Sefton Annual Monitoring Report 2006



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Executive Summary

The Sefton Unitary Development Plan (UDP) was adopted just after the end of the 2005-06 monitoring period. The policies in the UDP are 'saved' for three years from the date of adoption, but the 2007 Local Development Scheme (LDS) will include proposals for how these policies should be taken forward in the Local Development Framework (LDF).

A key change in the 2007 LDS is likely to be the deletion of the proposal to prepare a Greenspace and Development DPD, and its replacement with two SPDs: 'Open Space and Development' and 'Green Space Strategy'.

Some key LDF targets were met during this monitoring period. The UDP was adopted in June 2006, just after the end of the monitoring period, and the Statement of Community Involvement was more or less on target (subsequent adopted in October 2006). However, there have been delays in a number of Local Development Documents, in part due to the unexpected complexity of the issues involved.

There are some positive trends to report based on contextual indicators. For example, the overall population in Sefton has started to increase and the loss of population in Neighbourhood Renewal Fund areas is slowing.

In relation to housing, the number of households in Sefton is anticipated to increase by 3,000 in the next five years partly due to the projected increase in the number of one-person households. The Council have requested that a higher annual housing requirement be included in the emerging Regional Spatial Strategy.

There is an urgent need to provide affordable housing in the Borough. The average house price in Sefton is five times greater than the average household income. Only 18 affordable housing units were completed in 2005/6, a rise of 8 from 2004/5. These two factors mean that the preparation of the Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document, which aims to improve the provision of affordable housing stock in Sefton, is a high priority.

98% of new and converted dwellings were built on previously developed land in 2005/6. This is a rise of 3% from 2004/5. This reflects the strategy of the UDP to largely restrict development to within the urban area.

The percentage of the working age population who are in employment across Sefton has risen by 6% from 1999/2000 to 2005/2006, with a larger increase in the Bootle Parliamentary Constituency of nearly 8% (this largely corresponds with the priority regeneration area). Again, this suggests that a key part of the UDP – to promote development within regeneration areas – is being effective.

There has been an increase in the amount of land developed for employment uses of over 27,000 m² between 2004/5 and 2005/6, though 85% of this year's total is accounted for by the new Health and Safety Executive headquarters office in Bootle. The influence of the Strategic Investment Areas Programme in the Atlantic Gateway (regeneration area) is only likely to become evident in the 07-08 and 08-09 monitoring periods.

This monitoring report again highlights the need to be more realistic in preparing the timetable for the 2007 LDS and, in particular, to revise the sections on risk and resources.

Introduction

This is Sefton's second Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) and reviews the period from 1st April 2005 to 31st March 2006.

The AMR will:

- Review progress in preparing the documents as set out in our Local Development Scheme.
- Assess the extent to which policies in the Unitary Development Plan are being implemented

In order to assess the implementation of Development Plan policies a number of indicators have been selected to measure social, environmental and economic changes. These derive from National Core Output Indicators¹ as well as local indicators, and are grouped together under common headings.

Where possible we have provided information for each indicator over a number of years in order to identify any trends that may emerge.

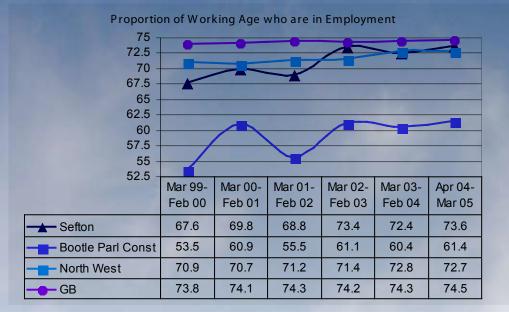
These indicators are either contextual, measuring changes in the wider environment, or output indicators that measure the impact of policies in planning documents such as increased business development.

Examples of these types of indicators, and their commentary, are set out on the following page.

The methods of data collection and monitoring for the 2006 AMR have improved from the 2005 AMR, with key gaps in data supply being addressed. This will continue through gradual improvements year-on-year.

Example of Contextual Indicator

17. Proportion of Working Age in Employment



While there has been an increase in the proportion of working age that are in employment across Sefton since 1999, there has been a larger increase within the Bootle Parliamentary Constituency than for the Borough as a whole, 7.9% over a six-year period compared to 6%.

Both of these increase rates are above that of the North West (1.8%) and Britain as a whole (0.7%).

Example of Output Indicator

20. Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type

	Area	a (m²)
Development Use Class	2004/5	2005/6
BI (a)	-	35,462
ВІ (b)	-	0
BI (c)	-	2,139
В2	-	10,957
B8	-	833
Total	21,897	49,391

The amount of floorspace developed in 2005/6 is significantly greater, by 27,494m², than that developed in 2004/5. This is an increase of 125.56%. One of the key developments that accounts for this difference is the completion of office space that forms the new headquarters for the Health and Safety Executive (33,360m²) in Bootle.

Local Development Framework Update

The 2006 adopted Sefton Unitary Development Plan (UDP)

The replacement UDP was adopted in June 2006, only slightly later than the date anticipated (late spring 2006) in the 2005 AMR. The policies in this plan will be 'saved' for a period of 3 years or until they are superseded by Local Development Documents in the Local Development Framework. Policies can be saved beyond 3 years with the Secretary of State's permission.

An analysis of the saved policies, including the possible need for replacing them, will be included in the 2007 Local Development Scheme (LDS).

Local Development Scheme documents

The 2005 Sefton Local Development Scheme is the key LDS for the period covered by this report. The replacement LDS came into effect in September 2006.

Progress on the preparation of each document and proposed amendments to the timetables for the production of each document are set out in the tables 1 and 2 below.

No progress has been made in preparing the Seaforth Local Centre Development Plan Document (DPD) as the issues it would have addressed have been dealt with through the Modifications Public Inquiry.

Anticipated changes to the Local Development Scheme

The key change to the LDS, apart from timings of documents, is likely to be in relation to a proposed DPD called 'Greenspace and Development'. The main aim of this DPD was to supplement UDP policy on providing greenspace in association with development. The reason for it being a DPD rather than an SPD was that this document would be likely to include new greenspace designations i.e. a change to policy in respect of those sites.

On reflection this would extend the time taken to get the guidance in place so significantly, that it is now thought that a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) would be more appropriate, and any proposed new greenspace can be deferred. However, it is also considered that there is a need for a greenspace strategy to provide a practical framework for enhancing greenspace. This is likely to form another SPD. It is proposed to incorporate these changes in the 2007 LDS.

Table I – Progress on preparation of Development Plan Documents

Proposed date for adoption	Actual/ Predicted	Oct 2006	April 2010	March 2009	Nav 2008	December 2009
Propose adc	LDS date	Sept 2006	April 2010	March 2009	Nov 2008	Autumn 2009
Start of Examination	Actual/ Predicted	June 2006	May -June 2009	July – August 2008	May 2008	June-July 2009
St Exan	LDS date	June 2006	May - June 2009	July – August 2008	May 2008	Early 2009
Date of Pre- examination meeting	Actual/ Predicted	Not needed	March 2009	April 2008	Feb 2008	March 2009
Dat exar m	LDS date	April 2006	March 2009	April 2008	Feb 2008	Late 2008
Submission date to Secretary of State	Actual/ Predicted	April 2006	Sep 2008	Dec 2007	Oct 2007	November 2008
Submissi Secretar	LDS date	Feb 2006	Sep 2008	Dec 2007	Oct 2007	Summer 2008
Public participation on preferred options & sustainability appraisal report	Actual/ Predicted	Nov-Dec 2005	Nov - Dec 2007	July - Aug 2007	May-June 2007	May-June 2008
l partic prefer & sus appra	LDS date	Sept - Oct 2005	Nov - Dec 2007	July – Aug 2007	May – June 2007	Early 2008
on starts	Actual	Mar 2005	April 2006	Oct 2006	Sept 2006	May 2007
Preparation starts	LDS date	Mar 2005	April 2006	Oct 2006	Sept 2006	Summer 2007
Development Plan Document title		Statement of Community Involvement	Joint Merseyside Waste DPD	Seaforth & Litherland Area Action Plan	Greenspace & Development	Core Strategy

Table 2 – Progress on preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents

