

Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit

Statutory Documents to Accompany SPD

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December 2008



City of Westminster

Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit SPD: Notice of Supplementary Planning Document Matters

Title Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit Supplementary Planning Document
Purpose To guide the protection, enhancement and management of the Dorset Square Conservation Area, by identifying those features of special historic and architectural interest which contribute to the local townscape and which the council will seek to protect. It will also identify negative features, opportunities for enhancement and management proposals to guide future change and development within the area.
Content This will include <ul style="list-style-type: none">[a] Historical Development[b] Appraisal of character[c] Identification of Unlisted Buildings of Merit[d] Appraisal of roofscape and Identification of properties suitable for roof extension[e] Identification of townscape detail and landscape features which contribute to the character of the area[f] Identification of Features which detract from the character of the conservation Area[g] Management and Enhancement proposals
Geographical coverage Will apply to the Dorset Square Conservation Area.
Consultation Period The full public consultation on the draft audit and sustainability appraisal was held in April-May 2008. During this time, the draft audit and sustainability appraisal was available to download from the internet or inspect at One Stop Services, 62 Victoria Street, SW1 (Open 8.30am-7pm, Monday-Friday; 9am-1pm Saturday).
Representations You can submit comments and suggestions at any stage of the process. Representations on the draft SPD can be submitted in writing during the six week consultation period. Written representations should be made by post to the following address: Conservation Area Audits Team Department of Planning and City Development 12th Floor (South) Westminster City Council City Hall 64 Victoria Street SW1E 6QP Or by e-mail to: conservationareaaudits@westminster.gov.uk Any representations may be accompanied by a request to be notified in future, at a specified address, of the adoption of the SPD.

Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit SPD: Statement of Consultation and Representations Received

2 Statement of Consultation (Section 17 (B))

Under **Section 17(b)** of the Town & Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004, Westminster City Council has a duty to prepare a consultation statement to accompany the draft Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) setting out the details of any consultation that has taken place in connection with the preparation of a draft SPD. Consultation on all SPDs follow procedures set out in Westminster's adopted 'Statement of Community Involvement' (January 2007). Main steps undertaken are set out below.

Pre-drafting consultation

Prior to drafting the initial draft Conservation Area Audit for Dorset Square a forward programme of the auditing process was made available on the council's website (www.westminster.gov.uk).

The Conservation Area Audit programme for 2007/8 was made available on council's website (www.westminster.gov.uk); officers also attended the Area Forums of May/June 2007 with details of the forthcoming programme. In addition, letters advertising the audit programme and inviting general comments prior to drafting were sent to local and national amenity societies, Westminster Property Owners' Association (WPOA), local housing associations, the Greater London Authority Transport for London, London Underground and English Heritage and programme of audits was publicised in a newspaper notice.

A Scoping report on the Sustainability Appraisal was consulted on and copies of this sent to Natural England, the Environment Agency and English Heritage.

Following feedback on the initial information provided, the document was drafted and presented to the Cabinet Member for Planning in April 2008 along with details of the pre-consultation process and how this has informed the drafting of the document. Taking comments received into consideration, the Cabinet Member agreed that the document should be published for formal public consultation on 9 May 2008.

Formal Consultation on Draft Conservation Area Audit

The draft Audit and accompanying SPD documents including sustainability appraisal have been made available on the council website since this time, with full details of the public consultation process and links to a feedback form. Site notices have been put up around the conservation area. A press notice dated

06.06.08 was also issued describing the SPD matters and all information made available at Onestop Services, Westminster City Hall.

The consultation draft was sent out to consultation with letters to the following:

Government Office for London
Greater London Authority
CityWest Homes
English Heritage London Region
Design for London
Westminster Property Owners Association
The Portman Estate
London Historic Parks & Gardens Trust
The Victorian Society
The Georgian Group
London Underground
Twentieth Century Society
St Marylebone Society
The Marylebone Association
Clarence Gate Gardens Residents Association
Berkley Court Residents Association
Blanford Estate Residents Association
Dorset House Residents Association
Dorset Square Trust
Network Rail
Chiltern Railways
The Landmark Hotel
Dorset Square Hotel
Alliance Francaise
Francis Holland School
Rudolf Steiner House
St Cyprian's Church
Woolworth Group Plc
NCR UK Ltd
Berkeley Homes (North London) Ltd

The first phase of formal consultation on the conservation area audit and proposed extensions took place between May and July 2008. Consultation responses received suggested further areas for inclusion in the boundary review. These additional properties were therefore consulted during August 2008.

Once adopted, the Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit SPD along with its associated SPD Documents will be made available to download from the council website with hard copies available at OneStop Services and from the Conservation Area Audits Team. Notification will also be sent to consultees listed above.

3 Statement of Representations Received (Regulation 18 (4) (b))

Regulation 18 (4) (b) requires local authorities to set out how they have addressed representations.

8 responses to the draft Audit and Boundary Review were received, which were considered and amendments were made to the draft SPD, as detailed in the table below. In addition, an exhibition was held at the Marylebone Area Forum and a list of attendees is below:

A summary of the main issues raised and how these have been addressed in the SPD is set out below. These were considered by the Cabinet Member for the Built Environment and are also detailed in the Cabinet Member report published in the Directory appended to the Conservation Area Audit.

Consultee	Comments	Council Response
St Marylebone Society (Brenda Naylor)	Wholeheartedly supports inclusion of areas A, B, C and D. Particularly glad that Chalfont Court is among those proposed – the residents have already fought three proposals on the roof.	Welcome support
Cllr Angela Hooper	Supports the proposed extensions	Welcome support
Clarence Gate Gardens Residents Association	Supports the proposed extensions	Welcome support
St Marylebone Society (Cynthia Poole)	The draft document is very thorough and interesting, and the CAA team are to be congratulated.	Welcome support
	Figure 121 showing building uses: the buildings on the East side of Dorset Square adjacent to the Alliance Francaise are no longer hotels, having been redeveloped as apartments and maisonettes, and the largest one, shown as extending right through into Chagford Street, no longer does this: the building in 49-50 Chagford Street is now a residential centre.	Land uses map checked and amended accordingly
	10 Ivor Court, listed in the table of 'Negative Buildings, features and sites', has had some of the fenestration changed since being photographed, although this is not exactly an improvement: uPVC opening windows have now replaced some of the glass block-hybrid openings at ground level.	Noted. New photo added.
	There is an unlisted building which we think deserves special mention: 2-4 Huntsworth Mews London NW1 6DD. This is a small warehouse building, much altered, but in a characterful way, which contributes a great deal to this corner of	2-4 Huntsworth Mews is identified as an unlisted building of merit on the map now at Figure 79. Unfortunately, it is not within the scope of the audits to discuss every unlisted building of

Consultee	Comments	Council Response
	the mews.	merit in depth— particularly good and representative buildings are described, the remainder are indicated in map form. However, a photo has been added within the mews section (p31), along with expanded text at para. 4.42 indicating the importance of small warehouse style buildings, of which there are a number in the conservation area.
	Extension of the Conservation Area: Most of our members welcomed the extension of the Conservation Area to include Chalfont Court, Berkeley Court, Dorset House.	Welcome support.
	Members who live in Chalfont Court were particularly pleased with this proposal.	Noted.
	The residents' board of Berkeley Court are against being included in the conservation area, as they don't see any advantages for residential tenants and owners.	The advantages of inclusion of a mansion block in a conservation area are that incremental changes, such as replacement windows, satellite dishes, and other accretions are the subject of stricter control, as the council must take into account the special character of the area when considering applications. Similarly, when assessing any new shopfronts regard is given to their impact on the character of the conservation area. This should help raise standards, ensure any changes to the building are consistent and therefore bring about improvements to the local townscape. As no specific concerns were raised about inclusion of the building within the conservation area, this is therefore still being recommended.
	It was suggested that the 1937 NCR building on Marylebone Road should also be included in the conservation area ... on grounds of its design, and its status as the only purpose built office building of the period in this area.	Noted. The NCR building is now proposed for inclusion in the conservation area.
	Marathon House, 1955-1960, originally home to Castrol, and the first London example of slab-and podium massing,	Agree that Marathon House is an interesting 1950s building and it has therefore been

Consultee	Comments	Council Response
	was also thought to be of interest, despite the unfortunate changes to the podium glazing from 1998.	recommended for inclusion within the conservation area, to demonstrate the area's evolution.
	Members also mentioned two buildings of interest just outside the conservation area to the East: in Allsop Place, set back from the road on LT's private cul de sac, are two London Transport office buildings of interest - one with a 1930s[?] symmetrical white facade, and adjacent to it to the south, a much older building known as Selbie House.	Noted. Consultation with the owners of the buildings has been undertaken and these buildings will be proposed for inclusion in the conservation area.
	<p>Management of the Conservation Area</p> <p>Empty buildings: at the moment Oliver House, 8-9 Ivor Place is empty and has been for probably 5 years.</p> <p>2-4 Huntsworth Mews has been empty for a couple of years now. We wonder if there are any legal or planning mechanisms that might protect empty buildings such as these.</p>	This information has been passed on to the Council's Empty Property Officer, who will look into getting these buildings returned to occupancy. This has also been included as an issue within management proposals.
Design for London	The preparation of this draft study is welcomed, particularly the very detailed historical background and characterisation, identification of positive and negative features within the area, the very useful management proposals and the exemplary inclusion of wider issues such as street furniture, landscaping and public art.	Welcome support
	<p>The proposed extensions to the conservation area to include a number of fine landmark buildings such as Dorset House, Chalfont Court and Melcombe Court - all good examples of Victorian, Edwardian and inter-war architecture - are all eminently sensible and all are worthy of inclusion within the conservation area.</p> <p>The inclusion of the concourse and train-sheds at Marylebone Station also resolves a most unsatisfactory situation whereby the CA boundary cuts through the middle of this important railway terminal and excludes the attractive late Victorian train shed.</p>	Welcome support
	I would however suggest that the proposed extensions do not go far enough and consideration should be given to including certain other key buildings which immediately abut the existing conservation area. They all make a significant contribution to the character and historical evolution of this distinctive area.	

Consultee	Comments	Council Response
	<p>Parley Court, Selbie House and the adjacent two-storey 1940s building built by London Transport - all immediately behind Chiltern Court. Parley Court appears to be structurally part of Chiltern Court, a fine 1920s wing of apartments which shares the same character as the other blocks of flats that are proposed for inclusion. It seems irrational for the conservation area boundary to pass through this complex as it does at present. Selbie House is a splendid example of Edwardian architecture (built in 1914 and designed by Metropolitan Railway architect CW Clark) with its white terracotta faience facade and railway motifs incorporated into the frontage such as the entwined Metropolitan Railway lettering. The two storey brown brick late 1940s building to the north of Selbie House is a classic Festival of Britain style moderne building with good detailing.</p>	<p>Consultation has been undertaken with the owners of these buildings and these are now being proposed for inclusion in the conservation area</p>
	<p>The inclusion of the following two city blocks on the north-side of Marylebone Road would create a more rational boundary to this conservation area along this important thoroughfare.</p> <p>The 1930s Headquarters' building between Marathon House and the Landmark Hotel is an integral part of the streetscape of the north-side of this stretch of the Marylebone Road. It is a good example of commercial architecture of this period, composed of high quality Portland stone in the stripped classical manner with elegant columns to the central bays.</p> <p>The Woolworth Building (1955), west of the Landmark Hotel is one of Colonel Richard Seifert's earliest works and is a classic of mid 1950s stripped classicism with a very formal Portland stone clad frontage reminiscent of the contemporaneous Shell Building (included within the South Bank Conservation Area).</p> <p>The adjacent former Philological College built in 1857 (later St Marylebone Grammar School) is a fine mid-Victorian gothic composition which should also be included.</p>	<p>Noted. While this building has had some unfortunate shopfronts inserted at ground floor level, the overall quality of the architecture is recognised. The building will now be proposed for inclusion in the Dorset Square Conservation Area.</p> <p>Agree. Woolworths headquarters building is a good example of its type. As an example of high quality twentieth century development on Marylebone Road, this building will be proposed for inclusion.</p> <p>This building is currently protected by its grade II listed status, and would not therefore benefit from inclusion in the conservation area, with which it has no thematic connection.</p>
	<p>The continued exclusion of the three</p>	<p>These three blocks are</p>

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	<p>landmark buildings fronting Taunton Place is questioned. Taunton Place seems a natural boundary to this Conservation Area rather than the existing boundary which cuts through the streetscape of Balcombe St, Linhope St and Gloucester Place.</p> <p>The blocks are all worthy examples of their genre and their inclusion would create a more coherent and rational conservation area.</p>	<p>apartment blocks of the early twentieth century.</p> <p>They are not considered particularly good examples of the type, and their rear elevations form a negative feature in terms of their impact on the north of the conservation area. These buildings are not therefore proposed for inclusion in the conservation area</p>
	<p>In conclusion this commendable audit and the proposed extensions are strongly endorsed with the request that you consider the further extensions outlined.</p>	<p>Welcome support</p>
<p>Sheila Monnet</p>	<p>I would like to propose that the new Southern boundary suggested, designed to allow the inclusion of Berkeley Court and Dorset House, be extended even further to the West so as to support the inclusion of the NCR Building (206 Marylebone Road), the Woolworth Building (242 Marylebone Road) and the Abercorn School (248 Marylebone Road).</p>	<p>Agree that the NCR Building (206 Marylebone Road) should be included.</p> <p>The Woolworths building is of a very different character to the rest of the conservation area. It is however proposed for inclusion, along with Marathon House, on the basis described at paras 2.8 – 2.12.</p>
<p>Alan Wurtzel</p>	<p>I would urge those responsible for defining the boundaries of the Conservation Area to include [the NCR building]. This is a singular opportunity; it would be a shame for a building making such a clear and unique contribution to the area to be refused the protection afforded by being included in the Dorset Square Conservation Area.</p>	<p>Noted. The NCR building will be proposed for inclusion.</p>
<p>Verina Glaessner</p>	<p>I welcome City Council's concern for the protection of conservation areas and their special character. I welcome the inclusion of relevant policy and guidance through-out the audit but feel that it could be strengthened to the benefit of potential developers and residents.</p>	<p>Welcome support</p>
	<p>Rear gardens and opens areas to be retained as evidence of original town planning. These are currently under threat from development</p>	<p>Agree. However, the rear gardens, whilst important, are generally not visible. These are therefore of more interest in terms of amenity and biodiversity, as well as being of historical interest but do not have a significant impact on the area's character. Reference to the contribution of rear gardens added within the Trees and Landscape and Streets and Spaces sections.</p>
	<p>Balcombe Street terraces have two very</p>	<p>Further detail on different types</p>

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	distinct plan forms – single or double-fronted. While the general characterisation of the conservation area accurately singles out its unusually clearly preserved hierarchical nature there are paragraphs where the sense of its coherence is lost, largely through a lack of sufficiently detailed historical analysis of the individual streets.	of buildings on Balcombe Street added at para 4.34.
	Grouping of Streets. Streets are sometimes unhelpfully grouped together. Given such a small conservation area they could usefully be treated individually.	Important to group streets in terms of their hierarchy and to recognise that the detail in each of the types of streets identified is very similar, as this is what contributes to the consistent character of the area, which is what the audit seeks to protect. However, further detail has been added to description of each street.
	<p>Mews</p> <p>The Audit over-states the difference between the mews and their context. It does not contrast with it. It is a small scale reworking of those same principles – with its major variation, the zigzag dynamic of the butterfly roof.</p> <p>At 4.33 Ivor Place, Boston Place and Linhope Street...further variation. The lumping together of these streets clouds the meaning. Boston Place is obviously the odd one out. Ivor Place is indeed of a looser design but the looser design is distinct from that of Linhope. Street. There is little to be gained fudging the differences and by not providing a succinct historical analysis of why the streets are as they are, and what precisely is valuable in their design.</p>	<p>The audit does state that the same principles are reworked in the design of the mews. However, it is considered that in general terms there is a contrast in character between the formality of the principal streets and the more varied and intimate townscape within the cross streets and mews.</p> <p>The main n-s streets have a highly consistent character, whereas these three streets have had more alteration and more varied townscape. These are lined with 3rd and 4th rate houses and therefore are considered together. However, each of these three streets is then described individually to stress their individual characters. Some further detail has been added to make clearer.</p>
	<p>Regarding note of door form, stucco and architraves and cornices. Would it be possible to at least indicate where these are original, Victorian additions, or modern replacements? i.e. give an example of an original door? The existing 'cornices' are sometimes of odd shapes – could you indicate their original appearance?</p> <p>In paragraphs 4.32 and 4.34. Were those buildings currently 'without a basement</p>	<p>The detail photographs at Figures 32-37 provide examples of original detail and doors.</p> <p>Reference to the fact some basement lightwells have been</p>

