

East Hampshire District Council

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# Local Development Framework: Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

October 2007



Prepared for:

## Revision Schedule

### Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report October 2007

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## Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction.....</b>	<b>7</b>
1.1	Background .....	7
1.2	Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal.....	7
1.3	Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report .....	10
1.4	Other required assessments .....	11
1.5	Relevance of the Scoping Report.....	12
1.6	This Report.....	12
<b>2</b>	<b>Population .....</b>	<b>15</b>
2.1	Introduction.....	15
2.2	Context Review .....	15
2.3	Population Baseline.....	16
2.4	Likely Future Conditions.....	17
2.5	Environmental and Sustainability Problems .....	18
2.6	Proposed SA / SEA Objectives .....	18
<b>3</b>	<b>Health .....</b>	<b>19</b>
3.1	Introduction.....	19
3.2	Environmental Protection Objectives .....	19
3.3	Context Review .....	19
3.4	Baseline.....	20
3.5	Likely future conditions.....	21
3.6	Environmental and Sustainability Problems .....	21
3.7	Proposed SA / SEA Objectives .....	21
<b>4</b>	<b>Employment &amp; Economy .....</b>	<b>23</b>
4.1	Introduction.....	23
4.2	Context Review .....	23
4.3	Baseline.....	26
4.4	Likely future conditions.....	29
4.5	Environmental and Sustainability Problems .....	29
4.6	Proposed SA / SEA Objectives .....	30
<b>5</b>	<b>Transport and Accessibility.....</b>	<b>31</b>
5.1	Introduction.....	31
5.2	Context Review .....	31
5.3	Baseline.....	32
5.4	Likely future conditions.....	33
5.5	Environmental and Sustainability Problems .....	34
5.6	Proposed SA / SEA Objectives .....	34

---

<b>6</b>	<b>Crime and Safety</b> .....	<b>35</b>
6.1	Introduction.....	35
6.2	Context Review .....	35
6.3	Baseline.....	35
6.4	Likely future conditions.....	36
6.5	Environmental and Sustainability Problems .....	37
6.6	Proposed SA / SEA Objectives .....	37
<b>7</b>	<b>Housing</b> .....	<b>39</b>
7.1	Introduction.....	39
7.2	Context Review .....	39
7.3	Baseline.....	40
7.4	Likely future conditions.....	42
7.5	Environmental and Sustainability Problems .....	42
7.6	Proposed SA / SEA Objectives .....	43
<b>8</b>	<b>Cultural Heritage</b> .....	<b>45</b>
8.1	Introduction.....	45
8.2	Environmental Protection Objectives .....	45
8.3	Context Review .....	46
8.4	Baseline.....	46
8.5	Likely future conditions.....	47
8.6	Environmental and Sustainability Problems .....	47
8.7	Proposed SA / SEA Objectives .....	47
<b>9</b>	<b>Climate</b> .....	<b>49</b>
9.1	Introduction.....	49
9.2	Environmental Protection Objectives .....	49
9.3	Context Review .....	50
9.4	Baseline.....	51
9.5	Likely future conditions.....	51
9.6	Environmental and Sustainability Problems .....	52
9.7	Proposed SA / SEA Objectives .....	52
<b>10</b>	<b>Air</b> .....	<b>53</b>
10.1	Introduction.....	53
10.2	Environmental Protection Objectives .....	53
10.3	Context Review .....	54
10.4	Baseline.....	55
10.5	Likely future conditions.....	55
10.6	Environmental and Sustainability Problems .....	55

---

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10.7	Proposed SA / SEA Objectives .....	56
<b>11</b>	<b>Soil .....</b>	<b>57</b>
11.1	Introduction.....	57
11.2	Environmental Protection Objectives .....	57
11.3	Context Review .....	57
11.4	Baseline.....	58
11.5	Likely future conditions.....	59
11.6	Environmental and Sustainability Problems .....	59
11.7	Proposed SA / SEA Objectives .....	59
<b>12</b>	<b>Water .....</b>	<b>61</b>
12.1	Introduction.....	61
12.2	Environmental Protection Objectives .....	61
12.3	Context Review .....	63
12.4	Baseline.....	65
12.5	Likely future conditions.....	65
12.6	Environmental and Sustainability Problems .....	65
12.7	Proposed SA / SEA Objectives .....	65
<b>13</b>	<b>Biodiversity .....</b>	<b>67</b>
13.1	Introduction.....	67
13.2	Environmental Protection Objectives .....	67
13.3	Context Review .....	68
13.4	Baseline.....	71
13.5	Likely future conditions.....	73
13.6	Environmental and Sustainability Problems .....	73
13.7	Proposed SA / SEA Objectives .....	74
<b>14</b>	<b>Landscape .....</b>	<b>75</b>
14.1	Introduction.....	75
14.2	Environmental Protection Objectives .....	75
14.3	Context Review .....	75
14.4	Baseline.....	77
14.5	Likely future conditions.....	77
14.6	Environmental and Sustainability Problems .....	77
14.7	Proposed SA / SEA Objectives .....	77
<b>15</b>	<b>Waste .....</b>	<b>79</b>
15.1	Introduction.....	79
15.2	Environmental Protection Objectives .....	79
15.3	Context Review .....	80

---

---

15.4	Baseline.....	81
15.5	Likely future conditions.....	81
15.6	Environmental and Sustainability Problems .....	81
15.7	Proposed SA / SEA Objectives .....	82
16	Whitehill / Bordon .....	83
16.1	Introduction.....	83
16.2	Context Review .....	83
16.3	Summary of Baseline .....	86
16.4	Environmental and Sustainability Problems and Opportunities.....	87
16.5	Proposed SA / SEA Objectives .....	88
17	Future trends under the ‘business-as-usual’ option.....	91
18	Next Steps .....	93
18.1	Introduction.....	93
18.2	Next Steps.....	93
18.3	Sustainability Appraisal Reports.....	93
19	Further Information .....	95
20	Glossary of terms .....	97
21	References .....	99
	Appendix 1 – Proposed SA/SEA Objectives. ....	101
	Appendix 2 – SA/SEA Objectives, decision-making criteria and indicators. ....	103
	Appendix 3 – Proposed SA/SEA Objectives and Sub-Objectives for the Whitehill/Bordon Opportunity.....	111

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 East Hampshire District Council is commencing a review of its spatial planning policies, in light of the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (PCPA), where the 'East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review (2001-2011)' adopted in March 2006, will eventually be replaced with a Local Development Framework (LDF).
- 1.1.2 The LDF is a portfolio of documents, referred to as Local Development Documents (LDDs), containing policies and proposals to guide future development in the District. A series of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) will be prepared.

## 1.2 Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal

- 1.2.1 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) involves the systematic identification and evaluation of the environmental impacts of a strategic action (e.g. a plan or programme), and it is required both by English and European law. Sustainability Appraisal (SA) extends the concept of SEA by taking into account economic and social concerns too.
- 1.2.2 In 2001 the EU legislated for SEA with the adoption of the European Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (the 'SEA Directive'). The overarching objective of the SEA Directive is:

*"To provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans... with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans... which are likely to have significant effects on the environment."* (Article 1)
- 1.2.3 SEA is an iterative assessment process which plans and programmes are now required to undergo as they are being developed to ensure that potential significant environmental effects arising from the plan/programme are identified, assessed, mitigated and communicated to plan-makers. SEA also requires the monitoring of significant effects once the plan/programme is implemented.
- 1.2.4 The SEA Directive was transposed into English legislation by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the 'SEA Regulations'), which came into force on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2004. The SEA Regulations apply, with some specific exceptions, to plans and programmes subject to preparation and/or adoption by national, regional or local authorities or those prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government and are required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions.
- 1.2.5 Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Local Planning Authorities are required to carry a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) as a statutory requirement for each of their Local Development Documents (LDDs) which includes DPDs and SPDs. The Government's approach is to incorporate the requirements of the SEA Directive into a wider SA process that considers

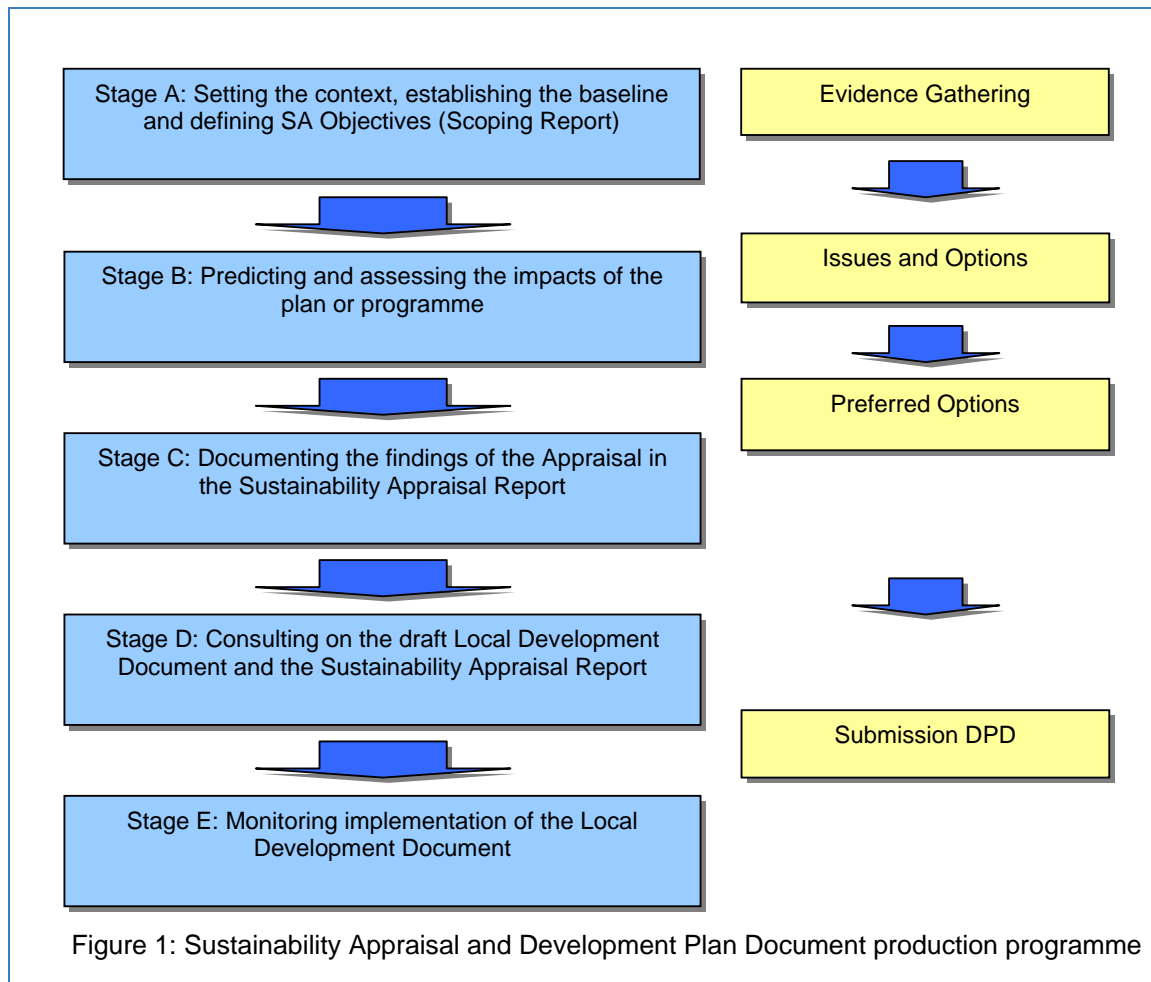
economic and social, as well as environmental effects. To this end, in November 2005, the Government published guidance on undertaking SA of LDFs that incorporates the requirements of the SEA Directive ('the Guidance'). The combined SA / SEA process is referred to in this document as Sustainability Appraisal (SA).

1.2.6 Sustainability Appraisals (SAs) are intended to ensure that planning authorities aim to achieve the Government's framework goal of sustainable development in line with the five principles set out in the UK Sustainable Development Strategy (DEFRA, 2005):

- *Living Within Environmental Limits*  
Respecting the limits of the planet's environment, resources and biodiversity – to improve our environment and ensure that the natural resources needed for life are unimpaired and remain so for future generations.
- *Ensuring a Strong, Healthy and Just Society*  
Meeting the diverse needs of all people in existing and future communities, promoting personal well-being, social cohesion and inclusion, and creating equal opportunity for all.
- *Achieving a Sustainable Economy*  
Building a strong, stable and sustainable economy which provides prosperity and opportunities for all, and in which environmental and social costs fall on those who impose them (polluters pay), and efficient resource use is incentivised.
- *Using Sound Science Responsibly*  
Ensuring policy is developed and implemented on the basis of strong scientific evidence, whilst taking into account scientific uncertainty (through the precautionary principle) as well as public attitudes and values.
- *Promoting Good Governance*  
Actively promoting effective, participative systems of governance in all levels of society – engaging people's creativity, energy, and diversity.

1.2.7 The Guidance advocates a five-stage approach to undertaking SA (see Figure 1). Stage A consists of five key tasks (see Table 1), aimed at gathering an evidence base and defining SA objectives. A SA process aims to test the sustainability of a plan or programme against these objectives. The findings of Stage A are documented in a Scoping Report. The appraisal is conducted at Stage B and the results are documented in a Preferred Options SA Report during Stage C. In Stage D, statutory consultation occurs and the outcome of this may translate in the updating of the SA Report to reflect those responses. In Stage E, the ongoing monitoring of significant effects takes place.

1.2.8 The five-stage approach to undertaking SA



1.2.9 Within Stage A as described above, the five tasks involved are listed below, in Table 1:

Table 1.1: Stage 'A' key tasks

A1 – Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes & sustainability objectives
A2 – Collecting baseline information
A3 – Identifying sustainability issues and problems
A4 – Developing the SA framework
A5 – Consulting on the scope of the SA

- 1.2.10 SA thus helps planning authorities to fulfil the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in preparing their plans. Overall, the aims of the SA are to:
- Increase the sustainability of the LDF by ensuring that the principles of sustainable development are integrated into the policy-making process;
  - Provide a high level of environmental protection and ensure that environmental, economic and social implications are considered in the preparation of the document;
  - Consult on the SA procedure to allow stakeholders and the public to have an input into its production;
  - Provide an environmental, economic and social audit at appropriate spatial and temporal levels.
- 1.2.11 Stakeholders and the public have a vital role to play both in developing planning policy for the District and in contributing to the SEA/SA. According to Planning Policy Statement 1 (Delivering Sustainable Development) *"effective community involvement is a key element of the Government's planning reforms. This is best achieved where there is early engagement of all the stakeholders in the process of plan making ... This helps to identify issues and problems at an early stage and allows dialogue and discussion of the options to take place before proposals are too far advanced."*

## 1.3 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

- 1.3.1 The SEA Regulations require the assessment of the likely significant environmental effects on the following topic areas:
- Air
  - Water
  - Soil
  - Biodiversity (including flora and fauna)
  - Population
  - Human health
  - Climate
  - Material assets
  - Cultural heritage (including archaeology and built heritage)
  - Landscape
  - And the interrelationship between the above factors
- 1.3.2 The Scoping Report is (and subsequent SA Reports will be) organised by topic, with a chapter for each of the above issues, other than material assets. The interrelationship between the topics will be discussed in the SA Reports.
- 1.3.3 The SA process extends the assessment process to include likely significant social and economic effects. In this Scoping Report and subsequent SA Reports the following additional topics will be discussed:

- Economy & Employment
  - Transport
  - Crime and Safety
  - Housing
  - Waste
- 1.3.4 Taken together these topics will cover the SEA Regulations' requirement to assess the likely significant effects on material assets.
- 1.3.5 In this Scoping Report each Chapter is structured as follows:
- Introduction
  - Relevant environmental protection objectives set at international / European Union or Member State level (environmental topics only)
  - Context Review - a review of related plans and programmes that have a bearing on the topic area
  - Baseline - the current baseline in East Hampshire, where data is available, for the topic area
  - Likely future conditions - probable conditions without the influence of the LDF (i.e. the 'future baseline')
  - Environmental and Sustainability Problems
  - Proposed SA Objectives

## 1.4 Other required assessments

- 1.4.1 At present, there is also a requirement that development plans should be subject to Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) where they are likely to have a significant effect on areas or species identified as being of importance under the European Union Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora) or Birds Directive (Directive 79/409EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds). In the UK these take the form of designations as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).
- 1.4.2 The District Council has commissioned a Habitats Regulations Assessment of the emerging LDF. The objective of the assessment is to identify any areas of the Core Strategy and associated documents that have the potential to cause an adverse impact on European sites. At this stage a Screening Document has been prepared that identifies the susceptibility of the European sites within and around East Hampshire and thus guide development of LDF options. A Habitats Regulations Assessment proper will commence at the Issues and Options stage of the LDF development.
- 1.4.3 A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) (undertaken in consultation with the Environment Agency) is also required. Stage 1 of the SFRA has been completed. The SFRA will help to ensure the sustainable location of new development within the District through the avoidance of increased flood risk.

- 1.4.4 The SA Reports will draw from the conclusions of the HRA and SRFA, when these reports are completed and made available.

## 1.5 Relevance of the Scoping Report

- 1.5.1 This Scoping Report is intended to define the key environmental and sustainability problems for the whole of East Hampshire District. In particular it is relevant to the following LDDs:

- Core Strategy DPD
- Development Allocations DPD
- Whitehill Bordon Opportunity SPD

- 1.5.2 Details of the production programme for these documents can be found in the Local Development Scheme on the Council website at the following address:

<http://www.easthants.gov.uk/ehdc/localplanweb.nsf/webpages/Planning+Policy+Introduction>

- 1.5.3 The Whitehill/Bordon Opportunity was set up as an initiative to develop a commercially viable Masterplan for Whitehill/Bordon that will deliver improved town facilities within the larger, more sustainable 'Green Town'. The work has arisen as a result of the large-scale land releases (including existing buildings and training land) made by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) at Burton Garrison as part of the Defence Training Review. The Whitehill/Bordon Opportunity offers a rare opportunity to develop 'brownfield' land unconstrained by multiple ownership. A large area of greenfield land owned by Hampshire County Council could also be made available for development.

