

**SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT: OPEN SPACE AND BUILT
RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL SCOPING REPORT

March 2007

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council is preparing a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for Open Space and Recreational Built Facilities as part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) for the District. It is linked to Policies OS5 and CF7A of the Replacement Unitary Development Plan which was adopted in October 2005. The SPD will set out an improved framework for assessing the provisions developers make to open space, and also, as far as possible, inform such provisions based on the Bradford City Council's Open Space, Sport, and Recreation Assessment.
- 1.2 In accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Bradford Council is required to undertake a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The Sustainability Appraisal will identify and report on the likely significant effects of the SPD and the extent to which its implementation will achieve the social, environmental and economic objectives by which sustainable development is defined. The Sustainability Appraisal for the SPD will be carried out in line with those sustainability objectives used for the sustainability appraisal of the Replacement UDP. Sustainability Appraisal aims to promote better integration of sustainability objectives in the preparation and adoption of local development documents¹.
- 1.3 There is also a requirement for the Council to comply with the European Directive 2001/42/EC and undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for those plans which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. The requirements of the SEA Directive can be incorporated into the Sustainability Appraisal of the SPD. SA and SEA are not dissimilar; the aims for both are to try to ensure that plans and policies aid in the implementation of sustainable development objectives. SEA concentrates on ensuring that environmental issues have been taken into account during the plan preparation, and on minimising the environmental effects of the plans and policies overall. Whilst the SA also aims to minimise environmental impacts, it has a wider remit and incorporates both social and economic objectives as well.
- 1.4 In 2005, the Government published guidance on how to carry out Sustainability Appraisals for documents in the new planning framework – *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents*. There are several stages of the SA process, and for the first stage, the Council must prepare a Scoping Report which sets out the context of the Supplementary Planning Document in

¹ ODPM (2005) Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents
Bradford City Council (2007) Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment

relation to other plans and policies at a local, regional, national, and possibly European level; this process establishes the baseline information and decides on the scope of the SA.

1.5 Stages of the Sustainability Appraisal:

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| Stage A: | Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope; |
| Stage B: | Developing and refining options and assessing effects; |
| Stage C: | Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report; |
| Stage D: | Consulting on draft SPD and Sustainability Appraisal Report; |
| Stage E: | Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the SPD. |

This document represents Stage A of the process.

1.6 The following sections provide information on:

- Relevant plans, policies and programmes.
- Baseline information.
- Sustainability framework and sustainability objectives and indicators.

2.0 RELEVANT PLANS, POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

The following policies and plans have been reviewed to identify any relevant relationships between the SPD and other strategies and sustainability objectives.

Relevant Plan, Policy or Programme	Key Objectives or Requirements of Relevant Plan and SA	Implications for the SPD
RUDP: Policy OS5	Relates to the provision of recreation open space and playing fields for new development. Based on the premise that all new residential development, irrespective of size, will create additional demands for recreational open space in the form of children's play space and informal open space, as well as for formal open spaces for outdoor sport and recreation in the form of playing fields.	The SPD will amplify the need for people to have easy access to open space close to where they live through providing a framework for assessing how and to what degree developers will be expected to make appropriate provision for both recreation open space and playing fields in order to meet the needs generated by the development.
Policy CF7A	Reflects the importance of making appropriate provision for built indoor sports and recreation facilities where a major development would result in an increase in demand which cannot be met by existing facilities.	The SPD will reinforce the need for such provision, in particular within those areas that have been identified as having deficiencies in open space provision in the strategic open space assessment.
Policy TM8	Requires the provision, where appropriate, of new pedestrian and cycle links through development sites and open spaces, especially where these will provide links to existing routes.	The SPD will reinforce the need for the provision, where appropriate, of new pedestrian and cycle links through development sites and open spaces.
Policy TM10	Expects major developments	The SPD will reinforce the

	to contribute towards the construction and improvement of the national and local cycle network and links to it where such facilities would service the development by sustainable modes.	expectations of major developments. That being to contribute towards the construction and improvement of the national and local cycle network and links to it where such facilities would be serviced by sustainable modes.
Policies NE12 and NE4	Relate to the possibility of incorporating landscape features such as trees or water already present within sites. Such areas of open space could have the dual benefit of contributing towards fulfilling open space needs whilst also enhancing nature conservation.	The SPD will highlight the possibility for open space provision to be provided in this context.
Policy UR6	Policy UR6 sets out council's approach to planning conditions and obligations. It includes a list of matters which may be included in conditions or an obligation.	
Policy BH10	Policy BH10 sets out the circumstances under which planning permission for the development of important open areas of land or gardens within or adjacent to a conservation area will not be granted.	
Bradford Metropolitan District Council Open Space Assessment.	Aims to provide usable, accessible and sustainable open spaces, sport and recreational facilities within the Bradford District. The assessment sets out the results of research and	The SPD will provide an improved framework for assessing developers contributions in accordance with the requirements identified in the strategic open space assessment. It