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	<p>lightwell' always thus? Or do you mean that the lightwell was covered and hence that it could usefully be restored?</p> <p>The collection of shop fronts on the Ivor Place Balcombe Street crossing is worth noting. Surely the retained fine glazing bars and wood shop fronts should be noted. Although not original they would seem to be evidence of long established historic use and should be retained.</p> <p>Gloucester Place requires detailed treatment. Much of it is needlessly degraded through inappropriate, or little, care and attention. Comparison could be made with its southern end which is better maintained and shows its true potential through closer adherence to its characteristic design.</p>	<p>infilled added.</p> <p>This is noted within the shopfronts section but the most important of shopfronts in Ivor Place are singled out.</p> <p>More added on Gloucester Place, with further references to the detrimental alterations undertaken in the negative features section.</p>
	<p>Fanlights This important architectural feature is given some prominence in the coverage of Dorset Square but fanlights are equally important elsewhere. Some general guidance on what is acceptable treatment is urgently required. Treatment not acceptable should be pursuable through enforcement.</p>	<p>Examples of various fanlights on other streets are shown at Figures 32-34. This section has, however, been split so they are street specific. Specific reference added to their retention in management proposals section.</p>
	<p>Several corrections and Clarifications requested (below)</p>	
	<p>3.9 'building leases granted by the estate to David Porter' do you mean building leases on The Square and its service streets? I thought leases on groups of plots were granted to a number of different builders – but I may be wrong. It strikes me that if the builder is known it might be able to trace the usual exterior paint colours used and then, in consultation with residents, agree a historically appropriate shade for render through-out.</p>	<p>This means on the square, not throughout the conservation area.</p> <p>See stucco guide for appropriate shades for stucco. Reference has been added to document and appropriate colours for stucco in management proposals section at the end of the document.</p>
	<p>33.13 Could you hint at why development after a certain date proceeded more slowly – economic down-turn, I believe. 'never completed as originally planned' What do you mean? Do you mean it was completed differently? Or that it was never completed? 3.14 Grand Central Hotel -architect? Date? You say Blandford Square was</p>	<p>It was never completed, hence different to the original planned layout of streets.</p> <p>This info is in architecture section.</p> <p>The south side of the square visible on the 1832 map was</p>

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	‘subsequently cleared’. Surely it was cleared at the same time as the line was ‘cut through’ and anyway, the north, east and west sides were never actually built, were they, so what’s to demolish?	demolished to allow the construction of Marylebone station following the railway line being cut through the area.
	3.16 Why not an actual date for Chiltern Court? ‘The Marylebone Road was transformed...’from what? Important that it too had been lined with Georgian terraces with, I believe, gardens front and back.	Date added See previous paras. which describe Marylebone Road... para 3.5 states that Marylebone Road was lined with substantial houses with gardens.
	3.19 Historical summary – a date for Clarence Gate Gardens? 4.4 Are you sure that the ‘smaller-scale terraces have more varied detailing’? Do you mean original detailing? Can you be a bit more explicit? 4.6 Which are the Arts and Crafts buildings on Glentworth Street? Does the attractive mixture really centre on the Clarence Gate mansion blocks. Are you classifying them as Art Nouveau? 4.7 The comments on ‘the area around Baker Street Station and Marylebone Road’ hardly do it justice. What can be said about Berkeley Court, the shop fronts, Baker Street up to the junction with Park Road? It contains a group of listed buildings. It is, as well, a major gateway to Regent’s Park. The description in the Audit could, if carefully worded, shape the various improvements needed.	Added Yes, this is a description of general character of the area, and there is a much wider variety in building forms and details, original and later, on these streets. This character area includes various buildings of similar age. The mansion blocks, with their Edwardian style has Arts and Crafts influences and includes Art Nouveau style detailing to the railings. The Francis Holland School is of a similar period and could be described as Arts and Crafts while the Rudolf Steiner School, with its Expressionist detailing, is closely related to Art Nouveau. This section is a summary of character, which is then expanded upon in the rest of the document. The summary is therefore, by necessity, general. See map. The group of listed buildings do not form part of this character area. Berkeley Court was not in the conservation area at the time of writing, if its addition is agreed then info on this will be added in the architecture section.
	STREETS AND SPACES - overview 4.14 The access to Regent’s Park could be mentioned here surely? 4.15 Ivor Place seems to be a borderline secondary/intimate route.	Added sentence. “To the east, looking up Baker Street, the distant greenery of Regents Park can be glimpsed” at para 4.15. Ivor Place is considered to be a secondary route. It has a different and busier character than the more small-scale mews streets.

Consultee	Comments	Council Response
	<p>ARCHITECTURE - overview Georgian Squares and Terraces 4.24 and passim. I presume it is a policy decision to list the ground floor as a 'storey'. This could cause misunderstandings. 4.29 Cornices: please give some indication of what these cornices would have looked like in their complete form. Did they run the length of the peripheral streets or did they group particular buildings together? Did they always have the same profile etc. The existing information gives no guidance as to why or what should be conserved or restored.</p> <p>4.32 Specify the late Victorian alterations – what are they? There are very few houses in Balcombe Street which have these. Why not an illustration of Park Road instead as it is more representative. Those 'simple four panelled doors' are these original, Victorian, or B&Q? Are they to be retained?</p> <p>Mews 4.41 It is good to see Chagford House given this amount of detail. Similar is required elsewhere for clarity and information. 4.42 Taunton Mews – more detail? Post War Development Use of various this suggests that they beggar description. Do they?</p>	<p>Ground floors are commonly referred to as storeys....a five storey building being ground to fourth.</p> <p>The majority of secondary routes just have a simple straight stone coped parapet, without a moulded stucco cornice detail. These would originally have been consistent and more elaborate details may be later additions.</p> <p>Where there is more stucco decoration and embellishment this is usually Victorian. This is illustrated in the photograph. This is also referenced in section on Park Road. Most buildings would have had six paneled doors. The attractive simple doors with rectangular fanlight to the north of Balcombe Street are distinctive in this group than to the rest of the street, which is why they are singled out as a feature to retain.</p> <p>More detail/ photographs added on Taunton Mews. The most significant recent examples are described below the general text. Some more detail and photos added including sentence referring to the 1950s blocks of flats.</p>
	<p>ROOF PROFILES 4.61 'a stretch to the western terrace of Balcombe Street south of Ivor Place (not Street. These mansards do not occur in 'a' meaning one, stretch at all but are divided into 2 groups. Why not specify exactly where and how many. They are at 34 and 36 and 46 to 54 Balcombe Street, i.e. a group of two and a group of 5. It is important that from 34 South along Dorset Square is mansardless. 4.65 'in such areas, the filling in of gaps may help achieve greater uniformity of roofline.' This, again, is far too vague.</p>	<p>The exact detail is shown in map form rather than a list. The map identifies where mansards are and where they may be considered. This section does not just relate to mansards but also to other forms of roof extension. Where a roofline is predominantly uniform, then there will generally be a presumption against upward extension. Where most buildings</p>

Consultee	Comments	Council Response
	<p>Policy, I believe, was strictly to fill in only where there was a one house space between runs of mansards.</p> <p>Uniformity of roofline is, however, not the determining factor in this conservation area. The difference in height between groups of buildings is an important, factor, as is the general bulk and scale of the buildings all of which signal differences in hierarchy. Unlike the Lisson Grove Conservation Area, Dorset Square retains, through all its various alterations, a strong sense of architectural hierarchy and cohesion. It is the job of conservation area regulation to work towards its retention.</p>	<p>in a street already have extensions, it is likely roof extensions will be acceptable. Policy does not state specific numbers of mansards there need to be before an extension is allowed, this is considered on a case by case basis.</p> <p>The acceptability of roof extensions is considered in terms of its impact on groups of buildings. Within Dorset Square, if we focused only on the hierarchy of buildings throughout the area, then the addition of mansards to mews and two storey building would be acceptable, as these would still remain smaller in scale than other buildings and the hierarchy would be retained, even if these were unacceptable in townscape terms.</p>
	<p>UNLISTED BUILDINGS OF MERIT This category is extremely important, flagging up buildings which lend style, atmosphere and character to an area without necessarily meeting the specific criteria for listing. It is possibly worth stressing that this category has the same weight in policy terms as grade II listing but is a measure of slightly different qualities.</p> <p>4.74 For clarity can the list of Unlisted Buildings of Merit actually follow this paragraph, or, if not have a caption? At the moment, it follows mention of negative features, which is confusing.</p>	<p>This does not have the same weight in policy terms as Grade II listing. Identification of an unlisted building of merit does not bring any additional statutory protection but is important in that it recognises certain buildings make a significant contribution in townscape terms. Council policy with regards to unlisted buildings of merit is explained in the text.</p> <p>Caption added.</p>
	<p>LANDMARK BUILDINGS I would add the end of terrace corner of Park Road and Glentworth Street which you illustrate at Figure 75. The rounded end of the terrace is a landmark by virtue of its location and detailed design which provided a model for Chalfont Court at the top of Baker Street. Names of architects of the buildings included should be stated.</p>	<p>Architects names etc. already stated within previous architecture section. This section explains why they are considered to be landmarks so info not repeated here.</p>
	<p>VIEWS Local View 8: looking along Ivor Place. Which way?</p> <p>All views ...are detailed on the map... at Figure 75 but map is numbered incorrectly.</p>	<p>See map arrow directions.</p> <p>Views re-numbered.</p>
	<p>4 LOCAL TOWNSCAPE DETAIL</p>	

Consultee	Comments	Council Response
	<p>Shopfronts 5.4 Add those in Balcombe Street. Add criticism of inappropriate shopfront treatment at 60 Balcombe Street.</p> <p>Public Houses 5.7 The Gloucester Arms. Please update this information. It is now being incorporated into Francis Holland School, retaining Victorian signage.</p> <p>5.25 Old painted signs..visible...in places...'again this does not really help and certainly wont help prevent anyone painting or building over them. Please list.</p> <p>Hard Landscaping and Original Street Surfaces If there are more cobbled mews surfaces currently overlaid by tarmac could these be exposed?</p>	<p>Inappropriate detail to shopfronts is described in the negative features section. 60 Balcombe Street not inappropriately detailed.</p> <p>Although no longer a Public House the frontage is retained and still considered to be of merit</p> <p>These are on the corners on Ivor Place. Locations have been added to text.</p> <p>Added to management proposals as desirable...info will also be forwarded to Highways.</p>
	<p>CHARACTERISTIC LAND USES 6.2 Residential. What evidence is there for the general assertion regarding single occupation? Balcombe Street has been bucking that trend for decades and the drift is still clearly towards an increasing number of houses in single family occupation.</p> <p>6.7 Ivor Place has a restaurant, a laundrette, and a sort of dentist. Please update your information.</p> <p>'A number of pubs through-out the area.' Really? In fact there is one on Gloucester Place, near Marylebone Road, one near Dorset Square on Balcombe Street, one on Baker Street and The Feathers in Linhope Street. Hardly through-out.</p>	<p>Many of the buildings on Dorset Square and Gloucester Place have now been converted to flats.</p> <p>The audit looks at land-use in terms of character of the area, rather than planning use classes. As such, certain types of units are lumped together and things like laundrettes are put with shops as these have the same visual impact on the street scene.</p> <p>This reference was not meant to imply that there are large numbers of pubs rather than those in the conservation are not grouped together in one location but are located in various locations throughout the conservation area. The exact number of pubs is also listed.</p>
	<p>7 NEGATIVE FEATURES & ENHANCEMENT Setting of the Conservation Area 7.3 Perhaps this could read – the rear elevation of the block of flats on Taunton Place dominate Huntsworth Mews, affecting its character. What about the</p>	<p>This sentence currently reads 'To the end of Huntsworth Mews, the back elevation of buildings on Taunton Place dominate the character of the mews.' This is</p>

Consultee	Comments	Council Response
	<p>impact of the Business School, is it worth considering? Lessons learnt or to be learnt?</p> <p>Maintenance and Painting 7.11 Could particular buildings which make a negative impact on Gloucester Place be mentioned? 7.12 'inappropriate colours' Could some research be done on original paint colours then a shade could be recommended. Ditto for railings and doors.</p> <p>Threshold Treatment 7.16 Inappropriate tiling is to be discouraged. Could you also mention as inappropriate tarmac and marble. And those plastic imitation pebble tiles as at 24A Ivor Place.</p> <p>Table of Negative Buildings, Features and Sites</p> <p>I largely agree. Please note the following:</p> <p>21 Balcombe Street. This building still retains a trace of the form of the original terrace in scale and fenestration. The side to the mews does introduce an alien emphasis on horizontality.</p> <p>208-216 Baker Street Disagree strongly. This is a well-proportioned sixties building which by virtue of its proportions fits its site well. It seems perhaps intrusive because it plays differently with the dialogue of horizontality and verticality present in the Georgian terraces as well as in Chiltern Court's classicism. But at least those elements and its context are recognised. I agree that its relationship with the building to the north is slightly awkward. It would be unfortunate, however, if such buildings were seen as easy targets for demolition. These modest but precisely drawn sixties designs fulfilled a rather interesting town-planning brief has surely earned its place as part of the historic space. I would be inclined to include it as an unlisted building of merit.</p> <p>58 Boston Place. Unclear about which materials are considered poor. The door hood is certainly inappropriate and the garage door, as well as the small side</p>	<p>considered to be accurate.</p> <p>Yes, specific sites are referred to in the table.</p> <p>Stucco should be white/off white and the railings painted in black. This has been added to management proposals with reference to the design guides which advise on this.</p> <p>The negative features section refers to inappropriate surface treatments as detrimental to the area.</p> <p>Agree</p> <p>Disagree. This building does not relate well to adjoining townscape and uses poor quality materials, which have not weathered well. It is not considered to represent a good example of 1960s design and has poor shopfronts and very large roof plant. Further explanatory text added to audit.</p> <p>Although not clear from the black and white photo in the audit, this building has been rebuilt in poor quality bricks and is poorly detailed. Further description added.</p>

Consultee	Comments	Council Response
	<p>window. Conversion back to residential use at ground floor would be welcome with a reinstatement of traditional fenestration.</p> <p>24-26 Boston Place – The shocker here is the swing opening windows at first floor level surely? Surely a case for enforcement? Signage etc at ground floor level could be more sensitive.</p> <p>46 Boston Place The roof extension is unfortunate as it removed a butterfly roof which was of historic and design importance. However, it is by no means the worst. It is important to the retention of the hierarchy of building heights which is such a guiding principle in the Dorset Square Conservation Area that the council is able to prevent an extension of mansards next door and so on.</p> <p>90-92 Boston Place –These were rebuilt in the 1970's The poorly designed UPVC widows and doors continue to rear at first floor where they are an intrusive element.</p> <p>100 Boston Place Agree, but the loss of original proportions of door and windows to height and width of façade is also of importance.</p> <p>36 Chagford Street This photograph is out of date.</p> <p>Taunton Mews Specify what would be preferred?</p> <p>32 Ivor Place Out of date photograph. Proper awning now in place. Signage a little over large but surely not a negative feature. I declare an interest: have had many a meal!</p> <p>11-12 Ivor Place Could you give more detail about what is wrong and how it should be?</p> <p>15-16 Ivor Place. Now in residential use. Could council suggest replacement of original house frontage to match those existing?</p>	<p>The main negative element is considered to be the ground floor treatment, with solid metal doors and large box signs.</p> <p>Agree, removed specific reference to this building and included within general section on roofs as negative.</p> <p>Agree</p> <p>Agree</p> <p>Checked on site and the photo is up to date.</p> <p>Traditional timber-boarded coach doors. Although the awning has been removed, signage is of a very poor standard and the fascia is a plastic box sign, which is contrary to Council guidance. There may be some elements of traditional shopfronts behind</p> <p>More detail added</p> <p>If appropriate scheme for reinstatement was submitted the planning department would consider this. However, the owners cannot be required to reinstate.</p> <p>Problem here relates to mixture of detail, materials used in surfacing forecourts and range of modern railing and wall designs,</p>

