

**Designing Out Crime  
Supplementary Planning Document**

**Sustainability Appraisal Report**

**June 2007**

## CONTENTS OF SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

| <b>CHAPTER</b> | <b>CONTENT</b>  | <b>PAGE</b> |
|----------------|---|-------------|
| 1.0            | NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY   | 3           |
| 2.0            | BACKGROUND  | 5           |
| 3.0            | APPROACH  | 6           |
| 4.0            | DESIGNING OUT CRIME SPD   | 8           |
| 5.0            | TASK A1: REVIEW OF RELEVANT PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES                                | 9           |
| 6.0            | TASK A2: BASELINE INFORMATION   | 12          |
| 7.0            | TASK A3: SUSTAINABILITY PROBLEMS AND ISSUES   | 15          |
| 8.0            | TASK A4: DEVELOPING THE SA FRAMEWORK  | 16          |
| 9.0            | TASK B1: TESTING THE SPD OBJECTIVES AGAINST THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK        | 18          |
| 10.0           | TASK A5: CONSULTING ON THE SCOPE OF THE SA  | 19          |
| 11.0           | TASK B2: DEVELOPING THE SPD OPTIONS   | 19          |
| 12.0           | TASK B3 & B4: PREDICTING AND EVALUATING THE EFFECTS OF THE DRAFT SPD                      | 20          |
| 13.0           | TASK B5: CONSIDERING WAYS OF MITIGATING ADVERSE EFFECTS AND MAXIMISING BENEFICIAL EFFECTS | 21          |
| 14.0           | TASK B6: PROPOSING MEASURES TO MONITOR THE SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS OF IMPLEMENTING THE SPD    | 21          |
| 15.0           | TASK D1: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON THE DRAFT SPD AND THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL REPORT    | 21          |
| 16.0           | TASK D3: MAKING DECISIONS AND PROVIDING INFORMATION                                       | 21          |

## 1.0 Non-technical summary

### Introduction

1.1 Chesterfield Borough Council is working towards producing a Local Development Framework. This framework will contain a range of Local Development Documents setting out the planning policies for the borough. This document is the Designing Out Crime Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) within the Chesterfield Local Development Framework.

1.2 One of the aims of the Chesterfield Local Development Framework is to ensure its contribution to sustainable development. This means balancing social, environmental and economic needs both now and in the future. To ensure that the Designing Out Crime SPD is sustainable, a process called Sustainability Appraisal has been undertaken. This has incorporated the requirements of the European Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the environmental effects of certain plans and policies. This non-technical summary sets out a summary of the findings.

### Designing Out Crime SPD

1.3 The Designing Out Crime SPD has been developed taking into account the requirements of a wide range of documents, including the Government's national guidance and regional strategy. It also reflects local needs and requirements, for example those identified in the Community Strategy. As a result, the following objectives have been devised for the SPD:

- i) To provide guidelines for the design of safe and successful developments in a sustainable way.
- ii) To improve and encourage good design in the built environment so as to discourage anti social behaviour and reduce opportunities for people with criminal intent to commit crime.
- iii) To encourage the introduction of sensitively designed security measures which integrate with the existing local CCTV network and protect the historic environment.
- iv) To improve safety for users of the built environment at all times

### Baseline information and issues

1.4 'Baseline' data was collected about the area and the following sustainability issues were identified.

#### Environmental

- No environmental issues are identified

#### Social

- Crime levels.
- Insufficient affordable housing

#### Economic

- Social exclusion

### The Sustainability Framework

1.5 In order to assess how the Designing Out Crime SPD contributes to sustainability, a set of sustainability criteria were developed. The criteria are as follows:

C1 - Will it help to safeguard local character and enhance the environment?

C2 - Will it help to create an environment that discourages crime and where people feel safe?

- C3 - Will it help to create physical linkages between existing and new communities and facilities?
- C4 - Will it help to minimise energy usage and dependency on non-renewable resources while creating a safe environment?
- C5 - Will it help to provide safe pedestrian and cycle linkages and facilitate access to public transport?

1.6 The objectives of the SPD are compared to the sustainability criteria to see if the objectives are in conflict with the criteria. The appraisal has highlighted that the production of the SPD would bring a negative effect to energy usage through use of lighting (criterion 4). It is considered that to improve the safety of users at night, energy usage will probably have to be increased.

#### **Mitigation Measures**

1.7 The appraisal has highlighted that the production of the SPD would bring a negative effect to energy usage (criterion 4). It is considered that to improve the safety of users at night, energy usage will probably have to be increased. This negative input can be mitigated by offsetting the energy consumed by installing additional renewable energy sources as part of the lighting scheme (see paragraph 8.9 of the SPD).

#### **Assessment of options**

1.8 As part of the preparation of the Designing Out Crime SPD, the option of preparing the guide was compared with the 'Business as usual' option, i.e. not preparing the guide. Results showed that the 'Business as usual' option has neutral and negative effects. To improve the situation, special consideration would have to be given to crime deterrence measures. The most effective means of doing so is through a specific guide.