	<p>analysis of open space, sport, and recreational facilities provision within Bradford. This information is set out in assessment reports which highlight the key issues that have emerged from detailed assessments of the quality and distribution of provision, and extensive consultation with local groups and people. The assessment identifies gaps in provision in addition to deficiencies in the quality of existing areas for many of the different types of open space and outdoor sports facilities.</p>	<p>will seek to apply provision standards and address deficiencies identified in the assessment. Further to this it will need to achieve an appropriate balance between new provision and the enhancement of existing provision. It will also need to be clear and coherent so to provide a reasonable basis for negotiations with developers.</p>
<p>Planning Policy Guidance 17: Sport & Recreation.</p>	<p>Planning Policy Guidance 17 sets out national planning policy relating to open space, sport and recreation. The Companion Guide accompanying PPG 17 provides definitions of the various types of open space and sport facilities which formed the basis of the open space assessment and that will guide future policy development. PPG17 promotes the use of planning obligations to secure improvements or additions to the provision of local open space, and sports and recreation facilities.</p>	<p>PG17 highlights the role this issue plays in underpinning people's quality of life and supporting broader Government objectives such as urban renewal, social cohesion and sustainable development. Given these facts this SPD would therefore be entirely consistent with PPG17.</p>

<p>Planning Policy Guidance 3: Housing (2000).</p>	<p>PPG3 details the Government's objectives for housing policy. It focuses on ensuring that the housing needs of all in the community are recognised and promoting more sustainable patterns of development. In particular, it requires local planning authorities to give priority to re-using previously developed land within urban areas, bringing empty homes back into use and converting existing buildings in preference to the development of greenfield sites. They are also required to seek to reduce car dependence by facilitating more walking and cycling and promoting good design in new housing developments in order to create attractive, high-quality living environments in which people will choose to live.</p>	
<p>Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development (2005).</p>	<p>PPS1 outlines the Government's view that sustainable development is the core principle underpinning planning. It is defined as 'development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.' Planning should facilitate and promote sustainable and inclusive</p>	

	<p>patterns of urban and rural development by making suitable land available for development in line with economic, social and environmental objectives to improve people's quality of life, contributing to sustainable economic development; protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment, the quality and character of the countryside, and existing communities; ensuring high quality development through good and inclusive design, and the efficient use of resources; and ensuring that development supports existing communities and contributes to the creation of safe, sustainable, liveable and mixed communities with good access to jobs and key services for all members of the community.</p>	
<p>Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and geological conservation.</p>	<p>'Working with the grain of nature: a biodiversity strategy for England' sets out the Government's vision for conserving and enhancing biological diversity in England, together with a programme of work to achieve it. It includes the broad aim that planning, construction, development and regeneration should have minimal impacts on</p>	

	biodiversity and enhance it wherever possible. In moving towards this vision, the Government's objectives for planning are to promote sustainable development; to conserve, enhance and restore the diversity of England's wildlife and geology; and to contribute to rural renewal and urban renaissance.	
DEFRA: Rural White Paper (2000).	The Rural White Paper sets out the Government's vision of a living, working, protected and vibrant countryside. Key issues in respect of open spaces include proposals to improve rural transport, policies to conserve and enhance the countryside, restoring and maintaining wildlife diversity and the natural environment. Key success identified in the review undertaken in 2004 include added emphasis on sites of special scientific interest and the England Biodiversity Strategy, which integrates biodiversity conservation into key policies and programmes.	
Bradford Metropolitan District Council Planning Obligations Draft SPD and RUDP Policy UR6.	In relation to open space this SPD outlines the circumstances in which the Council would seek contributions towards off-site facilities or infrastructure through Section 106 Planning	The Draft Planning Obligations SPD will influence the development of the Open Space SPD in particular areas of relevance such as the geographical limits of expenditure, the

	Obligations.	timescale over which contributions need to be spent, the circumstances under which contributions for major projects with wider benefits may be sought and the procedures for negotiating planning obligations, particularly regarding assessments of viability.
DTLR: The Urban Green Spaces Taskforce: Green Spaces, Better Places (2002).	<p>The final report of the Urban Green Spaces Taskforce identifies the need for an urban renaissance of parks and green spaces. It details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ The benefits of parks and green spaces for urban life and their contribution to long-term social, economic and environmental progress (e.g., urban regeneration and renewal; health; social cohesion, community development and citizenship; education and lifelong learning; environmental sustainability; heritage and culture). ❑ The problems affecting urban parks and green spaces and ways in which they might be overcome (e.g., serving marginalised groups, investment, partnership 	

	<p>and information systems).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ The need for a strategic policy framework within which all decision makers can operate and contribute to deliver networks of urban green spaces. <p>Identification of ways to deliver the report's vision of 'liveable', sustainable modern towns and cities – strong civic and local pride, reinforced by a green spaces strategy; common criteria to measure quality and care; strong local leadership and greater national support; a scheme to fund enablers to work with local groups and create partnerships; the creation of a new national agency for urban parks and green spaces.</p>	
Urban Parks Forum: Public Park Assessment (2002).	<p>This report highlights the decline of urban parks in the United Kingdom. Despite receiving over 1.5 billion visits per year, cuts in revenue expenditure over the previous 20 years were estimated at £1.3 billion. The report identifies the key challenge of arresting the decline in parks and starting a renaissance in open spaces.</p>	

<p>DEFRA: ‘Working with the grain of nature: a biodiversity strategy for England’ (2002).</p>	<p>This strategy sets out a vision for the Country of landscapes ‘where wild species and habitats are part of healthy functioning ecosystems; where we nurture, treasure and enhance our biodiversity, and where biodiversity is a natural consideration of policies and decisions, and in society as a whole.’</p> <p>The Biodiversity Strategy for England seeks to ensure that biodiversity considerations become embedded in all the main sectors of economic activity, public and private. It sets out a programme to make the changes necessary to conserve, enhance and work with the grain of nature and ecosystems rather than against them. It takes account of climate change as one of the most important factors affecting biodiversity and influencing policies.</p>	
<p>ODPM: Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future (2003).</p>	<p>The Sustainable Communities Plan (Sustainable Communities: Building for the future) sets out a long-term programme of action for delivering sustainable communities in both urban and rural areas. It aims to tackle housing supply issues in the South East, low demand in other</p>	