Consultee	Comments	Council Response
	<p>Linhope Street – You imply that the street would look better i.e. be more appropriate without the walled forecourts. Why not say so?</p> <p>SHOCKERS INEXPLICABLY* NOT INCLUDED</p> <p>165 Gloucester Place inappropriate first floor fenestration</p> <p>6 Taunton Mews inappropriate treatment of window and door.</p> <p>179 Gloucester Place, see below.</p> <p>60 Balcombe Street – poor treatment of shop window.</p> <p>72 Boston Place negative effect of inappropriate door</p> <p>44 Boston Place Inappropriate external shutters.</p>	<p>many of which are unsympathetic. Wording revised to make this clear.</p> <p>Added to negative features and passed to enforcement.</p> <p>Ground floor treatment at Taunton Mews added as generally negative.</p> <p>Not considered negative</p> <p>Not considered negative</p> <p>Reference to shutters added as general point within visual clutter.</p>
	<p>MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS</p> <p>8.1 You state that effective management can be met through...the positive use of existing development control and enforcement powers.’ This is news to this resident.</p> <p>For example</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 179 Gloucester Place Grade II Listed – chicken wire to railings, ventilation outlet through window. Its rear garden has been built over and now forms a dental studio with an Ivor Place address. The ramp is poorly constructed and the tiling out of character. City Council was notified some four years ago about this site. Nothing except the removal of a small portico roof has been done. -24 A Ivor Place has plastic pebble tiling to the exterior. Again nothing done and no photograph, yet it is out of character for Conservation Area. - Top opening swing windows are inappropriate anywhere in this area. What is the Council doing about them? <p>Opportunities for change OR</p>	<p>The document and section on management proposals section relates to powers that the planning department has to manage the area. This is primarily through use of enforcement where appropriate and development control.</p> <p>179 Gloucester Place has recently been the subject of an enforcement notice and appeal. Details of this work have also been passed to the enforcement team for action.</p> <p>The pebble tiling to the front forecourt would not require permission. The audit does, however, seek to encourage appropriate forecourt treatment but cannot enforce this. 24a Ivor Place is, however, not considered the worst example of this type of alteration and the pebbles are only on a small area. On unlisted buildings, replacement of windows in single family dwellings unfortunately does not require planning permission and the council</p>

Consultee	Comments	Council Response
	<p>enhancement.' I sincerely hope you didn't mean this. Surely you would not accept something equally poor but poor in a different way? Surely you require enhancement by a design or element which is more in keeping with, and appropriate to, the essential characteristics of the Conservation Area.</p> <p>8.2 Table of Proposals Infill Development – Please note my earlier comments. If existing rear extensions are going to set a precedent for further building over of rear gardens and open spaces then a vital, original and increasingly rare original feature of the Conservation Area as a whole will disappear entirely; and this would be against policy. Please redraft point 3 in this section. Meaning unclear.</p> <p>Maintenance and Painting Technical guidance – please give information regarding traditional lime and other permeable materials and the importance of these 19thC buildings being able to 'breathe' Few people aware.</p> <p>External Plant ...Actively discourage a/c plant on 19thC houses and conversions – unnecessary in most circumstances especially when in residential use.</p> <p>GLOSSARY OF TERMS Butterfly Roof. Your definition contradicts the effect of butterfly roofs in Boston Place where the effect is not to allow the illusion of a flat roof but to allow expression of roof form on the front elevation. You could explain somewhere that there are 2 different roof drainage systems i.e. with the central gutter expressed internally or externally.</p> <p>COMMENTS ON MAPS AND ILLUSTRATIONS Figure 1.4 Could we have a more up to date photograph showing the excellent standard of the station wall brick work and the huge improvement following Mr Akers tree planting. Very appropriate and very much appreciated.</p> <p>Figure 21 Date of construction. Are you aware this is not entirely accurate as to</p>	<p>cannot therefore take action.</p> <p>We would always seek to encourage improvements. Planning legislation, however, states that the council must seek to preserve or enhance the conservation area. This means that we cannot enforce enhancement.</p> <p>Point three states that the council will consider extending the conservation area, which it is in the process of doing.</p> <p>Agree this is important. Technical guidance is contained within the council's SPG on listed buildings, which is referred to in this section. Further info on this point has also been added to negative features.</p> <p>This will be addressed in the revised SPD on plant.</p> <p>Boston Place is a unique example where this is expressed to the front. However, a butterfly roof would usually be set behind a parapet.</p> <p>This picture was taken this year. However, this will be retaken.</p> <p>Council's GIS system identifies</p>

Consultee	Comments	Council Response
	<p>building footprints.</p> <p>Figure 31 Could you do better in illustrating Gloucester Place?</p> <p>Figs 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 and following are confusing and confusingly laid out. 62-64 Balcombe Street are very exceptional. Why show this style of later elaboration in Balcombe Street where it is untypical, rather than in Park Road where it is typical?</p> <p>Figure 35 illustrating 4.32 This illustrates a typical fanlight but the door, and this goes un-remarked also has the beginnings of an entire alphabet in chrome lettering down its centre. This is highly inappropriate in a Georgian context. Please place in Negative Features. It is certainly NOT to be imitated.</p> <p>Figures 41-43 caption errors south end of Linhope Street, north end of Linhope Street.</p>	<p>ground floor plots, so sometimes this does not relate to the exact building footprint</p> <p>This photo shows typical detail on Gloucester Place. Other photos included elsewhere.</p> <p>Figure 32 shows typical street detail, Figure 33 shows example of lateralts and Figure 34 shows typical detail.</p> <p>Disagree. The photograph is of the door and fanlight. The small metal building number and three letters for the flats are relatively discreet.</p> <p>Caption is correct.</p>
	<p>Figure 73 Roof extensions Please check Boston Place. Have you indicated the correct buildings as suitable for roof extensions?</p> <p>Also roof extensions are suggested to rear of some buildings on Gloucester Place. Not only would this cut access to light and ventilation to existing Gloucester Place properties but it also overlooks and overshadows the rear of buildings in Linhope street. It is hard to see any gain in amenity to anyone by narrowing the 'lightwell' space – once garden areas - between these properties.</p> <p>Please note there is NOT a straight run of mansards on the west side of Balcombe Street up top Ivor Place as shown. There is a group of 5 mansards (46-54) and a group of two(34-36). Could you also check Boston Place. My feeling is that it is not correct either.</p> <p>Figure 74. Please check for accuracy especially Boston Place. At my count rather more at the south end of Boston Place remain 'of merit' despite some superficial alterations .I object to the 60's building on Baker Street being</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Only one property to the rear of Gloucester Place and Chagford Street is shown as potentially suitable for a roof extension. This would of course be subject to amenity considerations, which would need to be considered as part of any application submitted.</p> <p>Map checked.</p> <p>Map checked</p>

Consultee	Comments	Council Response
	<p>described as having Negative impact. I would almost call it unlisted of merit. I also query the inclusion on the building on the north corner of Ivor Place and Balcombe Street. This is surely the 'carcase' of the original terrace rather than a prime demolition site!</p> <p>Figure 104 Should read Gloucester Place not Street. Figure 105 Should read Park Place</p> <p>Figure 121 Land-use Please up-date.</p>	<p>Amended</p> <p>Checked</p>

Sustainability Appraisal Report

**For the Dorset Square
Conservation Area Audit SPD**

April 2008

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- Appendix 3: Sustainability Appraisal Objectives
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1. Non Technical Summary

Purpose and methodology

The purpose of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is to promote sustainable development through the integration of social, economic and environmental considerations into the preparation of all planning policy documents. This SA considers implications of the Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) from a social, economic and environmental perspective, by assessing different options and the draft SPD against available baseline data.

The preparation of the SA for the Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit has involved two key stages, namely:

- The production of a Scoping Report, setting out what the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal would be which was issued for consultation in March 2008.
- The production of the final Sustainability Appraisal Report, which follows this non technical summary.

The Scoping Report identified the key sustainability issues for the Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit. These included:

- Increasing pressure on the natural and built environment.
- Need to promote sustainable building policies and practice.
- Maintaining economic diversity and increasing local opportunity.

This led to 17 'Sustainability Objectives' being formulated, which were used to describe sustainability effects. These include issues such as improving health and well-being and reducing fear of crime and can be found in Section 4 of the main report.

Appraisal of Options

The key sustainability issues along with a careful assessment of issues raised by the public; stakeholders and technical advice were used to formulate the options which are included in Section 5 of the main report. The options assessed were:

Option 1: Prepare the Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit SPD

Option 2: Do Nothing

The key changes and the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of each option were identified and assessed against the 17 sustainability objectives. This concluded that the preferred option was to adopt a Conservation Area SPD for Dorset Square.

Statement of Significant Effects and Difference the Process has made

The next stage of the SPD attempts to predict the effects of the SPD. The SA process and the SPD have been initiated to build upon the policies in the Unitary Development Plan. Generally, the draft SPD performed well against sustainability objectives and the majority of effects identified were positive. However, certain minor negative issues were identified and proposals for mitigation have been identified and these recommendations have been incorporated into the draft SPD.

How to Comment on the Report

Public consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal will run until **9 May 2008**. Comments can be posted, emailed or faxed to the address below:

Conservation Area Audits Department of Planning and City Development Westminster City Hall 64 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6QP	Fax: 020 7641 2338 Email: conservationareaaudit@westminster.gov.uk
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2 Appraisal Methodology Guidance and Limitations

In accordance with section 39 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and PPS 12, a Sustainability Appraisal has been carried out to assess the social, environmental and economic effects resulting from the Conservation Area Audits. The appraisal methodology is based on the approach set out in the Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit Scoping report, which was subject to consultation with the statutory consultation agencies in early 2008.

The Sustainability Appraisal Report has been compiled using a number of guidance documents including:

- Policy Planning Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks
- Sustainable Appraisals of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents (ODPM, November 2005).

The Audit will be a Supplementary Planning Document and will be a part of the new Local Development Framework suite of documents. The process is set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Links between SEA/SA and SPD development

Plan Stage	SA/SEA Stage	Date Undertaken
Pre-production	A. Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope A1. Identify other relevant plans, programmes and sustainability objectives. A2. Collect baseline information A3. Identify sustainability issues A4. Develop the SA framework, consisting of sustainability objectives, indicators and targets A5. Test the SPD objectives against the SA framework A6. Consult on the scope of the SA	November-December 2007
Production	B. Developing and refining options B1. Appraise issues and options	January 2008
	C. Appraising the effects of the SPD C1. Predict the effects of the SPD C2. Assess the effects of the SPD C3. Mitigate adverse effects and maximise beneficial effects C4. Develop proposals for monitoring C5. Prepare the SA report	April 2008
	D. Consulting on the draft SPD and SA report D1. Consult on the SA report D2. Appraise significant changes D3. Decision making and provision of information	April 2008
Monitoring	E. Monitor implementation of the plan E1. Monitor the significant effects of the plan E2. Respond to adverse effects	

Timetable and Responsibility

An SA Scoping Report was produced to set out the initial context and findings of the SA and the proposed approach to the rest of the appraisal. The aim was to ensure that the SA was comprehensive and addressed all issues and objectives by enabling input from key stakeholders and consultation bodies at an early stage of the process. The report also set out the proposed methodology for the SA, giving details of its proposed level of detail and scope.

The Scoping report set out an initial assessment of:

- The relationship between the SPD and other relevant plans and programmes
- Sustainability objectives established at the national, regional and local level.

- The current environmental, social and economic baseline and any trends
- The likely key sustainability issues

The information contained within the Scoping Report forms the backbone of this Sustainability Appraisal. The Sustainability Appraisal was carried out by officers within the Planning and City Development Department.

Who was consulted?

Statutory bodies were consulted on the Scoping Report, with responses received from English Heritage and English Nature. These comments were primarily baseline indicator information and have been taken into account in re-drafting. A wide range of stakeholders were consulted on the audit itself at both pre-production and draft stages. A separate consultation statement summarising all representations received has been prepared.

3 Background

Purpose of Sustainability Appraisal

The Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that Local Development Documents, including SPDs, are subject to Sustainability Appraisal incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment.

The purpose of a Sustainability Appraisal is to assess the social, economic and environmental impacts of plans at a strategic level, in order to ensure that planning decisions are made that accord with the principles of sustainable development. This Sustainability Appraisal has been carried out according to the ODPM guidelines: "Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents."

Background To SPD

Westminster City Council Department of Planning and City Development is preparing all its conservation area studies as Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD). The Dorset Square SPD provides guidance on the protection, enhancement and management of the conservation area. It identifies those features of special interest, which contribute to the local townscape and set out the council's policies and guidance for the protection of the areas. It also identifies negative features and opportunities for enhancement and change within the areas, as well as management proposals to guide future change and development.

The SPD will act as a tool for the proactive management of the conservation area and to guide future change. As such, they will assist with the overall objective of conserving and enhancing the City's historic environment.

All the matters covered in the Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit relate to saved policies in the Westminster City Council Unitary Development Plan 2007. It therefore conforms with current Westminster planning policy national policy and the London Plan.

Information on the timetable for preparation, consultation and production of these SPDs is contained within the Local Development Scheme, which is available on the Westminster website at:

<http://www.westminster.gov.uk/environment/planning/ldf/local-development-scheme.cfm>

Compliance with the SEA Directive

In accordance with the Government’s draft guidance on strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), SAs of SPDs should also fully incorporate the requirements of the European Directive 2001/42/EC, known as the SEA directive. This directive is transposed into English law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004- the SEA Regulations. Whilst SEA and SA are distinct processes, the intention of this SPD is to adopt an approach to appraisal which also meets the requirements of the SEA directive.

4 Sustainability objectives, baseline and context

Identifying other relevant policies plans programmes & sustainability objectives.

The purpose of reviewing other plans and programmes and sustainability objectives is to ensure that the relationship between these documents and the draft SPD has been fully explored. This will in turn ensure that Westminster City Council is able to act on any identified inconsistencies between international, national and local objectives.

This SPD covers a small area and will only have impacts at a local level, therefore the other relevant plans and programmes will be confined to those which influence at this local level. Table 2 below shows a list of the plans and strategies that were reviewed as part of the SA. A full review of these which sets out the implications for the SPD is set out in the Scoping Report and at Appendix 2.

Table 2: List of plans and Strategies reviewed.

