.1: Balsall Heath NDP (Source Balsall Heath Forum, 2012)

2 Methodology

2.1 SA Objectives

- 2.1.1 Lepus Consulting has been appointed to assist with the SA process in order to fully integrate sustainability considerations within the production of the NDP. The Council, Neighbourhood Plan Forum, statutory consultees, other environmental bodies and working groups will be engaged in the SA process at different times.
- 2.1.2 This chapter sets out the broad approach to the SA process, the stages involved, and highlights where the relevant information can be found in this Scoping Report and appendices.

2.2 Best Practice Guidance

- 2.2.1 The approach for carrying out the SA of the Neighbourhood Development Plan is based on current best practice and the following guidance:
- Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (September 2005): A Practical Guide to the SEA Directive;
 - Planning Advisory Service (December 2007): Local Development Frameworks Guidance on Sustainability Appraisal; and
 - Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG; September 2009): CLG Plan Making Manual: Sustainability Appraisal.
 - 'DIY SA': Sustainability Appraisal (including strategic environmental assessment) of Neighbourhood Plans (August 2011)
- 2.2.2 The CLG Plan Making Manual replaces the previous SA guidance for Local Development Frameworks (Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents). The Manual brings together council experience, advice and guidance in developing sustainability appraisals for local development frameworks.
- 2.2.3 The Manual is web-based, and can be accessed by following the link below at: <http://www.pas.gov.uk/pas/core/page.do?pagelId=152450>

2.3 Stages of SA

- 2.3.1 **Table 2.1** provides a summary of the key stages for the SA and illustrates the SA Stages set out in the CLG Plan Making Manual. Those shaded in yellow indicate the stages covered in this report. The second column indicates where information about each respective stage can be found in this document.
- 2.3.2 This Scoping Report is the main output of the first stages of the SA process presented above. **Chapter 17** discusses in more detail the subsequent stages and outputs of the SA process that will be carried out following the conclusion of consultation on the Scoping Report.

Table 2.1: SA stages presented in the CLG Plan Making Manual, and stages covered in this Scoping Report.

Setting objectives and developing the baseline	Location in the report
Identifying relevant policies, plans and programmes	Chapter 3
Collecting baseline information	Chapters 4-15
Identifying sustainability issues	Chapter 4-15
Identifying appraisal objectives	Chapter 16
Consulting on the scope of the sustainability appraisal	
Consulting on the scope of the sustainability appraisal	Chapter 18
Refining options and assessing effects	
Test the development plan document objectives against the sustainability appraisal objectives	N/A
Develop and refine the options for the development plan document	N/A
Predict and appraise the significant effects of the options	N/A
Consider ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial impacts	N/A
Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the development plan document	N/A
SA and Publication/Submission	
The sustainability appraisal report	N/A
Consulting on the draft plan and sustainability appraisal report	N/A
Making significant changes	N/A
The sustainability appraisal report at submission stage (Regulation 30)	N/A
SA and examination	
Examination and adoption	N/A
Monitoring significant effects	N/A

2.4 Presenting the SA information

2.4.1 The policy and plan review, the baseline data, and the identification of sustainability issues (i.e. the first three stages in **Table 2.1**) have been presented through a series of sustainability themes. These themes form the basis of **Chapters 4-15**. Each themed chapter incorporates the required topics listed in the SEA Directive as well as any other relevant sustainability topics. Together these reflect an effective range of sustainability themes to inform the appraisal process. The selected sustainability themes incorporate the SEA 'topics' derived from Annex I(f) of the SEA Directive:

- Biodiversity flora and fauna;
- Population;
- Human health;

- Soil;
- Water;
- Air;
- Climatic factors;
- Material assets;
- Cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage);
- Landscape; and
- The inter-relationship between these factors.

2.4.2 **Table 2.2** presents full details about each sustainability theme in terms of content and specifically, details of the required SEA topic.

Table 2.2: Sustainability themes

Sustainability theme	SEA topic included in EU Directive 2001/42/EC	What is Included in the sustainability theme
Accessibility and transportation	Population	Transportation infrastructure Walking and cycling Accessibility
Air quality	Air	Air pollution sources Air quality hotspots Air quality management
Biodiversity and geodiversity	Biodiversity flora and fauna	Habitats Species Nature conservation designations Landscape features Geological features
Climate change	Climatic factors	Greenhouse gas emissions by source Greenhouse gas emissions trends Effects of climate change Climate change adaptation
Economic factors	Material assets	Economic sectors Employment sectors Skills and unemployment Sites and premises
Green Infrastructure	Biodiversity flora and fauna, Population	GI network GI typology
Health	Human health	Health indicators Healthcare inequalities Sport, fitness and activity levels
Historic environment and landscape	Cultural heritage Landscape	Historic development of the area Designated and non-designated sites and areas Setting of cultural heritage assets Archaeological assets

Sustainability theme	SEA topic included in EU Directive 2001/42/EC	What is Included in the sustainability theme
Housing	Population Material assets	House prices and affordability Housing quality and vacancy rates Homelessness
Material assets	Material assets	Energy Waste arising's and recycling rates Minerals Previously developed land
Population and quality of life	Population	Population size and migration Population density Age structure Indices of Multiple Deprivation Crime Recreation and amenity (including open space and green infrastructure)
Water and Soil	Soil Water	Watercourses Water resources Water quality Flooding Soil quality

- 2.4.3 It is anticipated that presenting the information through these sustainability themes will help enable the reader to easily locate the SA information representing their specific areas of interest.

3 Policy and Plan Review

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The Neighbourhood Development Plan will be influenced in various ways by other policies, plans or programmes, or by external sustainability objectives such as those laid down in policies or legislation. The SA process will take advantage of potential synergies between these policies plans and programmes and address any inconsistencies and constraints.

3.2 Policy and plan review

- 3.2.1 **Appendix D** represents an evaluation of the key policies, plans and programmes (PPPs) that are likely to be relevant to the emerging NDP and the SA process. Each PPP has been discussed on the basis of how its objectives and sustainability requirements affect or is affected by, the NDP. The review of PPPs is presented according to the sustainability theme discussed in **Section 2.4**.
- 3.2.2 The emerging Birmingham Development Plan is being subject to sustainability appraisal. This has analysed and considered PPP's at a national and regional level. The Neighbourhood Plan needs to conform to policies and proposal set out within the emerging Birmingham Development Plan. The PPP review (**Appendix D**) for this Scoping Report has sought to concentrate on Local level plans and policies. A short summary of the PPP review is presented in the following chapters under each sustainability theme. The PPP summaries, as presented at the start of each chapter, should be read alongside the more detailed information included in **Appendix D**.

3.3 Baseline data collection

- 3.3.1 The following chapters present a review of current environmental, social, and economic conditions affecting the NDP area by sustainability theme. The currency, resolution and presentation of data are crucial to an effective baseline. Information selected seeks to:
- Inform the situation at the local level;
 - Be the most up to date; and
 - Be fit for purpose.
- 3.3.2 One of the purposes of consultation on the Scoping Reports is to seek views on whether the data selected is appropriate. The baseline has been constructed utilising a wide range of data sources, with GIS (Geographic Information Systems) data where available. The data has been presented through tables, text and GIS mapping, and all data sources have been referenced as appropriate. Meaningful data for the purposes of comparison and to address the topics being assessed as part of the SA processes is not always available. Where data is available at a local scale it has been used to inform the Scoping process.
- 3.3.3 Where relevant, data has been presented specifically at a neighbourhood level. This enables more specific information to be included on the communities and areas most affected by possible issues to help identify areas most in need of change.

3.4 Key sustainability issues

- 3.4.1 Drawing on the PPP review and the baseline data, **Chapters 4 to 15** also set out key sustainability issues relevant to the NDP area. The identification of these sustainability issues will help the SA process focus on the key problems and opportunities that may be addressed through the NDP.
- 3.4.2 The key issues have informed the development of the SA framework that will be utilised to assess the policies and proposals included in the NDP (**Appendix B**).

3.5 Scoping limitations

- 3.5.1 Wherever possible, the most up to date information has been used for this Scoping Report. Data and information collected is cited where appropriate and supported by an extensive reference list. It should be noted that census data from 2011 is being published in four phases, with the last to be released in July 2013. Where possible this scoping report has sought to include ward level data and Balsall Heath specific data. This has not always been possible, as many data sets refer to the 2001 Census. Where local level data is absent or out of date, city wide information has been used. This has then been discussed in terms of local implications in key issues.

4 Accessibility and Transport

4.1 Summary of policy and plan review

- 4.1.1 European and UK transport policies and plans place emphasis on the modernisation and sustainability of the transport network. Specific objectives include reducing pollution and road congestion through improvements to public transport, walking and cycling networks and reducing the need to travel. National policy also focuses on the need for the transport network to support sustainable economic growth.
- 4.1.2 The PPPs highlight that congestion and poor air quality resulting from transport are key issues for a number of areas in the West Midlands. Regional and local plans therefore focus on appropriate design, location and layout of development, increasing investment in infrastructure, improving the quality and accessibility of public transport, supporting walking and cycling, and enhancing road safety. The West Midlands LTP3 (2011) highlights the need for the Birmingham's transport network to support the sustainable growth, competitiveness of the West Midland economy, and help sustain the high quality of life of local residents. These major issues need to be overcome whilst responding to climate change issues.

4.2 Summary of baseline data

Road Network

- 4.2.1 Balsall Heath's location relatively close to Birmingham city centre ensures the NDP area is well connected to the strategic road network of the city.
- 4.2.2 Balsall Heath is bordered to the north by the A4540, which is part of the city centre ring road. The ring road provides access to the city centre, the wider Birmingham road network and beyond, to regional and national strategic networks. Located to the west of the NDP area is the A38. Both the A38 and A4540 link the Balsall Heath area to the A38 (M) and on to the M6, located to the north east of Birmingham city centre. This provides strategic links with the wider West Midlands area and other parts of England.
- 4.2.3 The A4540 ring road is connected to the A45 to the northeast of the NDP area. This provides links to Coventry, Rugby and London. The A441 Pershore Road borders Balsall Heath to the west. This provides strategic links with the M42 (Junction 2) and Redditch to the south. The A38 runs parallel to the Pershore Road and provides strategic links to the M5 via Longbridge, which is located south west of Balsall Heath.
- 4.2.4 Other key local roads include the B4217 Edgbaston Road, A435 (Moseley Road, A34 (Stratford Road) and Yardley Wood Road.

Rail Network

- 4.2.5 Although the Birmingham to Bristol Railway Line runs through the area, there are currently no train stations located within the NDP area.
- 4.2.6 The closest rail station to the NDP area is Bordesley Station. This is located approximately one mile from Balsall Heath local centre. Bordesley station connects Birmingham to Stratford-on-Avon. The line also provides links with Warwick, Leamington Spa and London.

- 4.2.7 Other rail stations within two miles of Balsall Heath include Birmingham New Street, Birmingham Moor Street, Five Ways and Small Heath. Birmingham New Street is one of the main rail interchanges in the UK. It provides direct services to cities across England, Wales, and Scotland. **Table 4.1** shows the average journey times to key cities around Great Britain.

Table: 4.1: Direct rail destinations from Birmingham New Street (Source National Rail Enquires, 2012)

Destination	Journey Time (Based on National Rail Enquires Journey Planner avoiding changes)
London Euston	1.24 hours
Bristol Temple Meads	1.28 hours
Manchester Piccadilly	1.28 hours
Cardiff Central	1.58 hours
Edinburgh	4.00 hours
Peterborough	1.53 hours

Bus routes

- 4.2.8 **Figure 4.1** shows the transport network in and around Balsall Heath. It shows the area is well serviced by high frequency bus routes. Key routes include the Numbers 35, 45, 1, 8, 50, 50A and X50 plus others. **Figure 4.1** shows that the majority of north/south bus links are high frequency routes whereas east/west links are less frequent.

Cycle and walking network

- 4.2.9 The Nation Cycle Network Route 5 passes through Balsall Heath on a north-south trajectory, cutting through the eastern edge of Calthorpe Park (Sustrans, 2012). The National Route 5 connects Birmingham to Stratford-upon-Avon and comprises a mixture of on road and off road sections. To the North of the NDP area it links to the city ring cycle path.
- 4.2.10 A local cycle route joins the National Route 5 at Calthorpe Park. This local route is on-road and follows the Clavedon Road to Lincoln Road, to Hamilton Road and south to Moor Green. Located to the east of the NDP area is a off road cycle link which runs from Edgbaston Pool to the Birmingham ring road which borders the NDP area to the north.

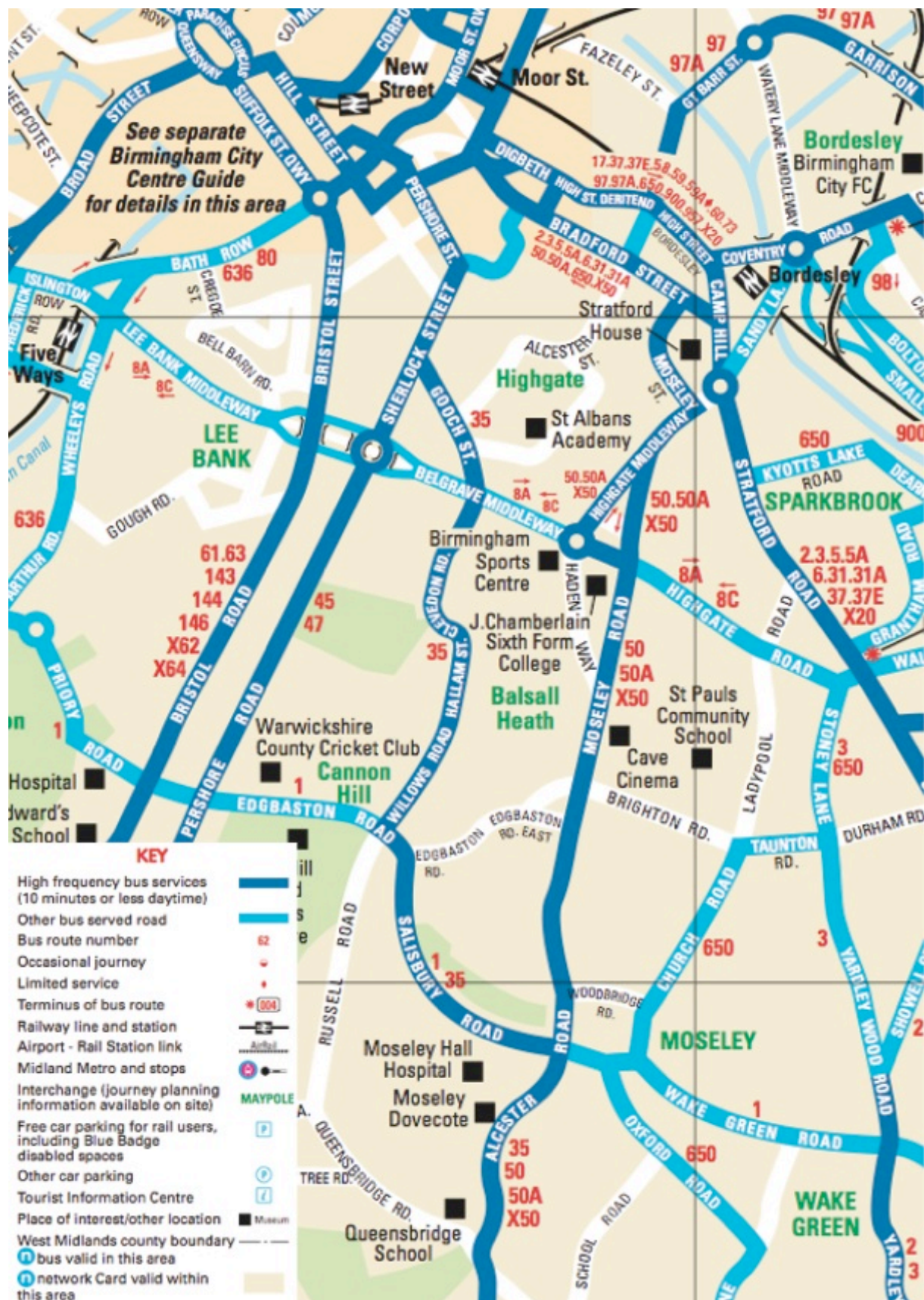


Figure 4.1: Transport network in Balsall Heath (Source Network West Midlands, 2012)

Box 4.1:**Key Transport and Accessibility Issues for Balsall Heath**

- There is no rail station within Balsall Heath, although there are 5 within approximately two miles of the NDP area. There may be an opportunity to open a station within the Balsall Heath area.
- There are very few off road surfaced cycling links in the NDP area. Existing routes are fragmented.
- There are good north-south high priority bus routes running through the plan area.

Key Issues highlighted during Community Planning Workshop

- Parking and congestion are key issues for the Balsall Heath area.
- Pedestrian and cycle safety concerns due to high volumes of traffic.
- Traffic calming on certain routes through design intervention.
- Look at the design and use of the Moseley Road. Think about slower speeds and enhanced crossing points.
- Need better signage and street lighting to help improve the safety of crossings.
- Good routes into the city centre (no 50 bus).
- Poor cross bus routes.
- Identify and develop cycling and pedestrian routes through Balsall Heath to connect places up.

5 Air Quality

5.1 Summary of policy and plan review

- 5.1.1 A number of objectives have been established in relation to air quality at both the European and the UK level (emanating from the 1996 EC Directive). This includes the setting of targets for reducing emissions of specific pollutants to minimise negative impacts on health and the environment. At the city level emphasis is placed on reducing emissions of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) particularly from the transport sector.

5.2 Summary of baseline

- 5.2.1 Following the implementation of the Environment Act 1995, and since the publishing of the National Air Quality Strategy in 1997, Birmingham City Council has undertaken reviews and assessments of air quality. The following pollutants are identified as possible risks to human health:

- Carbon Monoxide (CO);
- Benzene;
- 1,3 – Butadiene;
- Lead;
- Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂);
- Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂); and
- Particulates (PM₁₀).

- 5.2.2 Due to exceedances in NO₂ the whole of Birmingham was declared an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). It was declared an AQMA in 2003 for NO₂ and Particulates (PM₁₀) in 2004. It should be noted that the AQMA for Particulates was revoked in 2010 following detailed analysis of monitoring data. However, Birmingham City Council continues to monitor PM₁₀ as a precautionary approach.

- 5.2.3 Particulate Matter (PM₁₀) affects more people than any other pollutant. The major components of PM₁₀ are sulphate, nitrates, ammonia, sodium chloride, carbon, dust and water. It consists of a complex mix of solid and liquid particles of organic and inorganic substances suspended in air. PM₁₀ has been associated with a number of health effects including respiratory disease, increased mortality and cardiovascular effects.

- 5.2.4 Sources of PM₁₀ can be divided into three categories. Firstly, primary particle emissions. These are derived from combustion sources such as road traffic, power generation and industrial processes. Secondly particles that are formed by chemical reactions in the atmosphere. These are mainly comprised of sulphates. The third and final category of Particulates is coarse particles. These comprise emissions from a wide range of sources including re-suspended dust from road traffic and construction material.

- 5.2.5 Nitrogen dioxide is an oxidizing irritant that can cause damage to lung tissue. The primary sources of oxides of nitrogen are the transport sector and combustion processes. National air quality objectives require concentrations of nitrogen dioxide not to exceed an annual mean of 40 µg m⁻³.

- 5.2.6 **Figure 5.1** shows concentrations of nitrogen dioxide across Birmingham.

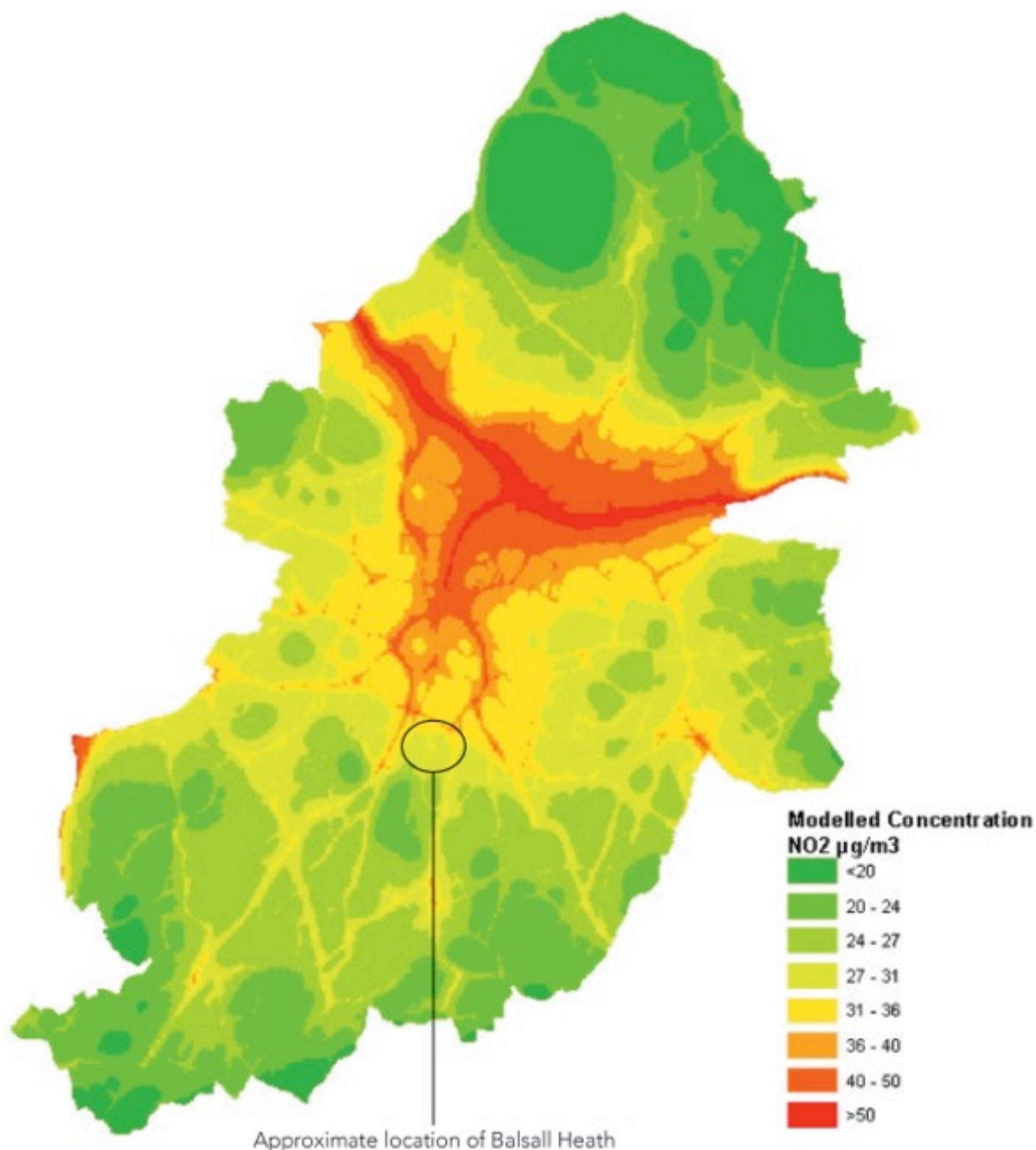


Figure 5.1: Annual concentrations of nitrogen dioxide in Birmingham (Source Birmingham Air Quality Management Plan, 2011)

5.2.7 **Figure 5.1** shows that concentrations of nitrogen dioxide in the Balsall Heath area conform to national air quality objectives. However, the A4540 ring road that borders the NDP area to the north and A38 to the west both show exceedances in nitrogen dioxide concentrations.

5.2.8 In order to tackle air quality issues within Birmingham, the City Council has drawn up an action plan. The aim of the action plan is to ensure Birmingham meets national air quality objectives. To achieve this the Action Plan (2011) seeks to concentrate on 12 actions. These include:

- Action 2010/1 - Low Emission Zone within the City Centre

- Action 2010/2 – Biomass in Birmingham Schools
- Action 2010/3 – Red Routes
- Action 2010/4 – New Roads
- Action 2010/5 – Air Quality & Planning
- Action 2010/6 – Control of Industry
- Action 2010/7 – Control of Bonfires and other Unauthorized Fires
- Action 2010/8 – Park & Ride
- Action 2010/9 – Improvement of the Council Fleet
- Action 2010/10 – Introduction of low carbon/electric Vehicles
- Action 2010/11 – Improvement of the Public Service Fleet
- Action 2010/12 – Taxi Emission Strategy

5.2.9 Each of the above actions will contribute to tackling air quality issues within the city. They represent individual projects that aim to ensure air quality objectives are met.

Box 5.1:**Key Air Quality Issues for Balsall Heath**

- The majority of Balsall Heath is within an area that conforms to national air quality objectives. The A38 and A4540 that bound the plan area are known to exceed air quality objectives for nitrogen dioxide.
- New developments have the potential to contribute to air quality impacts through increase traffic.

Key Issues highlighted during Community Planning Workshop

- Congestion is an issue within the Balsall Heath area. Emissions from transport contribute most towards nitrogen dioxide emissions.



6 Biodiversity and Geodiversity

6.1 Summary of Policy and Plan Review

- 6.1.1 The objectives of policies and plans at all levels focus on the conservation of biological diversity (including a reduction in the current rate of biodiversity loss), and the protection and monitoring of endangered and vulnerable species and habitats. Emphasis is also placed on the ecological importance of brownfield sites, geodiversity, and enhancing areas of woodland. The integration of biodiversity considerations into all environmental and socio-economic planning is strongly advocated.
- 6.1.2 The Natural Environment White Paper (HM, Government 2011) has a focus on promoting high quality natural environments, expanding multifunctional green infrastructure networks and initiating landscape scale action to support ecological networks. The White Paper specifically seeks to: protect core areas of high nature conservation value; promote corridors and 'stepping stones' to enable species to move between key areas; and initiate Nature Improvement Areas, where ecological functions and wildlife can be restored.
- 6.1.3 The White Paper is supported by the Biodiversity Strategy for England (DEFRA, 2011). This seeks to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy, well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.

6.2 Summary of baseline data

National and Local Designations

- 6.2.1 Birmingham has a range of biodiversity and geological assets of local, regional and national importance. According to the Draft Core Strategy (2010) there are two Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Eight Local Nature Reserves (LNR), 56 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) and 110 of Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINCs).
- 6.2.2 There are currently no national or regional designated areas for conservation located within the NDP area. According to the Birmingham UDP (2005) there are no locally designated sites of nature conservation importance within the NDP area.
- 6.2.3 Despite no designated biodiversity features within the NDP area there are sites within close proximity.

Table 6.1: Designated sites close to Balsall Heath

Name	Designation
Edgbaston Pool: Approximately one mile southwest of NDP area	SSSI
Moseley Bog: Approximately two miles southeast of NDP area	Local Nature Reserve
Vale of Edgbaston: Approximately 1.5 mile southwest of NDP area	SINC
Edgbaston Golf Course: Approximately one mile southwest of the NDP area	SINC

Habitats and Species

- 6.2.4 Like many urban areas, Birmingham has a range of different habitats that fill the gaps between the different urban areas of the city. This network of habitats helps provide a network of areas, which support a variety of species.
- 6.2.5 The Birmingham and Black Country Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP, 2010) sets out a list of nationally important habitats and locally important habitats. According to Nature on the Map (Natural England, 2012) there are no priority habitats present within the Balsall Heath NDP area. However, there are some that are within close proximity. These include;
- Reedbeds (Edgbaston Pool);
 - Fens (Edgbaston Pool);
 - Traditional orchard (Adjacent to Edgbaston Hall); and
 - Deciduous woodland v2.0 (Cannon Hill Park).
- 6.2.6 The Birmingham and Black Country BAP (2010) identifies the following habitats of local significance:
- Ancient woodland;
 - Canals;
 - Parks and openspace;
 - Allotments; and
 - Gardens.
- 6.2.7 Balsall heath is home to a number of habitats that help provide havens for urban wildlife. These include Calthorpe Park, Balsall Heath Park and Pickwick Park. There are also pockets of amenity greenspace located at Woodfield Crescent and Brunswick Road. In addition to local parks, residential gardens help provide a network of small habitat islands.
- 6.2.8 Two important habitat features within the Balsall Heath NDP area include the River Rea and Railway. These linear features help connect Balsall Heath to other areas of the City. The River Rea is especially important for Balsall Heath as it connects Calthorpe Park to Cannon Hill Park which is home to a variety of different habitats such as a pond, woodland, and wildflower meadows.