#### **Assessment of preferred option**

1.9 The preferred option therefore is to proceed with the preparation of the Designing Out Crime SPD. The appraisal of this option showed that it would have mostly positive effects. It is therefore concluded that the guide will enhance sustainability.

#### **Monitoring**

1.10 Given the complex nature of crime, it is thought that the best way to indicate the effectiveness of the SPD will be by counting the number of times the SPD is applied in determining planning applications.

1.11 It is intended that the monitoring will be incorporated into existing monitoring arrangements and be included in the Annual Monitoring Report that the council is required to produce.

## **2.0 Background**

### **Introduction**

- 2.1 This report comprises the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the draft Designing Out Crime Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The SPD will form part of the Local Development Framework for Chesterfield, which will set out the policies and proposals to guide future development of the borough.
- 2.2 SA is an ongoing process undertaken through the preparation of a development document. Its role is to assess the extent to which the emerging policies or proposals will help to achieve environmental, social and economic objectives. If the objectives conflict among themselves, the SA will show how to achieve the balance. Thus, SA also provides an opportunity to consider ways in which the planning documents can contribute to improvements to, or alleviate adverse effects on, the existing environmental, social or economic conditions.
- 2.3 The requirement to undertake SA comes from section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, which requires that all new or revised Development Plan Documents (DPD) and SPDs are subject to the SA process regardless of whether there are likely to be any significant effects. The only documents that are exempted are the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), the Local Development Scheme (LDS), Annual Monitoring Reports (AMRs) and Local Development Orders (LDOs).

### **Relationship to Strategic Environmental Assessment**

- 2.4 In addition to the requirement to undertake SA, EU legislation (SEA Directive 2001/42/EC) requires that an assessment of the environmental effects of certain plans and policies (including planning documents) is undertaken. This process is commonly referred to as 'Strategic Environmental Assessment'. This requirement applies to the Designing Out Crime SPD.
- 2.5 This SA Report incorporates the requirements of both the SEA and the SA. Unless otherwise stated in this document it should be assumed that references to sustainability appraisal (SA) incorporate the requirements of SEA.

## 3.0 Approach

- 3.1 In November 2005, the Government produced guidance on carrying out SA of LDF, incorporating the SEA Directive requirements. This guidance sets out a five-stage approach to SA. This is set out in Table 1 and this will be the approach that the council will be following in the SA of the Designing Out Crime SPD.

**Table 1: SA Stages and Tasks**

| Stage   | Task  |
|---------|---|
| 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 (4-6 weeks)                 |
| Stage E | Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the SPD                              |

- 3.2 On top of the materials covered by the SA scoping report (which is Stage A and Task B1, pp 38-48 in this report), this final SA report also covers Task B2 to B6, which is outlined in Table 2.

**Table 2: Task to be completed in Stage B2 to B6**

|    | Task   |
|----|--|
| B2 | Developing the SPD options   |
| B3 | Predicting the effects of the draft SPD  |
| B4 | Evaluating the effects of the draft SPD  |
| B5 | Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects |
| B6 | Proposed measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the SPD     |

- 3.3 This final SA report is the end-product of Stage C. And the current consultation exercise which lasts from 1 March to 12 April 2007 is part of Stage D.

### Purpose of this SA Report

- 3.4 This SA Report is a consultation document for the four statutory environmental consultation bodies designated in the SEA Regulations, namely the Countryside Agency, English Heritage, English Nature (Natural England) and the Environment Agency. In addition, it will be sent to the following parties that have a local interest in the aims and purposes of the SPD or an interest in sustainability as suggested in PPS12:
- ◆ District Councillors
  - ◆ Parish Councils
  - ◆ Community Forums
  - ◆ CHART LSP (Local Strategic Partnership for Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire)
  - ◆ Key developers of major sites
  - ◆ Community Safety Partnership
  - ◆ Safer Derbyshire Unit
  - ◆ Derbyshire Constabulary

- ◆ Neighbourhood/ Community Watch groups
- ◆ Organisations and people who have previously expressed an interest

3.5 After consulting on the scope and level of detail of the SA framework, this SA report is to provide the findings of the evaluations and to assess how effectively the principles of sustainable development have been incorporated into the Designing Out Crime SPD document.