Supplementary Planning	Preparati	on starts	Public par on drat			d date for ption	
Document title	LDS date	Actual	LDS date	Predicted	LDS date	Actual/ Predicted	
Christ Church, Waterloo - Conservation Area Statement	Not SPD -	Not SPD - ODPM advice after the LDS came into effect was that Conservation Area Statements should not be SPDs.					
Derby Park, Bootle - Conservation Area Statement	Not SPD -		e after the LDS a Statements sh			Conservation	
Churchtown, Southport - Conservation Area Statement	Not SPD -		e after the LDS a Statements sh			Conservation	
Managing the supply of housing land	May 2005	July 2006	Nov – Dec 2005	July-August 2007 *	March 2006	November 2007 *	
Bedford Queens Neighbourhood: Redevelopment of Stanley Road Frontage	May 2005	July 2005	Nov – Dec 2005	March- April 2007 *	March 2006	June 2007 *	
Affordable Housing	Nov 2005	July 2006	March – April 2006	July-August 2007	July 2006	November 2007	
Southport Commerce Park (Not retained in 2006 LDS) **	Nov 2005	-	March — April 2006	-	June 2006	-	
Southport Town Centre	Jan 2006	July 2006	June – July 2006	Apr - May 08	Nov 2006	Aug 2008	
South Sefton Housing Market Renewal: Knowsley – Peel area	March 2006	March 2006	Sept –Nov 2006	Apr-May 2007	March 2007	July 2007	
South Sefton Housing Market Renewal: LinacreOne	March 2006	March 2006	Sept –Nov 2006	Apr - May 2007	March 2007	July 2007	
Ensuring Choice of Travel	Sept 2006	Sept 2006	July – August 2007	July – August 2007	January 2008	January 2008	
Canalside sites, Bootle	Sept 2006	Sept 2006	Feb – Mar 2007	June – July 2007	October 2007	December 2007	

In summary the main reasons for these changes and slippage of timescales are:

- Under-estimates of preparatory work involved;
- Changing circumstances and complexity of issues (for example regarding affordable housing);
- Issues raised by consultation which required further detailed work;
- Partners preparing LDDs have sometimes changed their timescales because of changes in their priorities.
- * There has been further slippage since these dates were agreed in September due to continuing difficulty in being able to agree an acceptable approach to the provision of affordable housing. A revised programme will be included in the 2007 LDS.
- ** It was decided not to progress this SPD because of a change of circumstances, which links this site with an adjoining housing site.

Sefton - A Borough of Contrasts

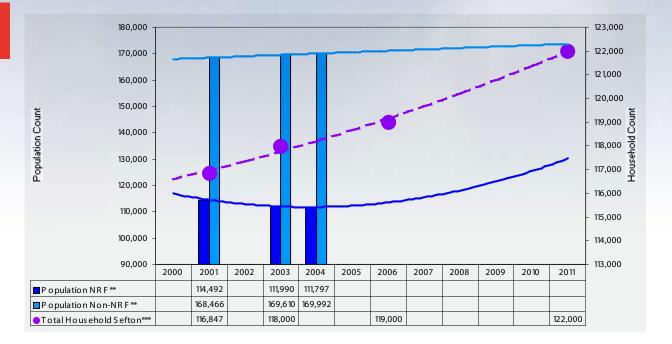
Introduction

Sefton is a borough of contrasts – between the densely built up older urban areas of Bootle, Litherland, Seaforth and Waterloo and inner Southport, the more recent dormitory settlements such as Formby and Hightown, the resort of Southport and the miles of countryside and open coast which is mostly of national and international nature conservation importance.

One of the most significant contrasts is that between the most deprived and the least deprived wards in Sefton. The most deprived wards generally have higher levels of residents with low incomes, unemployment, crime and other aspects of social and economic deprivation. The most deprived wards are designated as Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) wards, named after the funding they receive from the government. These 9 wards comprise most of Bootle, Litherland and Netherton, and parts of Southport. We, and our partner organisations and the community are working to close the gaps between the NRF areas and the rest of Sefton.

The following contextual indicators will provide a broad understanding of Sefton and will indicate the disparities between NRF and non-NRF areas.

Indicators

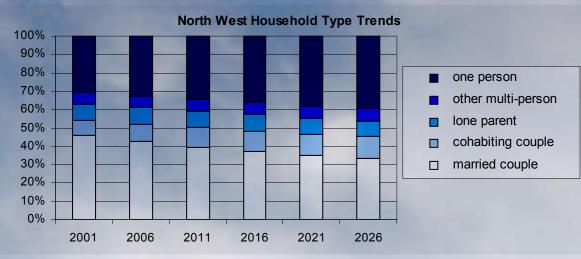


I. Percentage annual change in population

**Source Calculated from "Ward Based Mid Year Population Estimates" MIS Mott MacDonald, their estimates are based on Electoral Register data at ward level (2004 ward boundaries) and NHS patient register data (at output area level).

***Source ODPM 2003 based Sub Regional Household Projections Table F, with 2001 figs from Census 2001.

2. Number of households in district

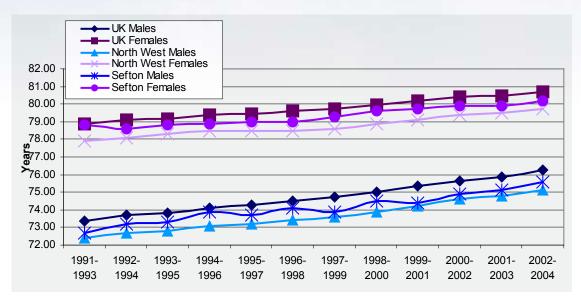


Source ODPM 2003 Based Regional Household Projections, Table E

The two tables above show that although population numbers have not increased greatly outside NRF areas, and indeed have reduced within NRF areas, the number of households is estimated to increase by 3,000 in the next five years in Sefton as a whole.

One-person households are expected to increase as a proportion of all households in the North West from 33% in 2006 to nearly 40% in 2026, and married couple households are reducing

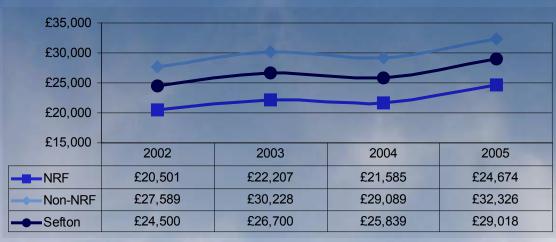
3.Years of heathly life expectancy



Source - Life Expectancy at Birth 2005 (ONS) From Neighbourhood Statistics

Life expectancy at birth is increasing for both males and females and the figures in this chart show Sefton people have a higher life expectancy than the North West average.

4. Annual householder income

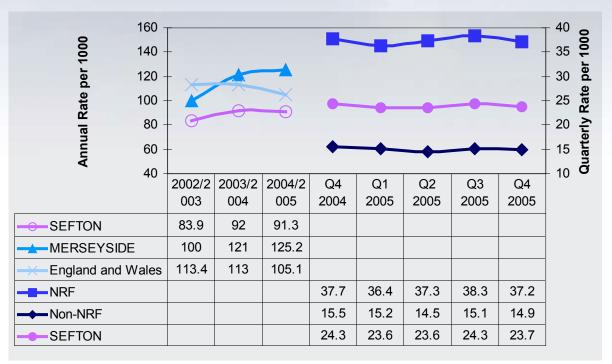


Source - CACI Wealth of the Nation Reports 2002 - 2005

The average annual incomes in both NRF and non-NRF areas follow the same trends over time. The income gap between these two areas has remained the same over the last four years with a difference of around £7,500.

The NRF average income has increased by 20.4% compared to 17.2% in non-NRF areas over the monitored period, but the non-NRF average income has risen by the larger amount: \pounds 4,737 as compared to \pounds 4,173.

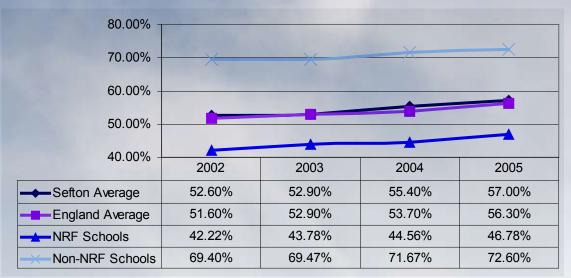
5. Total recorded crime per 1000 population



Source: Crime Update, MIS, and Notifiable Offences Recorded by the Police Dataset, National Statistics

Sefton's annual total crime rate in 2004/5 was lower than that of the other districts of Merseyside at 91.3 per 1000 population. For example, in 2004/5 Liverpool's crime rate, not set out in the above chart, was 175.2 per 1000 population.

The ward rates (available quarterly) show a marked difference between NRF and non-NRF areas where the crime rate figures within the NRF wards were more than double those in non-NRF wards.



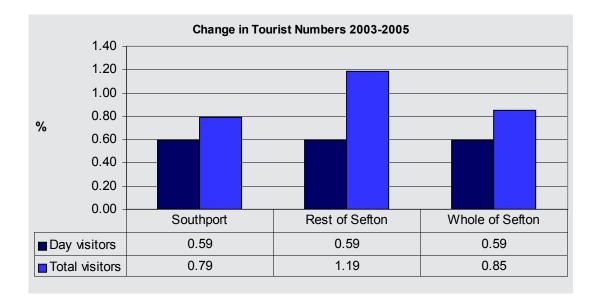
6. Percent of 15year olds achieving 5=A* - C grades at GCSE

Source: DfES School and College Achievement and Attainment Tables 2005, GCSE and equivalent results: Sefton

GCSE attainment is improving across the borough and Sefton's achievement rate remains above the average for England as a whole.