Geodiversity

- 6.2.9 Geodiversity is the collective term describing the geological variety of the Earth's rocks, fossils, minerals, soils, and landscapes together with the processes that form them. Geodiversity underpins biodiversity by providing diversity of habitat and ecosystems, with soil being linked between them. It also embraces the built environment by providing the basis for neighbourhood character and local distinctiveness through building stone and material.
- 6.2.10 According to the British Geological Survey (2012) The underlying geology of Balsall Heath consists of one type of underlying bedrock and three types of superficial deposits. The underlying bedrock consists of Mercian Mudstone. The three superficial deposits include Alluvium (clay, silt, sand, silt, sand and gravel), River terrace deposits (sand and gravel), and glaciofluvial deposits (mid Pleistocene).

Box 6.1:**Key Biodiversity and Geodiversity Issues for Balsall Heath**

- The River Rea forms an important linear feature, which connects Calthorpe Park to Cannon Hill Park.
- There are no local or national designated areas of conservation within the NDP area. However, private gardens and parks help support and provide island stepping stone habitats for urban wildlife. It also helps support and provides connections to other habitats within the wider Birmingham area. This can help with species migration in response to a changing climate.

Key Issues highlighted during Community Planning Workshop

- The River Rea is a good natural resource and has huge multifunctional opportunity.
- Need to improve the quality of open spaces for people and the environment.
- Need to think about opportunities for street greening.
- Promote the connection of key habitats and walking and cycling links. Promote connectivity.



7 Climate Change

7.1 Summary of policy and plan review

- 7.1.1 Climate-related PPPs focus on both mitigating the causes of climate change and adapting to the effects of climate change. Commitments to reducing greenhouse gas emissions range from the international level to the regional level. The PPPs address policy development across all sectors and at all levels, combining both demand management (reduced energy consumption and increased efficiency of use) and supply-side measures (low carbon options including fuel mix and renewables). A number of the PPPs state specific targets to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. This is led at the national level by the Climate Change Act (2008), which sets a legally binding target of at least a 34 per cent cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 and at least an 80 per cent cut by 2050 against a 1990 baseline.
- 7.1.2 Adaptation measures proposed by the PPPs include a presumption against development in flood risk areas, appropriate design of new development, the promotion of new infrastructure such as sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDs) and improved maintenance to help address the changes that are likely to occur as a result of climate change. Through this approach the NPPF seeks to ensure that flood risk is taken into account at all stages in the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding, and to direct development away from areas of highest risk.

7.2 Summary of Baseline

Climate change predictions and impacts

- 7.2.1 Climatic and anthropogenic-induced climate change is a relevant issue in Birmingham. Locally defined levels of emissions are seen as contributing to national and international changes in climate with implications for a range of environmental and socio-economic receptors.
- 7.2.2 In June 2009 the UK Climate Projections (UKCP09) team released the outcome of research on the probable effects of climate change in the UK. UKCP09 gives climate information for the UK up to the end of this century and projections of future changes to the climate are provided, based on simulations from climate models. Projections are broken down to a regional level across the UK and are shown in probabilistic form, which illustrate the potential range of changes and the level of confidence in each prediction.
- 7.2.3 As highlighted by the research, the effects of climate change for the West Midlands' climate by 2050 for a medium emissions scenario are likely to be as follows:
- Under medium emissions, the central estimate of increase in **winter mean temperature** is 2.1°C; it is very unlikely to be less than 1.2°C and is very unlikely to be more than 3.2°C. A wider range of uncertainty is from 0.9°C to 3.5°C.
 - Under medium emissions, the central estimate of increase in **summer mean temperature** is 2.6°C; it is very unlikely to be less than 1.2°C and is very unlikely to be more than 4.4°C. A wider range of uncertainty is from 1°C to 4.8°C.
 - Under medium emissions, the central estimate of increase in **summer mean daily maximum temperature** is 3.6°C; it is very unlikely to be less than 1.3°C

and is very unlikely to be more than 6.5°C. A wider range of uncertainty is from 1.1°C to 7.2°C.

- Under medium emissions, the central estimate of increase in **summer mean daily minimum temperature** is 2.7°C; it is very unlikely to be less than 1.1°C and is very unlikely to be more than 4.8°C. A wider range of uncertainty is from 1°C to 5.3°C.
- Under medium emissions, the central estimate of change in **annual mean precipitation** is 0%; it is very unlikely to be less than –5% and is very unlikely to be more than 6%. A wider range of uncertainty is from –6% to 6%.
- Under medium emissions, the central estimate of change in **winter mean precipitation** is 13%; it is very unlikely to be less than 2% and is very unlikely to be more than 27%. A wider range of uncertainty is from 1% to 30%.
- Under medium emissions, the central estimate of change in **summer mean precipitation** is –17%; it is very unlikely to be less than –37% and is very unlikely to be more than 6%. A wider range of uncertainty is from –39% to 14%.

7.2.4 Presented below are a series of graphs to illustrate UKCP09 information for the West Midlands region over a wider timescale to the end of the century. This is presented in five (10, 33, 50, 67 and 90%) probability levels for each 30-year time period:

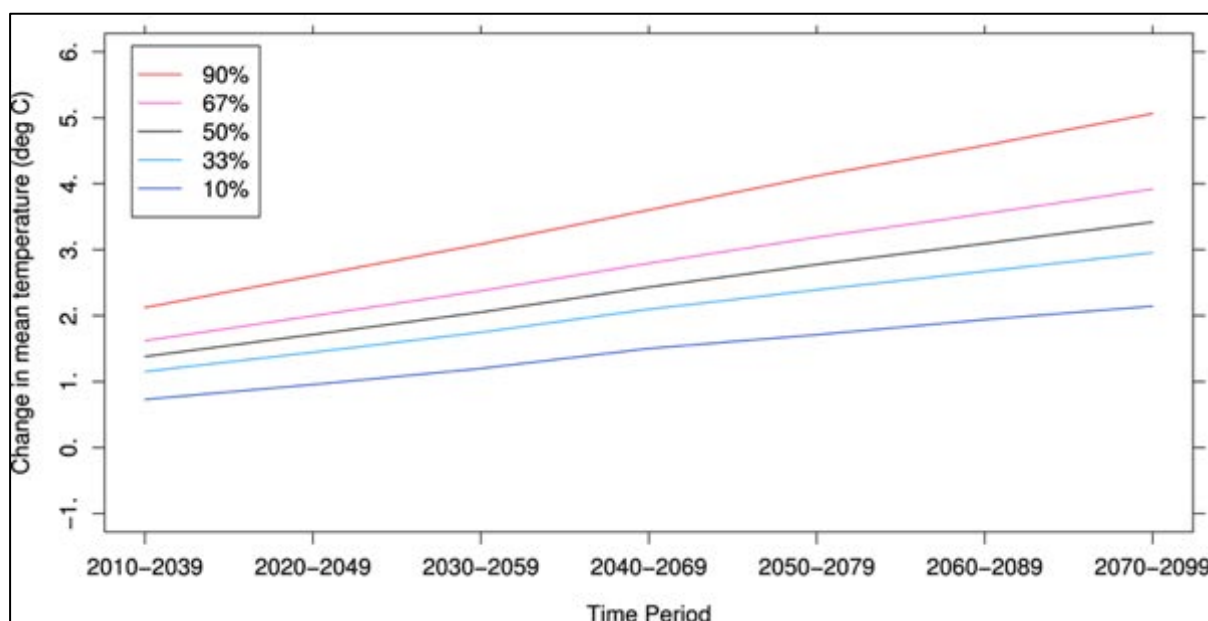


Figure 7.1: Changes in annual mean temperature in the West Midlands to 2099 as a result of a medium emissions scenario (Source UKCIP, 2009)

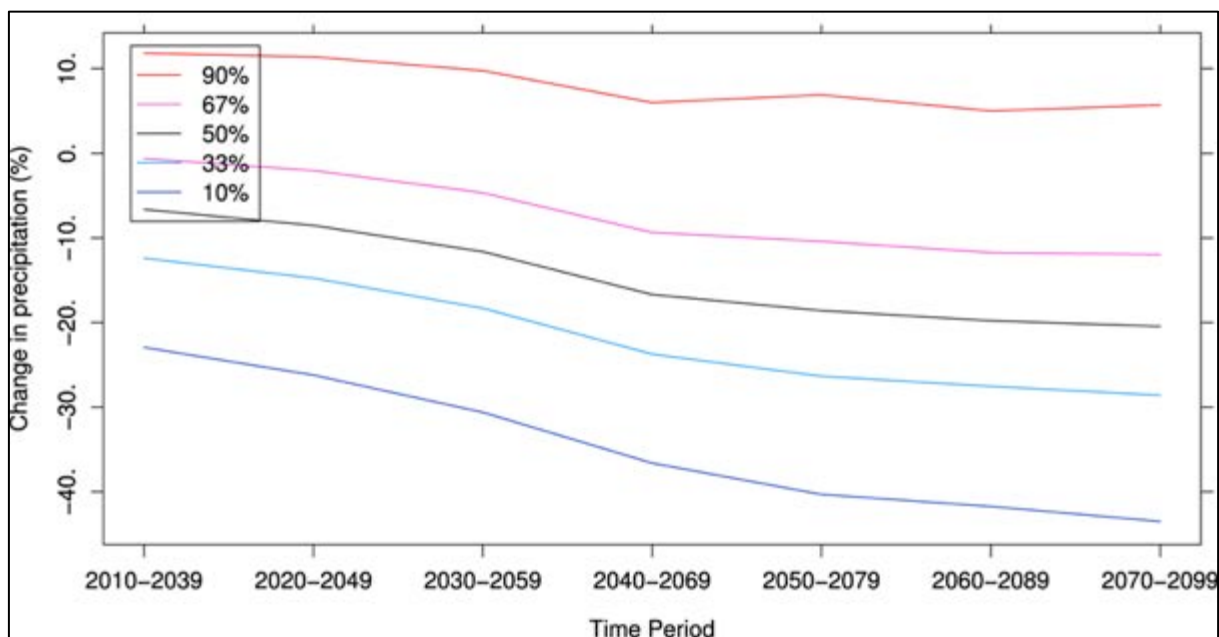


Figure 7.2: Changes in summer mean precipitation in the West Midlands to 2099 as a result of a medium emissions scenario (Source UKCIP, 2009)

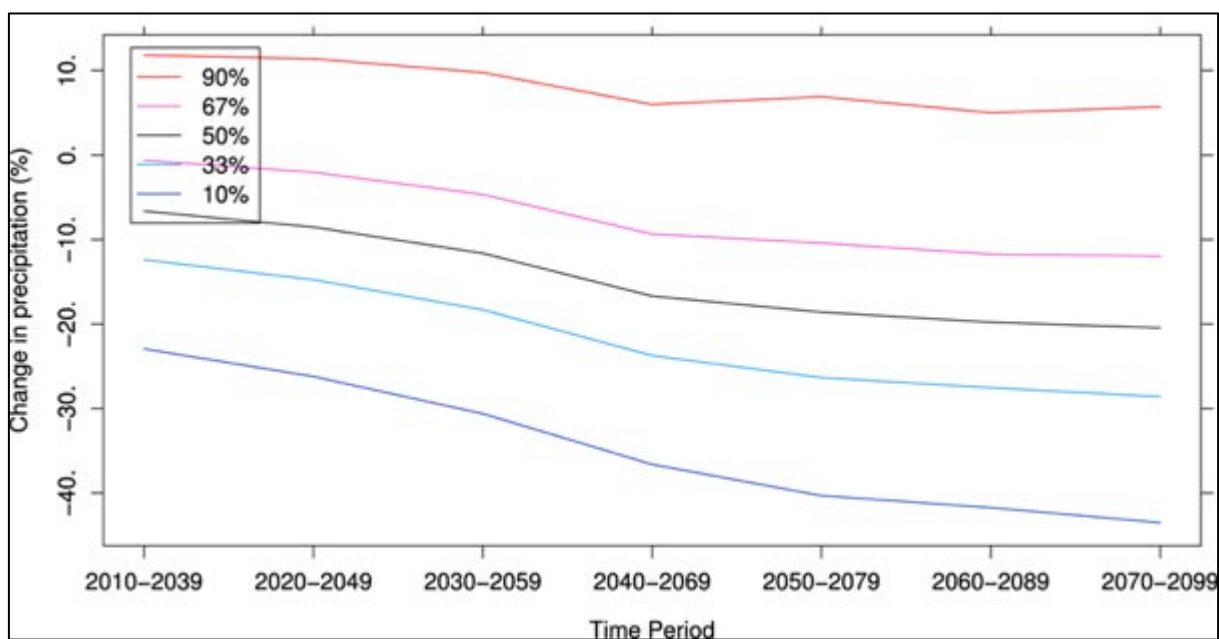


Figure 7.3: Changes in winter mean precipitation in the West Midlands to 2099 as a result of a medium emissions scenario (Source UKCIP 2009)

7.2.5 Resulting from these changes, the study has suggested that a variety of risks exist for the West Midlands. The risks relevant to Birmingham resulting from climate change include as follows:

- Increased incidence of heat related illnesses and deaths during the summer;
- Increase incidence of illnesses and deaths related to exposure to sunlight (e.g. skin cancer, cataracts);
- Increased incidence of pathogen related diseases (e.g. legionella and salmonella);

- Increase in health problems related to rise in local ozone levels during summer;
- Increased risk of injuries and deaths due to increased number of storm events;
- Effects on water resources from climate change;
- Reduction in availability of surface water in reservoirs and rivers for abstraction in summer;
- Adverse effect on water quality from watercourse levels and turbulent flow after heavy rain and a reduction of water flow;
- Increased risk of flooding, including increased vulnerability to 1:100 year floods;
- Changes in insurance provisions for flood damage;
- A need to increase the capacity of wastewater treatment plants and sewers;
- A need to upgrade flood defences;
- Increased likelihood of summer droughts and soil and water deficits, leading to demand for increased irrigation;
- Soil erosion due to flash flooding;
- Loss of species that are at the edge of their southerly distribution;
- Spread of species at the northern edge of their distribution;
- Deterioration in working conditions due to increased temperatures;
- Changes to global supply chain;
- Increased difficulty of food preparation, handling and storage more difficult due to higher temperatures;
- An increased move by the insurance industry towards a more risk-based approach to insurance underwriting, leading to higher cost premiums for local business;
- Increased demand for air-conditioning;
- Increased drought and flood related problems such as soil shrinkages and subsidence;
- Risk of rail tracks buckling due to increased temperature and road surfaces melting more frequently; and
- Flooding of roads and railways.

Carbon emissions

- 7.2.6 **Table 7.1** shows that there has been an overall reduction in the volume of carbon emissions within Birmingham since 2005. An increase has been observed between 2009 and 2010, although this does not alter the overall trend. The table shows that commercial and industrial sector produces the largest proportion of carbon emissions (40.7%) closely followed by domestic sources (35.4%). Industry has seen its overall proportion of total emissions fall since 2005 whereas there has been an increase in the proportion of emissions from domestic and road transport.
- 7.2.7 **Table 7.2** shows that per capita carbon emissions have fallen since 2005 from 6.7 tonnes to 5.8 tonnes in 2010. Despite this overall reduction, between 2009 and 2010 per capita emissions rose from 5.6 tonnes to 5.8 tonnes. At this stage it is difficult to determine if this trend will continue upwards.
- 7.2.8 Birmingham favours well against regional and national per capita emission statistics. Per capita emissions are almost 2 tonnes lower in Birmingham than regionally and nationally.

Table 7.1: CO₂ emissions in Birmingham by source 2005-2010 (kilo tonnes and %)

	Industry and Commercial	Domestic	Road Transport	Land Use and Forestry	Total
2005	2,853.98	2,311.48	1,545.21	7.39	6,718.06
	42.5%	34.4%	23.0%	0.1%	
2006	2,793.66	2,316.16	1,518.38	6.91	6,635.11
	41.2%	34.9%	22.9%	0.1%	
2007	2,724.14	2,248.82	1,541.58	6.47	6,521.01
	41.8%	34.5%	23.6%	0.09%	
2008	2,867.30	2,241.11	1,484.13	5.08	6,597.63
	43.5%	34.0%	22.5%	0.08%	
2009	2,358.72	2,002.58	1,442.92	4.36	5,808.58
	40.6%	34.5%	24.8%	0.08%	
2010	2,451.50	2,133.83	1,433.44	4.47	6,023.23
	40.7%	35.4%	23.8%	0.07%	

Table 7.2: Per capita CO₂ emissions in Birmingham 2005-2010 (tonnes CO₂)

	Per capita emissions Birmingham	Per capita emissions West Midlands	Per capita emissions UK
2005	6.7	8.3	8.8
2006	6.6	8.4	8.7
2007	6.4	8.2	8.5
2008	6.5	7.9	8.2
2009	5.6	7.1	7.4
2010	5.8	7.4	7.6

7.2.9 Both Tables 7.1 and 7.2 draw on data published by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) in August 2012.

Box 7.1:**Key Climate Change Issues for Balsall Heath**

- A range of further risks linked to climate change may affect Birmingham, including Balsall Heath. These include the following: an increased incidence of heat related illnesses and deaths during the summer; increased risk of injuries and deaths due to increased number of storm events and flooding; adverse effect on water quality from watercourse levels and turbulent flow after heavy rain and a reduction of water flow; a need to increase the capacity of sewers; loss of species that are at the edge of their southerly distribution and spread of species at the northern edge of their distribution; an increased move by the insurance industry towards a more risk-based approach to insurance underwriting, leading to higher cost premiums for local business; and increased drought and flood related problems such as soil shrinkages and subsidence. A tornado caused damage along the Ladymoor Road and Church Road in 2005.
- Carbon emissions per capita are below regional and national statistics in Birmingham.
- New development needs to support climate change mitigation through energy efficiency and reduced need to travel.
- New and existing housing needs to incorporate climate change adaptive features.

Key Issues highlighted during Community Planning Workshop

- The Balsall Heath area needs to move towards self-sufficiency in terms of energy production and use.
- The Neighbourhood Plan needs to support and facilitate the sustainable movement of people within Balsall Heath and neighbouring wards.

8 Economic Factors

8.1 Summary of policy and plan review

- 8.1.1 The improvement and maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment are key aims of the strategies at UK and European levels. Other objectives include improvements to the education system to increase the skill levels of both children and adults; and improved productivity and innovation, particularly with regards to technology. At a regional and local level emphasis is placed on community regeneration; improvements to the cultural and visitor economy; inward investment; and the use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to improve efficiency and skills. One of the major aims of the Regional Economic Strategy is to close the West Midlands' output gap (£20 Billion as of 2011 (The Black Country Consortium, 2011)), by seeking to raise output per head in the region to at least the average for the UK as a whole (Advantage West Midlands, 2009).

8.2 Summary of baseline

Economic Performance

- 8.2.1 **Table 8.1** shows the number of businesses in Birmingham by age. It shows that there has been an overall reduction in the number of VAT and/or PAYE based enterprises. Since 2008 there has been a reduction of almost two thousand in businesses.
- 8.2.2 Although there has been a reduction in the number of businesses in Birmingham, this is not mirrored when looking at businesses by age. Between 2008 and 2010 there was a reduction in the number of businesses aged less than two years old. However, from 2010 to 2011 there was a sharp increase from 4,330 to 7,635. In contrast those aged four to nine years of age saw an increase from 2008 to 2009. This reduced the following year in 2010. However, in 2011 the number of businesses aged four to nine years saw a significant reduction. Businesses aged two to three years and ten years or more saw steady declines in their total numbers. From a proportional perspective in 2008 almost 65% of businesses were four years or older (with the majority over ten years old), by 2010 this reduced to approximately 56%. Businesses aged less than two years old have seen the largest rise in terms of proportion.

Table 8.1: Enterprises by age of business in Birmingham (Source ONS, 2012)

	Birmingham 2008	Birmingham 2009	Birmingham 2010	Birmingham 2011
All VAT and/or PAYE Based Enterprises	25,970	25,710	24,700	24,045
Less than 2 Years Old	4,905 18.9%	4,660 18.1%	4,330 17.5%	7,635 31.8%
2 to 3 Years Old	4,320 16.6%	4,175 16.2%	3,710 15.0%	2,820 11.7%
4 to 9 Years Old	6,890 26.5%	7,060 27.5%	6,995 28.2%	5,220 21.7%
10 or More Years	9,855	9,815	9,705	8,370

<i>Old</i>	37.9%	38.2%	39.3%	34.8%
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Table 8.2: Earnings by residents 2011 (Source NOMIS, 2012)

	Birmingham	West Midlands	Great Britain
Gross Weekly Pay			
Full Time Workers	£458.2	£470.5	£503.1
Male	£482.9	£503.9	£541.7
Female	£415.8	£407.3	£446.3
Hourly Pay			
Full Time Workers	£11.77	£11.85	£12.77
Male	£11.96	£12.38	£13.32
Female	£11.42	£10.93	£11.95

8.2.3 **Table 8.2** shows that gross weekly earnings for residents within Birmingham is below regional and national averages. A similar trend is shown for hourly earnings within Birmingham.

8.2.4 **Table 8.2** shows that there is a significant difference between male and female earnings, both hourly and weekly. Male earnings are below national and regional averages both weekly and hourly. However, female earnings are higher weekly and hourly than regional averages. Despite this, female earnings are still significantly below those of male counterparts.

Table 8.3: Qualifications January 2011-December 2011 for those aged 16-64 (Source NOMIS, 2012)

	Birmingham Number	Birmingham %	West Midlands %	Great Britain %
NVQ4 and above	169,100	25.2	26.3	32.9
NVQ3 and above	291,700	43.5	45.9	52.7
NVQ2 and above	397,700	59.3	64.3	69.7
NVQ1 and above	488,600	72.8	78.5	82.7
Other qualifications	69,300	10.3	7.5	6.7
No qualifications	113,200	16.9	14.0	10.6

8.2.5 **Table 8.3** shows the skills profile for Birmingham during 2011. It shows that Birmingham has a higher proportion of residents aged 16-64 with no qualifications compared to the West Midlands and Great Britain average. Within Birmingham those with a NVQ level one or above equates to 72.8% of those aged 16-64. This is almost 10% lower than the Great Britain average. This trend is similar for those holding a NVQ2 and NVQ3.

8.2.6 **Figure 8.1** shows levels of economic deprivation in Birmingham. The Employment Deprivation Domain measures deprivation in terms of involuntary exclusion of the working age population from the workplace. The employment deprived is defined as those who would like to work but are unable to do so through unemployment, sickness or disability. **Figure 8.1** shows Sparkbrook (including Balsall Heath) has some of the most economic deprived areas in Birmingham as well as Nationally.

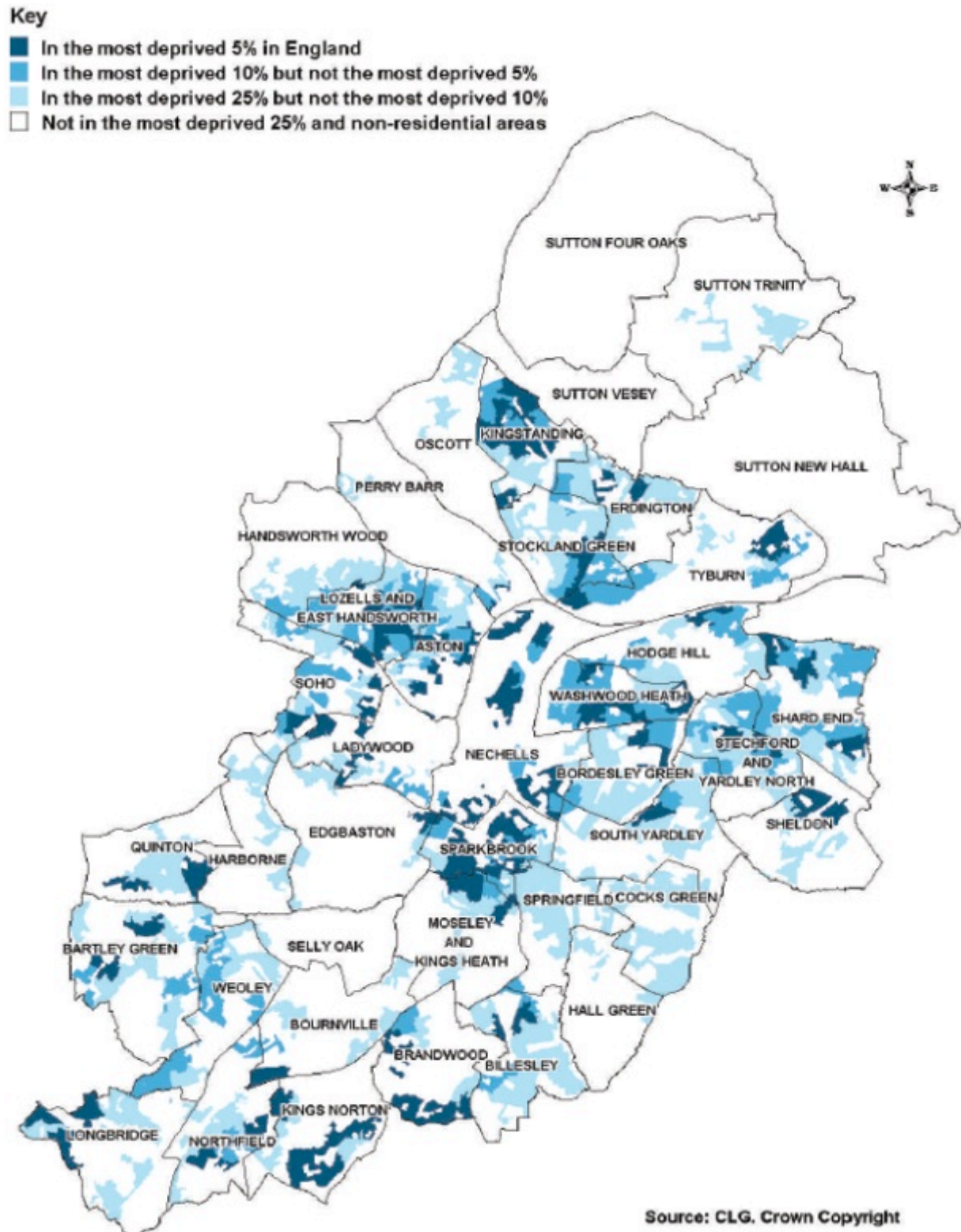


Figure 8.1: Economic deprivation (Source Birmingham City Council 2011)

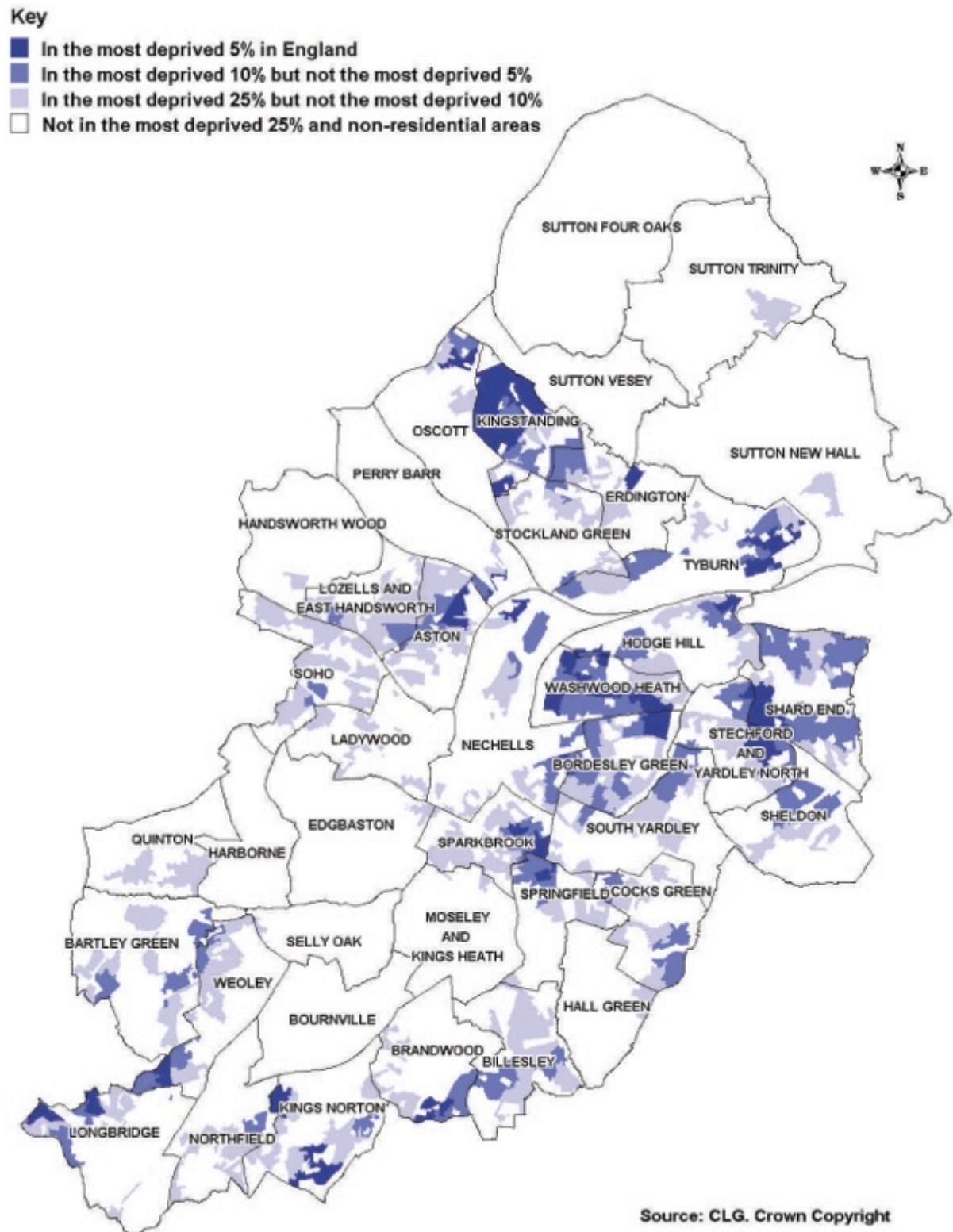


Figure 8.2: Education, skills and training deprivation within Birmingham (Source Birmingham City Council, 2011)

8.2.7 **Figure 8.2** shows levels of deprivation in terms of skills, education and training. The Education, Skills and Training Deprivation Domain are divided into two sub-domains. One related to education deprivation in children and young people in the area and the other related to lack of skills and qualifications among the working age population.