National
PPS 1 Delivering sustainable development
PPS 9 Biodiversity and Geographical conservation
PPS 12 Local Development Framework
PPS 22 Renewable energy
PPS23 Planning and pollution control
PPS25 Development and Flood Risk

PPG 3 Housing
PPG 4 Industrial, commercial development and small firms
PPG 8 Telecommunications
PPG 15 Planning and the Historic environment
PPG 16 Archaeology and planning
PPG17 Open Space, sports and recreation
PPG 24 Planning and noise
English heritage Guidance on Conservation Area Appraisals and Conservation Area Management.
Regional
The London Plan
Mayor's London View Management Framework (2007)
Mayor's Energy Strategy (2004)
Local
Replacement Unitary Development Plan 2004
Westminster City Council's Community Plan – One City (draft)
'Air Quality Strategy & Action Plan' (2001) and 'Air Quality Strategy & Action Plan: Progress Report' (2005)
Open Space Strategy (draft)
Sustainable Buildings SPG
Economic Development Strategy
Nature Conservation Strategy (1997)
'Biodiversity Action Plan' (2000)
Design Matters in Westminster – Supplementary Planning Guidance on creating good City architecture
Development and Demolition in Conservation Areas
Railings In Westminster SPG
Roofs: A guide to Alterations and Extensions on Domestic Buildings
Shopfronts, Blinds and Signs
Westminster Way: A Public Realm Manual for the City
Inclusive access and Design SPG

Baseline Information

The Sustainability Appraisal requires relevant current information to set out the characteristics of the plan area and the environmental features likely to be affected. The gathering of baseline information provides the basis for monitoring and predicting effects thus enabling sustainability issues to be identified and suggest potential mitigation measures, or ways of dealing with them.

A crucial part of the procedure is to ensure that where possible each of the SA objectives is supported with comprehensive and up to date baseline information. The collection of baseline data for the appraisal needs to be co-ordinated with the development of the information base for the plan itself. The task is also linked to the development of the SA Framework which includes criteria and objectives.

Data was collated from a variety of sources, from very local to regional. Not all information was available, and certain datasets were too complex to translate

into localised district or ward information practically in the time available. The Scoping Report again provides detailed information on the baseline data. The collection of baseline data for the SPD has helped to identify the key social economic and environmental issues that need to be addressed.

Table 3: Details the sustainability issues that exist for the City of Westminster and Dorset Square Conservation Area.

Sustainability Issues	Characteristics and supporting data
<p>Increasing pressure on the natural and built environment including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immense pressure upon open space • General lack of open space in the residential areas in the north-west and south of the borough • The need to protect, enhance and increase biodiversity and increase in habitats. • Problems caused by late night activities – noise, smells, rubbish • Need to protect and enhance the cultural heritage, both architectural and archaeological, particularly given the significance and high number of listed buildings and conservation areas. • Air pollution, the borough is a declared AQMA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.2 ha of public accessible open space / 1000 resident pop. • Common standard of 1.6 ha / 1000 pop. Initially open space provision does look acceptable. But the vast influx of daily tourists and visitors swells the daytime population to approx. 1 million people. Reduces this standard to .5 ha / 1000. • Westminster covers an area of 365 hectares and 17.1% is deemed deficient in biodiversity. When compared to the other inner London Borough's Westminster is slightly better than average. But the situation is by no means satisfactory • The pressures placed on wildlife are compounded by the sheer number of daily visitors that enter the borough. • River quality when compared to the rest of the country is not very good, for London as a whole. • Westminster has 38 theatres, 60 Cinemas, 17 Casino's, 3,000 + eating, drinking, nightlife establishments. 430 hotels (40% London's Hotel stock) Home national Ballet and Opera companies, museums and art galleries. All of which attract people to the C of W (City of Westminster) and contributes to increasing pressure on the environment as well as noise and rubbish issues. • The cleanliness of the public realm when compared to neighbouring borough's figures is not very good and when compared to the national average for authority type is not good at all. Is an issue when considered with the amount of visitors the city has and the importance it is as a tourist destination. • Protected vistas cross large parts of Westminster. This in turn will influence and shape spatial land use and building design. They therefore are significant when considering the impact upon sustainability. • Historic and listed buildings are an issue in Westminster because of their large number and level of importance. This will have an impact upon many spatial land use issues and decisions. There are over 11,000 listed buildings in Westminster, this represents 20% of Listed buildings in London. It also has 54 conservation areas, covering 76% of Westminster by area, as well as 1 World Heritage Site, 6 Royal Parks' 19 historic squares and gardens and 5 areas of special archaeological priority. • Dorset Square Conservation Area includes no Grade I, one Grade II* and 199 Grade II listed buildings. Dorset Square is protected under the London Squares Preservation Act. • Air pollution affects residents, daily commuters and visitors to the borough. The AQMA for the whole of Westminster declared in 1999 for NO2 and PM10. In 2004 PM10 and NOx are at levels that exceed European standards.
<p>Noise and the impact upon human health and quality of life,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambient noise levels • Noise impact from licensed and commercial activities • Cooling / heating plant for buildings • Transport noise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHO state that to prevent serious annoyance during the day in outdoor living areas noise should not exceed 55db_{leq} for a steady continuous noise. Night noise levels at the outside façade of living space should not exceed 45db_{leq}. Note that the average hourly night time noise levels only drop below the WHO day time recommended values between 02:00-04:00. this data indicates that noise is a major issue in Westminster. • Westminster noise survey (June 2003) highlighted that traffic noise is the major issue in Westminster, particularly if the vehicle noise source is also included. Construction activities also have a relatively significant impact. Noting that this information does not indicate is the impact upon residents from entertainment and licensed premises. • A study of 17 London boroughs has shown that in 1999/2000 the number of Noise service request in Westminster was more than three times higher than the average and 45% higher than the figure for the next highest borough.
<p>Waste and recycling,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No waste handling facility in Westminster recycling rates need to improve as population increases • Street cleansing important 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no waste handling facility within the City primarily due to the immense pressure upon land. All of Westminster's waste has to be handled outside of the borough. • Recycled waste is material separated from municipal waste to be processed into marketable products. WCC is average when compared to other by figures but there are grounds to make huge improvements. Noting that in 2001 the C of W was responsible for 2,000 tonnes of disposable nappies. • A high proportion of municipal waste from Westminster is incinerated. Much higher than the average. • Westminster is below the national average and below neighbouring boroughs in terms of the percentage of the population that is by kerbside collection or are within 1KM of a recycling centre.

<p>Road transport and congestion are an issue The provision for pedestrians and cycling needs to be increased.,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of the public realm is important • Pedestrianisation is an issue due to the number of people entering Westminster on a daily basis. • Further support for alternative modes of transport, specifically cycling and walking, including green travel plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WCC has a daily influx of people that takes the borough's daily population to over 1 million (approx.). • In Westminster the underground is the predominant mode of public transport. • Walking in Westminster is also important. Despite this and the level of public transport access 13.2 % of residents still drive to work. • In Westminster there is increased reliance upon Public Transport for those with no access to car • The majority of the Borough has an excellent PTAL rating, level 6b(40.01+). The north west and south of the Borough has slightly less public transport access which does correlate with the more deprived areas in the borough. • Westminster has a very high level of road vehicle ownership. Particularly in comparison with the rest of London and England & Wales. • Congestion around the CCZ has decreased with Westminster having an average % change when compared to other London Boroughs that surround the CCZ. • The borough has intense pedestrian activity. Managing this number of people is a major challenge. Particularly with all the other land use pressures experienced in the Borough. • Overall trend for KSI (Killed or Seriously Injured) figures are that they have progressively dropped since 1990. When compared to neighbouring Boroughs the situation is not good. National target is to reduce Killed and Seriously Injured on GB roads by 40% by 2010 compared with 94-98 averages. In Westminster this means a reduction from 302 to 181 between 2000 and 2010 • WCC has good public transport links, which are reflected in the high proportion trips to school being made on these modal transport groups. • Cycling is an issue and advised by the Safe Routes to Schools officer this is mainly down to lack of storage space. As well as possible safety issues. • Advised walking figures are relatively good and are helped by the small catchment areas Westminster schools have.
<p>Climate change, climate change adaptation and air quality,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green house gas emissions and contribution to this global issue • Change in weather patterns • Increase in flood risk • Flash flooding and drainage issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proportion of carbon emissions from commercial activity is very high. C of W accounts for 11.8% of this sectors total for London. • C of W emits 6.8 %of the total carbon emissions for the whole of London, which is approximately 0.6% of the whole of the UK's total. • The main contributing factor would be the amount of electricity consumed within the borough by commercial activities (12.6% of total emissions from electricity used in commercial activities for the whole of London). • WCC is also responsible for 11.4 of total carbon emissions from gas used in commercial activity for the whole of London. • The C of W figure is far higher than the figure for London. The main reason is the high proportion of commercial activity. Future climate in London is predicted to be, warmer, wetter winters more intense downpours of rain • Hotter drier summers, with more frequent and extreme high temp. Reducing the impact upon climate change and adapting to the predicted changes are vital and need to be addressed. No specific figures for C of W found. • The Thames region accounts for 10% of land in the UK and nearly a quarter of the population with a below average annual rainfall. Water is a major issue in the SE, London and so Westminster. • Flooding is deemed low risk but is something that needs to be taken into account, particularly as the true impact of climate change is not yet fully known.
<p>Sustainable building policies need to be embraced in a far greater fashion,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to increase energy efficiency measures • Application of SUD's • Sustainability issues in historic and listed buildings as well as new developments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficult from this data to fully ascertain the issues from C of W perspective. But the nature of the intensely developed urban environment is conducive to cumulatively impacting on these types of water pollution incidents. • UK trend is for more electricity being generated from renewable methods. • For the Thames region the average water consumption in litres/ person /day in 2000 – 01 was 163 by 2004 – 05 reduced slightly to 161 litres/day. Increase in water consumption with a greater amount used in the Thames (therefore C of W) region than the country as a whole. This is important when the steady increase in people living in the region is on the increase. • The application of sustainable design and construction standards are required to assist in improving the overall contribution to sustainable development BREEAM and eco-homes would seem that sort of approach that would allow this to happen. • Refitting buildings so they embrace sustainability may pose difficulties in Conservation Areas and lead to some policy clashes.
<p>Supply of appropriate housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homelessness is a major issue • supply of affordable and intermediary home • over crowding and polarisation and lack of family units 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little change in amount of homelessness in Westminster over the last 4 years. Although the number in London has dropped, a high proportion are in Westminster. Where as trend is falling in C of W is static. • Throughout the county and London number of houses completed has steadily increased. In Westminster this trend is very much the opposite. Except for social housing which has increased. • The number of dwellings in London is increasing on the same land size. This increase the pressure upon local services and infrastructure overcrowding and the density of people in C of W is a major issue being the third most crowded LA area in the country • No of council properties (2005) in Westminster was 12,407, this figure has consistently decreased over the last 11 years.

<p>Major challenge is the creation of cohesive and inclusive communities, which are sustainable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to supply appropriate level of social and community facilities if sustainable communities are to be created and maintained • Mixed use pattern of land use creates conflicting issues • Remedy areas, which are recognised as deprived. • Health and well-being of all the community and Community cohesion and inclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Westminster has seen a steady increase in population from 174,842 in 1991 to 181,286 in 2001, which is a similar rate to the national increase. London as a whole has seen a greater increase in the number of people / hectare the ninth densest local authority in the UK. • Adult pop is higher than average with the children and elderly proportion being lower. • Ethnicity is diverse in Westminster and is not only reflected in these statistics but also by the fact that there are 120 languages (City Futures, City of Westminster Profile) spoken by residents in the borough. It is vital then to have an inclusive society, which can maximise the potential of all residents. • Westminster is a diverse religious community with Christian biggest group followed by no religion followed by Islam. • By comparison Westminster has a higher than average senior management/ professional occupation. Although it does have a slightly less than average small employers and lower supervisory employment types. • Life expectancy in Westminster is above the London average as well as the average for England and Wales for both men and women
<p>Maintain economic diversity and increase local opportunity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land and office cost very high in Westminster • Careful is not a victim of its own success, very successful economic activity covering a wide number of areas. Needs to include all age groups in facility provision • Education and job creation and distribution of wealth to local communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16,207 offices – 8.4 million m² • 8,526 retail premises – 2.2 million m² • GDP in 2005 was £16 billion • Number of business based in the borough is 47,000 (mar. 2005) • More business failing than starting up. With high % than for London and much high % for GB. • New business figures are similar to those for London and more than for GB as a whole • The supply of jobs far out strips the supply of residents and is far greater than the London and GB figures. • Westminster provides 14.1% of all employment in London (Economic Development Strategy, Mar.05) • Westminster has proportional more full-time jobs than rest of London and the country as a whole • Westminster more dependant on the service sector than the rest of London or GB. In particular finance, IT and business activities and tourism. Manufacturing is much lower than for GB. As is construction. The patterns are similar when compared to the rest of London. • Westminster has higher than average number of residents of working age • Huge disparity between average income male and female residents. Greater than for rest of London and the country. • Average pay is high than for the rest of London and the country as a whole • Westminster has less Job Seeker Allowance claimants (JSA) than London and slightly more than the GB average. • In all areas more men than women claiming JSA The trend is similar for all areas. With less younger people claiming JSA in Westminster. But more middle range claiming as with over 50's. • Westminster is a very deprived area on these indices. It is a borough of extremes with some of the wealthiest areas in the country next to some of the poorest. Church St and Queens Park are the two most deprived SOA in London and the UK – therefore the distribution of wealth across the Borough would appear to be a key issue. • When compared to the rest of London the education figures are not that different. Area where this is an issue is NVQ1 level which less than 5GCSE's is below the figures for London and GB. Over view at the very bottom of the scale and the top Westminster is above London and national figures. It is the middle of the scale where there are problems which is the school leavers type of education.

Likely Future Trends

Identifying and predicting future trends is difficult with so many differing local, regional and global facts that interplay and impact on the City of Westminster and therefore the Dorset Square Conservation Area. The key factors, which have been identified and will have a future impact are:

- **Continuous redevelopment taking place with density of residential and commercial premises increasing. There are very few large sites available in the City.**

- **Current residential population is 230,000 and this is expected to increase to between 310,000 and 350,000 by 2016. This predicted rise in population will further increase pressure upon the social and community facilities as well as the local environment.**
- **Meeting the challenge of supplying affordable quality housing will always be an issue, due to the numbers of people living and wanting to live in the borough, as well as the ever-increasing pressure on land.**
- **Increasing availability of new technology to enhance and deliver services to all residents.**
- **The economy of the City of Westminster is important locally as well as nationally, with over half a million people employed and approximately 50,000 businesses located within the City. It will increasingly rely upon the service sector to provide jobs and business tourism is set to increase and will require improved services and facilities.**
- **The Olympics in 2012 are predicted to have a major impact upon the City of Westminster through Olympic events themselves, tourism, entertainment, shopping and hotel usage (presently 40 % of all of London's hotels are located within the City of Westminster).**
- **The City of Westminster is a dynamic and ever changing area. Crossrail (lines 1 and 2) may have an impact on the Dorset Square Conservation Area.**

The Sustainability Appraisal Framework, including objectives targets and indicators

The identification of sustainability issues allows the development of a set of sustainability objectives, which will be used to appraise and modify policies, to increase their sustainability credentials. It can be seen as *a methodological yardstick against which social, environmental and economic effects of a plan can be tested.*¹

The sustainability objectives have been developed in the first instance by researching issues specific to the City of Westminster through detailed discussion with key officers in the Local Authority. These issues have then been used to guide and target the collection of baseline information, which in turn has provided the evidence base to form an initial set of sustainability objectives. These have subsequently undergone an extensive internal consultation process resulting in the sustainability objectives, which are set out below in Table 6. Objectives have been reviewed and adjusted to create the 17 sustainability objectives (see appendix 1 for objectives, sub-objectives and indicators), which have been used to assess the sustainability aspects of the draft Conservation Area audits and are listed below in table 4.

These sustainability objectives have also been formulated having regard to the need to be consistent with those in the London Plan, the higher tier regional spatial plan.

¹ ODPM Guidance

Table 4 SA objectives and their support of the three key pillars of sustainable development.