- 1.5.4 The Whitehill/Bordon Opportunity was to be subject of an Area Action Plan (AAP) and a SEA/SA Scoping Report was produced in January 2006 (WSP Environmental Ltd/EHDC). The District Council has decided that no further work on the AAP is to be done, as the issues will now be addressed in the Core Strategy and in the subsequent Whitehill/Bordon Opportunity SPD. Issues relating to the Whitehill/Bordon Opportunity are considered in Chapter 16.

- 1.5.5 Further and more detailed issues may arise during the preparation of each particular LDD. If these issues have not been covered in sufficient detail in this Scoping Report, they will be identified in an additional scoping phase for the LDD. This will only be done if this Scoping Report is considered to be deficient in detail that is significant to the development and appraisal of the particular LDD.

## 1.6 This Report

- 1.6.1 This report documents the findings from Stage A of the SA / SEA process as well as what happens next in the process. It was sent to the three SEA Statutory Consultation Bodies<sup>1</sup> and other selected stakeholders for comment. The report was available for consultation for a period of five weeks in order to comply with the SEA Regulations<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency

<sup>2</sup> The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, 12(6)

**1.6.2 When commenting on the report, the consultees were asked to consider five key questions:**

- **Are the policies / plans / programmes / strategies / initiatives that have been reviewed appropriate?**
- **Do you know of any further baseline information that might be useful? If so, please provide the information or a source for the data.**
- **Are the key sustainability issues identified for the District and Whitehill/Bordon the correct ones?**
- **Do the SA objectives encompass all the key sustainability issues?**
- **Are the decision-making criteria and indicators associated with the SA Objectives the correct ones?**



## 2 Population

### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 This chapter discusses the population of East Hampshire, its composition and distribution, now and how it is envisaged in the future. The likely significant social, economic and environmental effects of the various Local Development Documents on the population of East Hampshire are also discussed.

### 2.2 Context Review

2.2.1 Key messages from the context review include:

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source <sup>3</sup>
<p>To create housing developments in suitable locations, which offer a good range of community facilities and with good access to jobs, key services and infrastructure.</p> <p>Mixed, sustainable communities need to be developed across the wider local authority area as well as at neighbourhood level.</p> <p>Settlement growth should be considered to ensure that growth is distributed in a way that supports informal social support networks, assists people to live near their work and benefit from key services, minimise environmental impact and, where possible, encourage environmental benefits.</p>	<p>Planning Policy Statement 3 (Housing)</p>
<p>Planning should be used to reduce the need to travel, reduce the length of journeys and make it safer and easier for people to access jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking, and cycling.</p>	<p>Planning Policy Guidance 13 (Transport)</p>
<p>To reduce poverty and social exclusion and close the gap between the most deprived areas in the South East and the rest of the region.</p>	<p>Draft South East Plan</p>
<p>The South East should be a region where social progress is achieved. Such progress should recognize the needs of all; develop strong communities free from high levels of crime and discrimination, with access to jobs, services, housing and education. There should be diverse opportunities for all to realise their potential and live fulfilled and healthy lives.</p>	<p>Social Inclusion Statement (SEERA and Partners)</p>
<p>The Council, working with housing providers in the district, will deliver services to residents that are non discriminatory and will promote equality and diversity.</p>	<p>East Hampshire Housing Equalities and Diversity Action Plan</p>
<p>No one is excluded on account of their social or physical circumstances.</p>	<p>East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy</p>
<p>Development will be permitted where it would meet the housing, economic and social needs of East Hampshire and where it would create well balanced communities, provided that it would respect the</p>	<p>East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review</p>

<sup>3</sup> Please refer to Chapter 19 'References', for further details of the documents listed under 'Evidence Source' in this **and all** Topic Sections.

need to maintain and, where required, to preserve or enhance the natural and built environment.	
Improve the health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health, both geographically and demographically	Draft South East Plan East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy
Reduce social exclusion so that no one is excluded on account of their social or physical circumstances.	Social Inclusion Statement – SEERA and Partners East Hants Housing Equalities and Diversity Action Plan East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy
Protect and provide local facilities & services, and promote opportunities for recreation and leisure, especially for the young.  Reflect the importance of community facilities for social cohesion, health and viability and vitality of communities in the District.  Everyone has access to services, facilities and work places.	Planning Policy Statement 3 (Housing), Planning Policy Guidance 13 (Transport) Draft South East Plan East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy

## 2.3 Population Baseline

2.3.1 Although it has now been some years since the data was collected and it should be acknowledged that the picture could have changed in the meantime, the census of 2001 still represents the most complete snapshot of the District in terms of its population structure. In 2001 the total population of East Hampshire was almost 110,000 people. As Table 2.1 illustrates, East Hampshire has less people between the ages of 20 and 44 compared to the national average, and more people between the ages of 45-64 in relation to the South East and the rest of the country.

*Table 2.1: Population Age Structure in East Hampshire (2001)*

	East Hampshire	South East	England
Total Population	109,274	8,000,645	49,138,831
Age 0-4	5.78%	5.91%	5.96%
Age 5-15	14.63%	14.01%	14.19%
Age 16-19	5.05%	4.81%	4.91%

	East Hampshire	South East	England
Age 20-44	32.21%	34.62%	35.31%
Age 45-64	26.47%	24.28%	23.75%
Age 65+	15.85%	16.35%	15.89%

Source: National Statistics

- 2.3.2 East Hampshire has experienced considerable population growth in the last twenty years. A small proportion of the population comprises ethnic minorities.

*Table 2.2: Change and Composition of the Population in East Hampshire (2001)*

	East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	England
% Population change 1982-2002 <sup>1</sup>	19.10	14.30	10.50	5.9
Population structure - % Ethnic Minority <sup>2</sup>	1.6% ethnic minority [2001]	2.2% ethnic minority [2001]	4.9% ethnic minority [2001]	9.1% ethnic minority [2001]

Source: <sup>1</sup> - National Statistics; <sup>2</sup> - A Profile of Hampshire 2005

- 2.3.3 The District compares favourably with regard to the Index of multiple deprivation. No ward is in 'Hampshire's 20 most deprived Areas'. However there are locally identified pockets of deprivation in wards in Alton, Petersfield, Bordon and Headley (A Profile of Hampshire 2005).

- 2.3.4 The District performs strongly compared to nearby metropolitan areas in relation to fuel poverty, but the situation needs to be monitored and further action taken to meet the Government target of no low-income or disabled household to be in fuel poverty by 2010.

*Table 2.3: Fuel Poverty in the District*

Area	East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	England
Percentage of Households in Fuel Poverty	15% [2004] <sup>1</sup>	20% [2004] <sup>1</sup>	19% [2004] <sup>1</sup>	23% [2004] <sup>1</sup>
Percentage of Households with No Central Heating	3.90% <sup>2</sup>	5.30% <sup>2</sup>	6.10% <sup>2</sup>	8.5% (England and Wales) <sup>2</sup>

Source: <sup>1</sup> - South East Regional Assembly; <sup>2</sup> - National Statistics

## 2.4 Likely Future Conditions

- 2.4.1 Total population in the South East is projected to increase by between 766,000 and 985,000 from 2001 to 2026 (Draft South East Plan); this rise will undoubtedly put pressure on housing provision and affordability. The District will need to accommodate its share of this increasing population.

- 2.4.2 More elderly people are likely to be living in the southern part of England in the next twenty years due to longer life expectancy and in-migration (Draft South East Plan, 2006). This will place an increased demand on health and social support services, and planning for this will be needed.
- 2.4.3 East Hampshire has fewer people between the ages of 20 and 44 compared to the national average. This has implications on a series of factors that affect the economy and social well-being of the District. Young people need to have structures in place to allow them to stay in East Hampshire if they wish to. Opportunities should be available for them to find accommodation, relevant employment opportunities and services.

## 2.5 Environmental and Sustainability Problems

- 2.5.1 The principal population challenges facing the District are:
- Catering for population growth with its associated social, economic and environmental consequences. Population increases are likely to place additional pressure on house prices and availability;
  - The age structure of the District will require continued monitoring as age shifts will have long term implications for health care needs, housing mix and other social services.
  - The locally identified pockets of deprivation need to be addressed.

## 2.6 Proposed SA / SEA Objectives

- 2.6.1 Based on the problems identified, the following SA / SEA Objectives are proposed:
- To reduce social exclusion and incidents of poverty in the District.
  - To ensure that young people choose to live in and contribute to the area.
  - To make provisions for a change in age structure within the population.

## 3 Health

### 3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 According to the World Health Organisation, health can be defined as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease<sup>4</sup>. This chapter discusses how the Local Development Framework is likely to influence public health in East Hampshire.

3.1.2 Although the Council has responsibility for certain aspects of public health, for instance trading standards or local air quality management, health matters are not directly influenced through land-use planning and the Local Development Framework. However, planning has its statutory origins in public health and amenity issues. It continues to influence the key determinants of public health, among them housing, leisure facilities, air quality, employment and education.

### 3.2 Environmental Protection Objectives

3.2.1 Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006):

- Ensuring that by 2020 chemicals, including pesticides, are produced, handled and used in ways that do not pose significant threats to human health and the environment.

### 3.3 Context Review

3.3.1 Key messages from the context review include:

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
The planning system should ensure that, wherever practicable, noise-sensitive developments are separated from major sources of noise. Where this is not possible local planning authorities should consider whether it is practicable to control or reduce noise levels, or to mitigate the impact of noise, through the use of conditions or planning obligations.	Planning Policy Guidance 24 (Noise)
To improve the health and well-being of the population & reduce inequalities in health.	Draft South East Plan
The District Council seeks to encourage thriving communities and provide people with an opportunity to lead healthy lifestyles.	East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review
Noise-sensitive development will not be permitted if it would be adversely affected by noise from existing or proposed noise-generating uses. Noise-generating development will not be permitted if it would be liable to increase adversely the noise experienced by the users of existing or proposed noise-sensitive development nearby.	East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review
Town and village centres enable people to enjoy high quality lifestyles.	East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy

<sup>4</sup> World Health Organisation, 1948, Preamble to the Constitution of the World Health Organisation

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
<p>Improve the health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health, both geographically and demographically</p>	<p>Draft South East Plan East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review</p> <p>East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy</p>
<p>Reduce social exclusion so that no one is excluded on account of their social or physical circumstances.</p>	<p>Social Inclusion Statement – SEERA and Partners East Hants Housing Equalities and Diversity Action Plan East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy</p>
<p>Protect and provide local facilities and services, and promote opportunities for recreation and leisure, especially for the young.</p> <p>Reflect the importance of community facilities for social cohesion, health and viability and vitality of communities in the District.</p> <p>Promote community transport for access to key local services.</p>	<p>Planning Policy Guidance 3 (Housing), Planning Policy Guidance 13 (Transport) Draft South East Plan East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy</p>
<p>Ensure that the health and well-being of the population are not adversely affected by noise.</p>	<p>Planning Policy Guidance 24 (Noise) East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review</p>
<p>'Every effort will be made to attempt to achieve reductions in casualties on Hampshire roads in support of the national road casualty strategy to 2010, contributed to by local, structured and date-led programmes of engineering and road safety education, training and publicity'</p>	<p>Hampshire Local Transport Plan (2006-2011)</p>
<p>The Council recognises the very significant value that accessible and sustainable leisure sources can bring to the community. Leisure services are vital to the health, spirit and well-being of all communities.</p>	<p>East Hampshire District Council's Leisure Vision 2002</p>

## 3.4 Baseline

- 3.4.1 Life expectancy in the District compares favourably with the rest of Hampshire and the South East.

Table 3.1: Average Life Expectancy (2001-2003) (Rank is within 374 local authorities in England and Wales, 1 = Highest Life Expectancy)

Area	East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	England
Male	78.5 (rank 34) <sup>1</sup>	78.1 <sup>1</sup>	77.4 <sup>2</sup>	76.2 <sup>2</sup>
Female	81.5 (rank 127) <sup>1</sup>	81.9 <sup>1</sup>	81.6 <sup>2</sup>	80.7 <sup>2</sup>

Source: <sup>1</sup> - A Profile of Hampshire (2005); <sup>2</sup> - National Statistics

3.4.2 East Hampshire performs well when compared to the region and England as a whole for limiting long-term illness.

Table 3.2: Limiting Long Term Illness (2001)

East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	England
14% <sup>1</sup>	14.9% <sup>1</sup>	15.5% <sup>2</sup>	17.9% <sup>2</sup>

Source: <sup>1</sup> - A Profile of Hampshire (2005); <sup>2</sup> - National Statistics

## 3.5 Likely future conditions

3.5.1 Demands on health care in the District are set to increase due to a growing population, and an increasingly elderly population.

## 3.6 Environmental and Sustainability Problems

3.6.1 The following problems can be identified:

- Life expectancy in the District compares favourably with Hampshire and the rest of the South East. Social and economic impacts of longevity need to be fed into relevant policies and budgets.
- Noise has been identified as a local issue through the Citizen's Panel Survey. Noise levels may make some locations unsuitable for noise-sensitive development, such as housing.
- High levels of car use and commuting pose road safety issues associated with young and elderly people. Traffic congestion and air pollution is becoming an issue in some places. (See chapter on Transport and Accessibility for source of information).

## 3.7 Proposed SA / SEA Objectives

3.7.1 Based on the problems identified, the following SA / SEA Objective is proposed:

- To improve the health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health.



## 4 Employment & Economy

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The performance of the economy has a fundamental bearing on the achievement of sustainable development. It has both beneficial and adverse impacts. On one hand there are negative aspects, such as the generation of waste, or pollution from industry or traffic, while on the other hand economic activity generates employment and the resources for environmental management and sustainable development. A sustainable economy should be seen as a part of the wider social and natural environment and, as far as possible, not adversely affect these wider elements.

### 4.2 Context Review

4.2.1 Key messages from the context review include:

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
<p>Planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognise that economic development can deliver environmental and social benefits;</li> <li>Recognise the wider sub-regional, regional or national benefits of economic development and consider these alongside any adverse local impacts;</li> <li>Ensure that suitable locations are available for industrial, commercial, retail, public sector, tourism and leisure developments, so that the economy can prosper;</li> <li>Provide for improved productivity, choice and competition, particularly when technology and other requirements of modern business are changing rapidly;</li> <li>Recognise that all local economies are subject to change; planning authorities should be sensitive to these changes and the implications for development and growth;</li> <li>Actively promote and facilitate good quality development, which is sustainable and consistent with their plans;</li> <li>Ensure the provision of sufficient, good quality, new homes in suitable locations, whether through new development or the conversion of existing buildings. The aim should be to ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home, in locations that reduce the need to travel;</li> <li>Ensure that infrastructure and services are provided to support new and existing economic development and housing;</li> <li>Ensure that development plans take account of the regional economic strategies of RDAs, regional housing strategies, local authority community strategies and local economic strategies; and</li> <li>Identify opportunities for future investment to deliver economic objectives.</li> </ul>	<p>Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development</p>

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
<p>Raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas through the promotion of thriving, inclusive and sustainable rural communities; sustainable economic growth and diversification; and continued protection of the open countryside. Focus most development in, or next to, existing towns and villages; prevent urban sprawl; discourage the development of 'greenfield' land. Promote a range of uses to maximise the potential benefits of the countryside fringing urban areas; and provide appropriate leisure opportunities to enable urban and rural dwellers to enjoy the wider countryside.</p>	<p>Planning Policy Statement 7 (Sustainable Development in Rural Areas)</p>
<p>Tourism policies should aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximise the benefits of tourism, in particular ensuring that the development is able to reach its potential to contribute to tourism in the area and for local communities to enjoy those benefits;</li> <li>• Identify optimal locations, for example to maximise synergies with other tourist attractions and to promote opportunities for access by public transport;</li> <li>• Integrate development with its surroundings both in terms of design and layout, and in the way the service or facility is able to function; and</li> <li>• Avoid adverse impacts, for example by disturbance to activities on adjacent land.</li> </ul>	<p>Good Practice Guidance on Planning and Tourism (May 2006)</p>
<p>Higher levels of prosperity per head across the South East without increasing the region's ecological footprint can only be delivered through higher productivity and by bringing more of the resident population into economic activity. This can be achieved by focusing on the principles of smart growth, raising levels of enterprise, productivity and economic activity throughout the region. Investment is required to lift the prospects of under performing areas, communities and individuals.</p>	<p>Regional Economic Strategy</p>
<p>Maximise the number of people ready for employment at all skill levels, ensure that they are equipped to progress in the labour market. Ensure that there is sufficient and affordable housing and employment space of the right type and size to meet the needs of the region. Raise Economic Activity Rates by addressing barriers to employment and increasing incentives to work.</p>	<p>Regional Economic Strategy</p>

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
<p>Increase size and skills of local labour force</p> <p>Young people are able to find work within the District and access suitable training.</p>	<p>Regional Economic Strategy East Hampshire Economic Development Strategy 2003 – 2008. East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy</p>
<p>The Strategy for the South Hampshire sub-region, is to improve its economic performance to at least match the regional average, with a target of achieving a Gross Value Added (GVA) of 3.5% per annum by 2026</p>	<p>South East Plan (Draft 2006, Section E1)</p>
<p>The principle aim for tourism in East Hampshire is that it should be based upon the well-balanced development of the area’s present assets, rather than the introduction of major new activities or large-scale expansion of existing facilities.</p> <p>In pursuit of the concept of ‘sustainable development’ the tourism policies of the Local Plan seek to promote ‘sustainable tourism’, that is, development which serves the interests of both economic growth and the conservation of the environment.</p>	<p>East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review</p>
<p>To improve the support available to business and promote investment which helps the local economy.</p> <p>To help sustain vibrant, healthy communities which meet the needs of business and people.</p> <p>To create a diverse, healthy and sustainable rural economy.</p>	<p>East Hampshire Economic Development Strategy – 2003-2008.</p>
<p>Support tourism initiatives and visitor promotions and encourage sustainable tourism. Tourism can bring pressure on the local environment through increased numbers and associated traffic use. However, properly managed it also provides the opportunity to contribute sustainably to the local economy.</p>	<p>Planning Policy Guidance 4 (Industrial, Commercial Development and Small Firms) RPG9 Chapter 14 Tourism East Hampshire Economic Development Strategy 2003-2008. East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review</p>
<p>Facilitate a local buoyant economy without compromising housing and transport strategies.</p>	<p>Regional Economic Strategy East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review</p>
<p>Retain existing employment sites and allocations as the sensitivity of the environment limits the potential to allocate new sites for employment uses. This can be difficult in the face of pressure for housing, particularly given the difference in land values between the two uses.</p> <p>Encourage alternative means of employment provision including reuse of buildings and working from home.</p>	<p>Planning Policy Statement 7 (Sustainable Development in Rural Areas) East Hampshire Economic Development Strategy 2003 – 2008. East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review</p>

