

Appendix A – Key Sustainability Issues identified in the Scoping Report (December 2017)

Scoping Report Topics	Sustainability Issues	Likely Evolution without the Plan
Population, Housing and Communities	<p>Lichfield has a higher elderly population, 5% higher than the national average. Over 65s already outnumber the under 15s.</p> <p>Significant growth in people over 65 and 85 is projected between 2015 – 2025.</p> <p>The working age population has decreased by 3% since 2010 which is higher than both the regional and national average.</p> <p>Average house price in Lichfield is considerably more expensive when compared to the regional and national averages. The lowest quartile house price is 6.72 times the lowest quartile income.</p> <p>Crime in the District has increased by 16.1% when compared to the previous 12 months. There has been an increase of burglary from dwellings, other violence against the person and public order offences.</p> <p>There has been a decrease in the proportion of completions on brownfield land, although the majority of development still occurs on brownfield land.</p>	<p>Services and infrastructure unable to keep up with requirements of an ageing population, leading to communities without access to required infrastructure and service's.</p> <p>A less co-ordinated approach to housing and delivery and risk of undersupply of affordable housing.</p> <p>Population forced to move out of District to have access to affordable housing</p> <p>Risk the ability for communities to interact and remain inclusive. Reduce the ability to create environment where crime and disorder and the fear of crime does not undermine quality of life or community cohesion.</p>
Health and Inequalities	<p>Higher than national average number of working age people having no qualifications. The District has a lower proportion of working age adults qualified to NVQ Level 4 than the national average.</p>	<p>The population will be less likely to contribute to and enable the reinforcement of a strong competitive economy.</p> <p>The district will be unable to proactively meet development needs of business and support a fit economy.</p>

	<p>Although Lichfield has a higher life expectancy and healthy life expectancy than the national average, residents can still expect to spend a large number of years in ill health. There is also some disparity between wards.</p> <p>A high rate of obesity can be seen in the District, from an early age through to adulthood.</p>	<p>A Local Plan can ensure the built environment contributes to delivering health benefits and supports the wellbeing of a population. Without a Plan developments are less likely to provide accessible open space or other infrastructure requirements that will have a positive impact on health and wellbeing.</p>
<p>Economy and Employment</p>	<p>High level of out commuting by residents of the District.</p> <p>Disparity between the gross weekly pay of residents in the District and those whose workplace is within the District.</p> <p>Both Lichfield City Centre and Burntwood Town Centre have the lowest vacancy rates in a number of years, with 19 out of 302 shops in Lichfield City Centre and 3 out of 67 in Burntwood being vacant.</p>	<p>Fewer residents being employed within the District leading to a lack of a skilled workforce and a strong competitive economy.</p> <p>Less co-ordinated approach to new employment and commercial infrastructure leading to the impediment of sustainable growth.</p> <p>Place at risk the continued vitality of our town centres to remain competitive providing customer choice access to services and facilities.</p>
<p>Townscape and Historic Environment</p>	<p>There are 21 conservation areas within the District, a total of 16 scheduled ancient monuments, a registered historic park and garden and 762 listed buildings of which 12 are Grade I, 63 are Grade II* and 687 Grade II. 17 listed buildings are on the 'Buildings at risk survey' with 4 of those being Grade I and II*.</p> <p>Within Lichfield there are many rural villages that are set within a varied and attractive rural area.</p>	<p>Loss of heritage assets due to a less co-ordinated approach to housing and delivery.</p> <p>Uncontrolled or unsympathetic development could harm local landscape and townscape character.</p>

<p>Landscape and Ecology</p>	<p>Lichfield supports a variety of wildlife rich habitats and species, with 2 SACs, 4 SSSIs, an AONB, and 78 Sites of Biological Interest.</p> <p>Areas within the District are at risk of pluvial and fluvial flooding.</p>	<p>Lack of local protection could lead to a degradation and loss of valued landscapes.</p>
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<p>Transport and Movement</p>	<p>Public transport provision across the District is variable.</p> <p>3% of employed residents commute by rail, which is the highest in Staffordshire.</p> <p>49.1% of residents commute out of the District to work. Lichfield District also has one of the highest rates of car drivers at 75%.</p> <p>In Lichfield City 83% of households are within 350 metres of a half hourly or better weekday bus service. Some settlements are limited to just 1-2 bus services a week with some rural villages having no bus service at all.</p>	<p>A less strategic overview of development and infrastructure delivery may occur.</p> <p>Necessary highway infrastructure may not be strategically implemented.</p> <p>Ensure that new development is in accessible locations that reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>Ensuring that new growth is integrated with new transport infrastructure.</p>
<p>Climate, Energy and Waste</p>	<p>Traffic continues to compromise air quality in the AQMA.</p> <p>50.65% of all household waste was recycled in 2015/16 which is above the EU target of 50% of waste being recycled by 2020.</p> <p>Over a ten year period average domestic consumption has decreased by 26% in Lichfield which is larger than both the regional (-22%) and national (-12%) figures.</p> <p>Bring up water to a 'good quality' rating in line with Environment Agency objectives.</p>	<p>Without a strategic approach to development and infrastructure, existing issues of air quality may be exacerbated.</p> <p>Positive trends could be reversed reducing the ability of the District to contribute a low carbon future.</p> <p>A Local Plan can provide further support in the long-term approach to climate change mitigation and adaption. Therefore, without a Local Plan development may be less ambitious in its energy performance.</p>