

Rossendale Borough  
Council

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**Core Strategy**

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Issues and Options  
Report

**DRAFT 2**

Draft

## Contents

	Page	
1	Introduction	1
	1.1 Introduction	1
	1.2 Core Strategy Issues and Options Report	1
	1.3 Structure of this Report	1
2	Background	3
	2.1 Introduction	3
	2.2 Policy Context	3
	2.3 Community Strategy	3
3	Spatial Portrait	5
	3.1 Introduction	5
	3.2 Draft Spatial Portrait	5
4	Vision and Objectives	7
	4.1 Introduction	7
	4.2 Draft Vision and Objectives	7
5	Living in Rossendale	8
	5.1 Introduction	8
	5.2 Key Issues	8
	5.3 Related Topic Papers	9
	5.4 Key Community Strategy Themes	9
	5.5 Related Draft Core Strategy Objectives	10
	5.6 Planning Policy Options	10
6	Working in Rossendale	14
	6.1 Introduction	14
	6.2 Key Issues	14
	6.3 Related Topic Papers	16
	6.4 Key Community Strategy Themes	16
	6.5 Related Draft Core Strategy Objectives	17
	6.6 Planning Policy Options	17
7	Enjoying and Managing Rossendale's Environment	20
	7.1 Introduction	20
	7.2 Key Issues	20
	7.3 Related Topic Papers	21
	7.4 Key Community Strategy Themes	21
	7.5 Related Draft Core Strategy Objectives	21
	7.6 Planning Policy Options	22
8	Transport In and Around Rossendale	27

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8.1	Introduction	27
8.2	Key Issues	27
8.3	Related Topic Papers	27
8.4	Key Community Strategy Themes	27
8.5	Related Draft Core Strategy Objectives	28
8.6	Planning Policy Options	28
9	Next Steps	31
9.1	Comments on Issues and Options Report	31
9.2	Next Steps	31
9.3	Further Advice	31

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Introduction

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Rossendale Borough Council is preparing its first Local Development Framework (LDF). An LDF is a statutory planning document. The Rossendale LDF will replace the former Rossendale Local Plan. The Rossendale LDF will set out the objectives for future development in the Borough. It is a Government requirement that an LDF is produced for Rossendale.

An LDF is not one single document. It is a portfolio of documents that set out a range of policies and proposals for the spatial development of the Borough. The Core Strategy is one of the key documents in the LDF and sets the strategic policies in the Borough's planning framework.

The Core Strategy should set out the long term spatial vision for the Borough and the strategic policies needed to deliver this vision. It should set out broad locations for delivering housing, employment retail, leisure community facilities, essential public services and transport development. The Core Strategy is a strategic document and should not identify site-specific locations. Site-specific issues and proposals should be dealt with in other development plan documents.

The Core Strategy should be the first or one of the first development plan documents to be produced. This is to ensure that the other documents in the LDF conform to the Core Strategy.

The Core Strategy should be in accordance with the Regional Spatial Strategy and any saved Structure Plan, such as the Joint Lancashire Structure Plan. It should also draw on any strategies that have implications for the development and use of land that are produced by the local authority or other organisations. These include the Community Strategy and Local Transport Plan.

## 1.2 Core Strategy Issues and Options Report

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This report sets out the initial ideas for the Rossendale Core Strategy. It sets out the key issues that arise from a range of background documents. These background documents are summarised in a separate report on the Borough's Profile, available at [www.rossendale.gov.uk](http://www.rossendale.gov.uk) in response to the key issues, a number of questions and options are proposed. The Council has not made any decisions yet as to which options it prefers. This will be informed by comments received during consultation, as well as a separate 'Sustainability Appraisal' of the different options.

Although the Council has some flexibility in the planning policies it wishes to include in the Rossendale Core Strategy, it is still required to be on conformity with national, regional and county planning documents.

Once comments are received on this Issues and Options Report, Rossendale Borough Council will prepare a report setting out the preferred options for the Core Strategy. People will then be invited to give their views on the preferred options. These comments will then inform the draft Core Strategy that the Council will prepare. The draft Core Strategy is then submitted to the Government and will go through a public inquiry that will be led by a Government-appointed Inspector.

## 1.3 Structure of this Report

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**Section 2** sets out the policy background to which the Core Strategy must conform and the proposals in the Community Strategy to which the Core Strategy must have regard.

**Section 3** provides a draft 'Spatial Portrait'. This is a brief description of the Borough and is must be provided in the final Core Strategy. A draft 'Spatial Portrait' is provided at the Issues and Options stage to give people the opportunity to comment on the draft text.

**Section 4** provides a draft vision and strategic objectives for the Core Strategy.

**Sections 5-8** set out the main policy issues and options, structured into four main themes:

- Living in Rossendale
- Working in Rossendale
- Enjoying and Managing Rossendale's Environment
- Transport In and Around Rossendale

These four themes reflect the policy themes proposed in the emerging Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) and therefore assist in achieving consistency between the RSS and the Rossendale Core Strategy.

Each of the four theme chapters includes the following:

- Summary of the key issues for each theme identified at the baseline evidence gathering stage.
- List of relevant Topic Papers from which the key issues have been identified.
- Relevant themes from the Community Strategy (this is to ensure the policy issues and options have regard to the Community Strategy).
- Relevant draft Core Strategy Objectives
- Questions and options for the possible policy responses and approaches.

**Section 9** describes the next steps in the preparation of the Core Strategy for Rossendale.

## 2 Background

### 2.1 Introduction

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The Rossendale Local Development Framework, including the Core Strategy, must be in accordance with a number of national, regional and county level planning policy documents. These documents are outlined in Section 2.1

As well as being in accordance with other planning policy documents, the Local Development Framework, including the Core Strategy, must have regard to the Rossendale Community Strategy. The vision and objectives of the Rossendale Community Strategy are therefore set out in Section 2.2.

### 2.2 Policy Context

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The Rossendale Core Strategy will sit within a hierarchy of planning policy documents to which it must conform. At national level there are a series of Planning Policy Guidance Notes (PPGs) and Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) (all PPGs are being reviewed and replaced with PPSs). At a regional level the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) interprets the national planning policy documents for the North West region. The current RSS is being reviewed.

At the County level the Joint Lancashire Structure Plan (JLSP) sets out strategic planning policies that must be applied to the Rossendale area. The JLSP will be superseded by the emerging RSS for the North West and the Rossendale LDF in September 2007. Until this date the JLSP will remain a statutory planning document for Rossendale and planning applications will be determined in accordance with this document.

The Core Strategy, as with the whole LDF, is required to be in conformity with the RSS and the JLSP until this is superseded by the emerging RSS. There are policies in the RSS and the JLSP that relate directly to Rossendale and towns within the Borough and must be reflected in the Core Strategy. There are other policies in the RSS and JLSP that require local interpretation in the Core Strategy. In addition, there are requirements for LDFs set out in the PPGs and PPSs that need to be incorporated in the policies in the Core Strategy. However, the Government requires that the Core Strategy does not merely repeat policies in PPGs/PPSs or the RSS and JLSP.

### 2.3 Community Strategy

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The Government requires that the Core Strategy has regard to the Community Strategy and be a 'spatial expression' of the vision and objectives of the Community Strategy. The Rossendale Community Strategy is an over arching document that provides direction for all partners and services within the Borough from 2005 until 2020. It provides a focus for aligning strategies, operations and service delivery in the Borough. It was prepared by the Rossendale Partnership, a group that includes representatives of local residents, local businesses, public sector agencies and community, voluntary and faith sector organisations operating in Rossendale.

