

PROJECT PROFILE



Client: Birmingham City Council

Project: Sustainability Appraisal of the
Aston, Newtown and Lozells
Area Action Plan

In October 2008 UE Associates were instructed by Birmingham City Council to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal of the Aston, Newtown and Lozells Area Action Plan (AAP).



The purpose of the AAP is to provide a planning framework for regeneration and housing renewal in an area north of Birmingham City Centre over the next 15 years. On this basis, the AAP will set out a vision and strategy for the area so that a comprehensive and co-ordinated approach can be taken to its regeneration and development.

As a large inner city area of Birmingham, covering 900ha and including a population of 51,000, the SA has had a strong focus on addressing socio-economic issues, including high levels of deprivation, significant housing problems and spatial isolation caused in part by the main road corridors which run through the area. With a considerable regeneration agenda for the area, a key task for the SA has been to ensure that social and economic aims of the AAP are facilitated and augmented by significant improvements in environmental quality and community cohesion.

The SA has therefore proved an excellent opportunity to help facilitate radical improvements to the quality of the built environment, support local assets including the historic environment, improve Green Infrastructure and enable improvements to connectivity and accessibility in the area.



Through drawing on effective data management, including GIS led mapping, and supporting assessment findings with a series of site visits, the SA has succeeded in effectively informing and influencing the AAP's development process and maximising its sustainability value.