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
Support the need for the diversification of activities on farms to support ongoing agriculture taking into account impact on the local environment.	Planning Policy Statement 7 (Sustainable Development in Rural Areas) East Hampshire Economic Development Strategy 2003 - 2008 East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review Hampshire Farming Study
It is essential that town centres provide a high-quality and safe environment if they are to remain attractive and competitive. Well-designed public spaces and buildings, which are fit for purpose, comfortable, safe, attractive, accessible and durable, are key elements that can improve the health, vitality and economic potential of a town centre.	Planning Policy Statement 6: Planning for Town Centres
Create and maintain vibrant, accessible town and village centres providing a range of facilities.	Planning Policy Statement 6 (Planning for Town centres) East Hampshire District Local Plan Second Review East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy
A key ambition for the South Downs is a buoyant economy directly contributing to the management of natural beauty and its enjoyment.	Draft South Downs Management Plan

## 4.3 Baseline

- 4.3.1 The number of businesses per 1000 population for East Hampshire (45.1) is higher than for any other district in Hampshire according to the 'Profile of Hampshire' (2005). The average for Hampshire is 34.3.
- 4.3.2 The District average earnings are lower than averages for Hampshire, the South East and England & Wales, as described in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1: Average Gross Weekly Earnings

Area	East Hampshire (Workers in jobs in East Hampshire)	Hampshire	South East	England & Wales
2006	Male £462.2 Female £281.9 Full time £472.75 All workers £365.85	Male £534.6 Female £290.75 Full time £ 509.35 All workers £411.8	Male £531.75 Female £311.85 Full time £518.6 All workers £420.65	Male £508.1 Female £309.7 Full time £499.9 All worker £409.1

Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2006) National Statistics<sup>5</sup>

- 4.3.3 There is a locally recognised economic out migration to better paid jobs.

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=14630> (Table 7.1a Weekly pay - Gross (£) - For all employee jobs a: United Kingdom, 2006)

Table 4.2: Net commuting flows for East Hampshire District

	East Hampshire
Total employment	43,110
Living and working in East Hampshire	29,926 (69%)
Total inflow	13,184 (31%)
Total outflow	25,095
Net outflow	11,911

Source: 2001 Census

- 4.3.4 Ensuring that housing and employment development is matched locally would help to reduce the distance that people have to travel to work and reduce the environmental impact associated with commuting.
- 4.3.5 The district performs favourably against the County, Region and Country in terms of the percentage of working age residents who are economically active and the proportion of the workforce who are employed as managers and senior officials. The proportion of those in the professional occupations and elementary occupations among the employed workforce is lower in East Hampshire than elsewhere. The tourism sector is less significant as an employer in the District than nationally

Table 4.3: Employment Level and Types

Area	East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	National
% of working age people who are economically active (i.e. those aged 16 to 64 for men or 16 to 59 for women)	82.8% [Average Jul 05-Jun 06]	No data	82.1% [Average Jul 05-Jun 06]	78.4% [Average Jul 05-Jun 06]
% Professional occupations - employed workforce 16-74	8.4% [Average Jul 05-Jun 06]	No data	14.1% [Average Jul 05-Jun 06]	12.8% [Average Jul 05-Jun 06]
% Managers and senior officials among employed workforce	20.6% [Average Jul 05-Jun 06]	No data	17.1% [Average Jul 05-Jun 06]	15.0% [Average Jul 05-Jun 06]
Proportion of elementary occupations amongst employed workforce. (Examples of elementary occupations include Farm Workers, Labourers, Kitchen Assistants and Bar Staff.)	7.9% [Average Jul 05-Jun 06]	No data	10.1% [Average Jul 05-Jun 06]	11.3% [Average Jul 05-Jun 06]
Percentage of jobs in the tourism sector	7.1% [2005]	No data	8.0% [2005]	8.1% [2005]

Source: National Statistics/Nomisweb<sup>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431781/report.aspx?town=east%20hampshire#tabempoc>

4.3.6 Recruitment difficulties in East Hampshire appear to be lower than experienced regionally and nationally.

Table 4.4: Recruitment

Area	East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	National
% of recruiting firms experiencing difficulty in getting staff	Over one third of businesses currently experience problems in recruiting staff. One in ten businesses is experiencing difficulty in filling vacancies for all types of staff. Of these about 50% are key workers <sup>1</sup>	No data	Employers' Skill Needs Survey 2001 <sup>1</sup> , carried out by CITB's Training Advisors, showed that over 80% of participating employers in the region were experiencing difficulties in recruiting people <sup>2</sup>	Recruitment difficulties 76% for Great Britain as a whole <sup>1</sup>

Source: <sup>1</sup> - East Hampshire Business Survey 2003; <sup>2</sup> - Employer's Skill Need Survey 2001 CITB

4.3.7 The District has a population with a better than average educational level. The educational performance of students in the District is considerably higher than the Regional and National average and a greater proportion of people are qualified to degree level or higher. However, the East Hampshire Business Survey 2003 identified that about one fifth of the resident workforce do not have any qualifications and are not fully competent in basic literacy and numeracy.

Table 4.5: Education and Skill Level

Area	East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	England
% Pupils aged 15 gaining 5+ A* to C at GCSE	57.2% [2001] 61.6% [2002] 61.0% [2003] 62.9% <sup>1</sup> [2004]	58.4% <sup>2</sup> [2003/4]	55.4 [2002/3] <sup>2</sup>	53.7%[2003/4] <sup>2</sup>
% people aged 16-74 with no qualifications	20.71% <sup>2</sup> [2001]	22.97% <sup>2</sup> [2001]	23.92% <sup>2</sup> [2001]	29.08% <sup>2</sup> [2001]
Proportion of people qualified to degree level or higher	23.85% <sup>2</sup> [2001]	20.72% <sup>2</sup> [2001]	21.75% <sup>2</sup> [2001]	19.8% <sup>2</sup> [2001]
Proportion of adults with poor literacy and numeracy skills	Up to one fifth of the resident workforce in East Hampshire do not have any qualifications and are not fully competent in basic literacy and numeracy <sup>3</sup>	Data Gap	21.7% poor literacy 21% poor numeracy <sup>4</sup> [2001]	24.4% poor literacy [Great Britain] 24.7% poor numeracy (Great Britain) [2001]

Source: <sup>1</sup> – Quality of Life Indicators for Monitoring the East Hampshire Community Strategy; <sup>2</sup> – National Statistics; <sup>3</sup> – East Hampshire Business Survey 2003; <sup>4</sup> – South East Regional Assembly

- 4.3.8 The unemployment rate compares favourably with the County, Regional and National Average. The proportion of households with no adults in employment but with dependent children is also low.

Table 4.6: Unemployment

Area	East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	England
Unemployment Rate (% of Working Age Population) <sup>1</sup>	1%	1%	1.5%	2.6%
% Households with no adults in employment and with dependent children <sup>2</sup>	2.29%	2.67%	3.29%	4.83% (England and Wales)

Source: <sup>1</sup> - A Profile of Hampshire (2005); <sup>2</sup> - National Statistics

- 4.3.9 In May 2006 only 0.9% of residents of working age claimed Job Seekers Allowance; the District is ranked 19<sup>th</sup>, most favourable out of 374 local authorities (Hampshire Strategic Partnership – A Quality of Life Report 2006).

## 4.4 Likely future conditions

- 4.4.1 The success of the District's economy is tied to that of the UK economy as a whole. For this reason predictions are particularly difficult to make. However, the economy seems set to continue to grow, other factors being equal.
- 4.4.2 However economic out-commuting is likely to continue as there is a trend for resident workers to commute out of the District to better paid work. This, together with an increased elderly population, is likely to affect the economic performance of the District in future years.
- 4.4.3 Without intervention it is likely that high levels of poor literacy and numeracy skills will continue.
- 4.4.4 Without provision of affordable housing the area will continue to experience shortages among the less skilled workforce, unless the reliance on in-commuting continues.

## 4.5 Environmental and Sustainability Problems

- 4.5.1 The following environmental and sustainability issues have been identified:
- There will be pressure for economic development across the District. The strategy for the South Hampshire sub-region seeks to improve its economic performance to at least match the regional average, with a target of achieving a Gross Value Added (GVA) of 3.5% per annum by 2026 (Draft South East Plan)
  - Tourism can bring pressure on the local environment through increased numbers and associated traffic use. Properly managed, tourism can provide the opportunity to contribute sustainably to the local economy.
  - Average weekly earnings from jobs in East Hampshire are low compared with Hampshire, the South East and England and there is out-commuting to higher paid jobs.
  - Businesses experience problems in filling staff vacancies; especially for less skilled workers.
  - There is a significant number of adults who have poor literacy and numeracy.

- Town and village centres need to remain attractive and enable people to enjoy quality lifestyles.
- Support is needed to diversify activities on farms, especially those that help to enhance the natural beauty of the South Downs.

## 4.6 Proposed SA / SEA Objectives

4.6.1 Based on the problems identified, the following SA / SEA Objectives are proposed:

- To raise educational achievement levels across the District and develop the opportunities for everyone to acquire the skills needed to find and remain at work.
- To promote a vibrant and prosperous local economy that has a range of sustainable employment sites available and maintain a skilled resident workforce to support the long-term competitiveness of the District.
- To create and sustain vibrant, attractive and clean town and village centres.
- To ensure a thriving rural economy.
- To promote sustainable tourism.

## 5 Transport and Accessibility

### 5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Sustainable transport is key to the wider sustainable development agenda. An efficient transport network is a pre-requisite of a successful, modern economy. A safe and accessible transport network helps fulfil social objectives, while a low-pollution transport network is essential to safeguard the environment and climate. Reconciling these, often conflicting requirements, is at the heart of the planning process.
- 5.1.2 In a rural District such as East Hampshire, the dispersed population makes public transport difficult and less viable than in urban areas and this poses a problem in terms of accessibility to services. In villages not served well by public transport the car is often the only realistic means of access to the main town and city centres.

### 5.2 Context Review

- 5.2.1 Key messages from the context review include:

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
Development plans should contain clear, comprehensive and inclusive access policies - in terms of both location and external physical access.	Planning Policy Statement 1 (Delivering Sustainable Development)
Local authorities should ensure that strategies in the development plan and the local transport plan are complementary. Consideration of development plan allocations and local transport priorities and investment should be closely linked. Local authorities should seek to make maximum use of the most accessible sites such as town centre locations and those that are close to major transport interchanges. Reduce congestion, improve travel choice and accessibility, reduce the need to travel by car and shorten the length and duration of journeys.	Planning Policy Guidance 13 (Transport)
Address the causes of climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases.	Integrated Regional Framework
Protect and provide local facilities and services, and promote opportunities for recreation and leisure, especially for the young. Reflect the importance of community facilities for social cohesion, health and viability and vitality of communities in the District. Services and jobs are provided in ways that reduce the need to travel.	Planning Policy Statement 3 (Housing), Planning Policy Guidance 13 (Transport) Draft South East Plan East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
Improve access to rural services	East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy
Reduce congestion, improve travel choice and accessibility, reduce the need to travel by car and shorten the length and duration of journeys.	PPS3 (Housing), PPG4 (Ind, Commercial and Small Firms), PPG6 (Planning for Town Centres), PPG13 (Transport) Integrated Regional Framework, RPG9 Transport Chapter Hampshire Local Transport Plan 2006-2011
Raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas particularly, ensure town and village centres are attractive, safe, convenient, accessible and clean and can attract and retain investment.	Planning Policy Statement 7 (Sustainable Development in Rural Areas) South Downs Management Plan – Consultation Draft June 2006 East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy

## 5.3 Baseline

5.3.1 East Hampshire communities are less well served with public transport than Hampshire as a whole because of the rural nature of the District. Access to most facilities by public transport is worse in East Hampshire than the average of Hampshire. Of particular concern is the level of access to hospital facilities by public transport; currently only 1% have access to hospital facilities within 30 minutes by public transport. The data hides the fact that in rural areas access to facilities can be very difficult for those without access to a car.

*Table 5.1: Access to Facilities*

	East Hampshire	Hampshire
Access to Post Office <sup>1</sup>	Rural parishes: 21 post offices for a population of 47,337 which roughly equates to 1 per 2254	Data Gap
Access to Food Shops <sup>1</sup>	91% of households within 30 minutes by public transport	95% of households within 30 minutes by public transport
Access to Primary and Secondary Schools <sup>1</sup>	Primary 94% within 30 minutes by public transport. Secondary 93% within 40 minutes	Primary 93% within 30 minutes by public transport. Secondary 96% within 40 minutes

Access to Retail Centre <sup>1</sup>	87% of households within 30 minutes by public transport	86% of households within 30 minutes by public transport
Access to GP and Hospital <sup>1</sup>	GP 93% of households within 30 minutes by public transport of GP. 1% within 30 minutes of hospital	96% of households within 30 minutes by public transport of GP. 31% within 30 minutes of hospital
Access to Employment Centre <sup>1</sup>	50% of households within 20 minutes by public transport	71% households within 20 minutes by public transport
Access to Public Open Space <sup>2</sup>	29 of the 39 Parishes in the District have a shortfall in open space as per the Public Open Space Requirements. (Policy RT3)	Data Gap

Source: <sup>1</sup> - Hampshire County Council, East Hampshire Accession Tables; <sup>2</sup> - Open Space in East Hampshire.

- 5.3.2 The percentage of people using a car or van to travel to work is similar to that for the region and slightly higher than the national level. Travel to car and van is by far the most commonly used means of transport to access employment. The rural nature of the District is likely to be a key factor.

Table 5.2: Travel to Work

	East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	England
Underground metro light rail or tram	0.1%	0.09%	0.23%	3.16%
Train	4.35%	3.20%	5.63%	4.23%
Bus or coach	1.56%	3.23%	4.35%	7.51%
Taxi	0.18%	0.31%	0.41%	0.52%
Car/van	64.13%	69.25%	59.18%	54.92%
Passenger in car	5.17%	No data	5.65%	6.11%
Motorcycle	0.96%	1.32%	1.12%	1.11%
Bicycle	2.05%	3.53%	3.07%	2.83%
Foot	9.13%	8.71%	9.91%	9.99%
Other	0.44%		0.51%	0.46%
Work from home	11.74%		9.93%	9.16%

Source: Office of National Statistics – 2001 Census.

## 5.4 Likely future conditions

- 5.4.1 It is likely that people will continue to use cars and vans as a means of travel to work unless steps are taken to address the current situation.
- 5.4.2 Access to services is likely to continue to be an issue given the rural nature of the District.

## 5.5 Environmental and Sustainability Problems

5.5.1 The following problems have been identified:

- Cars and vans are still the most common way of getting to work. Heavy traffic on the roads results in localised congestion.
- 87.7% of the population have access to one or more cars. This is higher than average (Hampshire 84%, South East 81%) and reflects the rural nature of much of the District and out-commuting to higher paid jobs.
- Access to a range of facilities, especially to hospital and employment areas, by public transport is an issue.
- Many people in the rural parts of the District have difficulty accessing jobs, health services, recreation, leisure and cultural facilities and other services and communal facilities, especially those without access to a car.

## 5.6 Proposed SA / SEA Objectives

5.6.1 Based on the problems identified, the following SA / SEA Objectives are proposed:

- To improve accessibility to all facilities and services particularly in rural areas.
- To reduce the need to travel by car and shorten the length and duration of journeys.
- To meet local community needs for essential transport and utilities infrastructure having regard to environmental constraints (to be put under heading of Material Assets).

## 6 Crime and Safety

### 6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Safe, healthy and vibrant neighbourhoods are fundamental to the economic, social and environmental well-being of the community. This chapter investigates the current and likely future situation in terms of crime and public safety in the District.

### 6.2 Context Review

6.2.1 The following are the key messages from the context review:

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
Local planning authorities should consider the scale of night-time leisure developments they wish to encourage in town centres and their likely impact, including the cumulative impact on the character and function of the centre, anti-social behaviour, crime and the amenities of nearby residents.	Planning Policy Statement 6: Planning for Town Centres
Reduce crime and fear of crime especially at night	East Hampshire Community Safety Strategy
Young people need to feel safe. Town and village centres should be safe.	East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy

### 6.3 Baseline

6.3.1 East Hampshire compares favourably to the South East and National averages for mortality due to all causes. The district average for mortality from accidents is higher than the regional and national averages, however the total numbers are small, so assessing the significance of differences is difficult.

Table 6.1: Mortality table

Area	East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	England
Mortality (all ages) all causes per 100,000 population (average for 2001 and 2002)	592.6	Data Gap	610.8	665.5
Mortality (all ages) from accidents per 100,000 population (average for 2001 and 2002)	19.7	Data Gap	15	15.8

Source: - A Profile of Hampshire 2005.

6.3.2 Crime rates in the District compare favourably to those for the county, region and country as a whole. East Hampshire is one of the lowest crime areas in Hampshire.