The Rossendale Community Strategy is underpinned by the following vision for the district:

*'ROSSENDALE ALIVE: our vision outlines how we, Rossendale's Local Strategic Partnership, will improve the quality of life and life chances for all residents in Rossendale. It commits us to achieving sustainable development through co-ordinated activity of all partners to improve the economic, social and environmental well being of the borough and its communities.'*

To achieve the vision for 2020, the Borough faces challenges and many opportunities. These challenges and opportunities are captured in the following eight themes:

- **Economy** By 2020 Rossendale will have a prosperous economy where everyone has the opportunity to fulfil their potential.
- **Health and well being** By 2020 Rossendale will have achieved a reduction in the health inequality between social groups and an increase in the overall life expectancy of local residents to meet national averages.
- **Environment** By 2020 over 85% of people living and visiting Rossendale, will be satisfied with the quality of the street scene and local environment.
- **Education and Life Long Learning** By 2020 Rossendale will have established a learning community which will ensure that people of all ages understand the value of, and have access to , high quality, appropriate learning opportunities producing achievements above the norm.
- **Community safety** By 2020 Rossendale will be a safe place for people to live, visit and invest.
- **Culture** By 2020 Rossendale will have 70% of all residents engaged in active physical activity and will be a place which is widely accepted as a major place to visit and have fun.
- **Housing** By 2020 Rossendale will offer a choice of well maintained and affordable housing for all residents.
- **Community Network** By 2020 Rossendale will have a strong and vibrant community network, which will ensure the views and values and community initiatives of everyone in Rossendale are respected, considered and supported.

## 3 Spatial Portrait

### 3.1 Introduction

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The Core Strategy is required to include a 'Spatial Portrait'. This is a brief statement that describes the area to which the Core Strategy applies. It will form part of the introduction to the final Core Strategy.

A draft Spatial Portrait for Rossendale is provided below to allow it to be the subject of public consultation and discussion.

### 3.2 Draft Spatial Portrait

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Rossendale Borough is a district of East Lancashire in the North West of England. The Rossendale Valley is one of the smaller Boroughs in Lancashire County with an area of 138 square kilometres and a residential population of about 65, 652 (2001).

Rossendale takes its name from the valley of the River Irwell, which flows through the heart of the Borough. Formed at the time of Local Government reorganisation in 1974, the Borough of Rossendale comprises the former Municipal Boroughs of Bacup, Haslingden and Rawtenstall together with Whitworth Urban District and the Edenfield and Stubbins portions of the former Ramsbottom Urban District.

Rossendale is characterised by its upland grassy moorland, wooded lower valleys and urbanised valley floor. Rossendale's topography and historic development has had a huge influence on the character and has determined, and in some cases restricted, the type and amount of development in the Borough. Although the rural nature of Rossendale offers a sharp contrast to its urban neighbours, its strategic location has provided it with excellent transportation links. The A56(T), a dual carriageway link between the M66 in the south of the Borough and the M65 to the north, has been the catalyst for a new era of business development in the Borough<sup>1</sup>.

There are three main town centres in the Borough, namely; Rawtenstall, Bacup and Haslingden, in addition to the smaller centres of Waterfoot, Whitworth, Stacksteads, Crawshawbooth, Edenfield and Weir.

Rawtenstall town centre is the largest shopping and commercial centre within the Borough of Rossendale. Rawtenstall is a relatively attractive town centre, with a range of shops and services. Although few multiple retailers are represented in the town, it has a good selection of independent outlets.

The other two town centres in the Borough (Bacup and Haslingden) are smaller serving more localised catchments. The local village centres spread across the Borough including Waterfoot and Edenfield provide some employment opportunities and localised services, including a limited number of village shops and schools.

There are some 29,000 dwellings in the Borough, 71% of which are owner occupied. The vast majority of these dwellings are concentrated in the main urban areas of Rossendale, thus reflecting the rural characteristic of much of the Borough. Rossendale is included in Elevate East Lancashire, one of the government's nine housing market renewal pathfinders. Bacup, Britannia and Stacksteads are the areas incorporated into the programme which focuses on improving the quality and diversity of the housing stock, along with improving economic prosperity, the environment and community life within the areas.

Socio-economic characteristics vary across the Borough. There are higher than average levels of socio-economic deprivation through the central corridor of Rossendale, typically from Bacup to

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<sup>1</sup> [www.renewablesnorthwest.co.uk](http://www.renewablesnorthwest.co.uk)



Haslingden. In contrast the area immediately to the north of Rawtenstall is one of the least deprived areas nationally.

Rossendale is located in the South Pennines Landscape Character Area within a Historic Landscape Character of 'Historic Core' and 'Industrial Age'<sup>2</sup>. The built heritage of the area is represented and protected with 3 grade II\* and 120 grade II listed buildings, and eight Conservation Areas identified within the Borough. The heritage of the area combined with the rural landscape are key aspects of the Borough.

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<sup>2</sup> Lancashire Landscape Character Assessment

## 4 Vision and Objectives

### 4.1 Introduction

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The Core Strategy must have regard to the Community Strategy. It should be the 'spatial expression' of Community Strategy. It is therefore appropriate that the vision and eight themes set out in the Community Strategy (described in full in Section 2.2) inform the vision and objectives of the Core Strategy.

### 4.2 Draft Vision and Objectives

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The draft Vision for the Core Strategy is:

*A thriving local community and prosperous economy set in an environment that people value and wish to live, work, invest and visit. Improved quality of life for local people and visitors.*

The draft strategic objectives for the Core Strategy build upon this vision statement, as follows:

- Improved economic opportunities for local people that maximise the existing and potential local assets.
- Greater opportunities for local people to live in high quality housing and living environments that meet their needs.
- Improved access from home to places of work, learning, shops, leisure and community facilities.
- Greater incentives for local people and visitors to use and enjoy Rossendale's natural and cultural assets, including shopping areas, leisure facilities and education opportunities.
- Sustainable management of natural resources and cultural assets.
- High quality, attractive and valued local urban and rural environments.
- Bring redundant previously developed land back into sustainable uses.

## 5 Living in Rossendale

### 5.1 Introduction

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This section sets out the key issues related to living in Rossendale that have been identified from a review of a range of studies and other sources of information along with the aims from the Community Strategy and the draft aims for the Core Strategy. These have all informed a series of policy issues and options that may be addressed through the Core Strategy.

You are asked to consider the policy issues set out in Section 5.4 and the proposed options. You are asked to identify which of the options you support. If you support more than one option, then you are asked to rank your preferences. You are also invited to suggest alternative or additional options. You may also wish to suggest other policy issues and how these might be addressed.

### 5.2 Key Issues

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#### 5.2.1 Socio-Economic Characteristics

- There has been little change in the population of Rossendale in recent years and a small increase of 2% is envisaged over the next 20 years.
- Rossendale has a relatively high proportion of young families.
- The proportion of those living in owner occupied properties are greater than the national average, with a particularly low proportion of households renting accommodation from Registered Social Landlords or Housing Associations.
- There is a high proportion of terraced properties and a low proportion of flats in Rossendale.
- Property prices in Rossendale are considerably lower than the national average, although prices are greater in Rawtenstall than the wider Rossendale Borough average.
- Education qualifications are lower than the national average. There is a relatively low proportion of residents in post 16 education and with a degree level qualification. There is also a higher than average proportion of people with no qualifications.
- Perceptions of health reflect the national average, although there are a higher proportion of people with long-term illnesses.
- There are relatively low crime rates in Rossendale, across all crime categories, but crime rates in Rawtenstall are relatively high.