## 4.0 Designing Out Crime SPD

[Link to saved Local Plan Policy](#)

- 4.1 This document will form part of the Chesterfield Borough Local Development Framework. This SPD supplements a saved policy within the Adopted Replacement Chesterfield Borough Local Plan 2006. The saved policy to which this SPD relates is GEN 6 (previously given the provisional reference GS6 ), which is set out below:

### **GEN 6 COMMUNITY SAFETY**

**PLANNING PERMISSION WILL ONLY BE GRANTED FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH HAS FULL REGARD TO COMMUNITY SAFETY IN TERMS OF CONTRIBUTING TO THE PREVENTION AND REDUCTION OF CRIME, NUISANCE AND DISORDER AND REDUCING THE FEAR OF CRIME.**

[Purposes and objectives of the Designing Out Crime SPD](#)

- 4.2 The Designing Out Crime SPD has the following objectives:
- i) To provide guidelines for the design of safe and successful developments in a sustainable way.
  - ii) To improve and encourage good design in the built environment so as to discourage anti social behaviour and reduce opportunities for people with criminal intent to commit crime.
  - iii) To encourage the introduction of sensitively designed security measures which integrate with the existing local CCTV network and protect the historic environment.
  - iv) To improve safety for users of the built environment at all times.
- 4.3 The SPD is intended to complement the Community Safety Strategy for Chesterfield, prepared by the Chesterfield Community Safety Partnership - a wide range of agencies in both statutory and voluntary sectors.



## 5.0 Task A1: Review of relevant plans, programmes and policies

### Key targets contained within the relevant plans, programmes and policies

5.1 The SEA Directive specifically requires environmental protection objectives established at International, European community or national levels to be taken into account. In order to simplify the review process, where international plans and programmes have already been incorporated into documents at national or regional level, only the lower level plan or programme has been reviewed, for example, Planning Policy Statement 9 on Biodiversity and Geological Conservation already incorporates the Habitats Directive and the European Biodiversity Strategy. The section which follows identifies relevant national, regional and local plans, policies and programmes (PPPs) that will have implications on the Designing Out Crime SPD.

#### National

5.2 *Securing the future - UK Sustainable Development Strategy*

Four aims of sustainable development are identified:

- 1) Social progress which recognise the needs of everyone;
- 2) Effective protection of the environment;
- 3) Prudent use of natural resources; and
- 4) Maintenance of high and stable level of economic growth and employment

5.3 *Crime and Disorder Act (1998) - Section 17*

The act places a duty on local authorities to do all that they can to prevent crime and disorder in their area and to take that into account as they carry out their functions. The SPD has been produced by the council as a contribution, through its function as a local planning authority, to meeting the duty placed on the council by the Act. One of the outcomes of the act was the formation of the Chesterfield Community Safety Partnership. This is a partnership organisation between Chesterfield Borough Council, the Derbyshire Constabulary, Derbyshire County Council, the Police Authority, Chesterfield Primary Care Trust and the Fire & Rescue Service.

5.4 *National Community Safety Plan 2006 - 2009*

The government's priorities for community safety over the next three years are built around five themes:

- 1) **Making communities stronger and more effective** by enabling individuals and the wider community to take greater responsibility for their own, and their communities' safety.
- 2) **Further reducing crime and anti-social behaviour** so there are fewer victims of both and so that people have greater confidence not only in their own safety but in that of the communities in which they live and work.
- 3) **Creating safer environments** in which people can live, work and relax.
- 4) **Protecting the public and building confidence** by countering crime wherever it occurs from the neighbourhood right up to international level, bringing more offences to justice, and providing high quality and responsive services.
- 5) **Improving people's lives so they are less likely to commit offences or re-offend.**

5.5 *DCLG Circular 01/06: Guidance on Changes to the Development Control System*

Circular 01/06 highlights that design and access statements for outline and detailed applications should demonstrate how crime prevention measures have been considered in the design of the proposal and how the design reflects the attributes of safe,

sustainable places set out in 'Safer Places - the Planning System and Crime Prevention'.

5.6 *Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development*

PPS1 states that planning should promote sustainable patterns of development by (amongst other things) ensuring high quality development through good design and ensuring that development supports existing communities and contributes to the creation of safe, sustainable and liveable communities. PPS1 identifies that design policies should encourage developments which 'create safe environments where crime and disorder or fear of crime does not undermine quality of life or community cohesion'. The SPD is produced to improve the planning policy framework in relation to achieving good design in development within Chesterfield.

5.7 *Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing*

PPS3 states that local planning authorities should create "places, streets and spaces which meet the needs of people, are visually attractive, safe, accessible, functional, inclusive, have their own distinctive identity and maintain and improve local character."

5.8 *Planning Policy Statement 6: Planning for Town Centres*

PPS6 states that local authorities should regenerate deprived areas and promote social inclusion.

5.9 *Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks*

PPS12 states that local authorities must include policies on design and access. It states that "well-designed development responds well to the local physical, social and economic context, being safe, clean, attractive and accessible for all users".

5.10 In addition, there is a range of other national guidance, which touches on community safety issues. This includes:

5.11 *Safer Places: The Planning System and Crime Prevention*

Published by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) and the Home Office in March 2004. It sets out how the planning system is able to deliver well-designed and safe places. It challenges all those involved in the design and layout of new development to think about the most appropriate crime reduction measures without compromising the quality of the local environment. In doing so, it emphasises the importance of designing to suit the local context. This guide builds on and complements Government urban design and crime reduction objectives and guidance, including Secured By Design.

