

Greater Manchester Combined
Authority

**Integrated Assessment of the
Places for Everyone Plan**

Non-Technical Summary

Issue | September 2023

This report takes into account the particular instructions and requirements of our client.

It is not intended for and should not be relied upon by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.

Job number 238244-06

Ove Arup & Partners Ltd
6th floor, 3 Piccadilly Place
Manchester M1 3BN
United Kingdom
www.arup.com

ARUP

Document verification

Job title		Integrated Assessment of the Places for Everyone Plan		Job number 238244-06	
Document title		Non-Technical Summary		File reference	
Document ref					
Revision	Date	Filename	IA Non-Technical Summary.docx		
Issue	Sept 2023	Description	Issue		
			Prepared by	Checked by	Approved by
		Name	EKB	JHB	JHB
		Signature			
		Filename			
		Description			
			Prepared by	Checked by	Approved by
		Name			
		Signature			
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		Name			
		Signature			
Issue Document verification with document					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this summary

The purpose of this non-technical summary is to explain and summarise the results from the Integrated Assessment (IA) of the Places for Everyone (PfE) Composite Plan following its examination in 2022 and 2023.

This summary provides an update of the work completed within this round of the IA. This round of IA work was needed because following the independent examination of the plan, main modifications have been proposed by the Planning Inspectors. Therefore, the IA needs to consider the implications of these main modifications.

The outcome from this round of the IA have not resulted in recommendations for amendments to be made to the reassessed allocation and thematic policies. This is because when the plan is read as a whole, the IA assessment criteria are met.

This non-technical summary provides an update on the previously completed work from the 2020 GMSF IA (inclusive of the Scoping Report, Main Report, Main Addendum Report and Growth and Spatial Options Paper), the 2021 Growth and Spatial Options Paper, the 2021 Growth and Spatial Options and Reasonable Alternatives Addendum and the 2021 Non-Technical Summary.

For information on previously completed work as part of the IA, please review the documents referenced above. These are available on the PfE website.

1.2 What is the role of the PfE?

The PfE is a new policy document for nine districts of Greater Manchester which seeks to guide where development should go, and how it should be implemented to 2039. This is achieved through policies addressing certain development themes (such as sustainable development or green spaces)

and strategic development locations (such as City Centres or growth corridors). In the PfE IA, these have been grouped together as ‘thematic policies’. In addition, there are site specific allocations made, which identify strategic areas for development in the nine districts (referred to as site allocations).

1.3 How has the GMSF evolved to the PfE?

In November 2014, the 10 Greater Manchester local authorities agreed to prepare a joint Development Plan Document (“Joint DPD”), called the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (“GMSF”).

Work on the plan commenced, and the first draft was published for consultation in October 2016 and following substantial re-drafting, a second consultation took place between January and March 2019. Work then continued on an updated plan, ready for the next round of consultation at the end of 2020.

In October 2020 the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (known as AGMA) Executive Board unanimously agreed to recommend GMSF 2020 to the 10 Greater Manchester Councils. The Councils then needed to gain approval from their Executives/Cabinets to move forward to consultation and submission.

Following two Council meetings in early December 2020, Stockport Council decided not to submit the GMSF 2020 for consultation. As the joint plan needed all 10 Greater Manchester authorities to move forward, this signalled that the GMSF covering all 10 authorities could not be taken forward.

The nine remaining districts agreed that there continued to be a need for a joint plan. In December 2020, Members of the AGMA Executive Committee agreed in principle to producing a joint plan of the nine remaining Greater Manchester (GM) districts. Following this, each district also formally agreed to move forward with the joint plan.

Legislation enables a joint plan to continue to progress in the event of one of the local authorities withdrawing, as long as it has 'substantially the same effect' on the remaining authorities as the original joint plan. The joint plan of the nine GM districts has been prepared on this basis.

This plan was consulted upon in 2021 and the plan was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for independent examination in 2022. Three independent Inspectors were appointed by the Planning Inspectorate to assess the plan. Hearing sessions were held in 2022 and 2023 for participants to provide evidence to support the assessment of PfE.