#### 5.2.2 Housing

- The housing allocation for Rossendale in the Joint Lancashire Structure Plan states that 1,920 additional new homes that can be built in the borough between 2001 and 2016. This number has already been exceeded in 2005. This means that in the current policy context, new homes can only be built in Rossendale in exceptional circumstances. These exceptional circumstances relate to meet affordable housing needs and as part of schemes with wider regeneration benefits.
- The Submission Draft Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) will replace the Joint Lancashire Structure Plan. It is anticipated that this will occur in early 2006. It is not known whether the RSS will include the same number of new homes in Rossendale or whether it will increase or reduce the allocation.
- The Rossendale Housing Strategy seeks 352 units of affordable housing between 2005 and 2010. The areas identified as in greatest need of affordable housing are Cribden, Eden, Goodshaw, Greenfield, Helmshore and Longholme.

### 5.2.3 Community Facilities

- There are an increasing number of unfilled places at primary level in certain areas of the borough, in particular Bacup, Waterfoot and Haslingden which may require the consolidation of some schools.
- There is an estimated decrease in the future number of secondary school pupils on roll which could also potentially lead to school closures or consolidation.
- The borough is without a HE facility and a key further education centre following the closure of Rawtenstall Campus of Accrington and Rossendale College. Residents now have to leave Rossendale to participate in HE, or non A Level further education courses that are not offered at sixth form institutions.
- The health partnerships and strategies have highlighted the need to improve health care across the borough by reducing waiting times, providing better emergency care and creating better community health facilities.
- There is an identified need to reduce crime rates across the borough – particularly in core town centre areas of Rawtenstall, Bacup and Haslingden.
- There is a shortage of youth facilities in the borough. Strategies and proposals to improve existing facilities, and actively encourage new facilities are vital to attain the level of provision needed in Rossendale.

### 5.3 Related Topic Papers

The background information to the key issues identified above can be found in the following Topic papers. The Topic Papers summarise the evidence base, also known as the Borough Profile. The Topic papers can be found on the Council's website [www.rossendale.gov.uk](http://www.rossendale.gov.uk)

- Topic Paper 1: Policy Context and Local Strategies
- Topic Paper 2: Review of Local Plan Policies
- Topic Paper 3: Socio-Economic Characteristics
- Topic Paper 4: Housing
- Topic Paper 8: Community Facilities
- Topic Paper 9: Overall Land Uses

### 5.4 Key Community Strategy Themes

Housing:	By 2020 Rossendale will offer a choice of well-maintained and affordable housing for all residents.
Health and Well Being	By 2020 Rossendale will have achieved a reduction in health inequality between social groups and an increase in the overall life expectancy of local residents to meet national averages.
Education and Life Long Learning	By 2020 Rossendale will have established a learning community which will ensure that people of all ages understand the value of. And have access to, high quality, appropriate learning opportunities producing achievements above the norm.
Culture	By 2020 Rossendale will have 70% of all residents engaged in physical activity and will be a place which is widely accepted as a major place to visit and have fun.

Community Safety

By 2020 Rossendale will be a safe place to live, visit and invest. We will have helped local people to help themselves by implementing crime and disorder reduction strategies at a local level, which will fully address the needs of local communities.

5.5 Related Draft Core Strategy Objectives

- Greater opportunities for local people to live in high quality housing and living environments that meet their needs.
- Improved access from home to places of work, learning, shops, leisure and community facilities.
- High quality, attractive and valued local urban and rural environments.

5.6 Planning Policy Options

Issue L1: What should be the hierarchy of towns in the Borough?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Rawtenstall as the main town, Haslingden and Bacup as local service centres.		
2. Rawtenstall, Haslingden ad Bacup as the main towns with Whitworth and Edenfield as local service centres		
3. Any other options?		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue L2: Should town and village boundaries be reviewed? If so, under what criteria?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Town and village boundaries should remain the same as those in the former Local Plan.		
2. Town and village boundaries should be reviewed.		
3. Sites within towns and villages but on the edge of boundaries that were allocated for development in the former Local Plan but have not been developed, should be reviewed and if they are not required for development, the boundary should be reviewed to exclude the site from the town or village area.		
4. Boundaries may be extended to include development sites where other planning policy criteria are met and there is an identified need for the designated type of development in that town or village.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue L3: When new housing is needed, where should it go?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. All in Rawtenstall		
2. All in Rawtenstall and where it supports the aims of Elevate in Bacup, Stacksteads and Britannia.		
3. Concentrate growth in Rawtenstall with some in Bacup, Haslingden and on brownfield sites?		
4. Apportion growth in relation to the size of each settlement, with preference for brownfield sites over greenfield sites.		
5. Comprehensive regeneration strategies and action plans should be developed for areas with significant housing market issues, including the Elevate area (Bacup, Stacksteads and Britannia).		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue L4: How should the release of housing developments be phased to meet regional targets:

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Limit annual housing permissions to the average annual targets based on those set out in the RSS but reduced to reflect the number of permissions granted since 2003. (The RSS annual targets are based on the period 2003 -2021)		
2. Limit annual housing permissions to the average annual targets in the regional Spatial Strategy for the first five years and then review the annual targets every five years.		
3. Limit annual housing permission to 10% above the annual targets in the RSS for the first five years and then review the annual targets to ensure the targets for 2003-2021 are met.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue L5: What types of housing will be required?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. A higher proportion of flats than at present, with similar proportions of terraced, semi-detached and detached houses as the current housing stock.		
2. A higher proportion of flats, lower proportion of terraced and similar proportions of semi-detached and detached houses, compared with the current housing stock.		
3. Similar proportions of flats, terraced, semi-detached and detached properties as the existing housing stock.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue L6: How should the Government's desire for increased housing density be delivered in Rossendale?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. All new housing developments to be at a minimum of 30 dwellings per hectare		
2. All new housing developments should be a minimum of 30 dwellings per hectare, except in town centres where it should be a minimum of 50 dwellings per hectare		
3. All new housing developments should be at a defined minimum of dwellings per hectare, except where it can be demonstrated that this would not be viable and there are wider regeneration and/or affordable housing benefits.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue L7: What types of affordable housing will be required?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. An overall percentage of affordable housing for each housing development should be set.		
2. Proportions for different types of affordable housing should be set, including the proportion of shared ownership and equity share options.		
3. Affordable housing should be provided principally for key workers.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue L8: Where should affordable housing be located?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. As part of all housing developments.		
2. As part of housing developments with more than 15 units.		
3. Generally in all housing developments, particularly in areas of greatest need, i.e. Cribden, Eden, Goodshaw, Greenfield, Helmshore and Longholme.		
4. Generally in all housing developments, particularly those areas identified as the most sustainable, i.e. within 500m of the 5 basic services.		
5. Encourage the conversion of under-used residential and non-residential buildings for housing which includes some affordable housing.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

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Issue L9: If there is a need to accommodation for gypsies and other travellers, what criteria should be used to find these sites?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Within urban and village areas (i.e. within the village and town boundaries)		
2. On previously developed land allocated for employment		
3. Outside town and village boundaries but not in the Green Belt or areas of natural interest of regional or national significance.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue L10: How should access to local services be protected and improved?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Sites within 500m of all 5 basic services should be released first for housing development.		
2. Sites outside 500m of all 5 basic services should contribute to providing or supporting local services.		
3. Sites currently used for community facilities should be retained for community uses, unless it can be demonstrated that it is not required for any type of community use.		
4. All major developments for housing, employment and mixed-use schemes should incorporate health, education and training provisions.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue L11: Where should health facilities be located?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Sites should be identified in key centres for future large health centres		
2. Existing health service sites should be enhanced		
3. Existing facilities should be retained		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue L12: How can more people be encouraged into higher and further education and life long learning?