5.12 *By Design, Urban Design in the Planning System -Towards better practice*

Published jointly by DETR and the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment in May 2000 with the objective of promoting higher standards of urban design and providing a companion to the government's policy guidance.

5.13 *The Urban Design Compendium*

Prepared by Llewelyn-Davies on behalf of English Partnerships and the Housing Corporation and published in August 2000. Seen very much as a companion to 'By Design', the Compendium aims to provide a source of best practice in urban design and examines the factors which make neighbourhoods "stimulating and active places in which residents and tenants feel comfortable and safe."

5.14 *By Design; Better Places to Live. A companion guide to PPG3.*

Published in September 2001 jointly by DTLR and CABE

- 5.15 *Places Streets and Movement. A companion guide to design bulletin 32 residential roads and footpaths.*  
Published in 1998, this guide looks at the highway aspects of the government's urban design agenda.
- 5.16 *Secured by Design*  
This is a national initiative by the police and includes a number of principles to assist in planning out crime.
- 5.17 *Manual for Streets*  
It aims to assist in the delivery of streets that help build and strengthen communities they contain, are pleasant and attractive, are cost-effective to construct and maintain, and are acceptably safe.
- Regional
- 5.18 *Regional Spatial Strategy for the East Midlands (RSS8)*  
The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) provides a broad development strategy for the East Midlands up to 2021 and was adopted by the Regional Assembly in March 2005. Policy 4 Promoting Better Design mentions that new development should address crime prevention and community safety.
- 5.19 *Draft East Midlands Regional Plan (draft RSS8)*  
The Draft Regional Plan (RSS8) provides a broad development strategy for the East Midlands up to 2026. Policy 3 Promoting Better Design mentions that new development should address crime, fear of crime and community safety.
- Local
- 5.20 *Community Strategy for Chesterfield & North East Derbyshire 2005-2015*  
The Community Strategy aims to ensure that service providers acknowledge, and react to, the key issues which have been identified by communities who live and work within Chesterfield Borough and North East Derbyshire. One of the key Community Strategy themes is to reduce crime and promote community safety. In order to achieve this, the strategy contains a number of aims and actions to reduce crime and disorder, nuisance and the fear of it.
- 5.21 *Community Safety Strategy for Chesterfield 2005-2008*  
The Community Safety Strategy is prepared and published by the Chesterfield Community Safety Partnership. The partnership produces a community safety strategy every three years; a crime and disorder audit, and an annual report. As a partner organisation, the borough council has produced the SPD to contribute to meeting the priorities of the Community Safety Partnership.

## **6.0 Task A2: Baseline Information**

### **Introduction**

- 6.1 The borough of Chesterfield is located in north eastern Derbyshire approximately 5 miles from the southern edge of Sheffield and on the eastern edge of the Peak District. The 2001 census recorded a population of approximately 99,000. The town of Chesterfield alone has an estimated population of 74,100. It is the largest town in the administrative county of Derbyshire (the City of Derby being a unitary authority in its own right) and is the main centre in northern Derbyshire. It has an important sub-regional role in terms of jobs, industry and services, and as a shopping centre and tourist attraction. Staveley situated on the east of borough approximately 5 miles from Chesterfield town centre, has a population of around 10,000. Brimington is located between Chesterfield and Staveley and has an estimated population of 8,600.
- 6.2 The borough is served by the Midland mainline railway and by the M1 to the east. It is quartered by two major routes; the A61 running north-south to Sheffield and Derby and the A617/A619 running east west and linking to the M1 and the Peak District.

### **Landscape characteristics**

- 6.3 Chesterfield is a predominantly urban district, although over half the borough's 6,600 ha is open land in agricultural or woodland use, forming strategic gaps between the three main settlements of Chesterfield, Staveley and Brimington and on the town's north, west and southwest sides contributing to the North East Derbyshire Green Belt. These green wedges help to define individual settlements and maintain the separate identity of communities. A key characteristic of even the town centre core of Chesterfield is that there are views out to open countryside to the west, the south and the east. The landscape is shaped by the river valleys of the Rother, Hipper, Whitting and Doe Lea, and the Holme, Barlow and Pools brooks.

### **Contemporary townscape characteristics**

- 6.4 The town of Chesterfield grew around a mediaeval core with the town centre retaining part of this street pattern. Later expansion saw the development of larger town houses and the Market Place which still provides a focal point for the borough. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, industry and houses expanded along the river valley corridors of the Hipper and Rother rivers and the Barlow Brook. Growth in the 20<sup>th</sup> century took the form of residential suburbs, which have fanned out to the north, west and south of the town centre. New retail developments have taken place both in the town centre and around the edges. Industrial decline at the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century has resulted in significant areas of industrial land along the river corridors becoming redundant, which now provides new development opportunities.
- 6.5 Staveley attracted industry and housing around an older core and has suffered from the closure of the collieries in the 1980s and 1990s along with associated contraction of the engineering and chemical industries. This has left a legacy of serious economic decline and associated social and environmental deprivation. Brimington also grew around an older core in support of industrial development but largely escaped industrialisation and is now essentially a residential suburb for Chesterfield and Staveley.

