2. VISION AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Key issue:
Are the Vision and Strategic Objectives soundly based and appropriate for Hyndburn, consistent with national policies, reflecting community views and locally distinctive, and do they provide a sound basis for the overall spatial strategy and strategic policies in the Core Strategy?

2.1 Does the Vision:

a. clearly set out the vision for the future strategy and spatial pattern of development in Hyndburn over the plan period?

The Vision for Hyndburn is set out in Chapter 3 of the Core Strategy. It presents a picture of what the Borough will look like by 2026 and addresses the key issues facing the Borough – economy, housing, transport, climate change, education, health and environment. Although the vision includes references to the spatial pattern of development, this is articulated in more detail through the Balanced Development Strategy.

As well as presenting a variety of thematic policies, the Core Strategy also identifies the main spatial components that comprise Hyndburn and seeks to address the key land use issues that will face those areas over the period of the Core Strategy.

b. contain sufficient local and spatial distinctiveness, reflecting key elements and local issues relevant to Hyndburn, including the vision and priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy & Local/Multi Area Agreements?

The Vision for Hyndburn is about Hyndburn but set with the context of Hyndburn being part of Pennine Lancashire, Lancashire and North West England. This Vision is distinctive to Hyndburn, making reference to the Borough and features within the Borough. There are a wide range of issues facing the Borough and this is reflected by the Vision, Strategic Objectives and Policies. In turn, these are drafted in the context of needing to address the causes and impacts of climate change and social inclusion.

The objectives of the Core Strategy reflect those of the Sustainable Community Strategy and this is articulated by the Core Strategy. Those elements of the Pennine Lancashire Multi-Area Agreement that are relevant to Hyndburn are also addressed by the Core Strategy.

2.2 Objectives:

a. Does the Core Strategy contain clear, specific and locally distinctive objectives, which reflect the full range of key issues and objectives relevant to the implementation of the Core Strategy?
The objectives of the Core Strategy are clear, specific and locally distinctive. They reflect the key issues identified by the second chapter – The Borough and its People – and reflect the objectives of the Sustainable Community Strategy for Hyndburn. There are six strategic objectives:

1. To create greater opportunities for all to access improved economic opportunities and to provide support for the local economy and higher wage employment.
2. To provide for a range of educational opportunities and to raise attainment.
3. To provide for a greater choice and quality of housing.
4. To improve the quality and health of the residents of Hyndburn.
5. To create a valued urban and rural environment.
6. To provide easy access for all to good quality services and facilities.

These objectives reflect the key issues facing the Borough, however, it is important to recognise that the extent to which the Core Strategy (through the planning system) can address these strategic objectives varies. Although the Core Strategy contains some explanation of the strategic objectives, the Council has prepared topic papers on two of the strategic objectives where the planning system has a particularly important role to play in delivering change, economy and housing. These provide more detailed background information on these issues and seek to explain in more detail the approach being taken.

The strategic objectives are specific and locally distinctive, reflecting the key themes identified by the Sustainable Community Strategy for Hyndburn that was developed by the Hyndburn Local Strategic Partnership. This is explained in the first chapter of the Core Strategy at paragraphs 1.18 and 1.19.

Although it is likely that other areas may have similar strategic objectives, the Core Strategy is about Hyndburn and about the way that planning policy can help address the issues facing the Borough. This is evident from the text throughout the document.

b. Is the relationship between the identified issues and the objectives sufficiently clear, and is it clear how the policies and spatial interventions will meet the objectives?

The relationship between the identified issues (in Chapter 2) and the Vision, Objectives and Balanced Development Strategy (in Chapter 3) is clearly set out in the Core Strategy. To assist the reader, the Core Strategy also includes a series of diagrams that illustrate how the policy framework will assist in meeting the objectives of the Core Strategy – Figure 9 (Economy), Figure 10 (Housing), Table 9 (Health and Well-being), Figure 13 (Green Infrastructure) and Figure 14 (Accessibility).

c. Should any of the objectives be amended to reflect relevant concerns raised in the representations?

No, the Council do not believe that it is necessary to amend any of the strategic objectives. No substantive representations have been made concerning the strategic objectives.