8.2.8 **Figure 8.2** shows that Sparkbrook has some of the most deprived areas in terms of skills, training and education in Birmingham and nationally. The Balsall Heath area fares better than Sparkbrook as a whole. Balsall Heath has some areas within the 25% most deprived areas but outside top 10% and 5%.

Employment/Unemployment

8.2.9 **Table 8.4** looks at the job seekers allowance claimants rate within Sparkbrook. It shows that since 2010 there has been an increase in the total number of people claiming JSA. The largest proportions of those claiming JSA are aged between 25-49. Although this proportion has slightly reduced since 2010, it remains higher than regional and national trends. Since 2010 those claiming JSA aged between 18-24 has increased as a proportion. In August 2010 this was below national and regional trends but is now higher than regional and national trends.

Table 8.4: Total JSA claimants as percentage of residents of same age (Source NOMIS, 2012)

Age	Sparkbrook Count	Sparkbrook %	West Midlands %	GB %
August 2012				
Total	2,260	N/A	N/A	N/A
Aged 18-24	670	29.5%	28.5%	28.7%
Aged 25-49	1,310	57.6%	56.8%	55.2%
Aged 50 and over	280	12.3%	14.5%	15.9%
August 2011				
Total	2,235	N/A	N/A	N/A
18-24	645	28.7%	30.5%	30.2%
25-49	1,330	59.5%	56.0%	54.5%
50+	260	11.5%	13.2%	15.0%
August 2010				
Total	2,040	N/A	N/A	N/A
18-24	575	28.1%	28.9%	28.9%
25-49	1,210	59.2%	57.4%	55.6%
50+	255	12.4%	13.4%	15.2%

8.2.10 **Table 8.5** shows employment by occupation for Birmingham compared to the West Midlands and Great Britain. It shows that the largest proportions of people are employed in professional occupations. This is higher than regional averages but below the national average. Birmingham also has a higher proportion of people employed in elementary occupations and process plant and machinery occupations.

Table 8.5: Employment by occupation April 2011-March 2012 for Birmingham (Source NOMIS, 2012)

	Birmingham Count	Birmingham %	West Midlands %	GB %
Total group 1-3	144,300	37.2	39.1	43.4
1 Managers, directors and senior officials	27,600	7.0	9.5	10.0
2 Professional occupations	72,000	18.4	17.3	19.2
3 Associate professional & technical	44,700	11.4	12.1	14.0
Total group 4-5	84,300	21.7	22.9	22.0
4 Administrative & secretarial	43,100	11.0	11.1	11.1
5 Skilled trades occupations	41,200	10.5	11.7	10.8
Total group 6-7	77,400	20.0	17.5	17.2
6 Caring, leisure and Other Service occupations	39,600	10.1	9.1	9.1
7 Sales and customer service occs	37,800	9.7	8.3	8.1
Total group 8-9	81,600	21.0	20.5	17.4
8 Process plant & machine operatives	32,300	8.3	8.1	6.4
9 Elementary occupations	49,200	12.6	12.3	10.9

Table 8.6: Employment by occupation 2001 for Sparkbrook (Source NOMIS, 2012)

	Sparkbrook Count	Sparkbrook %	Birmingham %	GB %
1 Managers and senior officials	460	7.9	11.8	14.8
2 Professional	476	8.2	11.6	11.1
3 Associate professional & technical	523	9.0	12.3	13.9
4 Administrative & secretarial	636	11.0	14.1	13.3

5 Skilled trades	663	11.4	11.2	11.6
6 Personal services	433	7.5	7.1	7.0
7 Sales and customer services	486	8.4	7.7	7.8
8 Process plant and machine operatives	981	16.9	10.8	8.6
9 Elementary occupations	1,145	19.7	13.4	11.9

8.2.11 **Table 8.6** illustrates employment by occupation within the Sparkbrook area. It should be noted that this information is based on the Census 2001 and is included for reference purposes only. Data from the Census 2011 is due to be released during spring 2013. **Table 8.6** indicates that within Sparkbrook a greater proportion of people were employed in elementary and process plant and machinery occupations whereas regionally a national more were employed in managerial and professional occupations.

Key employment locations

8.2.12 Large parts of Balsall Heath are residential. Much of the industry and employment locations are found along the Moseley Road and Studley Street. Employment sites along the Moseley Road stretch from the Camp Hill Circus roundabout south to Trafalgar Road. Key employers include Curry's, PC World, and Joseph Chamberlain Sixth form College.

Box 8.1:

Key Economic Issues for Balsall Heath

- There has been an increase in the number of people claiming job seekers allowance in Sparkbrook. The proportion of people aged 25-49 claiming job seekers allowance is above the regional and national average.
- Sparkbrook and Balsall Heath have some of the most deprived areas national from an economic deprivation perspective.
- Some areas of Balsall Heath are within the top 25% most deprived from an education perspective.

Key Issues highlighted during Community Planning Workshop

- Need to foster more employment opportunities through skills training, clusters of use and community asset transfer.
- Youth opportunities, training and skills apprenticeships.
- Recognise and encourage small business enterprise and diversity including support (finance, business practice, support and training).
- Build on the vibrant, mixed use enterprise nature of the area.
- Formalise business areas (character, diversity and opportunity) maximise opportunities to support and grow local businesses.



9 Green Infrastructure

9.1 Summary of policy and plan review

9.1.1 The maintenance and enhancements of high quality green infrastructure networks is a key priority in Birmingham and nationwide. Green infrastructure (GI) planning is an essential tool in ensuring that benefits from ecosystem services are sustained and maximised. At a local level Birmingham is developing a Green Living Spaces Strategy (formerly Green Infrastructure Strategy). A Green Infrastructure Strategy was developed in 2011 that outlined key GI assets within Birmingham. A framework was developed which set out key objectives on how green infrastructure planning could support social, economic and environmental goals. One of the main outputs of the GI Strategy was the formation of seven strategic green infrastructure principles. These include:

1) The City's Productive Land · Endorse the Birmingham Forest

- Promote allotments
- Facilitate community food growing, orchards, and woodlands
- Embed biomass production

2) The City's Greenways · Adopt A Walkable City

- Greenway networks
- "Quiet Roads"
- Permissive access rights

3) The City's Ecosystem · Ecosystem Evaluation of Birmingham's GI and Trees

- Explore new funding mechanisms & joint partnerships
- Biodiversity mapping

4) The City's Blue Infrastructure

- Adopt a Blue Corridor Policy
- Enhance the wider Blue network.
- SUDS & flood & water management
- Enhance water quality & riparian habitat

5) The City's Green Infrastructure

- Adopt a Birmingham Index for GI
- Sustainable tree planting policy
- Introduce a Birmingham GI Index
- Habitat permeability

6) An Adapted City · Adopt GI Solutions to the Urban Heat Island

- Green and brown roofs & living walls
- Protection of natural & built heritage
- Integrate public health concerns

7) A Healthy City · Adopt Natural Health Improvement Zones (NHIZ)

- Introduce sustainable land management principles.
- 'Be Active' neighborhoods
- Childhood development

9.2 Summary of baseline

Green Infrastructure typology

9.2.1 Balsall Heath, although a heavily urbanised area, contains green infrastructure features that form part of the Birmingham wide GI network. Green infrastructure assets found within the Balsall heath area include:

- Parks- Calthorpe Park, Pickwick Park, and Balsall Heath Park;
- Street Trees;
- River Rea Corridor;
- Amenity Greenspace- Woodfield Crescent, Clavedon Road, Longmore Street;
- Private Gardens; and
- Cycle paths.

9.2.2 **Figure 9.1** shows the location of GI assets within the constituency of Hall Green. It includes recommendations to strengthen the GI network, set out in the Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011).

9.2.3 **Figure 9.2** shows a more local perspective on openspace in the ward of Sparkbrook.

Box 9.1:

Key Green Infrastructure Issues in Balsall Heath

- Calthorpe Park is one of the most prominent green infrastructure assets within Balsall Heath. It is linked to Cannon Hill Park via the River Rea.
- As an urban area green space is fairly limited. The Neighbourhood plan needs to protect existing green space and seek to maximise its multifunctionality.
- Green Infrastructure has the potential to support environmental, social and economic goals within Balsall Heath.
- According to the Birmingham Parks and Openspace Strategy (2006) Sparkbrook is a ward that does not meet the UDP target for openspace provision.
- Green Infrastructure is a key contributor to enhancing health and wellbeing of Balsall Heath residents.

Key Issues highlighted during Community Planning Workshop

- River Rea has huge multifunctional potential.
- Need to improve the quality of openspaces.
- Street greening.
- Maximise connections and links with surrounding areas.

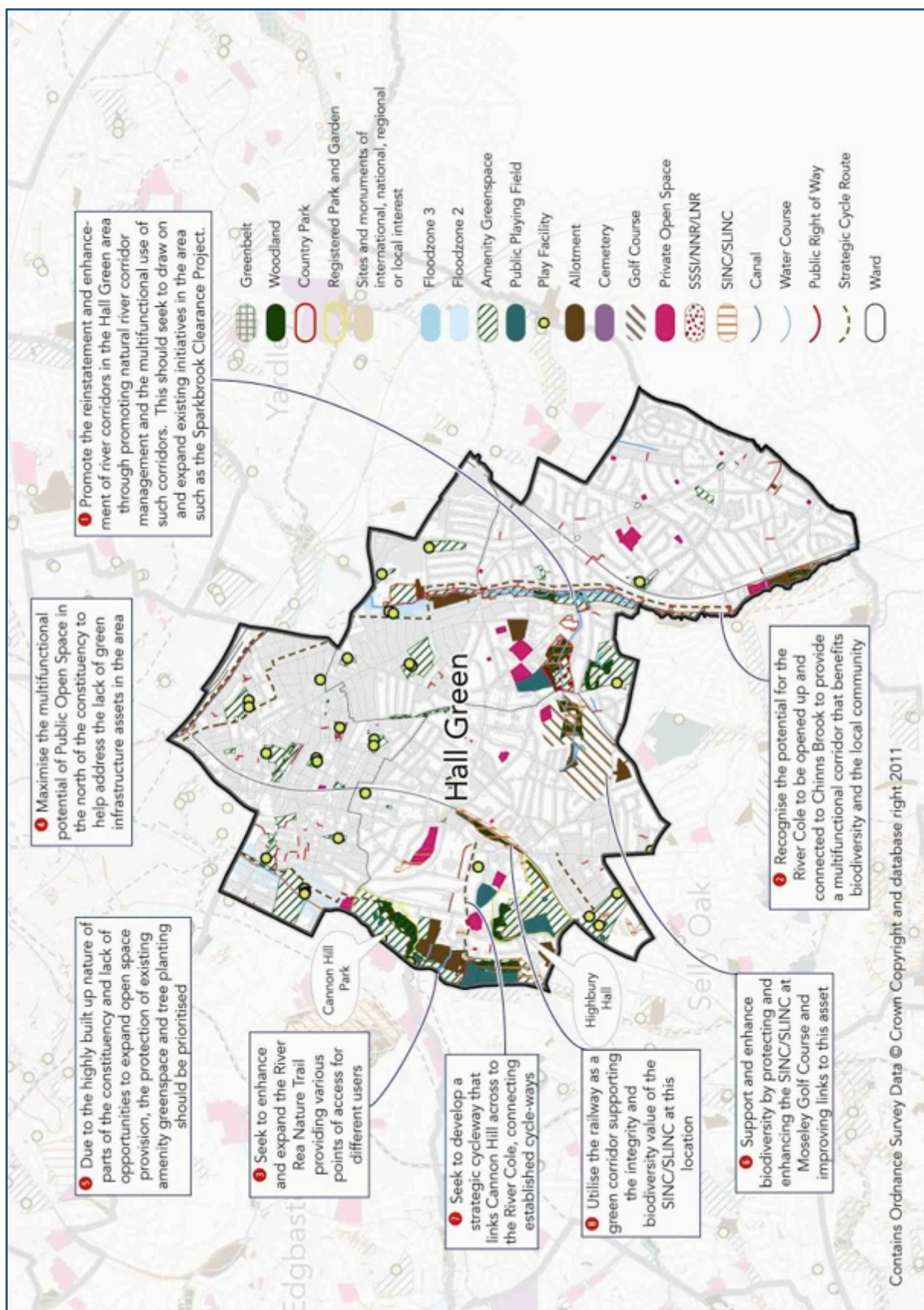


Figure 9.1: Green infrastructure network in Hall Green (Source Birmingham Green Infrastructure Strategy, 2011)



10 Health

10.1 Summary of policy and plan review

10.1.1 National and regional health related PPPs focus on improving rates of infant mortality and life expectancy; reducing work related illness and accidents; significantly improving levels of sport and physical activity, particularly among disadvantaged groups; promoting healthier modes of travel; supporting the public to make healthier and more informed choices in regards to their health; improving accessibility to healthcare and leisure/recreational facilities; and reducing health inequalities, particularly for children and older people.

10.2 Summary of baseline data

Health Profile

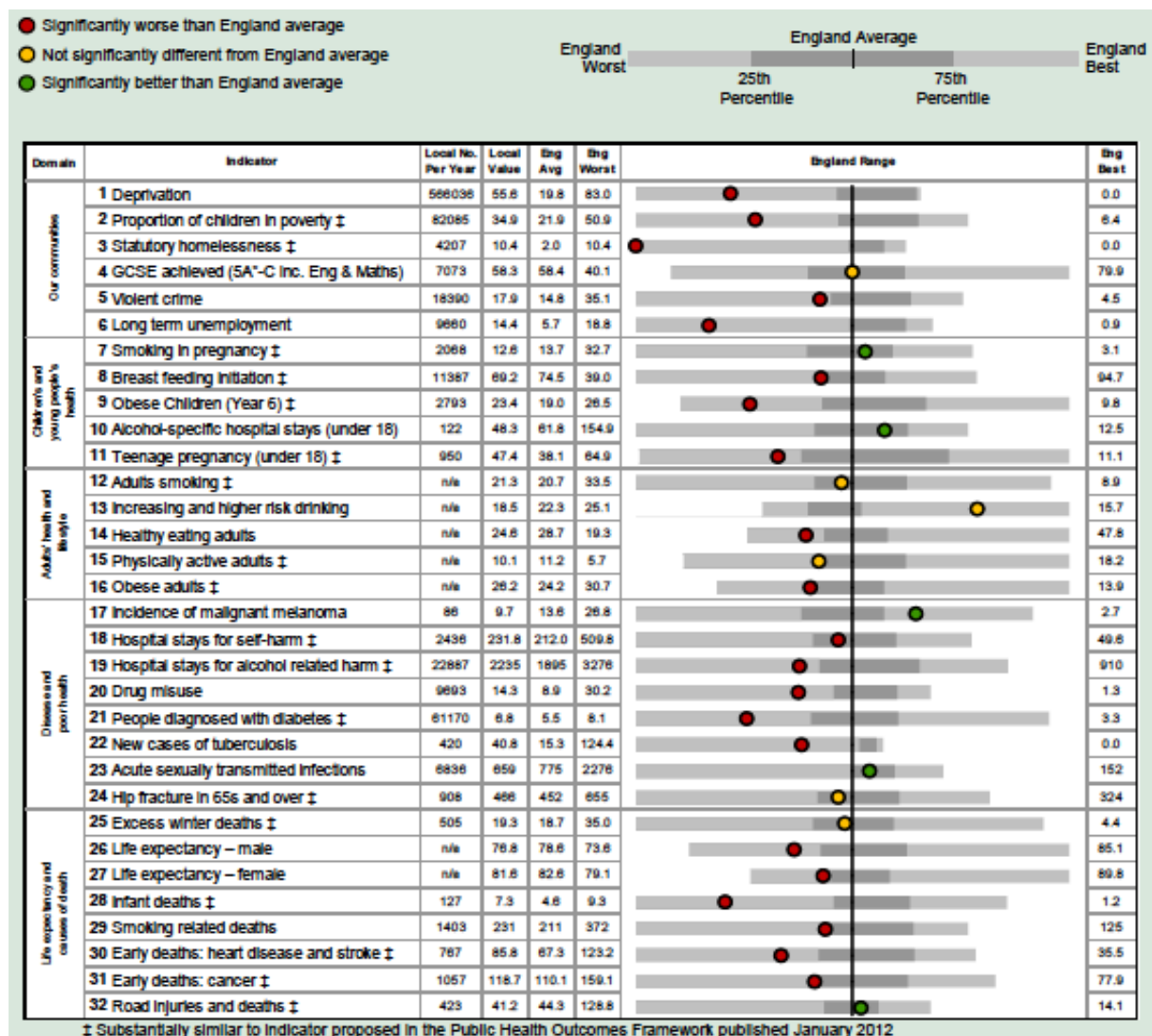


Figure 10.1: Health profile for Birmingham (Source DoH, 2012)

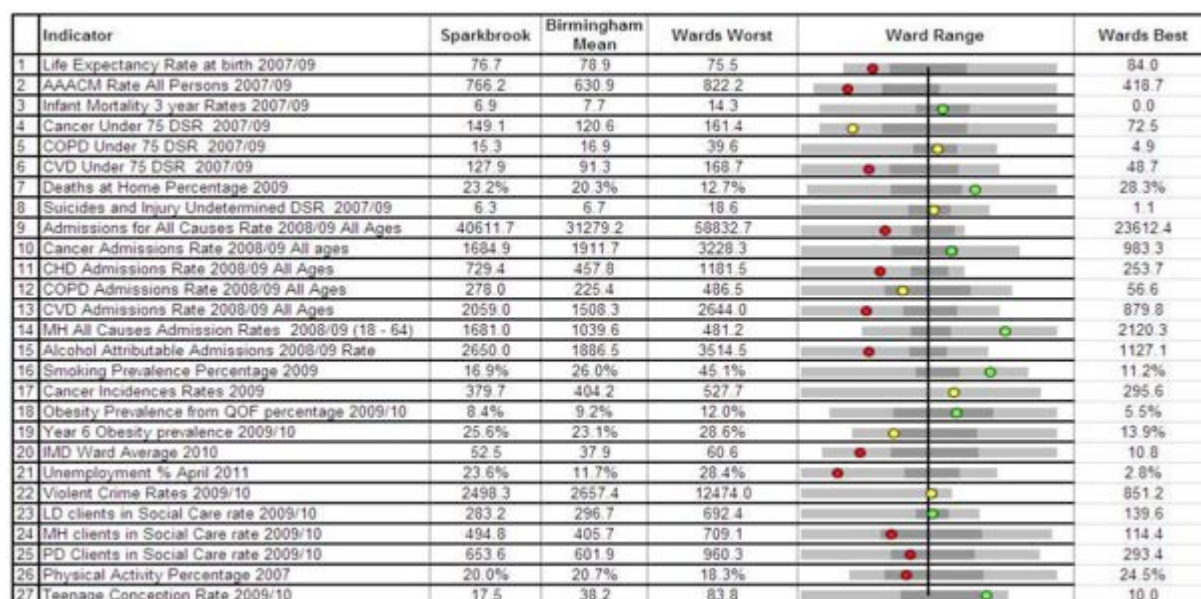


Figure 10.2: Health profile of Sparkbrook (Source Birmingham NHS Cluster, 2011)

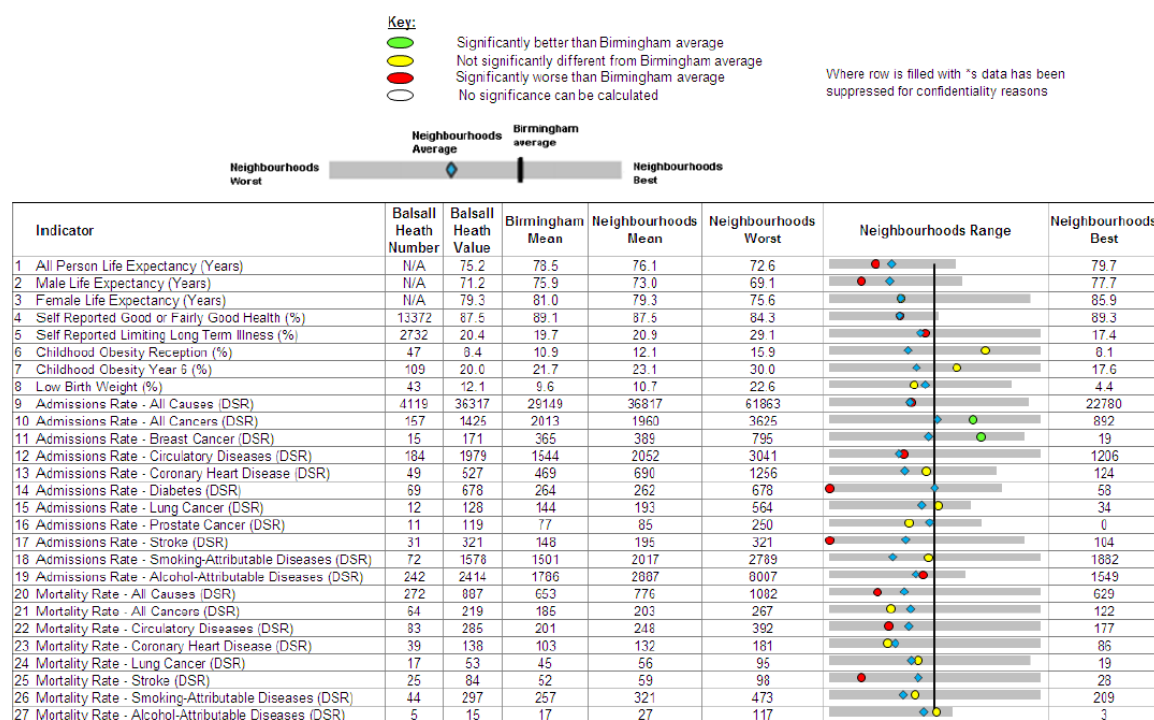
Source: Birmingham Public Health Information Team⁵ – Table Produced using West Midlands Public Health Observatory Spine Chart Creator

Figure 10.3: Health summary table for Balsall Heath (Source Balsall Heath Health Profile 2010)

10.2.1 Health deprivation is a key issue within Birmingham as many indicators perform poorly compared to national averages (See Figure 10.1). On a more local scale Figure 10.2 and 10.3 show the health profiles for Sparkbrook and Balsall Heath. Figure 10.2 analyses the health issues in Sparkbrook set against other wards in Birmingham and the Birmingham average. Figure 10.3 shows the health profile of Balsall Heath and analysis information at the local level. Information is comparable with other problem neighbourhood statistics but is not directly comparable with ward and Birmingham wide information contained in Figures 10.1 and 10.2. Key health problems include admissions for diabetes and stroke. Balsall Heath is one of 31 priority neighbourhoods.

- 10.2.2 The health of residents of Balsall Heath is relatively less favourable than the Birmingham average. This encompasses a variety of lifestyle indicators, including self-reported health, long term limiting illness and alcohol use. Mortality rates are higher, with circulatory diseases and stroke contributing more than other diseases. Admissions rates are particularly high for diabetes and stroke, admissions rates for cancers are generally low (Be Birmingham 2010).