Option	Agree	Rank
1. Developers of major schemes to provide construction training for local people.....		
2. A percentage of jobs created in new developments to be dedicated for people resident in Rossendale.....		
3. Access?		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

## 6 Working in Rossendale

### 6.1 Introduction

This section sets out the key issues related to working in Rossendale that have been identified from a review of a range of studies and other sources of information along with the aims from the Community Strategy and the draft aims for the Core Strategy. These have all informed a series of policy issues and options that may be addressed through the Core Strategy.

You are asked to consider the policy issues set out in Section 6.4 and the proposed options. You are asked to identify which of the options you support. If you support more than one option, then you are asked to rank your preferences. You are also invited to suggest alternative or additional options. You may also wish to suggest other policy issues and how these might be addressed.

### 6.2 Key Issues

#### 6.2.1 Socio Economic Characteristics

- The number of jobs per working age population in Rossendale is three quarters the national average, however employment rates are greater than the national average, suggesting that there is significant commuting to areas outside the Borough for work.
- A higher proportion of people in Rossendale are employed in non-professional jobs than the national average. There are a relatively high proportion of manufacturing and construction jobs in Rossendale.
- Gross weekly pay is significantly lower than both the national and regional averages. Average earnings are greater for those living in Rossendale than for Rossendale residents, suggesting that a significant proportion of those who commute outside the Borough for work are in higher paid jobs than the average jobs within the Borough.
- Business ‘start ups’ in Rossendale are more successful than the national average.

#### 6.2.2 Employment

- The Structure Plan states that 25ha of land should be developed for employment uses in Rossendale between 2001 and 2016. It is estimated that 10.05 ha have already been developed since 2001 to date.
- Assessments of employment land requirements by employment land type suggest between 2003 and 2016 the following net changes in employment land: a slight increase in B1 land (6 ha), no increase in B8 land and a reduction in B2 land (11 ha).
- Many people live in Rossendale, but employment statistics show that a large percentage of people work outside the borough. It is leading to Rossendale becoming a dormitory suburb

of Manchester and having implications on traffic flows in and out of the borough. This is not considered a sustainable development pattern.

- There is a recognised difficulty for Rossendale to attract new businesses, or encourage existing businesses to relocate in the borough from elsewhere. There is a need to concentrate on developing and retaining existing businesses to keep the employment sector in the borough strong.
- Despite the 'bright' economic picture painted for the borough, there are obscured pockets of deprivation where there is concentrated high unemployment, low skills levels and low wages rates.
- There is considerable under representation in various sectors including tourism (hotels), culture, sport and retail within the borough. Attracting new businesses and facilities of this nature is crucial to maintain a healthy employment sector within Rossendale.
- Rossendale needs to attract development within the borough, but it is noted that business is lost in the borough due to suitable land and premises not being available. Greater consideration for the need to attract development is vital, and this includes making good quality industrial accommodation on accessible sites available.

### 6.2.3 Retail and Leisure

#### Retail

- Rawtenstall is seen as the principal town centre in the borough, and although it has a good selection of independent outlets, few multiple retailers are represented in the town centre, which potentially results in a loss of expenditure in the borough.
- The Retail study concludes that Rawtenstall should be classified as a 'Principal Town Centre', with Bacup and Haslingden classified as 'Other Town Centres'. None of the other centres warrant district centre status as they are all small local centres. This is slightly different to the town hierarchy in Regional Planning Guidance which puts Rawtenstall (with Haslingden and Bacup) at a higher level in the hierarchy than the other centres.
- Rawtenstall is at the top of the Rossendale shopping hierarchy and therefore future retail development is likely to be focused within the town centre or immediate outskirts.
- There is an estimated additional retail capacity in Rossendale by 2011 for comparison goods is equivalent to between 5,400 and 7,700 sq m floorspace.
- The survival of the smaller towns of Haslingden and Bacup, along with the small villages like Edenfield, Crawshawbooth and Whitworth, is vital to keep serving the needs of the local catchment so residents accessibility for day-to-day needs is not compromised. Therefore any future development plans should be mindful of this.
- Neighbouring sub-regional centres attract significant trade from the borough. The retail capacity study has estimated surplus comparison expenditure above proposed commitments in Rossendale. This suggests that Rawtenstall can and should increase its market share to prevent expenditure leaking to centres outside the Rossendale.

#### Culture and Leisure

- Rossendale has a limited number and range of leisure and entertainment facilities. There is scope for a small/medium health club, small night club and restaurants and bars. An allowance of 10-15% of new floorspace for A3 above that for retail uses, would be appropriate.
- Following the closure of the Astoria in Rawtenstall, there is a lack of a performance / community / cultural venue in the town centre. This shortage should be considered against a wider shortage of similar facilities across the borough.

- It is recognised that there is a limited number of community based cultural initiatives in the borough so it is imperative that opportunities for greater community cohesion are developed in order to promote Rossendale's leisure culture.
- The borough has an emerging cultural element, however this requires further development and nurturing in order to fully appreciate culture within the borough.
- Rossendale is largely underrepresented for recreation facilities. In order to adhere to national strategies to promote healthy lifestyles, an increase in accessible recreation facilities is required.
- Rossendale's topography offers opportunities for different types of sport that other areas in the North West cannot. However this opportunity is largely under used and appreciated primarily due to lack of awareness, so promotion of such opportunities should be paramount.
- Due to poor management and coordination of existing facilities in the borough, they offered a disjointed and poorly utilised service. RLT are working on improvements and offering better programmes to improve existing public leisure facilities, this needs to be monitored to ensure it is effective and meeting the need of local people.
- Rossendale Ski Slope has experienced financial losses, although Rossendale Leisure Trust are acting to improve the service. It is crucial that this leisure attraction is well managed as it is a big tourism generator for the borough. The proposals for the Rossendale Adrenaline Centre seek to build on the facilities at the Ski Slope and provided a range of adrenaline sports and leisure activities that would attract visitors from within and outside the Borough.

### 6.3 Related Topic Papers

The background information to the key issues identified above can be found in the following Topic papers. The Topic Papers summarise the evidence base, also known as the Borough Profile. The Topic papers can be found on the Council's website [www.rossendale.gov.uk](http://www.rossendale.gov.uk)

- Topic Paper 1: Policy Context and Local Strategies
- Topic Paper 2: Review of Local Plan Policies
- Topic Paper 3: Socio-Economic Characteristics
- Topic Paper 5: Retail and Leisure
- Topic Paper 6: Employment
- Topic Paper 9: Overall Land Uses

### 6.4 Key Community Strategy Themes

Economy	By 2020 Rossendale will have a prosperous economy where everyone has the opportunity to fulfil their potential
Education and Life Long Learning	By 2020 Rossendale will have established a learning community which will ensure that people of all ages understand the value of. And have access to, high quality, appropriate learning opportunities producing achievements above the norm.
Community Safety	By 2020 Rossendale will be a safe place to live, visit and invest. We will have helped local people to help themselves by implementing crime and disorder reduction strategies at a local level, which will fully

address the needs of local communities.