## **Housing Need**

- 6.6 A Housing Needs and Market Study (HMS) for Chesterfield was prepared in 2004, which currently informs the council's housing strategy and its policy on affordable and special need housing. The study highlighted that:
- whilst house prices in Chesterfield are relatively low, since 1999 prices have risen at a rate above the national average
  - average incomes in the borough are around 20% below national averages
  - around a quarter of households in the borough (the vast majority being in rented accommodation) would be unable to move home without some form of subsidy
  - there are shortfalls of suitable accommodation (especially in one bedroomed dwellings) in certain areas of Chesterfield
  - 16% of households are estimated to have a member with a disability
- 6.7 The HMS identifies a continuing mismatch between stock available and demand for affordable housing. There are significant areas of high demand e.g. in the western areas of the borough, but levels of low demand also exist elsewhere. The HMS recommends that new provision ought to be made in areas of highest need or demand and elsewhere commuted sums should be considered to support off-site provision. It recommends that to meet the annual shortfall the affordable housing target of up to 36% should be applied throughout the borough.
- 6.8 The Northern Housing Market Area Strategic Housing Assessment was carried out by Fordham Research in 2006-7 and is due to be published in mid 2007. The aspect of the study relating to Chesterfield generally supported the findings of the HNMS. Affordability is still a significant issue with house prices rising in a relatively low wage economy. Around 60% of people are still unable to buy a reasonable home based on 3.5 times their income. The survey still supports the need for an affordable requirement of up to 35% of new homes on sites providing over 15 dwellings. The affordable requirement is for social rented housing needing to be around 60% of the total.

## **Unemployment**

- 6.9 Unemployment in Chesterfield has fallen significantly since the recent cycle peaked at just over 13% at the beginning of 1994. The fall in unemployment has broadly followed the trend seen nationally, although the rate of change has varied quite considerably year on year. At ward level (March 2006), 15 out of the 19 Chesterfield wards have an unemployment rate at or above the national average. Of these, four wards have an unemployment rate at or above 5%. For the level of long term unemployment (the proportion of the claimant count who have been unemployed a year or more) and youth (below 25 years of age) unemployment, Chesterfield's levels are also above the national level.
- 6.10 The council has been investing in the restructuring of the town's economy in order to attract new manufacturing industries and service based businesses. It is committed to working in partnership with the private sector and local and regional organisations to promote the regeneration of former industrial areas which currently lie derelict.

## **Crime and Disorder**

- 6.11 Derbyshire experienced 288,847 recorded crimes between April 2001 – March 2004, this equates to an average of 100.7 crimes per 1000 population per year (for the three year period). Overall, recorded crime in Derbyshire over the three-year period from 2001-2004 has increased, though certain offences have been subject to a reduction,

including theft from vehicles and non-domestic burglary. Crime within Chesterfield Borough accounts for 12.2% of Derbyshire's geographical county total.

- 6.12 Total recorded crime has increased each year in Chesterfield between 2001 -2004. In 2002/03 police forces in England & Wales changed the way in which crime was recorded, the introduction of these changes has increased the number of crimes recorded by the police. Notwithstanding the statistical changes adopted in April 2002, overall crime rates for Chesterfield Borough are higher (at 118.9 crimes per 1000 population) than Derbyshire's average (at 100.7 per 1000 population).
- 6.13 Crime levels are not evenly distributed in Chesterfield. Wards with highest recorded crime are in the south-western part of the borough. The wards where crime was recorded most frequently between April 1<sup>st</sup> 2001 and March 31<sup>st</sup> 2004 were:
- St Leonard's
  - Middlecroft & Poolsbrook
  - Brockwell
- 6.14 The largest increases in terms of actual numbers of crimes are within the following wards:
- St Leonard's
  - St Helen's
  - Dunston
- 6.15 In terms of the relative increases in crime, Dunston has shown the largest increase at 38.8%, although the town centre and Rother ward also show significant increases at 32.7% and 32.3% respectively.

#### Future baseline information

- 6.16 The above baseline information will continue to be used until such a time as it is felt a review of the baseline is required. Situations that may require the baseline information to be reviewed could include:
- New baseline information emerging that better reflects the current objectives in the sustainability framework
  - Changes to the objectives in the sustainability framework, and
  - Direction from a consultation body that baseline information needs amending.

#### Indicators

- 6.17 Both the SA guidance and the SEA Directive require a collection of baseline information on environmental, social and economic characteristics of the Chesterfield borough to provide the basis for predicting and monitoring the effects of the SPD. This process will also aid the identification of sustainability issues and any alternative ways of dealing with them.
- 6.18 When collecting baseline data, the aim is to assemble sufficient data on the current and likely future state of the area to enable the effects resulting from the SPD to be adequately monitored. Resulting data will identify the sustainability issues (listed under 'Task A3') which the SPD may need to respond to. Once adopted, the effectiveness of the SPD will be monitored in the Annual Monitoring Report by counting the number of times the SPD is applied in determining planning applications.