What is clear from the above chart is the difference in achievement between those schools within NRF wards and those in non-NRF wards, although the gap between the two areas has narrowed from 27.18% in 2002 to 25.82% in 2005.

7. Number of visitors to Sefton



Tourist Numbers in Thousands

	20	03	20	04	20	05		nange -2005
	Day visitors	Total visitors	Day visitors	Total visitors	Day visitors	Total visitors	Day visitors	Total visitors
Southport	10517.8	10950.5	10418.0	10919.4	10580.3	11037.0	0.59	0.79
Rest of Sefton	1830.1	2107.8	1820.4	2111.7	1841.0	2132.8	0.59	1.19
Whole of Sefton	12347.9	13058.3	12282.2	13031.1	12421.3	13169.9	0.59	0.85

Source: 'STEAM' data supplied by Sefton's Tourism Department, to nearest hundred.

As is evident from the figures provided, Southport is the major focus for tourism within Sefton with over five times as many visitors per year than for anywhere else in the Borough.

With the installation of Anthony Gormley's 'Another Place' at Crosby on 1st July 2005 it is anticipated that the number of visitors to sites outside of Southport will increase. At this time, there has been some debate about the removal or retention of this public art and the eventual course of action will have an effect upon visitor numbers.

On 5th September 2006 it was announced that Pleasureland in Southport would be closing with immediate effect after 93 years. Any impact upon the tourist numbers in upcoming years will be highlighted in future Annual Monitoring Reports.

The emerging Supplementary Planning Document 'Southport Town Centre' will provide detailed guidance on development within the town centre and Seafront and as such will take into account the issue of Pleasureland.

Housing

Introduction

'A Vision for Sefton: The Community Strategy 2006-11' states that there is a chronic lack of affordable housing in the north of the Borough, with a first time buyer needing to borrow eight times the figure for average earnings to purchase a house in Southport. This has an adverse effect on the local economy by restricting affordable housing opportunities for job seekers in the tourism and leisure sector.

Objectives within Chapter 6 'Housing and Neighbourhood Renewal' of the 2006 UDP state that the Plan should ensure that adequate provision is made for additional housing, including affordable housing and that the Council should encourage innovative design, the efficient use of land and maintain residential amenity.

The indicators within this chapter provide information relating to the character of existing housing stock within Sefton i.e. tenure and average price, as well as providing information relating to the provision of affordable housing within the Borough as well as the density at which new residential developments are completed.

The recently completed 2005 Housing Needs Survey of Sefton confirms the very significant need for affordable housing across the Borough. With this in mind and to encourage affordable housing through \$106 agreements on appropriate sites, the Council is at the early stage of preparing a SPD on Affordable Housing.

Meanwhile, the Council is negotiating the provision of affordable housing through \$106 agreements on a limited number of suitable sites through the housing restraint policy. It will be some time before any affordable housing dwellings are provided on these sites and other sites that may emerge.

The Council would hope to achieve approximately 100 affordable housing units a year through \$106 agreements from 2008/09 onwards.

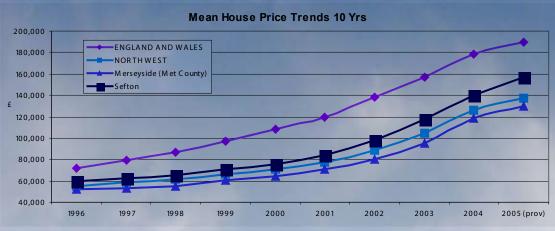
The 2006 Local Development Scheme sets out the timetables for preparing a number of documents that will address housing issues:

- Managing the Supply of Residential Land Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
- Affordable Housing SPD.

The SPDs for the Knowsley/Peel and Linacre One areas will also focus on housing.

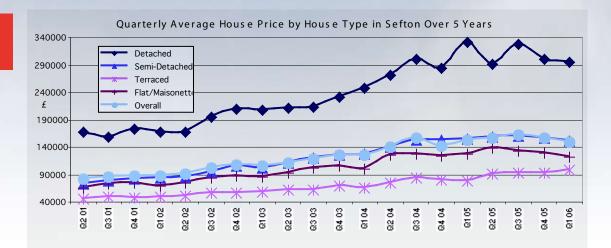
Indicators

8. Average house prices by house types

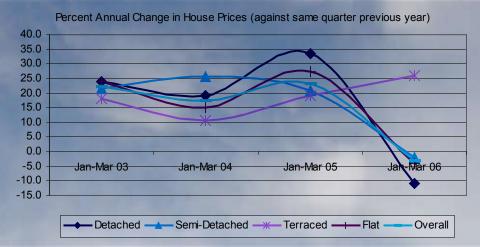


Source OCLG, Table 585 Housing market: mean house prices based on Land Registry data, by district, from 1996

9.Percentage annual change in house prices



Sefton Average House Prices	Detached	Semi-Detached	Terraced	Flat/ Maisonette	Overall
Jan-Mar 06	£294,751	£151,392	£97,963	£121,575	£148,913



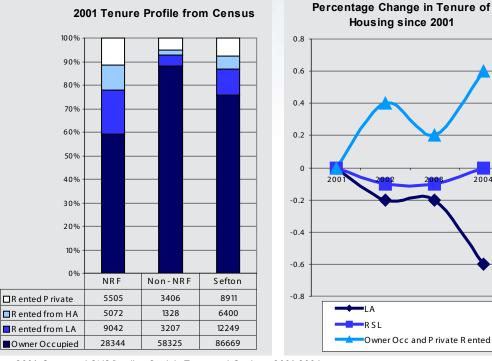
Source: Land Registry House Prices datasets

Mean house prices in Sefton are increasing year on year, reducing the gap to the average price across England and Wales. In addition, the rate of increase is greater within Sefton than it is for the North West average.

Overall, terraced houses have had the most consistent year on year increase at around 20% for the last four years, with prices increasing in 2005/06 compared to a decrease for all other dwelling types.

The average house price in Sefton, £148,913, is five times that of the average household income, £29,018.





Source: 2001 Census and ONS Dwelling Stock by Tenure and Condition, 2001-2004 Note: HA = Housing Association now known as RSL = Registered Social Landlord

The first chart above demonstrates the differing tenure profiles as recorded in the 2001 Census, and shows a much lower level of owner occupation in the NRF areas than in non-NRF areas. The second chart suggests that these are likely to remain in these proportions, as there have only been small changes of less than one percent between tenures since 2001. The HMRI process aims to make changes to this profile but it will be a number of years before this could be recorded.

the end of the relevant development plan document period or over a ten year period from its adoption, whichever is the longer; (iv) the annual net document period, whichever is the longer; (ii) net additional dwellings for the current year (2005-06); (iii) projected net additional dwellings up to additional dwelling requirement; and (v) annual average number of net additional dwellings needed to meet overall housing requirements, having II. Housing trajectory showing: (i) net additional dwellings over the previous five year period or since the start of the relevant development plan regard to previous years performances. Information on past trends is sourced from planning application and building control records. In accordance with government guidance, the housing trajectory reflects trends over the last five years (2000/01 – 2005/06).

Additional dwellings completed through new build and conversions since start of adopted plan. **Non-HMRI Completions**

The projected additional dwellings over the remaining years of the plan. This is based on current monitoring via the HLAD Database, assumptions about the implementation of existing commitments on Allocated Sites and an allowance for windfall development restricted to 200 units per year from 2008-09 onwards. Current and recent years have shown an exceptional rate of activity, and the housing restraint mechanism will be used to monitor and manage future windfall development to ensure RSS requirement is not exceeded.