Table 6.2: Crime Rates (rate per 1000 population)

Area	East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	England
Total Recorded Crime Rates (Crimes in the quarter January to March 2003)	14.3	19.5	21	27.9
Violence Against the Person (Crimes in the quarter January to March 2003)	1.8	3.1	2.9	3.9
Burglary Rate (Crimes in the quarter January to March 2003)	1.5	2.3	2.8	4.1
Vehicular (Crimes in the quarter January to March 2003)	5.2	7	8.5	11

Source: A Profile of Hampshire 2005

- 6.3.3 It is difficult to compare the level of fear or crime in the district against that of the county and region because of differences in the manner in which data has been collected and presented. Between 2002 and 2004 there was an increase in the percentage that felt very safe in the daytime (from 44% to 65.1%) and during the night time (from 10% to 22.4%). It would appear therefore that the situation is improving.

Table 6.3: Fear of Crime (2004)

East Hampshire (% of residents who feel...)	Hampshire	South East (% Worried About Crime)	England (% Worried About Crime)
Very safe (daytime) 65.1	3 in 10 residents do not feel safe outside after dark.	Burglary: 9% (M) 14 (F)	Burglary: 12% (M) 17% (F)
Safe (daytime) 19.1		Mugging: 8% (M) 15% (F)	Mugging: 9% (M) 19% (F)
Very safe (nighttime) 22.4		Rape: 5% (M) 21% (F)	Rape: 5% (M) 23% (F)
Safe (nighttime) 26.7			

- 6.3.4 The District compares favourably with the County, Region and Country as a whole in relation to the proportion of young people on the Child Protection Register.

Table 6.4: Young People (under 18) on the Child Protection Register (per 10,000)

East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	England
12 [2000/01]	15 [2003]	18 [2003]	24 [2003]

Source: Hampshire County Council

## 6.4 Likely future conditions

- 6.4.1 It is likely that the District will continue to perform well with relatively low crime rates and fear of crime. However this does not mean that there are no areas that are affected by crime or vulnerable groups with high levels of fear of crime.

## 6.5 Environmental and Sustainability Problems

6.5.1 The following issues have been identified:

- The district average for deaths from accidents is higher than the regional and national averages, although total numbers are small.
- Perception of crime is worse than actual occurrence

## 6.6 Proposed SA / SEA Objectives

6.6.1 Based on the problems identified, the following SA / SEA Objective is proposed:

- To provide a safe and secure environment.



## 7 Housing

### 7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 East Hampshire is a rural District with two historic market towns (Alton and Petersfield) and with other significant settlements located mainly along the A31 and A3 transport corridors. The remainder is attractive countryside and villages distributed throughout. There is a wide range of residential properties and some 4,000 new homes have been built over the last decade. There are no significant major urban areas characterised by older and higher density housing that require regeneration.
- 7.1.2 A key influence on housing development in East Hampshire, Hampshire and the South East as a whole is the emerging South East Plan. It sets out the spatial strategy for the South East Region of England including the level of housing required up to 2026. The latest housing figure proposed for East Hampshire over the period 2006 to 2026 totals 5,200 new homes i.e. 260 per annum (4000 homes in the Central Hampshire part of the District and 1200 in the South Hampshire area). In addition, the Whitehill/Bordon Opportunity will involve the development of up to 5,500 additional homes. These additional homes must be considered within the context of a further 109,717 new homes in Hampshire and a further 468,283 new homes elsewhere in the South East. (Source: [www.southeast-ra.gov.uk](http://www.southeast-ra.gov.uk)).
- 7.1.3 In recent years about two-thirds of all new housing in East Hampshire have been built on previously used land. However, some greenfield development will be unavoidable over the next 20 years.
- 7.1.4 This increase in housing requirements will have a direct knock-on negative effect in terms of air quality, noise and traffic congestion potentially damaging the quality of life and the environment of the District.

### 7.2 Context Review

- 7.2.1 The key messages from the context review are shown in the table below:

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
Brownfield land should be the priority for development. Market towns and local service centres should be the priority for development.	Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing
To build more affordable homes To bring decent housing within reach of people on lower incomes To improve the quality of new housing and of existing stock.	Regional Housing Strategy

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
Use land efficiently, reusing previously developed land wherever possible. Number of houses built on previously developed land should meet recommended targets	East Hampshire in Black and White – Annual Performance Report 2004-2005 PPS1, PPS3, PPS7 East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review Hampshire County Structure Plan 1996-2011 East Hampshire Urban Capacity Study.
The draft PPS sets out how planning, in providing for the new homes, jobs and infrastructure needed by communities, should help shape places with lower carbon emissions and resilient to the climate change now accepted as inevitable. When finalized it will supplement PPS1.	Draft Planning Policy Statement: Planning and Climate Change (consultation) (Dec 2006)
Ensure everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent and affordable home Provide a mix of dwelling sizes, tenures and types with a range of housing densities to create a balanced community. Reduce homelessness and the number of people living in temporary accommodation. Young people should be able to find accommodation within the District.	Hampshire County Structure Plan 1996-2001 East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review East Hampshire Housing Strategy 2003-2008 East Hants Housing Equalities and Diversity Action Plan 2005-2008 East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy

## 7.3 Baseline

- 7.3.1 Many areas in Southern England have suffered from a high demand but low supply of housing. A lack of affordable housing has made it difficult for first time buyers to get on the property ladder.
- 7.3.2 The average house price in the District is higher than the county, region and nationally. The house price to income ratio (annual average gross pay of resident workers) is also higher than elsewhere. The implications of this are that those on low incomes are unable to afford to buy their own homes. In April 2007 there were 2,657 households in East Hampshire on the Joint Housing Needs Register

*Table 7.1: Average House Prices and house price/income ratio.*

	East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	England
Average house price (2006) <sup>1</sup>	£312,285	£247,803	£248,003	£184,924

House Price to Income Ratio (2006) <sup>2</sup>	11.1	9.7	9.0	7.4
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Source: <sup>1</sup> - BBC; <sup>2</sup> Office of National Statistics.

- 7.3.3 The distribution of properties is biased towards the higher Council Tax bandings compared with the South East and England & Wales.

Table 7.2: Percentage of properties in council tax band A to H (Source: Valuation Office Agency 2001)

Band	East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	England
A	5.82	Data gap	8.72	25.79
B	9.94	Data gap	16.50	19.64
C	23.95	Data gap	25.93	21.46
D	20.80	Data gap	19.97	14.87
E	17.50	Data gap	13.42	9.39
F	11.60	Data gap	8.06	4.85
G	9.12	Data gap	6.52	3.47
H	1.28	Data gap	0.88	0.53

- 7.3.4 Between 2003 and 2006 the total net affordable housing completions totalled 434. Compared with previous years the number of new-build affordable homes completed in 2005/06 was significantly lower. However the figures are for new build social rented only. In 2005/06 a total of 125 affordable dwellings were provided including home buy, intermediate rent and shared ownership. The Council's target of 650 dwellings between 2003 and 2008 remains achievable. Even so, it is unlikely that the affordability problem will be eased significantly in the near future even with an improved supply of affordable homes. The provision of affordable housing as part of new residential development is seen as an important contribution towards meeting specific local housing needs.

- 7.3.5 Housing tenure in the District differs from the national picture in that there are a higher proportion of owner-occupiers and a larger proportion of people are housed by registered social landlords. The level of overcrowding is low compared to elsewhere.

Table 7.3: Housing Tenure and Overcrowding

Housing Tenure <sup>1</sup>	East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	England
Owner occupiers (owned outright/with mortgage)	33.4%/ 43.93%	31.6%/44.88%	31.28%/41.9%	24%/38.76%
Housing association or Social Landlord	10.44 %	8.41%	6.61%	5.95%
Other rented	15.11%	16.91%	20.21%	31.29%

Over-crowding – houses with a occupancy rate of 1 or less [2001] <sup>2</sup> (Relates the number of rooms to the number 'required' by the household. An occupancy rating of –1 or less shows overcrowding in the household)	4.14%	4.3%	5.9%	6.9%
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Source: <sup>1</sup> – 2001 Census; <sup>2</sup> – Hampshire County Council

7.3.6 The housing stock in the District appears to be in good condition with a lower percentage of housing stock being classed as unfit (1%) than nationally (4.25%). It should be noted however that the study undertaken on East Hampshire housing was small in scale and the findings for a wider study in the county revealed a higher percentage of unfit dwellings. Data Gaps make it difficult to assess the environmental performance of the housing stock in the District.

Table 7.4: Condition of Housing Stock

	East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	England
Unfit dwellings <sup>1</sup>	1% of dwellings classified as unfit <sup>1</sup>	Just under 20,000 dwellings classified as unfit (5.6%)	143,422 [2001] 130,978 [2002] 130,798 [2003]	4.25% [2004]
Energy Efficiency of the Housing Stock	Average SAP rating 48.4 [2001]	Data Gap	Average SAP rating 49.3 [2001]	Average SAP rating 44 [2001]

Source: <sup>1</sup> – From a survey by East Hampshire District Council on around 1000 homes from an estimated 45,400 dwellings in the District.

## 7.4 Likely future conditions

7.4.1 It is likely that current problems of affordability will continue as the number of additional affordable homes being completed each year is considerably below the affordable housing need. The number of new build affordable homes has shown a downward trend in the last few years. The need for affordable housing for local people unable to compete in the open market is therefore likely to continue to be unmet. This is a problem shared by the rest of the South East region.

## 7.5 Environmental and Sustainability Problems

7.5.1 The following issues have been identified:

- High average house prices and an unfavourable ratio of house prices to gross incomes create affordability problems for local people, first time buyers and essential key workers, especially in rural areas.
- There is a deficit in affordable housing supply and the current completion rate is below the

annual level required to address the deficit.

- There is a need for smaller, cheaper homes and family housing in the social rented sector.

## 7.6 Proposed SA / SEA Objectives

7.6.1 Based on the identified problems, the following SA / SEA Objective is proposed:

- To ensure that the residents of East Hampshire have the opportunity to live in a decent home which they can afford.



## 8 Cultural Heritage

### 8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 The UNESCO World Heritage Convention (1972) defines the scope of “cultural heritage” as follows:

- Monuments: architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and painting, elements or structures of an archaeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings and combinations of features, which are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science;
- Groups of buildings: groups of separate or connected buildings which, because of their architecture, their homogeneity or their place in the landscape, are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science;
- Sites: works of man or the combined works of nature and man, and areas including archaeological sites, which are of outstanding universal value from the historical, aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological point of view.

8.1.2 Preserving the cultural and historic environment benefits communities in more than one way:

- It provides an essential educational resource for the understanding of the past and its legacy;
- It contributes to the national and local economy as it promotes tourism and provides jobs;
- It provides people with a sense of belonging to a unique and special place – a sense of identity.

8.1.3 A wide definition of the historic environment is therefore needed and should include not only areas and buildings with statutory protection, but also areas which are locally distinctive, valued and important. The historic environment is more than a cultural or environmental asset; it is an important driver for economic regeneration, helps build social cohesion and provide a better quality of life for all

### 8.2 Environmental Protection Objectives

8.2.1 World Heritage Convention (1972):

- Calls for the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage sites

8.2.2 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979):

- Provides for nationally important archaeological sites to be statutorily protected as “scheduled ancient monuments” (now Scheduled Monuments)

8.2.3 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act (1990):

- Provides specific protection for buildings and areas of special architectural or historic interest

## 8.3 Context Review

8.3.1 The following are the key messages from the context review:

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
Government commitment to protecting and enhancing the quality of the natural and historic environment, in both rural and urban areas. A high level of protection should be given to most valued townscapes and landscapes. The quality, character and amenity value of urban areas as a whole need to be protected and enhanced.	Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development
New uses may often be the key to a building's or area's preservation	Planning Policy Guidance 15: Planning and the historic environment
All Listed Buildings are of national importance. Grades I and II* listings identify the outstanding architectural or historic interest of a small proportion (about 6%) of all Listed Buildings. These buildings are of particularly great importance to the nation's built heritage and their significance is generally beyond dispute.	Planning Policy Guidance 15: Planning and the historic environment
Archaeological remains should be seen as a finite and non-renewable resource, in many cases highly fragile and vulnerable to damage and destruction. Appropriate management is therefore essential to ensure that they survive in good condition. In particular, care must be taken to ensure that archaeological remains are not needlessly or thoughtlessly destroyed.	Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and planning
If physical preservation in situ is not feasible, an archaeological excavation for the purposes of 'preservation by record' may be an acceptable alternative, but from the archaeological point of view this should be regarded as a second best option.	Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and planning
Protect and enhance the District's historic environment	Hampshire County Structure Plan East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review
Town and village centres are attractive and enable people to enjoy high quality lifestyles	East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy
A key ambition for the South Downs is an historic and cultural heritage conserved for posterity as an essential component of local distinctiveness.	Draft South Downs Management Plan

## 8.4 Baseline

8.4.1 The percentage of buildings listed as being of Special Architecture or Historic Interest at risk is slightly higher than the regional figure but lower than the national figure.

Table 8.1: Listed buildings, Conservation areas and Historic Parks and Gardens

	East Hampshire	Hampshire	South East	England
Number of buildings listed as being of	1632 listed buildings	13,000	5400 2% at risk	4% at risk

Special Architectural or Historic Interest and those at risk	2.6% at risk [2006] <sup>1</sup>		[2006]	
Number of Conservation Areas	43 <sup>1</sup>	300	1,900 [2003]	More than 8000
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	98			
Number of an Historic Parks and Gardens	3 entirely in East Hampshire (Little Boarhunt Rotherfield Park, The Wakes, Zig Zag Path). 1 partially in East Hampshire (Sir George Staunton County Park) <sup>2</sup>	57 <sup>2</sup>	No data	No data

Source: <sup>1</sup> – East Hampshire District Council; <sup>2</sup> Hampshire County Council Historic Parks and Gardens

## 8.5 Likely future conditions

- 8.5.1 Although the percentage of Listed Buildings at risk is higher than the regional average, it is lower than the National average and it has been reducing over the past few years. Nevertheless, the District must ensure the continued protection of these vulnerable buildings.
- 8.5.2 The number of Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and of Historic Parks and Gardens means that much of the District's character and distinctive built heritage will continue to be preserved and protected from future development. A programme of conservation area character appraisals is being undertaken.

## 8.6 Environmental and Sustainability Problems

- 8.6.1 The following key issues have been identified:
- There is a need to conserve the historic and cultural heritage for future generations as it is an essential part of what makes the District a distinct place.
  - There are a slightly higher percentage of historic buildings at risk in the District (2.6%) than the regional figure (2%).

## 8.7 Proposed SA / SEA Objectives

- 8.7.1 Based on the problems identified, the following SA / SEA Objective is proposed:
- To protect and enhance the historic and cultural heritage of the District.



## 9 Climate

### 9.1 Introduction

- 9.1.1 Throughout the lifetime of the planet the Earth's climate has varied in response to natural cycles and events. However, in recent decades evidence has accumulated to demonstrate that an unprecedented rise in global temperatures has occurred over the last century or so. Scientific consensus attributes this change to emissions of greenhouse gases, primarily carbon dioxide from combustion of fossil fuels for energy generation or transport.
- 9.1.2 Other greenhouse gases present in the atmosphere include methane from fossil fuels and landfill waste, nitrous oxide from fertilisers and industrial processes, chlorofluorocarbons and hydrochlorofluorocarbons from coolants and sulphur hexafluoride from dielectric fluid. These are found in far smaller quantities than carbon dioxide but have greater 'global warming' potential.
- 9.1.3 The increase in global temperature is likely to continue unless greenhouse gas emissions are reduced. The impacts of climate change in the UK are expected to be warmer, wetter winters, and hotter, drier summers. Sea levels are expected to rise and, together with an increase in rainfall, lead to more frequent flooding of rivers and the coastline. Extreme weather events such as storms or heat waves are likely to be more frequent.
- 9.1.4 These impacts are likely to have a number of indirect effects. These include changes in the availability and quality of water resources, damage to native habitats and migration or extinction of native plants and animals. Infrastructure and buildings could be damaged more frequently by storms. There may be impacts on the economy, agriculture especially could be forced to adapt with new crops replacing traditional varieties. Unfamiliar diseases might become commonplace in a warmer climate, and patterns of mortality would change with, for instance, fewer premature deaths in winter from cold but probably more deaths from higher temperatures in the summer.
- 9.1.5 Climate change will affect the District through flooding and increase storminess, and through changes to vegetation and other species as they adapt (or fail to adapt) to new climatic conditions. Climate change may also result in the gradual lowering of summer flow rates in rivers, resulting in a decline in water quality and change in wetland ecology. Hotter, drier summers will lead to higher water demand for both agricultural and domestic use.

### 9.2 Environmental Protection Objectives

- 9.2.1 Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006):
- Kyoto Protocol commits the EU-15 and most EU-25 to targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2008 – 2012; the EU-15 target is for an 8% reduction in emissions compared to 1990 levels. Aiming for a global surface average temperature not to rise by more than 2°C compared to the pre-industrial level.
  - By 2010 12% of energy consumption, on average, and 21% of electricity consumption, as a common but differentiated target, should be met by renewable sources; considering raising their share to 15% by 2015.
  - By 2010 5.75% of transport fuel should consist of biofuels, as an indicative target, (Directive 2003/30/EC); considering raising their proportion to 8% by 2015.

- Reaching an overall saving of 9% of final energy consumption over 9 years until 2017 as indicated by the Energy End-use Efficiency and Energy Services Directive.

9.2.2 There is a UK domestic goal to move towards a 20 per cent reduction in emissions of carbon dioxide by 2010. The UK has also announced its intention to put itself on a path towards a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions of 60% by about 2050.