Culture

By 2020 Rossendale will have 70% of all residents engaged in physical activity and will be a place which is widely accepted as a major place to visit and have fun.

### 6.5 Related Draft Core Strategy Objectives

- Improved economic opportunities for local people that maximise the existing and potential local assets.
- Improved access from home to places of work, learning, shops, leisure and community facilities.
- Greater incentives for local people and visitors to use and enjoy Rossendale's natural and cultural assets, including shopping areas, leisure facilities and education opportunities.
- Sustainable management of natural resources and cultural assets.
- High quality, attractive and valued local urban and rural environments.
- Bring redundant previously developed land back into sustainable uses.

### 6.6 Planning Policy Options

Issue W1: What should be the future focus of the local economy?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Increased support for local manufacturing		
2. Supporting local manufacturing and encourage more service industry, including leisure/recreation/tourism industry		
3. Keep the existing balance in the local economy		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue W2: Where should employment development be located?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Focused on large development sites		
2. Distributed on smaller site throughout the Borough		
3. Priority given to development in Rawtenstall, followed by Haslingden and Bacup and thirdly all other areas within the urban boundary.		
4. Priority given to Rawtenstall and other urban areas with the highest levels of social deprivation.		
5. High quality employment sites, in terms of sustainability and market attractiveness, should be safeguarded for employment uses, even if they cannot or it is inappropriate for them to come forward in the near future.		

<b>Other Option?</b>
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Issue W3: What should be done with redundant employment sites?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Allocation reviewed, if no longer required for employment, reallocate for other uses.		
2. Reallocate for housing.		
3. Retain as an employment allocation and review allocation every 5 years, if no prospect of being developed for employment uses.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue W4: What should be the future role of Rawtenstall town centre?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Retain existing town centre boundary and range of town centre uses.		
2. Extend the town centre boundary		
3. Extend the range of town centre uses		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue W5: How can the vitality and viability of other local shopping centres be maintained or improved?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Seek the retention of shops in all town centres for retail purposes, unless it can be demonstrated there is no demand for retail use.		
2. Seek the retention of shops in town centres for retail purposes. Where there is evidence that premises are not required for retail purposes, they should be retained for other town centre and community uses.		
3. Not permit developments that would affect the vitality or viability of local shopping centres.		
<b>Other Option:</b>		

Issue W6: What additional policy support is needed to encourage any growth in the leisure/tourism economy?

Option	Agree	Rank

1.	Support proposals for development associated with the Adrenaline Gateway.		
2.	Encourage appropriate developments that contribute to the Regional Park concept.		
3.	Support hotel developments.		
4.	Support hotel developments within Rawtenstall town centre.		
5.	Support hotel developments on or adjoining sites of leisure activities to support these activities, where not other appropriate location is available		
<b>Other Option:</b>			

Issue W7: How can we support the rural economy?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Only allow the conversion of rural buildings for employment use.		
2. Only allow the conversion of rural buildings for employment uses or leisure/tourism related uses where there are no other appropriate locations in the urban area.		
3. Encourage appropriate new business development within villages.		
4. Encourage appropriate developments that contribute to the Regional Park concept.		
5. Encourage farm diversification where it meets the wider policy requirements.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue W8: How should planning gain be used? (NB this applies to all development types, not just those related to employment uses)

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Set tariffs should be provided for contributions by different types of development, based on the development size.		
2. Tariffs should be provided as a guide but still be the subject of negotiation with the local planning authority.		
3. Contributions should be subject to negotiation on each scheme.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

## 7 Enjoying and Managing Rossendale's Environment

### 7.1 Introduction

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This section sets out the key issues related to enjoying and managing Rossendale's environment that have been identified from a review of a range of studies and other sources of information along with the aims from the Community Strategy and the draft aims for the Core Strategy. These have all informed a series of policy issues and options that may be addressed through the Core Strategy.

You are asked to consider the policy issues set out in Section 7.4 and the proposed options. You are asked to identify which of the options you support. If you support more than one option, then you are asked to rank your preferences. You are also invited to suggest alternative or additional options. You may also wish to suggest other policy issues and how these might be addressed.

### 7.2 Key Issues

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#### 7.2.1 Environment

- In order to fully enhance and protect the environment of Rossendale, it is necessary to develop a detailed understanding of the environment and conserve and promote the borough's assets.
- The study on air quality notes that traffic is the main contributor to air pollution in the borough. The increased traffic flows from commuter activity is the main cause, so encouraging more sustainable transport modes is vital. New developments potentially increase traffic levels also, so whilst it is necessary to attract businesses, environmental effects need to be monitored.
- The quality of rivers in the borough is affected by severe pollution from prolonged and heavy use of rivers by factories and industry. Efforts are being made to improve river quality so this needs to remain ongoing along with protecting the rivers from further damage.
- The conservation studies carried out for the borough highlight that the defined urban areas of Rawtenstall, Bacup and Haslingden contain no registered parks or gardens. Open space is crucial within urban areas, so any plans and project must make considerable efforts to incorporate more parks and gardens.
- There is a recognised need to extend conservation boundaries, primarily to include extensive surviving areas of back-to-back housing, weavers cottages and textile mills/industrial structures in order to protect the heritage of the borough.

#### 7.2.2 Overall Land Use Issues

- Only 58.26% of the Rossendale population are within 1km of the 5 basic services. This is well below the county average of 70.9%. Rossendale has to work on increasing the accessibility levels within the borough to meet JLSP targets of 73%.
- Rossendale is actively trying to involve the community in a series of programmes and strategies in order to regenerate brownfield sites across the Borough. These programmes include the Brownfield Recycling Programme and Housing Market Renewal Strategy. The ongoing promotion of community inclusion is key to finding sustainable uses for brownfield sites and restoring the vast amount of derelict land in order to create a clean environment that people want to live in.
- Rossendale Borough has various notable urban potential issues. Principally the study identified that Rossendale has a 'constrained' urban housing potential. LCC issued Rossendale with a Statement of Non-Conformity as the Local plan Policy do not coincide with JLSP Policy 12 objectives. In order to comply with county policy, Rossendale must respond to the non-conformity in the production of the LDF.

- The Urban Envelope devised at the time of the Rossendale District Local Plan has now expired. It is therefore necessary for the urban boundary to be reconsidered in order to make the required amendments suitable to the present day.
- In order to comply with JLS policy, it is vital that Rossendale makes continuous efforts to conserve mineral resources and keep the release of these sources to a minimum.
- Waste must be managed in a sensitive manner, with environmentally friendly waste management options as top priority. Rossendale must make concerted efforts reduce, reuse and recover waste and minimise pollution in order to comply with JLS Policy 27. It is necessary for Rossendale to continue working with various councils to implement the Waste Management Strategy to best deal with waste issues.
- The majority of the Borough is not identified on the Environment Agency flood maps. There are a number of areas, generally adjoining water courses that are shown at the lower level of risk i.e. 1% chance of a flood event happening each year.
- Rossendale valley is characterised by steep valley sides and upper moorland. This has led to the majority of development located along the valley floor. This places considerable constraints on the development potential within the borough.