## 7.0 Task A3: Sustainability Problems and Issues

- 7.1 The key sustainability problems and issues for this SPD have been split into environmental, social and economic areas, and are set out in Table 3. The problems and issues have been identified using the analysis of the relevant plans, programmes and policies and the baseline data.

**Table 3 Key Sustainability Issues and Supporting Evidence**

| Sustainability Issues   | Supporting Evidence   |
|---|---|
| <b>Economic</b>   |   |
| Deprivation - some of the wards amongst the most economically deprived in the country.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Income Indices of deprivation - 22 (32%) SOAs are among the 20 per cent most deprived in England.</li> <li>Unemployment rate persistently above national level</li> </ul>                          |
| <b>Environmental</b>  |   |
| Not Applicable  |   |
| <b>Social</b>   |   |
| Housing - the availability of low cost, affordable housing                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Around a quarter of households in the borough unable to move home without some form of subsidy</li> <li>A continuing mismatch between stock available and demand for affordable housing</li> </ul> |
| Crime - total recorded crime has increased each year in Chesterfield between 2001-2004. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overall crime rates for Chesterfield Borough are higher (at 118.9 crimes per 1000 population) than Derbyshire's average</li> </ul>   |

## 8.0 Task A4: Developing the SA Framework

### Introduction

- 8.1 The purpose of the Sustainability Appraisal Framework is to test the potential impact of the SPD against a series of objectives for sustainable development. The framework is developed by taking into consideration the review of relevant plans and programmes to ensure that the SA Framework reflects the sustainability objectives of these plans and programmes. The second stage (outlined in para 8.6) is to identify the relevant aspects of the environment that are likely to be significantly affected by the SPD, as required by EC Directive 2001/42/EC.

### Sustainability Appraisal Framework

- 8.2 To ensure consistency with the sustainability objectives at regional level the sustainability objectives developed for the SA of the Designing Out Crime SPD are based on those developed for the SA of the review of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the East Midlands. Only those regional objectives that have relevance to Designing Out Crime SPD have been included in this framework. The sustainability objectives developed for the framework are distinct from the objectives developed for the SPD, though the two influence each other and may in some cases overlap.
- 8.3 The criteria are based on the criteria found in the regional framework but have been adjusted to provide a local interpretation and prioritisation of issues based on the environmental features and problems within the district. They also take into consideration:
- The specific range of issues covered by a Designing Out Crime SPD
  - The key sustainability issues identified
- 8.4 The SA report for the review of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the East Midlands has already undertaken a review of higher tier strategies, plans and programmes in order to develop the regional sustainability objectives and criteria. Since this SA report uses the regional framework as a basis for the sustainability framework, it has been assumed that there is no requirement to repeat the work undertaken at regional level.
- 8.5 The sustainability objectives and criteria are shown in Table 4 below.

**Table 4 SA Objectives**

|     | <b>Objectives</b>   | <b>Criteria</b>  |
|-----|---|--|
| SA1 | To provide better opportunities for people to value and enjoy the region's heritage and participate in cultural and recreation activities | C1 Will it help to safeguard local character and enhance the environment?                        |
| SA2 | To improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime   | C2 Will it help to create an environment that discourages crime and where people feel safe?      |
| SA3 | To promote and support the development and growth of social capital across the communities of the region                                  | C3 Will it help to create physical linkages between existing and new communities and facilities? |



|     | <b>Objectives</b>   | <b>Criteria</b>   |
|-----|---|---|
| SA4 | To minimise energy usage and to develop the region's renewable energy resource, reducing dependency on non-renewable resources  | C4 Will it help to minimise energy usage and dependency on non-renewable resources while creating a safe environment? |
| SA5 | To make efficient use of the existing transport infrastructure, help reduce the need to travel by car, improve accessibility to jobs and services for all and to ensure that all journeys are undertaken by the most sustainable mode available | C5 Will it help to provide safe pedestrian and cycle linkages and facilitate access to public transport?              |

#### Identification of likely significant environmental effects

8.6 The reason for identifying the likely significant environmental effects is to ensure that the SA Framework contains adequate objectives and criteria to account for these effects. The SA will focus on the significant effects likely to be generated by the Designing Out Crime SPD as it will be applied in determining planning applications. Table 5 below details the range of likely significant environmental effects identified using the headings provided in the SEA Directive. The table also refers to the Sustainability Criteria (see Table 4 above) that were developed to take into consideration potential environmental issues.