Following these hearings, main modifications have been proposed to the plan by the Inspectors to ensure the plan is sound and legally compliant. This consultation is only about these proposed main modifications.

Whilst the content of the Plan has changed over time, its purpose remains the same. In view of this, the environmental assessments carried out at previous stages remain valid (including their scope). To assess the impact of the main modifications made to PfE Composite Plan against the IA framework (the IA framework is explained below), updated reports have been prepared which form part of the overall environmental assessment and should be read in conjunction with the previous IA documentation.

1.4 Why undertake an Integrated Assessment?

As part of the preparation of the PfE Plan, an IA has been undertaken for each draft. The purpose of the IA is to promote sustainable development, health and equality issues and ensure that they are considered as the plan is being prepared. The IA helps to guide the development of the PfE, by testing the policies at each stage, against an agreed list of objectives.

At each stage the IA then suggests ways to improve the policy.

There is a series of national and European legislation that the IA process should meet. The list below highlights which assessments and

requirements have been addressed through this integrated assessment approach:

- Sustainability Appraisal (SA): this is mandatory under national legislation (section 19 (5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA): this is mandatory under European and national legislation (Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (which transpose the European Directive 2001/42/EC into English law)).
- Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA): this is a way of showing that the plans, policies and strategies proposed by the GM Authorities meet the Equality Act 2010.
- Health Impact Assessment (HIA): there is no statutory requirement to undertake HIA, however it has been included to add value and depth to the assessment process.

Stakeholder consultation is a significant part of the IA, and opinions and inputs from stakeholders have been sought on previous drafts.

2 What is the method of completing an Integrated Assessment?

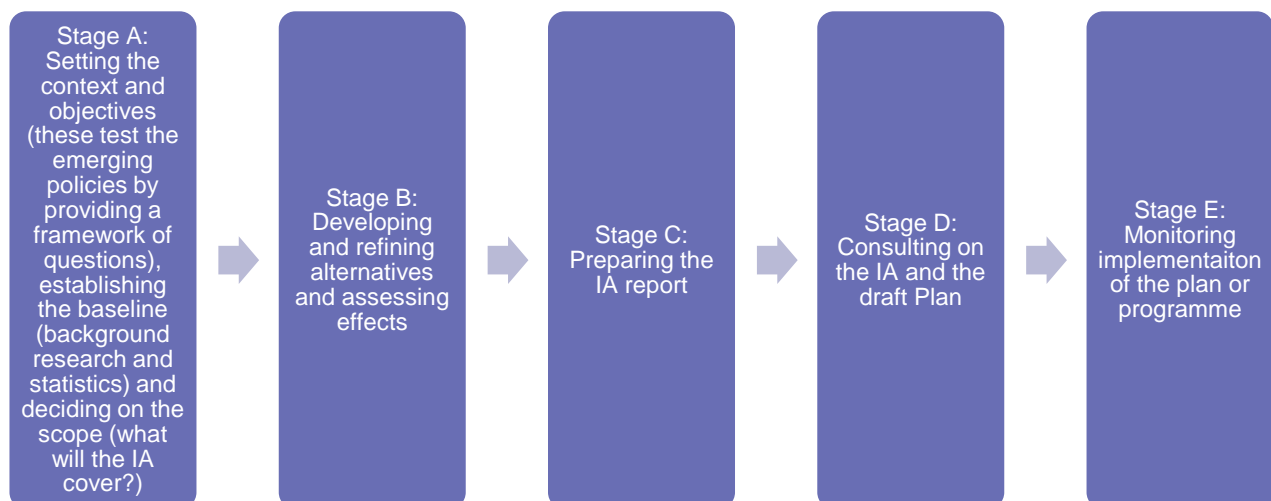
2.1 Introduction

The IA involves a number of assessment stages (meeting the requirements set out in Section 1.3). The assessment works through the stages as the PfE Plan has developed. The assessments have been testing the emerging Plan objectives, strategy and policies against a set of 18 diverse IA objectives. Further detail on the framework is provided within this section.