	Sustainability Objectives	Social	Environ	Economic
1	To create cohesive, inclusive and safe communities with appropriate levels of social and community facilities.	✓		
2	To reduce the fear of crime and actual crime.	✓		✓
3	To ensure the provision of appropriate housing types to meet homeless, affordable, intermediary, over crowding and family unit demands.	✓		
4	To promote and improve health and well-being.	✓		
5	To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support climate change adaptation	✓	✓	✓
6	To require the application of sustainable design and construction in all new developments and refurbishment of existing buildings.		✓	✓
7	To minimise flood risk, promote sustainable urban drainage and protect surface and ground water quality.		✓	
8	To protect, enhance and create environments that encourages and support biodiversity.		✓	
9	To improve air quality.	✓	✓	
10	To reduce the impact of noise.	✓	✓	✓
11	To reduce the need to travel and use of private motorised vehicular transport as well as encouraging walking, cycling and the use of public transport.	✓	✓	✓
12	To reduce waste production and increase recycling and recovery of all waste.		✓	
13	To protect and enhance the historic environment and architectural, archaeological and cultural heritage.	✓	✓	✓
14	To enhance the public realm and street environment.	✓	✓	✓
15	To protect, enhance and seek opportunities to increase open space throughout the borough.	✓	✓	
16	To ensure equality of opportunity and improve opportunities for education, training and employment.	✓		✓
17	To maintain economic diversity, increase local opportunity and support sustainable economic growth.	✓		✓

The sustainability objectives have also been derived so that they meet the environmental protection objectives set out in the SEA Directive. This is demonstrated in Table 5, which demonstrates how the sustainability objectives support and meet the SEA Directives key environmental protection issues.

Table 5 listing SA/SEA objective and their link to SEA Directive protection objectives

Environmental protection objectives (part f, Annex 1, Directive 2001/42/EC)	Sustainability Objectives
Biodiversity	7, 8, 9, 14, 15
Population (this term is not clearly defined in the Directive)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5,
Human Health	1, 2, 3, 4,
Fauna	5, 8, 15
Flora	5, 8, 15
Soil	7, 13
Water	5, 6, 7,
Air	5, 9, 11,
Climatic Factors	5, 6, 7, 11, 12,

Material Assets (this term is not clearly defined in the Directive)	3, 5, 6, 7, 14
Cultural heritage – Architectural, archaeological,	13, 14, 15
Landscape	5, 7, 13, 14, 15

Sustainability Objectives Framework

The Sustainability Objectives have been assessed for their compatibility with each other to identify any potential conflict between the individual objectives. For this assessment each objective had the same weight and equal importance. The resulting matrix set out in Figure 1 identifies where potential clashes between individual objectives may exist.

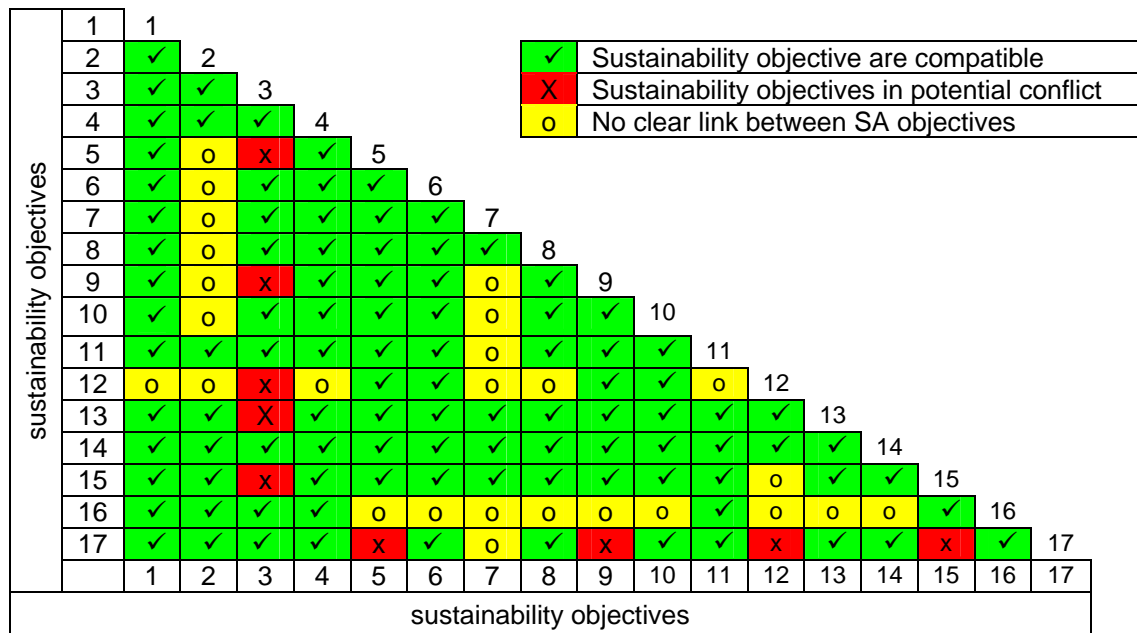


Figure 1. Assessment of the compatibility between the sustainability objectives.

It demonstrates that the majority of the objectives are compatible with each other or that there is no clear link and therefore no predicted conflict. There are a number of exceptions where possible conflict between two sustainability objectives may exist.

Objective 3 (appropriate housing units) and 17 (sustainable economic growth) are predicted to be in conflict with other sustainability objectives. This is because they both require the potential increase in activities, which could contribute to increasing pressure upon the local environment. This includes increasing carbon emissions, contributing to local air pollution, producing more waste; and placing further pressure upon green space and the historic environment.

The assumptions or justification for the conflicting objectives are presented below in Table 6 accompanied by considerations that will assist in mitigating the predicted issues.

Conflicting objectives	Comments / Justification / Assumption	Mitigation / Resolution / Consideration
3 and 5	With an increase in residential units there will be an increase in space heating / cooling, which along with associated transport demands is likely to increase greenhouse gas emissions.	Climate change consideration will need to be taken in to account when forming policies relating to residential unit construction, conversion or refurbishing

3 and 9	An increase in the number of housing units will mean an increase in space heating from boilers and increasing demands on transport usage, including private road vehicles, all of which will impact upon air quality	Air quality consideration will need to be taken into account when form policies. Will also reflect other plan objectives – WCC AQAP, The Mayors AQAP and national AQAP.
3 and 12	Increase in residential units will increase the amount of municipal waste that will need to be collected and recycled.	Waste and recycled material storage space need to be supplied in residential developments and services need to be able to cope with potential increases in waste and recycled material.
3 and 13	Pressure to supply more residential units could impinge on historic environment as the demand for housing is satisfied.	Careful consideration for the historic environment needs to take place to prevent this happening; difficult as pressures on land constantly increase.
3 and 15	More residential units are likely to increase pressure on open space by actual land take and increase in numbers using the open spaces.	Land pressure in very difficult to resolve. Have green space is vital for social well being and community cohesion.
17 and 5	Any increase in economic activity is likely to have a negative impact upon greenhouse gas emissions because of the increase in buildings and subsequent heating / cooling demands and transport requirements.	Climate change consideration will need to be taken in to account when forming policies relating to commercial unit construction, conversion or refurbishing
17 and 9	Increasing economic activity will require more commercial buildings requiring space heating / cooling which, will contribute to levels of air pollution. Also, more people travelling to work in the City will increase demands on transport again will contribute to air pollution.	Air quality consideration will need to be taken into account when form policies. Will also reflect other plan objectives – WCC AQAP, The Mayors AQAP and national AQAP.
17 and 12	An increase in economic activity is directly and indirectly likely to increase waste production.	Recycling within commercial organisations needs to be encourage and so reduce the conflict between these two objectives
17 and 15	Increase in economic activity may increase pressure on open space as more people use then for recreational purposes	The increase in pressure upon open space is inevitable if more people work in Westminster.

Table 6. Identification and explanation for conflicting objectives.

The potential for conflict between sustainability objectives are not insurmountable and through the development of policies these can be minimised. The identification of these potential conflicts now means that this information can guide and inform future policy decisions.

5 SPD Options Appraisal

Main options and how they were identified

One of the key requirements of SA is to consider reasonable alternatives as part of the assessment process. The aim of options appraisal is to assess the preferred option alongside others previously considered, against the sustainability framework.

This process enables comparison between options, highlighting any potential implications on sustainability. The appraisal of options also enables recommendations for mitigation of negative impacts and suggestions for modifications to the preferred option as presented in the draft SPD.

The options have been appraised against the Sustainability Objectives, in environmental, social and economic dimensions. A scoring system was used for every objective, for the short, medium and long term and a summary of the option against each of the dimensions were reached. A conclusion sums up the general impact the option would have and makes comments on the sustainability of this option.

The main options identified for the Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit can be described as a “Do Nothing” and a “Best Practice” approach.

Option 1 The “Do Nothing” option consists of the current situation, with the conservation area in place but with no formal guidance as to how the character of the area will be interpreted.

Option 2 The “Best Practice” option consists of the conservation area supported by guidance in the form of the draft Dorset Square Area Audit.

A table showing appraisal of options can be found at Appendix 4.

Option 1 –

This option does not have dramatic effects against the sustainability objectives and, for the majority of them, the effect would be neutral. However, environmentally this option would minimise the opportunities to enhance certain aspects of the physical environment. Against the social objectives, evidence elsewhere suggests that the historic built environment can have positive knock on effects and by utilising this option these perceived benefits will not materialise, such as education and involvement of the community through consultation which helps to promote social cohesion. Economically this option is likely to have a minor negative effect. The conservation of the historic built environment has the potential to give economic confidence (e.g. via promoting a positive image) and stimulate economic growth and actively aid in regeneration. Westminster’s historic built environment forms the focus of tourism, which brings substantial economic benefits.

With regards to **Option 2**, the Council recognises the important role of the historic environment to the character of Westminster, with associated environmental, social and economic benefits. Whilst it is evident that development within the historic environment can rarely occur without some form of compromise, it is unlikely that the adoption of the SPD would have any notable negative impacts and this should provide clarity for developers. Conservation area audits also help to formulate proposals to enhance the historic environment having long lasting impacts and helping to preserve local distinctiveness. Socially, although in some instances the links are rather limited or neutral, this option can, if adequately consulted on, help to generate a sense of local ownership to the area. Furthermore, this can help towards other social issues, such as crime, by encouraging people to value their surroundings which should have a cumulative effect of improving the physical environment of locations. Economically, again, this option should have an overall positive impact, especially in relation to tourism and sustainable growth, benefiting businesses by enhancing areas.

The preferred option is thus to prepare a conservation area audit for the Dorset Square Conservation Area.

6 Appraisal of Plan's Effects

This section provides a record of the prediction and assessment of the potential effects of the draft SPDs. The appraisal process has used an appraisal framework. The analysis is presented in Appendix 5 and includes each of the plan objectives. The plan objectives are appraised in turn for their potential impact on each of the sustainability objectives. Scores are recorded on a five-point scale (major negative impact; minor negative impact; neutral impact; minor positive effect; major positive effect; impact uncertain).

The appraisal process has considered the following issues:

- Direction of effect: is the policy moving towards or away from sustainability?
- Severity of effect: will the effect be marginal or significant?
- Cumulative and synergistic effects: are there potentially significant effects resulting from a combination of activities, which may be insignificant individually?
- Trans-boundary effects: does the effect impact on adjoining boroughs?
- Timing of Effect: does the effect occur immediately or later, does it last indefinitely or only temporarily?

The plan's objectives appraised in this way are as follows:

- Expand upon the UDP Policy DES 9: Conservation Areas by providing a detailed appraisal of the historical interest, architectural qualities, street patterns and spaces, trees, townscape detail and negative features, comprising the Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit.

- Provide a fair and effective and transparent mechanism for reviewing the design and appearance of proposed development in the Dorset Square Conservation Area
- Identify potential enhancements and proposals for the future management of the conservation area.

Potential overall effects of the draft SPDs

The matrix shows that the majority of the sustainability objectives are affected either positively or very positively by the implementation of the SPD. The negative impacts of the SPDs on sustainable development are:

- **It may have a negative effect on the affordability of housing**
- **It may have a negative effect on the use of low emission technology**
- **It may have a negative effect on making land and property available for business development**
- **It may have a negative impact on reducing the impact of noise**

However, these effects are uncertain.

Time scale and reversibility

Each action has been assessed for its potential impact over time and, if negative, whether it is reversible. The main findings of this assessment are;

- Almost all time scales for implementation and resulting impacts is for the medium and long term. This is mainly because of the lead in times for the actions, the actual nature of the actions and what they set out to achieve.
- All impacts, both positive and negative, are perceived to be reversible

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

The significant sustainability effects of implementing the draft SPD will be monitored to help identify unforeseen adverse effects and to enable remedial action to be taken. The Council is required to prepare Annual Monitoring Reports to assess the implementation of the Local Development Scheme and the extent to which policies in the Local Development Documents are being achieved. The SPD will be included in this process.

Key next steps

1. Appraisal of any significant changes proposed to the draft SPD not already considered.
2. Publishing a statement following adoption of the SPD setting out any changes to the SPD in response to the SA process
3. Monitoring the significant effects.

Conclusion

The Sustainability Appraisal process has enabled assessment to be made of the social, environmental and economic impacts of the Conservation Area both with and without the Audit. Planning decisions should not be affected by the guidelines, which give clarity to applicants on the changes that will require permission and which changes are likely to be acceptable.

The main benefit of the SA process is that it has enabled the development of mitigation measures and monitoring which will ensure that any adverse impacts can be minimised.

The SA process has also documented the current status of social, environmental and economic aspects of the areas in the form of baseline data, which will act as a check to determine whether any unintended consequences are resulting from the audits. The SA process has also documented the status of social, environmental and economic aspects of the area in the form of baseline data, which will act as a check to determine whether any unintended consequences are resulting from the publication of the SPD.

The conclusion of the SA process is that option 2 with the SPD in place is the most sustainable and will:

- Lend clarity to the planning process
- Help safeguard Westminster's historic built environment and promote a high quality environment for residents and business, with associated economic benefits especially relating to tourism
- Safeguard the character of open spaces and promote improvements to public realm and street environment

A number of issues have been highlighted by this appraisal which are being taken into account in amending the SPD before it is formally adopted by Westminster City Council.

The significant sustainability effects of implementing the draft SPD will be monitored to help identify unforeseen effects and to enable remedial action to be taken. This will mean the Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit will be a more sustainable document and will thereby embrace social responsibility, economic development and environmental protection.

Appendices

Appendix One

Consultees on the Scoping Report SEA Consultation bodies

English Heritage
Environment Agency
Natural England

Representatives of other interests

Westminster Property Owners Association

(Full consultee list in Statement of Consultation)

Appendix 2: List of Plans and strategies reviewed

Relevant Plans, Programmes, Policies & Strategies

National and International

PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development, ODPM 2005
<http://www.communities.gov.UK/index.asp?id=1143805>

Requirement or objectives

Facilitate and promote sustainable patterns of urban development by:

- Making suitable land available for development in line with economic, social and environmental objectives to improve the quality of life.
- Contributing to sustainable economic growth.
- Protecting and where possible enhancing the natural and historic environment and the quality and character of the countryside, and existing successful communities.
- Ensuring high quality development through good design.
- Ensuring that development supports existing communities and contributes to the creation of safe, accessible, sustainable communities.

Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan

SPD documents need to take objectives in to account and these should be integrated into policies.

Implications for the SA

These themes should underpin the sustainability appraisal.

PPG 3 Housing, 1990

<http://www.communities.gov.UK/index.asp?id=1143941>

Requirement or objectives

- Plan to meet housing requirements for whole community.
- Provide wider choice, mix, size, type, location and mixed communities.
- Make more efficient use of land and under utilised buildings.
- Reduce car dependency in residential development.

Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan

SPD should not conflict with the objective of meeting the housing needs of the whole residential community.

Implications for the SA

SA will identify the social, environmental and economic implications of different housing types and identify the best from a sustainability perspective and any conflict with conservation policies.