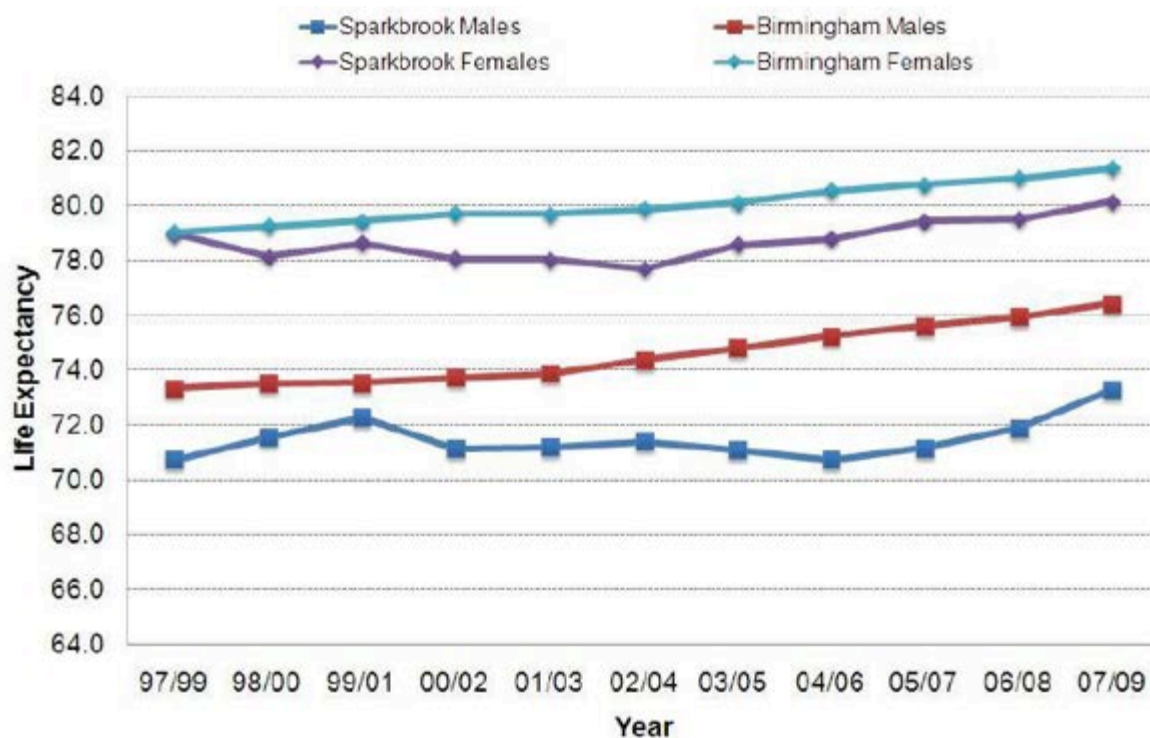


Figure 10.4: Life expectancy in Sparkbrook (Source Birmingham HNS Cluster, 2011)

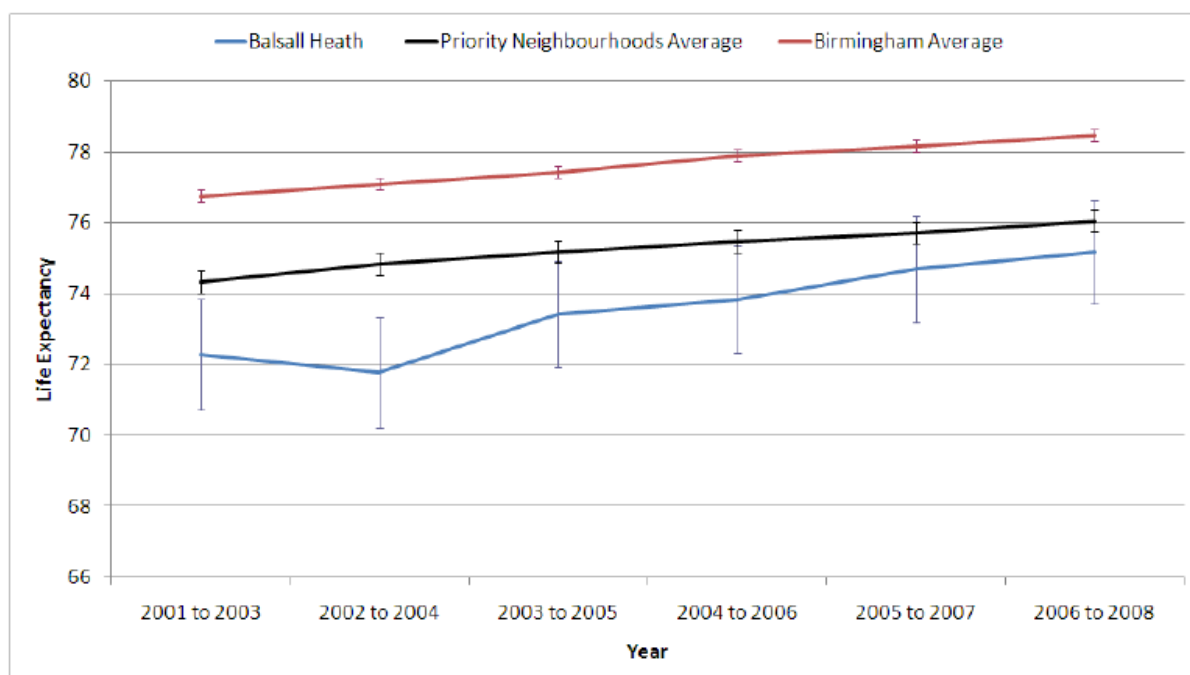


Figure 10.5: All persons life expectancy in Balsall Heath (Source Balsall Heath Health Profile 2010)

10.2.3 **Figure 10.4** and **10.5** illustrate the life expectancy of residents of Sparkbrook ward and Balsall Heath. **Figure 10.4** shows that both female and male life expectancy is lower than the Birmingham average. There is a significant disparity between male and female life expectancy. The gap between female life expectancy in Sparkbrook and Birmingham has narrowed since 2001 whereas male life expectancy disparity has widened.

10.2.4 **Figure 10.5** shows that life expectancy in Balsall Heath is lower than the Birmingham average and the priority neighbourhood average. The gap between life expectancy has gradually narrowed since 2002 but remains significantly lower than the Birmingham average.

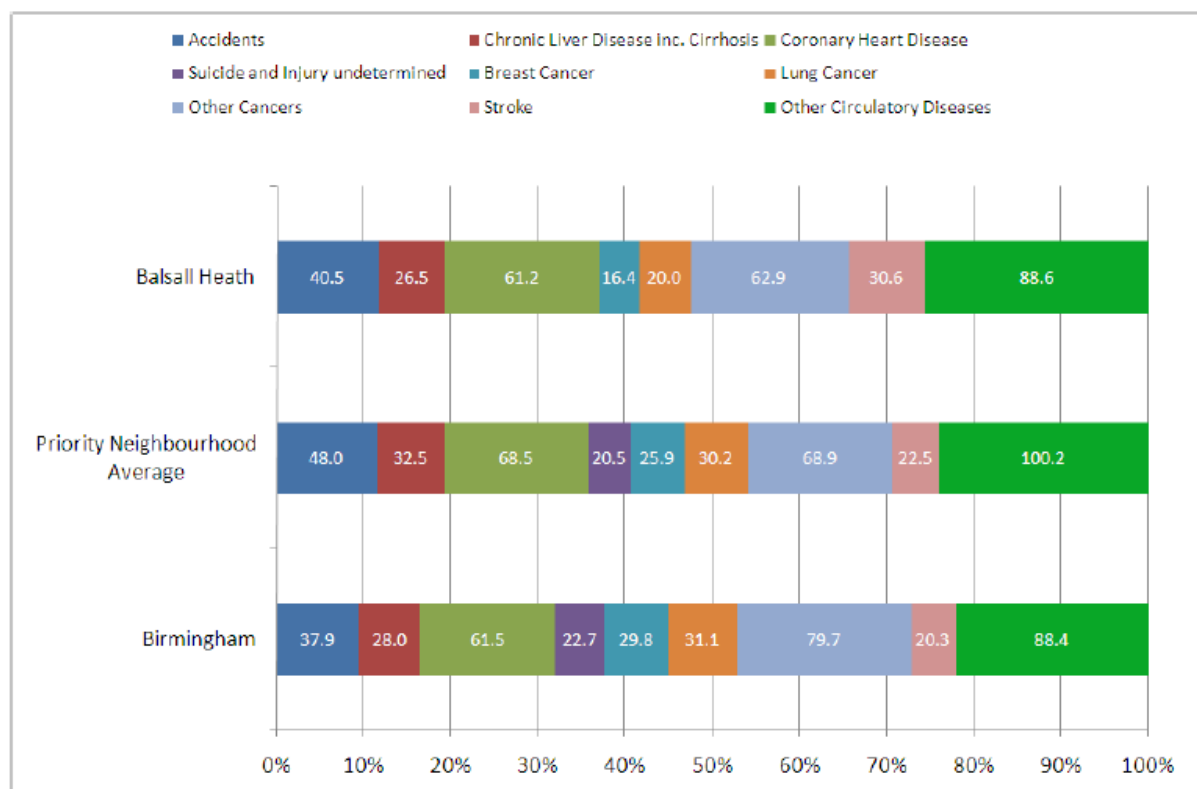


Figure 10.6: Mortality rates in Balsall Heath 2006-2008 (Source Balsall Heath Health Profile, 2010)

10.2.5 Years of life lost are a measure of premature mortality (under 75). Balsall Heath has a higher proportion of years of life lost from circulatory disease, stroke and coronary heart disease. Proportionally Balsall Heath loses less lives overall from lung cancer and breast cancer.

10.2.6 The Sparkbrook Ward, including Balsall Heath, has some of the most deprived areas in Birmingham and nationally from a health deprivation perspective. **Figure 10.7** shows areas of deprivation in Birmingham from a health domain. The Health Deprivation and Disability Domain identifies areas with relatively high rates of people who die prematurely or whose quality of life is impaired by poor health or disability. It takes both physical and mental health into account but not aspects of behaviour or environment that may be predictive of future health deprivation.

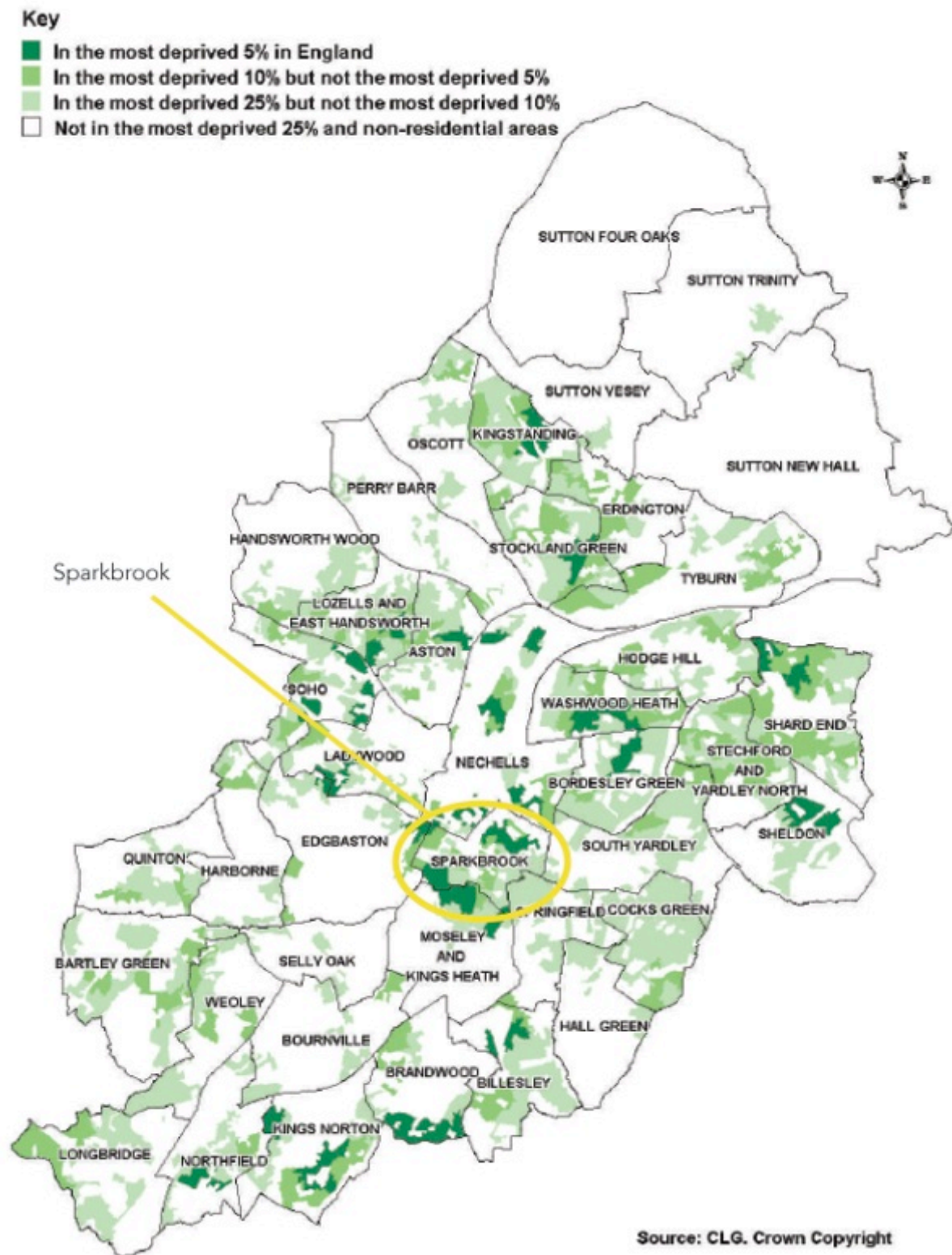


Figure 10.7: Health deprivation (Source Birmingham City Council, 2011)

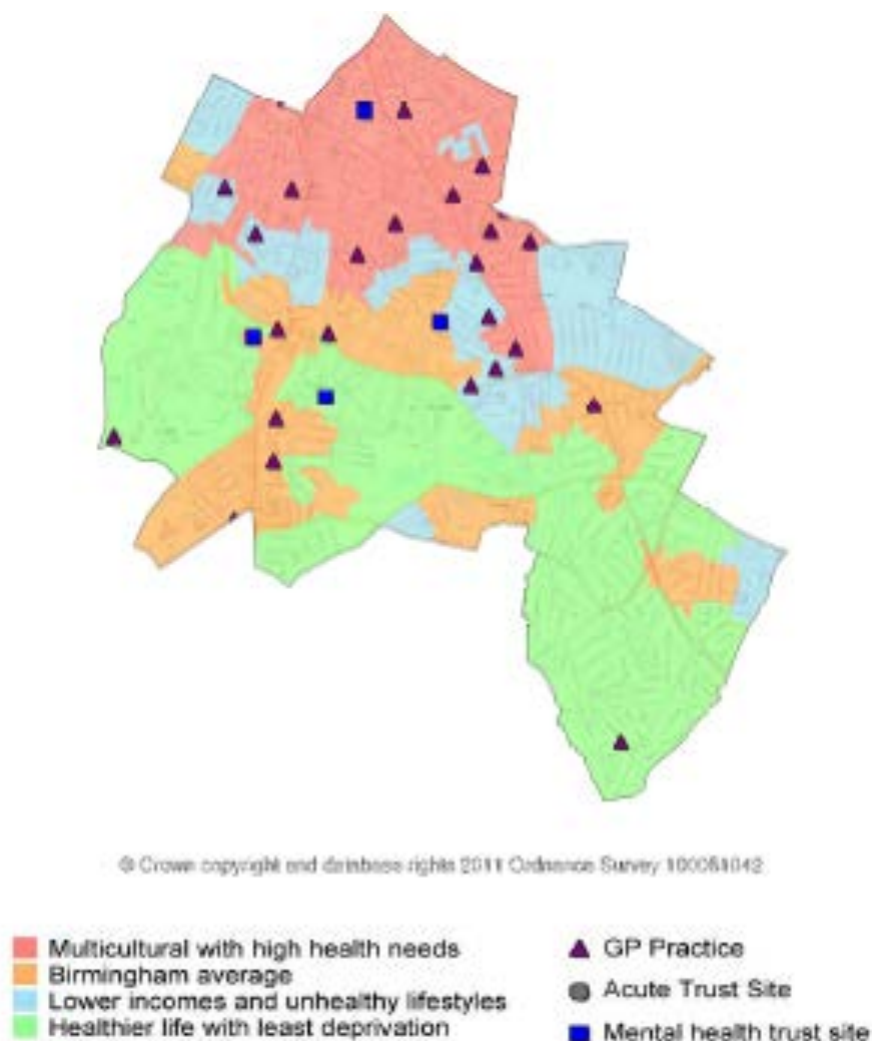


Figure 10.8: Health facilities in Hall Green (Birmingham NHS Cluster, 2011)

10.2.7 **Figure 10.8** illustrates health clusters for the Hall Green constituency, including Balsall Heath. It shows that from a health perspective the southern portion of Hall green is more favourable than the north. The northern aspects of Hall green include the ward of Sparkbrook, which in turn includes Balsall Heath (See **Figure 10.9**).

10.2.8 Balsall Heath has a significant multicultural community with a high proportion of ethnic minorities. According to the Sparkbrook Health Profile (2011) the ward is comprised of approximately 80% Black and Minority Ethnic communities. Communities within the area have high health needs. Sparkbrook has seven GPs, one mental health unit but no acute services. Residents have to travel to other wards for these services.

10.2.9 **Figure 10.10** shows health clusters at the Balsall Heath Scale. According to the Balsall Heath Health Profile (2010) Balsall Heath is a very mixed area; it is made up of two main groups of people:

- Multicultural, mixed communities with crime and health problems; and
- South Asian Communities with high health needs.

10.2.10 There are four other groups in this area:

- Educated Youths;
- Very mixed ethnicities with unhealthy lifestyles;
- Multicultural with heavy cardiovascular disease needs; and
- Benefits dependency with alcohol-attributable admissions.

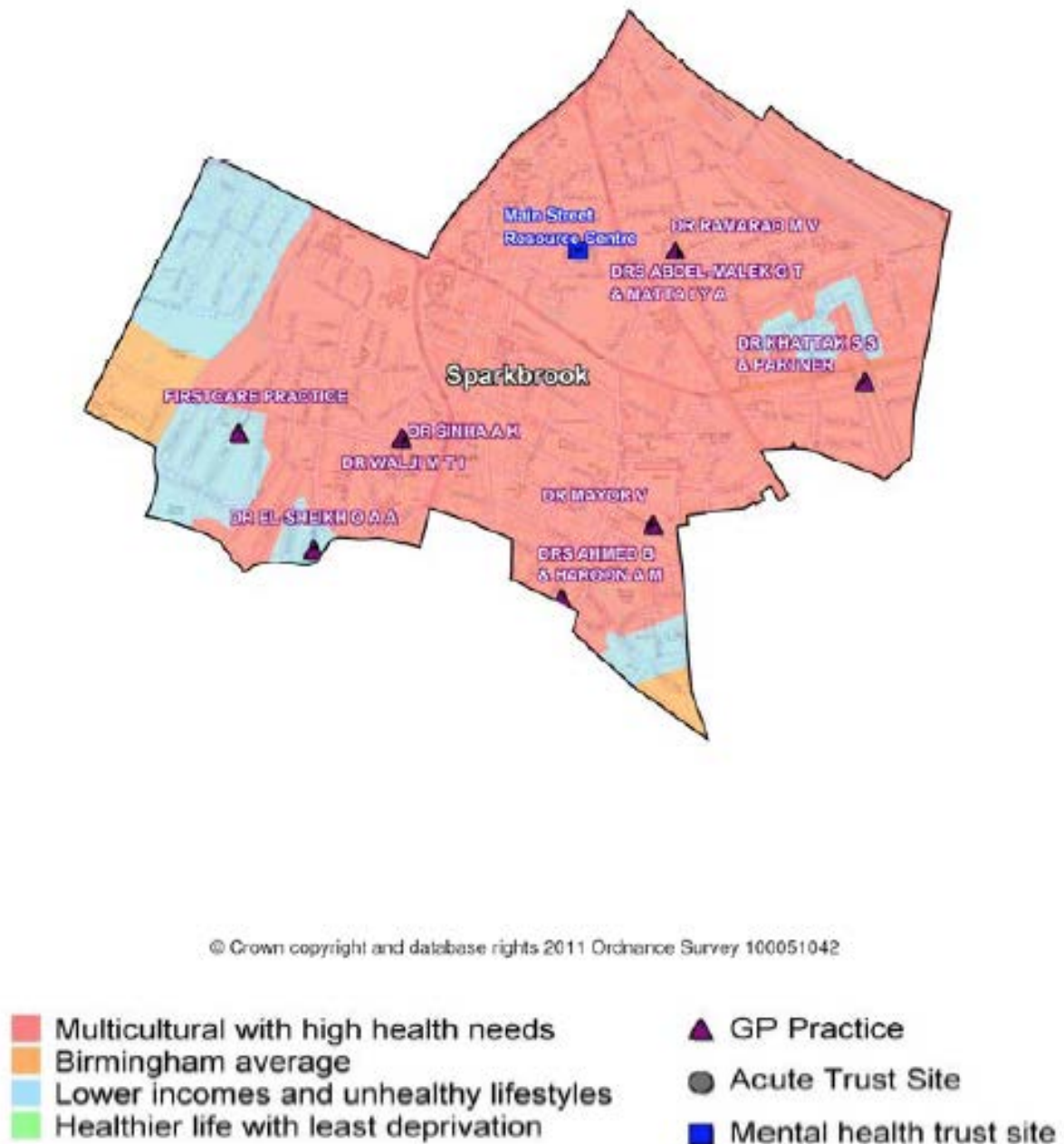


Figure 10.9: Healthcare sites in Sparkbrook (Source Birmingham NHS Cluster, 2011)

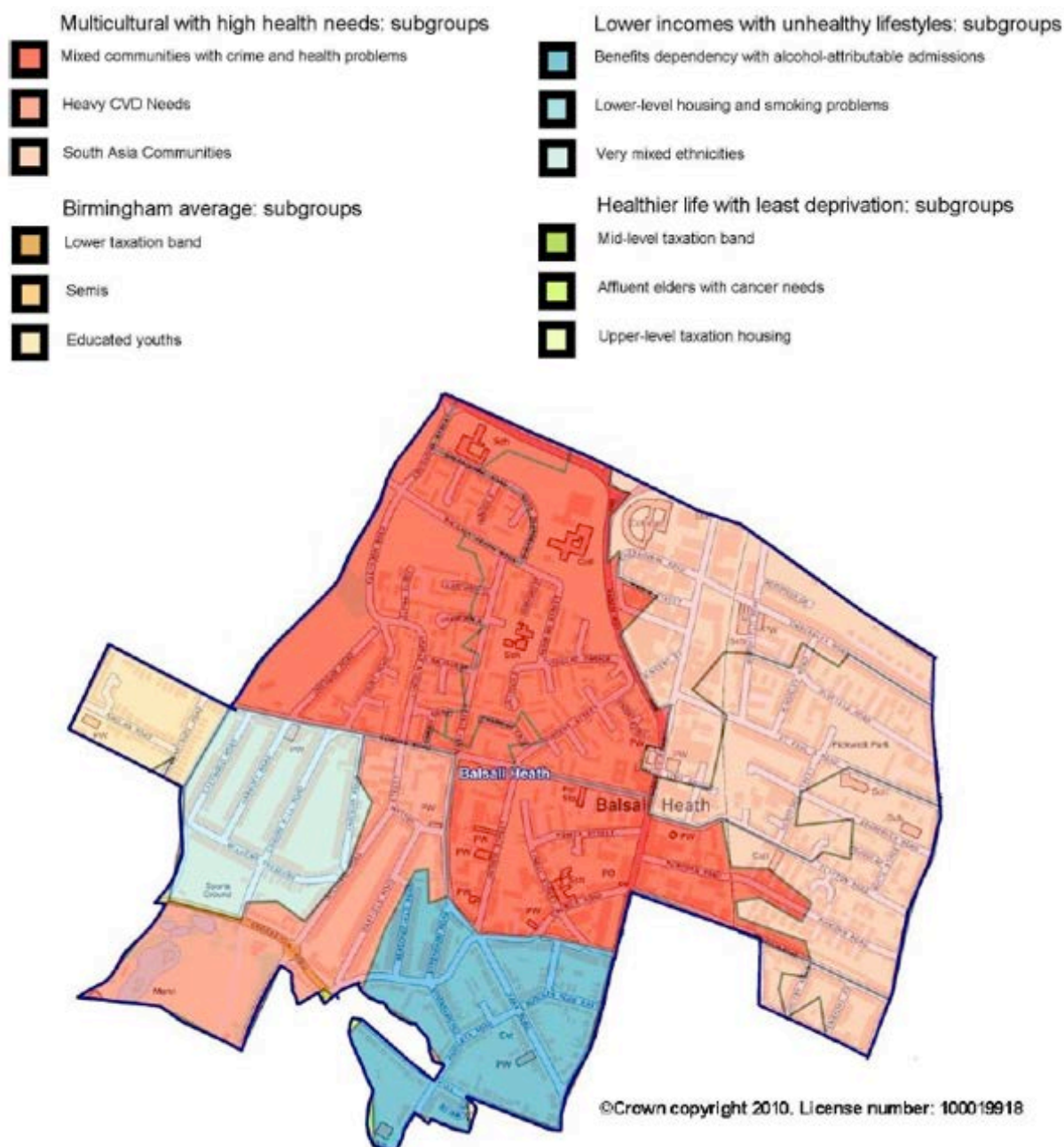


Figure 10.10: Health clusters in Balsall Heath (Source Balsall Heath Health Profile, 2010)

Health and activity

- 10.2.11 Balsall Heath has relatively low participation rates in sport as well as sport and active recreation. **Figure 10.11** shows adult participation in sport. Participation is defined as the percentage of people aged 16 and over participating in at least 30 minutes of sport of at least moderate intensity on at least three days a week. Balsall Heath is in an area with a participation rate of approximately 11%.
- 10.2.12 **Figure 10.12** shows adult participation in sport and active recreation. Participation is defined as the percentage of the adult population participating in at least 30 minutes of sport and active recreation (including walking and cycling) of a least moderate intensity on at least three days a week. Balsall Heath is within an area with a participation rate of approximately 12.8%.

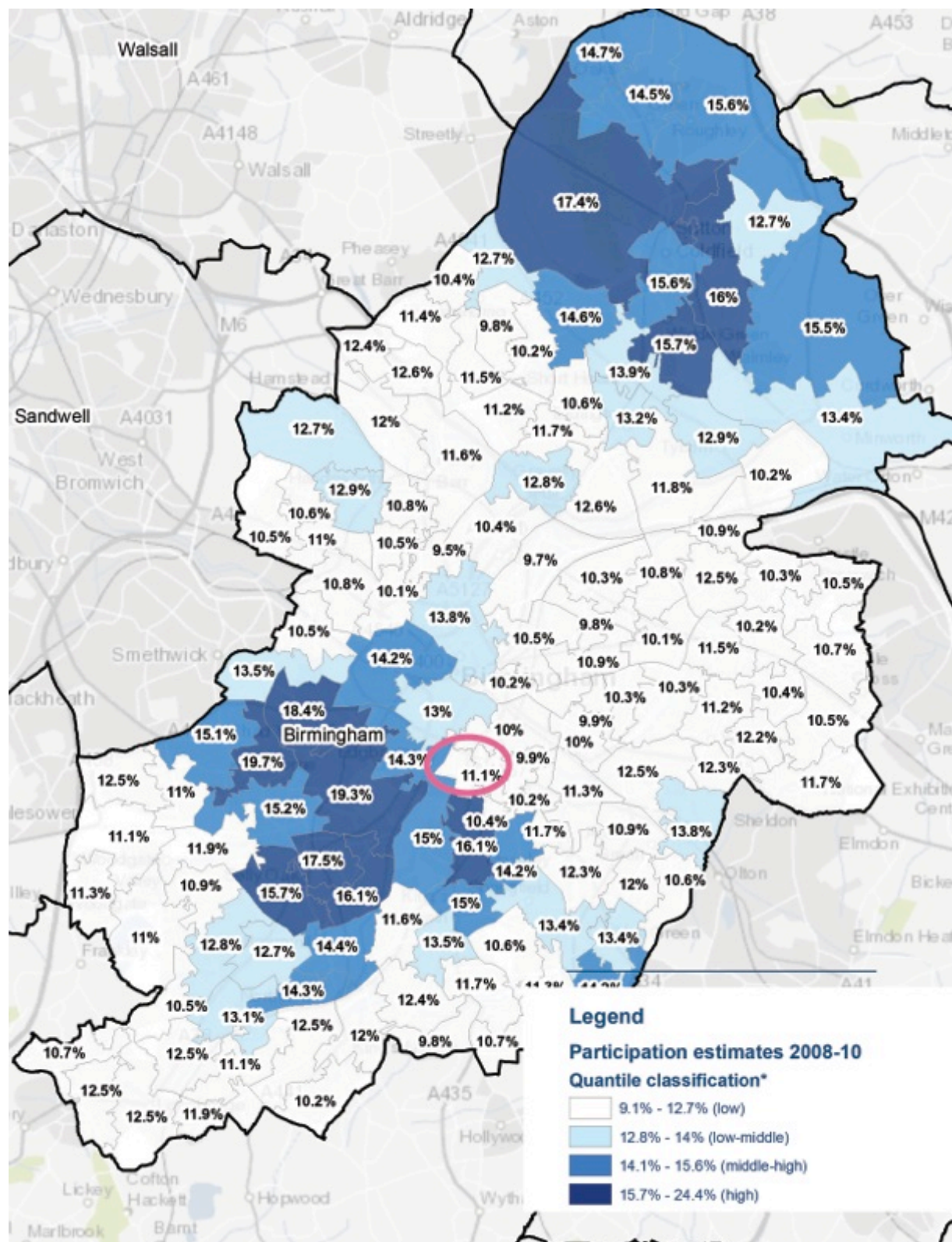


Figure 10.11: Adult participation in sport (Source Sport England, 2012)

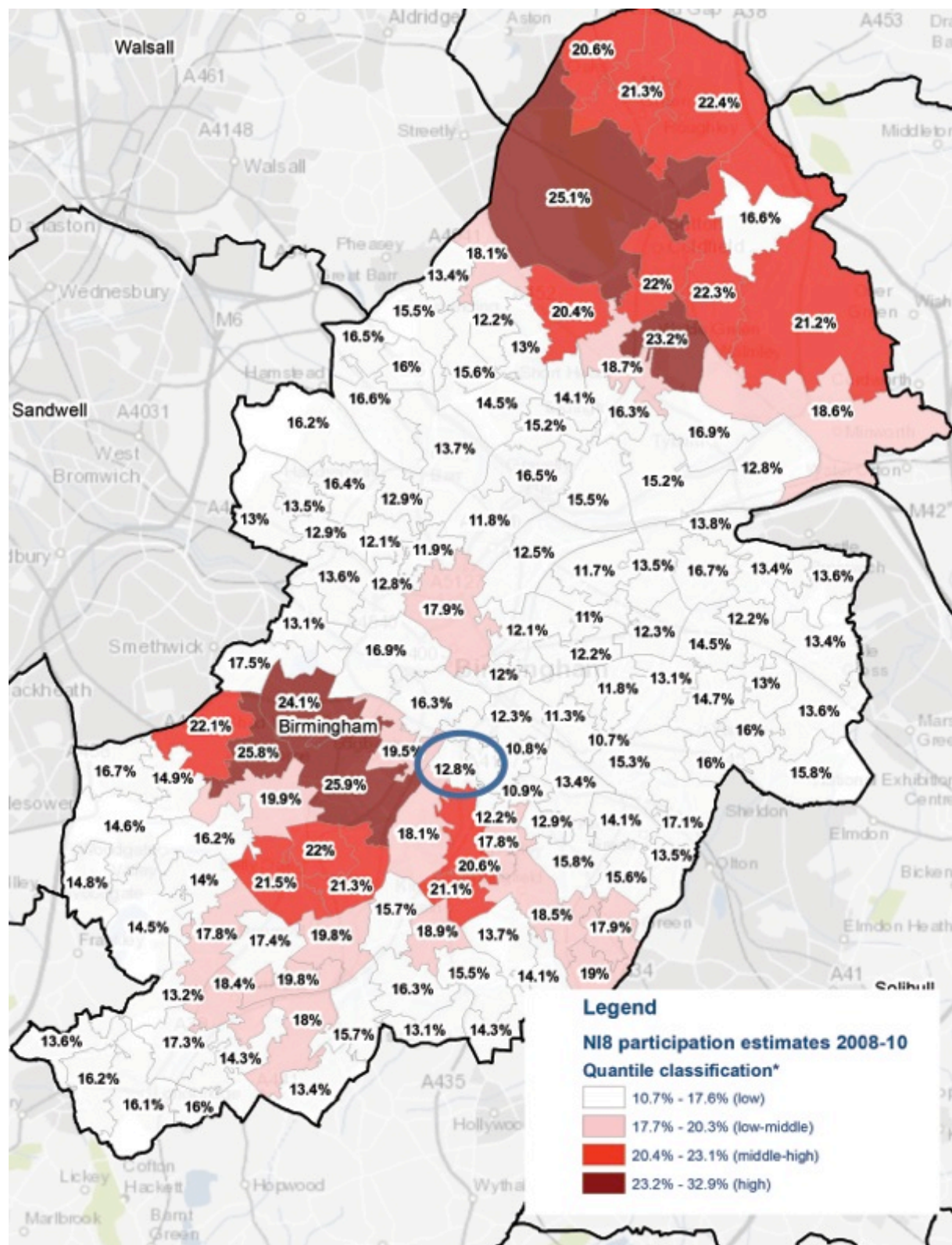


Figure 10.12: Adult participation in sport and active recreation (Source Sport England, 2012)

Box 10.1:**Key health issues for Balsall Heath**

- Health levels within Balsall Heath are generally poor compared with Birmingham and national averages.
- Adult participation in sport and sport and active recreation is low.
- Cardiovascular disease, strokes and admissions relating to alcohol are an issue within the Sparkbrook ward and Balsall Heath.
- Balsall Heath has a multicultural population structure with a large proportion of ethnic minority communities with high health needs.