**Table 5 Range of likely environmental effects**

| <b>SEA Directive Topics</b> | <b>Sustainability Criteria</b> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| (a) Biodiversity            | Yes - C1                       |
| (b) Population              | Yes - C2, C3, C5               |
| (c) Human Health            | Yes - C2, C3, C5               |
| (d) Fauna                   | Yes - C1                       |
| (e) Flora                   | Yes - C1                       |
| (f) Soil                    | Not relevant                   |
| (g) Water                   | Yes - C4                       |
| (h) Air                     | Yes - C4                       |
| (i) Climate Factors         | Yes - C4                       |
| (j) Material Assets         | Yes - C1, C4                   |
| (k) Cultural Heritage       | Yes - C1                       |
| (l) Landscape               | Yes - C1                       |

## 9.0 Task B1: Testing the SPD objectives against the sustainability appraisal framework

9.1 It is important that the SPD objectives are tested for compatibility with the SA objectives. The 4 objectives of the SPD are:

- i) To provide guidelines for the design of safe and successful developments in a sustainable way.
- ii) To improve and encourage good design in the built environment so as to discourage anti social behaviour and reduce opportunities for people with criminal intent to commit crime.
- iii) To encourage the introduction of sensitively designed security measures which integrate with the existing local CCTV network and protect the historic environment.
- iv) To improve safety for users of the built environment at all times.

9.2 The table below tests the objectives of the SPD (as expressed in 1.3 and 9.1 above) with those of the SA Framework:-

**Table 6 Test of SPD objectives against the SA Framework**

| Criteria as in Table 4  | SPD Objective |   |   |   |
|---|---------------|---|---|---|
|   | 1             | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| C1 Will it help to safeguard local character and enhance the environment?   |               |   | ✓ |   |
| C2 Will it help to create an environment that discourages crime and where people feel safe?                           | ✓             | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| C3 Will it help to create physical linkages between existing and new communities and facilities?                      |               | ✓ |   |   |
| C4 Will it help to minimise energy usage and dependency on non-renewable resources while creating a safe environment? | ✓             |   |   | x |
| C5 Will it help to provide safe pedestrian and cycle linkages and facilitate access to public transport?              | ✓             |   |   | ✓ |

✓ = positive compatibility

'blank' = neutral impact

x = negative impact

9.3 As can be seen from the table it appears at this stage that there is a single conflict between the objectives of the SPD and the SA Framework objectives.

## 10.0 Task A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA

- 10.1 Consultation on the SA Scoping Report took place from 18<sup>th</sup> December 2006 to 29<sup>th</sup> January 2007. As required by Regulation 17 of the Local Development Regulations, leaflets, letters, copies of the document and a questionnaire were sent to the individuals/organisations set out in appendix A. An article about the consultation of the documents was released to the press. The documents and questionnaire were made available on the Council's homepage.
- 10.2 In addition, a meeting with interested parties was held at the Town Hall on 9th January 2007.
- 10.3 Summaries of comments regarding the scoping documents are summarised in appendix B.

## 11.0 Task B2: Developing the SPD options

- 11.1 Options need to be sufficiently distinct to highlight the different sustainability implications of each, so that meaningful comparisons can be made. Two options were therefore put forward to address the issues facing the Designing Out Crime SPD:
  - **Option 1 Business as usual, no design guide:** this would involve no change to the level of practical advice offered to developers, designers and planners with respect to the design of developments. Assessment of design issues would continue to rely on officer experience.
  - **Option 2 Prepare Designing Out Crime SPD:** this would involve the preparation of a document to provide guidance to promote designing out crime, through a booklet, which would be adopted as SPD.  
The SPD is designed to provide information to all those involved in the development process about the standard that the council requires for the design of development.
- 11.2 The option of producing an SPD emerged because the borough council is required by section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to "exercise their functions with due regard to their likely effect on crime and disorder". In addition, the document "Safer Places - The Planning System and Crime Prevention", published by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and the Home Office, refers to how planning can contribute to crime prevention, the creation of safer places and well-designed, sustainable communities.

**No other realistic options have been identified.**

## 12.0 Task B3 & B4: Predicting and Evaluating the effects of the draft SPD

12.1 The assessment of the two options in Table 7 identified that the SPD would have more positive impacts (and therefore more sustainable) than the 'business as usual' option.