PPG 4 industrial, commercial development and small firms

<http://www.communities.gov.UK/index.asp?id=1143926>

Requirement or objectives

- Encourage economic growth which is compatible with environmental objectives
- Give greater certainty as to types of development allowed in specific locations
- Commercial activity located where transport is most efficient and road traffic reduced
- Mixed use is acceptable and encouraged unless specific environmental adverse effects are likely. Optimum use should be made potential sites and existing premises.

Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan

The needs of business and economic development need to be taken into account and considered along with environmental and social implications.

Implications for the SA

The SA will assist in identifying potential conflict between economic policies, the environment and social considerations.

PPG 8 Telecommunications http://www.communities.gov.UK/index.asp?id=1143926		
Requirement or objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitates the growth of telecommunication systems while keeping environmental impacts to a minimum, with particular concern for impacts upon buildings of architectural or historic importance. Take into account cumulative impact of multiple masts Location of mast relative to sensitive receptors 	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan The improvement of telecommunications should be balanced against the protection of the environment and society.	Implications for the SA Infrastructure provision needs to be taken into account from the impacts upon the environment, society and economic perspective.
PPG 13 Transport http://www.communities.gov.UK/index.asp?id=1144016#P13_304		
Requirement or objectives The objectives of this guidance are to integrate planning and transport at the national, regional, strategic and local level to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> promote more sustainable transport choices for both people and for moving freight; promote accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling, and reduce the need to travel, especially by car. 	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan The improvement of public transport, cycling and pedestrian provision needs to be taken into account when forming the SPD policies.	Implications for the SA Sustainable transport is vital for sustainable development and needs to be taken in to account and
PPG 15 Planning and the Historic Environment DoE and Department of National Heritage, 1994 Link: http://www.communities.gov.UK/index.asp?id=1144041		
Requirement or objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should be effective protection for all aspects of the historic environment The physical survival of our past is to be valued and protected as a central part of our cultural heritage. 	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan Need to protect historic buildings and especially to preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the conservation area underpins the SPD.	Implications for the SA Identify the most appropriate options for protection to conservation area whilst meeting social and economic needs
PPG 16 Archaeology and Planning DoE and Department of National Heritage, 1990 Link: http://www.communities.gov.UK/index.asp?id=1144057		
Requirement or objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Archaeological remains are irreplaceable; they are vital evidence of past development of our civilisation. In particular care must be taken to ensure that archaeological remains are not needlessly or thoughtlessly destroyed. 	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan Need to meet the balance between protection and preservation off archaeological sites with the need to meet social and economic needs of an area.	Implications for the SA Identify the most appropriate options that protect archaeological sites while meeting social and economic needs.
PPG17 Open space, sports and recreation http://www.communities.gov.UK/index.asp?id=1143926		
Requirement or objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting local standards for open space and identify extra provision requirements as well as improving access and existing facilities. Maintain an adequate supply of Open Space by protecting existing facilities (including playing fields), using development opportunities to 	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan SPD should be consistent with the objective of protection of open space as pressures on land increase across the City.	Implications for the SA Protection and enhancement of open space is important economically, socially as well as environmentally.

<p>improve open space and associated facilities, prevent the erosion of quality of open space, better management of open space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New open space should taken in to account; accessibility, contribute to town centre vitality, improve the quality of public realm, provision of open space in commercial areas, safety, meet regeneration needs, social inclusion and needs of tourists • Use planning obligations to alleviate local deficiencies. Particularly where quality and/or quantity is threatened and local needs are increased. 		
<p>PPG 24 Planning and Noise http://www.communities.gov.UK/index.asp?id=1143926</p>		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noise can have a significant effect on the environment and on the quality of life. • Development of specific land uses should be guided to appropriate locations. • Development plans should give developer and the community a degree of certainty about areas where particular types of development will be acceptable 	<p>Policies should take into account the impact of noise across the City. With particular focus on preventing noise generating land use being located near to noise sensitive land uses.</p>	<p>Need to ensure focus on minimising the impact of noise upon the local environment and community.</p>
<p>PPS 9 Biodiversity and Geographical conservation http://www.communities.gov.UK/index.asp?id=1143803</p>		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustain, maintain, restore and enhance biodiversity and environmental resources • Ensure appropriate significance in made to protected sites of biological importance • To accommodate biodiversity within new development, +recognising the link between nature conservation and a sense of well-being in the community. • This corresponds with biodiversities role in supporting economic diversification. 	<p>Policies need to take into account the need to protect and enhance biodiversity.</p>	<p>Identify which policy options will have the most positive effect on biodiversity.</p>
<p>PPS12 Local Development Framework ODPM 2004 Link: http://www.communities.gov.UK/index.asp?id=1143847</p>		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes the format and methodology to be employed to implement the new planning system documents. 	<p>Is a guiding PPS on the whole process so influence is paramount.</p>	<p>SA must comply with procedures as set out in this planning policy statement.</p>
<p>PPS 22 Renewable energy http://www.communities.gov.UK/index.asp?id=1143803</p>		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statement of government policy concerning planning and development control of renewable energy developments. UK target to generate 10% of electricity from renewable sources by 2010, and 20% by 2020. 	Establishes targets for renewables. Endorses policies that actively encourage the inclusion of renewable energy in the energy mix. This needs to be balanced against the protection of the historic environment.	Policies need to employ the best option for promoting the uptake of renewable energy in new and existing buildings.
PPS23 Planning and pollution control http://www.communities.gov.UK/index.asp?id=1143803		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration should be made to the quality of land, air and water and potential impacts from development Potential sensitivity to pollution – landscape, soil, air, water nature conservation. Reduce land use conflict caused by mixed use developments Compliance with statutory environmental quality standards Limit GHG emissions and take into account potential effects of Climate Change (including drainage) Cumulative impacts to be considered 	Impacts of existing pollution are minimised and that any new development does not increase pollution levels in general.	SA will identify options that allow development which minimise cause of environmental pollution
Guidance on Conservation Area Appraisals and Guidance on the Management of Conservation Areas English Heritage, 2005 Link: http://www.english-heritage.org.UK/server/show/nav.00100200800q005		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
Sets out guidance for the preparation of conservation area appraisals and management of conservation areas	The format of the conservation area appraisal should be in conformity with this guidance.	
Regional		
The London Plan GLA 2001 Link: http://www.gov.UK/mayor/strategies/sds/plan_download.jsp		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
The Key Themes of the Plan are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> health of Londoner's equality of opportunity Contribute to sustainable development. And six key objectives which are; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To accommodate 's growth within its boundaries without encroaching on open spaces. To make London a better city for people to live in. To make London a more prosperous city with strong and diverse economic growth. To promote social inclusion and tackle deprivation and discrimination. To improve accessibility. To make a more attractive, well-designed and green city. 	Conservation Area Audit should be in general conformity with the London Plan.	The London Plan has had a sustainability Appraisal carried out on it therefore policies that directly refer to it should be as sustainable as is practically possible.
Mayor's Biodiversity Action Plan		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA

The Mayor's Biodiversity Strategy aims to protect and enhance the natural habitats of London together with their variety of species. The Strategy sets out the Mayor's vision for the future, identifying the key issues and providing innovative solutions. It demonstrates how biodiversity can be maintained as a crucial part of a sustainable world city.	Biodiversity needs to be taken into account by the Conservation Area Audit	Need to make sure biodiversity considerations have included in all the conservation areas policies
The Draft View Management Framework GLA 2005 Link: http://www.gov.uk/mayor/strategies/sds/spg-views.jsp		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
Provides guidance and policies on the protection of London views.	Conservation Area Audits identify local views using criteria suggested in the guidance	Sustainability Objectives must identify the most appropriate options for the protection of views whilst allowing for social and economic development.
Local		
Unitary Development Plan Westminster City Council , 1997 and 2004 (RUDP) http://www.Westminster.gov.uk/environment/planning/unitarydevelopmentplan/		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
The UDP sets out planning policies for developing land, improving transport and protecting the environment for the next 10 – 15 years. It advises people on the types of development likely to get planning permission. It gives guidance for planners when deciding on planning applications and the basis by which planning decisions are defended at public enquiry	Until the adoption of the LDF, the RUDP policies will set the foundation or stating point for the policies that are included within the conservation area audit. There consideration is obviously imperative	Monitoring of UDP policies provides much of the evidence base and baseline for the SA
Westminster City Council's Community Strategy – The City Plan 2006-16 (draft) http://www.Westminster.gov.uk/councilgovernmentanddemocracy/councils/partnerships/upload/CityPlanFinal.pdf		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
The City Plan sets a vision for the future and outlines key aims and priorities to achieve this vision over the next ten years. It does this by establishing the four key goals, with the priorities to achieve these goals which are: 1.An Improving City Environment • A safer city • A more sustainable, cleaner and greener city • A well-designed and distinctive city 2.Better Life Chances for All Our Citizens • A better city for children and young people • A city of opportunity meeting the aspirations of all our citizens • A strong and economically thriving city built in partnership with business 3.Cohesive communities and engaged citizens • A more united city • A stronger voice for local people 4.Customer Tailored Services. • Accessible services • Locally-focused services	The Community Strategy identifies the policy options to which all other policy documents should contribute. Conservation Area Audits must therefore align with these.	As the City Plan is designed to encourage economic, social and environmental well being of the city the policies it affects should be sustainable.

Sustainable Buildings SPG http://www.Westminster.gov.UK/environment/planning/sitesandprojectspolicies/spg.cfm		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
Advises on the life cycle of building projects, including the basic principles of sustainable construction. Key goal is to enable the environmental performance and quality of design of buildings in the city to be improved.	The objectives of the SPD should be embraced within the Conservation Area Audits, so that the impact upon the environment from new development is reduced and social as well as economic consideration are taken into account.	The SPD objectives will be supported by the SA as it assists in policy selection that contribute to sustainable development.
Design Matters in Westminster City Council http://www3.Westminster.gov.UK/planningpublications/cf-results.cfm		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
Sets out the councils policies with regards to design of new buildings in Westminster, including accessibility, sustainability and context.	Need to promote high quality design and materials, sensitive to the local context	SA objectives should incorporate these themes
Development and Demolition in Conservation Areas SPG Westminster City Council http://www3.Westminster.gov.UK/planningpublications/cf-results.cfm		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
Sets out the city council's policies and guidance with regards to development and demolition in conservation areas.	Retention of unlisted buildings of merit, original architectural detail and features which contribute to the character of the conservation area.	SA objectives must incorporate these themes.
Roofs – A Guide to Alterations and Extensions on Domestic Buildings Westminster City Council http://www3.Westminster.gov.UK/planningpublications/cf-results.cfm		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
Sets out the city council's policy with regards to alteration and extension of roofs.	Original historic roof forms shall be retained where appropriate and new design sensitive to historic context	SA objectives must incorporate these themes.
Shopfronts, Blinds and Signs, Westminster City Council http://www3.Westminster.gov.UK/planningpublications/cf-results.cfm		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
Sets out the city council's policy with regards to alterations to shopfronts.	Shop front and signs should be designed with respect to the architecture and character of the area. The shop front must be seen as an integral part of the building. Seek to prevent loss of traditional shopfronts, reinstate features where missing in any scheme for a new shop front. T	Need to balance economic and environmental objectives.
Westminster Biodiversity Action plan, Westminster City Council, 2000 http://www3.Westminster.gov.UK/publications/publications_detail.cfm?ID=691		

Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
Identifies priority Species and Habitats For Protection In Westminster - Sets out a series of Action Plans covering this.	Protection of priority species and habitats	Assess the effectiveness of audit in combining aims of built environment and nature conservation.
Westminster Way- A Public Realm Manual for the City, Westminster City Council, 2004 http://www3.Westminster.gov.UK/publications/publications_detail.cfm?ID=1114		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
A manual for design of public realm in Westminster	Use of high quality materials and high standard of design contributing to an accessible, sustainable and attractive public realm, in keeping with the character of the conservation area.	Need to assess sustainability of materials and contribution of high quality public realm to economic and social as well as environmental objectives
Air Quality Strategy for Westminster http://www.Westminster.gov.UK/environment/pollution/airpollution/airqualityinfo.cfm		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce emissions from the most polluting vehicles by working with the Mayor and London boroughs to implement a low emission zone To reduce traffic and discourage unnecessary car journeys through traffic control and restraint based parking policies To promote the use of alternative road fuels such as gas, fuel cells and electricity in general, but especially in council vehicles, contractors vehicles, buses, taxis, light vans. To promote the development of a refuelling infrastructure for alternative fuels in Westminster and central London To enforce emissions standards through: the roadside emissions testing programme, and the stationary vehicles offence - working with other London local authorities. To promote alternative modes of transport to the private car including walking, cycling and public transport To reduce the impact of development on traffic emissions To minimise emissions caused by building activities To minimise emissions caused by the use of buildings To monitor air quality To raise public awareness To work in partnership with others 	The objectives need to be integrated and supported by the plan so that new development has a minimal impact upon air pollution.	Policies that minimise the impact upon air quality need to be identified by the SA.
Economic Development Strategy http://www.Westminster.gov.UK/Business/economicdevelopment/upload/EDS%20final.pdf		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA

Has three key objectives; 1. Supporting Business and Enterprise 2. Business friendly City Management 3. Promoting Employability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A clean and safe environment creating the right conditions for businesses to succeed and thrive. Provide businesses and employers with the skills that they need on their doorstep. 	SA needs to select options that support environmental protection, are socially responsible as well as allowing economic development.
Open Space SPG http://www.Westminster.gov.UK/environment/planning/ldf/documents/oss.cfm		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
The key objectives of the Open Space Strategy are to improve the quality, management, accessibility and usage of parks and other open spaces in the City. Provide new facilities where there are deficits in provision and also provide well maintained, quality open spaces which are safe and attractive to all	Open space is important and needs protection as the pressures on land increase through out the city.	The objectives and actions of the open Space Strategy therefore need to be taken into account.
Nature Conservation Strategy (1997) http://www.Westminster.gov.UK/environment/landandpremises/conservation/index.cfm		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
Strategy developed to ensure that valuable resource protected for the benefit of everyone in the city. Key aims are 1. Protect existing habitats and create new opportunities for wildlife. 2. Encourage wildlife through the sympathetic management of green spaces. 3. Improve public access to and understanding of nature in the city. 4. Monitor progress.	Policies need to safe guard and protect and enhance important habitats and biodiversity	Sustainability appraisal must highlight any policies that would have a detrimental impact on biodiversity measures
Emerging Supplementary Planning Guidance on Inclusive Access and Design, Westminster City Council (2006)		
Requirement or objectives	Requirements and objectives to be integrated into the Plan	Implications for the SA
Encourage provision of access for all as part of new development and refurbishment schemes	Policies need to safeguard the environment with	Need to balance safeguarding the environment with social considerations and providing inclusive access for all