Dwellings lost through demolition (LA and private / miscellaneous) outside of the Housing Market Renewal programme. **Non-HMRI** Demolitions

All New Build Completions being carried out with support from HMRI funding. **HMRI** Completions

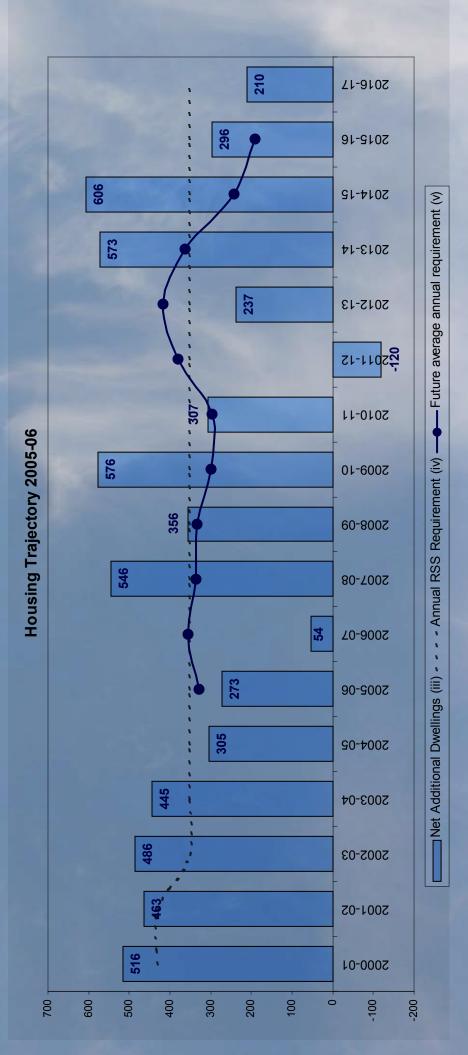
Dwellings lost through demolition based on Demolition Database records and HMRI plans that are part of the HMRI programme. **HMRI** Demolitions

Net additional dwellings for each year since start of plan, after allowing for losses through demolition/conversion. Net additional dwellings

Annual RSS Requirement Annual net additional dwelling requirement as set out in RSS

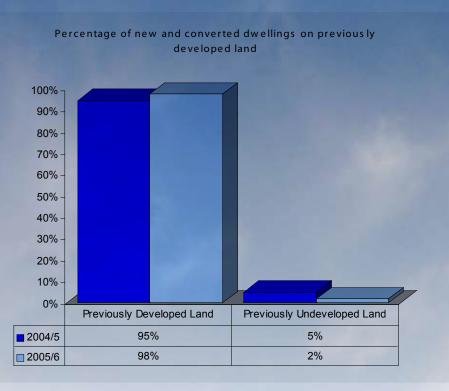
average, to ensure that the overall requirement for the borough of 6110 dwellings from 2000/01 to 2016/17 is not exceeded. Therefore 2016/17 has no The maximum number of dwellings the council should be seeking to achieve in the remaining years of the plan. This is shown as an annually revised figure, as this is the final year Future average annual req.

units have already been completed to date (6110-2488/11=329). This is revised annually, so at the end of 2006/07 if the net addition to stock is 54 as projected, the revised For example, the figure of 329 in 2005/06 indicates that for the remaining 11 years of the plan period, the maximum number would be an average of 328 per year as 2488 annual average figure increases to 357 (6110-2542/10=357)



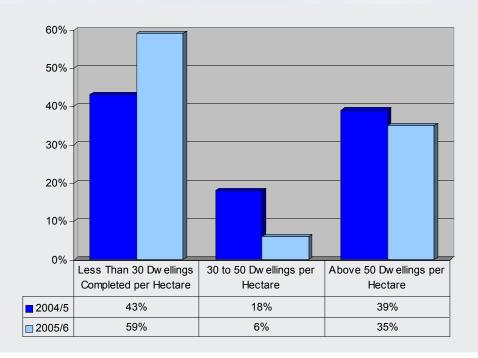
Sources: Sefton MBC Planning and Economic Regeneration 'HLAD' database and Building Regulations/Planning permission records (iPlan database), September 2006.

12. Percentage of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land.



Sources: Sefton MBC Planning and Economic Regeneration Department records.

13. Percentage of new dwellings completed at: (i) less than 30 dwellings per hectare; (ii) between 30 and 50 dwellings per hectare; and (iii) above 50 dwellings per hectare.





A key objective of Sefton's Unitary Development Plan, as stated within Policy H12 'Residential Density' (previously Policy H8 of the emerging UDP) is to encourage residential development at a net density of between 30 and 50 dwellings per hectare.

The Plan also encourages higher density development, above 50 dwellings per hectare, in locations well served by local services and with good access to the public transport network. Indicator 30 of this AMR measures whether new housing development in Sefton is within 30 minutes public transport time of specific locations. As evident from that indicator, only one new housing development fell outside of this time period.

The majority of current or future housing sites will have good access to the public transport network and so should be able to sustain higher density development.

The flexible approach to housing densities as stated in Policy H12 is in line with the approach set out in Planning Policy Statement 3 Housing.

The Housing Market Renewal Initiatives within the Bedford Road/Queens Road and Klondyke areas should provide housing at a density of between 30 and 50 dwellings, with the possibility of a density greater than 50 dwellings per hectare being achieved.

As a result, it is anticipated that this move towards lower density developments will not be reflected in future Annual Monitoring Reports.

14.Affordable housing completions

In 2005/6 21 affordable housing units were completed - a net increase of 18.

There were 14 new affordable housing units completed by Registered Social Landlords, in addition to 7 conversions (a net increase of 4). This net increase of 18 units in 2005/6 compares favourably to that of 2004/5 where 10 additional units were provided.

15. The percentage of new homes that achieve Good, Very Good or Excellent EcoHomes ratings.

The EcoHomes initiative is designed to help tackle climate change, resource use and impact on wildlife and balance these issues against the need to provide safe and healthy homes and a high quality of life. It helps reduce the environmental impact of a development through good design and informed decisions in the following areas

- Energy
- Water
- Pollution
- Materials
- Transport
- Ecology and land use
- Health and well-being.

EcoHomes assessments are undertaken by independent assessors who are trained and licensed by the Building Research Establishment (BRE – www.bre.co.uk).

The table below shows the total number of units that have been certified by BRE for meeting EcoHomes standards, as well as those units that have not yet been inspected.

EcoHomes Statistics for Sefton

Settlement	EcoHomes Certified Assessments	EcoHomes Registered Assessments
Ainsdale	0	l (l unit)
Aintree	0	0
Bootle	l (39 units)	14 (369 units)
Crosby	0	0
Formby	0	0
Hightown	0	0
Ince Blundell	0	0
Litherland	0	2
Lydiate	0	0
Maghull	0	0
Melling	0	0
Netherton	0	5 (199 units)
Southport	0	6 (139 units)
Thornton	0	0
Waterloo	0	I (4 units)
Total	l (39 units)	34 (712 units)

The single certified scheme is a development by the Cosmopolitan Housing Association at Georgia Close, off Carolina Street, Bootle that was completed in August 2003, and was assessed as being Very Good.

There have been no certified developments within the monitoring period for the 2006 AMR.

Within the Housing Market Renewal Initiative areas of Bedford Road & Queens Road as well as Klondyke & the Canal Corridor, the Council, through Supplementary Planning Guidance, encourages developers to achieve a 'Very Good' EcoHomes rating. The number of certified schemes within Sefton is likely to increase in the coming years.

Business Development

Introduction

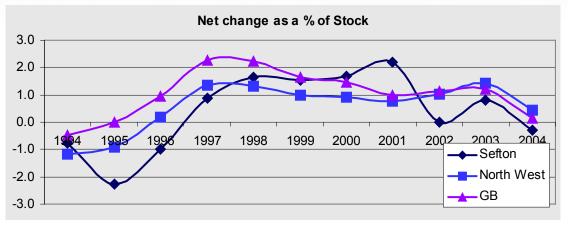
Economic development is essential to the regeneration of Sefton. A key role for the 2006 Sefton UDP is to ensure that sufficient land is made available for industrial and business development in the right locations, in order to encourage economic activity.

This chapter contains a number of contextual and output indicators that provide information concerning economic development such as the amount of floorspace developed within the Borough in 2005/6. These output figures are based on the Use Classes (Amendment) Order 2005 that groups type of development under common headings, as set out in Appendix 2.

Indicators



16.VAT registrations (new registrations and total stock)

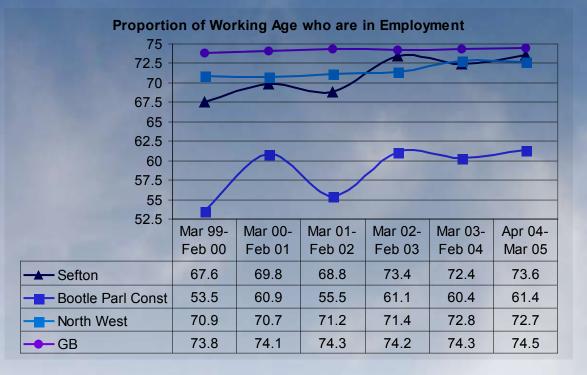


Source: NOMIS, vat registrations/deregistrations time series query

For the first time since 1997, there has been a net decrease in VAT registrations within Sefton, a trend that is mirrored across the North West region, and the country as a whole.

Since 1996 there has been a year-on-year increase in the total stock of VAT registrations, from a low of 5,005 in 1996 to a peak of 5,475 in 2003. It is anticipated that with the Council's approach of securing existing business or industrial sites, as well as developments such as the Southport Commerce Park, VAT registrations will overcome this recent downturn.