2.2 What are the stages of an Integrated Assessment?

Figure 1 helps to explain the process which the IA has followed. We are currently in Stage D of the IA process.

Figure 1: Integrated Assessment Process



2.3 What is the PfE Integrated Assessment Framework?

To undertake the IA stages above, the IA uses an ‘assessment framework’ against which to challenge and test the emerging Plan.

The IA Framework is made up of a series of 18 IA objectives and assessment criteria. They have been developed specifically for the PfE Plan. The IA Framework is used to identify the likely social, economic and environmental effects of the Plan, recommend ways of avoiding or reducing any negative impacts, but importantly, also recommending ways to further enhance the policy.

The IA Framework (objectives and assessment criteria) is shown below in Table 1.

Table 1: IA Framework

Ref	Objective	Assessment criteria....will the PfE Plan:
1	Provide a sustainable supply of housing land including for an appropriate mix of sizes, types, tenures in locations to meet housing need, and to support economic growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure an appropriate quantity of housing land to meet the objectively assessed need for market and affordable housing? • Ensure an appropriate mix of types, tenures and sizes of properties in relation to the respective levels of local demand? • Ensure housing land is well-connected with employment land, centres and green space or co-located where appropriate?

Ref	Objective	Assessment criteria....will the PfE Plan:
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support improvements in the energy efficiency and resilience of the housing stock?
2	Provide a sustainable supply of employment land to ensure sustainable economic growth and job creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet current and future demand for employment land across GM? • Support education and training to provide a suitable labour force for future growth? • Provide sufficient employment land in locations that are well-connected and well-served by infrastructure?
3	Ensure that there is sufficient coverage and capacity of transport and utilities to support growth and development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the transport network can support and enable the anticipated scale and spatial distribution of development? • Improve transport connectivity? • Ensure that utilities / digital infrastructure can support and enable the anticipated scale and spatial distribution of development?
4	Reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the proportion of people living in deprivation? • Support reductions in poverty (including child and fuel poverty), deprivation and disparity across the domains of the Indices of Multiple Deprivation?

Ref	Objective	Assessment criteria....will the PfE Plan:
5	Promote equality of opportunity and the elimination of discrimination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster good relations between different people? • Ensure equality of opportunity and equal access to facilities / infrastructure for all? • Ensure no discrimination based on 'protected characteristics', as defined in the Equality Act 2010? • Ensure that the needs of different areas, (namely urban, suburban, urban fringe and rural) are equally addressed?
6	Support improved health and wellbeing of the population and reduce health inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support healthier lifestyles and improvements in determinants of health? • Reduce health inequalities within GM and with the rest of England? • Promote access to green space?
7	Ensure access to and provision of appropriate social infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure people are adequately served by key healthcare facilities, regardless of socio-economic status? • Ensure sufficient access to educational facilities for all children? • Promote access to, and provision of, appropriate community social infrastructure including playgrounds and sports facilities?

Ref	Objective	Assessment criteria....will the PfE Plan:
8	Support improved educational attainment and skill levels for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve education levels of children in the area, regardless of their background? • Improve educational and skill levels of the population of working age?
9	Promote sustainable modes of transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the need to travel and promote efficient patterns of movement? • Promote a safe and sustainable public transport network that reduces reliance on private motor vehicles? • Support the use of sustainable and active modes of transport?
10	Improve air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve air quality within Greater Manchester, particularly in the 10 Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs)?
11	Conserve and enhance biodiversity, green infrastructure and geodiversity assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide opportunities to enhance new and existing wildlife and geological sites? • Avoid damage to, or destruction of, designated wildlife sites, habitats and species and protected and unique geological features? • Support and enhance existing multifunctional green infrastructure and / or contribute towards the