Appendix 3: Sustainability Appraisal Objectives

Appendix 2 Sustainability Appraisal Objectives

Number	Sustainability Objective	Sub-objective	Indicators
1	Reduce poverty and social exclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the economic opportunities for excluded people and communities • Reduce poverty and social exclusion in those areas most affected • Improve affordability to essential services to the home • Improve affordability of housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Census levels of deprivation • Proportion of the population living in deprived areas • Proportion of children in low income families • Proportion of people claiming benefits • Proportion of the population of working age in full-time employment • Levels of fuel poverty
2	Improve health and well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the health and well-being of the population • Provide, protect and improve health facilities • Reduce health inequalities • Encourage healthy lifestyles • Maximise the safety of streets for pedestrians, cyclists & motorists • Provide facilities for sport and recreation • Provide and ensure access to open space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average life expectancy of population • Mortality rates by cause • Working days lost through illness • NHS hospital waiting lists • Access to a GP • Access to a hospital • Levels of health inequalities • Levels of participation in sport and cultural activities • Proportion of journeys on foot or by bicycle • Proportion of school children travelling to school, by mode of transport • Access to green space • Number of pedestrian, cyclists and motorist accidents • Percentage of resident population describing their health as 'not good'
3	Improve availability of decent homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce homelessness • Increase the range of housing and increase housing choice for all • Increase the affordability of housing for all • Improve the quality of housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levels of homelessness • Proportion of the population living in temporary accommodation • Affordability of housing in comparison to earnings • Levels of availability of good quality housing for all social groups • Housing completion figures • Affordable housing completion figures • Proportion of homes judged unfit to live in
4	Reduce anti-social activity and remove the fear of crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve community safety and establish conditions that discourage crime • Encourage safer environments through • Reduce actual crime levels and fear of crime design • Reduce actual noise levels and noise concerns resulting from anti-social behaviour • Reduce the impact of anti-social behaviour on the environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime levels • Fear of crime amongst the local and visiting populations • Noise levels and complaints • Litter levels • Number of Anti-social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) issued • Level of race-related crime
5	Improve sense of community identity and welfare and the quality of where people live	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage a sense of community and place, and embrace diversity • Provide, protect and improve religious facilities • Encourage development of and participation in cultural, creative and sporting activity • Support local activities and crafts • Protect, provide and improve community meeting places • Protect and improve sports, play and recreation facilities • Encourage active involvement in local decision making and voluntary activities • Support cross-cultural integration • Improve resident and visitor satisfaction with where they live • Improve the legibility of streets for all pedestrians • Ensure a mix of land uses • Protect and improve cultural provision • Protect and improve provision and quality of open spa • Provide, protect and improve childcare facilities and access to open spaces • Protect and improve provision of wildlife, and improve access to it where appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levels of engagement in community activities • Levels of engagement in voluntary activities • Levels of resident satisfaction, participation and sense of well-being • Proportion of the population that are or feel they can be involved in local decision making • Proportion of the population who feel their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds and communities can live together harmoniously • Proportion of residents who are satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live • Mix of appropriate land uses • Number of cultural events held • Number and type of cultural facilities available; • Additions and improvements made to open spaces • Number, accessibility and affordability of child care facilities; • Levels of biodiversity • Areas of wildlife protected

6	Reduce unemployment and Improve education and skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce unemployment both short and long-term Facilitate the creation and sustaining of employment, particularly where appropriate for the local population Provide opportunities for those most in need of employment Help improve work/life balance Help improve earnings Increase opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment Provide, protect and improve education facilities Facilitate development of local skills Develop and improve opportunities for lifelong learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall levels of unemployment Proportion of people of working age who are in work Proportion of people of working age who are unemployed Proportion of lone parents, long-term ill and disabled people who are economically active and claiming benefits Proportion of ethnic minorities in full-time employment Average hours worked by people in employment Average earning for full-time employees Qualifications achieved by the population Proportion of the population with no qualifications Proportion of the adult population participating in learning
7	Increase accessibility to essential services and community facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve access to buildings and ease of movement for all Improve interchanges between streets and buildings, with regard to levels, widths and obstructions Encourage developments that improve the quality of the spaces between buildings Improve access between housing, jobs, services and amenities Improve provision of public transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of residents within walking distance (500m/15mins) of key local services (post office, food shop, GP, primary school) Childcare spaces available per 1,000 population Levels of new retail floorspace Availability of public transport
8	Improve air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce direct emissions of local air Reduce combustion of natural resources pollutants Encourage and facilitate the use of low emission technology and fuels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of days per year of air pollution Levels and concentrations of pollutants in the air Levels and concentrations of emissions Levels of use of low emission technology and fuels Planning permissions granted for solar panels and alternative energy sources
9	Reduce contributions to climate change and vulnerability to impacts, including flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce direct emissions of greenhouse gases Reduce emissions of ozone depleting substances Encourage use of renewable energy to minimise use of finite resources Minimise non-renewable energy consumption Protect against storm damage Protect against potential river flooding and flash flooding Reduce the risk of subsidence Protect the microclimate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levels of CO2 emissions Levels of renewable and non-renewable energy use Thermal efficiency of the building stock Energy efficiency of road passenger travel Energy efficiency of rail passenger travel Energy efficiency of freight distribution Depletion of fossil fuels Depletion of ozone Sale/use of ozone depleting substances Frequency of fluvial flood events Development in the floodplain Amount of land affected by subsidence Works undertaken for flood prevention Works undertaken to protect from storm damage Amount of fossil fuels used
10	Protected and enhance open space and conserve soil resources and quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce use of minerals, materials and resources Use minerals, materials and resources more efficiently Ensure that contamination of land is prevented or remedied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levels of minerals, materials and resources Levels of contaminated land Net loss of soils to development Levels of soil quality Amount of contaminated land remediated
11	Minimise production and harmful effects of waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise use of resources and materials Conserve manufactured resources Reduce waste generation Reduce hazardous waste Encourage more efficient use of resources Encourage use of renewable materials and resources Encourage use of once-used and recycled materials Enable recovery of energy from waste Ensure careful and efficient collection and storage of waste Enable collection of used resources and materials so they can be recycled Enable environmentally satisfactory disposal of waste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levels of materials consumption per person Levels of waste generated in total and per household Levels of material recycling in total and per household Destination of all waste and that just from households i.e. recycling, composting, used to recover energy, landfill Source of materials used in total and just within households i.e. recycled, re-used Levels of hazardous waste Compliance with EU Landfill Directive

12	Protect, maintain and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna and improve water quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect designated nature conservation sites of national, metropolitan and local significance • Protect and enhance habitats and buildings that benefit wildlife, such as gardens, trees, rivers, water bodies and wild spaces • Protect and provide priority habitats • Protect and provide for priority species • Protect and enhance open spaces • Prevent pollution of water bodies and courses • Improve the quality of water bodies and courses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievement of Biodiversity and Species Action Plan targets at National and Westminster levels • Changes in priority habitats • Changes in populations of priority animal species • Trends in plant biodiversity • Population of wild birds • Number of habitat enhancement projects in open spaces • Levels of marine life in water bodies and water courses • Levels of dangerous substances found in water • Levels of nutrients found in water • Levels of pathogens in water • Amount of dissolved oxygen in water • Number of significant pollution events in the river Thames • Number of incidents of accidental/deliberate release of pollutants into water bodies
13	Conserve and enhance the historic environment and the quality of landscapes and townscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage repair, maintenance and protection of historic buildings and structures • Protect public art, monuments, statues and their settings • Protect and enhance sites, features and areas of cultural value • Preserve and enhance historic parks and gardens • Protect and conserve the archaeological resources • Improve the legibility of streets for all • Improve ease of movement for all • Ensure high quality visual streetscape and buildings • Preserve and enhance the character and fabric of conservation areas • Reduce street clutter • Ensure clean streets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss or damage to listed buildings and their settings • Loss or damage to scheduled ancient monuments and their settings • Loss or damage to historic parks and gardens and their settings • Loss or damage to historic landscapes and their settings • Percentage of conservation area demolished or otherwise lost • Loss or damage to historic view lines/strategic views and vistas • Levels of loss or damage to public art, monuments, statues and their settings • Measures in place to protect and conserve archaeological resources • Measures to protect historic view lines/strategic views and vistas • Level of street legibility • Quality of visual streetscape • Changes in character of the conservation areas • Proportion of new homes built on previously developed land • Proportion of vacant land and properties • Proportion of streets that are clean/litter free • Improvements to the number/types of street furniture and signage • Number of street obstructions/obstacles
14	Reduce the need to travel and the use of the car.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage a reduction in travel and use of alternatives to powered transport • Encourage use of energy efficient transport modes • Reduce the need to travel, especially by private car • Encourage walking and cycling and other forms of sustainable travel • Integrate new development schemes with public transport • Provide infrastructure to enable efficient, optimal use of public transport, accessible to all • Reduce the impact of service and delivery vehicles on congestion and levels of pollution • Reduce congestion and minimise the intrusion of all vehicles in working and residential areas • Reduce traffic noise • Encourage use of sustainable river transport facilities • Optimise access for emergency vehicles on all routes • Encourage greater use of renewable cleaner fuels • Reduce the impact of passenger vehicles on congestion and levels of pollution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume of traffic on all roads • Volume of traffic on principle roads • Volume of heavy goods vehicles • Level of congestion • Level of traffic noise • Passenger travel by modes • Reasons for travel mode choices • Level of integration of new development schemes with public transport • Leisure trips by mode of transport • Proportion of trips made using alternative powered transport • Proportion of trips made using energy efficient transport modes • Level of investment in and use of sustainable water transport facilities • Levels of CO2 emissions • Levels of renewable and non-renewable energy use • Energy efficiency of road passenger travel • Energy efficiency of rail passenger travel • Energy efficiency of freight distribution • Depletion of fossil fuels • Amount of fossil fuels used • Number of Section 106 agreements for contributions to, or infrastructure provided for improving public transport
15	Require energy efficient buildings and provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure design of buildings and structures are resource efficient • Ensure buildings and structures are designed to be energy efficient • Ensure buildings and structures adaptable for re-use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of new buildings considered to be energy efficient • Proportion of building stock adaptable for re-use • Proportion of building stock safe-guarded for re-use
16	Encourage sustainable economic growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the strength of the economy is maintained and further sustainable growth is enabled and accommodated • Assist business development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in the number of businesses in the area • Levels of productivity • Indicators of competitiveness

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance competitiveness • Promote growth in key sectors • Promote tourism • Encourage indigenous business • Encourage inward investment • Make land and property available for business development • Promote innovation and enterprise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survival rates of new and established businesses • Diversity of economic sectors • Relative employment/output growth in different economic sectors • Long term economic growth of GDP (gross domestic product) • Number of new businesses opening and existing ones closing • Growth of local business by number of employees and turnover • Investment levels from UK owned companies • Investment levels from overseas owned companies • Amount of employment land available • Number of business applications granted planning consent • Image indices derived from consultation with businesses and the public • Volume of new investment
17	Reduce impacts from noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce generation of noise from all activities • Reduce generation of noise from all premises • Reduce emissions of noise from transport related activities • Reduce emissions of noise into properties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levels of noise generated from commercial premises and activities • Levels of noise generated from residential premises • Levels of noise emitted from transport related activities • Levels of noise imitated into properties • The number of noise complaints received
18	To ensure the plan does not negatively effect existing Westminster residents		

Appendix 4: Appraisal of strategic Options

Sustainability objectives	Option 2	Option 1	Comments and time-frame of effects
To create cohesive, inclusive and safe communities, with appropriate levels of social and community facilities.	0	0	By taking positive action to record and highlight the local environment and encourage local communities in the process, this may have minor positive impacts in terms of strengthening community identification with and pride in the local area, which may contribute to more cohesive communities.
To reduce the fear of crime and actual crime.	+	0	The document will take positive action in promoting a well-designed and attractive environment which will have minor positive benefits in the medium term arising from enhancement the image of the area, and the community's sense of identity and the reduction in fear of crime
To ensure the provision of appropriate housing types to meet homeless, affordable, intermediary, over crowding and family unit demands.	0	0	The recording of special architectural and historic interest of the areas will not have any impacts on housing provision.
To promote and improve health and well-being.	+	0	The document will take positive action in promoting a well-designed and attractive environment which will have minor positive benefits in the medium and long term on the quality of the environment which contributes to a sense of well-being.
To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support climate change adaptation	0	0	The recording of special architectural and historic interest of the areas will not have any impacts on greenhouse gas emissions.
To require the application of sustainable design and construction in all new developments and refurbishment of existing buildings.	0	0	The recording of special architectural and historic interest of the areas will not have any impacts on sustainable design and construction.

To minimise flood risk, promote sustainable urban drainage and protect surface and ground water quality.	0	0	The recording of special architectural and historic interest of the areas will not have any impacts on flooding.
To protect, enhance and create environments that encourages and support biodiversity.	+	0	The recording of special architectural and historic interest of the areas will not have significant impacts on biodiversity, although the protection of trees may have minor positive benefits in the medium term.
To improve air quality.	0	0	The recording of special architectural and historic interest of the areas will not have any impacts on air quality.
To reduce the impact of noise.	0	0	While conservation measures may have an effect on the placement of plant and air conditioning equipment, and therefore noise, this does not arise from the conservation area audit.
To reduce the need to travel and use of private motorised vehicular transport as well as encouraging walking, cycling and the use of public transport.	0	0	The recording of special architectural and historic interest of the areas will not have any impacts on reducing the need to travel.
To reduce waste production and increase recycling and recovery of all waste.	0	0	The recording of special architectural and historic interest of the area will not have any impacts on recycling or recovery of waste
To protect and enhance the historic environment and architectural, archaeological and cultural heritage.	++	0	Guidance on the architectural and historic character of the conservation area will have a major positive impact in the medium term on the ability to conserve and enhance the character of the conservation area.
To enhance the public realm and street environment.	++	0	Guidance on the architectural and historic character will promote the protection of features of interest in the public realm as well as public realm enhancements and will have a positive impact in the medium term.

To protect, enhance and seek opportunities to increase open space throughout the borough.	+	0	The guidance will have a positive impact in the medium term on protection of existing areas of historic open space, although it will not increase open space.
To ensure equality of opportunity and improve opportunities for education, training and employment.	0	0	The recording of special architectural and historic interest of the areas will not have any impacts on equality of opportunity and training.
To maintain economic diversity, increase local opportunity and support sustainable economic growth.	+	0	By recording and highlighting the architectural and historic interest of the conservation area there is likely to be a minor positive effect in the long term on the enhancement of the area's image for business and tourism.

Appendix 5: Summary of the impacts of the draft SPD

SA Objectives	Criteria for appraisal	Score	Comment / observation: effects and mitigation
1. To create cohesive, inclusive and safe communities with appropriate levels of social and community facilities	Improve the economic opportunities for excluded people and communities	o	Westminster's conservation policies, as set out in the Dorset Square Audit, make a positive contribution to Westminster's economic performance in general, by creating an attractive, desirable place in which to live, visit and do business. It is likely, though not proven, that this improvement to economic performance extends beyond the boundaries of the conservation area, and is of benefit to excluded people throughout Westminster.
	Reduce poverty and social exclusion in those areas most affected	o	There standard of living is high across the Dorset Square Conservation Area. Property values are high, with few social housing properties in the area. IMD scores are low, ranging from 14 – 18 across the area. It is not anticipated the audits will affect this situation.
	Improve affordability of essential services to the home	o	The conservation area audits are unlikely to have an impact on affordability of essential services.
	Improve affordability of housing	-	There is little opportunity for the conservation area audit to influence the availability of affordable housing. By enhancing the quality of housing and areas conservation measures may serve to maintain or increase property prices.
	2. To promote and improve health and well-being	Improve the health and well-being of the population	+
	Provide, protect and improve health facilities	o	No impacts are anticipated
	Reduce health inequalities	o	Encouraging protection and enhancement of the conservation area is unlikely to have an impact on health inequalities.
	Encourage healthy lifestyles	o	It is not anticipated that the audit will have any impact on encouraging healthy lifestyles

	Maximise the safety of streets for pedestrians, cyclists & motorists	o	Whilst the audit encourages reduction in street clutter which may increase accessibility for pedestrians, it will have little impact on cyclists and motorists, and overall is considered to have a neutral impact.
	Provide facilities for sport and recreation	o	It is not anticipated that the audit will have any impact on provision of leisure facilities
	Provide and ensure access to open space	+	The audit recognises the importance of open space to the character of the area. Dorset Square is protected under the London Squares Preservation Act.
3. To ensure the provision of appropriate housing types to meet homeless, affordable, intermediary, over crowding and family unit demands	Reduce homelessness	o	The audit is unlikely to have either positive or negative on the issue of homelessness.
	Increase the range of housing and increase housing choice for all	o	The audit, in identifying the majority of pre-war properties as unsuitable for demolition helps to maintain the historic mix of building types. However, it is not considered the audit will have any significant impact on housing choice.
	Improve the quality of housing	++	Ensuring high design quality of both new and existing buildings is a primary function of the Audit. New buildings in the conservation area should be designed to the highest standard, and should sit happily in their context. Works to existing buildings should always maintain or enhance the quality of those buildings.
4. To reduce both the fear of crime and actual crime	Improve community safety and establish conditions that discourage crime.	+	A high quality, well designed and maintained environment is less likely to be the location for crime. A good mix of residential and employment uses ensure that surveillance of the area is constant.
	Encourage safer environments through	+	The audit seeks to promote the highest standards of design within the conservation area and as such should also contribute to safer

	good design		environments.
	Reduce actual crime levels and fear of crime	+	The conservation audit discourages overly obtrusive security measures which serve to foster fear of crime. Solid roller shutters, high boundary walls, security fencing and cctv cameras can all contribute to an exaggerated perception of the risk of crime. These environmental approaches to crime reduction are discouraged in the Audit. A well-designed environment should help to reduce fear of crime.
	Reduce actual noise levels and noise concerns resulting from anti-social behaviour	o	The audit is not likely to have significant effects in this area. However, improving the quality of places can help to reduce anti social behaviour.
	Reduce the impact of anti-social behaviour on the environment	+	High quality environments discourage anti social behaviour. Environmental improvement resulting from policies in the audit will encourage people to value their surroundings.
5. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support climate change adaptation		o	No significant effects are anticipated as a result of the Dorset Square Audit. The preference for architecturally appropriate timber windows can lead to suboptimal thermal performance. This can be mitigated in numerous ways – by the use of double glazed units where possible, or by the use of secondary glazing and other insulation measures.
6. To ensure equality of opportunity and improve opportunities for education, training and employment	Facilitate the creation of sustainable employment particularly where matched to the needs of the local population	o	The economic benefits of a well maintained historic district could include encouraging investment. This is not proven.
	Provide opportunities for those most in need of employment	o	Whilst the conservation policies contained in the Audits may encourage inward investment and other economic benefits, this is unlikely to have specific impacts on those most in need.