## 9.3 Context Review

9.3.1 The key messages from the context review are given below:

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
<p>Local planning authorities should ensure that the causes and potential impacts of climate change are addressed through policies that reduce energy use, reduce emissions, promote the development of renewable energy resources, and take climate change impacts into account in the location, siting and design of development.</p>	<p>Planning Policy Statement 1 (Delivering Sustainable Development)</p>
<p>Spatial planning should make a significant contribution to dealing with climate change. It should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to the Government's climate change and energy policies;</li> <li>• Secure the highest viable standards of resource and energy efficiency and reduction of carbon emissions in new development;</li> <li>• Deliver urban growth that helps to secure full use of sustainable transport;</li> <li>• Ensure new development is appropriately designed and located to respond to challenges of climate change;</li> <li>• Protect and enhance biodiversity;</li> <li>• Secure the needs of communities and help them to tackle climate change; and</li> <li>• Encourage innovation.</li> </ul> <p>The design of proposals needs to take account of climate change. Planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expect applicants to use landform, layout, orientation, density and landscaping to minimise energy use;</li> <li>• Expect substantial new development to gain a significant proportion of its energy supply renewably;</li> <li>• Require open space for shade or shelter;</li> <li>• Ensure biodiversity is protected;</li> <li>• Secure sustainable urban drainage systems;</li> </ul>	<p>Draft Supplement to PPS 1 (Climate change) Building a Greener Future: Towards Zero Carbon Development Code for Sustainable Homes</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secure sustainable waste management;</li> <li>• Secure sustainable transport.</li> </ul> <p>The environmental performance of buildings is set out in building regulations, which will implement the Code for Sustainable Homes.</p>	
<p>Local planning authorities should promote and encourage the development of renewable energy resources. Small-scale projects can provide a valuable contribution to the overall output of renewable energy.</p>	<p>Planning Policy Statement 22 (Renewable Energy)</p>
<p>Climate change is expected to increase flood risk so that some existing development may not be sustainable in the long-term.</p>	<p>Planning Policy Statement 25 (Development and Flood Risk)</p>
<p>Minimise development in areas at risk of flooding and which would increase risk elsewhere.</p>	<p>Water Framework Directive PPS25 (Development and flood risk) Integrated Regional Framework, Hampshire County Structure Plan East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review</p>
<p>Address the causes of climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases.</p>	<p>Draft South East Plan Integrated Regional Framework PPS1 (Delivering Sustainable Development)</p>
<p>Improve the conservation of energy and increase the proportion of energy from renewable sources</p>	<p>East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review PPS22 (Renewable Energy) RPG9 (Ch 10) Energy efficiency and renewable energy</p>

## 9.4 Baseline

- 9.4.1 In Hampshire it is estimated that transport is responsible for 23% of CO2 emissions; 85% of this comes from road traffic. Due to the rural nature of the District it is likely that transport is one of the major producers of carbon dioxide emissions. Exact figures are not known but only a small amount of renewable energy is generated in the district. Nationally about 6% of energy comes from renewable sources.
- 9.4.2 Adapting to climate change will need to include managing an increased flood risk. The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment being prepared for the District will assess the extent of properties and development areas in the District at risk from flooding. In the past the national picture has been unfavourable with a high percentage of new dwellings being located in flood risk areas.

## 9.5 Likely future conditions

- 9.5.1 Steps are being taken to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide. However it is predicted that emissions from transport will continue to rise in Hampshire. Because of the length of time that

greenhouse gases persist in the atmosphere past emissions will continue to have an impact upon the climate into the future.

## 9.6 Environmental and Sustainability Problems

9.6.1 The following problems have been identified

- The rural nature of the District means that providing public transport is often a problem resulting in the continued use of the car. Emissions from transport therefore continue to rise.
- Heavier rainfall in winter will increase hazards arising from fluvial flooding and the number of properties that are at risk from flooding will go up. Surface water flooding will get worse as a result of more frequent storms. Low river flows will occur because of drier summers (see Chapter on Water)
- Climate change will affect biodiversity through changing habitats (see chapter on Biodiversity).
- Government policy requires new development to promote sustainable construction, energy conservation and renewable energy. Renewable energy generation could pose environmental challenges.
- We need to act now so that the District is prepared for the likely effects of climate change.

## 9.7 Proposed SA / SEA Objectives

9.7.1 Based on the problems identified, the following SA / SEA Objective is proposed:

- To address the causes of climate change through sustainable construction, increasing energy efficiency and the generation of renewable energy, and ensure that the District is able to adapt to the effects of climate change.

## 10 Air

### 10.1 Introduction

- 10.1.1 Historically the main cause of poor air quality has been pollution from factories or coal burned for domestic heating. Smoke and sulphur dioxide from these sources resulted in serious public health problems in the major cities. By and large, thanks to regulation and technological changes, this source of pollution is no longer a problem in the UK, however poor air quality remains an issue.
- 10.1.2 Today traffic forms the principal source of pollution. Carbon monoxide (CO), oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>), volatile organic compounds (VOC) and small particles (PM<sub>10</sub>) are among the pollutants emitted from vehicle exhausts. These compounds can cause severe cardio-vascular and respiratory harm to people, especially in the long term, and also have adverse effects on the natural and built environment.
- 10.1.3 In East Hampshire, the principal source of poor air quality is road traffic, which is recognised as a 'major issue in terms of sustainable development and environmental impact' (EHDC Air Quality Information Strategy).

### 10.2 Environmental Protection Objectives

- 10.2.1 Directive 96/62/EC the 'Air Quality Framework Directive':
- To assess air quality and obtain relevant information
  - To maintain ambient air quality where it is good and improve it in other cases
- 10.2.2 Directive 1999/30/EC the first 'Daughter Directive':
- To maintain levels of sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), small particles and lead below limit values and to prepare attainment programmes where limit values are unlikely to be met under a 'business as usual' scenario
- 10.2.3 Directive 2000/69/EC the second 'Daughter Directive'.
- To establish limit values for benzene and carbon monoxide (CO)
- 10.2.4 Directive 2002/3/EC the third 'Daughter Directive'
- To set long term objectives for equivalent to the World Health Organisation's new guideline values
  - To formulate reduction plans in cases of non-compliance
  - To set target values for ozone (O<sub>2</sub>)
- 10.2.5 Directive 2004/107/EC the fourth 'Daughter Directive'
- To set target values for arsenic (As), cadmium (Cd), mercury (Hg), nickel (Ni) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in ambient air

## 10.3 Context Review

10.3.1 The following are the key messages from the context review:

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
<p>The strategy sets pollution targets for 9 pollutants as follows:</p> <p><i>Benzene</i> 16.25 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (Running Annual Mean) 31 December 2003 5 µg/ m<sup>3</sup> (Annual Mean) 31 December 2010</p> <p><i>1,3-Butadiene</i> 2.25 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (Running Annual Mean) 31 December 2003</p> <p><i>Carbon monoxide</i> 10.0 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (Maximum daily running 8 Hour Mean) 31 December 2003</p> <p><i>Lead</i> 0.5 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (Annual Mean) 31 December 2004 0.25 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (Annual Mean) 31 December 2008</p> <p><i>Nitrogen dioxide</i> 200 µg/m<sup>3</sup> Not to be exceeded more than 18 times per year (1 Hour Mean) 31 December 2005 40 µg/ m<sup>3</sup> (Annual Mean) 31 December 2005</p> <p><i>Nitrogen oxides</i> 30 µg/ m<sup>3</sup> (Annual Mean) 31 December 2000</p> <p><i>Ozone</i> 100 µg/ m<sup>3</sup> (Running 8 hour Mean Daily maximum of running 8 hr mean not to be exceeded more than 10 times per year) 31 December 2005</p> <p><i>Particles (PM<sub>10</sub>)</i> 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup> Not to be exceeded more than 35 times per year (24 Hour Mean) 31 December 2004 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (Annual Mean) 31 December 2004</p> <p><i>Sulphur dioxide</i> 266 µg/m<sup>3</sup> Not to be exceeded more than 35 times per year (15 Minute Mean) 31 December 2005 350 µg/m<sup>3</sup> Not to be exceeded more than 24 times per year (1 Hour Mean) 31 December 2004 125 µg/m<sup>3</sup> Not to be exceeded more than 3 times per year (24 Hour Mean) 31 December 2004 20 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (Annual Mean) 31 December 2000 20 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (Winter Mean: 1 October - 31 March) 31 December 2000</p>	<p>Working Together for Clean Air: The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (January 2000) and Addendum (February 2003)</p>
<p>Reduce congestion, improve travel choice and accessibility, reduce the need to travel by car and shorten the length and duration of journeys.</p>	<p>PPS3 (Housing), PPG4 (Industrial, Commercial and Small Firms), PPG6 (Planning for Town centres), PPG13 (Transport) Integrated Regional</p>

	Framework, RPG9 Transport Chapter Hampshire Local Transport Plan
'To consider the role of local transport and development plans in ensuring that air quality does not deteriorate, and where possible to secure improvements in local air quality'	Air Quality Information Strategy (EHDC, 2002)
Reduce air pollution and ensure that air quality continues to improve. Continue monitoring of local air quality in particular areas such as Bordon	Integrated Regional Framework, East Hampshire Local Air Quality Detailed Assessment Report 2005 PPS23

## 10.4 Baseline

- 10.4.1 The Council is responsible for monitoring the quality of air within the District and, if necessary, declaring 'Air Quality Management Areas' (AQMA) to tackle pollution hotspots. The Council completed the First Review and Assessment of Air Quality in December 2000. Although highest pollution levels were found (using computing modelling) in areas closer to major roads within the District, no area of the District was found to have air pollution high enough for the air quality objectives to be exceeded, therefore it was not necessary to declare an AQMA (EHDC Air Quality Review & Assessment, 2002). However in June 2006 the nitrogen dioxide levels at A3 Bramshott/Grayscott; A3 Horndean/Portsmouth Road and A325 Bordon were such that the 2005 and 2010 annual mean objective could be exceeded. It was also found that the PM<sub>10</sub> 2010 objectives might be exceeded close to busy roads ('Updating and Screening assessment of air quality in East Hampshire District Council').
- 10.4.2 The District therefore suffers from localised areas of poor air quality. It appears that traffic congestion is the principal cause of poor air quality at these locations.

## 10.5 Likely future conditions

- 10.5.1 Poor air quality associated with road traffic is likely to continue unless road traffic volumes and congestion can be addressed. However the expected increase in households within the area suggests that traffic volume will increase in the future.

## 10.6 Environmental and Sustainability Problems

- 10.6.1 Poor air quality can lead to health problems. Traffic is likely to be the major source of air pollution within the District. Several 2010 objectives for air quality may be exceeded close to busy roads. Development in the District has the potential to make worse congestion along the A325 and A3 and therefore reduce air quality. Poor air quality may reduce the choice of where we locate new development.

## 10.7 Proposed SA / SEA Objectives

10.7.1 Based on the problems identified, the following SA / SEA Objective is proposed:

- To improve air quality.

# 11 Soil

## 11.1 Introduction

- 11.1.1 Healthy soils are essential to sustainable development. Soils form part of most terrestrial habitats, provide a medium in which plants can grow and are, therefore, essential to biodiversity. Similarly, they play a key role in agriculture, with the fertility of the soil having a major bearing on the productivity of the land.
- 11.1.2 Soil can be considered a non-renewable resource because its formation is an extremely slow process.

## 11.2 Environmental Protection Objectives

- 11.2.1 The European Soil Thematic Strategy (2006) has the following objectives:
- Establish common principles for the protection and sustainable use of soils;
  - Prevent threats to soils, and mitigate the affects of those threats;
  - Preserve soil functions within the context of sustainable use; and
  - Restore degraded and contaminated soils to approved levels of functionality.
- 11.2.2 The First Soil Action Plan for England (2004-2006) has the overall guiding objective '*to protect soil and make a more sustainable use of it*'.
- 11.2.3 Best Value Performance Indicator 106: sets a Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) target of 60% of new homes to be built on previously developed land.

## 11.3 Context Review

- 11.3.1 The key messages from the context review are given below:

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
Many urban areas contain large amounts of land, once used for industrial purposes but now under-used or vacant. Optimum use should be made of potential sites and existing premises in inner cities and other urban areas.	Planning Policy Guidance 4 (Industrial, commercial development and small firms); Planning Policy Statement 6 (Planning for Town Centres)
Need to promote a sustainable, diverse and adaptable agriculture sector where farming achieves high environmental standards that is competitive and profitable; and provides high quality products	Planning Policy Statement 7 (Sustainable Development in Rural Areas)
Protect, and enhance when possible, biodiversity and geological resources.	Planning Policy Statement 9 (Biodiversity and Geological Conservation)
'Local development documents should take account of (...) the likely availability for use of land...'	Annex B1, Planning Policy Statement 12.

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
'Should include an indication (...) about the resources likely to be available (...) and it should have particular regard to the conservation of finite or non-renewable resources such as land.'	Annex B2, Planning Policy Statement 12
Planning Policy Statement 23 (PPS23) is intended to complement the new pollution control framework under the Pollution Prevention and Control Act 1999 and the PPC Regulations 2000. The Annex provides advice to Regional Planning Bodies (RPBs), Local Planning Authorities (LPAs), developers and other interested parties on the issues relevant to development and use of land that may be affected by contamination and the extent of controls operated through planning and environmental legislation.	Planning Policy Statement 23 (Planning and Pollution Control); Planning Policy Statement 23 (Planning and Pollution Control) - Annex 2: (Development on Land Affected by Contamination)
Integrate soil and land protection objectives in spatial planning strategies including promoting development on brownfield sites and clean up of contaminated land; Draw up a scientific soil catalogue including nature of soil, contaminated areas, and high value soils.	EC Communication towards a thematic strategy for soil protection (2004)
Quantify diversity, quality and extent of soils to help develop strategies to eliminate threats to soil and promote sustainable land management	DEFRA Soil Protection Programme (2005)
Conserve soil resources and maintain their quality. Avoid contamination of land.	PPS7 (Sustainable Development in Rural Areas) PPS23 (Planning and Pollution control) RPG9 (Biodiversity and Geological Conservation) East Hampshire Contaminated Land Strategy
Use land efficiently, reusing previously developed land wherever possible. Number of houses built on previously developed land should meet recommended targets	East Hampshire in Black and White – Annual Performance Report 2004-2005 PPS1, PPS3, PPS7 East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review Hampshire County Structure Plan 1996-2011 East Hampshire Urban Capacity Study.

## 11.4 Baseline

11.4.1 The majority of agricultural land in East Hampshire is classified as Grade 3 with small pockets of Grade 1 and 2 land near Petersfield, Liphook and to the east of Alton. Monitoring is required to ensure that the most valuable agricultural land is not lost to development (Source: Agricultural land classification maps DEFRA)

11.4.2 Currently the District is performing well with a high percentage of new homes being built on previously developed land.

Table 11.1: New homes built on previously developed land (%)

	East Hampshire
New homes built on previously developed land (%)	80%[2003/04]
	49%[2004/05]
	65%[2005/06]
	80%[2006/07]

Source: East Hampshire District Council.

## 11.5 Likely future conditions

- 11.5.1 It is likely that the continual development of previously developed land will drive the clean up of land affected by contamination.
- 11.5.2 Given the priority which is being given to the redevelopment of previously developed land this should minimise the development pressure on agricultural land.
- 11.5.3 The Public Register of Contaminated Land in East Hampshire does not currently contain any sites where there is land affected by contamination. However, land contamination may be present in some areas due to previous uses.

## 11.6 Environmental and Sustainability Problems

- 11.6.1 The key problem identified is:
- The lack of sufficient previously developed land to accommodate the development required.

## 11.7 Proposed SA / SEA Objectives

- 11.7.1 Based on the problems identified, the following SA / SEA Objectives are proposed:
- To make the most efficient use of previously developed land and buildings.
  - To protect and enhance soil quality and structure.



## 12 Water

### 12.1 Introduction

- 12.1.1 About 97% of all of the water on the Earth is saltwater. Of the remaining three per cent that is fresh, most is frozen in the polar ice caps. Usable freshwater represents less than one per cent of the total globally: existing as groundwater in aquifers below the surface, or visible as streams, rivers and lakes.
- 12.1.2 Water is essential for all life, human as well as animal or plant, and it is important to treat water as the scarce resource it really is in order to minimise impact on the environment and human health. The efficient use of water, which takes into account its long-term availability and quality is an important factor in sustainable development.
- 12.1.3 Many activities have the potential to pollute water. Pollution may enter the water environment from a point source, for example effluent discharged from a pipe, or from a diffuse source, such as nitrates in rainwater runoff from agricultural land. Polluted water can be treated if it is contained; this, for instance, is what happens to sewage before it is released into the environment. Untreated pollutants can severely damage the natural environment and are a risk to human health. The large area of chalk underlying East Hampshire contains a significant groundwater resource. Groundwater is vulnerable to contamination and is difficult to clean. Nitrate, pesticides, solvents and other chemicals can get into groundwater from both surface water and soils. As a result large areas of the District are covered by groundwater source protection zones.
- 12.1.4 Flooding is another important concern. In England and Wales, around five million people live in areas at risk of flooding. Many floods are localised, short-lived events that can happen suddenly, sometimes with little or no warning. They are usually caused by intense storms that produce more runoff than an area can store or a stream can carry within its normal channel. Urban areas, which have many hard surfaces that restrict infiltration, are at increased risk of flooding.
- 12.1.5 In high-risk areas defence mechanisms can be put in place to control floods but these are costly and frequently merely transfer the problem to another location. Therefore a key aim of land use planning is to ensure that flood risk is taken into account at all stages in the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding, and to direct development away from areas at highest risk. The SFRA will enable informed decisions to be made on site allocations using the sequential approach to flood risk promoted in PPS25.

### 12.2 Environmental Protection Objectives

#### 12.2.1 Water Act 2003:

- Amends the Water Resources Act 1991 to, amongst other areas, improve water resources management in the context of abstraction and impounding, mainly through changes in the licensing system; an increased importance is placed on water conservation, and all public bodies need to consider how to conserve the water supplied to premises within their authority boundary.

#### 12.2.2 Water Framework Directive 2000:

- Essential piece of water legislation that aims to promote the sustainable use of all UK water bodies, including coastal waters, estuaries and all inland water bodies;
- It requires all UK river basins to reach "good status" by 2015, through demanding environmental objectives, including chemical, biological and physical targets;
- Three types of UK water quality standards are being developed (a formal classification instrument should be completed in late 2007) (Environment Agency, 2007a) and these are: Priority Substances (and Priority Hazardous Substances); Specific Pollutants and Physical-chemical pollutants.