Ref	Objective	Assessment criteria....will the PfE Plan:
		<p>creation of new multifunctional green infrastructure?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure access to green infrastructure providing opportunities for recreation, amenity and tranquillity?
12	Ensure communities, developments and infrastructure are resilient to the effects of expected climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that communities, existing and new developments and infrastructure systems are resilient to the predicted effects of climate change across GM?
13	Reduce the risk of flooding to people and property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrict the development of property in areas of flood risk? • Ensure adequate measures are in place to manage existing flood risk? • Ensure that development does not increase flood risk due to increased run-off rates? • Ensure development is appropriately future proof to accommodate future levels of flood risk including from climate change?
14	Protect and improve the quality and availability of water resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage compliance with the Water Framework Directive? • Promote management practices that will protect water features from pollution?

Ref	Objective	Assessment criteria....will the PfE Plan:
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid consuming greater volumes of water resources than are available to maintain a healthy environment?
15	Increase energy efficiency, encourage low-carbon generation and reduce greenhouse gas emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage reduction in energy use and increased energy efficiency? • Encourage the development of low carbon and renewable energy facilities, including as part of conventional developments? • Promote a proactive reduction in direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions emitted across GM?
16	Conserve and/or enhance landscape, townscape, heritage assets and their setting and the character of GM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve landscape quality and the character of open spaces and the public realm? • Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting? • Respect, maintain and strengthen local character and distinctiveness?
17	Ensure that land resources are allocated and used in an efficient and sustainable manner to meet the housing and employment needs of GM, whilst reducing land contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the development of previously developed land and other sustainable locations? • Protect the best and most versatile agricultural land / soil resources from inappropriate development? • Encourage the redevelopment of derelict land, properties, buildings

Ref	Objective	Assessment criteria....will the PfE Plan:
		and infrastructure, returning them to appropriate uses? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support reductions in land contamination through the remediation and reuse of previously developed land?
18	Promote sustainable consumption of resources and support the implementation of the waste hierarchy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the sustainable use of physical resources? • Promote movement up the waste hierarchy? • Promote reduced waste generation rates?

Each PfE policy is assessed for the effect it has on the criteria above. It is scored by following Table 2 below.

When thinking about the effect of the thematic policies (such as looking at sustainable development or affordability of new housing for example), the types of effects a policy could have are also considered over the short-, medium- and long-term.

Table 2: Levels of effect

++	Very positive effect
+	Positive effect
?	Uncertain
-	Negative effect
--	Very negative effect
O	Neutral / no effect

Combined symbols are sometimes used in the assessment (e.g. ‘+ / ?’ or ‘- / ?’). Where this occurs, it is because there is a strong likelihood of

positive/negative effects, but that there is insufficient information to achieve certainty at this stage. Alternatively, there may be a combination of positive or negative effects, depending on how the option under consideration is eventually delivered.

The assessment also seeks identifies if the effects are direct, indirect, temporary and/or permanent. The assessment also considers whether the effect will be a local, GM or wider concern. Where applicable, a description of what could be affected is also given, along with any cumulative effects which might occur.

As part of this stage of the IA, the proposed main modifications to the policies found to be 'significant' or 'potentially significant' in terms of their potential effect on the IA objectives have been assessed. Designations proposed as part of the plan, like Green Belt additions, have not been assessed as part of the IA.

Further information regarding the methodology used as part of this stage of the IA, including explanations about the types of main modifications being proposed to the plan which have been considered, is included within the IA Addendum Report for the Proposed Main Modifications within Section 2.

3 2023 Assessment Overview

3.1 Introduction

This round of IA work was needed because following the independent examination of the plan, main modifications have been proposed by the Planning Inspectors. Therefore, the IA needs to consider the implications of these main modifications.

The Inspectors proposed main modifications to make the plan sound. Main modifications are where changes have an impact on the plan. GMCA have proposed additional modifications at the same time. Additional modifications are to support the readability of the plan and do not materially impact the plan.