	Help improve work/life balance	+	The land use section of the audit encourages the current mix of uses, with an emphasis on the residential character of the area. City centre living contributes to a better work life balance by reducing travel time between home and work.
	Help improve earnings	o	The audits are unlikely to have any impact on earnings.
	Increase opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment	o	The audits are unlikely to have any impact on local employment
	Provide, protect and improve education facilities	o	The audits are unlikely to have any impacts on educational facilities
	Facilitate development of local skills	o	The audits are unlikely to have any impacts on local skills, though the national conservation agenda, of which conservation area appraisals such as the Dorset Square Audit forms a part, is driving a resurgence in craft skills.
	Develop and improve opportunities for lifelong learning	+	Whilst not intended as an educational document, the Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit can and does function as such. It contains historical information, numerous photographs and a useful glossary. The document is useful to those pursuing local studies, as well as planning and conservation students.
7. To enhance the public realm and street environment		++	The conservation area audits have dedicated sections relating to the preservation and enhancement of the historic public realm, including specifically historic street furniture and historic street surfaces. Both of these, together with a co-ordinated approach to street furniture serve to improve the public realm. Other improvements to the public realm are promoted in the audit, including reduction of street clutter and preservation of important street trees.
8. To improve air quality	Reduce direct	o	The conservation area audit is unlikely to have an effect on

	emissions		emissions.
	Reduce combustion of natural resources pollutants	o	No significant effects are anticipated as a result of the Dorset Square Audit. The preference for architecturally appropriate timber windows can lead to suboptimal thermal performance. This can be mitigated in numerous ways – by the use of double glazed units where possible, or by the use of secondary glazing and other insulation measures.
	Encourage and facilitate the use of low emission technology and fuels	-	By encouraging the protection and enhancement of the historic environment, the Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit may prevent certain visually intrusive forms of technology such as the installation of on site micro generation. Rooftop plant is discouraged, as is the visual clutter caused by pipes, wires and flues. Intrusive elements at roof level or on facades are also discouraged. These measures could hinder to the installation of wind turbines and solar cells and biomass boiler flues. However, with careful siting it may often be possible to install low emission technology or other more appropriate technologies. Westminster could consider the preparation of further information on sustainable technologies that would not have an impact on the appearance of conservation areas and effects of this will be monitored.
9. To protect, enhance and seek opportunities to increase open space throughout the borough	Protect and enhance open space	+	The audits specifically encourage the protection and enhancement of historic open spaces within the conservation area. Effects should therefore be positive.
	Use minerals, materials and resources more efficiently	o	No impacts are anticipated.
	Ensure that contamination of land is prevented or remedied	o	No impacts are anticipated.

10. To reduce waste production and increase recycling and recovery of all waste.	Minimise use of resources and materials	+	The conservation policies in the Audit, specifically the identification of unlisted buildings of merit, make a positive contribution to the use of resources. Retention and re-use of historic buildings has significant resource savings from both the embodied energy in existing buildings, and the existing fabric.
	Conserve manufactured resources	o	No impacts are anticipated.
	Reduce waste generation	o	The audit will have no impact on waste generation.
	Reduce hazardous waste	o	The audit will have no impact on hazardous waste.
	Encourage use of renewable materials and resources	+	The conservation area audit encourages the retention of existing windows and doors or the use, where appropriate, of timber windows and doors. The use of PVC and aluminium for these purposes is considerably less sustainable, due to the high energy costs of their manufacture, and to waste issues arising from disposal.
	Encourage use of once-used and recycled materials	o	To a certain extent, the continuing reuse of historic building stock supports the reuse of building materials. Brick, slate, doors and other architectural detail can all be reused.
	Enable recovery of energy from waste	o	No impacts are anticipated.
	Ensure careful and efficient collection and storage of waste	o	No impacts are anticipated.
	Enable collection of used resources and materials so they can	o	No impacts are anticipated.

	be recycled		
	Enable environmentally satisfactory disposal of waste	o	No impacts are anticipated.
11. To protect, enhance and create environments that encourage and support biodiversity	Protect designated nature conservation sites of national, metropolitan and local significance	o	There are no sites of national, metropolitan or local importance in the Dorset Square Conservation Area audit.
	Protect and enhance habitats and buildings that benefit wildlife, such as gardens, trees, rivers, water bodies and wild spaces	+	The Conservation Area Audit encourages the protection of gardens from development, where they exist, and the protection of both street trees and private trees.
	Protect and provide priority habitats	o	No impacts are anticipated.
	Protect and provide for priority species	o	No impacts are anticipated.
	Protect and enhance open spaces	+	The Conservation Area Audit identifies the value of open space to the character of the area. Dorset Square is protected under the London Squares Preservation Act.
12. To protect and enhance the	Encourage repair,	++	The audit emphasises the importance of good maintenance of

historic environment and architectural, archaeological and cultural heritage	maintenance and protection of historic buildings and structures		historic buildings and structures as a principal plank of historic conservation.
	Protect and enhance public art, monuments, statues and their settings and sites	++	A dedicated chapter identifies significant public art in the area, and should ensure its careful custodianship.
	Preserve and enhance historic parks and gardens	o	There are no registered historic parks or gardens in the Dorset Square Conservation Area.
	Protect and conserve the archaeological resources	+	The incorporation into the Audit of information regarding areas of archaeological priority make the audit a useful resource for those planning below ground works. The history section provides useful background information.
	Improve the legibility of streets for all	++	The audits identify and seek to protect important views and landmarks, which contribute to the legibility of streets and spaces.
	Improve ease of movement for all	+	The audit recommends a unified approach to street surfaces, which will make a positive contribution to ease of movement.
	Ensure high quality streetscape and buildings	++	The identification of the special character of existing buildings in the conservation area will enable high quality, sensitive design of any new development. The protection of existing buildings of townscape merit will clearly be of great importance in ensuring the overall high quality of the streetscape.
	Preserve and enhance the character and fabric of conservation areas	++	The primary function of the Conservation Area Audits is to help preserve and enhance the special character of conservation areas.

	Reduce street clutter	+	The audit identifies street clutter as a negative feature of parts of the conservation area, and will help to support planning appeals on the erection of new items contributing to this problem.
13. To reduce the need to travel and use of private motorised vehicular transport as well as encouraging walking, cycling and the use of public transport	Encourage a reduction in travel and use of alternatives to powered transport	o	By identifying residential use as an important component of the character of the area, the audit encourages city centre living, and thus may lead to a reduction in travel times. However any such effects will be slight, and the overall impact of the audits on travel is considered to be neutral.
	Encourage use of energy efficient transport modes	o	The Audits will have no impact on efficient transport modes.
	Reduce the need to travel, especially by private car	o	No significant impacts are anticipated.
	Encourage walking and cycling and other forms of sustainable travel	o	No significant impacts on sustainable travel are anticipated.
	Integrate new development schemes with public transport	o	Large new schemes in the area are unlikely given the fine grain of plot boundaries and the large number of listed and other historic buildings
	Provide infrastructure to enable efficient, optimal use of public transport, accessible to all	o	No significant impacts on public transport infrastructure are anticipated.

	Reduce the impact of service and delivery vehicles on congestion and levels of pollution	o	No significant impacts on service and delivery vehicles are anticipated.
	Reduce congestion and minimise the intrusion of all vehicles in working and residential areas	o	No significant impacts on congestion are anticipated
	Reduce traffic noise	o	The audit has no impact on traffic noise
	Encourage use of sustainable river transport facilities	o	The audit has no impact on sustainable river transport
	Optimise access for emergency vehicles on all routes	o	The audit has no impact on access for emergency vehicles
	Encourage greater use of renewable cleaner fuels	o	The audit has no impact on renewable cleaner fuels
	Reduce the impact of passenger vehicles on congestion and levels of pollution	o	The audit has no impact on passenger vehicles
14. To minimise flood risk, promote sustainable urban drainage and protect surface and ground water quality	Protect against storm damage	o	The audit has no impact on storm damage
	Protect against potential river flooding	o	The audit has no impact on river flooding or flash flooding

	and flash flooding		
	Reduce the risk of subsidence	o	The audit has no impact on the risk of subsidence
	Prevent pollution of water bodies and courses	o	The audit has no impact on pollution of water bodies and courses.
	Improve the quality of water bodies and courses	o	The audit has no impact on the quality of water bodies and courses.
15. To maintain economic diversity, increase local opportunity and support sustainable economic growth	Ensure that the strength of the economy is maintained and further sustainable growth is enabled and accommodated	o	Protection and enhancement of the special qualities of the conservation area may have a positive impact on the local economy, encouraging future investment. Attractive and well maintained environments, to which the Dorset Square Audit will contribute, encourage investment in an area.
	Assist business development	o	Improvements in the special character of an area, and in local distinctiveness may assist businesses in marketing.
	Enhance competitiveness	o	The audit has no major impact on competitiveness
	Promote growth in key sectors	o	Improvements resulting from conservation policy may help to promote growth in tourism – see below.
	Promote tourism	+	The historic environment is one of Westminster's most valuable tourist assets. The maintenance of this environment in good order, and protection of buildings from demolition make a key contribution

			to the economic life of Westminster
	Encourage indigenous business	o	The audit has no impact on indigenous business
	Encourage inward investment	+	An attractive and high quality environment may well help to encourage inward investment.
	Make land and property available for business development	-	The emphasis of the audit on conservation of existing heritage assets means that it may have a minor negative effect on property available for development. However, the audits encourage adaptive re-use of existing building stock.
	Promote innovation and enterprise	o	The audit has no impact on innovation and enterprise
16. To reduce the impact of noise	Reduce generation of noise from all activities	o	The audit will have no impact on emissions of noise from activities
	Reduce generation of noise from all premises	o	The audit, in common with other Westminster policies advises against external plant, which is often the source of background noise
	Reduce emissions of noise from transport related activities	o	The audit will have no impact on emissions of noise from transport related activities
	Reduce emissions of noise into properties	o	Advice in the audit against the installation of PVC and aluminium double glazing may prevent effective sound insulation inside properties. However, the possibility of the use of double glazed timber sash windows where appropriate, the use of secondary glazing means that this impact need not be negative. Reference to guidance on this issue will be added.
17. To require the application of sustainable design and construction in all new	Ensure design of buildings and structures are	o	Re use of existing buildings, and of materials for works to existing buildings are both resource efficient, and promoted by the building conservation policies in the Audit.

developments and refurbishment of existing buildings	resource efficient		
	Ensure buildings and structures are designed to be energy efficient	o	The Conservation Area Audits discourage the use of windows such as uPVC, which can have a beneficial effect on energy efficiency of buildings. Mitigating strategies are the use of double glazed timber sash windows where appropriate, the use of secondary glazing, the maintenance / refurbishment of existing windows to ensure maximum thermal performance, and other non-visually intrusive energy efficiency measures such as roof insulation.
	Ensure buildings and structures adaptable for re-use	+	The Conservation Area Audits encourage the reuse of existing buildings.

Appendix 6 Time Scale and Reversibility of the Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit

SA Objectives	Predicted impact	Time scale of predicted impact			Is impact reversible	Comments or Assumptions
		Short term	Medium Term	Long Term		
1. To create cohesive, inclusive and safe communities with appropriate levels of social and community facilities		o	o	+	Y	
2. To promote and improve health and well-being	+	o	o	+	Y	
3. To ensure the provision of appropriate housing types to meet homeless, affordable, intermediary, over crowding and family unit demands	o	o	o	o	na	
4. To reduce both the fear of crime and actual crime	o	o	o	o	na	
5. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support climate change adaptation.	-	o	-	o	Y	
6. To ensure equality of opportunity and improve opportunities for education, training and employment	o	o	o	o	na	
7. To enhance the public realm and the street environment	+	o	+	+	Y	
8. Improve air quality	o	o	o	o	na	
9. To protect, enhance and increase areas of open space	+		+	+	Y	
10. To reduce waste production and to increase recycling and recovery of all waste	o	o	o	o	na	
11. To protect, enhance and create environments that encourage and support biodiversity	+	o	+	+	Y	
12. To protect and enhance the historic environment and architectural, archaeological and cultural heritage	++	+	+	+	Y	
13. To reduce the need to travel and use of the private motor car, as well as encouraging walking, cycling and the use of public transport.	o	o	o	o	na	
14. To minimise flood risk, promote sustainable urban drainage and protect surface and ground water quality	o	o	o	o	na	
15. To maintain economic diversity, increase local opportunity and support sustainable economic growth	+	o	o	+	Y	
16. To reduce the impact of noise	o	o	o	o	Y	
17. To require the application of sustainable design and construction in all new developments and refurbishment of existing buildings.	+	o	+	+	Y	

Statement of Adoption

**Westminster City Council
Dorset Square Supplementary Planning Document
Statement of Adoption**

Westminster City Council adopted the Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on **28 December 2008**. This adoption statement is required by regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004.

Any person aggrieved by the Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit SPD may make an application to the High Court for permission to apply for judicial review of the decision to adopt the Supplementary Planning Document. Any such application must be made promptly and in any event not later than 3 months after the date on which the Supplementary Planning Document was adopted.

Title: Dorset Square Conservation Area Audit Supplementary Planning Document

Geographical coverage: Will apply to the Dorset Square Conservation Area.

Availability: You can inspect the SPD:

1. At Westminster City Council One Stop Services, 62 Victoria Street, SW1 (Open 8.30am-7pm, Monday-Friday; 9am-1pm Saturday).
2. On the city council's website at:
www.westminster.gov.uk/environment/planning/conservationlistedbuildings/areaprofiles/dorsetsquare
3. Copies are also available by contacting:
**Conservation Area Audits Team
Department of Planning and City Development
Westminster City Council
12th Floor, City Hall
64 Victoria Street
London SW1E 6QP**

Tel: 020 7641 2850/8705/8019

E-mail: conservationareaaudits@westminster.gov.uk

Documents: Alongside the adopted SPD and this statement of adoption, the Statement of Consultation, Statement of Representation and Sustainability Appraisal Report are also available for inspection.

Decision dated: **28 December 2008**