	<p>parts of the country, and the quality of our public spaces.</p> <p>The Plan includes not just a significant increase in resources and major reforms of housing and planning, but a new approach to how we build and what we build.</p> <p>The programme of action aims to focus the attention and co-ordinate the efforts of all levels of Government and stakeholders in bringing about development that meets the economic, social and environmental needs of future generations as well as succeeding now.</p> <p>Key policy areas include the introduction of the 'Cleaner, Safer, Greener' programme (309 Green Flag awards, 71% satisfaction with the quality of green space and £24.7 million awarded to 1,100 Living Space community projects).</p>	
CABE Space: Manifesto for better public spaces (2004).	<p>This document seeks to help create a national consensus that parks and public spaces are a genuine political and financial priority by encouraging national and local agencies to sign up to the 'manifesto'.</p>	

CABE Space: The value of public space: how high quality parks and public spaces create economic, social and environmental value (2004).	The value of public space shows how cities in the UK and around the world have received far-reaching economic, health and social benefits from making the best of their public spaces.	
CABE Space: Parks need parkforce (2005).	Parks need parkforce sets out the case for increasing the number of on-site staff to create safe, popular and beautiful parks.	
CABE Space: Start with the park: creating sustainable urban green spaces in areas of housing growth and renewal (2005).	Start with the park is a good practice guide for everyone involved in the processes of sustainable growth and renewal in England. It is particularly relevant to the creation and care of green spaces in housing growth areas and housing market renewal areas. It will inform and inspire strategic decision-makers working in local delivery and partnership bodies, local and regional authorities, government departments and other national agencies, private developers, housebuilders and registered social landlords and community and voluntary sector groups.	
CABE Space: Urban parks: Do you know what you're getting for your money? (2006).	This report seeks to establish the extent to which simply providing more resources would automatically improve green space quality. It highlights a number of key issues:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ The importance of assessing the existing quality of parks and green spaces and to set clear and measurable aspirations for the future. ❑ The difference between cutting budgets and making efficiency gains is not always appreciated. ❑ Increases in national funding do not necessarily lead to more resources at a local level. ❑ The level of local importance does not always carry through the decision-making hierarchy, with parks and green spaces slipping down the agenda as financial decision-making moves onto a higher and more strategic level. ❑ The importance of a corporate strategy and a strategic approach. 	
Game Plan.	Game Plan is the Government's strategy for sport and physical activity through to 2020. It was published in December 2002 and presents a new vision for England to become the most	

	<p>active and successful sporting nation in the world. It now provides the lead for all sports plans in England. It identifies the two overarching objectives for government as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ A major increase in participation in sport and physical activity, primarily because of the significant health benefits and to reduce the growing costs of inactivity. ❑ A sustainable improvement in success in international competition, particularly in the sports which matter most to the public, primarily because of the 'feelgood factor' associated with winning. <p>Three distinct aims arise from these objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ To encourage a mass participation culture, with a target for 70% of the population to be reasonably active (for example 30 minutes of moderate exercise five times a week) by 2020. ❑ To enhance international success, with a target for British 	
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	<p>and English teams and individuals to sustain rankings within the top five, particularly in more popular sports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ To adopt a different approach to hosting mega sporting events. They should be seen as an occasional celebration of success rather than as a means to achieving other government objectives. 	
Sport England Framework for Sport.	<p>Sport England is the strategic lead for delivering the Government's sporting objectives in England. It distributes both Lottery and Exchequer funds to sport.</p> <p>Its vision is to make England an active and successful sporting nation. Its mission is 'working with others to create opportunities to get involved in sport, to stay in sport and to excel and succeed in sport at every level'.</p> <p>Its business objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Start – increase participation in sport in order to improve the health of the nation, with a focus on priority groups. ❑ Stay – retain people in sport and active 	

	<p>recreation through an effective network of clubs, sports facilities, coaches, volunteers and competitive opportunities.</p> <p>❑ Succeed – achieve sporting success at every level.</p> <p>Sport England has developed the framework for sport. It identifies the seven main drivers for change and the five major settings where sport can take place. The six policy areas identify where actions need to be focused. The identified outcomes provide the structure for this strategy.</p>	
Bradford Metropolitan District Council Planning Guidance for the Provision of Children's Play Space Within New Residential Developments.	This guidance elaborated on matters considered in the original UDP and provided advice on a number of detailed issues relating to children's play space.	
Sport England: Yorkshire Plan for Sport (2004).	The Yorkshire Plan for Sport has been developed with key stakeholders to state how the region will achieve the national objectives set out in Game Plan. It focuses the work of the regional agencies and organisation involved in sport at the local level and provides a shared agenda that promotes partnership working in order that changes are made to get the region	