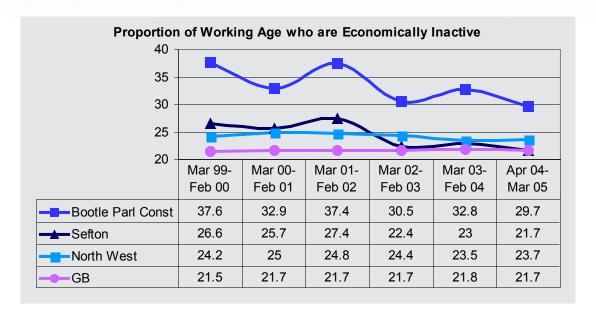
17. Proportion of working age who are in employment



While there has been an increase in the proportion of working age who are in employment across Sefton since 1999, there has been a larger increase within the Bootle Parliamentary Constituency than for the Borough as a whole, 7.9% over a six-year period compared to 6%.

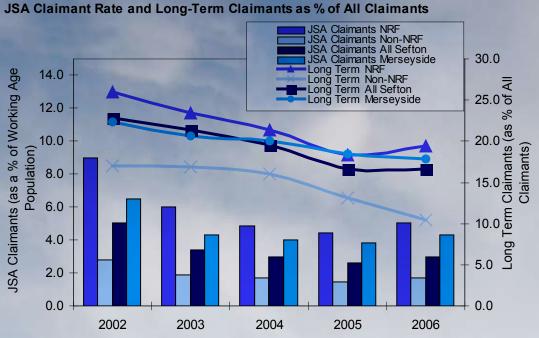
Both of these increase rates are above that of the North West (1.8%) and Britain as a whole (0.7%).

18. Proportion of working age population who are economically inactive



Although the economically inactive rate for the Bootle Parliamentary Constituency is higher than that for Sefton as a whole, the North West and nationally, there has been a 7.9% reduction in this rate from 1999/2000 to 2004/2005. This reduction is greater than that of the other three areas, and indicates steady improvements within the Bootle Parliamentary Constituency.

19. Job Seekers Allowance Claimant Rate (including Long Term Unemployment)



2002 to 2005 across Sefton, the figures for 2006 show a slight rise.

Source: Job Seeker's Allowance Claimant Data (NOMIS)

Following a trend of year-on-year reductions in Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimants and long-term claimants from

The JSA claimant rate in NRF wards, non-NRF wards and across Sefton as a whole rose by 0.6%, 0.3% and 0.4% respectively from 2005 to 2006. This rise in the NRF wards was reflected in long-term claimants, a rise of 1.1% from 18.4% in 2005 to 19.5% in 2006.

The increase in long-term claimants was not reflected in non-NRF wards, which show a reduction of 2.6%, nor was it evident for Sefton as a whole although a 0.1% reduction has clearly been affected by the rise in NRF wards.

Summary of the Business Development Output Indicators

The chart below shows the rise in the amount of employment land that was developed from 2004/5 to 2005/6. The six indicators that follow provide more detail on the development of employment land, and also provide commentaries that explain any year-on-year differences that have arisen.



26

20. Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type

Development Use Class	Area (m²)		
Development Ose Class	2004/5	2005/6	
BI (a)	-	35,462	
BI (b)	-	0	
ВІ (с)	-	2,139	
B2	-	10,957	
B8	-	833	
Total	21,897	49,391	

The amount of floorspace developed in 2005/6 is significantly greater, by 27,494m², than that developed in 2004/5. This is an increase of 126%. One of the key developments that accounts for this difference is the completion of office space that forms the new headquarters for the Health and Safety Executive (33,360m²) in Bootle.

21. Amount of floorspace developed for employment, by type, in employment or regeneration areas.

Development Use Class	Area	Area (m²)			
Development Ose Class	2004/5	2005/6			
BI (a)	-	35,462			
BI (b)	-	0			
BI (c)	-	2,139			
B2	-	10,957			
B8	-	0			
Total	18,379	48,558			

Of the 49,391m² of floorspace developed for employment uses in 2005/6, 48,558m² (98%) is located within

employment or regeneration areas. This compares favourably to the 90% figure in 2004/5.

The amount of floorspace developed is significantly greater in 2005/6 than in 2004/5 by 30,179m², an increase of 159%.

With regard to future development activities for employment uses, there is a strong likelihood that there will be a relatively high level of take-up on South Sefton's large sites (over 20,000m²) in connection with the Atlantic Gateway Strategic Investment Area Programme. This anticipated increased level of take-up is likely to be evident in the 2007/8 and 2008/9 Annual Monitoring Report figures.

Development Use Class	Area	n (m²)
Development Ose Class	2004/5	2005/6
BI (a)	-	35,462
BI (b)	_	0
BI (c)	-	2,139
B2	-	10,957
B8	-	833
Total	21,897	49,391
Percentage on Previously Developed Land	100%	100%

22. Amount of floorspace by employment type, which is on previously developed land

100% of B1, B2 and B8 completed development in 2005/6 took place on previously developed land, and as such no change occurred from the 2004/5 figures.

23. Employment land available by type

Employment Land Sites Defined in the Unitary Development Plan (UDP)

	Area (ha)			
	2004/5 2005/6			
Sites Allocated in the UDP	89	85.10		

Employment Land Sites with Planning Permission Granted

Development Use Class	Area (ha)	
	2004/5	2005/6
BI (a)	-	22.69
BI (b)	-	0.19
BI (c)	-	0.55
B2	-	2.71
B8	-	7.45
Total	-	33.59

	Area	Area (ha)	
	2004/5	2005/6	
Sites Defined in the UDP	89	85.1	
Sites with Planning Permission Granted	-	33.59	

The 3.9 ha area of land taken-up between 2004/5 and 2005/6 is accounted for by the completion of two developments:

§ Land East of Brasenose Road, Bootle - four factory units with ancillary offices and car parking (0.2 ha).

§ Former Parcel Force Site, Netherton Way - relocation of the Peoples Garage to the former Parcel Force Site comprising garages and sales areas (3.7 ha).

24. Losses of employment land in (i) employment/regeneration areas and

(ii) local authority area

25. Amount of employment land lost to residential development

	Land (ha)	
AreaType	2004/5	2005/6
Employment/ Regeneration Areas	0	0
Local Authority Area	0	0.115
Total	0	0.115

	Land (ha)	
Use Class	2004/5	2005/6
CI	-	0.115
Total	0	0.115

The amount of employment land lost to other uses is accounted for by the conversions of properties from B8 and B1 uses to residential dwellings.

26. Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development.

27. Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development in town centres.

2	8	
_	-	

Development Use Class	Floorspace (m ²)	Amount in Town Centres (m ²)
BI (a)	35,462	0
AI	2,004	0
A2	400	21
D2	I ,082	0
Total	38,948	21

Of the 38,948 m² of floorspace developed for retail, office and leisure uses in the Borough, 21 m² (0.05%) of this area has been completed within Town Centres in the 2005-2006 monitoring period.

Whilst almost all this development has taken place outside the defined town and other centres of Sefton, all development granted planning permission is consistent with the policy requirements of PPS6: Planning for Town Centres. Development has satisfied the tests of need, sequential alternatives and impact.

The figure is distorted by one large development: 33,360 m2 (see Indicator 20), or over 85% of the total floorspace completed, is accounted for by the new headquarters for the Health and Safety Executive. This is located in Sefton's Bootle Office Quarter that, in turn, falls within the defined Bootle Central Area.

Transport

Introduction

The main transport objectives of the 2006 Sefton UDP are to ensure that there is a realistic choice of access to all development sites for everyone and to reduce the adverse traffic impacts of a development by promoting more sustainable alternatives to single occupancy car use, especially for trips to and from work.

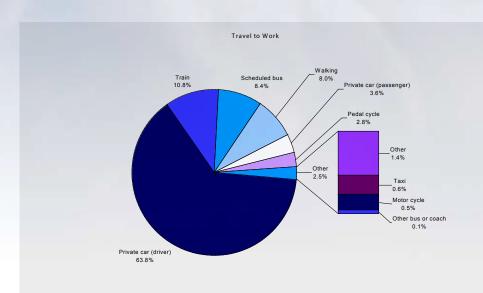
'A Vision for Sefton – Community Strategy 2006 –11' also states that alternatives to private car use should be encouraged through suitable public transport links and other measures.

A Merseyside wide Supplementary Planning Document 'Ensuring Choice of Travel' is being prepared and this will provide guidance to ensure that all development is accessible by public transport.

The following indicators provide information relating to the objectives of the two documents mentioned such as indicating the modes of transport use to travel to work and the availability of public transport to new residential developments.

Indicators

28. Means of travel to work



Source Citizen's Panel Postal Survey 2006 (all figures are shown as a percentage of the 1035 respondents who answered the travel to work question).