#### 12.2.3 Pollution Prevention and Control Regulations 2000:

- It is the implementation into England and Wales of the EC Directive 96/61/EC on Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control. The operation of an installation or mobile plant requires a permit from the regulator. A permit must include emission limit values for the pollutants listed in Schedule 5 of the Act (these include Air and Water pollutants). These normally apply at the point at which the emissions leave the installation or mobile plant.

#### 12.2.4 Water Industry Act (and Water Industry Act 1991) (Envirowise, 2005):

- Covers the control of the supply of water and provision of sewerage services by the water and sewerage undertakers: It becomes an offence for an owner or occupier of premises to cause water contamination through not maintaining the water fitting in good condition.
- The Act also defines the criteria for disposal of trade effluent: no effluent can be discharged into the sewer which causes damage to the sewerage systems or people working in it; and wastewater may not be discharged into a sewer unless allowed by the relevant water service company, which may impose conditions regarding the volume and composition of the discharge (e.g. its chemical oxygen demand).

#### 12.2.5 GP3: Groundwater Protection: Policy and Practice:

- Environment Agency's core groundwater policy is:  
To protect and manage groundwater resources for present and future generations in ways that are appropriate for the risks that we identify.
- To achieve this they seek:
  - To ensure we meet the needs of the environment and people;
  - To manage surface water and groundwater as an integrated whole;
  - To use robust measures to prevent the pollution of groundwater;
  - To achieve the environmental objectives of the water Framework Directive;
  - To make information on groundwater available and raise the general awareness of groundwater issues;
  - To undertake research, so that we have a better understanding of groundwater processes;
  - To make sure our policies for managing groundwater support our work in the wider environment.

12.2.6 Nitrates Directive 91/676/EC (and Protection of Water against Agricultural Nitrate Pollution (England and Wales) Regulations 1996, SI 888):

- The Directive is an environmental measure designed to reduce water pollution by nitrate from agricultural sources and to prevent such pollution from occurring in the future;
- Surface or underground waters that are or could be high in nitrate from agricultural sources must be designated as Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (NVZ);
- Within these zones farmers must observe an action programme of measures restricting the timing and application of fertilisers and manures and must keep accurate records (Environment Agency, 2007b).

12.2.7 Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive 1991:

- The Directive aims to protect the environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges. All urban waste water must undergo secondary treatment or equivalent, in particular for:
  - All discharges from agglomerations of more than 15,000 population equivalent (i.e. with a 5-day BOD of 60g of oxygen per day);
  - All discharges to freshwater and estuaries from agglomerations between 2,000 and 10,000 population equivalent.

12.2.8 The Environment Agency’s GP3: Groundwater Protection: Policy and Practice. Part 4 includes the policies and parts 1-3 give more background information on legislation and groundwater in general.

## 12.3 Context Review

12.3.1 The key messages from the context review are given below:

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
All water bodies should be used sustainably and efforts should be made to improve the status of UK waters, including measures to reduce the runoff of nitrates into groundwater or surface water. Water conservation is a priority and water abstraction/impoundment must not be done in an unsustainable manner or one that contributes to the deterioration of water resources.	Water Framework Directive 2000; Water Act 2003; Nitrates Directive 1991.
Collection, treatment and discharge of urban wastewater should be done in a way that does not have a negative impact on the environment.	Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive 1991
The provision of infrastructure is important in all major new developments. The capacity of existing infrastructure needs to be taken into account in preparing LDDs, including water supply and sewers.	Planning Policy Statement 12 (Local Development Frameworks)
Pollution impacts are a material planning consideration. The LDF should set out the criteria against which applications for potentially polluting developments will be considered. The ‘precautionary principle’ should be invoked when there is	Planning Policy Statement 23 (Planning and Pollution Control)

<p>pollution potential. The risks involved in developing land affected by contamination on the quality of air, water and land need to be carefully considered.</p>	
<p>Climate change is expected to increase flood risk so that some existing development may not be sustainable in the long-term, LPAs should consider whether there are opportunities in the preparation of LDDs to facilitate the relocation of development to more sustainable locations at less risk from flooding.</p>	<p>Planning Policy Statement 25 (Development and Flood Risk)</p>
<p>Aims to improve the management of water resources and quality, including greater water efficiency and development of new reservoirs. Sets out policies for effective flood management, including the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems and other measures to reduce the risk of flooding</p>	<p>Draft South East Plan - 2006</p>
<p>Avoid development in areas at risk of flooding and development which would increase risk elsewhere.</p>	<p>Water Framework Directive PPS25 Integrated Regional Framework, Hampshire County Structure Plan East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review</p>
<p>The Structure Plan prohibits development which would lead to a deterioration of ground or surface water quality, or which is in areas at risk of flooding.</p>	<p>Hampshire County Structure Plan 1996 – 2011.</p>
<p>Inappropriate watercourse management and surface drainage can reduce the naturalness, variety and extent of wildlife habitat along watercourses. The other main concern for wetland biodiversity is pollution. Continual provision of new water resources is unsustainable and the demand for water needs to be managed. The requirement to build many more homes in Hampshire by 2026 will have major water resource implications.</p>	<p>Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan</p>
<p>Planning permission will not be granted for development that would harm water resources or their quality, including existing abstractions and the potential yield of ground water, rivers, streams and still water. Development, including proposals involving the raising of land, will not be permitted in areas at risk from flooding, unless flood protection measures are carried out to an appropriate standard for the development. Development will not be permitted if it would increase the risk of flooding elsewhere, unless that risk can be overcome through measures to be implemented by the developer.</p>	<p>East Hampshire District local Plan: Second Review.</p>
<p>Sustainably manage water resources to improve water quality and ensure sufficient future supplies.</p>	<p>Water Framework Directive Hampshire Water Strategy 2003 PPG10 PPS23 Hampshire County Structure Plan 1996-2011</p>

## 12.4 Baseline

- 12.4.1 There are over 35,000 properties at risk from flooding in the whole of Hampshire. The figures for East Hampshire will be available following the preparation of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.
- 12.4.2 The Environment Agency is consulted on development proposals in areas of flood risk. The amount of development sensitive to flood risk in these areas should not increase.
- 12.4.3 In 2006 94.2% of river length in East Hampshire was compliant with the River Quality Objectives (RQO); meeting the government target of 91%. 100% was of good chemical quality (includes very good, good and fairly good categories). The percentage classified as very good and good (94%) has increased dramatically since 1990 (36%). 89.8% was of good biological quality, compared to 74.8% in 1990. (Source: Environment Agency: State of the Environment: Water quality information for East Hampshire 2007)

## 12.5 Likely future conditions

- 12.5.1 The quality of rivers in East Hampshire is high and Environment Agency compliance targets are being met. Continued vigilance is needed to ensure compliance remains high.

## 12.6 Environmental and Sustainability Problems

- 12.6.1 The following problems have been identified:
- River quality is high but continual monitoring is needed.
  - The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) being prepared for the District will provide the necessary data on flood risk. We must divert development away from areas of flood risk;
  - There is an increased likelihood of flooding resulting from climate change which will need to be taken into account in the SFRA.
  - Significant new housing development in the Whitehill/Bordon Area could potentially create surface and sub-surface flows of water that might adversely affect the Woolmer Forest SAC and Wealden Heaths Phase II SPA.

## 12.7 Proposed SA / SEA Objectives

- 12.7.1 Based on the problems identified, the following SA / SEA Objectives are proposed:
- To enhance and protect the natural water environment and achieve sustainable water resources management.
  - To reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.
- (See also objective in Transport and Accessibility Chapter relating to provision of utilities' infrastructure)



## 13 Biodiversity

### 13.1 Introduction

13.1.1 Biodiversity is the variety of life on earth at all levels, from genes to worldwide populations of the same species; from communities of species sharing the same small area of habitat to worldwide ecosystems.

13.1.2 Biodiversity has many attributes:

- It is a vital, integral part of the planet's life support system;
- It is the basis for evolution and adaptation to a rapidly changing environment;
- It is a key component of a functioning environment for future generations;
- It is essential to maintain clean water, fertile soil and clean air, thereby providing the basis for existence and indirect economic benefits;
- Can be managed and used for economic benefit, for instance to produce crops, medicines, building materials, fuel and tools;
- Has economic and social values e.g. in leisure and recreation or tourism, and educational, aesthetic and spiritual value, and so enriches our quality of life;
- Determines the distinctive character or 'feel' to an area, be it a chalk downland, estuary, woodland or moor; and
- People value the existence of biodiversity and want it conserved.

13.1.3 The main threats to both local and global biodiversity are associated with human activities causing habitat loss/ damage, loss of biodiversity, loss of protected species, disturbance to and pollution of ecosystems, risk to unprotected habitats. Many species-populations are being reduced and fragmented below viable sizes. Conserving biodiversity is a global, long-term challenge and requires global, long-term solutions that start at the local level.

### 13.2 Environmental Protection Objectives

13.2.1 Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, 1971:

- To conserve wetlands of international importance, especially as waterfowl habitats;

13.2.2 Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, 1979:

- To protect endangered species and their habitats;

13.2.3 (Wild) Birds Directive 79/409/EEC, 1979:

- To protect of all naturally occurring wild bird species and their habitats, with particular protection of rare species;

13.2.4 Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of the Wild Animals, 1979:

- To protect threatened animals that migrate across national boundaries and/or the high

seas;

### 13.2.5 Habitats and Species Directive 92/43/EEC, 1992:

- To protect important natural habitat (listed in Annex I, amended in Directive 97/62/EC) and species (listed in Annex II), using measures to maintain or restore their "favourable conservation status", principally by Special Areas of Conservation, but also (through land-use and development policies) by management of the landscape features of importance to wildlife outside SACs;
- To safeguard species leading strict protection (Annex IV). This Directive is transposed into UK law through the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations, 1994.

## 13.3 Context Review

### 13.3.1 The following are the key messages from the context review:

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
Biodiversity is threatened by development and agricultural intensification	Habitats Directive
Conserve and enhance the District's Biodiversity	European Habitats Directive 92/43/EC, European Birds Directive 79/409/EEC, Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 Water Framework Directive PPS7, PPS9, Integrated Regional Framework, Hampshire County Structure Plan, Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan East Hampshire District Local Plan Second Review East Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan
Lists habitats and species of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England	Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
Priority habitats for protection that are represented in East Hants include heathland of international importance.	UK Biodiversity Action Plan
Tourism is important in East Hampshire. Opportunities exist for biodiversity and geo-diversity to act as tourist attractions. Tourism can place pressure on biodiversity through visitor pressure and disturbance.	Working with the Grain of Nature: The Biodiversity Strategy for England, 2002
Developments should recognise the role and value of biodiversity in supporting economic development and contributing to a high quality environment.	Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation, 2005

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
Development should not take place where it would cause a loss or damage to ancient woodland except where the development can be proven to have benefits that outweigh the loss of the woodland.	Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation, 2005
Previously developed land can have significant biological or geological interest and opportunities for retaining this and incorporating it into developments should be taken.	Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation, 2005
In addition to biodiversity, attention should be paid to geological conservation, which relates to the sites that are designated for their geology and/or geomorphological importance	Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation, 2005
<p>The plan sets out policies to protect ancient woodlands and ensure better management and expansion of key wildlife habitats.</p> <p>The South East has a wonderfully rich and diverse range of countryside and the Plan sets out a hierarchy of protective measures. It also places much emphasis on better management of the wider countryside to improve access, renew landscape and increase bio-diversity.</p> <p>Biodiversity plays a key role in improving people's quality of life and in creating a sense of place. Accessible green networks and open green spaces in the built environment should be encouraged.</p> <p>A net gain in biodiversity will be sought through development opportunities, including large scale habitat restoration, enhancement and re-creation projects.</p>	Draft South East Plan - 2006
Development should not harm wildlife habitats of national and international importance, including Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Ramsar Sites or National Nature Reserves, or Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation. In addition there are numerous other wildlife sites which may form part of a wider ecological network or are essential for migration and are therefore protected	Hampshire County Structure Plan - 2000
Within the habitat and species plans, recommended action will cover aspects such as site protection, habitat management and restoration, data needs and policy matters. From the strategic action points set out in this document, detailed programmes of action will be developed, for example to deal with data needs or the raising of awareness and involvement in biodiversity conservation.	Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
<p>Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) are designated to protect examples of Britain's most valuable wildlife habitats. In Hampshire, SSSIs cover 48,000 ha – some 13% of the land area. This is about twice the national average of 6.8%. Many of the SSSIs have been recognised for their international importance too: 41,700 ha (about 11 % of Hampshire) have been designated (or are proposed) as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) or Special Protection Areas (SPAs) under EC Directives, and/or as Ramsar Sites under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance. Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) are also being identified within Hampshire.</p>	<p>Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan</p>
<p>A key ambition of the South Downs is a landscape rich in wildlife with extensive swathes of interlinking habitat managed to maximize benefits for nature.</p>	<p>Draft South Downs Management Plan</p>
<p>Planning permission will not be granted for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development likely to harm the nature conservation interests of nationally designated sites, such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) or Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs).</li> <li>• Development that would damage or destroy one or more trees protected by a tree preservation order or in a conservation area unless removal would be in the interests of good arboricultural practice.</li> <li>• Development that would harm the interests of nature conservation in river corridors and associated areas.</li> </ul>	<p>East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review</p>
<p>Key objectives of the BAP for East Hampshire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To present an accurate and up-to-date description of the habitat and wildlife resources in the area</li> <li>• To identify local targets and priorities for action</li> <li>• To ensure that national and county targets are translated into effective local action</li> <li>• To develop effective local partnerships for biodiversity</li> <li>• To raise awareness about the importance of biodiversity</li> <li>• To consider the whole of the biodiversity resource: conservation, restoration and enhancement</li> <li>• To identify the resources required for action and those already available</li> <li>• To provide a systematic basis for monitoring and reviewing progress</li> <li>• To feed progress to the Hampshire Biodiversity Partnership and work towards best practice</li> </ul>	<p>Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) for East Hampshire 2002</p>

## 13.4 Baseline

- 13.4.1 As a result of the complex geology, East Hampshire is one of the most diverse areas in the County for wildlife and habitats. Examples include the chalk downland of the South Downs, chalk and greensand woodland hangers, lowland heath, and three river catchments. Some of these habitats and the species they support are extremely rare and represent significant strongholds in Britain and Europe<sup>7</sup>.
- 13.4.2 Hampshire has 18 of the UK BAP priority habitats and East Hampshire has 11. Many of the sites have been formally designated.

*Table 13.1: Biodiversity Designations in East Hampshire*

Designation	Number in East Hampshire	% Hampshire total number	Area in East Hampshire (hectares)	% Hampshire total area
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	4	33	1539	4
Special Protection Area (SPA)	1	10	1752	4
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	16	13	2705	5
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	2	18	358	18
Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	12	31	279	15
Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)	526	14	5957	17

- 13.4.3 East Hampshire can be seen to contain a significant proportion of Hampshire's total land area designated for biodiversity. Considering much of the Hampshire resource is coastal or in the New Forest, the East Hampshire figures are relatively high.
- 13.4.4 East Hampshire is one of the most heavily wooded districts in the country with 17% woodland cover. It is at present unclear whether woodland cover is decreasing and if so by how much per year.
- 13.4.5 The Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre has gathered data during its own surveys and by collecting survey information from other individuals and organisations to identify 'hotspots' in the District of notable animal and plant species. Most of the 'hotspots' correspond closely with the areas of priority habitat.
- 13.4.6 Different land use pressures such as urban growth, agricultural intensification and forestry have had a great impact on biodiversity over the last century. As a result a great number of sites have been reduced in size, isolated or destroyed. For example, during the last 50 years, the area of Hampshire's ancient semi-natural woodland has reduced by half. Over 90% of the heathland in northeast Hampshire has been lost in the last 200 years. 98% of chalk downland has been lost in Hampshire over the past 150 years. Many species are dependent on a critical size of habitat for their survival, and some also depend on a variety of habitats being in close proximity for different stages in their life cycle. When habitats become fragmented, their potential for supporting wildlife is greatly reduced. Wildlife corridors such as rivers, hedges and field margins are important

<sup>7</sup> (Source: <http://www.easthants.gov.uk/allservices.nsf/d4cff9714fb81c1680256cd200389349/f89110b871314809802571fe004dba66?OpenDocument&Highlight=0,wildlife>)

features in the landscape for connecting fragmented habitats like ancient woodland, and provide natural pathways for wildlife.

13.4.7 The Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) for East Hampshire is currently being prepared. It will develop a two-tier system for action: district-wide and specific, area-based actions. These projects will not exclusively cover the sites with maximum biodiversity; many projects will relate to the wider countryside around these sites. The rationale for selecting local projects can be summarised as follows:

- Areas with potential for linking or protecting sites of high biodiversity at local landscape scale to increase robustness in response to climate change and other factors;
- Areas with current action or with the potential for action under various conservation schemes;
- Areas with opportunities for enhancement of biodiversity through creation and/or restoration of habitats;
- Areas with hotspots for notable species;
- Areas which link with residents or visitors to the District;
- Areas with undesignated sites containing BAP priority habitats;
- Areas with designated sites in unfavourable condition for wildlife.

13.4.8 The Wealden Heaths (Phase II) Special Protection Area (SPA), designated under the European Birds Directive, covers a significant proportion of the north-eastern part of the District (1752 ha) and supports internationally important heathland. It provides breeding and wintering habitats for important bird species including Nightjar, Woodlark and Dartford Warbler. These birds also rely on nearby non-statutory sites, such as the Slab and the Warren SINC.

13.4.9 The current situation in the District is that Natural England (NE) is asking to be notified of applications for all new dwellings within 400m of the SPA. Within 5 kilometres of the SPA, Natural England is notified of all applications for new dwellings outside settlement policy boundaries (SPBs) and for 10 or more dwellings within SPBs.