	<p>active. The overall target is to get 160,000 more people active through sport by 2008. The Plan also lists other outcomes, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Improve levels of performance by aiming to have 10% of Yorkshire athletes in the English and British teams. ❑ Widen access to sport and reduce the participation gap between population groups by 25%. ❑ Improve health and well being with 32% of adults achieving the Department of Health physical activity guidelines. ❑ Improve community safety by a 5% increase in voluntary and community sector sport activity. ❑ Raise standards in education by achieving the PESCCCL objective of 75% of school children receiving two hours of high quality physical education and extracurricular sport per week. ❑ Benefit the economy by maintaining sport's contribution at 1.6%. 	
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	<p>The strategy clearly identifies that sport needs clear, defined and consistent performance indicators with agreed targets and standards, and reliable baseline information on the number of people taking part. A key policy aim is that the Regional Spatial Strategy and all local development frameworks support the development of new or improved facilities and green spaces to secure opportunities to take part in sport and active recreation.</p>	
Local area agreement (LAA).	<p>Bradford's local area agreement is the single most important statement of the collective expectations of stakeholders and is used to drive and align planning processes. Again, it is important that the provision of open space, sport and recreational facilities is geared to supporting delivering of LAA targets. The objective of the LAA is to focus on the action that must be taken to achieve the 2020 Vision of the community strategy.</p>	
Bradford Metropolitan District Council 'All To Play For', A Strategy for Children's Play in Bradford District.	<p>The Strategy aims to create better play opportunities for all the District's children and young people up to the age</p>	

	<p>of 16 years. The Strategy For Play will help to ensure that all children have access to play opportunities and that the quality of provision is as good as possible. This will also help to achieve a number of goals of the Bradford Community Strategy, such as improved health, better learning, safer and stronger communities, a quality environment and a lively cultural scene.</p> <p>The Vision of 'All To Play For' is:</p> <p>"A child-friendly District where all children feel at home, where there is widespread support for play, and where excellent play facilities foster equality, inclusion and participation."</p> <p>The vision of the Strategy for Play is based on three goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Meeting the aspirations of children, young people and families in the District. ❑ Supporting community strategies through quality play. ❑ Reaching standards of excellence in play provision. 	
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<p>Bradford Metropolitan District Council Woodland Strategy, 2002.</p>	<p>Trees and woodlands are an important part of Bradford's District's urban and rural landscape making a significant contribution to the overall image of the District.</p> <p>The main aims of the Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ To highlight the role that trees and woodland have in creating a quality environment and so contribute to the achievement of the Vision for the District. ❑ To ensure that CBMDC manages its woodlands and trees effectively and to present a corporate view of Council activity relating to trees and woodlands and to set out policy for it. ❑ To support the UDP as Supplementary Planning Guidance. ❑ To identify the Council's main partners in tree-related activity and outline future approaches with them. ❑ To make clear the links between Bradford Council's activities and national, regional and 	
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	<p>local strategic agencies and organisations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ To raise awareness of the special role that trees and woods have in urban areas in contributing to more liveable, sustainable towns and cities. 	
Bradford Metropolitan District Council Nature and People Strategy.	<p>The aim of the strategy is to conserve and enhance the wildlife (biodiversity) of the District, for its own sake and for the sake of the people that live in and visit the area.</p> <p>The key objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Protect the natural resource and assets of the District through adoption of policies to safeguard all known sites and species of nature conservation value. ❑ Identify and describe the natural environment resource through identification of all further sites of nature conservation value and an up-to-date information record as a reference for the protection of wildlife. ❑ Manage and improve the quality of the 	

	<p>environment to enhance the nature conservation value of the District by drawing up management regimes on appropriate council-owned land which will enhance the ecological value of habitats and benefit wildlife.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Develop access to areas of nature conservation value to encourage public access, where possible, to sites and species of nature conservation value and manage this access to avoid adversely affecting the interest of the site or the species within it. ❑ Educate and increase public awareness about the environment so that the people of Bradford are informed about the District's natural resource and are encouraged to take an interest and learn about the environment. ❑ Promote community involvement and develop environmental partnerships. 	
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<p>Draft Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) for the Bradford District (2003).</p>	<p>This document establishes and reinforces the importance of biodiversity planning for the District. The BAP aims to conserve and enhance the wildlife species and habitats of the District, as part of Bradford's contribution to the conservation of UK and global biodiversity.</p> <p>The BAP safeguards the locally and nationally valued species and habitats within the District and ensures the sustainable use of the biological resources. This will be achieved through development of effective and participative partnerships that co-ordinate action and focus's resources in order to raise awareness of and commitment from the public towards local biodiversity issues.</p>	
<p>Bradford Metropolitan District Council 'A Strategy for Children's Play'.</p>	<p>This strategy document aims to ensure that all children have access to play opportunities and that the quality of provision is as good as possible.</p>	
<p>Yorkshire and Humber Regional Assembly Yorkshire Plan for Sport.</p>	<p>This was developed with all the key stakeholders in the region so that it reflects the priorities for sport in Yorkshire, not those of any particular organisation. It provides direction for the new</p>	

	<p>ways of working that will be needed to achieve the vision of an active and successful sporting region.</p> <p>The plan sets out priorities for action in 16 policy proposals. The key stakeholders have agreed these as the steps that will make the biggest difference over the next four years.</p> <p>They focus the work of major regional agencies and shape the actions of the many organisations involved in sport at local level. Only by working in partnership and focusing on a shared agenda will we make the changes that will get the region active.</p>	
The Yorkshire and Humber Plan – The Regional Spatial Strategy.	Policy ENV11 links health and recreation and sets the framework for development plans to safeguard and enhance sport and recreation facilities and maximise opportunities for walking and cycling routes.	
English Nature: Accessible natural green space in towns and cities: A review of appropriate size and distance criteria.	This report was produced to help Local Authorities to develop policies which acknowledge, protect and enhance the contribution natural spaces make to local sustainability. Three aspects of natural space in cities and towns are discussed: their biodiversity; their ability to cope with urban pollution; ensuring natural spaces are	