**Table 7 Test of Options against the SA Framework**

| Sustainability Criteria derived from SA Objectives (Table 4)   | S/T   | M/T | L/T         | Comments/ explanation   |           |   |           |
|--|---|-----|-------------|---|-----------|---|-----------|
| <b>C1</b><br>Will it help to safeguard local character and enhance the environment?  | <b>Option 1: Business as usual, No Design Guide</b> |     |             |   |           |   |           |
|  | 0   | 0   | 0           | Normal planning considerations should ensure that development proposals will safeguard local character and enhance the environment  |           |   |           |
|  | <b>Option 2: Prepare Designing Out Crime SPD</b>    |     |             |   |           |   |           |
|  | ✓   | ✓   | ✓           | Sensitively designed security measures will help to protect the historic environment<br>Natural landscaping could provide opportunity for biodiversity gain and benefits for flora and fauna                            |           |   |           |
| <b>C2</b><br>Will it help to create an environment that discourages crime and where people feel safe?  | <b>Option 1: Business as usual, No Design Guide</b> |     |             |   |           |   |           |
|  | x   | x   | x           | Although crime and the fear of crime can be reduced by other measures, such as greater levels of policing, the lack of consideration of these matters in the design of proposals will make such measures less effective |           |   |           |
|  | <b>Option 2: Prepare Designing Out Crime SPD</b>    |     |             |   |           |   |           |
|  | ✓   | ✓   | ✓           | The guidance will improve the design of new development (which will effect neighbouring places) to provide places that will contribute to reassuring communities and reducing the fear of crime                         |           |   |           |
| <b>C3</b><br>Will it help to create physical linkages between existing and new communities and facilities?   | <b>Option 1: Business as usual, No Design Guide</b> |     |             |   |           |   |           |
|  | 0   | 0   | 0           | Normal planning considerations should ensure that development proposals consider social and community impacts   |           |   |           |
|  | <b>Option 2: Prepare Designing Out Crime SPD</b>    |     |             |   |           |   |           |
|  | ✓   | ✓   | ✓           | Improving natural surveillance may mean better physical linkages between existing and new communities and facilities  |           |   |           |
| <b>C4</b><br>Will it help to minimise energy usage and dependency on non-renewable resources while creating a safe environment?                                | <b>Option 1: Business as usual, No Design Guide</b> |     |             |   |           |   |           |
|  | 0   | 0   | 0           | Normal planning considerations should ensure that development proposals are sustainable in terms of energy usage  |           |   |           |
|  | <b>Option 2: Prepare Designing Out Crime SPD</b>    |     |             |   |           |   |           |
|  | x   | x   | x           | To improve users' safety at all times (including night time) will probably increase energy usage  |           |   |           |
| <b>C5</b><br>Will it help to provide safe pedestrian and cycle linkages and facilitate access to public transport?   | <b>Option 1: Business as usual, No Design Guide</b> |     |             |   |           |   |           |
|  | 0   | 0   | 0           | Normal planning considerations should ensure that development proposals are sustainable in terms of accessibility   |           |   |           |
|  | <b>Option 2: Prepare Designing Out Crime SPD</b>    |     |             |   |           |   |           |
|  | ✓   | ✓   | ✓           | Safe pedestrian and cycle linkages and safe access to public transport will encourage people to travel in other modes rather than by car  |           |   |           |
| <b>Assessment summary</b>  |   |     |             |   |           |   |           |
| Option 2 has positive effects. Preparation of the Designing Out Crime SPD will enhance sustainability at the cost of some increase in energy use for lighting. |   |     |             |   |           |   |           |
| <b>Key</b>   |   |     |             |   |           |   |           |
| ✓  | positive  | x   | negative    | 0   | neutral   | ? | uncertain |
| S/T  | short term  | M/T | medium term | L/T   | long term |   |           |

### **13.0 Task B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects**

#### Proposed mitigation measures

- 13.1 The appraisal has highlighted that the production of the SPD would bring a negative effect to energy usage (criterion 4). It is considered that to improve the safety of users at night, energy usage will probably be increased. This negative input can be mitigated by offsetting the energy consumed by installing additional renewable energy sources as part of the lighting scheme (see paragraph 8.9 of the SPD).

### **14.0 Task B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the SPD**

- 14.1 Given the complex nature of crime mentioned in the above paragraph, it is thought that the best way to indicate the effectiveness of the SPD will be by counting the number of times the SPD is applied in determining planning applications.
- 14.2 It is intended that the monitoring will be incorporated into existing monitoring arrangements and be included in the Annual Monitoring Report that the council is required to produce.

### **15.0 Task D1: Public participation on the draft SPD and the Sustainability Appraisal Report**

- 15.1 The draft reports of the Designing Out Crime SPD and its associated SA were consulted on from 1<sup>st</sup> March to 12<sup>th</sup> April 2007. As required by Regulation 17 of the Local Development Regulations, leaflets, letters, copies of the document and a questionnaire were sent to the individuals/ organisations set out in appendix C. A public notice was placed in the Derbyshire Times on 1<sup>st</sup> March and copies of the documents are available for inspection at Town Hall, libraries and housing offices, as well as the council website.
- 15.2 Presentations on the guidance were made to the Community Safety Partnership Core Group on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2007 and at the Lunchtime Lectures at Chesterfield Urban Studies Centre on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2007.
- 15.3 Summaries of comments regarding the draft documents are contained in appendix D.

### **16.0 Task D3: Making decisions and providing information**

- 16.1 The main issues and response of the council on the draft SPD and SA as well as the consultation statement are uploaded on the council's website:  
<http://www.chesterfield.gov.uk/site/default.asp?CATID=557>