### 7.3 Related Topic Papers

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The background information to the key issues identified above can be found in the following Topic papers. The Topic Papers summarise the evidence base, also known as the Borough Profile. The Topic papers can be found on the Council's website [www.rossendale.gov.uk](http://www.rossendale.gov.uk)

- Topic Paper 1: Policy Context and Local Strategies
- Topic Paper 2: Review of Local Plan Policies
- Topic Paper 7: Environment
- Topic Paper 9: Overall Land Uses

### 7.4 Key Community Strategy Themes

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Environment	By 2020 over 85% of people living and visiting Rossendale , will be satisfied with the quality of the street scene and local environment.
Community Safety	By 2020 Rossendale will be a safe place to live, visit and invest. We will have helped local people to help themselves by implementing crime and disorder reduction strategies at a local level, which will fully address the needs of local communities.
Culture	By 2020 Rossendale will have 70% of all residents engaged in physical activity and will be a place which is widely accepted as a major place to visit and have fun.

### 7.5 Related Draft Core Strategy Objectives

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- Greater incentives for local people and visitors to use and enjoy Rossendale's natural and cultural assets, including shopping areas, leisure facilities and education opportunities.
- Sustainable management of natural resources and cultural assets.
- High quality, attractive and valued local urban and rural environments.
- Bring redundant previously developed land back into sustainable uses.



## 7.6 Planning Policy Options

Issue E1: How can existing areas of open space be enhanced to best meet local needs?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Target improvements to existing areas of open space and look for opportunities to develop new open space in wards with the poorest provision of open space.		
2. Target improvements of existing open space to those areas with the poorest provision of open space.		
3. Prioritise the improvement of those area of open space that have a large catchment.		
4. Prioritise improvements to the accessibility of open space, including countryside areas.		
5. Protect existing all open space, unless it can demonstrated that it is no longer required for any form of open space use or that alternative equivalent provisions can be made.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue E2: How can a Borough-wide network of public and private green space be protected and used to encourage greater access to outdoor recreation activities?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Open space networks should be identified, including opportunities to improve network connections and access points.		
2. Developers of major sites neighbouring areas of open space should protect and improve access and signage to areas of open space.		
3. Appropriate development proposals that diversify the range of outdoor recreation activities will be encouraged.		
4. Recreation-based developments should be encouraged to locate near to other recreation-based activities to encourage linkages and sustainable patterns of development		
5. Encourage developments and initiatives that support the Regional Park concept.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue E3: How can planning ensure safer communities?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Promote designing out crime initiatives		
2. Limit night time entertainment uses outside town centres		

3. Seek the dispersal of night time entertainment uses.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue E4: How do we protect the openness of the Green Belt whilst supporting farming, tourism and leisure uses?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Recreation, leisure and tourism developments may be acceptable within the Green Belt where it can be demonstrated that there are no alternative locations outside the Green Belt.		
2. No development should be permitted in the Green Belt, other than to support agricultural activities.		
3. Allow redevelopment of previously developed sites in the Green Belt.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue E5: How can flood risk be prevented and reduced?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Applications for developments in high flood risk zones (Zones 3) must demonstrate the need for the particular development in that location along with a flood risk assessment and mitigation proposals.		
2. Development should not be permitted in high flood risk zones.		
3. Require all new developments to have sustainable drainage systems.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue E6: How can features of landscape and natural heritage be protected whilst their enjoyment is encouraged?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Areas of international, national, regional and local importance should be identified.		
2. Access to features of landscape and natural heritage is encouraged where this would not have a negative impact on the quality and sustainability of these features.		
3. Access to sensitive features, particularly of national or international importance should be restricted.		
4. Detailed landscape character appraisals should be developed, based on the North West Joint Character Area map, and		

development should have regard to these appraisals.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue E7: How can areas of historic interest be preserved and enhanced?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Priority should be given to improving existing conservation areas over designating new ones, e.g. Conservation area appraisals and management plans should be developed for all the existing conservation areas.		
2. Other areas should be assessed to see whether they should be designated as conservation areas. Are we able to suggest any particular areas?		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue E8: How can individual historic buildings and ancient monuments be preserved and enhanced?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Encourage the reuse of listed and locally important buildings		
2. Produce a list and assessment of locally important historic buildings that do not currently met the criteria for listed buildings.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue E9: How should good quality design be encouraged throughout Rossendale?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Produce a separate Borough-wide design guide		
2. Produce design guides for different towns and villages		
3. Produce a design guide for different types of development, e.g. homes, town centres, business premises, etc.		
4. Include a general design policy in the Core Strategy		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue E10: How can we improve air, water and noise quality?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Areas with poor air, water and noise quality should be identified.		
2. Development should not be permitted to further reduce air, water		

or noise quality in areas identified as being of low quality.		
3. Development that may have a negative impact on noise, air or water quality should be resisted and only permitted with adequate mitigation measures.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue E11: How can we promote sustainable development and construction?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. All developments are required to be in accordance with guidance on sustainable construction practices.		
2. Development with high levels of sustainable construction may be allowed lower contributions to affordable housing or other social infrastructure, where it can be demonstrated that this is necessary to make the scheme viable.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue E12: How can Rossendale contribute to the requirement to provide more energy from renewable sources?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Potential sites for wind farm development should be identified.		
2. Developments with designed to have lower energy requirements may be allowed lower contributions to affordable housing or other social infrastructure, where it can be demonstrated that this is necessary to make the scheme viable.		
3. Any thought on standards, e.g. see EM12 of draft RSS?		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue E13: Ground instability

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Development should not be permitted on sites on known instability.		
2. Development will only be permitted on sites of known stability where a structural assessment demonstrated that appropriate mitigation measures can be implemented that will allow a structurally sound development and not impact on the structural		

stability of existing developments or ground.		
3. Stability assessments will be required on sites of suspected ground instability.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue E14: How should policies address the issue of contaminated land?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Affordable housing and other social infrastructure contributions may be reduced where developments remediate contaminated sites.		
2. All developments on contaminated land must include remediation strategies.		
3. Sustainable remediation technologies should be encouraged.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

Issue E15: How can Rossendale Borough Council best meet its targets for increased development on brownfield land?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. The release of sites for development will prioritise brown field sites.		
2. The release of sites for development will prioritise brown field sites that have been vacant for 3 or more years, followed by other brown field sites and then green field sites.		
3. All development should be on brown field sites unless it can be demonstrated that no suitable brown field sites are available.		
<b>Other Option?</b>		

## 8 Transport In and Around Rossendale

### 8.1 Introduction

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This section sets out the key issues related to transport in and around Rossendale that have been identified from a review of a range of studies and other sources of information along with the aims from the Community Strategy and the draft aims for the Core Strategy. These have all informed a series of policy issues and options that may be addressed through the Core Strategy.

You are asked to consider the policy issues set out in Section 8.4 and the proposed options. You are asked to identify which of the options you support. If you support more than one option, then you are asked to rank your preferences. You are also invited to suggest alternative or additional options. You may also wish to suggest other policy issues and how these might be addressed.