Key issues highlighted during Community Planning Workshop

- N/A



11 Historic Environment and Townscape

11.1 Summary of policy and plan review

- 11.1.1 Historic environment priorities from international to local level include protecting designated resources and their settings (such as listed buildings, conservation areas, scheduled monuments, and registered parks and gardens); recognising the cultural aspects of landscape and establishing mechanisms for their protection against inappropriate development; recognising the potential value of unknown and undesignated resources; and preserving/enhancing sites and landscapes of archaeological and historic interest so that they may be enjoyed by both present and future generations.
- 11.1.2 At the EU, national, regional and local level emphasis is placed on the protection of landscape as an essential component of people's surroundings and sense of place. The PPPs seek to increase recognition of the linkages and interplay between the different aspects and roles of townscape, including: local distinctiveness; the historic environment; natural resources; farming, forestry and food; educational, leisure and recreation opportunities; transport and infrastructure; settlements and nature conservation.

11.2 Summary of baseline

Historic environment designations

- 11.2.1 Many important features and areas for the historic environment in Birmingham are recognised through historic environment designations. These include listed buildings, scheduled monuments and registered parks and gardens, which are nationally designated, and conservation areas, which are usually designated at the local level. English Heritage is the statutory consultee for certain categories of listed building consent and all applications for scheduled monument consent. The historic environment is protected through the planning system, via conditions imposed on developers and other mechanisms.
- 11.2.2 There are almost 2,000 statutory listed buildings in Birmingham. Approximately 1.3% of these are grade I listed, 4.7% Grade II* listed and 94% are Grade II. According to the English Heritage National Register there are nine listed buildings in the NDP area. These are shown in **Table 11.1**.

Table 11.1: Historic designations within Balsall Heath (Source English Heritage, 2012)

Name of Heritage Asset	Designation
332-340 Moseley Road	Grade II
360-362 Moseley Road	Grade II
356 and 358 Moseley Road	Grade II
Moseley Road Baths	Grade II*
Balsall Heath Library	Grade II*
Public Convenience on pavement in front of the Canon Hill Public House	Grade II
Church of St Mary and St Ambrose	Grade II
489-506 with attended gate piers and railings	Grade II
School of Art	Grade II*

Conservation areas

- 11.2.3 Conservation areas are areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Conservation areas contain buildings, structures and other features of historic or architectural importance, which, together with the open spaces between them, interact to create areas of special quality and interest.
- 11.2.4 Local authorities have the power to designate as conservation areas in any area of 'special architectural or historic interest' whose character or appearance is worth protecting or enhancing. This is judged against local and regional criteria, rather than national importance as is the case with listing. Conservation area designation increases the local planning authority's control over demolition of buildings and over certain alterations to residential properties, which would normally be classed as 'permitted development' and not require planning permission.
- 11.2.5 All Conservation Areas have been designated for their architectural and historical interest or character and appearance.
- 11.2.6 Birmingham currently has 30 designated conservation areas. There are no Conservation Areas within the NDP area. The closest Conservation Areas to Balsall heath include Edgbaston, High Street, Lee Crescent and Ryland Road.

Non-statutory heritage features

- 11.2.7 It should be noted that not all historic environment resources are subject to statutory designations. Birmingham, like other local authorities, has also compiled a 'local list' containing sites deemed to be of historic importance to local communities. Birmingham currently has a grading system for locally listed buildings. The grading system consists of the following categories.

Grade A: These are buildings that are of statutory list quality and will be referred to the Secretary of State if they are threatened with demolition or unsympathetic alterations. A Building Preservation Notice can also be served if the building is imminently threatened.

Grade B: Grade B buildings, structures or features are important in the citywide context, or make a significant contribution to the local environment. Positive efforts will always be made to retain them.

Grade C: These are of local historic significance and worthy of retention.

- 11.2.8 Locally listed buildings in Balsall Heath include 232 Moseley Road (Athelston House) and Former Earl Grey Public House (76 Pershore Road). Both are Grade B.
- 11.2.9 According to the English Heritage at risk register two buildings at risk are located within the NDP area. These include the Moseley Road Baths and Former School of Art. The Former School of Art is suffering from neglect and unauthorised work. The Moseley Road baths are in need of repair. Birmingham City Council is currently working on a Heritage Lottery Fund bid to acquire funding to restore the fabric of the building, and the City has potentially identified up to £3m towards the project. A masterplan has been prepared for the future use of the baths and is being used to support a bid to the heritage lottery fund.

Box 11.1:**Key Historic Environment and Landscape Issues in Balsall Heath**

- Historic assets including the Moseley Road Baths and Balsall Heath library form an important role in maintaining the distinctiveness and historical character of the Balsall Heath area.
- Archaeological remains both seen and unseen have the potential to be affected by new development.
- Effects on historic and cultural heritage assets from inappropriate and poor design of new development.
- Two listed buildings including the Moseley Road Baths and Former School of art are listed on the Heritage at risk register.

Key Issues highlighted during Community Planning Workshop

- Need to ensure the sustainable use and re-use of heritage features.



12 Housing

12.1 Summary of policy and plan review

12.1.1 National and sub-regional objectives for housing include improvements in housing affordability; high quality housing; a more stable housing market; improved choice; location of housing supply, which supports accessibility and patterns of economic development; and an adequate supply of publicly funded housing for those who need it. In addition, new homes should meet high Code for Sustainable Homes ratings in terms of water and energy efficiency, and meet the government target of zero carbon emissions by 2016.

12.1.2 Local plans and strategies focus on the affordability of housing, the quality of housing, access to services, and meeting the housing needs of vulnerable people. The housing needs of elderly people, disabled people and gypsies, travellers and travelling show-people are also provided with a focus by national, regional and local policies.

12.2 Summary of baseline

House Prices

12.2.1 **Table 12.1** shows the average house prices for properties within Birmingham. According to Zoopla (2012) average house prices in Balsall Heath are £103,509. This is significantly below the Birmingham average.

12.2.2 **Table 12.2** shows the average earnings of residents of Birmingham and the ration between average income and house prices. It shows that since 2006 average earnings have risen and the house price to income ratio has fallen. However, house prices are still almost 5 times average incomes.

Table 12.1: House prices and sales April – June 2012 (Source BBC, 2012)

Average	Detached	Semi-detached	Terrace	Flat	Average	sales
Birmingham	£297,783	£154,222	£124,395	£108,801	£151,499	1,965

Table 12.2: Household income and income ratio (Source Shelter, 2012)

	Gross Annual Income	House price to income ratio
2011	£24,371	4.79
2010	£23,753	4.79
2009	£23,666	4.71
2008	£22,846	5.50
2007	£22,225	5.69
2006	£22,208	5.53

Housing need and homelessness

- 12.2.3 According to the Annual Monitoring Report (2010-2011) historically homelessness applications have been twice the national average in Birmingham. **Table 12.3** shows that between 2007 and 2009 there was an increase in the number of households accepted as homeless. During 2009-2010 there was a decrease in the number of households accepted as homeless. However, there has been a significant increase in the number of households accepted as homeless during 2010-2011.
- 12.2.4 **Table 12.4** shows the number of household on the local authority housing register. Between 2006 and 2008 there was an increase in the number of people on the Birmingham City Council housing register. Since 2008 there has been a decline in total number of people on the housing register, although it is still higher than 2006/2007 levels.

Table 12.3 Number of households accepted as homeless (Source ONS, 2012)

Month and year	Number of households accepted as homeless
2010-2011	4,207
2009-2010	3,371
2008-2009	3,829
2007-2008	3,664

Table 12.4: Households on the local authority housing register (Source ONS, 2012)

	Birmingham
April 2010 to March 2011	16,429
April 2009 to March 2010	17,749
April 2008 to March 2009	19,190
April 2007 to March 2008	19,192
April 2006 to March 2007	14,748

- 12.2.5 **Figure 12.1** shows the location of areas of Birmingham that have high levels of deprivation from a housing and service accessibility perspective. The Barriers to Housing and Services Domain (Index of Multiple Deprivation) is divided into two sub-domains designed to measure geographical barriers to local services and wider barriers to housing, such as affordability. Barriers to housing and services are included as one of the seven domains because accessibility of suitable housing and local amenities are significant determinants of quality of life. People who cannot afford to buy their own home, who live in overcrowded homes or are classed as homeless are deprived of the safety and stability of a home that is appropriate to their household's needs. Individuals who have to travel long distances to key local services are also disadvantaged.
- 12.2.6 **Figure 12.1** shows that Balsall Heath is within an area which is within the top 25% most deprived nationally from a barrier to housing and services perspective.

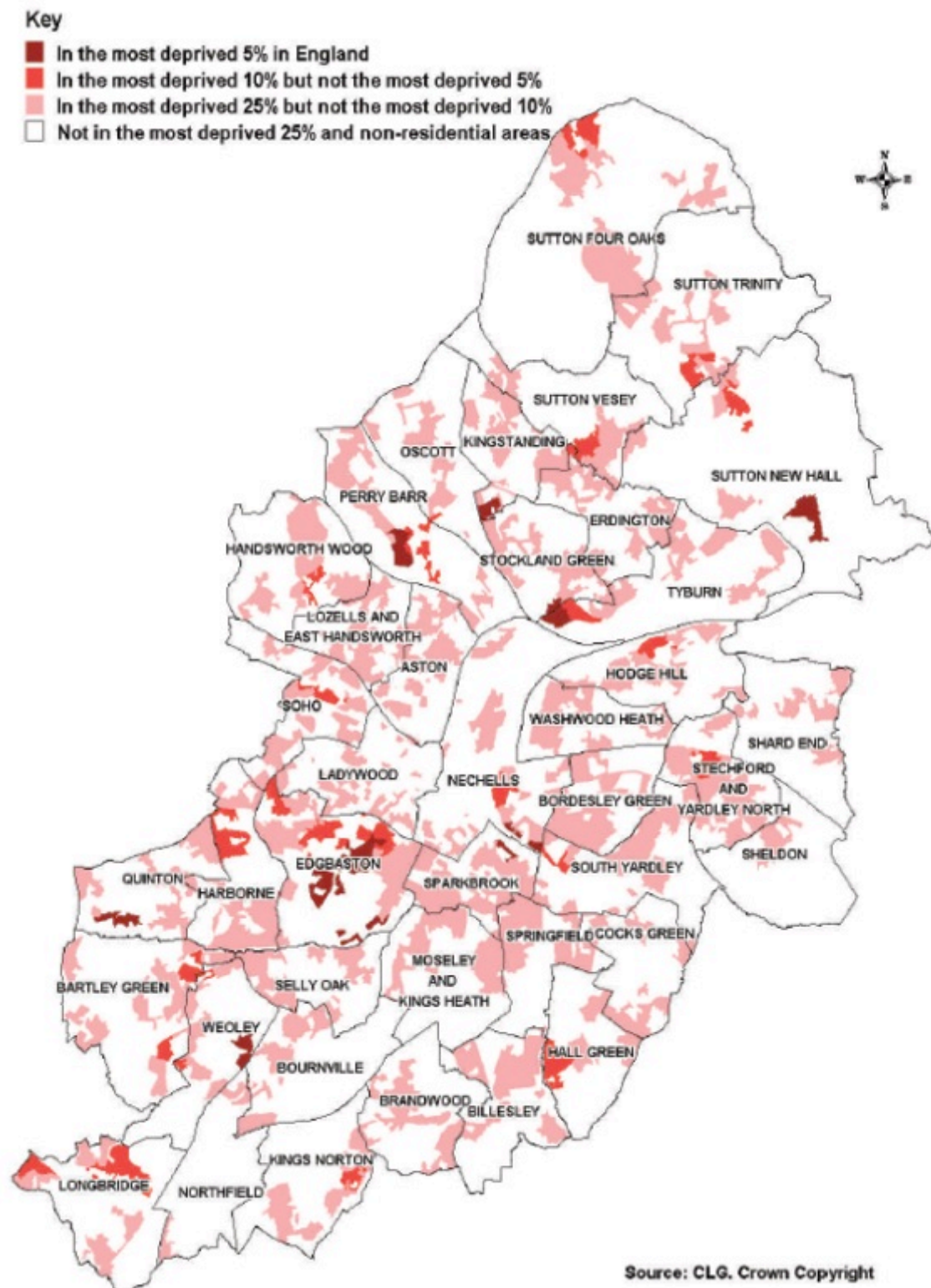


Figure 12.1: Barriers to housing deprivation domain (Source Birmingham City Council, 2011)

Box 12.1:**Key Housing Issues for Balsall Heath**

- Balsall Heath is within an area in the top 25% most deprived areas national from a barrier to housing and services perspective.
- House prices within Balsall Heath are below citywide averages.
- Although the income to house price ratio has reduced since 2006, there is still a significant gap between house prices and average income. Affordability of housing is a key issue within Birmingham and Balsall Heath.
- Demand for all types of housing/homes.
- Overcrowding.
- Mismatch between demand and stock.

Key Issues highlighted during Community Planning Workshop

- There is a need to support affordable housing in Balsall Heath, especially family homes.
- Limited building land available.
- There is a need to facilitate and support the renovation, refurbishment and upgrades of existing housing stock.
- Regenerate redundant buildings as mixed use.
- Potential housing sites at Balsall Heath Road and Highgate Road.

13 Material Assets

13.1 Summary of policy and plan review

- 13.1.1 The material assets environmental information theme covers a range of policy areas, including waste management, minerals, energy production and previously developed land.
- 13.1.2 National level PPPs seek to protect minerals resources and promote appropriate after uses for minerals workings. PPPs at all levels seek to promote the 'waste hierarchy'. This seeks to prioritise waste management in the following order: reduction; reuse; recycling and composting; energy recovery; and disposal. National and regional PPPs also support the use of previously developed land.
- 13.1.3 An expansion of renewable energy production is strongly promoted by European and national PPPs. Under EU Directive 2001/77/EC, member states are jointly required to achieve 22% of electricity production from renewable energies by 2010; with the UK-specific target of 10%. This has been reinforced by the UK's recent Renewable Energy Strategy, which seeks to produce 15% of electricity from renewable sources by 2020.

13.2 Summary of baseline

Waste

- 13.2.1 In comparison with regional averages, recycling rates in Birmingham are less favourable. Overall the gap between recycling rates has grown wider between Birmingham and the regional average. Currently Birmingham recycle/reuse/or compost over 10% less than regionally.
- 13.2.2 More favourably, the volume of household waste has continued to fall within Birmingham since 2007/08. This trend was mirrored regionally although the regional average was significantly lower than the Birmingham average. In the years 2010/11 saw a dramatic shift in household waste collection. Birmingham's total collections were significantly lower than regional averages, which had risen.

Table 13.1: Household waste arisings and recycling rates in Birmingham (DEFRA, 2011)

Year	Kg of household waste collected per household		Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting	
	Birmingham	West Midlands	Birmingham	West Midlands
2010/11	682.70	1,037	31.0%	42.4%
2009/10	711.83	642	31.53%	40.0%
2008/09	760.01	699	30.41%	36.6%
2007/08	832.00	764	26.42%	33.0%

Minerals

13.2.3 According to the Birmingham City Council Annual Monitoring Report (2011) there are currently no active mineral workings within Birmingham. In addition there are no extant planning permissions for minerals extraction. The Council plan to cease monitoring of production of primary won aggregates. Focus instead will move towards monitoring recycling of aggregates.

13.2.4 There are currently no aggregate recycling facilities within Balsall Heath.

Previously developed land

13.2.5 In relation to reuse of brownfield sites, completions of housing on previously developed sites in Birmingham have been consistently high. A target of 82% outlined in the Unitary Development Plan has been exceeded (See **Table 13.2**)

Table 13.2: Housing completions on brownfield sites

Year	Per cent of new homes built on previously developed land
2010/11	98
2009/10	100
2008/09	89
2007/08	99
2006/07	99
2005/06	99
2004/05	96
2003/04	95

Renewable energy

13.2.6 Birmingham City Council has adopted a target to reduce the city's carbon dioxide emissions from burning the fossil fuels by 60% by 2026. For Balsall Heath a reduction of about 3,374 tonnes of carbon dioxide per year until 2026 would be required.

13.2.7 Balsall Heath is Our Planet has commissioned John Newson to prepare an energy plan for the Balsall Heath Area. The energy plan identifies initiatives, which would be most applicable to the Balsall Heath area, such as improving energy efficiency and increasing the proportion of low carbon energy production.

13.2.8 The energy plan for Balsall Heath identifies a number of possible schemes for reducing energy consumption and the production of low carbon energy. The report discusses the relative merits of each option. Possible energy sources for Balsall Heath include:

- Solar Photovoltaic, such as those on the zero carbon house (Balsall heath roofs are an assets with an opportunity to create Balsall heath Solar Power Station);
- Wind Power (possible northern end of Moseley Road);
- Water power (possible River Rea local hydropower);

- Air Source Heat (Such as those installed on Birmingham Municipal Housing Trust property on the Pershore Road);
- Ground source heat;
- Solar Heat, such as those on the Balsall Heath Children's centre (opportunity to install on the Balsall Heath baths);
- District Heating;
- Combined Heat and Power;
- Energy from waste;
- Gas from waste; and
- Wood waste.

Box 13.1:**Key Material Asset Issues for Balsall Heath**

- There are no mineral sites or aggregate recycling centres within the Balsall Heath area.
- An energy plan for Balsall Heath has been prepared. This outlines possible sources of local low carbon energy production in addition to methods of reducing energy consumption.
- Recycling and compost rates in Birmingham are significantly below the regional average. The Neighbourhood plan should seek to support the sustainable management of waste including facilitating an increase in the proportion of waste being reused, recycled or composted.
- Birmingham has maintained a high proportion of new development being built on previously developed land. The Neighbourhood plan should support the reuse of previously developed land, such as the former Joseph Chamberlain College site.

Key Issues highlighted during Community Planning Workshop

- Need to support and take advantage of opportunities for local renewable energy generation.
- Need to adopt a model of self-sufficiency in energy use and production.



14 Population and Quality of life

14.1 Summary of Policy and Plan Review

- 14.1.1 PPPs on population include a range of different objectives, including tackling social exclusion, improving human rights and public participation, improving health, and ensuring every child has the chance to fulfil their potential by reducing levels of education failure, ill health, substance misuse, crime and anti-social behaviour. At the regional and local levels, support for cultural diversity and young people are key aims.
- 14.1.2 Wide ranges of objectives exist within policies and plans from a European to a local level with regards to Quality of Life. In particular these focus on improving social progress and social inclusion; reducing poverty; improving housing quality; preventing crime, anti-social behaviour and truancy; improving skill levels and employability; and regenerating communities.
- 14.1.3 The Equality Act 2006 sets out that people should not be disadvantaged on the basis of age; disability; gender; proposed, commenced or completed gender reassignment; race; religion or belief and sexual orientation.

14.2 Summary of baseline

Population

- 14.2.1 According to the Balsall Heath Community Planning Report (Prince's Trust, no date) Balsall Heath has a population of approximately 15,000 people.

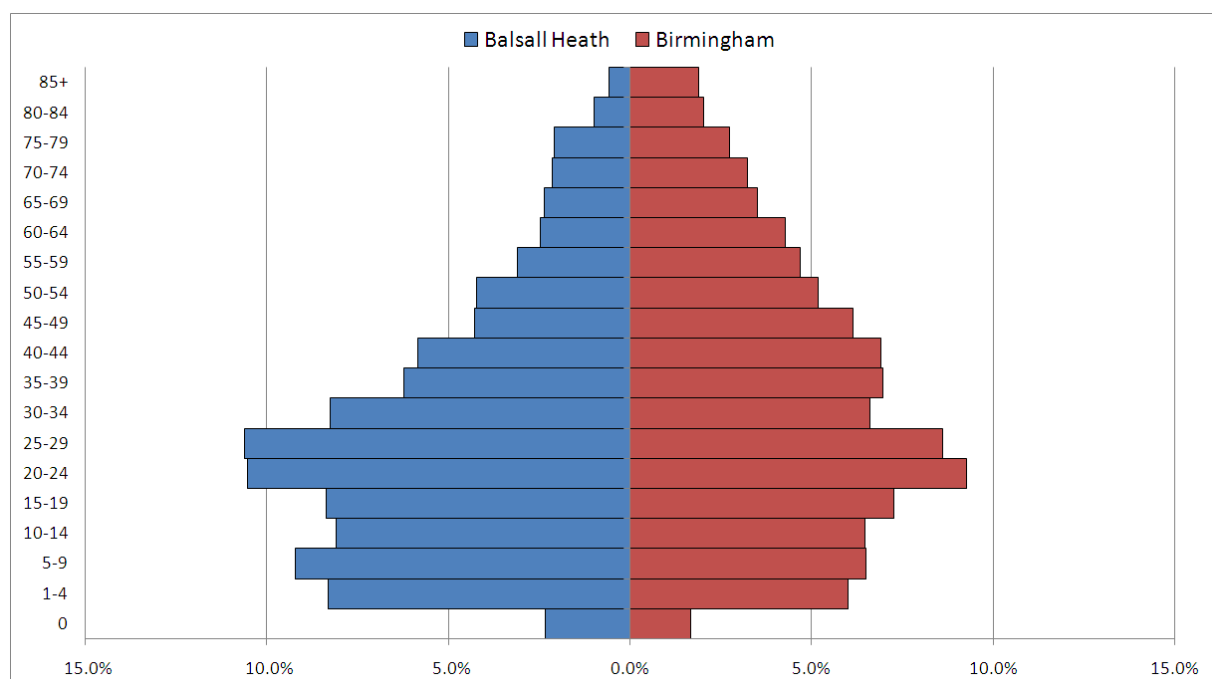


Figure 14.1: Population structure in Balsall Heath (Source Balsall Heath Health Profile 2010)

- 14.2.2 As shown by **Figure 14.1** Balsall Heath has a relatively young population structure. With a significant proportion of residents aged below the age of 35. The proportion of people aged over the age of 80 is significantly below the Birmingham average. The population structure of Balsall Heath is relatively bottom heavy. This will have implications in terms of housing, health and employment needs.

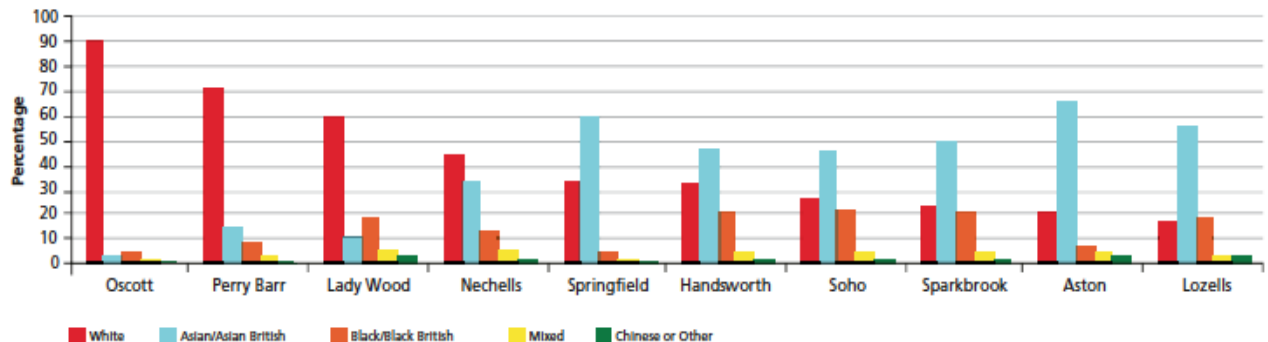


Figure 14.2: Ethnicity for wards in Heart of Birmingham PCT (Source HOB, 2010)

- 14.2.3 Balsall Heath has a diverse and multicultural community. It comprises a large proportion of Black and Ethnic Minority communities. Figure 14.2 shows a breakdown of ethnicity in the Sparkbrook ward. It shows that approximately 50% of residents are from an Asian/Asian British ethnic background. Approximately 20% of the Sparkbrook ward is white.

