

APPENDIX 8

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Annual Monitoring Report	A document produced each year by Chester City Council showing progress in achieving both Local Plan policies and the timetable set out in the Local Development Scheme and setting out revisions to the Local Development Scheme.
Biodiversity	The diversity of plant and animal life in a particular habitat
Chester District Local Plan	Adopted Local Plan setting out the planning policies, proposals and allocations of land for the District. This is a statutory document and is used to guide the determination of planning applications in the District.
Commuted Sum	Money collected from developers on developments to contribute towards improvements in open space, transport measures or other environmental improvement which must be in proportion and related to the impact of the proposal. This is done through a legal agreement as part of the planning permission.
Conservation Area	An area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Such areas are designated by Chester City Council under section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
Consultation Statement	Statement detailing the consultation that has taken place during the preparation of the Local Development Document, before it is adopted by the Council.
Countryside Agency	The Countryside Agency was the statutory body working to make: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the quality of life better for people in the countryside; • the quality of the countryside better for everyone. The access and recreation functions of the Agency have now been incorporated in the successor body, Natural England.
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government (formerly the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister).
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Environmental Stewardship	An agri-environment scheme run by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in England . The scheme, which replaces the older Countryside Stewardship and Environmentally Sensitive Area schemes, is composed of two levels - the Entry Level Scheme (ELS), or Organic Entry Level Scheme (OELS) for Organic farms, and the Higher Level Scheme (HLS).
Geo-diversity	The diversity of minerals, rocks, fossils, soils, landforms and geological processes that form the landscape and topography of an area.
Green Belt	A defined area of land, largely rural in character, which is adjacent to the main urban areas and which is protected from development

	by permanent and severe restrictions on building. The emphasis is on restricting sprawl of urban areas, preventing the coalescence of neighbouring towns and preserving the individual character of settlements, although a green belt may provide suitable locations for recreational development.
Higher Level Stewardship Scheme	See Environmental Stewardship (above)
Hydrobrake	Regulates water flow through water sewage systems
Listed Building	A building included in a list compiled by the Secretary of State for the Environment as being of special architectural or historic interest.
Local Development Framework	The collective name given to all those policies and documents forming the planning framework for the District.
Local Development Scheme	A project management document setting out what the Local Development Framework will contain a timetable for its production, proposals for monitoring and review.
Local Distinctiveness	This is concerned with what makes a place special – it is key to the attractiveness of towns and villages and is the essential component of the economic competitiveness of a place.
Local Nature Reserve	An area recognized for its nature conservation value.
Neighbourhood Hub	Existing centres in the rural areas that have access to a range of services which can be improved by concentrating activity in recognized hubs. These centres are essential to creating a thriving community providing valuable facilities such as local shops, businesses and other community facilities.
Open Countryside	That part of the rural area outside the green belt and excluding settlements.
Parish Plan	Parish Plans were announced in the 2000 “Rural White Paper” which set out the Government’s plans for the countryside. They set a framework for communities to plan their own futures and set out a vision for how the community wants to develop, and identify the action needed to achieve it. They can include everything that is relevant to the people who live and work in the community, from employment and playgrounds to the design of new buildings and protection of hedges and ponds. They can include any social, environmental or economic issues.
Planning Policy Statement	Planning Policy Statements are statements of national planning policy that replace Planning Policy Guidance following the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act. These will need to be taken account by the Council in producing the Local Development Framework.
Regional Spatial Strategy	Overarching strategy produced by the North West Regional Assembly with broad land use, transport and other policies to inform the Local Development Framework and forming part of the

	statutory development plan.
Safer Routes to School	A scheme to provide children with safer routes to school.
Shelterbelt	Rows of trees and vegetation planted along roads and field borders to protect open fields from wind / sun. They also benefit wildlife by providing habitat corridors for their movement between habitats.
Site of Biological Importance (SBI)	A non-statutory designation referring to areas which are considered by Cheshire County Council and Cheshire Wildlife Trust to contain important habitats.
Site of Nature Conservation Value	These are sites designated by Chester City Council for their important nature conservation value.
Solar Gain	The positive contribution made by solar energy to the heating of a building's interior through appropriate siting and other design considerations.
Statement of Community Involvement	The document that sets out how the Local Planning Authority will involve and consult the public in the production of the Local Development Framework and on planning applications.
Supplementary Planning Document	A document which expands or supplements policy in Development Plan Documents or the Local Plan.
Sustainability Appraisal	An appraisal of the impacts of policies and proposals on economic, social and environmental issues. This also covers the range of issues covered by the Strategic Environmental Assessment.
Sustainable Development	Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)	Technique for dealing with problems of flooding and surface water quality
Sustainable Environmental Education Network (SEEN)	Aims to involve local school children in the processes of planning, regeneration and design which will shape the future of their own communities. SEEN was established by Chester City Council, Cheshire County Council and local architectural and design professionals in 1997. It has recently been recognised as an example of good practice in an EU White Paper on Youth Policies.
Tree Preservation Order	An order made by the Council to prevent the felling, lopping or willful destruction of a single tree, group of trees or substantial woodland specified in the order without the consent of the Council.
Village Design Statement	Document prepared by the local community setting out local aspirations for the future development and conservation of the village. This may include information on landscape character, protection of open spaces or important views.