### 8.2 Key Issues

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- Mitigate the environmental impacts of roads and traffic to reduce congestion, promote road safety, reduce the level of commercial traffic.
- Enhance Facilities for pedestrians, cyclists and people with disabilities.
- The bus station at Rawtenstall is sub-standard to requirements. Provision of a modern, convenient and attractive public transport interchange is integral to regeneration proposals across the region.
- Heavy commuter flows are apparent in the region. There are frequent and direct services along a number of key routes in the region. Work is underway to upgrade some of these routes creating Quality Bus Corridors to further enhance the public transport provision.
- The Railway Station is currently used only for a weekend tourist service operating between Heywood and Rawtenstall. Potential for rail service from Rawtenstall to Manchester to reduce commuter traffic flows and congestion and considerably enhance the transport accessibility of the town.
- Cycling is not a well used mode of transport in the borough. This is partly due to the topography of the area but also due to a lack of dedicated cycle facilities. There is an urgent need to create a safer cycle network that links to the wider national cycle network.

### 8.3 Related Topic Papers

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The background information to the key issues identified above can be found in the following Topic papers. The Topic Papers summarise the evidence base, also known as the Borough Profile. The Topic papers can be found on the Council's website [www.rossendale.gov.uk](http://www.rossendale.gov.uk)

- Topic Paper 1: Policy Context and Local Strategies
- Topic Paper 2: Review of Local Plan Policies
- Topic Paper 10: Transport and Movement

### 8.4 Key Community Strategy Themes

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Economy	By 2020 Rossendale will have a prosperous economy where everyone has the opportunity to fulfil their potential.
Community safety	By 2020 Rossendale will be a safe place for people to live, visit and invest.

Culture

By 2020 Rossendale will have 70% of all residents engaged in active physical activity and will be a place which is widely accepted as a major place to visit and have fun.

8.5 Related Draft Core Strategy Objectives

- Improved access from home to places of work, learning, shops, leisure and community facilities.
- Greater incentives for local people and visitors to use and enjoy Rossendale's natural and cultural assets, including shopping areas, leisure facilities and education opportunities.
- Sustainable management of natural resources and cultural assets.

8.6 Planning Policy Options

Issue T1: How can the need to travel by car be reduced?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. All new development should be located in those areas within 500m of all 5 basic services.		
2. New development outside 500m of all 5 basic services must contribute to improving access to public transport and/or access to community facilities.		
<b>Other Option:</b>		

Issue T2: How can public transport use be increased?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Require green travel plans for all major planning applications		
2. Require contributions to public transport facilities by all major developments.		
3. Improve public transport facilities in all town centres, particularly Rawtenstall bus station.		
4. Reduce the number of car parking spaces required for non-residential developments.		
5. Reduce the number of car parking spaces required for all types of development (i.e. residential and non-residential developments).		
6. Promote development around public transport interchanges.		
<b>Other Option:</b>		

Issue T3: How can cycling and walking be encouraged for all types of journeys, i.e. commuting, shopping, leisure, etc.?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Prioritise the release of sites for development to those within 500m of all 5 basic services.		
2. Seek improvements to key pedestrian routes, including crossing points and junction prioritisation.		
3. Expand the network of cycle paths and improve cycle crossing points.		
4. Require cycle parking facilities as part of all developments, including residential developments (min threshold?)		
5. Opportunities should be sought to link into wider networks of footpaths, cycleways and bridleways, particularly National Trails and the National Cycle Network.		
<b>Other Option:</b>		

Issue T4: Which areas suffer from social exclusion because of a local of access to transport? How can this be addressed?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Prioritise improvements to cycle and pedestrian routes and crossings in areas of greatest social deprivation.		
2. Set a lower threshold of development size for contributions to cycle and pedestrian improvements in areas of greater social deprivation.		
3. Set stricter limits on development more than 500m of all 5 basic services in areas of greatest social deprivation, unless contributions to improving the range of facilities within 500m is made.		
<b>Other Option:</b>		

Issue T5: Parking

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Parking standards should be set for different types of development and applied consistently across the whole Borough.		
2. More restrictive parking standards should be applied to developments within or surrounding town centres.		
3. More restrictive parking standards should be applied to developments within 500m of bus services that are more frequent than 4 per hour in peak hours.		
<b>Other Option:</b>		



Issue T6: How should disabled transport and access needs be addressed?

Option	Agree	Rank
1. Include disabled parking provisions in parking standards.		
2. Include design requirements for disabled access in design policies.		
<b>Other Option:</b>		

Draft

## 9 Next Steps

### 9.1 Comments on Issues and Options Report

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As part of the ongoing consultation which is being undertaken during the course of the preparation of the Core Strategy, this report will be made publicly available and circulated to key stakeholders for comment and review.

Any additional information, factual corrections or further thoughts will be welcomed by either the Arup team or by Rossendale Borough Council. Any comments should be forwarded to:

Forward Planning

Rossendale Borough Council  
Town Hall  
Rawtenstall  
Rossendale  
BB4 7LZ

Comments should be received by **6<sup>th</sup> January 2006**.

### 9.2 Next Steps

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Following consultation regarding this issue and options report, a report on the preferred options will be developed – taking into account responses raised. The Preferred Options Report will be published for formal comment over a six week period which will be advertised locally. It is anticipated that this will take place in early 2006.

Once comments to the Preferred Options Report have been received and considered, a draft of the Core Strategy will be prepared. The draft Core Strategy will then be submitted to the Government Office North West and will then be the subject of a formal Independent Examination by a Planning Inspector. The Inspector will assess the Core Strategy, its method of preparation and any outstanding comments or objections which are raised.

Following the Independent Examination, the Inspector will make binding recommendations to Rossendale Borough Council regarding the final content of the Core Strategy and it will subsequently be adopted as a part of the Rossendale Local Development Framework.

It is anticipated that the final Local Development Framework will be formally adopted in 2007.

### 9.3 Further Advice

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Further details on the practical arrangements for the preparation of Core Strategies and other parts of the Local Development Framework are provided in 'Creating Local Development Frameworks - A Companion guide to PPS12' which is published by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and can be viewed at:

[http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm\\_planning/documents/page/odpm\\_plan\\_032593.pdf](http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_032593.pdf).

## A1 Glossary

This section provides a quick reference/overview of terms and documents used within the Local Development Framework, and the wider planning arena.

### AAP

Area Action Plans - AAPs form part of the new Local Development Framework system. Their purpose is to provide the planning framework for areas where significant change or conservation is expected or required.

### AMR

Annual Monitoring Report - The AMR is a Local Development Document and forms part of the Local Development Framework. The purpose of the report is to monitor how effective the policies and proposals within individual Local Development Documents are in meeting the vision set out in the Core Strategy, together with monitoring the extent to which targets are being met.

### CABE

Commission on Architecture and the Built Environment - the government's advisor on urban design matters. CABE motivate those responsible for providing our buildings and spaces to design and develop well.

### DeTR

Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions (responsible for planning between 1997 and 2001).

### DfT

Department for Transport - The Department for Transport's objective is to oversee the delivery of a reliable, safe and secure transport system that responds efficiently to the needs of individuals and business whilst safeguarding our environment.

### DoE

Department of the Environment (responsible for planning before 1997)

### DPD

Development Plan Document - An LDF must include a Core Strategy, Site-Specific Allocations of land, a Proposals Map and may also contain optional development documents such as Area Action Plans. These are classed as DPDs and outline the key development goals of the Local Development Framework.