Index of Multiple Deprivations

- 14.2.4 The Index of Multiple Deprivation (2010) looks at the relative levels of deprivation according to a set of indicators. The information identifies areas where deprivation is a either high or low and ranks it according to level of deprivation.
- 14.2.5 Balsall Heath suffers from pockets of deprivation and poor environmental quality. Nevertheless, it also exhibits many signs of vibrant entrepreneurship, social cohesion and environmental landmarks.
- 14.2.6 **Figure 14.3** shows overall deprivation levels in the Sparkbrook ward, including Balsall Heath. Overall levels of deprivation is calculated for a number of different topics, covering a range of economic, social and housing issues, which are then combined to give an overall multiple deprivation score. The Indices are used widely to analyse patterns of deprivation, identify areas that would benefit from special initiatives or programmes and as a tool to determine eligibility for specific funding streams. Figure 14.3 shows that Balsall Heath is within an area that includes some of the most deprived area nationally. It should be noted that not all of Balsall Heath falls within the top 5% most deprived national but does contain pockets that do.
- 14.2.7 **Figure 14.4** shows levels of deprivation from a living environment perspective. The Living Environment Deprivation Domain measures the quality of individuals' immediate surroundings both within and outside the home. It is made up of two sub-domains concerned with the 'indoor' environment, such as the quality of housing, and the 'outdoor' environment, about air quality and road traffic accidents.
- 14.2.8 **Figure 14.4** shows that Balsall Heath has pockets of living environment deprivation that feature in the top 5% and 10% most deprived nationally.

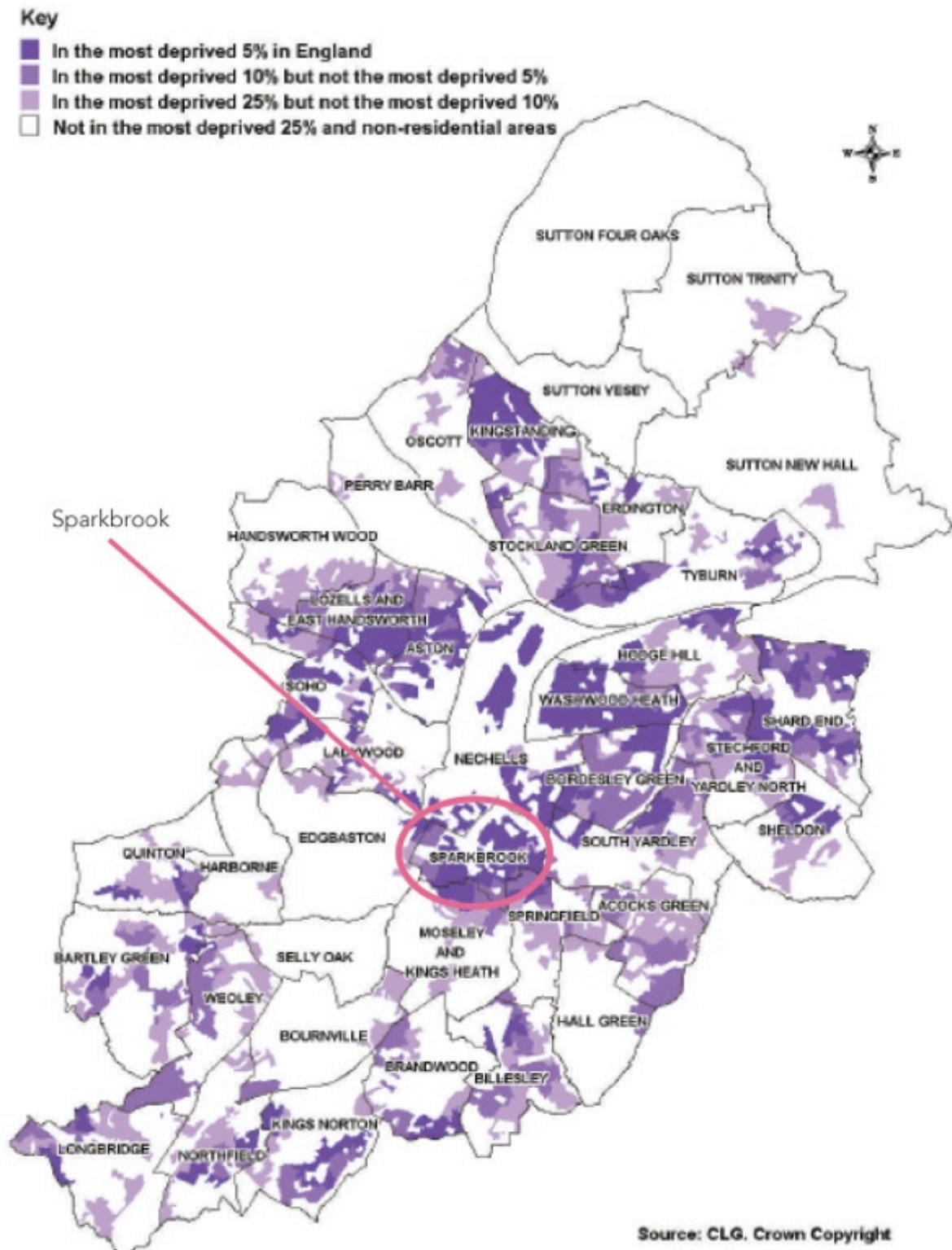


Figure 14.3: Overall deprivation (Source Birmingham City Council, 2011)

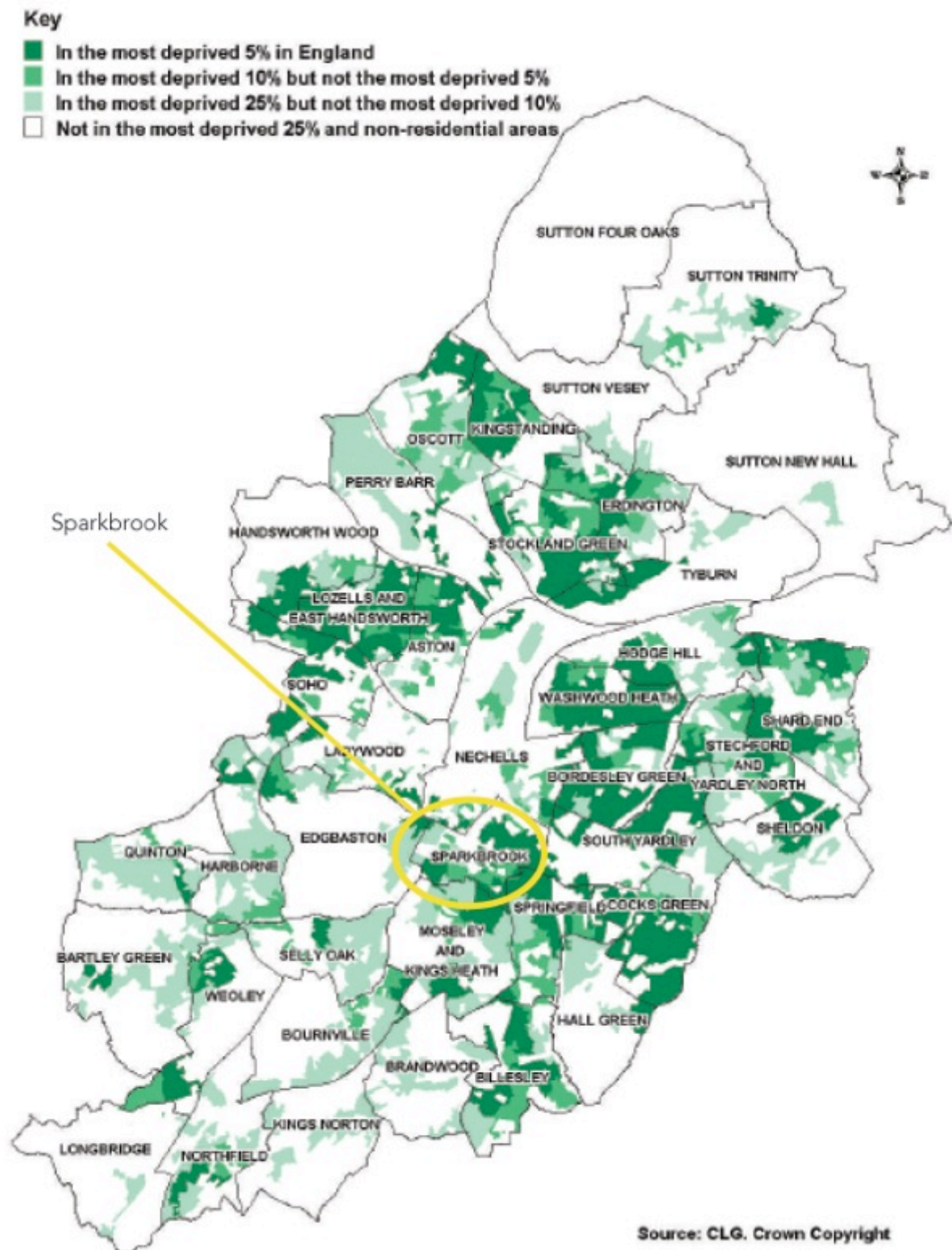


Figure 14.4: Living environment deprivation (Source Birmingham City Council, 2011)

Crime

- 14.2.9 **Figures 14.5 and 14.6** show anti-social and “other crime” equate to approximately two thirds of all reported crime in the Sparkbrook ward. Crime levels for burglary, vehicle crime and violent crime have remained relatively steady.

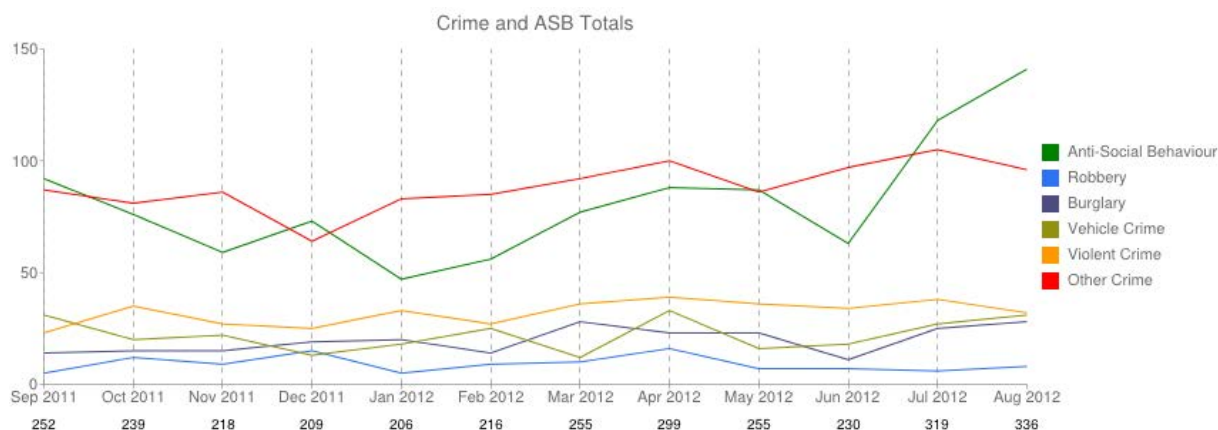


Figure 14.5: Crime rates in Sparkbrook Ward (Source UK Crime Stats, 2012)

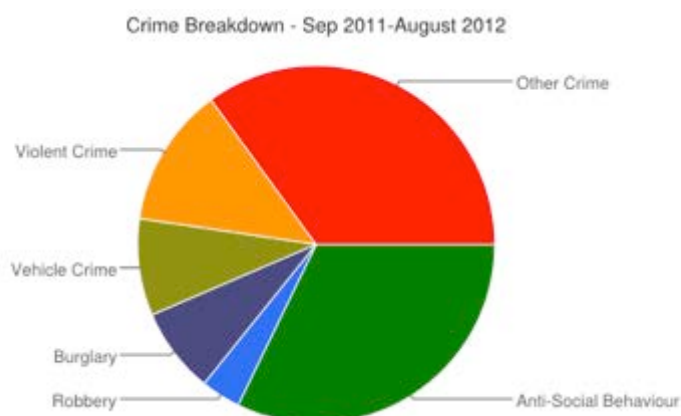


Figure 14.6: Crime as a proportion in Sparkbrook Ward between 2011-2012 (Source UK Crime Stats, 2012)

Box 14.1:

Key Population and Quality of Life Issues Balsall Heath

- Balsall Heath has a relatively young population structure. This will have implications in terms of housing, employment and health needs.
- Balsall Heath has a high proportion of Black and Ethnic Minority communities. Health needs for different social groups vary, although health statistics are relatively poor in the Balsall Heath area.
- There are pockets of deprivation that feature in the top 5% most deprived nationally.
- A large proportion of reported crime relate to antisocial behaviour.
- The development and maintenance of a high quality green infrastructure network will be a key contributor to quality of life in Balsall Heath.

Key Issues highlighted during Community Planning Workshop

- Waste of social potential due to high unemployment.
- Great community cohesion.
- Recognise and identify the role and key function of local centres and areas including Ladypool Road for food/retail, and Moseley Road for civic and mixed use.
- Promote community involvement and encourage opportunities for community engagement and celebration.



15 Water and Soil

15.1 Summary of policy and plan review

- 15.1.1 National water policies are primarily driven by the aims of the EC Water Framework Directive, as translated into national law by the Water Framework Regulations 2003. Key objectives include improving the quality of rivers and other water bodies to 'good ecological status' by 2015; considering flood risk at all stages of the plan and development process in order to reduce future damage to property and loss of life; and incorporating water efficiency measures into new developments.
- 15.1.2 National and regional strategies also have a strong focus on maintaining and protecting the availability of water in the West Midlands. Water supply and use is guided by the Environment Agency's Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS).
- 15.1.3 The NPPF seeks to ensure that flood risk is taken into account at all stages in the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding, and to direct development away from areas of highest risk.
- 15.1.4 National and regional policies and strategies on soil seek to: prevent soil pollution; reduce soil erosion from wind and water; maintain soil diversity; improve the quality of soil, including through the remediation of contaminated land and through promoting an increase in organic matter in soil; protect and enhance stores of soil carbon and water; recognise soils' role for natural systems; and increase the resilience of soils to a changing climate.

15.2 Summary of baseline

Water resources, features and quality

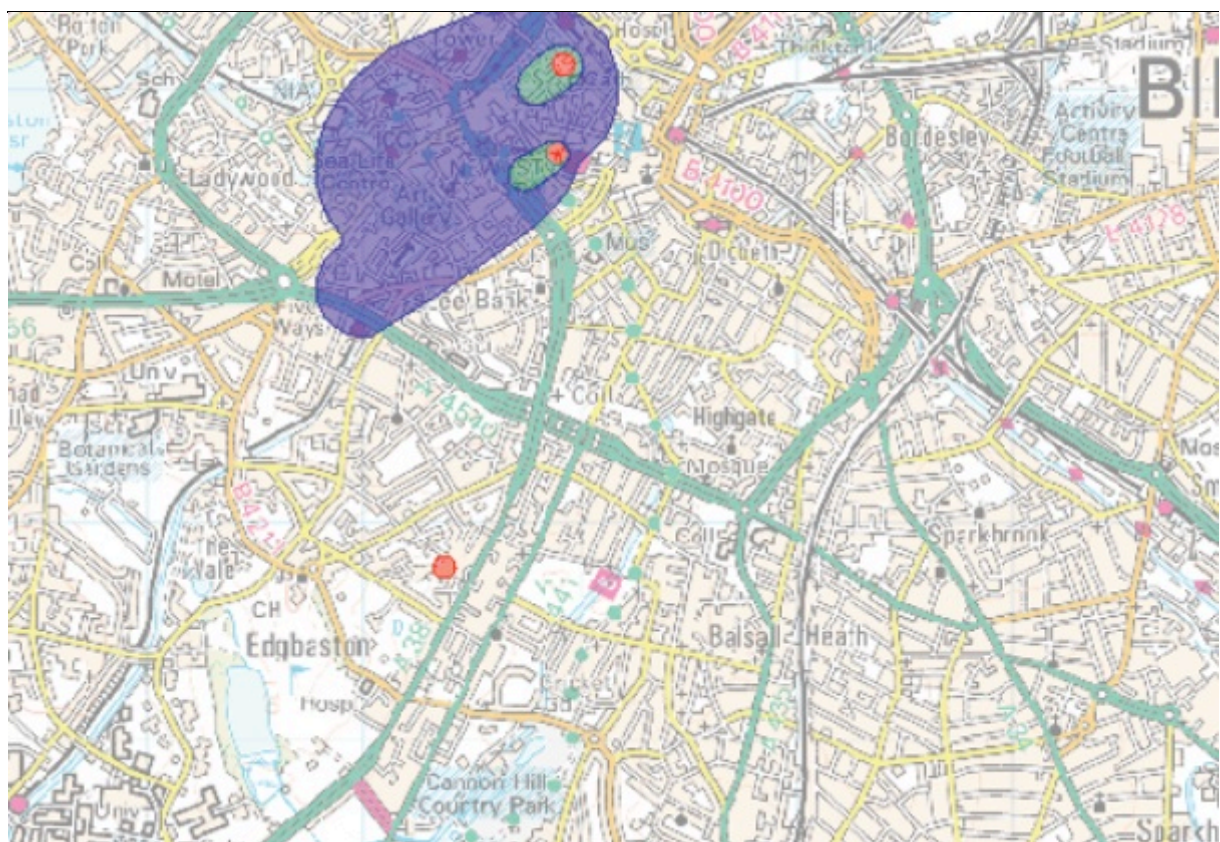
- 15.2.1 The vulnerability of groundwater to pollution is determined by the physical, chemical and biological properties of the soil and rocks, which control the ease with which an unprotected hazard can affect groundwater. Groundwater Source Protection Zones (SPZs) indicate the risk to groundwater supplies from potentially polluting activities and accidental releases of pollutants. Designed to protect individual groundwater sources, these zones show the risk of contamination from any activities that might cause pollution in the area. In this context they are used to inform pollution prevention measures in areas which are at a higher risk, and to monitor the activities of potential polluting activities nearby.
- 15.2.2 **Figure 15.1** shows the location of groundwater protection zones in relation to Balsall Heath. Although none are located within the NDP area there is a Zone One protection area directly east of the plan area adjacent to the A38.
- 15.2.3 The Environment Agency has graded SPZs into four zones, as follows:

Zone 1 (Inner protection zone): Any pollution that can travel to the borehole within 50 days from any point within the zone is classified as being inside zone 1. This applies at and below the water table. This zone also has a minimum 50 metre protection radius around the borehole. These criteria are designed to protect against the transmission of toxic chemicals and water-borne disease.

Zone 2 (Outer protection zone): The outer zone covers pollution that takes up to 400 days to travel to the borehole, or 25% of the total catchment area – whichever area is the biggest. This travel time is the minimum amount of time that it has been established pollutants need to be diluted, reduced in strength or delayed by the time they reach the borehole.

Zone 3 (Total catchment): The total catchment is the total area needed to support removal of water from the borehole, and to support any discharge from the borehole.

Zone 4 (of special interest): Where local conditions mean that industrial sites and other polluters could affect the groundwater source even though they are outside the normal catchment area.



- Inner zone
(Zone 1)
- Outer zone
(Zone 2)
- Total catchment
(Zone 3)
- Special interest
(Zone 4)

Figure 15.1: Groundwater source protection zones in the vicinity of Balsall Heath (Source Environment Agency, 2012)

- 15.2.4 CAMS are six-year strategies developed by the Environment Agency for managing water resources at the local level. CAMS will be produced for every river catchment area in England and Wales. The NDP area is covered by the following CAMS:
- Tame, Anker, and Mease CAMS
- 15.2.5 The CAMS documents contain maps and descriptions of the local Water Management Units (WMUs), groundwater and surface water, and an assessment of water availability at times of low flow – normally mid to late summer. CAMS also classify each WMU into one of four categories: 'over-abstracted'; 'over-licensed'; 'no water available'; or 'water available'.
- 15.2.6 On this basis the Tame, Anker and Mease CAMS suggest the north of Balsall Heath is within an area that has water available. Balsall Heath is within WMU 1: Tame, Anker, Trent, and Cole.

Table 15.1: Watercourse quality of main watercourses (Source Humber River Basin Management Plan 2009)

Name of Watercourse	Current Ecological Status	Status Objectives
River Rea from Bourn Brook to River Tame	Bad	Good ecological potential by 2027

- 15.2.7 The principle watercourse within Balsall Heath is the River Rea. The watercourse is categorised as having a poor ecological status. The watercourse has been heavily modified and runs through culverts in numerous places within Birmingham. Significant improvements to water quality are needed in order to meet Water Framework Directive objectives.

Flood risk

- 15.2.8 Table 1 in the Technical Appendix of the NPPF, provides a Sequential Test to enable Local Planning Authorities to apply a risk-based approach to site allocations within their authority boundary. The test classifies sites into one of four flood risk zones based on the annual probability of flooding. These zones are as follows:
- Zone 1, Low Probability: This zone comprises land assessed as having a less than 1 in 1000 annual probability of river or sea flooding in any year (<0.1%).
 - Zone 2, Medium Probability: This zone comprises land assessed as having between a 1 in 100 and 1 in 1000 annual probability of river flooding (1% – 0.1%) or between a 1 in 200 and 1 in 1000 annual probability of sea flooding (0.5% – 0.1%) in any year.
 - Zone 3a, High Probability: This zone comprises land assessed as having a 1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river flooding (>1%) or a 1 in 200 or greater annual probability of flooding from the sea (>0.5%) in any year.
 - Zone 3b, The Functional Floodplain: This zone comprises land where water has to flow or be stored in times of flood. This is land assessed as having a 1 in 20 (5%) or greater annual probability of river flooding in any year or is designed to flood in an extreme (0.1%) flood, or at another probability to be agreed between the Local Planning Authority and the Environment Agency.
- 15.2.9 **Figure 15.2** shows an overview of flood risk areas within Balsall Heath.



Figure 15.2: Flood risk map of Balsall Heath (Environment Agency, 2012)

Soil quality and contamination

15.2.10 As highlighted by the Soil Strategy for England, soil is a vital natural resource, with a range of key functions. These include:

- Support of food, fuel and fibre production;
- Environmental interaction functions (e.g. regulating the flow of and filtering substances from water, emitting and removing atmospheric gases, storing carbon);
- Support of habitats and biodiversity;
- Protection of cultural heritage and archaeology;
- Providing a platform for construction; and
- Providing raw materials.

- 15.2.11 As an urban area, Balsall Heath does not contain large swathes of agricultural land. Nonetheless, it is important to recognise the role and importance of soil in urban areas. Soil quality in Balsall Heath helps support biodiversity whilst regulating the flow and infiltration of water. In addition soil is a resource which needs to be managed sustainably due to its important ecosystem service functions.

Box 15.1:**Key Water and Soil Issues for Balsall Heath**

- The River Rea runs through the western side of Balsall Heath, through Calthorpe Park. It is currently categorised as having a poor ecological status.
- Western areas of Balsall Heath are within a flood zone relating to the River Rea.
- A Groundwater protection zone (Zone one) is located outside of the NDP area to the west of the A38. The NDP should ensure that future developments do not contribute to the pollution of groundwater sources.
- The NDP should seek to conserve and protect soil within Balsall Heath. It should recognise its ecosystem service functions. Soil quality is a key consideration in terms of promoting community gardens and local food production.

Key Issues highlighted during Community Planning Workshop

- River Rea has multifunctional opportunities for biodiversity, recreation and leisure.
- Productive landscape.



16 Sustainability Objectives

16.1 Purpose of the SA Framework

- 16.1.1 The Neighbourhood Development Plan will be assessed through an SA Framework of objectives, decision-making criteria, indicators and targets. These are shown in **Appendix B**.
- 16.1.2 The SA Framework provides a way in which sustainability effects can be described, analysed and compared. The SA Framework consists of SA objectives, which, where practicable, may be expressed, in the form of targets, the achievement of which is measurable using indicators. SA objectives and indicators can be revised as further baseline information is collected and sustainability issues and challenges are identified. These can also be utilised in monitoring the implementation of the NDP.
- 16.1.3 The purpose of the SA Framework's SA objectives are to provide a way of ensuring the proposed plan's policies consider the sustainability needs of the area in terms of their social, environmental and economic effects. The SEA topics identified in Annex I (f) of the SEA Directive are one of the key determinants when considering which SA Objectives should be used for the environmental criteria. Consequently, the SA Objectives incorporate all sustainability themes (see **Table 2.2**) to ensure the assessment process is robust and thorough.
- 16.1.4 The SA objectives have drawn on the baseline information, the key issues and other plans and programmes of particular interest discussed earlier in this Scoping Report. To expand on the central focus of each SA objective (as they are high-level and potentially open-ended) the SA Framework includes a series of questions or 'decision making criteria' for use when applying the SA Framework to the assessment of the NDP. The indicators and targets accompany these for each SA Objective. Indicators and targets are based on local targets where appropriate.
- 16.1.5 The SA Objectives have been set out in **Table 16.1**.

Table 16.1: SA Objectives

SA Objective		Sustainability theme
1	Protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and geodiversity.	Biodiversity and geodiversity
2	Improve air, water and soil qualities through reducing pollution both diffuse and point source.	Air, water, soil quality
3	Improve the efficiency of transport networks by increasing the proportion of travel by sustainable modes and by promoting policies that reduce the need to travel.	Accessibility and transport
4	Promote and support climate change mitigation through reducing Birmingham's greenhouse gas emissions from all sources.	Climate change
5	Adapt to the anticipated levels of climate change.	Climate change, water
6	Protect and conserve natural resources.	Material assets, soil, water
7	Protect, enhance and manage sites, features, areas and landscapes of archaeological, historical and cultural heritage importance, their setting and significance.	Historic environment, landscape
8	Protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the townscape, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place.	Historic Environment, landscape
9	Reduce waste generation and disposal, and promote the waste hierarchy of reduce, reuse, recycle/compost, energy recovery and disposal.	Material assets
10	Safeguard and improve community health, safety and wellbeing.	Health, Population and quality of life
11	Provide affordable, environmentally sound and good quality housing for all.	Housing, Population and quality of life
12	Reduce poverty and social exclusion and close the gap between the most deprived areas in the Balsall Heath and the rest of Sparkbrook Ward.	Population and quality of life
13	Develop a dynamic, diverse and knowledge-based economy that excels in innovation with higher value, lower impact activities.	Economic factors

17 Next Stages and Approach to the Appraisal Process

- 17.1.1 In terms of the assessment methodology, a two stage sequential approach to assessment will be utilised. The first stage is to produce a 'High Level Assessment' of all policies and proposals presented in the NDP. The second stage is more detailed and evaluates specific aspects of the plan proposals, which have been identified as being potentially adverse in some way. This approach is more comprehensive and is supported by the Planning Advisory Service¹ guidance, which refers to the technique as 'sieving'.
- 17.1.2 Findings from the High Level Assessment will be presented in matrix format (see **Appendix C**). The high-level matrix is not a conclusive tool or model. Its main function is to identify at a strategic level whether or not the assessment requires a more detailed examination or whether satisfactory conclusions may be drawn from the high-level assessment without the need for further (time consuming) detailed analysis of a particular policy.
- 17.1.3 In cases where further detailed analysis is required, a secondary level of assessment will be used. This introduces the application of Detailed Assessment Matrices. The purpose of Detailed Assessment Matrices is to provide an in-depth assessment of the different aspects of a particular policy, which revealed potentially significant adverse effects at the high-level assessment stage. The Detailed Assessment Matrices evaluate specific aspects of Neighbourhood proposals to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive.
- 17.1.4 Detailed Assessment Matrices will include:
- A description of the predicted effect;
 - The duration of the effect: whether the effect is long, medium or short term;
 - The frequency of the effect: will it be on-going?
 - Whether the effect is temporary or permanent;
 - The geographic significance: whether the effect is of localised, regional, national or international significance;
 - The magnitude of the effect;
 - The severity of significance; and
 - Whether mitigation is required/possible to reduce the effect.
- 17.1.5 As required by the SEA Directive, cumulative, synergistic and indirect effects will also be identified and evaluated during the assessment. An explanation of these is as follows:
- Indirect effects are effects that are not a direct result of the plan, but occur away from the original effect or as a result of a complex pathway.
 - Cumulative effects arise where several developments each have insignificant effects but together have a significant effect, or where several individual effects of the plan have a combined effect.
 - Synergistic effects interact to produce a total effect greater than the sum of the individual effects.

¹ Planning Advisory Service (2007) *Local Development Frameworks; Guidance on Sustainability Appraisal* p.32.