13.4.10 In relation to the Thames Basin Heaths SPA, which lies to the north but outside East Hampshire, NE is objecting to new residential developments within 400m of the SPA due to the adverse impact of noise and disturbance through the potential increase in recreational activity. NE is taking this stance as PPS9 clearly states that local authorities have a duty of care to protect the integrity of SPAs. Therefore PPS9, together with the objectives of NE, provides significant weight to the protection of SPAs and in prohibiting development in proximity to them.

13.4.11 The 11 local planning authorities, that have parts of the Thames Basin Heaths SPA within their boundaries, are currently working in conjunction with NE to develop a Delivery Plan. The purpose of the Delivery Plan is to enable housing to be provided within 5 km of the relevant heathland whilst ensuring that the SPA suffers no adverse effect in terms of noise and disturbance caused by recreational activity. The Delivery Plan will provide a standardised approach to mitigation to ensure that any adverse effects can be mitigated. The Delivery Plan is being developed in consultation with SEERA, GOSE, DEFRA and DCLG. It needs to be seen what impact the outcome of this Delivery Plan will have on the stance taken with development proposals near other SPA, including the Wealden Heaths (Phase II) SPA.

13.4.12 A Habitats Regulations Assessment of the emerging LDF is being prepared by consultants to identify any areas of the Core Strategy and associated documents that have the potential to cause an adverse impact on European Sites. A screening assessment has been prepared to identify the susceptibilities of the European sites within and around East Hampshire and thus guide development of LDF options.

13.4.13 Work undertaken so far identifies a number of environmental conditions that are shared by the local sites. These include:

- Air quality;
- Hydrology;
- Water quality; and
- Recreational pressure/urbanization.

The initial measures recommended for inclusion in LDF documents will be considered during the various stages of preparation of the documents.

## 13.5 Likely future conditions

13.5.1 The 79% of SSSIs in favourable or recovering condition compares with the County figures, but the government target of 95% is not being met.

13.5.2 40% of the District is within the East Hampshire AONB. The proposed South Downs National Park could cover 53% of the District. Although from an Environmental/Biodiversity point of view this is highly favourable, it is also a clear constraint on development potential, and brings a conflict between the District's objectives.

13.5.3 Large areas of the District are covered by biodiversity designations, including internationally important SACs and SPAs. This again is a constraint on development potential. The Wealden Heaths (Phase II) SPA may restrict the potential for development in the Whitehill/Bordon Opportunity.

## 13.6 Environmental and Sustainability Problems

13.6.1 The following problems have been identified:

- From the list of 38 priority habitats of conservation concern in the UK, 11 occur in East Hampshire. There is also a variety of protected species known or potentially present in the area. The fragmentation of habitats is reducing their potential to support wildlife.
- The loss of ancient woodland cannot be compensated for. The extensive woodland cover contributes to the local character and distinctiveness of the District. Opportunities for broadleaf tree planting should be taken.
- The government target for SSSI of 95% favourable or recovering is not currently being met – only 79% is in this condition.
- Climate change will affect all habitats and species. For example the lowering of summer river flows will affect wetland ecology. Species changes are likely to be quicker than before with invasive non-indigenous species being more likely to spread and drought-tolerant tree

species becoming more dominant. Species will need suitable habitats etc for migration as climatic conditions change.

- Biodiversity designations limit areas for development are under threat from a variety of pressures. There are also areas of local value outside the designated sites that also need to be recognised and protected.
- Development pressures, fuelled by high land and property prices, pose threats to landscape and nature conservation interests. However, although development schemes can affect wildlife they can provide scope to create new habitats and enhance existing ones. These opportunities should be explored in all development proposals.
- There is increasing awareness of the potential conflict between protecting the Wealden Heath (Phase II) SPA and providing homes.
- Some recreational pressure on protected areas of nature conservation interest is unavoidable in East Hampshire. This is due to the extent of the nature conservation network that is within a day-visit travel distance<sup>8</sup> for many people. Providing alternative recreational facilities is needed to reduce the negative aspect.

## 13.7 Proposed SA / SEA Objectives

13.7.1 Based on the problems identified, the following SA / SEA Objective is proposed:

- To protect and enhance local, national and international nature conservation interests.

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<sup>8</sup> 17.2 km (10.8 miles) to visit a countryside site for the day according to the England Day Visits Survey (2006).

## 14 Landscape

### 14.1 Introduction

- 14.1.1 East Hampshire is characterised by a wide diversity and contrast within its landscape with rolling chalk downs, often capped with clay to create a wooded character, and steep chalk slopes contrasting strongly with the Western Weald heaths and the wooded greensand escarpments. It is a relatively lightly populated area with the main market towns of Petersfield and Alton and a scattering of villages and hamlets of varying character.
- 14.1.2 The central part of the District is designated as part of the East Hampshire AONB, and falls within the proposed South Downs National Park. Approximately 40% of the District lies within the AONB and 53% lies within the proposed South Downs National Park. This designation reflects the exceptional quality of the landscape.

### 14.2 Environmental Protection Objectives

- 14.2.1 European Landscape Convention (2000)
- Commits the UK to "recognise landscapes in law as an essential component of people's surroundings, an expression of the diversity of their shared cultural and natural heritage, and a foundation of their identity";
- 14.2.2 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act (1949):
- Provides for the creation of National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB);
- 14.2.3 Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000):
- Create a framework for public access to the countryside;
  - Provides greater protection to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and new arrangements for the management of AONBs.

### 14.3 Context Review

- 14.3.1 The following are the key messages from the context review:

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
Local Planning Authorities should promote high quality design in new developments over the lifetime of the development. Design which fails to take the opportunities available for improving the character and quality of an area should not be accepted.	Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
<p>Raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas, particularly revitalise country towns and villages for strong, diverse, economic activity.</p>	<p>Planning Policy Statement 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas South Downs Management Plan – Consultation Draft June 2006 East Hampshire District Local Plan Second Review East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy</p>
<p>Valued landscape will be protected in designated National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.</p>	<p>Rural White Paper Our Countryside: A Fair Deal for Rural England</p>
<p>The South East has a wonderfully rich and diverse range of countryside and the Plan sets out a hierarchy of protective measures. It also places much emphasis on better management of the wider countryside to improve access, renew landscape and increase bio-diversity.</p>	<p>Draft South East Plan - 2006</p>
<p>Development proposals must pay particular attention to the District Council's Countryside Design Summary and Village Design Statements. Planning permission will not be granted for any proposal to develop in or adjacent to an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) which would harm its special character, quality, tranquillity and appearance of its landscape unless it is essential for economic or social well-being. Development that would harm local landscape features will not be permitted. Planning permission for major development proposals in the AONB will be granted only in exceptional circumstances.  New development should be of a high design standard and should make a worthwhile contribution towards maintaining the local character and distinctiveness and/or improving the quality of the environment of the District.</p>	<p>PPS7 East Hampshire District Local Plan Second Review East Hampshire Countryside Design Summary East Hampshire Landscape Character Assessment</p>
<p>Seek contributions for open space where possible and provide at least for minimum open space requirements.  Utilise the over provision of space where possible</p>	<p>Open Space in East Hampshire 2003</p>
<p>Key ambitions for the South Downs include an unspoilt landscape of the highest quality and diversity reflecting the historic evolution; and wide ranging opportunities for countryside recreation and access respecting the natural beauty of the South Downs and avoiding conflict with others.</p>	<p>Draft South Downs Management Plan.</p>

## 14.4 Baseline

- 14.4.1 In 2006 the District Council published a Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) which provides a comprehensive, fully integrated assessment of all aspects of the landscape character of the District. It aims to develop an understanding of the landscape character of East Hampshire, which can be used to influence and inform policy and planning management actions.
- 14.4.2 The landscape classification defines 10 generic landscape types, which are sub-divided into 26 individual geographic character areas. A detailed description and evaluation is presented of each of the character areas.
- 14.4.3 The LCA updates landscape assessment work undertaken in the late 1990s to define the different landscape areas for the Countryside Design Summary. This document needs to be updated to reflect the LCA. However at the present time all new development in the countryside needs to take account of the considerations listed in the Countryside Design Summary if character, sense of place and local distinctiveness are to be respected.

## 14.5 Likely future conditions

- 14.5.1 Rise in landscape designations from AONB (40%) to National Park (53%); this will present challenges in terms of future development in the District (see comment in section below).

## 14.6 Environmental and Sustainability Problems

- Development pressures, fuelled by high land and property prices, pose threats to landscape interests. These pressures within built-up areas are changing their character and giving rise to local concerns.
- The AONB covers 40% of the District and the impending National Park designation could cover 53%. East Hampshire is one of the most heavily wooded districts in the country with over 17% of cover. These limit development potential but are also a substantial recreational, tourism and heritage resource and contribute to the local economy by attracting visitors and tourists.
- Noise and light pollution contribute to a loss of tranquillity in the AONB. Measures are needed to reduce their impact.
- There is a need to provide opportunities for countryside recreation and access whilst respecting its landscape quality and avoiding conflict with other uses.
- Existing open spaces must be protected to avoid changes to the character of built up areas and to reduce pressures on the countryside.

## 14.7 Proposed SA / SEA Objectives

- 14.7.1 Based on the problems identified, the following SA / SEA Objectives are proposed:
- To protect and enhance the intrinsic local character of the landscape, sense of place and local distinctiveness;

- To protect, enhance and make accessible for enjoyment, the District's public open spaces.
- To enable recreational access to the countryside within environmental constraints.

## 15 Waste

### 15.1 Introduction

- 15.1.1 The Environmental Protection Act 1990 identified waste as any substance that constitutes a scrap material, an effluent or other unwanted surplus. This definition was amended by the Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994 to define waste as *'any substance or object that the producer or the person in possession of it, discards or intends or is required to discard'*.
- 15.1.2 Controlled wastes are subject to regulation since the 1990 Act and include industrial, commercial or household wastes. Some of these wastes are defined as hazardous and are those that have irritant, toxic, harmful, carcinogenic or corrosive properties. These must be handled and treated in specific ways. Non-controlled wastes, from agriculture, mines and quarries, are subject to their own regulations.
- 15.1.3 The East Hampshire District Council has responsibility for waste collection, however waste planning and waste disposal is the responsibility of Hampshire County Council.

### 15.2 Environmental Protection Objectives

- 15.2.1 The EU Landfill Directive:
- To reduce biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 75% of that produced in 1995 by 2010; to 50% by 2013, and to 35% by 2020.
- 15.2.2 The Waste Strategy 2000:
- Reduce the amount of waste produced, increase the proportion of material re-used for other purposes;
  - Where material cannot be re-used without treatment, increase the proportion recycled or composted;
  - Where re-use and recycling is not possible, use waste as a fuel to derive energy from it;
  - Disposal of waste to landfill should be the last resort.
- 15.2.3 Statutory targets from the Waste Strategy 2000:
- By 2005 to reduce the amount of industrial and commercial waste sent to landfill to 85% of that landfilled in 1998;
  - To recover value<sup>9</sup> from 40% of municipal waste by 2005;
  - To recover value from 45% of municipal waste by 2010;
  - To recover value from 67% of municipal waste by 2015.
- 15.2.4 Specific targets for recycling and composting from the Waste Strategy 2000 are:
- To recycle or compost at least 25% of household waste by 2005;

<sup>9</sup> In this context 'to recover value' means to recycle, compost, recover energy or materials (e.g. by a process such as anaerobic digestion)

- To recycle or compost at least 30% of household waste by 2010;
- To recycle or compost at least 33% of household waste by 2015.

## 15.3 Context Review

### 15.3.1 Key messages from the context review include:

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
Increase emphasis on reducing waste at source and making use of it as a resource	Securing the future: UK Sustainable Development Strategy; Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management
Provide a framework in which communities take more responsibility for their own waste, and enable sufficient and timely provision of waste management facilities to meet the needs of their communities	Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management
By 2025: The amount of waste produced will be minimized; the overwhelming majority of materials will be re-used, recycled or have value recovered from them; and the environment will be protected and enhanced for future generations.	Regional Planning Guidance, South East – Regional Waste Management Strategy - 2004
An overall aim is to reduce growth in waste generated. Propose minimizing reliance on landfill through recycling and composting of as much waste as possible, with further recovery of energy from materials that cannot be recycled. Provide for a large number and range of new facilities to provide for recycling and recovery. Reduce the amount of waste exported from London for disposal in the South East. Promote use of sustainable construction techniques to reduce waste and make use of recycled materials.	Draft South East Plan - 2006
Planning authorities will seek the management of waste in accordance with the following hierarchy: 1. Reduction of waste; 2. Re-use of waste; 3. Recovery of waste (recycling, composting, energy from waste); and 4. Waste disposal.  Permission will be granted for facilities for waste processing, providing there is no unacceptable impact on the environment. Waste disposal by land filling will only be permitted on active or unrestored mineral working sites.	Hampshire County Structure Plan 1996 – 2011.
Adequate provision must be made for the disposal of waste that is not recycled or recovered. It is fundamental to the social, economic and environmental well being of the County that the need for waste disposal is met in a safe and efficient manner.	Hampshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan

Key Messages from the Context Review	Evidence Source
<p>Development has caused extensive loss of wildlife habitat, particularly within the last 50 years. Housing, industrial and business development, roads, coastal development, waste disposal and mineral extraction have been especially significant. The demand for new development continues and this should be accommodated while maintaining the quality of the environment.</p>	<p>Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan</p>
<p>The District Council will seek to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• any waste disposal sites which may be granted planning permission in East Hampshire have the least damaging effect on wildlife, landscape, aquifers and the environment in general.</li> <li>• it does not result in a volume of traffic which exceeds the capacity of the surrounding road network or would adversely affect the character of the area; and</li> <li>• strict conditions are placed on the restoration and after use of the sites to ensure that the highest standards of environmental care are used.</li> </ul>	<p>East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review</p>
<p>Reduce household waste arising and increase the reuse / recycling / recovery of waste Take action in order to meet national recycling and composting targets</p>	<p>No Time to Waste Regional Waste Management Strategy. Hampshire Minerals &amp; Waste East Hampshire Local Plan in Black and White – Annual Performance Report 2005-2006 PPS10</p>

## 15.4 Baseline

- 15.4.1 The amount of household waste collected in 2001/02 was 380 kg/capita. Since then it has averaged 340 kg/capita and has now stabilised. The recycling rate of household waste improved from just over 15% recycled in 2001/02 to 35% in 2006/07, over 10% above the governments target of 25% of household waste to be recycled or composted (EHDC Best Value Performance Plan 2006/07).

## 15.5 Likely future conditions

- 15.5.1 Based on past trends, it appears likely that the amount of waste produced by households will remain constant. Recycling rates are likely to rise.

## 15.6 Environmental and Sustainability Problems

- 15.6.1 The following problems have been identified:
- The amount of household waste collected has fallen since 2000 by 40kg/capita but has now stabilised. Despite this acceptable recent performance, continuing effort is needed to reduce waste to meet Waste Strategy Targets.

- The Waste Strategy 2000 target to recycle or compost at least 33% of household waste by 2015 is being achieved.
- There is a need for a continuing focus on the waste hierarchy (waste reduction, re-use of materials, recycling, energy recovery and finally disposal by landfill), including in the commercial sector, especially small/medium sized enterprises.

## 15.7 Proposed SA / SEA Objectives

15.7.1 Based on the problems identified, the following SA / SEA Objective is proposed:

- To reduce waste generation and achieve the sustainable management of waste.

## 16 Whitehill / Bordon

### 16.1 Introduction

- 16.1.1 Whitehill / Bordon is a military town within the district which faces a number of socio-economic problems, such as limited local employment opportunities, an uneven population structure, poor community facilities and dominance of the private car as a method of travel. However, due to the Defence Training Review (DTR), there is an opportunity to achieve significant social and economic improvements as large-scale military land holdings become available for development. The town is also bordered by internationally designated nature conservation sites and the proposed South Downs National Park, and therefore the opportunity comes hand in hand with the challenge of creating a more sustainable community within the environmental capacity of the town.
- 16.1.2 Due to the scale of the potential opportunity at Whitehill / Bordon the Core Strategy will contain specific policies relating to the town. This Chapter therefore examines the potential issues and opportunities associated with Whitehill / Bordon. A separate set of SEA / SA sub-objectives are proposed with which to test the policies in the Core Strategy relating to Whitehill / Bordon; in order to ensure that issues are considered at an appropriate level.
- 16.1.3 The majority of the information within this chapter is based on a great deal of work already undertaken on the potential for development at Whitehill / Bordon, including informal SA.

### 16.2 Context Review

- 16.2.1 Whitehill/Bordon is a town with a population of approximately 14,000 according to the 2001 census. The town has been built up around Bordon Garrison, home to the School of Electro-Mechanical Engineering (SEME) and the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME).
- 16.2.2 An opportunity arises from the potential release by the Ministry of Defence (MOD) of large scale landholdings (including existing buildings and training land) from Bordon Garrison as part of the DTR. In January 2007 it was announced that the MOD training facilities would be relocating to St Athan in South Wales. A smaller scale military presence will remain at Bordon Garrison utilising the tank training areas. The army is expected to leave between 2011 and 2013 when the new base at St Athan should be completed.
- 16.2.3 The Garrison currently comprises a mixture of building types of varying ages including four military garrisons: Louisburg, Quebec, Martinique and Prince Phillip Barracks. Military land within the town also includes the Hogmoor Inclosure backdoor Army Training Area, a dismantled railway and MOD family quarter estates. At least 80 hectares of land will be made available for development.
- 16.2.4 There is currently some uncertainty at this stage as to the specific parcels of MOD land that will be released. A large area of greenfield land owned by Hampshire County Council could also be made available for development in the future in order to help create the critical mass for a more sustainable community and, in particular, an enhanced town centre.