	<p>accessible to everyone. The report aims to show how size and distance criteria can be used to identify the natural spaces which contribute most to local sustainability. The implications of these findings for planners in central and local government, and people in private practice who design the main elements of urban areas are also discussed briefly.</p>	
The Yorkshire and Humber Plan Draft Regional Spatial Strategy.	<p>Overall Approach (Policy YH1) including 'Raising environmental quality, increasing biodiversity and enhancing natural and built heritage assets'. Location of Development (Policy YH8) including:</p> <p>i) First priority to the re-use of previously developed land and buildings and the more effective use of existing developed areas within these centres</p> <p>ii) Second priority to other suitable infill opportunities within these centres</p> <p>iii) Third priority to planned growth areas, on the periphery of or well related, in public transport route terms, to these centres.</p>	In terms of any peripheral growth areas public transport routes can provide a structure to safeguard or create green wedges of open space or countryside.
Regional Sustainable Development Framework.	Ensures that sustainable development is at the centre	Open Space can be used to improve social equality, use

	of policy and decision-making at all levels throughout the region.	resources more efficiently, protect the natural environment and improve the quality of life for all.
Bradford District Community Strategy 2006-2009.	The priorities are: creating a vibrant economy and a prosperous District, improving the District for children and young people, building safer and stronger communities, making healthier communities and improving the quality of life for older people, creating the foundations for long term prosperity.	Guidance can assist in delivering the Council's priorities, specifically improving the environment and creating a more prosperous District.
The Bradford District 2020 Vision.	This provides a framework to promote and improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of present and future generations. It sets out the direction of travel for the District, the Council, other public agencies, businesses, voluntary organisations and the public.	

3.0 BASELINE INFORMATION

- 3.1 The SEA Directive and good practice guide require baseline information on which to assess the impacts and effectiveness of policies and plans to be included in the Scoping Report. Comprehensive baseline information is being developed as part of the Sustainability Appraisal Framework for the LDF. The Scoping Report was presented for public consultation in February 2007.
- 3.2 Beyond the relevant policies of the Replacement UDP the Open Space and Built Recreational Facilities SPD is developed from several other documents. These are noted below and reference is made as to how they relate to the SPD.

Open Space and Recreation

- 3.3 Bradford Open Space, Sport & Recreation Study Outdoor Facilities Assessment Report (Knight Kavanagh and Page, June 2006). The purpose of this assessment is to enable the Bradford Council to 'plan positively, creatively and effectively to ensure that there is an adequate provision of accessible, high-quality green spaces, civic spaces and sport and recreation facilities to meet the needs of local communities and visitors'.
- 3.4 Supplementary Planning Guidance for the Provision of Children's Play Space within New Residential Developments was adopted in December 1994. This will be replaced by the Open Space and Built Recreational Facilities Supplementary Planning Document. The Supplementary Planning Guidance for the Provision of Children's Play Space within New Residential Developments stated that a study into play space in the inner areas of the Bradford District showed that over half the children within the district had no equipped play areas within easy walking distance. At the time of writing, the National Playing Fields Association recommended that a minimum of 0.8ha per 1000 population should be reserved as children's play; this translated to 20m² per family dwelling. This guidance is now dated, and the council appointed consultants to undertake research into recreation/open space provision across the district in line with PPG17. This was undertaken by Knight Kavanagh and Page.

Natural Environment

- 3.5 A Local Biodiversity Action Plan for the Bradford District (draft) was prepared in 2003. Action Plans will be prepared for local species and habitats that have been

highlighted for their conservation concern. The LBAP gives in-depth descriptions of the different habitats and species that can be found within the District, which include uplands, woodlands, wetlands, watercourses, grasslands; and flora, mammals, birds, amphibians, fish and invertebrates, respectively. The LBAP also outlines the Action Plans for these different species and habitats, what the factors are which are causing loss or decline, and what measures can be taken.

The LBAP acknowledges the Council's role in the protection of these environments, and states that 'site and species protection policies, negotiations as part of the development control process and the using of planning conditions and Section 106 Agreements all provide mechanisms to protect, manage and enhance existing areas of wildlife importance and establish new areas for wildlife'.

The Bradford Metropolitan District Council Landscape Assessment 2000 Draft

- 3.6 The Bradford Metropolitan District Council Landscape Assessment 2000 Draft was carried out as part of the Unitary Development Plan Review and published in October 2000. The assessment describes and analyses the overall landscape character of the district as well as recommending appropriate landscape management and land use planning strategies. It provides a basis for the formulation of plans, policies, and proposals for the landscape of the district as a whole.

Sustainability Appraisal: Scoping Report – Local Development Framework

- 3.7 The Scoping Report for the Sustainability Appraisal of the Bradford Local Development Framework went out to consultation in February 2007. This report contains baseline information for topics outside of the scope for the SPD and can be referred to if deemed necessary.

The Sport and Recreation Facilities Provision Assessment for the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

- 3.8 The sport and recreation facilities provision assessment for the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council. This will meet the requirements of the recommendations contained in PPG 17 (including guidance in the companion guide to PPG17 published in September 2002). The purpose of this assessment is to:

Build on the existing data and information held by the Council and other organisations, to provide comprehensive needs assessment and to develop a strategy in accordance with the requirements of PPG17.

Enable the Council to plan positively, creatively and effectively to ensure that there is an adequate provision of accessible, high-quality sport and recreation facilities to meet the needs of local communities and visitors.