- 17.1.6 The assessment of these effects will be presented in tabular form and show where the different effects arise when two or more draft policies operate together. It should be noted that indirect, cumulative, and / or synergistic effects could impact outside the plan area, and these will be considered through the SA process.
- 17.1.7 Wherever possible, throughout the SA process, Geographic Information Systems will be used as an analytical tool to examine the spatial distribution of identified effects.

18 Consultation on Scoping

18.1 Purpose of Consultation

18.1.1 The SEA Regulations state that a Scoping Report shall be prepared which will be the subject of consultation with statutory consultation bodies for a minimum period of five weeks.

18.1.2 Public involvement through consultation is a key element of the SA process. The SEA Regulations require consultation with statutory consultation bodies but not full consultation with the public at the scoping stage. Regulation 12 (5) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SI 1633) states that:

“When deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information that must be included in the report the responsible authority shall consult the consultation bodies.”

18.1.3 The statutory consultation bodies are English Heritage, the Environment Agency and Natural England. A wide range of other stakeholders may also be given the opportunity to comment on the Scoping Report.

18.2 Consultation Details

18.2.1 This Scoping Report is available to download at:

www.birmingham.gov.uk/BalsallHeathndp

18.2.2 The consultation period ran for a period of five weeks from 5.30pm Thursday 18th October until 5.30pm Thursday 22nd November 2012. The Statutory Consultees English Heritage, Natural England and Environment Agency were invited to consult on this scoping report. Representations were received from Natural England, English Heritage, St Pauls Trust and Sport England. Where appropriate, representations have been incorporated within this Scoping report, leading to additional indicators within the SA Framework.

18.3 Next steps

18.3.1 Following these early stages of the appraisal process, the SA team will assess the policies and proposals included in the consultation version of the NDP options report. This will be presented in an Options SA Report.

18.3.2 After the production of the Balsall Heath NP Options Report, the policies will be refined to create the preferred options using, in part, the findings of the Options SA Report. These preferred options (or policies) will constitute the publication version of the NP. Another round of sustainability assessment will take place on these policies to produce the SA Report, which will be published alongside the publication version of the NP.

- 18.3.3 Any amendments to the draft Plan following consultation will be appraised before the finalisation of the plan. An SA Adoption Statement will then be prepared at the very end of the process to accompany the Neighbourhood Plan at its independent examination and subsequent adoption if appropriate. In addition to highlighting how the SA process has informed and influenced the development of the plan, and how consultation has been taken into account, this will present a monitoring programme to monitor the effects highlighted by the SA process.

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Appendix A: Annex I of the SEA Directive



Statutory Instrument 2004 No. 1633
The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004

INFORMATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

1. *An outline of the contents and main objectives of the plan or programme, and of its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes.*
2. *The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme.*
3. *The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.*
4. *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 Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds [10] and the Habitats Directive.*
5. *The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.*
6. *The likely significant effects on the environment, including short, medium and long-term effects, permanent and temporary effects, positive and negative effects, and secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects, on issues such as –*
 - (a) biodiversity;*
 - (b) population;*
 - (c) human health;*
 - (d) fauna;*
 - (e) flora;*
 - (f) soil;*
 - (g) water;*
 - (h) air;*
 - (i) climatic factors;*
 - (j) material assets;*
 - (k) cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage;*
 - (l) landscape; and*
 - (m) the inter-relationship between the issues referred to in sub-paragraphs (a) to (l).*
7. *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.*
8. *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.*
9. *A description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with regulation 17.*
10. *A non-technical summary of the information provided under paragraphs 1 to 9.*



Appendix B: SA Framework

School



	SA Objectives	Decision making criteria: Will the option/proposal...		Indicators	Targets
1	Protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and geodiversity.	Q1a	Will it lead to a loss of or damage to biodiversity interest?	Percentage of new development occurring on previously developed land	
				% of new development contributing to the enhancement of green infrastructure assets	
				% of planning applications where protected species are considered	
				% of planning applications with conditions imposed to ensure working practices and works to protect/ enhance protected species	
				% of planning applications which result in need for protected species licence in order to be carried out	
		Q1b	Will it lead to habitat creation, including GI, matching BAP priorities?	Area of Nature Conservation designation per 1,000 population (ha)	At least 1ha of Local Nature Reserve per 1,000 population (Natural England)
				Area of new habitat creation reflecting BAP priorities	
				Extent and condition of key habitats set out within the BAP	
		Q1c	Will it maintain and enhance Calthorpe Park and the River Rea corridor for Biodiversity?	Number of developments that contribute towards environmental enhancements of the corridor..	
				% of new development contributing to the enhancement of green infrastructure assets	
		Q1d	Will it lead to the loss or damage of sites designated for their geodiversity	Area designated for geological interest	

			interest?		
		Q1e	Will it link up areas of fragmented habitat and create new GI?	% of new development incorporating GI into their designs	
		Q1f	Will it increase awareness of biodiversity and geodiversity assets?	% of developer contributions supporting biodiversity/geodiversity projects in Balsall Heath.	
2	Improve air, water and soil qualities through reducing pollution both diffuse and point source.	Q2a	Will it lead to improved air quality?	Air Quality Management Area for Birmingham	To meet national Air Quality Standards
				No. of days when air pollution is moderate or high for NO ₂ , SO ₂ , O ₃ , CO or PM ₁₀	To meet national Air Quality Standards
		Q2b	Will it lead to improved water quality of both surface water groundwater features in line with WFD objectives?	% of developments occurring in areas with known waste water treatment capacity issues	River Rea t reach good ecological potential by 2027
				% change in pollution incidents	
				No. of planning permissions incorporating SUDS	All (Environment agency)
		Q2c	Will it lead to the permanent loss of land suitable for local food production	Number of pollution incidents	
				Loss of open space and garden space	
		Q2d	Will it maintain and enhance soil quality?	Area of contaminated land (ha)	
				No. of development which result in the clean-up of contaminated sites	
		Q2e	Will it reduce the overall amount of diffuse pollution to air, water and soil?	% change in pollution incidents	
3	Improve the efficiency of transport networks by increasing the	Q3a	Will it reduce the need to travel?	Percentage of completed significant local service developments located within a defined centre	

	proportion of travel by sustainable modes and by promoting policies that reduce the need to travel.			Average distance (km) travelled to fixed place of work	
				Percentage of new residential development within 10 minutes public transport time of a GP, hospital, primary and secondary school, employment and major health centre	
				Ease of access to key local services	
		Q3b	Will it encourage walking and cycling?	Percentage of people aged 16-74 who usually travel to work by bicycle or on foot	
				Proportion of new development providing cycle parking	
		Q3c	Will it reduce car use?	Percentage of people aged 16-74 who usually travel to work by driving a car or van	
		Q3d	Will it encourage use of public transport and lead to reduced congestion?	Percentage of people aged 16-74 who usually travel to work by bus or train	
				Number of journeys made by bus per annum	
				Percentage of development in urban/rural areas within 400m or 5 minutes walk of half hourly bus service	
				Number of journeys made by train per annum	
		Q3e	Will it provide adequate means of access by a range of sustainable transport modes?	Distance of new development to existing or proposed public transport routes	

				Provision of new walking and cycling links to accompany new development	
		Q3f	Will it help limit the effect of HGV traffic flows?	HGV traffic flows on residential roads	
4	Promote and support climate change mitigation through reducing Birmingham's greenhouse gas emissions from all sources.	Q4a	Will it help reduce Balsall Heath's carbon footprint?	Proportion of electricity produced from renewable resources	UK Government renewable energy target: 15% of electricity to be produced from renewable sources by 2020.
					10% of Birmingham homes to be connected to a district heating system by 2015
				Proportion of new homes achieving a three star or above sustainability rating for the "Energy/CO ₂ " category as stipulated by the Code for Sustainable Homes	All new homes to be carbon neutral by 2016 (DCLG target)
				Per capita greenhouse gas emissions	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 42% below 1990 levels by 2020 and 60% by 2026 (Birmingham Climate Change Action Plan (2010)) For Balsall Heath the share would be a reduction of about 3,374 tonnes of carbon dioxide per year until 2026.
				Emission by source	
				Percentage of people aged 16-74 who usually travel to work by driving a car or van	
				CO ₂ , methane and nitrous oxide emissions per sector	UK Government targets: 80% reduction of carbon dioxide emission by 2050 and a 26% to 32% reduction by 2020

		Q4b	Will it help raise awareness of climate change mitigation?	Number of initiatives to increase awareness of energy efficiency	
5	Adapt to the anticipated levels of climate change.	Q5a	Will it increase the risk of flooding?	Amount of new development (ha) situated within a 1:100 flood risk area (Flood Zone 3)	Zero (Environment agency)
				Number of planning applications approved where Environment Agency have sustained an objection on flood risk grounds	Zero (Environment agency)
		Q5b	Will it reduce the risk of damage to property from storm events?	% of developments meeting the minimum standards for the "Surface Water Run-Off" and "Surface Water Management" categories in the Code for Sustainable Homes	
				No. of planning permissions incorporating SUDS	
		Q5c	Will it facilitate townscape change for climate change adaptation (e.g. by protecting key landscape and biodiversity features)?	Amount of new green space created per capita	
				Amount of green space lost through new development	
		Q5d	Will it encourage the development of buildings prepared for the impacts of climate change?	No of developments incorporating energy efficiency measures and No. of homes/developments linked to a combined heat and power system	10% of Birmingham homes to be connected to a district heating system by 2015
6	Protect and conserve natural resources.	Q6a	Will it include measures to limit water consumption?	% of new development incorporating water efficiency measures	
		Q6b	Will it utilise derelict, degraded and under-used land such as the Joseph Chamberlain College former site?	No. of allocations/developments built on previously developed land	
				Previously developed land that has been vacant or derelict for more than five years	

7	Protect, enhance and manage sites, features, areas and landscapes of archaeological, historical and cultural heritage importance, their setting and significance.	Q6c	Will it lead to the more efficient use of land?	Housing density in new development: average number of dwellings per hectare	
		Q6d	Will it lead to reduced consumption of materials and resources?	Percentage of commercial buildings meeting BREEAM Very Good Standard or above or equivalent	
				Percentage of housing developments achieving a three star or above sustainability rating as stipulated by the Code for Sustainable Homes	
		Q7a	Will it preserve buildings of architectural or historic interest and, where necessary, encourage their conservation and renewal?	Number of Grade II and Grade II* buildings at risk or lost through development	None (English Heritage)
				Number of Grade II and locally listed buildings at risk or lost through development	None (English Heritage)
		Q7b	Will it preserve or enhance archaeological sites/remains?	No of archaeological sites/remains lost or put at risk through proposed development	None (English Heritage)
				Number/proportion of development proposals informed by archaeological provisions, including surveys where appropriate	All (English Heritage)
		Q7c	Will it improve and broaden access to, understanding, and enjoyment of the historic environment?	Development which bring underutilised heritage assets back into use or encourage there maintenance and prominence	
		Q7d	Will it preserve or enhance the setting of cultural heritage assets and listed buildings?	Number of applications approved/refused where development would have adversely affected a listed building, its significance and it's setting.	

				No of sites which could damage or pose a risk to cultural heritage assets	
8	Protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the townscape, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place.	Q8a	Will it preserve or enhance the setting of cultural heritage assets?	Number of applications approved/refused where development would have adversely affected the distinctiveness and identity of Balsall Heath local centres	
				% of developments informed by detailed characterisation studies	
		Q8b	Will it safeguard and enhance the character of the townscape and local distinctiveness and identity?	Traffic growth- % of development encouraging the use of the car	
				Reuse of buildings of heritage value	
9	Reduce waste generation and disposal, and promote the waste hierarchy of reduce, reuse, recycle/compost, energy recovery and disposal.	Q9a	Will it provide facilities for the separation and recycling of waste?	Type and capacity of waste management facilities	
				Household waste (a) arisings and (b) recycled or composted	40% of waste recycled or composted by 2026
		Q9b	Will it encourage the use of recycled materials in construction?	Reuse of recycled materials from former building stock and other sources	
10	Safeguard and improve community health, safety and wellbeing.	Q10a	Will it improve access for all to community facilities?	No. of applications resulting in extension, improvement or loss of community facilities	
		Q10b	Will it improve access to areas of open space in Balsall Heath?	Area of parks and green spaces per 1,000 head of population	2.83 hectares per 1,000 population for playing field provision (National Playing Fields Association Standard)
				Accessible Natural Greenspace	100% of population with Accessible Natural Greenspace of at least 2ha within 300m (or 5 minutes of their home) (Natural

					England)
		Q10c	Will it improve long term health?	Life expectancy at birth	
				Standardised mortality rates	
		Q10d	Will it encourage healthy and active lifestyles?	% of adults (16+) participating in at least 30 minutes of moderate intensity sport and active recreation (including recreational walking) on three or more days of the week	To increase participation by 1% year-on-year until 2020 to achieve target of 50% of population participants in 30 mins activity, three times a week by 2020 (The Framework for Sport in England)
				The number of sports pitches available to the public per 1,000 population	
				The number of purpose built sports facilities incl. School sports halls within the neighbourhood	
				The number of sports teams in Balsall Heath	
		Q10e	Will it reduce obesity?	Percentage of adult population classified as obese	
		Q10f	Does it consider the health needs of different community groups in Balsall heath?	Percentage of older people being supported intensively to live at home	Increasing the proportion of older people being supported to live in their own home by 1% annually (DoH PSA)
				No. of extracare, sheltered and nursing home completions	
		Q10g	Will it improve road safety?	Number of people killed or seriously injured and number of people slightly injured on the highway network.	
		Q10h	Will it help reduce crime and fear of crime?	Number of reported crimes	
				No. and type of developments where advice from police is sought	

				and followed	
11	Provide affordable, environmentally sound and good quality housing for all.	Q11a	Will it ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing?	Affordable housing completions as a proportion of total delivered.	
				% of 1,2,and 3 bedroom homes built as proportion of total	
		Q11b	Will it ensure that all new development contributes to local distinctiveness and improves the local environment?	Number of major housing applications refused on design grounds.	
				Accessible Natural Greenspace	100% of population with Accessible Natural Greenspace of at least 2ha within 300m (or 5 minutes of their home (Natural England)
		Q11c	Will it meet the building specification guidance in the Code for Sustainable Homes? (DCLG)	Percentage of housing developments achieving a three star or above sustainability rating as stipulated by the Code for Sustainable Homes	All new homes to be carbon neutral by 2016 (UK Government target)
		Q11d	Will it reduce the number of households on the Housing Register?	Number of households on the Housing Register	To reduce the numbers of homeless households in priority need and the number of households in housing need on the housing register
12	Reduce poverty and social exclusion and close the gap between the most deprived areas in Balsall Heath and the rest of the ward.	Q12a	Will it improve accessibility to key services and facilities?	Percentage of completed highways improvements in deprived areas	
		Q12b	Will it enable communities to influence the decisions that affect their neighbourhoods and quality of life?	Percentage of adults surveyed who feel they can influence decisions affecting their own local area	
		Q12c	Will it improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as a	% respondents very or fairly satisfied with their neighbourhood	

			place to live?	Number/proportion of highways works seeking to enhance the setting of the environment	
		Q12d	Will it increase learning participation and adult education?	No. of people with qualifications	
				Attendance rate at local schools	
		Q12e	Will it reduce crime and the fear of crime?	Crime Deprivation Index	
13	Develop a dynamic, diverse and knowledge-based economy that excels in innovation with higher value, lower impact activities.	Q13a	Will it support or encourage diversification of the economy and new business sectors?	No. of new business start-ups	
				Number of people employed in high income jobs	
		Q13b	Will it ensure that new employment, leisure and leisure developments are in locations that are accessible to those who will use them by a choice of transport modes?	Proportion of new and existing residential development within 10 minutes public transport time of key services, facilities and places of work and serviced by high frequency bus routes	
		Q13c	Will it encourage inward investment	No. of new business start-ups	
				Number of people employed in within Balsall Heath	
		Q13d	Will it encourage innovation		

Appendix C: Example of High Level Assessment Matrix

This matrix is illustrative only.



High level assessment of the DPD Policies		SA Objectives											
		SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12
Policies	Title of DPD												
	Policy 1:	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-
	Policy 2:	-	-	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	--	++	+	-	+/-
	Policy 3:	0	+	+	++	+	0	0	0	++	+	0	0
	Policy 4:	0	+	0	+	++	0	+	0	++	0	0	+
	Policy 5:	+	++	++	++	++	0	+	++	0	++	+	++
	Policy 6:	0	+	+	+	++	0	0	+	0	++	0	0
	Policy 7:	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	++	+	0
	Policy 8:	++	++	++	++	++	0	++	+	0	+	+	++
	Policy 9:	0	+	+	++	0	+	++	++	++	+	++	+
	Policy 10:	+	+	0	+	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	+
	Policy 11:	0	++	++	++	+	++	0	0	++	+	0	0
	Policy 12:	0	++	++	+	+	0	++	++	++	+	+	+
	Policy 13:	-	-	+/-	++	++	+	+	--	++	++	-	+/-
	Policy 14:	-	-	-	+/-	+/-	0	+	-	+	+	-	+/-
	Policy 15:	-	+/-	+	++	++	+	+/-	-	++	++	-	+
	Policy 16:	-	+/-	+/-	+	+	0	+/-	-	+	++	-	+
	Policy 17:	+	++	++	+	+	0	+	+	++	+	+	0

Likely positive effects	+
Likely strong positive effects	++
Neutral impact	0
Likely negative effects	-
Likely strong negative effects	--
Uncertain	+/-



Appendix D: Review of plans and policies



Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
Accessibility and Transport		
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012)	<p>The recently released NPPF seeks to streamline the planning system and sets out the Governments planning policies and how these should be applied. At the heart of the NPPF is presumption in favour of sustainable development.</p> <p>The NPPF includes guidance on promoting sustainable transport. The NPPF requires development plans to seek to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and congestion, reduce the need to travel, and exploit opportunities for the sustainable movement of people and good. Developments should be located and designed where practical to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accommodate the efficient delivery of goods and supplies; • give priority to pedestrian and cycle movements, and have access to high quality public transport facilities; • create safe and secure layouts which minimise conflicts between traffic and cyclists or pedestrians, avoiding street clutter and where appropriate establishing home zones; • incorporate facilities for charging plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles; and • consider the needs of people with disabilities by all modes of transport. 	The NDP should conform to the NPPF by promoting sustainable transport. This can be achieved by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, congestion and the need to travel. The NDP should encourage sustainable modes of transport such as walking, cycling and the use of public transport.
West Midlands Transport Plan Local Transport Plan 2011-2026 (2011)	<p>The Third Local Transport Plan for the West Midlands sets out the County's transport strategy for the period 2011-2026. Its Vision has five main goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support economic growth, reflecting the 	Sustainable transportation should be a key consideration for the NDP. It should aim to tackle climate change whilst improving transport safety, access and relationship with the built environment. The NDP should ensure transportation is accessible to all.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<p>Area's major contribution to the regional and national economies;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To tackle climate change; • To improve safety, security and health; • Is accessible to all, in an area of wide cultural and ethnic diversity, and • Enhances quality of life and the built environment. <p>The Strategy has five strategic objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To underpin private sector led growth and economic regeneration in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area, including support for housing development and population growth, increased employment and low carbon technologies (KO1) • To contribute towards tackling climate change through achieving a reduction in the emission of greenhouse gas emissions and ensure the resilience of the transport system to any changes to the West Midlands Metropolitan Area's climate (KO2) • To improve the health, personal security and safety of people travelling in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area (KO3) • To tackle deprivation and worklessness, so enhancing equality of opportunity and social inclusion for all age groups, through improved access to services and other desired destinations within and adjacent to the West Midlands Metropolitan Area (KO4) • To enhance the quality of life for people in the 	

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	West Midlands Metropolitan Area and the quality of the local environment (KO5).	
Bike Birmingham: A Sustainable City's Cycling Strategy 2011 – 2015 (2011)	<p>The main vision of the strategy is 'to get more people cycling more often, to reduce traffic congestion and improve activity levels, health and the environment'.</p> <p>The strategy aims to do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing people's perceptions about cycling; • Making it safer to cycle; and • Better facilities for cycling. 	The NDP should ensure it recognises the importance of cycling within Birmingham and support Bike Birmingham's desire to get more people cycling more often.
Birmingham Big City Plan - Birmingham City Centre: Vision for Movement (2010)	<p>The Big City Plan consists of three main visions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A well connected city: Delivering a world class, easy to use, integrated public transport system into and around the city centre, to provide additional capacity for regeneration and economic growth. • An efficient city: Making best use of the existing highway network with an appropriate hierarchy of priority for public and private transport including cycling, to reduce our dependence on the private car and keep the city moving. • A walkable city: Creating an outstanding pedestrian environment that is well connected, safe and a pleasure to use, putting the needs of pedestrians at the heart of the movement strategy for the city centre. <p>The Strategy aims to fulfil its vision through the following three objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide additional capacity for regeneration and economic growth in the city centre. 	The NDP should have due regard to the aims and objectives of the Big City Plan. It should seek, where possible, to maximise any opportunity to promote sustainable transport links to the city centre and new retail and leisure development delivered through the strategy.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce our dependence on the private car and keep the city moving. • The needs of pedestrians will be at the heart of the movement strategy for the city centre. 	
Birmingham Low Carbon Transport Strategy 2011+ (2011)	<p>The vision is to reduce the environmental impact of the city's mobility needs by providing an efficient, safe, easy to use, low carbon transport system, which will stimulate economic growth, by providing high quality sustainable transport choices for the people of Birmingham.</p> <p>This vision will help to achieve the city's overarching aim of meeting a 60% reduction in tonnes of CO2 emissions per capita from transport from 1990 to 2026.</p> <p>The vision will be delivered through four key themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smarter Choices • Smarter Infrastructure • Smarter Technology • Effective Carbon Management Planning 	<p>Low carbon transportation should be considered by the NDP to ensure the citywide target of a 60% reduction is met. The NDP should recognise its role in helping achieve carbon reduction aims. The NDP should promote the use of non-motorised modes of transport through maintaining and supporting high quality walking and cycling routes. These need to be supported by public transport alternatives to the car.</p>
The Future of Birmingham's Parks and Open Spaces: Birmingham Parks and Open Spaces Strategy (2006)	<p>Parks will support the overarching aim of sustainable transportation. The City Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to prioritise the linking of all parks and open spaces into the strategic cycle and footpath networks; • Provide safe and secure cycle parking facilities in all parks and play areas; • Continue to promote the 'Parks by Bus' initiative and the Walk 2000 initiative; • Address car parking issues through facility improvement and promoting alternative modes of transport. 	<p>The NDP should strengthen access to public cycle and walking networks within and outside of its boundary. Parks can provide good quality off road cycling routes. Defragmenting cycle paths and promoting connectivity between different areas should be encouraged.</p>

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
Air Quality		
West Midlands Local Transport Plan 2011-2026 (2011)	Air quality is a key consideration of the document by improving congestion / reducing traffic and encouraging people to use more sustainable modes. It also seeks to reduce / minimise the number of areas declared as having poor air quality as a result of road transport emissions.	Transport is a key contributor to poor air quality. The NDP should support air quality objective by reducing the congestions, promoting non-motorised modes of transport and sustainable transport choices.
Birmingham City Air Quality Action Plan (2011)	<p>The primary aim of this plan is to improve air quality within the City by ensuring compliance with the National Air Quality Objectives.</p> <p>This aim also promotes three of the strategic outcomes outlined in the Birmingham City Council Plan 2008:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Stay safe in a clean, green city · Be healthy · Enjoy a high quality of life <p>The Air Quality Action Plan seeks to focus on 12 key actions to tackle air quality issues within Birmingham. These include:</p> <p>Action 2010/1 - Low Emission Zone within the City Centre</p> <p>Action 2010/2 – Biomass in Birmingham Schools</p> <p>Action 2010/3 – Red Routes</p> <p>Action 2010/4 – New Roads</p> <p>Action 2010/5 – Air Quality & Planning</p> <p>Action 2010/6 – Control of Industry</p> <p>Action 2010/7 – Control of Bonfires and other Unauthorised Fires</p>	The NDP should seek to support the aims and objectives of this Action plan to secure improvements in air quality. This will help improve health and quality of life within the Balsall heath area.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<p>Action 2010/8 – Park & Ride</p> <p>Action 2010/9 – Improvement of the Council Fleet</p> <p>Action 2010/10 – Introduction of low carbon/electric Vehicles</p> <p>Action 2010/11 – Improvement of the Public Service Fleet</p> <p>Action 2010/12 – Taxi Emission Strategy</p>	
Biodiversity and Geodiversity		
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012)	<p>The recently released NPPF seeks to streamline the planning system and sets out the Governments planning policies and how these should be applied. At the heart of the NPPF is presumption in favour of sustainable development.</p> <p>The NPPF includes guidance on promoting the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment. It requires the planning system to contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils; • recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services; • minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures; 	<p>The NDP should support the NPPF by promoting the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment. This could be done by minimising the impact of development upon biodiversity and geodiversity whilst concurrently remediating and improving previously contaminated land. The NDP should facilitate the enhancement of key biodiversity assets, such as Calthorpe park and the River Rea. It should ensure new development incorporates biodiversity considerations into its design.</p>

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; and• remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate	

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
Birmingham and Black Country Biodiversity Action Plan (2010)	<p>The BAP vision for biodiversity is:</p> <p>A diverse and natural Birmingham and Black Country, where we are connected to our wildlife and landscape; healthy, sustainable communities and local livelihoods, working with nature and securing its future.</p> <p>This LBAP aims to realise this vision whilst recognizing the existing challenges facing Birmingham and the Black Country, such as habitat fragmentation, increased urbanization and financial pressures. We also need to take account of future challenges, in particular climate change.</p> <p>Our objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain and increase the biodiversity of key sites and landscapes through appropriate protection and management; • restore degraded habitats and key species populations by restoring key areas; • link key areas with ecological corridors to reconnect wildlife populations and make them less vulnerable; • promote and support the use of the natural environment to mitigate against, and adapt to, the effects of climate change; • enable the sustainable use of the natural environment to benefit health and wellbeing of residents, workers and visitors as well as improving the local economy 	<p>To support the BAP vision the NDP should aim to maintain diverse habitats by recognising the ecological potential of the River Rea corridor. The NDP should seek to protect areas of greenspace, private gardens and amenity areas and promote connectivity between different habitats.</p>

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
The Future of Birmingham's Parks and Open Spaces: Birmingham Parks and Open Spaces Strategy (2006)	<p>The City Council aims to protect the biodiversity and geodiversity of the City's parks and open spaces, and identify opportunities for further initiatives for management, enhancement and promotion in accordance with the adopted Nature Conservation & Sustainability Strategies and The Local Biodiversity Action Plan.</p> <p>This aim will be carried out by the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and preserve SSSI's, SINCS, as recognised by the Birmingham Plan, and LNR's by not normally allowing any development that may destroy or adversely affect their nature conservation value, and by seeking to prevent any other form of damage. This would be monitored as part of the Local Development Framework Annual Biodiversity Monitoring Report and presented to the Nature Conservation Policy Group. • The City Council aim to protect and maintain its existing tree stock in a healthy and safe condition, and will replace all felled trees with new trees. 	Although there are no national or international sites of nature conservation importance in Balsall Heath, the NDP should recognise the role of its greenspaces as supporting habitats to these sites. The NDP should encourage natural environment improvements, which support biodiversity and key species. It should recognise the multifunctional role of parks and openspace for biodiversity and its enjoyment.
Climate Change		
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012)	<p>The recently released NPPF seeks to streamline the planning system and sets out the Governments planning policies and how these should be applied. At the heart of the NPPF is presumption in favour of sustainable development.</p> <p>The NPPF includes guidance on climate change, flooding, and coastal change. Plans should take account</p>	The NDP should conform to the NPPF with regard to climate change mitigation and adaptation. The NDP should seek to reduce carbon emissions by promoting energy efficiency and low carbon energy alternatives. The NDP should also plan for anticipated levels of climate change such as sever weather and flooding.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<p>of climate change over the longer term, including factors such as flood risk, coastal change, water supply and changes to biodiversity and landscape. New development should be planned to avoid increased vulnerability to the range of impacts arising from climate change. When new development is brought forward in areas that are vulnerable, care should be taken to ensure that risks can be managed through suitable adaptation measures, including through the planning of green infrastructure.</p> <p>To support the move to a low carbon future, local planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plan for new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions; • actively support energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings; and • when setting any local requirement for a building's sustainability, do so in a way consistent with the Government's zero carbon buildings policy and adopt nationally described standards. <p>Local Plans should apply a sequential, risk-based approach to the location of development to avoid where possible flood risk to people and property and manage any residual risk, taking account of the impacts of climate change, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applying the Sequential Test; • if necessary, applying the Exception Test; • safeguarding land from development that is 	

