

## Appendix B: Schedule for Future Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan Production

- 1.0 This appendix details the schedule for the production of Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans for the Borough's Conservation Areas, along with explanatory notes as to the rationale behind the schedule, and implications for resources.
- 1.1 While Halton Village is the first of Halton's Conservation Areas to have a draft Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan, there are a further nine designated Conservation Areas in the Borough. Details on their respective years of designation, area, number of buildings, including listed buildings, and number of recent planning applications are given in the table below. The top three values in each of the main categories are highlighted.

Conservation Area	Designated	Area (ha)	No. Buildings (Registered Addresses)	No. Listed Buildings	Grade I	Grade II*	Grade II	Applications 2003-2007 inclusive	Planning Permission	Listed Building Consent	Conservation Area Consent
Hale Village	Nov 1969	10.36	96	10	1	1	8	44	38	5	1
Daresbury	Dec 1969	10.75	29	3	0	1	2	21	20	0	1
Halton Village	Sep 1970	16.85	201	19	1	5	13	51	36	10	5
Higher Runcorn	Jul 1975	5.91	39	5	0	0	5	10	6	4	0
Moore	Apr 1976	17.00	74	12	0	1	11	59	44	14	1
West Bank	Oct 1978	2.10	15	3	0	1	2	5	5	0	0
Hale Road	Apr 1983	16.60	29	0	0	0	0	18	15	1	2
Halebank	Oct 1984	3.47	24	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0
Victoria Square	Nov 1990	4.53	65	1	0	0	1	34	31	2	1
Weston Village	Feb 1991	5.18	28	7	0	1	6	13	10	2	1

**Table 1: Conservation Area Characteristics**

- 1.2 Broadly, the Conservation Areas with the largest area and the largest number of buildings would benefit most from having an Appraisal and Management Plan. This is because these areas would be at proportionately more risk of change due to the number of heritage and other assets, including open spaces, contained within them. It is also possible to briefly assess Conservation Areas on the basis of the number of listed designations; the implication being that a large number of listings would mean that the area has an historic environment of superior quality. The inclusion of an assessment of the number of recent planning applications received by the Council allows a comparison of the levels of development and change in each area; the implication here being that a larger number of applications presents a greater risk of potentially detrimental change.

- 1.3 As a secondary consideration, English Heritage’s “Guidance on Conservation Area Appraisals” explains that where a local authority has many Conservation Areas, priority should be given to areas where pressure for change is greatest. The guidance suggests that such areas may be those in historic retail (high street) or commercial centres, areas where significant development proposals are anticipated, areas where pressure for residential development is high, or in areas of economic decline in need of regeneration. Some weight has been given to this guidance in the assessment of Halton’s Conservation Areas which follows.
- 1.4 Table 1 indicates that with a relatively large area, number of planning applications and with by far the largest number of listed buildings, Halton Village was a clear choice for the Borough’s first Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan. In terms of relative size, number of heritage assets and number of recent planning applications, two areas stand out as priorities for Appraisals and Management Plans to be drafted. These are Moore and Hale Village. These and the other areas are listed in terms of their priority for Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans to be undertaken in Table 2.

<b>Conservation Area</b>	<b>Priority Number</b>	<b>Date for production / adoption of CAA&amp;MP</b>	<b>First Review</b>
<b>Halton Village</b>	N/A	2008	2018
<b>Moore</b>	1	2009	2019
<b>Hale Village</b>	2=	2010	2020
<b>Hale Road</b>	2=	2010	2020
<b>Daresbury</b>	3	2011	2021
<b>Weston Village</b>	4	2012	2022
<b>Victoria Square</b>	5	2013	2023
<b>Higher Runcorn</b>	6	2014	2024
<b>West Bank</b>	7	2015	2025
<b>Halebank</b>	8	2016	2026
<b>Potential New Conservation Area</b>	<b>Priority Number</b>	<b>Date for production of assessment and options materials</b>	<b>Potential Year of Consideration</b>
<b>Halton Brow</b>	N/A	Within Halton Village CAA&MP	2009
<b>Runcorn Old Town</b>	9	2017	2018
<b>Preston On-The-Hill</b>	10	2018	2019

**Table 2: Schedule for the Production of Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans**

- 1.5 The order of priority, given in Table 2, for the remaining Appraisals and Managements Plans is based on the data from Table 1, and is also broadly based on the English Heritage guidance summarised earlier. It is proposed that Hale Village and Hale Road Conservation Areas have their Appraisals and Management Plans produced together due to the

close proximity of the areas, and the ease of conducting site visits and collecting survey data for the areas simultaneously.

- 1.6 The schedule given in Table 2 has been reviewed and agreed with the Council's retained Conservation advisor, who is familiar with some of the challenges faced by Halton's Conservation Areas, particularly in terms of recent change from planning applications.
- 1.7 Ideally, the schedule for the production of Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans would allow for a quicker turnaround of documents and a shorter review period. For example, English Heritage guidance suggests that Appraisals should be revisited every five years. Due to a lack of resources, these ideals have had to be curtailed and it is proposed that one document will be produced annually, with a longer-term management plan and will be reviewed ten years from its adoption.
- 1.8 Attached to the schedule in Table 2 is a list of potential new Conservation Areas, as suggested variously by Council members and members of the public. These include Preston on the Hill, Runcorn Old Town (Bridge Street and High Street) and Halton Brow. While the issue of Halton Brow is dealt with in the draft Halton Village Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan, the other two areas require work to ascertain the extent of their special character and the preparation of other materials prior to any designation. Work relating to these areas will not take priority over existing designated Conservation Areas, however, if a material threat to their historic environment became evident, it would be possible for steps towards designation to be taken.
- 1.9 The schedule for production of Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans is subject to alteration due to potential changes of staffing and funding at the Council. It may be possible that if an immediate and material threat becomes known, the relevant Conservation Area will receive a priority Appraisal and Management Plan. It may also be possible for local organisations such as Parish Councils or interest groups to provide the funding and/or expertise to produce background materials and studies, which could then easily be translated into an Appraisal or Management Plan format.
- 1.10 It is proposed that the schedule will be reviewed after five years, when any diversions from or delays to the schedule will be reported.