Bradford Metropolitan District Council will be commissioning this work in the near future

Conservation Area Assessments

3.9 Certain areas within the Bradford District have been designated as conservation areas. Each conservation area has undergone a process of character assessment and boundary review. This has resulted in there being Conservation Area Assessment documents for 59 conservation areas in the district. The conservation area assessment and boundary review was undertaken between 2001 and 2005.

Designation brings with it a number of controls including:

- Control over the demolition of buildings;
- Strengthened controls over minor development; and
- Special provision for the protection of trees.

The objective of these measures is to provide for the preservation and enhancement of the special interest of the place. The intention is not to stifle change, but to provide for the positive management of these unique areas. These management proposals are in line with best value indicators 219 A, B and C. The Bradford Unitary Development Plan includes a number of policies relating to these proposals.

Within many Conservation Areas green space, trees and water features form an important element of the character being safeguarded and are identified in the conservation area assessment. Accordingly these features should be protected against damaging development proposals. They may also be the subject of environmental enhancement initiatives to improve the nature conservation value of them. It is only relatively recently

that gardens and designed landscapes have come to be recognised as an important part of the districts unique natural and cultural heritage.

Open space and vistas into and out of Conservation Areas should be retained where it can be shown that the spaces contribute to the character and historic layout. Natural features such as trees and hedgerows within or adjacent to Conservation Areas, and especially those linked to wildlife habitat and local distinctiveness are very vulnerable to change. Equally where development is proposed in open land sufficient space should be set aside to maintain the important long distance views from key points both inside and outside the Conservation Area so to provide a robust buffer to the proposed development.

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK

4.1 Sustainability Appraisal for the Replacement Unitary Development Plan

The Sustainability Appraisal for the First Deposit Replacement Unitary Development Plan (RUDP) for the Bradford District was completed in June 2001, as set out in the Background Document: No.2 Sustainability Appraisal. A second Sustainability Appraisal was published in July 2002 for the Second Deposit Replacement UDP. The process, in line with Government guidance, highlighted the importance of implementing national and regional policies at the local level; *A Better Quality of Life – A Strategy for Sustainable Development* (1999) sets out four national sustainable development objectives:

- Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone;
- Effective protection of the environment;
- Prudent use of natural resources; and
- Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.

4.2 In 2005, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) published a further strategy for sustainable development with five new objectives; 'living within environmental limits, ensuring a strong, healthy and just society, achieving a sustainable economy, promoting good governance and using sound science responsibly'². Although the Council acknowledges the recent strategy, the underlying principles of sustainable development remain the same. The Sustainability Appraisal identified both positive and negative impacts that these policies would have on reaching the four sustainable development objectives as established by the Government. It also looked at the RUDP's impact on all aspects of the environment in addition to other economic and social considerations.

4.3 Methodology for the Sustainability Appraisal of the SPD

The appraisal for the SPD will use the same sustainability objectives that have been used to assess the RUDP. It was felt more appropriate to appraise the SPD against sustainability objectives that were used for the Sustainability Appraisal of the Replacement UDP as the SPD is specifically linked to the saved Policies OS5 and CF7A. The objectives include the four listed below but also include other components devised by the Council.

² DEFRA (2005) Securing the Future: UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy

Effective Protection of the Environment

- Built environment and urban land use
- Cultural heritage
- Open space
- Health and safety
- Countryside/rural areas
- Water quality, resource and supply
- Air quality

Prudent Use of Natural Resources

- Agriculture, forestry and soil
- Biodiversity
- Minerals
- Waste
- Energy
- Transport – movement
- Transport – mode

Social Progress Which Recognises the Needs of Everyone

- Access
- Equity and equality of opportunity
- Housing

Maintenance of High and Stable Levels of Economic Growth and Employment

- Employment/local economy

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES AND INDICATORS

	Sustainability Criteria	Objectives	Application to UDP	Key Indicators of Impact for Development Proposals
1	Built Environment and Urban Land use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Make urban areas more attractive through good design. ♦ Make full and effective use of land and buildings in urban areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Promote use of previously developed sites. ♦ Promote reuse and maintenance of existing buildings. ♦ Promote effective use of existing infrastructure. ♦ Promote good quality design/enhance appearance of places. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Is the site Greenfield or brownfield? ♦ Is the site vacant or underused? ♦ Would it potentially create an attractive environment for living and working? ♦ Would development on the site increase the potential for existing buildings and structures (whether listed or not) to be refurbished and reused? ♦ Is it close to existing built form and infrastructure (e.g. services such as water, sewers, education and health)? Would it make use of spare capacity or help pay for its renewal?