### DTLR

Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions (responsible for planning in 2001 and 2002)

### EiP

Examination in Public - The EiP process was introduced in 1972 to replace public local inquiries as a means of reviewing the structure plan proposals of county councils. The EiP represented a new procedure that could focus properly on strategic issues.

### EU

European Union - a union of twenty-five independent states based on the European Communities and founded to enhance political, economic and social co-operation. Formerly known as European Community (EC) or European Economic Community (EEC).

### GONW

Government Offices for North West - Government Office for the North West is one of nine Government Offices in England who represent and undertake work on behalf of ten central government departments: Cabinet Office, Department of Trade and Industry, Department for Transport, Department for Education and Skills, Home Office, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Department for Culture, Media and Sport, Department for Work and Pensions, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Department of Health - co-located with GONW. They also have regular links with other government departments.

### HA

Highways Agency - an Executive Agency of the Department for Transport (DfT), and is responsible for operating, maintaining and improving the strategic road network in England on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport. We have a major role in delivering the Government's Ten Year Plan for Transport.

### HMR

Housing Market Renewal - government pathfinder initiatives designed to regenerate housing in neighbourhoods that have spiralled into decline

### JLSP

Joint Lancashire Structure Plan 2001-2016 - sets out strategic policies and proposals for the development, use and conservation of land in Lancashire and for the management of traffic. It establishes the amount and general location of development for meeting the future needs of Lancashire's population while protecting and enhancing Lancashire's fine assets.

### LAP

Local Areas for Play

### LCC

Lancashire County Council - the strategic planning authority for Rossendale

### LDD

Local Development Document - these are the collection of documents that make up the Local Development framework. They include DPDs, SPDs and the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

**LDF**

Local Development Framework, new local planning framework (in preparation). The LDF is a folder of local development documents prepared by a district council, unitary authority or national park authority that outline the spatial planning strategy for the local area.

**LDO**

Local Development Order - made by a planning authority in order to extend permitted rights for certain forms of development, with regard to a relevant local development document

**LDS**

Local Development Scheme - this document outlines the timetable for the Local development Framework preparation

**LPA**

Local Planning Authority - i.e., National Park Authorities, the Broads Authority, Unitary Authorities and District Councils. Also embraces County Councils where relevant to their role in producing Minerals and Waste LDDs.

**LTP**

Local Transport Plan - Information regarding the production of local transport plans and annual reviews; includes examples of good practice, technical guidance, accessibility planning, major schemes, performance indicators and details of all annual capital settlements to date.

**NWDA**

North West Development Agency - a government agency responsible for the sustainable economic development and regeneration of England's Northwest

**NWRA**

North West Regional Assembly - a government agency responsible for regional planning guidance

**ODPM**

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister - Government department responsible for planning since 2002, formerly known as DTLR, DETR and DoE.

**PDG**

Planning Delivery Grant

**PINS**

Planning Inspectorate - carries out appeals and similar casework under planning and environmental legislation in England and Wales.

**PPG**

Planning Policy Guidance Notes - government planning policy documents by subject matter

**PPS**

Planning Policy Statements - government planning policy documents by subject matter. PPS are replacing the earlier Planning Policy Guidance Notes

**RDLP**

Rossendale District Local Plan 1995-2001- the current

adopted development plan for Rossendale Borough, to eventually be replaced by the LDF

**RES**

Regional Economic Strategy 2003 - prepared by the North West Development Agency (currently under review) - The RES outlines the economic strategy for the north west

**RHB**

Regional Housing Board - specific responsibility for preparing a Regional Housing Strategy as the basis for advice to Ministers on the priorities for strategic housing investment in the region. We also have responsibility to ensure that the high level strategies (including the Regional Economic Strategy and Regional Planning Guidance) in the North West are consistent and support the Communities Plan and the wider objectives of sustainable development.

**RHS**

Regional Housing Strategy - identify key priorities in each region, ensure a link with regional economic and spatial strategies, identify sub-regional themes, and provide a basis on which decisions on housing capital investment can be made.

**RPB**

Regional Planning Body - RPB for each region is responsible for reviewing the 'Regional Spatial Strategy' and preparing draft revisions in partnership with local and regional stakeholders. NWRA is the regional planning body for the North West

**RPG**

Regional Planning Guidance - The overriding aim of RPG is to promote sustainable patterns of spatial development and physical change. The Region's economic, social and environmental interests must be advanced together and support each other.

**RSDF**

Regional Sustainable Development Framework - The Government asked each of the English regions to produce an RSDF to help them understand Sustainable Development and to provide a point of reference for regional activity on sustainability.

**RSS**

Regional Spatial Strategy - prepared by the North West Development Agency (currently RPG13) - The development of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) is an exciting opportunity for the region to link its economic, housing, transport and planning goals together in a broad spatial strategy. This will focus on the needs of the region as a whole but highlight those areas that need more specific guidance or a different approach. This approach should improve the co-ordination and delivery of regional policy and sustainable development.

**RTPI**

Royal Town Planning Institute - The RTPI exists to advance the science and art of town planning for the benefit of the public. The RTPI is a membership organisation, and a registered charity. Most of its members are fully qualified professional planners.

**RTS**

Regional Transport Strategy - the regional framework that will ensure that the investment programmes of local authorities, transport providers and other key stakeholders in the transport sector complement and support the wider regional objective of delivering a more sustainable pattern of development.

**SA**

Sustainability Appraisal - A sustainability appraisal is a key stage in the LDD preparation process. An SA provides assessment that ensures that an LDD will contain policies and guidance that ensure that development will bring long term economic, social and environmental benefits.

**SCI**

Statement of Community Involvement - this document sets out how the council will engage the local community, key stakeholders and representative organisations both before and during the preparation of key components of the LDF

**SDF**

Sustainable Development Framework - sets out the principles and parameters of a Sustainability Appraisal of Development Plan Documents

**SEA**

Strategic Environmental Assessment - The objective of the SEA Directive is "to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development".

**SMR**

Sites and Monuments Record - these files hold details of archaeological sites, listed and historic buildings and monuments.

**SOA**

Super Output Areas - a new geographic hierarchy designed to improve the reporting of small area statistics in England and Wales

**SoS**

Secretary of State - ultimately the 'national planning authority' for England and Wales. The SoS has the power to approve or refuse planning policies and applications. Planning Appeals are decided by the SoS

**SPD**

Supplementary Planning Documents - expand or add more detail to the policies set out in the development plan documents. These may take the form of design guides, guidance on energy efficiency or form development briefs for sites or buildings, a master plan or issue-based documents.

**SPZ**

Simplified Planning Zones - an area in which a local planning authority wishes to stimulate development and encourage investment. It operates by granting a specified planning permission in the zone without the

need for a formal application or the payment of planning fees.

**SSSI**

Site of Special Scientific Interest - An SSSI is an area that has been notified as being of special interest under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

**SUDS**

Sustainable Urban Drainage System - a CIRIA project to disseminate and promote good practice in the implementation of sustainable drainage in the built environment.

**TCPA**

Town and Country Planning Association - an independent campaigning charity calling for more integrated planning based on the principles of accessibility, sustainability, diversity, and community cohesion. Works to improve the quality of people's lives and their environments through promoting and improving the art and science of planning.

Draft