From the 2001 census figures used in the 2005 Annual Monitoring Report there have been no major changes in how residents have travelled to work, according to the 2006 Citizen's Panel Survey, as private car use is still the dominant mode of travel.

In the 2001 census, 62% of people said they used a private car to travel to work and, as seen above, 63% of respondents in 2006 said they used a private car (plus an additional 3.6% who were passengers in private cars).

There has been a near 5% rise in residents using the train, from 6% in 2001 to 10.8% in 2006, but a 2% reduction in people walking to work with 8% compared to 10% in 2001.

29. Amount of completed non-residential development within Use Class Orders A, B and D complying with car-parking standards set out in the local development framework.

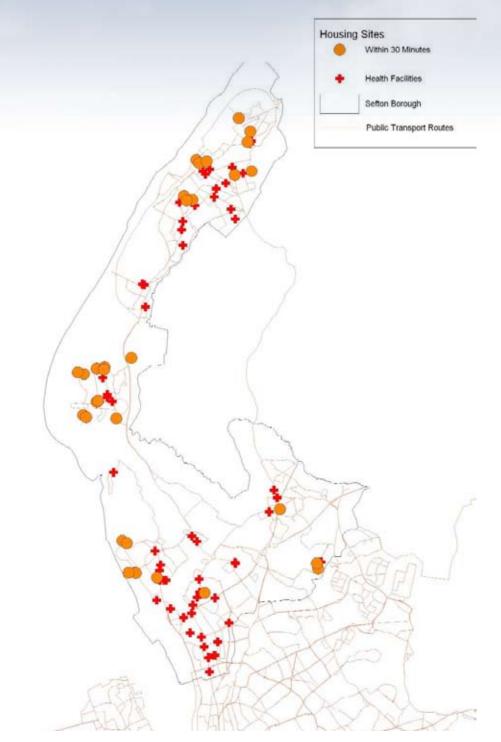
A system is to be put into place to measure this indicator, which will be the work of a number of different council departments. It is anticipated that figures will be available for the 2007 Annual Monitoring Report.

From anecdotal evidence all completed non-residential development in 2005/6 complied with car-parking standards as set out in the 1995 Unitary Development Plan.

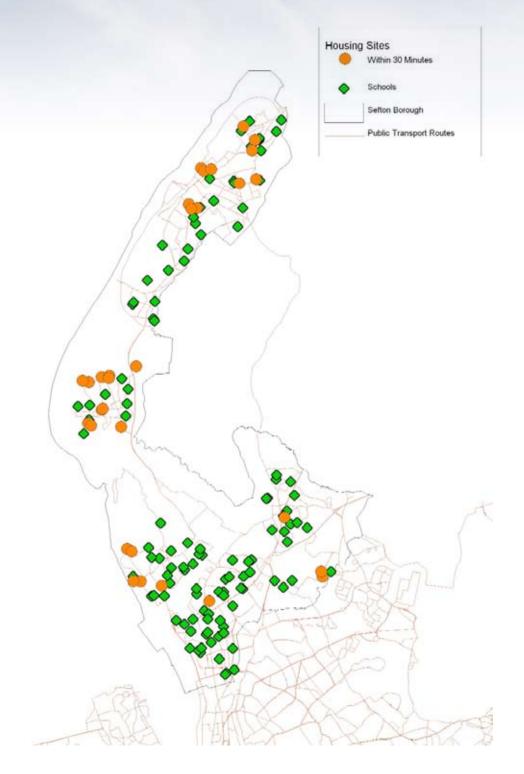
30. Amount of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of: a GP; a hospital; a primary school; a secondary school; areas of employment; and a major retail centre(s).

From the mapped information, close to 100% of all new Housing Sites in 2005/6 are located within 30 minutes public transport time of the given areas. There is one new housing site that is more than 30 minutes public transport time away from a retail area, but this exception occurs only between 8am and 9am, and reflects the fluctuations in public transport timetables in peak and off-peak hours.

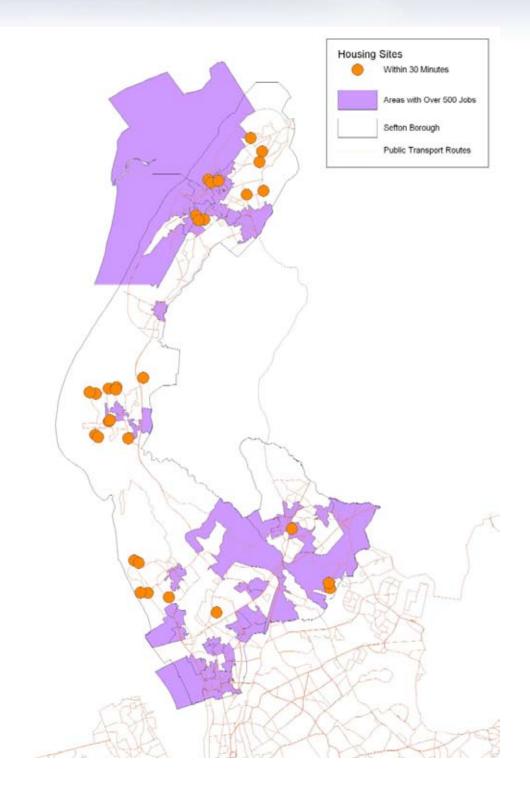
New Housing Sites within 30 Minutes Public Transport Time of a Health Centre



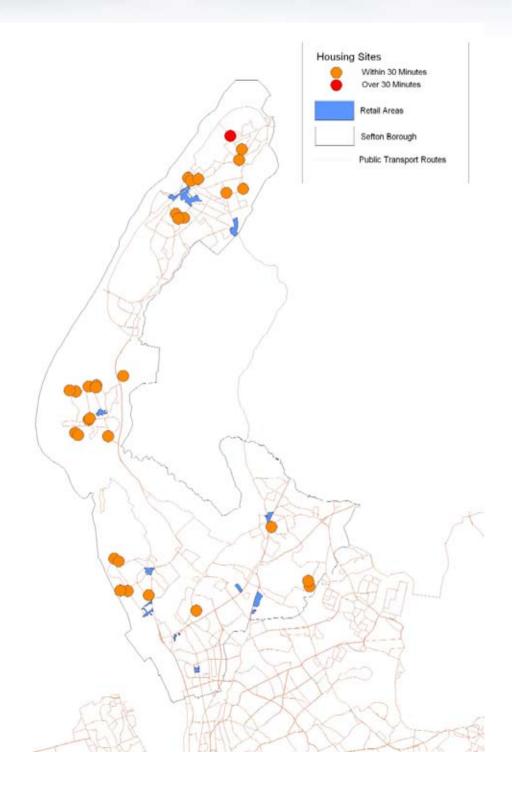
New Housing Sites within 30 Minutes Public Transport Time of Schools.



New Housing Sites within 30 Minutes Public Transport Time of Areas of Employment



New Housing Sites within 30 Minutes Public Transport Time of Retail Areas



Waste

Introduction

As the Sefton Performance Plan 2006/7 states "the condition of our environment is vital to all those who live, visit or work in Sefton. The Council is therefore committed to providing services, in partnership with others, to improve its condition and ensure that we leave a better environment for future generations."

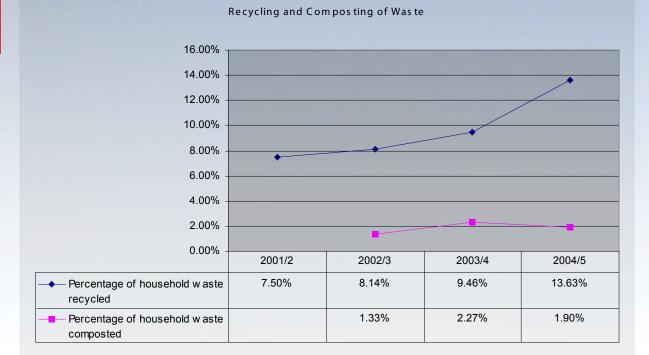
Two key objectives in the adopted 2006 UDP that relate to the following indicators are the need to:

- Increase the provision of renewable energy infrastructure to reduce reliance on fossil fuel, and;
- Ensure that waste is dealt with in a manner that does not allow any net losses to social and environmental interests.

The following indicators relating to the management of waste will provide evidence of the Council's commitment to these key objectives.

Indicators

31. Amount of Recycling and Composting of Domestic Waste



Source: Sefton MBC Performance Plans

In addition to the above figures, the percentage of Sefton's population within one kilometre of a recycling facility or kerbside collection has increased from 92% in 2000/1 to 97.45% in 2004/5 whereas the national average is 89.2%.

The Government target to recycle or compost 25% of household waste by 2005 has not yet been achieved, but the trend for the recycling of household waste shows that improvements are being made. Policy EMW 9 'Recycling Facilities' of the 2006 UDP will assist in achieving this target by requiring large developments to provide integrated recycling facilities.