The proposed main modifications to the plan were reviewed to understand the level of change and the impact this has to the plan and the previously completed IA work.

In previous IA rounds, the IA has assessed the plan's vision and objectives. These have not changed since the previous IA assessment in 2021. Therefore, these previous IA assessments are still relevant.

The IA has also previously considered reasonable alternatives to the plan. It has not been considered necessary at this stage of the IA because the main modifications are not felt to impact the previously assessed growth and spatial option strategies of the Plan. Therefore, the previous IA assessments of reasonable alternatives are still relevant.

3.2 IA Methodology

The first step was to analyse the main modifications proposed within the PfE 2023 Composite Plan. Based on the significance of the main modifications and utilising professional judgement, each proposed main modification was then identified as 'minor change', 'potentially significant change' or 'significant change' in terms of their potential effect on the IA

objectives as shown in Table 3. ‘Potentially significant change’ demonstrates a precautionary approach, balanced with being proportionate. Only changes in policy wording were included within this review.

Table 3: Level of change

Level of change
‘Significant’ level of change – where changes to the policy are significant; therefore, a full reassessment is required.
‘Potentially significant’ level of change - where changes to the policy were potentially significant; therefore, a full reassessment is required.
No change or ‘minor’ level of change - where changes to the policy were not considered to materially affect or impact on the IA Objectives; therefore, a full reassessment is not required.

An overall qualitative summary was included for each policy to explain the effect these PfE main modifications would have on the IA scoring for the 2023 IA. The table containing the summary of main modifications is located within the main body of the PfE Main IA Addendum Report.

For those policies scored as ‘significant’ or ‘potentially significant’, a full reassessment was carried out against the IA Framework. The assessment tables are contained within the appendix of the PfE Main IA Addendum Report. This approach matches the previously completed IA work.

A new assessment has been undertaken for a new policy, titled the ‘Strategic Road Network’. This has been done in line with the methodology outlined in the 2020 Main IA Report to match the other IA assessments.

4 2023 IA Results

4.1 Thematic Policies

4.1.1 Summary of Main Modifications

This section presents a review of the main modifications made to PfE's thematic policies and the outcomes from the 2023 IA assessment of the main modifications.

'Minor' main modifications to the thematic policies:

The majority of modifications made to thematic policies that were felt to be 'minor' were made to ensure they were in line with national policy, to provide consistency and clarity or avoiding duplication across the plan. These modifications were considered minor as they did not materially alter the effect of the Plan on the IA objectives. As a result, in these instances the 2020 or 2021 IA assessments did not need to be changed. Therefore, we did not reassess these policies as part of this round of the IA.

'Potentially significant' main modifications to thematic policies:

The majority of modifications made to the thematic policies that were considered to be 'potentially significant' were to ensure consistency of approach across the policies for example for infrastructure provision and design, to provide clarity and remove repetition across the plan. Such modifications were considered 'potentially significant' as they could materially alter the Plan. As a result, in these instances the policies were re-assessed.

'Significant' main modifications to thematic policies:

The majority of modifications made to the thematic policies that were considered to be 'significant' were to be in line with national policy, to reflect agreements with stakeholders, to provide clarity and remove repetition across the plan. Such modifications were considered 'significant'

as they materially altered the Plan. As a result, in these instances the policies were re-assessed.

The removal of the thematic policies JP-S4 – ‘Resilience’, JP-G8 ‘Standards for Greener Places’ and JP-G11 – ‘Safeguarded Land’ are significant modifications to the plan. However, due to their removal, they have not been assessed as part of this round of the IA. However, the impact of their removal has been considered, including the identified likely significant effects from these three policies. Further information about the removed policies can be found in Section 4 of the main report.

There is also one additional new policy added to the Plan, ‘The Strategic Road Network’. This was identified as a significant modification and has had a complete assessment within this round of the IA.

4.1.2 Summary of Assessment

The following section summarises the outcomes from the 2023 IA assessment of the proposed main modifications to the thematic policies.