A. EFFECTIVE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

2	Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Enhance townscape value and add to the cultural legacy of the District through quality new development. ♦ Safeguard or enhance buildings, areas, landscapes, and features of historic and archaeological importance and their settings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Conserve the character of cities, town and villages. ♦ Protect features and promote development of a higher townscape quality. ♦ Preserve or enhance listed buildings, other historic buildings of local importance, and preserve and enhance conservation areas, historic parks and gardens, and their settings. ♦ Preserve or enhance ancient monuments and other archaeological sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Would the setting or character of archaeological sites (including potential sites), listed buildings, conservation areas, registered parks and gardens, and registered battlefields, within or adjacent to the site, be safeguarded or enhanced? ♦ Would any historic or townscape features be safeguarded or enhanced? ♦ Is the site unsightly now and would its development enhance the townscape value and general character of the area?
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	Sustainability Criteria	Objectives	Application to UDP	Key Indicators of Impact for Development Proposals
3	Open Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving cultural, recreation and leisure facilities. Protect and enhance existing areas of open space. Promote additional open space provision and expand green networks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the development of cultural, recreation and leisure facilities. Protect and improve the quality of existing open space. Promote new provision of open space and improved green networks and linkages which are accessible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the site of recreation or open space value? Is the site within an area of deficiency? (See Open Space Audit 1998). Is there existing open space provision within reasonable access? Appropriate thresholds are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allotments/shared external space 200 m Playground and local green space 400 m Park 600 m Natural green space (20Ha +) 2Km/25Min walk Open country or green lung (200Ha +) 5Km/20 mins by bike. (LGMB 1995) Does the site provide the opportunity to make a contribution to open space or green network provision?
4	Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase safety and sense of security, and reduce nuisance from noise and odour. Improve road safety and the design of cycling and walking facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase pedestrian and personal safety. Guide noise-sensitive development, noisy development, and noisy sports to appropriate locations. Reduce nuisance from noise and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the site close to sources of excessive noise or smell? Is the development likely to cause excessive levels of noise or smell, through the nature of the activity? Does the site provide the opportunity to promote increased safety and security through design? Does the site protect and add to recreational open

			<p>odour.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Conserve and promote recreational facilities. ♦ Improve local air quality. ♦ Promote design measures on security and sense of security. ♦ Promote road safety, in particular the design of cycling and walking facilities. 	space provision? (See 3 above).
5	Countryside/Rural Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Protect and enhance designated areas, enhance general landscape quality, retain countryside and open land. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Protect/enhance the open countryside, open land and Green Belt. ♦ Conserve/promote improved landscape quality and character. ♦ Conserve/enhance key habitats including wet grasslands, meadows, upland heaths, blanket bogs and woodland and hedge cover. ♦ Conserve/protect designated areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Is it part of the open countryside? ♦ Is the site within or adjacent to valued landscapes, either designated nationally or locally defined such as Special Landscape Areas? ♦ Are there any significant landscape features within or adjacent to the site, such as trees and hedges etc? ♦ Which landscape area and type does the site fall into in the landscape assessment? Is the proposed development compatible with the landscape? From the assessment can the landscape absorb the proposed development? ♦ Does the development of the site safeguard a reasonable level of access to open countryside for people in the neighbourhood?
6	Water Quality, Resource and Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Promote the efficient use of water, and safeguard water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Promote the re-use/resource efficient recycling of water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Does the site avoid areas susceptible to flooding, and avoid exacerbating problems of excessive surface

		resources from damage or disruption.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Protect the chemical and biological quality of watercourses and canals. ♦ Conserve/protect natural river systems and flood plains. ♦ Maintain groundwater quality, quantity, and river levels. 	<p>water runoff?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Is it located where there is spare capacity in the water supply system? ♦ Is it located where there is spare capacity in the surface and foul water drainage system?
7	Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Safeguarding the air from, and reducing pollution in the air. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Limit or reduce global and local pollutants including CO₂, SO₂, and methane and nitrogen oxide. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Is the site subject to excessive levels of air pollution, beyond that which can be solved by good design? ♦ Is the development liable to cause excessive levels of air pollution, or danger for people in the vicinity, either directly through the nature of its activity or indirectly because of traffic generated?

B. PRUDENT USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

	Sustainability Criteria	Objectives	Application to UDP	Key Indicators of Impact for Development Proposals
8.	Agriculture, Forestry and Soil.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Safeguard soil and the best and most versatile agricultural land, reduce contamination and dereliction, and safeguard/promote new woodland cover. ♦ Safeguard the District's potential for local food production. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Conserve the quality of the land, soil and agricultural land, in particular the best and most versatile, but also lower grade agricultural land e.g. in hill and upland areas where agricultural practices make a contribution to the environment. ♦ Promote the remediation of contaminated land and the reduction of dereliction. ♦ Promote effective use of urban land resources (e.g. increasing densities) so reducing the need for Greenfield sites. ♦ Promote good quality mineral extraction restoration. ♦ Protect existing tree cover and promote appropriately located new tree planting. ♦ Conserve geological sites. ♦ Protect allotments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Does the site reuse/reclaim derelict or contaminated land? ♦ Is the land of agricultural, or forestry value? ♦ Does it avoid areas of high intensity, local food production (including allotments) and land which is being farmed/cultivated organically? ♦ Does it avoid the best and most versatile soil? ♦ Is it a site of geological value? ♦ Will the development contribute to extending woodland/tree cover in an appropriate location?

	Sustainability Criteria	Objectives	Application to UDP	Key Indicators of Impact for Development Proposals
9	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Value and protect the diversity of nature while increasing general wildlife potential. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Protect designated nature conservation sites and protected species. ♦ Conserve important wildlife habitats. ♦ Enhance wildlife potential with habitat retention and protection. ♦ Promote diversity of wildlife and ecosystems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Does the proposed development impact on protected wildlife areas or other rare, vulnerable or locally valued habitats or species? ♦ Are woods and copses conserved, especially those that may have a role as wildlife habitats? ♦ Does the site contain any other wildlife features e.g. ponds? ♦ Could the development promote wildlife diversity by enhancing green corridors or creating new habitats? ♦ Would the development process enable the conservation of existing sites of ecological value?
10	Minerals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Reduce consumption of minerals and increase the re-use and recycling of minerals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Manage the extraction of minerals in appropriate locations. ♦ Reduce consumption of minerals. ♦ Promote re-use/resource efficient re-cycling of materials. ♦ Promote recycling facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Are potentially recyclable or virgin mineral resources safeguarded?