The figures for 2005/6 should be available for the 2007 AMR.

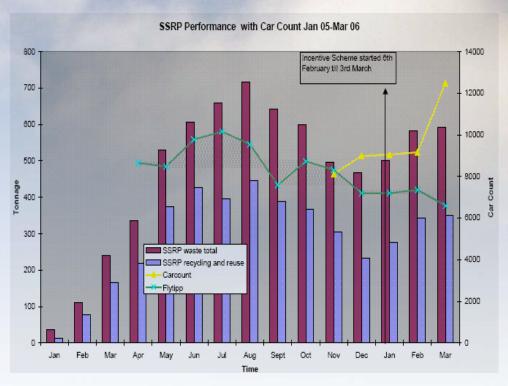
32. Capacity of new waste management facilities by type.

In 2005/6 no new waste management facilities have been developed or put into operation.

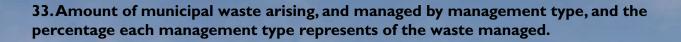
However, in the case of the South Sefton Recycling Park, usage of the facility increased dramatically during 2005/6, particularly during the summer months. This reduced over winter – presumably as a result of less garden waste – but with the introduction of an incentive scheme in March 2006, use of the site increased with double the figures of March 2005.

The South Sefton Recycling Park, Irlam Road, Bootle is owned by Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority, and caters for all household and garden waste. It cost more than \pounds Im to build, has off road queuing for up to 100 cars and an education facility.

The centre caters for glass, plastics, paper, cans, cloths, cardboard, used oil, batteries, scrap metal, shoes, green waste, rubble, electrical appliances, household fridges, freezers, timber and non-recyclable waste. It is designed to keep materials separated so that 70% of the items received can be recycled.



Source: DEFRA, 'Evaluation of the Household Waste Incentives Pilot Scheme, July 2006.





Of the total municipal waste collected, 81.10% is land filled, 13.10% is recycled, 5.67% is composted and 0.13% is incinerated.

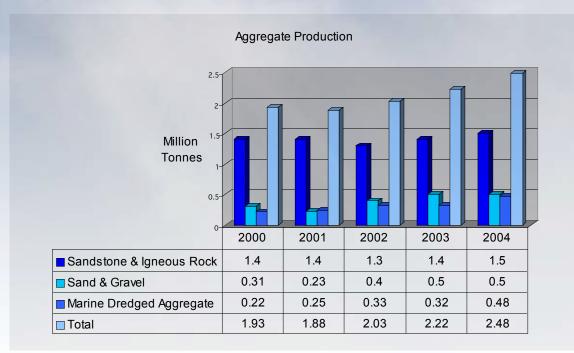
The Council has set targets to recycle or compost 24% of Sefton's waste by 2005/6, a figure not yet achieved. However, the upward trend shown by the recycling of household waste and the widening of the doorstep recycling scheme will assist Sefton in reaching this target in the near future.

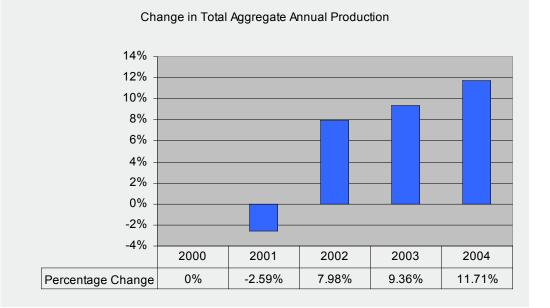
Minerals

Indicators

34. Production of primary land won aggregates 35. Production of secondary/recycled aggregates

For this years Annual Monitoring Report we have included the figures for the Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Warrington and Halton sub-region, as obtained from the North West Regional Aggregates Working Party (NW RAWP) 2005 Annual Report (published in 2006). For the 2007 Annual Monitoring Report we hope to provide figures for aggregate production within Sefton, as well as for this North West sub-region.





The NW RAWP figures show a continued decrease in total aggregate production within the North West as a whole. As evident from the figures above, this decrease is not replicated within the Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Warrington and Halton sub-region. From 2000 to 2004 there has been a total increase of 28.50% in aggregate production within the sub-region, compared to a decrease of 10.30% across the North West.

Flood Protection & Water Quality

Introduction

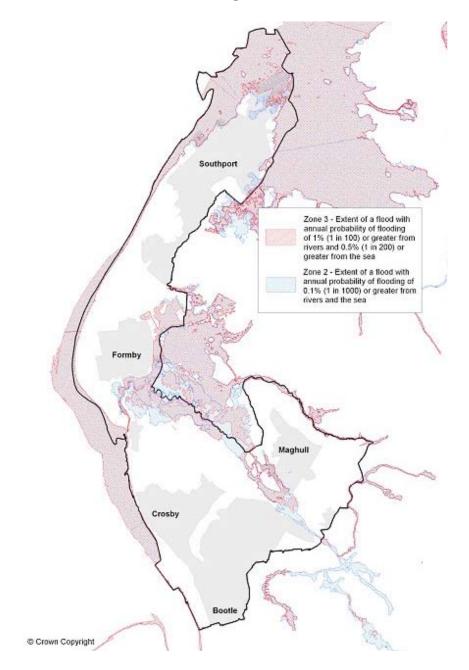
In Sefton there is a threat from tidal flooding, river flooding and a combination of the two, as evident from the information provided for Indicator 37. As such, where development is likely to be at risk of flooding or increase the risk of flooding elsewhere, the Council requires a flood risk assessment to be submitted as part of a planning application, as stated by UDP Policy EP8 'Flood Risk'.

The Council also states that any development that would be at an unacceptable risk of flooding, or would be likely to increase the risk of flooding elsewhere will not be permitted, unless the proposal contains adequate flood protection or mitigation measures.

In addition to measures concerning the risk of flooding, the Community Strategy states that in order to protect natural resources and enhance the environment, the Council and its partners must improve the quality of coastal, inland waters and drinking water aquifers. Indicator 40 demonstrates the quality of coastal waters and indicates changes in quality over time, and provides evidence as to whether the Council is achieving its aims.

Indicators

36. Area of land at risk of flooding



37. Number of Homes at Risk of Flooding.

	Flood Zone 2	Flood Zone 3
Tidal	5839	3373
Fluvial	1012	717
Both	73	38
Total	6924	4128

Source: Environment Agency, North West Region (http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/regions/ northwest/850243/1130689/1134836/)

38. Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood defence grounds or water quality.

No permissions were granted contrary to the advice of the Environment agency on flood defence or water quality grounds.

39. Number and type of developments approved within the Coastal Planning Zone

The figure below shows the extent and coverage of the Coastal Planning Zone within Sefton and the table shows the type of developments applications have been submitted for, and whether they were refused or approved.

Time of Development	200	4/5	2005/6		
Type of Development	Approved	Refused	Approved	Refused	
Residential	-	-	3	I	
Sport & Recreation	-	-	7	I	
Coast Dependent	-	-		0	
Telecommunications	-	-	I	I	
Commercial	-	-	8	0	
Advertising	-	-	11	0	
Other	-	-		0	
Total	21	-	32	3	

In 2004/5, 21 planning permissions were granted for sites within the Coastal Planning Zone, compared to 32 in 2005/6. This rise is a result of incomplete information in 2004/5 and applications for advertising being included in the figures for 2005/6.



40. Coastal bathing water quality

Deeeb	Year							
Beach	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Ainsdale	Fail	Good	Fail	Good	Excellent	Good	Excellent	Good
Formby	Good	Good	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Southport	Fail	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good

In addition to the figures provided for coastal bathing water quality the three beaches obtained ENCAMS Seaside Awards (www.seasideawards.org.uk) and Ainsdale was awarded a Blue Flag (www.blueflag.co.uk) in 2006. These awards reflect the good management practices within these three areas, and it is hoped that this good work will be identified by the continuation of awards in the future.

Biodiversity

Introduction

Sefton is remarkably rich in natural value, and protecting and enhancing this biodiversity is a key part of sustainable development. A key objective of the UDP is to protect, enhance and encourage the positive management of Sefton's sites, habitats and species of nature conservation value. The indicators below, particularly Indicator 41, will assist in monitoring the effectiveness of this objective.

Indicator 42 refers to the Green Belt within Sefton, another vital resource. The Green Belt covers an area of 7,840 hectares, approximately 51% of the area of the Borough, and this includes significant areas of high quality agricultural land and substantial areas of nature conservation value. The 2006 UDP states that in order to support urban regeneration and a sustainable pattern of development and physical change, development in the Green Belt will be restricted.

All Local Development Documents will be subject to Sustainability Appraisals and Appropriate Assessments that will ensure any development or material change of use will have minimal effects upon the sites mentioned in Indicator 41.