Strategy

Ten policies were reassessed as part of this round of the IA. The proposed main modifications resulted in scores remaining the same other than improving against IA objectives 2, 3, 9, 11 and 17.

Wording has been changed within policies to ensure consistency across the plan on general topics such as infrastructure provision and design. Where this has occurred, other thematic policies have been signposted to avoid duplication and provide clarity. Therefore, when the plan is read as a whole, these topics are covered in relevant policies and therefore no residual impacts have been recommended. This has resulted in a neutral or positive scores as part of this round of the IA. This is shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Amended wording and related policy

Topic	Covered by Policy
Air Quality	JP-S6 – Clean Air
Education	JP-P1 – Sustainable Places JP-P5 – Education, Skills and Knowledge
Flood Risk	JP-S5 – Flood Risk and the Water Environment
Green Infrastructure	JP-G1 – Landscape Character JP-G2 – Green Infrastructure Network
Historic Environment	JP-P2 – Heritage
Mix of size, type and tenure of new housing	JP-H3 – Type, Size and Design of New Housing
Natural Environment	JP-P1 – Sustainable Places JP-G9 – A Net Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geodiversity
Necessary Infrastructure	JP-H1 – Scale, Distribution and Phasing of New Housing JP-D1 – Infrastructure Implementation JP-C2: Digital Connectivity
Previously Developed Land	JP-S1 – Sustainable Development

Reducing Poverty and being Inclusive	JP-P1 – Sustainable Places
Social Infrastructure	JP-P1 – Sustainable Places JP-P5 – Education, Skills and Knowledge JP-P6 – Health JP-P7 – Sport and Recreation
Transport	JP-C1 – An Integrated Network JP-C7 – Transport Requirements of New Development

Sustainable and Resilient Places

Six policies were reassessed as part of this round of the IA, following the removal of JP-S4 – ‘Resilience’ policy. The proposed main modifications resulted in scores remaining the same other than scoring improving against IA objectives 1, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 18 across the policies.

IA objective scores decreased from positive and very positive against the medium- and long-term scores against Objective 14 for ‘Flood Risk and the Water Environment’. However, when the plan is read as a whole, this topic is covered in relevant policies and therefore no residual impacts have been recommended.

Scores have decreased from positive to uncertain/positive and very positive to positive against IA objectives 12 and 18 respectively for the ‘Resource Efficiency’ policy. However, when the plan is read as a whole, this topic is covered in relevant policies and therefore no residual impacts have been recommended.

Places for Jobs

Three policies were reassessed as part of this round of the IA, within the context of the removal of the 'Global Logistics' allocation policy. The proposed main modifications resulted in scores remaining the same other than improving for IA objective 5 for one policy and decreasing for two policies from positive and very positive to neutral against IA objectives 9 and 17 respectively. However, when the plan is read as a whole, these topics are covered in relevant policies and therefore no residual impacts have been recommended.

Places for Homes

Three policies were reassessed as part of this round of the IA, within the context of the removal of the 'North of Irlam Station' allocation policy. The proposed main modifications resulted in scores remaining the same other than improving against IA objective 1 for two policies. Furthermore, when the plan is read as a whole, other topics are covered in relevant policies and therefore no residual impacts have been recommended.

Greener Places

Five policies were reassessed as part of this round of the IA, following the removal of the JP-G8 'Standards for Greener Places' and JP-G11 – 'Safeguarded Land' policies. The proposed main modifications resulted in scores remaining the same other than improving to positive and very positive for IA objectives 10, 11 and 14 across the policies and decreasing from neutral to uncertain for IA objective 5 in one policy. However, when the plan is read as a whole, this topic is covered in relevant policies and therefore no residual impacts have been recommended.

Places for People

Two policies were reassessed as part of this round of the IA. The main modifications resulted in scores remaining the same other than decreasing a score from neutral to uncertain due to the removal of wording surrounding accessibility standards for IA objective 5. However, when the

plan is read as a whole, this topic is covered in relevant policies and therefore no residual impacts have been recommended.