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<p>required for current and future flood management;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using opportunities offered by new development to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding; and • where climate change is expected to increase flood risk so that some existing development may not be sustainable in the long-term, seeking opportunities to facilitate the relocation of development, including housing, to more sustainable locations. <p>Local planning authorities should reduce risk from coastal change by avoiding inappropriate development in vulnerable areas or adding to the impacts of physical changes to the coast. They should identify as a Coastal Change Management Area any area likely to be affected by physical changes to the coast, and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be clear as to what development will be appropriate in such areas and in what circumstances; and • make provision for development and infrastructure that needs to be relocated away from Coastal Change Management Areas. 	
Birmingham climate change action plan 2010+ (2010)	<p>The climate change action plan was produced to help meet Birmingham's 60% carbon reduction by 2026. This target is to be met by undertaking a number of 'early actions' which describe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birmingham's trajectory towards its new role as 	The NDP should seek to reduce carbon emissions by promoting energy efficiency and production of low carbon alternatives. The NDP should also plan for anticipated levels of climate change such as severe weather and flooding.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<p>a "Low Carbon Transition" City</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the energy efficiency of the city's "Homes and Buildings" • Reducing the city's reliance on unsustainable energy through "Low Carbon Energy Generation" • Reducing the city's impact on the non-renewable resource use through "Resource Management" • Reducing the environmental impact of the city's mobility needs through "Low Carbon Transport" • Making sure the city is prepared for climate change through "Climate Change Adaptation" • Making sure that this action plan "Engages with Birmingham Citizens and Businesses" <p>The Action Plan has identified carbon savings contributions against homes and buildings, and from transport and these are built upon to form the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise, reduce, reuse and recycle all waste • Energy to be produced using low carbon energy sources and methods • All resources (in particular energy) to be used efficiently – more energy efficiency devices, combined heat and power, etc • Wherever practical, local needs should be served by local and regional production – food, material, energy, services, etc • There is a high awareness and compliance with 	

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<p>environmental and social responsibility initiatives – industry, commerce and citizens.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing the energy bills of householders and tenants which will increase disposable incomes • Reducing the numbers of people affected by fuel poverty which will improve quality of life • Improving health outcomes for those who are vulnerable by improving insulation standards • Improving educational outcomes by providing warmer and more comfortable learning places for children in their homes. 	
Economic Factors		
Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership Transport Strategy (2012)	<p>The key aims of the LEP are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase GVA by more than £8bn by 2020; • Create 100,00 private sector jobs by 2020; • Boost indigenous and inward investment; and • Build a world class workforce 	The NDP should support the LEP aims of building a world-class workforce by facilitating job creation and encouraging inward investment and supporting skills development.
Birmingham climate change action plan 2010+ (2010)	<p>The action plan aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to Birmingham's economy by increasing job opportunities and supporting innovation in delivering sustainable energy • Promote growth in energy related businesses • Stimulate the market to attract new investment into Birmingham by low carbon technologies and services. 	The NDP should support job creation and new business start ups. It should facilitate the growth in new low carbon energy markets.
Developing Birmingham An Economic Strategy for The City 2005 – 2015 (2005)	The vision of the economic strategy for Birmingham is to create a strategy to build on Birmingham's renaissance and secure a strong and sustainable economy for our people. The vision is divided into four Key Areas:	The NDP should support local job creation for different sections of society. It should maximise its strategic location and links to the city centre. It should support the local economy whilst promoting inward investment.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and Investment • Creating a Skilled Workforce • Fostering Business Development and Diversification • Creating Sustainable Communities and Vibrant Urban Villages <p>These can be further split into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To secure adequate provision of employment land to meet the local and regional economies' future growth needs, consistent with the Regional Spatial Strategy and the Regional Economic Strategy, and accelerate the regeneration of sites in priority areas to bring land back into productive use and to facilitate employment growth. • To protect the City's industrial land to secure a sufficient, long term supply of employment land to meet future needs, including those of major investors, and to facilitate growth. • To ensure Birmingham has a high quality transport system that meets the aspirations and needs of all of its citizens, visitors and businesses, helping the economy to thrive, improving the environment and enhancing quality of life, in a safe and sustainable way. • To promote local development and employment opportunities within the most deprived areas of south east Birmingham, along the A45, A34 and A41 corridors which link the City Centre with development activity alongside the M42. 	

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve the Birmingham economy's competitiveness and growth by increasing the supply of appropriately qualified workers and continuing to develop vocational skills to meet the needs of employers and enterprise. • To increase Birmingham's employment rates by removing the barriers preventing some people from participating in the workforce. • To provide access to basic skills training and progression to work for those people who need this support to enable them to participate in the labour market. • To raise the local economy's competitiveness by increasing business formation rates, particularly in new and emerging sectors and within priority groups, and securing the survival, growth and retention of these enterprises. • To encourage business innovation and accelerate the conversion of technological progress into new commercial opportunities. • To make considerable progress in becoming the UK location of choice for investment in traded professional services, relocating public sector jobs and technology projects. • To reduce unemployment and increase economic activity and employment sustainability within priority areas and groups. • To support physical improvements that will offer both enhanced economic opportunity and high quality of design, leading to increased confidence in priority areas. • To enhance the economic wellbeing of residents within priority areas and groups by 	

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<p>increasing household incomes and reducing benefit dependency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase business and community confidence in priority areas by working within the Community Safety Partnership to reduce crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 	
Green Infrastructure		
Birmingham Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011).	<p>The Birmingham Green Infrastructure Strategy sets out the strategic approach to enhancing, protecting, restoring and creating a high quality multifunction network of greenspaces throughout Birmingham. The GI Strategy sets out seven key principles for Green Infrastructure including:</p> <p>1) The City's Productive Land · Endorse the Birmingham Forest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote allotments Facilitate community food growing, orchards, and woodlands Embed biomass production <p>2) The City's Greenways · Adopt A Walkable City</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenway networks "Quiet Roads" Permissive access rights <p>3) The City's Ecosystem · Ecosystem Evaluation of Birmingham's GI and Trees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore new funding mechanisms & joint 	The NDP should recognise the multifunction benefits of high quality green infrastructure networks. It should seek to protect key assets and promote connectivity between different habitats.

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	<p>partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity mapping <p>4) The City's Blue Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a Blue Corridor Policy • Enhance the wider Blue network. • SUDS & flood & water management • Enhance water quality & riparian habitat <p>5) The City's Green Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a Birmingham Index for GI • Sustainable tree planting policy • Introduce a Birmingham GI Index • Habitat permeability <p>6) An Adapted City · Adopt GI Solutions to the Urban Heat Island</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green and brown roofs & living walls • Protection of natural & built heritage • Integrate public health concerns <p>7) A Healthy City · Adopt Natural Health Improvement Zones (NHIZ)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce sustainable land management principles. • 'Be Active' neighborhoods • Childhood development 	
The Value of Green Infrastructure in	This report documents the calculated value of four	The NDP should recognise the value of green

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
Birmingham and the Black Country (2011)	different habitats within Birmingham. It uses an ecosystem service approach to demonstrate the value of green infrastructure in Birmingham.	infrastructure assets and their socio-economic and environmental benefits. The NDP should seek to strengthen and enhance its GI assets to maintain multifunctional high quality networks. The NDP should promote cross boundary links.
Health		
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012)	<p>The recently released NPPF seeks to streamline the planning system and sets out the Governments planning policies and how these should be applied. At the heart of the NPPF is presumption in favour of sustainable development.</p> <p>The NPPF includes guidance on promoting healthy communities.</p> <p>The NPPF requires local planning authorities to aim to achieve places which promote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • opportunities for meetings between members of the community who might not otherwise come into contact with each other, including through mixed-use developments, strong neighbourhood centres and active street frontages which bring together those who work, live and play in the vicinity; • safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion; and • safe and accessible developments, containing clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas. 	The NDP should seek to support healthy, safe and connected communities. It should seek to reduce inequality and improve accessibility to local services. It should promote a high quality public realm, which meets community needs and aspirations.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
The Future of Birmingham's Parks and Open Spaces: Birmingham Parks and Open Spaces Strategy (2006)	The City Council aims to utilise parks and open spaces as a venue for sports development and will protect playing pitches in accordance with policies in the Birmingham Plan 2005 and the Playing Pitch Strategy. The City Council now recognises Health as a key priority in the provision, design, management and use of all parks and open spaces. The objective is to 'seek to use parks increasingly as the fitting venue for projects that contribute towards health promotion'.	The NDP should protect its existing parks. It should maximise their multifunctional potential and quality.
Birmingham Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2012)	<p>The Strategy is intended to identify those most important issues. The priorities which have been chosen are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Giving every child the best start in life; • Enabling all children to young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives; • Create fair employment and good work for all; • Ensure Healthy Standard of living for all; • Create and develop healthy sustainable homes and communities; and • Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention 	The NDP should seek to support healthy active lifestyles. It should facilitate public realm improvements that promote a high quality of life. The NDP should recognise the different health needs of different social groups within Balsall Heath.
Historic Environment and landscape		
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012)	<p>The recently released NPPF seeks to streamline the planning system and sets out the Governments planning policies and how these should be applied. At the heart of the NPPF is presumption in favour of sustainable development.</p> <p>The NPPF includes guidance on conserving and</p>	The NDP should recognise the role and significance of heritage assets in supporting local identity and sense of place. It should seek to ensure the protection and enhancement of heritage features. It should ensure heritage assets are conserved and supported by new developments.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<p>enhancing the historic environment. It seeks to ensure local authorities plan recognise heritage assets as an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner that reflects their significance.</p> <p>Local planning authorities should take into account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation; • the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring; • the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and • opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place. 	
Putting the historic environment to work: A strategy for the West Midlands 2010-2015. English Heritage 2010	<p>This strategy seeks to ensure the historic environment works to its full potential, to overcome challenges and respond to opportunities. The Strategy sets out the following key priorities.</p> <p><u>People</u></p> <p>Priority 1 - Support the rich cultural diversity of the region by ensuring that all people and communities can enjoy the historic environment, physically and intellectually, reducing barriers to access.</p> <p>Priority 2 - Foster an increase in community engagement with, and enjoyment of, the historic environment of the region, particularly in those areas where take-up of historic environment-related activities</p>	<p>The NDP should protect listed buildings in Balsall Heath and supported their maintenance and sustainable use. The NDP should support the aims of this strategy by promoting the value of Balsall Heath's heritage assets.</p>

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<p>appears to be low.</p> <p>Priority 3 - Use the historic environment to address the skills gap in young people and adults, including safeguarding, and developing, traditional building skills in the region.</p> <p><u>Places</u></p> <p>Priority 4 - Continue to develop a deep understanding of the historic environment and how it contributes to the sense of place and distinctiveness of the region.</p> <p>Priority 5 - Ensure that historic character is respected and historic buildings, landscapes and archaeological remains are conserved and enhanced when development or change is planned.</p> <p>Priority 6 - Demonstrate how a well-used and managed historic environment can contribute to sustainable development, carbon reduction and climate change adaptation.</p> <p><u>Policies</u></p> <p>Priority 7 - Undertake and contribute to studies and surveys of how the historic environment is valued and used, and its impact on the region's economy and quality of life.</p> <p>Priority 8 - Influence and contribute to the development of other policies and plans in the region to ensure that the historic environment contributes to the delivery of key aspirations and outcomes.</p> <p>Priority 9 - Align the objectives and marshal the efforts of the historic environment sector in the region, to</p>	

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	realise some key goals and initiatives, including making the most of the Cultural Olympiad.	
Regeneration through Conservation: Birmingham Conservation Strategy (1999)	<p>The key objectives of the conservation strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To place conservation at the heart of City Council policies for regeneration. • To relate conservation decisions to evolving policies for a sustainable environment. • To maximise financial support from the Heritage Lottery Fund, English Heritage, the Regional Development Agency, the European Regional Development Fund and other relevant funding sources. • To focus on reducing the number of listed buildings at risk, paying particular attention to the City Council's own listed buildings. • To produce additional conservation area appraisals for the City's conservation areas giving priority to those areas under development pressure or at risk. 	Conservation of historic buildings and conservation areas should be borne in mind by the NDP. It should actively support projects which seek to conserve or enhance heritage feature.
Archaeology Strategy: Building the future, protecting the past (2004)	<p>The main objectives of the Archaeology Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To safeguard archaeological remains in the planning process in accordance with national and local policies and best practice. • To encourage developers to discuss archaeological implications at an early stage. • To develop the Sites and Monuments Record into a Historic Environment Record. • To increase public awareness of the City's archaeological remains. 	The NDP should have due regard to this strategy. It should seek to ensure any archaeological remains, seen and unseen are taken into account.

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Housing		
Homelessness Review and Strategy 2012 (2012)	<p>There are two key outcomes for this Homelessness Strategy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevent homelessness in Birmingham. 2. Secure suitable accommodation for homeless households, access to safety-net services and support for those in crisis to manage a transition to settled accommodation. 	<p>The NDP should seek to ensure high quality homes meet the needs of different social groups within the NDP area. It should facilitate the refurbishment of older housing stock and ensure new development provides high quality homes for all.</p>
Empty Property Strategy 2007– 2012 (2007)	<p>Fundamentally the strategy aims to continue to reduce the number of empty properties that are having a detrimental impact on the communities in which they are situated, and are potentially reducing the level of affordable housing in the city. This has been split into two sectors – the private sector and the public sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. private sector <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With proactive emphasis on targeting long-term empty properties, reduce the number of privately owned, BVPI64 qualifying empty homes in the city by 1,250 by 2012. • Ensure that at least 60 per cent of these properties are family-sized homes (three or more bedrooms) in Council Tax bands A to C. • Ensure that at least 20 per cent of these properties are in the Urban Living area and a further 20 per cent are in East Birmingham Housing Market Area. These two housing markets display relatively high levels of both empty 2. public sector <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reducing average empty property turnaround times in all property types 	<p>The NDP should support this strategy by promoting the enhancement to the public realm and ensure empty properties are brought back into use. The NDP should support the refurbishment of rented accommodation and improve access.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reducing the number of long-term re-lettable empty properties • increasing levels of satisfaction with property conditions and numbers of properties let first time • reducing the number of tenancy failures through increased tenancy support. 	
Material Assets		
West Midlands Regional Energy Strategy (2004)	<p>The vision for the Energy Strategy is:</p> <p>"By 2020 we will have delivered the West Midlands' commitment to the climate change challenge, having ensured a sustainable, secure and affordable supply of energy for everyone and strengthened the region's economic capability"</p> <p>The Strategy has four headline objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving Energy Efficiency • Increasing the use of Renewable Energy Resources • Maximising Uptake of Business Opportunities • Ensuring Focused and Integrated Delivery and Implementation 	The NDP promote energy efficiency within new and existing development. It should support the provision, where possible, for local low carbon energy production.
Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2006 – 2026 Headline Strategy. Birmingham City Council (2006)	<p>Birmingham City Council has the following vision for the delivery of its municipal waste management services:</p> <p>To run a city that produces the minimum amount of waste that is practicable, and where the remainder is re-used, recycled or recovered to generate energy. The materials recovered through composting, recycling, re-use and from the energy recovery process will replace the need for extraction of virgin materials. The waste</p>	The NDP should promote and encourage the reduction, reuse and recycling of waste. It should raise awareness of composting and maintaining a clean and green public realm.

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	<p>management strategy will be sensitive to local needs and will provide a service to help Birmingham become as clean and green a city as it can be. Birmingham City Council and the Constituency partners will provide a service that citizens are pleased to support, and where there is malpractice or deliberate misuse of the service, that this is dealt with efficiently to maintain a clean, safe and healthy environment.</p> <p>This Strategy has the following objectives, to enable the city to achieve this vision:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council will explore ways of reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill to an absolute minimum, recovering value from waste wherever economically and environmentally practicable through energy recovery and measures to increase re-use, recycling and composting. 2. The City Council and its partners will raise awareness among the wider community to view waste as a resource and will deliver communications activities and work with relevant stakeholders (such as community groups and schools) to promote the cultural change needed to significantly increase recycling and re-use and reduce the overall quantity of waste requiring treatment or disposal. 3. The City Council will develop recycling and composting systems that meet the targets set out in this strategy through methods that are acceptable and accessible to the residents of Birmingham. 	

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. The City Council will explore ways of working with other local authorities and will expand its partnership activities with the private and voluntary sectors to assist in delivery of this Strategy. 5. The City Council will work with its partners and other agencies to provide efficient and effective enforcement of its services to contribute to a clean, green, safe and healthy environment. 	
Neighbourhood Energy Plan for Balsall Heath (2011)	<p>The main objectives are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Power Down - reduce the burning of fossil fuels, i.e. to get the 'energy service' needed, using lower inputs of fuel. 2. Power Up - make use of the free natural energy resources which are available in the neighbourhood. <p>These objectives can be split into three sections:</p> <p>a) Objectives for fuels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the burning of fossil fuels • Reduce emissions of carbon dioxide • Achieve a jump in the efficiency of use of fossil fuels - do more with less • Adopt more energy efficient ways of living • Use waste heat, including that from generating electricity • Reduce the consumption of outside energy 	The NDP should pay due regard to this Energy plan. It should actively encourage, where appropriate, the development of local low carbon energy alternatives. It should support the reduction in energy use and promote energy efficiency measures in new and existing development.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<p>and the money flowing to outside suppliers</p> <p>b) Objectives for natural energy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet more of our energy needs from sources within the neighbourhood • Prevent loss of solar heat, through insulation of buildings • Store solar heat and recover it • Generate electricity by photovoltaic roofs and potentially wind power • Use energy from waste food, wood and other wastes <p>c) Objectives for community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate the energy efficiency and natural energy technologies • Explain and promote, giving independent advice • Share expertise and knowledge managers of community buildings • Inform small business owners • Work with social landlords to improve their stock • Make financial savings, earn money and circulate it within the area 	

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
Population and quality of life		
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012)	<p>The recently released NPPF seeks to streamline the planning system and sets out the Governments planning policies and how these should be applied. At the heart of the NPPF is presumption in favour of sustainable development.</p> <p>The NPPF includes guidance promoting healthy communities. It encourages planning policies and decisions, to aim to achieve places which promote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • opportunities for meetings between members of the community who might not otherwise come into contact with each other, including through mixed-use developments, strong neighbourhood centres and active street frontages which bring together those who work, live and play in the vicinity; • safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion; and • safe and accessible developments, containing clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas. • In order to deliver the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should: • plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship) and other local services to enhance the 	The NDP should conform to the NPPF with regard to ensuring high quality public realms. It should ensure local services are accessible by different social groups, and new developments meet the needs of the local community.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<p>sustainability of communities and residential environments;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the community's ability to meet its day-to-day needs; ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise in a way that is sustainable, and retained for the benefit of the community; and ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services. 	
The Future of Birmingham's Parks and Open Spaces: Birmingham Parks and Open Spaces Strategy (2006)	<p>The City Council aims to ensure the open spaces in Birmingham are available and safe for community access.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City Council will implement the policies relating to open space as stated in the Birmingham Plan 2005 which seek to protect and improve open spaces and the open space network. The City Council is committed to address and prioritise issues of community safety in parks and open spaces. 	The NDP should recognise the multifunctional importance of its parks and amenity greenspace. It should ensure Balsall Heath's parks are maintained as safe, accessible and high quality greenspaces that contribute the health and wellbeing of the local community.
The Birmingham Plan: The Future of Birmingham's Playing Pitches (2006)	<p>The overall vision is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2020 Birmingham will have enough playing pitches to meet demand in all communities and for all abilities. More and higher standard changing facilities, better quality grass pitches and car parking for users and spectators where appropriate will be provided. 	The NDP should recognise the role-play pitches have in maintaining and supporting active healthy lifestyles which enhance the quality of life of residents. Existing playing pitches should be protected. The provision of good quality playing pitches, changing facilities and car parks should be supported by the NDP.

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Breakthrough Birmingham: Ending the costs of social breakdown (2007)	<p>The document concludes that current policies to get people back to work are not working for Birmingham. Instead it is maintained that the city needs effective national policies that will facilitate an individual's transition from welfare to work, and, crucially, keep them in work. This in turn will mean fewer workless households and therefore improved life chances for the children in these households.</p> <p>The overall aim will be met by the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing personalised support to help people back to work • Sustained support • Clear work expectations • Incentivising work and reforming the welfare system • Educational failure to educational achievement • Pioneer Schools • The best leadership for the toughest schools – rewarding success • Every parent matters • Strengthening the family • Delivering greater family well-being • Relationship and parenting education and support • Recognising and rewarding marriage • Supporting two-parent family formation 	The NDP should seek to support local community needs and aspirations. It should seek to reduce social exclusion and promote social mobility.
Soil		
Soils Lead Coordination Network: Soils and the Natural Heritage: a Vision by the Soils LCN for the Protection of the UK Soil Resource and Sustainable Use	<p>This document sets out the Soils Lead Coordination Network's vision for soil conservation.</p> <p>The "desired outcomes" of the vision are as follows:</p>	The NDP should pay due regard to this strategy. The NDP should recognise the importance of protecting and maintaining the diversity of soils. It should recognise the

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of Soils (2007)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Maintaining the diversity and biodiversity of UK soils; (ii) Controlling and when appropriate reversing loss of soil carbon and water-holding capacity; (iii) Reducing accelerated soil erosion and sediment transport into watercourses; and (iv) Ensuring appropriate status of soils in mitigation and remediation scenarios to control the impact of climate change. 	biodiversity importance and role soils play in helping control flooding.
Contaminated land inspection strategy for Birmingham. Birmingham City Council (2008)	<p>The aims of Birmingham City Council are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to protect the health of its people from the effects of land contamination; • to work towards sustainable development and to provide public confidence in the development of land within the City; • to prevent the pollution of controlled waters; • to prevent damage to property and damage to ecological systems from the effects of substances, which are on, in or under the land. 	The NDP should ensure new and existing development do not lead to the contamination or pollution of the River Rea or areas of greenspace.
Water		
National planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012)	<p>The recently released NPPF seeks to streamline the planning system and sets out the Governments planning policies and how these should be applied. At the heart of the NPPF is presumption in favour of sustainable development.</p> <p>The NPPF includes guidance on responding to climate change, flooding and coastal change. With regard to flooding it advises that development should be directed away from high risk areas. If there development is necessary in high risk areas measures should be</p>	The NDP should ensure new development does not lead to increased risk of flooding or contribute to flooding in other locations outside of its boundary. It should encourage onsite water management and ensure the management of water is planned from the onset of new development.

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	<p>employed to make development safe without increasing flood risk elsewhere.</p> <p>The NPPF states “Local Plans should apply a sequential, risk-based approach to the location of development to avoid where possible flood risk to people and property and manage any residual risk, taking account of the impacts of climate change, by”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applying the Sequential Test; • if necessary, applying the Exception Test; • safeguarding land from development that is required for current and future flood management; • using opportunities offered by new development to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding; and • where climate change is expected to increase flood risk so that some existing development may not be sustainable in the long-term, seeking opportunities to facilitate the relocation of development, including housing, to more sustainable locations. <p>In addition to addressing flood risk the NPPF provides guidance on coastal change. It states “Local planning authorities should reduce risk from coastal change by avoiding inappropriate development in vulnerable areas or adding to the impacts of physical changes to the coast. They should identify as a Coastal Change Management Area any area likely to be affected by physical changes to the coast, and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be clear as to what development will be appropriate in such areas and in what circumstances; and 	

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> make provision for development and infrastructure that needs to be relocated away from Coastal Change Management Areas." 	
River Basin Management for the Humber River Basin (EA, 2009)	This plan focuses on the protection, improvement and sustainable use of the water environment. It sets out the pressures facing the water environment in the Humber River Basin District. It includes actions that are required in order to address water pressures. The plan has been prepared under the WFD and is the first of a series of six yearly planning cycles.	The NDP should support the objective of the Water Framework Directive. The River Rea is currently classed as having a poor ecological status. The NDP should support aims to improve water quality and ecological integrity of the River Rea corridor.
Severn Trent Water: Water Resources Management Plan (2010)	<p>The Water Industry Act 1991, as amended by the Water Act 2003, places a requirement on all water companies to prepare a Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP).</p> <p>The Water Resources Management Plan sets out how Severn Trent Water proposes to meet demand in the period to 2035 in as efficient and sustainable a way as possible, whilst complying with environmental legislation and regulatory requirements. The company's strategic objectives for water supply demand planning are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt the overall least financial, social and environmental cost strategy for achieving and maintaining target headroom throughout the planning period to 2035; Comply with environmental legislation and meet environmental obligations Continue to promote water efficiency programmes and water recycling for businesses and consumers; Accelerate the installation of water meters and 	The NDP should promote water efficient use of water. It should encourage grey water recycling where feasible.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<p>more sophisticated tariffs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to drive down the level of leakage from the network; • Reinforce the network to avoid interruptions to supply; • Design and maintain water resources and supply systems with the aim of having no more than three hosepipe bans in 100 years; • Increase the scope for water transfers across the region and between water companies; • Develop new water resources when required; • Ensure no failures in water quality 	
The Birmingham Plan: Sustainable management of urban rivers and floodplains (2007)	<p>To implement the sustainable management of rivers the objectives are to implement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures to improve the water quality of the river corridors should be carried out wherever possible • Measures will be taken to prevent pollution of controlled water within the river catchment. • The full potential for the use of a Sustainable Drainage System (SuDs) will be reviewed in the initial stages of development and it must be demonstrated by the developer that the potential for the use of SuDs has been considered and where appropriate used in the surface water drainage strategy for the site. • There should be no net gain or there should be a reduction of surface water run-off where possible as a result of new development and redevelopment sites. • A natural character should be maintained, or where appropriate, restored to the river channel. • Open or closed culverts should only be used 	<p>The NDP should seek to address flood risk within the NDP. It area ensuring there is no net gain in surface water run-off and reduce the risk of flooding. The NDP should encourage the use of sustainable water management techniques such as SUDs and Swale, where appropriate.</p> <p>The NDP should explore any potential opportunity to reinstate the River Rea's natural state.</p>

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<p>where no alternative exists.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where development lies adjacent to the river corridors or their tributaries every opportunity will be sought to benefit the river by reinstating a natural, sinuous river channel. The floodplain will be maintained and restored. A risk based sequential test will be applied to development proposals. Proposals in a flood zone that are not compatible with flood risk vulnerability will be refused unless the proposal meets the requirements of an exception test as set out in PPS25. The nature conservation and landscape value of the river corridor will be safeguarded, enhanced and restored. All development proposed adjacent to the river corridors and their tributaries shall be designed to take account of its proximity to the river. 	
West Midlands Regional Flood Risk Appraisal: Final Report. West Midlands Regional Assembly (2007)	<p>The WMRA is concerned with managing flood risk as well as creating a local surface water management plan. These aims are further explained by the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting the use of SUDS at a strategic level for the control of surface water runoff from urban development at source Promoting the use of SUDS, where appropriate, for all major development Providing on-site attenuation and treatment of surface water runoff from urban development and highways prior to discharge into watercourses Using public open spaces to deliver multiple benefits such as the creation of flood storage 	The NDP should ensure water management planning into new development. It should explore and encourage the multifunctional opportunities for onsite water management.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of environmental issues
	<p>areas and, where possible, providing facilities for environmental enhancement in the form of wetlands and ponds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protection of watercourse corridors, including the avoidance of culverting and encouraging the reopening of culverted watercourses.• Considering, where feasible, the retrofitting of SUDS when large 'brownfield' sites are redeveloped.	