Indicators

41. Change in areas and populations of biodiversity importance, including: (i) change in priority habitats and species (by type); and (ii) change in areas designated for their intrinsic environmental value including sites of international, national, regional or sub-regional significance.

Change in Priority Habitats and Species (by type)

Following completion of habitat surveys and the digitisation of that data, work is underway to provide baseline data on the amount of priority habitat across Sefton. This work forms part of the national and regional review and update of priority habitat targets and delays within the target setting nationally have had impacts on Sefton's ability to undertake this review. Work on mapping priority species populations will follow.

Change in Areas Designated for Their Intrinsic Environmental Value Including Site of International, National, Regional, Sub-Regional or Local Significance

There has been no significant change in the area of these designated sites for Sefton in 2004/05 and 2005/06. A monitoring programme has been put in place for Local Sites that accords with DEFRA Guidance (2006). A rolling programme of 10% of Local Sites per annum are monitored as a minimum and Annual Reports produced.

Source: Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service

42. The number and type of developments approved within the Green Belt.

	200	04/5	2005/6		
Type of Development	Approved	Refused	Approved	Refused	
Residential	43	7	28	9	
Agriculture	5	3	5	0	
Outdoor Sport & Recreation	8	0	7	2	
Equestrian	5	4	5	2	
Telecommunications	3	10	2	3	
Other ²	16	5	13	5	
Total	80	29	61	21	

Source: Sefton MBC Planning & Economic Regeneration Department Records.

As seen from the information above, approximately 25% of applications made within the Green Belt are refused planning permission. In addition, even developments that are acceptable in principle within the Green Belt, such as equestrian development, can be refused if the impact of the proposed development upon the Green Belt will be too great.

Two applications for Outdoor Sport & Recreation were refused in 2005/6 for the change of use from agricultural land to formal playing pitches. This is an example of meeting an objective of Sefton's Unitary Development Plan to "protect from development the best and most versatile agricultural land as a national resource" (Chapter 10 – Green Belt and Countryside).

43. Amount of eligible open spaces managed to green flag award standard.

42

Sefton manages a total of 255 parks and other open spaces that cover 620 hectares of land. Of this, 25 sites (covering 27% of the land) are managed to green flag standard, and two (3.2%) have been granted the award: Botanic Gardens and Hesketh Park, both in Southport.

Parks Managed to Green Flag Standard	Ward	Area in Hectares
Adelaide Gardens	Church	0.86
Alexandra Park	Blundellsands	1.55
Beach Lawns Seafront Gardens	Church	1.23
Bedford Park	Birkdale	6.65
Botanic Gardens (Green Flag Awarded)	Meols	7.70
Centenary Gardens	Derby	0.28
Coronation Park	Victoria	2.89
Crescent Gardens Crosby	Church	1.72
Duke Street Park	Ravenmeols	4.53
Floral Hall Gardens	Cambridge	1.62
Hatton Hill Park	Ford	3.72
Hesketh Park (Green Flag Awarded)	Cambridge	12.26
Killen Green Park	St. Oswald	1.98
Kings Gardens	Derby	0.65
Marine Gardens, Crosby	Church	1.37
Marine Park Crosby	Church	68.41
Moorside Park	Manor	6.61
North Park	Linacre	6.42
Princes Park	Dukes	7.70
Promenade/ Seabank Rd. Island	Cambridge	0.04
Rotten Row	Dukes	1.28
South Marine Kings Gardens & Promenade	Dukes	6.76
South Park	Derby	5.86
Victoria Park	Dukes	8.63
Victoria Park Crosby	Victoria	7.67
Total Area		168.39

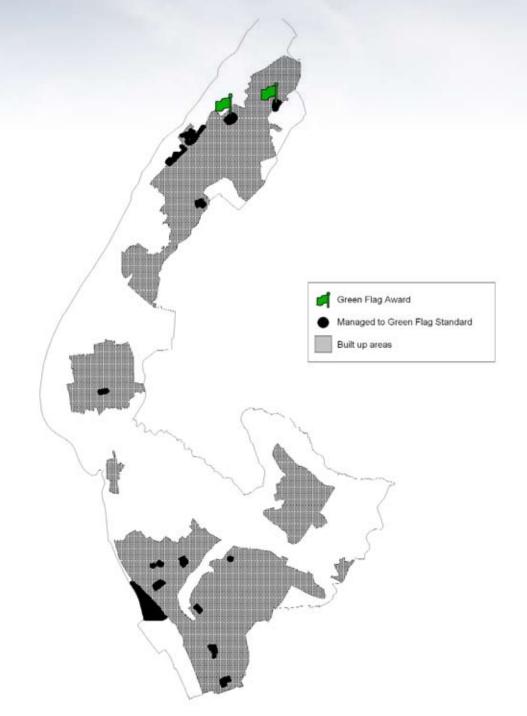
Source: Sefton Leisure Services Department

²This category includes development proposals such as catteries, kennels, education, health as well as Listed Building Consent, Advertising and non-agricultural commercial development.

Open Spaces with Green Flag Award

	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/6
Halton	2	2	3	2	4	5
Liverpool	-	-	3	-	8	10
Knowsley	3	6	6	6	7	4
Sefton	-	I	I	I	I	2
St Helens	-	-	2	-	4	4
Wirral	-	-		-	3	3

Source: www.greenflagaward.org.uk



In addition to the figures provided, Coronation Park in Crosby received the Green Flag award in August 2006. As this occurred outside of the monitoring period for this years report it cannot be included in the current figures, but will be included in the 2007 Report, in addition to any other parks that will receive the award.

The Council will enter further parks for Green Flag assessment year by year.

44. Renewable energy capacity installed by type.

The renewable energy capacity installed within the 2005/6 monitoring period is 0.

There has been one application for renewable energy installation within Sefton: an addition of three turbines to the existing six within the wind farm at Royal Seaforth Dock by the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company that each produce 0.6 MW of power.

The total amount of energy produced by the existing turbines is the equivalent to the energy requirements of 2013 homes

(Source: British Wind Energy Association, UK Wind Energy Database, July 2005).

There have been a number of enquiries made to the Council for micro-renewable installation in homes and it is hoped that the proposed amendments to permitted development rights may lead to an increase in micro-renewable installations within the borough.



Sefton Annual Monitoring Report 2006

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Indicator	Page Number
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39. Number and type of developments approved within the Coastal Planning Zone	39
40. Coastal bathing water quality	40
41. Change in areas and populations of biodiversity importance, including: (i) change in priority habitats and species (by type); and (ii) change in areas designated for their intrinsic environmental value including sites of international, national, regional or sub-regional significance.	41
42. The number and type of developments approved within the Green Belt.	42
43. Amount of eligible open spaces managed to green flag award standard.	42
44. Renewable energy capacity installed by type.	42

Appendix 2 - use Class Order

Use Classes (Amendment) Order 2005	Description		
	Shops, retail warehouses, hairdressers, undertakers, travel and ticket agencies, post offices, dry cleaners, internet cafes, etc.		
AI Shops	Pet shops, cat-meat shops, tripe shops, sandwich bars		
	Showrooms, domestic hire shops, funeral directors		
A2	Banks, building societies, estate and employment agencies		
Financial and Professional Services	Professional and financial services, betting offices		
A3 Restaurants and Cafes	Restaurants, snack bars, cafes		
A4 Drinking Establishments	Pubs and bars		
A5 Hot Food Take-Aways	Take-Aways		
Sui Generis	Shops selling and/or displaying motor vehicles, retail warehouse clubs, launderettes, taxi or vehicle hire businesses, amusement centres, petrol filling stations		
	(a) Offices, not within A2		
B I Business	(b) Research and development, studios, laboratories, high tech		
	(c) Light industry		
B2 General Industry	General Industry		
B8 Storage or Distribution	Wholesale warehouse, distribution centres, repositories		
Sui Generis	Any work registrable under the Alkali, etc. Works Regulation Act, 1906		
CI Hotels	Hotels, boarding and guest houses		
C2	Residential schools and colleges		
Residential Institutions	Hospitals and convalescent/nursing homes		
C3 Dwelling Houses	Dwellings, small businesses at home, communal housing of elderly and handi- capped		
Sui Generis	Hostel		
	Places of worship, church halls		
DI	Clinics, health centres, crèches, day nurseries, consulting rooms		
Non-Residential Institutions	Museums, public halls, libraries, art galleries, exhibition halls		
	Non-residential education and training centres		
D2	Cinemas, music and concert halls		
Assembly and Leisure	Dance, sports halls, swimming baths, skating rinks, gymnasiums		
	Other indoor and outdoor sports and leisure uses, bingo halls, casinos		
Sui Generis	Theatres, nightclubs		



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Planning & Economic Regeneration Department is part of the Regeneration Directorate