Connected Places

Four policies were reassessed as part of this round of the IA. The proposed main modifications resulted in scores remaining the same and improving on IA objectives 3, 6, 10 and 11. The new policy 'Strategic Road Network' was assessed for the first time, scoring positively against IA objective 3. The policy scored uncertain against IA objectives 4, 5, 9, 10, 12 and 15. However, it was also recognised that recommended measures are addressed when the plan is read as a whole, in particular through policies JP-S1, JP-S2, JP-S6, JP-P1, JP-D1, JP-C1, JP-C6 and JP-C7.

Delivering the Plan

One policy was reassessed as part of this round of the IA. The proposed main modifications to 'Infrastructure Implementation' reduced the policy's scoring to positive uncertain or neutral on IA objectives 1, 3, 9 and 15 due to removed references about minimising demand for energy, water and utility services and requiring sustainable building design. However, when the plan is read as a whole these topics are covered in relevant policies and therefore no residual impacts have been recommended.

4.2 Allocation Policies

4.2.1 Summary of Main Modifications

The following section summarises the outcomes from the 2023 IA assessment of the proposed main modifications to the allocation policies.

'Minor' main modifications to the allocation policies:

The majority of main modifications made to the allocation policies that were considered to be 'minor' were to ensure they were in accordance with national policy, to ensure consistency and clarity and to avoid duplication across the plan. These main modifications were considered

minor as they did not materially alter the effect of the Plan on the IA objectives. As a result, the 2020 or 2021 IA assessments did not need to be changed. Therefore, we did not reassess these policies as part of this round of the IA.

‘Potentially significant’ main modifications to allocation policies:

The majority of main modifications made to the allocation policies that were considered to be ‘potentially significant’ were to ensure consistency of approach across the allocation policies in relation to infrastructure delivery, affordable housing requirements and heritage assets, to provide clarity and remove duplication where covered by a thematic policy across the plan. Such main modifications were considered ‘potentially significant’ as they had the potential to materially alter the Plan. As a result in these instances, the policies were re-assessed.

‘Significant’ main modifications to allocation policies:

The majority of main modifications made to the allocation policies that were considered to be ‘significant’ were to provide clarity on policy requirements and consistency with thematic policies and other allocation policies across the plan. Such main modifications were considered ‘significant’ as they materially altered the Plan. As a result, the policies were re-assessed.

The removal of the site allocations ‘JPA10 – Global Logistics’ and ‘JPA28 – North of Irlam Station’ have been noted as significant main modifications to the plan. However, due to their removal, they have not been assessed as part of this round of the IA. However, the impact of their removal has been considered within the site, including the identified likely significant effects from these two policies. Further information about the removed policies can be found in Section 5 of the main report.

‘Significant’ modifications to allocation policies following amended boundaries:

All site boundary changes proposed to the allocations within the Plan have been considered ‘significant’ and therefore have been re-assessed. The following boundaries of these allocations were changed:

- JPA1.2 - Simister and Bowlee
- JPA14 - Broadbent Moss
- JPA18 - South of Rosary Road
- JPA26 - Land at Hazelhurst Farm
- JPA 32 - South of Hyde

The following allocations have been noted as having their Green Belt boundary changed within their allocation boundaries:

- JPA 3.2 – Timperley Wedge
- JPA7 – Elton Reservoir

We have considered the change in Green Belt boundaries within the allocations as part of the reassessment of these policies. It was found that within the re-assessments of JPA 3.2 and JPA7, the change of Green Belt boundary within the allocation boundaries did not result in changes to their assessments as part of this round of the IA.

All allocation policies have been re-assessed as part of this round of IA work due to having a ‘potentially significant’ or ‘significant’ proposed change. A complete list of the allocation policies is within the Addendum Report’s Appendix D.

4.2.2 Summary of Assessment

The following section summarises the outcomes from the 2023 IA assessment of the proposed main modifications to the allocation policies.