	Sustainability Criteria	Objectives	Application to UDP	Key Indicators of Impact for Development Proposals
11	Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Promote a move up through the waste management hierarchy to minimise waste, reuse or recover through recycling, composting or energy recovery and sustainably dispose of what is left at a local level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Promote re-use/resource efficient recycling of materials. ♦ Reduce waste arising. ♦ Promote recycling facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Is the site needed for waste disposal?
12	Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Reduce energy consumption and encourage the use of renewable sources of energy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Promote renewable energy generation e.g. wind, water, solar and biomass. ♦ Encourage energy efficient urban forms. ♦ Increase energy efficiency of buildings (e.g. materials, insulation, CHP etc). ♦ Promote sustainable design principles in site location and layout, which utilise solar gain. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Is the site in a sheltered location and does it avoid 'frost pockets' and exposed hillcrests? ♦ Is the site in the vicinity of existing development so as to benefit from 'heat island' effects and facilities later of the introduction of CHP/district heating? ♦ Is the site flat or gently sloping to the south, so as to maximise solar gain and does it avoid north facing slopes or locations which have strong potential for other forms of renewable energy?

	Sustainability Criteria	Objectives	Application to UDP	Key Indicators of Impact for Development Proposals
13	Transport-Movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Minimising the total amount of motorised travel required (number of trips/distance). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Minimise the need to travel by appropriate location of significant trip generator to facilitate multi purpose trips or in close proximity to users. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Will the development generate significant trips? ♦ If for service or employment, is the development embedded within (or at least close to) residential areas? In order that a good proportion of users are within walking distance and a major proportion within cycling distance. ♦ If a local facility, is it located on the main local bus route and clustered with other local facilities? ♦ If a district facility, is it located at a public transport node affording easy access from all the nearby areas? ♦ If for warehousing or manufacturing is it located close to the main road system and with existing/potential access by rail or water? ♦ Is there reasonable road access to the site without exceeding the physical or environmental capacity of the network?
14	Transport-Mode	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Increase the proportion of all journeys made by non-vehicular modes (walking, cycling and public transport) and promote the provision of an integrated transport network. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Encourage the use of non-vehicular transport through the location, scale and design of new development. ♦ Conserve and promote the provision of quality facilities for public transport, cyclists and walkers. ♦ Reduce private non-residential car parking. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Is the development well served by existing/potential walking and cycling routes to local facilities? ♦ Is it within easy walking distance of public transport routes, which give direct access to a good range of local and regional facilities? (Bus stop within 400 m of each home/railway station within 800 m). ♦ Would the development allow for the improvement or upgrading of public transport services? ♦ Is the site within walking or cycling distance of facilities? (See criteria 5).

	Sustainability Criteria	Objectives	Application to UDP	Key Indicators of Impact for Development Proposals
15	Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving access to facilities, services, buildings, open space and other people, not just those with cars. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve and promote accessibility in both urban and rural areas to a range of facilities and services, including local shops and financial services (banks & post offices), health facilities, open space and countryside. Promote access to a range of job opportunities, training and education. Improve access to public transport. Promote cycle and walking facilities. Reduce severance by roads and other development. Enhance, maintain and promote the 'rights of way' networks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How close is the development to major employment centres by comparison with recommended accessibility thresholds? (Potential thresholds are 5 Km from centre for cycling and 1.5 Km from centre for walking (LGMB1995)). Is the site within an area with a reasonable job ratio? (Job Ratio is the number of jobs in an area by number of people working/seeking work, calculated for several wards within an urban area or on a ward in other areas. (Desirable job ratio ->0.7). How close is the site to local and district facilities and will it improve their viability/range/quality? Shopping: District centre 1.5 Km walking distance. Local centre 400 m walking distance (Recognising barriers to movement). Education: Primary school 400 m walking distance. Secondary school 1.5 Km walking distance/good access by public transport. Open space (See criteria 3 above). Is there a right of way on the site?

C. SOCIAL PROGRESS THAT RECOGNISES THE NEEDS OF EVERYONE

	Sustainability Criteria	Objectives	Application to UDP	Key Indicators of Impact for Development Proposals
16	Equity and Equality of opportunity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Planning to meet the needs of the whole community and promote greater social equity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Promote equality in use and accessibility of facilities. ♦ Take account of and provide for the needs of ethnic minorities, disabled, elderly and young people. ♦ Reduce disadvantages to different groups. ♦ Promote local needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Does the site have the potential to meet local needs for affordable housing? ♦ Does the site provide potential job opportunities to the disadvantaged? Is it accessible to disadvantaged areas by public transport?
17	Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Facilitate provision of a range of good quality housing to meet all needs, at a reasonable cost. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Promote affordable housing. ♦ Promote a mix of housing to meet a range of needs. ♦ Promote housing, which meets local needs. ♦ Promote housing for the local workforce. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Would the development meet a need for housing (is the site allocated for housing or would it include an element of housing, on mixed developments)?

D. MAINTENANCE OF HIGH AND STABLE LEVELS OF ECONOMIC GROWTH AND EMPLOYMENT

	Sustainability Criteria	Objectives	Application to UDP	Key Indicators of Impact for Development Proposals
18	Employment/Local Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increases job opportunities throughout the District and provide opportunities for economic regeneration and growth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote job creation by facilitating employment and generating development. Promoting diversity of economy. Promote employment and training opportunities for all. Protect and enhance employment in local centres. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the site proposed for an employment use? Would the development result in a loss of employment land or buildings?