Policy wording has been changed across about a number of topics across the allocation policies for consistency and clarity, like removing sentences to avoid duplication across the plan. For example, policies have rephrased the delivery of primary and secondary school education and referenced a related thematic Policy JP-P5. Another common change was policies to rephrase the delivery of transportation infrastructure, now referencing Policy JP-C7 and Appendix D included as part of the plan. When this has happened, these policies scored well. This is because when the plan is read as a whole, the IA assessment criteria are still met.

The exception to this is where some policies may have scored uncertain, for example where specific flood risk mitigation wording has been removed or modified but an allocation may be within a flood zone. .

This has occurred in the following allocations:

- JPA1.1 – Northern Gateway
- JPA7 – Elton Reservoir
- JPA12 – Beal Valley
- JPA24 – Roch Valley

No recommendations to amend the policies have been made when these main modifications have happened. This is because the areas within each site within flood risk zones are small with flood risk matters covered by Policy JP-S5. In addition, the allocation policies outline the need for comprehensive masterplanning, which could include proactively managing flood risk.

Table 5 shows what the most common wording modifications are and what related thematic policy is now signposted.

Table 5: Rephrased wording and related policy

Topic	Covered by Policy
Air Quality	JP-S6 – Clean Air
Education	JP-P1 – Sustainable Places JP-P5 – Education, Skills and Knowledge
Flood Risk	JP-S5 – Flood Risk and the Water Environment
Green Infrastructure	JP-G1 – Landscape Character JP-G2 – Green Infrastructure Network
Historic Environment	JP-P2 – Heritage
Mix of size, type and tenure of new housing	JP-H3 – Type, Size and Design of New Housing
Natural Environment	JP-P1 – Sustainable Places JP-G9 – A Net Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geodiversity
Necessary Infrastructure	JP-H1 – Scale, Distribution and Phasing of New Housing JP-D1 – Infrastructure Implementation JP-C2: Digital Connectivity
Previously Developed Land	JP-S1 – Sustainable Development

Reducing Poverty and being Inclusive	JP-P1 – Sustainable Places
Social Infrastructure	JP-P1 – Sustainable Places JP-P5 – Education, Skills and Knowledge JP-P6 – Health JP-P7 – Sport and Recreation
Transport	JP-C1 – An Integrated Network JP-C7 – Transport Requirements of New Development

Some of the allocation policies have removed text, therefore the scoring has gone down across IA objectives in some cases. An example of this is Policy JPA8 'Seedfield' where policy text has removed regarding utility provision. Therefore, the scoring for IA Objective 3 criteria 3 has gone down from very positive to neutral. However, no recommendations for changes have been made because the plan read as a whole, and this topic is covered by policy JP-D1 'Infrastructure Implementation'. This is a common change to many allocation policies included within the plan. This change in scoring has been consistently applied to all allocation policies where this wording has been removed.

Conversely, an example of where new additional policy text has been added, giving more detail is policy JPA30 'Ashton Moss'. This policy has added new text about the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Development Plan which can help the sustainable use of minerals. Therefore, the scoring for IA objective 18 criteria 1 has gone up from neutral to positive. No recommendations have been made following main modifications like this. This is a common change to many allocation policies included within

the plan. This change in scoring has been consistently applied to all allocation policies where this wording has been included.

Overall, no recommendations for changes to be made to the reassessed allocation policies. This is because when the plan is read as a whole, the IA assessment criteria are met.

5 Monitoring

Monitoring of the plan will be completed following its adoption, in accordance with the SEA Directive and Regulation 17 of The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

This legislation requires the people who prepared the plan to monitor its implementation, with a view to identifying any unforeseen negative effects, and being able to undertake appropriate helpful action.

This IA has set up a framework against which monitoring could be undertaken. It will enable any unexpected negative effects due to implementation of the PfE to be identified and potential mitigation options to be explored.

The monitoring arrangements will be set out in the Post-Adoption Statement.