- 16.2.5 There is an opportunity to provide additional residential development that will help create the critical mass for improvements to facilities and services, an enhanced town centre, improved housing choice and improved population balance.
- 16.2.6 A Town Health Check (2003) questionnaire identified what the residents of Whitehill / Bordon want the most for their town. Among the 'Top 10' are improved public transport, environmental improvements, improved road network, cinema, better shops, restaurant/family pub, college/skills training centre and multi-sports centre.
- 16.2.7 A Stakeholder Group has been formed to carry out Masterplanning work which will be progressed as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the future of the town. Called the Whitehill/Bordon Opportunity Steering Group it includes Members and Officers of the Town, District and County Councils together with representatives from MOD (Defence Estates), English Partnerships, Natural England, The Government Office for the South East and The South East England Development Agency.
- 16.2.8 The key aspiration of the Steering Group is to work together to achieve a town that meets the needs of residents, businesses and visitors alike to create a community which will be recognised as a model sustainable community in the 21st century. Mindful of the importance of the local natural environment around Whitehill / Bordon, the Steering Group have produced and published a Green Vision against which to set their work.
- 16.2.9 This Vision is expressed as follows:
- In the next 20 years we want to see Whitehill/Bordon develop as a thriving, sustainable community with a distinct character that will give our town a unique identity in Hampshire and the south east region;
  - We want to develop and improve the built environment in the town so that it complements the superb landscape that surrounds us and enhances the local environment, flora and fauna;
  - We will create an attractive built environment where people want to live and work, with a balanced mix of housing, community facilities, shops and employment opportunities;
  - We will use innovative, modern, environmentally-friendly design incorporating, e.g. eco-homes and modern methods of construction;
  - We will ensure that our town develops in a way that encourages us to live and work in ways which do not damage the natural resources on which our society and economy depends;
  - We will develop a town centre which is pedestrian friendly and which is inter-connected with the residential and commercial areas. We will create quality civic and public open space;
  - We will encourage investment by those businesses and industries which share our vision of a sustainable, environmentally-friendly community; and
  - We will promote the development and use of public transport to provide communication links both within our town and with other communities and promote methods of travel which reduce the need to use a car, e.g. cycling, walking.
- 16.2.10 Specialist technical work on the Whitehill / Bordon Opportunity began in 2003. A baseline report was produced in 2004 and since then a number of options have been considered regarding the

scale of housing development which Whitehill / Bordon could accommodate. The consideration of options was undertaken before the DTR review was completed and therefore a range of potential sites and growth scenarios were considered. This analysis of options has been informed by informal SA throughout the process to date. The SA has helped identify sensitive areas and, in particular, critical environmental issues and constraints. The analysis of options has led to the discounting of some higher growth level options due to the predicted environmental and transport impacts that these would be associated with.

16.2.11 It was previously the intention of East Hampshire District Council to prepare an Area Action Plan (AAP) for Whitehill / Bordon. As part of the preparation of the AAP a formal SA / SEA was begun at the beginning of 2006 based on the informal SA / SEA work already undertaken. A SA / SEA Scoping Report for the Whitehill / Bordon AAP was consulted upon with the (then four) statutory consultees and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) between February and March 2006. However, since then the Council has revised their Local Development Scheme and Bordon / Whitehill will now be the subject of several policies within the Core Strategy and, eventually, a SPD. The SPD would be adopted soon after the Core Strategy.

16.2.12 The previous SA work provides useful information to inform the SA of the Core Strategy. Consultation on the Whitehill / Bordon Opportunity Area Action Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report, (WSP Environmental 2006) has helped refine a set of SEA / SA objectives for Whitehill / Bordon. As the policies within the Core Strategy relating to Whitehill / Bordon will be more detailed than those relating to spatial growth in other parts of the District it is proposed that these objectives are used to produce a set of sub-objectives relevant to the special issues associated with Whitehill / Bordon.

16.2.13 The bullet points below summarise the key comments made by the statutory consultees through the consultation on the Whitehill / Bordon AAP Scoping Report:

- The Countryside Agency (now part of Natural England) recommends Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) form part of the baseline.
- The Countryside Agency also advocated the achievement of a strategically planned greenspace network around the town.
- The Environment Agency recommended that the status of the town's watercourses are considered in relation to the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC). A flood risk assessment will be required.
- The Environment Agency highlighted that the enhancement of biodiversity should be considered at the landscape scale, even within an urban development.
- The Environment Agency identifies that there is a risk of contamination in the area and that PPS23 will be a driver for remediating land that is affected by contamination for development.
- The Lower Greensand underlying geology is classed as a 'Major Aquifer' by the Environment Agency. There are a number of licensed groundwater abstractions in the area. Over most of the Whitehill / Bordon area the sandy soils will allow sustainable drainage systems to minimise the need for surface water sewerage. Foul water disposal, however, will require an appraisal of treatment capacity at the local sewage treatment works to safeguard water quality in the River Wey.
- English Nature (now Natural England) supports previous comments that ecology is a major issue in relation to potential development in Whitehill / Bordon and welcomes further

consultation on ecological mitigation and in relation to the 'Habitats Regulations'.

- English Nature requested that potential impacts on Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) and Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) within and in the vicinity of the town are considered, as well as internationally designated sites. The SA/SEA process should also consider possible impacts on protected species (such as Annex 1 birds) outside the designated nature conservation areas.
- The RSPB is concerned about potential direct and indirect impacts on surrounding heathlands, including all heathland SINCs in the area. The RSPB firmly supports the aim to protect and where possible enhance all such habitats and take opportunities to create linkages between the existing sites.
- The RSPB recommends a visitor survey is undertaken including all current access patterns on all open spaces within the vicinity of Whitehill / Bordon.
- The RSPB suggests that in relation to the 'Habitats Regulations', The Whitehill / Bordon Opportunity presents a likely significant effect to the Wealden Heaths Phase II SPA and therefore an Appropriate Assessment will be required.

## 16.3 Summary of Baseline

- 16.3.1 The Garrison and military presence currently dominates the town, effecting the socio-economic structure and character.
- 16.3.2 Whitehill/Bordon has a young population with a high proportion of children and fewer elderly residents than average. Many dwellings are small with mainly one and two bedrooms, and most are terraced. About 20% of households rent their homes. House prices are lower than average and there are many affordable homes. This attracts low income earners and first time buyers and has created an unbalanced socio-economic mix in the existing population.
- 16.3.3 The limited local employment opportunities mean that many residents commute out of town by car to work.
- 16.3.4 The size and range of community facilities in Whitehill/Bordon is limited compared to similar sized towns in the area (e.g. Alton and Petersfield). Many people travel out of town for shopping, leisure and services.
- 16.3.5 There is a lack of formal public playing fields and children's play space in the town. Many of the areas used as informal open space are important environmental sites. Public indoor sports and swimming pools are only available at Mill Chase Community School where public access is limited during term time. The town lacks a stand alone leisure centre, family pubs, restaurants and hotels.
- 16.3.6 There is no emergency dentist practice in the town and access to the nearest hospital for emergency and acute/specialist services is in Basingstoke.
- 16.3.7 The town has adequate convenience shopping, e.g. food, drinks, newspapers but poor comparison shopping e.g. clothing, household goods for a town of its size. Residents travel elsewhere to do their comparison shopping and have expressed a desire for a new town centre with additional shops

- 16.3.8 In general, Whitehill/Bordon residents are less qualified compared to residents elsewhere in the District. This is partly due to the lack of further education and training facilities, and the poor access to good quality, high-achieving schools. Relatively few residents are employed in managerial or professional occupations. There is no sixth form or further education provision in the town and public transport to colleges elsewhere is poor. There is an identified shortage of pre-school places.
- 16.3.9 High car ownership and poor public transport in the area leads to mainly car use for everyday trips to school and work. An expanded settlement would provide the opportunity for an enhanced public transport service, together with opportunities for walking and cycling. The scale of development proposed needs to reflect the ability of the A325 and local roads to cope with the additional demand and scope for other issues relating to the A325 include physical severance, its poor accident record and air quality problems at certain junctions.
- 16.3.10 Surface water runoff from new development must match or improve the existing situation on site. A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment will be required to help develop the masterplan to avoid problems with flooding. Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) will be required to manage drainage of new developments if ground conditions are suitable.
- 16.3.11 There is potential for contamination of soil but the extent is unknown at this stage, particularly on the military brownfield sites.
- 16.3.12 New on-site foul water treatment works are likely to be required to serve development options above about 1,500 dwellings. Further studies are needed to quantify capacity of the existing mains water system. Additional dwellings will require major off-site electricity reinforcement works and major off-site reinforcement of gas services is likely to be required.
- 16.3.13 The town is surrounded by land of high ecological quality. It is bounded to the north and south by the internationally protected Wealden Heaths Phase II SPA and Shortheath Common and Woolmer Forest SACs which contain forest and heathland habitats and support a number of protected species, including ground-nesting birds. There are other sites of ecological importance within the town, including locally designated Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs), which link to the wider countryside. A number of surveys are on-going to inform the evidence base. These will include a visitor survey of current access patterns on all open spaces within the vicinity of Whitehill/Bordon to assess the likely future recreational impact on the SPA of additional residents.
- 16.3.14 The East Hampshire Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and proposed South Downs National Park lies immediately to the south of the town.
- 16.3.15 A number of archaeological sites of national designation lie within Whitehill / Bordon and the surrounding area. The areas to be released for development therefore lie in an area of considerable archaeological potential.

## 16.4 Environmental and Sustainability Problems and Opportunities

- Whitehill/Bordon has a young population with a high proportion of children and fewer elderly residents than average. Many dwellings are small with mainly one and two bedrooms, and most are terraced. House prices are generally lower than those elsewhere in the District. This attracts low income earners and first time buyers and has created an

unbalanced socio-economic mix in the existing population. There is a need for a greater range of housing to achieve a more even population structure.

- There is a lack of suitable leisure and retail facilities for residents of Whitehill/Bordon and no distinct town centre or high street.
- Access to acute health services by public transport is lacking. Population growth in the town will create a need for more dentists. A significant increase in the local population will result in a need for additional Primary Care facilities e.g. GP surgeries.
- There is a need for a higher education facility within Whitehill/Bordon. Low education achievements in Whitehill/Bordon could be linked to a lack of a skilled workforce within the town. Relatively few residents are employed in managerial or professional occupations.
- The town lacks small commercial properties, high quality office and industrial buildings which prevents new and existing businesses from developing and expanding. This limits jobs in the town.
- There is a lack of pedestrian and cycling facilities in and around Whitehill/Bordon. Car ownership is high and the car is the main way people travel in Whitehill/Bordon. Many people commute out of the town due to a lack of jobs and other facilities. The range of public transport services is inadequate. All of the above are contributing to pockets of air quality problems and global warming through the emission of pollutants.
- There is scope for archaeological sites to exist within all of the development option areas. The historic landscape and setting of Scheduled Ancient Monuments in the town need to be protected.
- The masterplan needs to avoid effects on the Wealden Heaths Phase II SPA and Shortheath Common and Woolmer Forest SAC from new homes. There is an opportunity to improve the environment within and around the town. This requires sensitive masterplanning to create a more cohesive network of habitats and green space. There is a need to improve some wildlife sites which are in a poor condition.
- We need to consider the impacts of climate change including increased demand for domestic water supplies, more flooding, drier summers etc. Flood risk assessments will be required.
- There is an opportunity to improve the appearance of large parts of the town through the redevelopment of brownfield land and through good design and masterplanning.
- Studies are required to ensure that all necessary infrastructure is put in place to accommodate new development.
- There is a medium to high risk of contamination although the extent is unknown within the areas currently within MOD ownership. The study area lies on a major aquifer, which is highly vulnerable to contamination. However, the remediation of any contaminated areas within the brownfield sites should result in a positive impact on groundwater.
- If the water or hydrological regime is altered through development it could impact upon sensitive habitats such as watercourses and ponds.

## 16.5 Proposed SA / SEA Objectives

16.5.1 As mentioned in paragraph 16.2.12 above, it is proposed that a separate set of sub-objectives are agreed with which to appraise policies relating to Whitehill / Bordon. These sub-objectives are

presented in Appendix 3. The sub-objectives sit below the Proposed SA / SEA Objectives presented in this report in Appendix 3 and are designed to be more specific to the issues prevalent at Whitehill / Bordon. The sub-objectives are based on the set of objectives that were refined following consultation on the Whitehill Bordon Opportunity Area Action Plan SEA / SA Scoping Report (see Paragraph 16.2.12 above for explanation) but have had to be adapted so that they can sit under another set of SA / SEA Objectives and be fit for purpose.

- 16.5.2 Using a separate set of sub-objectives for Whitehill / Bordon will ensure that the appraisal of the Core Strategy policies relating to the town reflects the level of detail that the policies are expected to contain and are specific to the issues faced by the town.



## 17 Future trends under the ‘business-as-usual’ option

17.1.1 The SEA Directive requires plan or programme proponents to identify “the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme”. The previous topic chapters and gathered baseline information, using available data (which is by no means exhaustive, only indicative), show the current state of the East Hampshire area (in economic, social and environmental terms). Trend data (where available) has been included and the extrapolation of this data can provide clues as to the likely evolution of the East Hampshire area in the absence of the new LDF and the policies and proposals it will include.

17.1.2 Where there is sufficient data available to show a trend, it appears that the following trends are likely to continue:

- The AONB covers 40% of the District and the impending confirmation of the National Park designation will increase this to 53%.
- SSSIs will continue to fall short of the target set for the proportion in favourable or recovering conditions
- River quality should continue to improve but flows may reduce in summer due to climate change resulting in concentration and a drop in quality.
- The Wealden Heaths (Phase II) SPA will restrict the potential for development in the north-eastern part of the District.
- Climate change will affect wetland ecology and encourage the spread of invasive non-indigenous species and drought tolerant tree species.
- Recycling will continue to rise
- Energy efficiency of new build and public sector properties will continue to improve
- House prices will remain higher than county, region and nation and affordability for middle and low-income people will remain difficult
- Population will continue to rise at a faster rate than nationally – putting additional pressure on housing provision and affordability
- Changes in the age structure will have implications for healthcare needs, housing mix and social services
- Car ownership will increase
- The most deprived ‘pockets’ in the District will remain so and could worsen
- The gap in life expectancy between the most deprived wards and the rest of the District will remain and could worsen.
- Fuel poverty will continue to reduce
- District residents will continue to suffer noise disturbance
- Access to facilities and services in rural areas will continue to be a problem
- Economic out-migration to better paid work will continue

- At least one fifth of the population will remain with poor literacy and numeracy skills
  - The shortage of less skilled workers will continue
  - Residents will continue to use their cars to travel to work and road traffic is likely to increase with resulting poor air quality in some areas
  - Climate change is likely to increase flooding, storminess and cause drought in hot summers affecting ecology and the supply of, and demand for, water.
  - The MoD will move out of Bordon and large areas of brownfield land will be left derelict without the LDF.
- 17.1.3 Predicting the nature of future trends is fraught with difficulty. These will depend on a wide range of factors including the global and national economic climate and decisions made at the national, regional and county level.

## 18 Next Steps

### 18.1 Introduction

18.1.1 This report is a working draft that documents the findings from Stage A and discusses what happens next. It is being sent to the three SEA consultation bodies – Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency – and other key stakeholders for consultation.

18.1.2 The SA Guidance states that stakeholder consultation at Stage A is particularly important:

*“Consultation at this stage helps to ensure that the SA will be comprehensive and robust enough to support the DPD during the later stages of full public consultation and examination”. In particular, the Guidance suggests, “Sustainability objectives and indicators and targets should be developed with input from key stakeholders and ideally should be open to wider comment and discussion”.*

### 18.2 Next Steps

18.2.1 Following statutory consultation, Stage B in the SA process involves assessing the various options put forward against the SA objectives. In addition, Stage B will include:

- Testing the plan objectives against the SA Framework
- Developing and refining options
- Predicting and assessing effects
- Identification of mitigation measures
- Developing monitoring proposals
- Reporting the conclusions in a Sustainability Appraisal Report

18.2.2 This assessment will be undertaken on the basis of professional judgement and will be informed by evidence obtained from the context review, the collection of baseline information and the identification of sustainability problems. Geographical Information Systems (GIS) will be used where appropriate in the assessment process.

### 18.3 Sustainability Appraisal Reports

18.3.1 Sustainability Appraisal Reports will be produced for each LDD to record the findings of the SA. They will comprise the following sections:

- Summary and outcomes
- Background
- Appraisal Methodology
- Sustainability objectives, baseline and context
- Plan issues and options
- Plan policies

- Implementation
- 18.3.2 The level of detail of the reports cannot at this stage be determined, as it will depend on the nature of options assessed. However the reports will consider:
- Probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects
  - Cumulative nature of the effects
  - Trans-boundary nature of the effects
  - Risks to human health and the environment
  - Magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)
  - Value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to: special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; intensive land-use; or effects on areas having a recognised national, Community or international protection status
- 18.3.3 The Council will be seeking the views of stakeholders and the public on the emerging LDDs and accompanying SA Reports in due course.

## 19 Further Information

19.1.1 Further information on the LDF preparation process and the SA / SEA process can be obtained from:

Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) - Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1143846>

19.1.2 The following website provides more general information on SA and SEA:

Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) – Introduction to SEA, SEA regulations, SEA guidance: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1143275>

19.1.3 For further information on the East Hampshire LDF and consultation process, please refer to the following documents:

- Local Development Scheme, East Hampshire District Council (March 2007)
  - Draft Statement of Community Involvement, East Hampshire District Council (2007)
- <http://www.easthants.gov.uk/ehdc/localplanweb.nsf/webpages/Planning+Policy+Introduction>



## 20 Glossary of terms

Area Action Plan (AAP)	A type of Development Plan Document focusing on implementation, providing an important mechanism for ensuring development of an appropriate scale, mix and quality for key areas of opportunity, change or conservation.
Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)	Since 1997 local authorities in the UK have been carrying out a review and assessment of air quality in their area. The aim of the review is to assist authorities in carrying out their statutory duty to work towards meeting the national air quality objectives. If a local authority finds any places where the objectives are not likely to be achieved, it must declare an Air Quality Management Area there.
Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)	Assesses the implementation of the Local Development Scheme and the extent to which policies in Local Development Documents are being achieved.
Consultation Body	An authority that because of its environmental responsibilities is likely to be concerned by the effects of implementing plans and programmes and must be consulted under the SEA Directive. The Consultation Bodies in England are Natural England, English Heritage, and the Environment Agency.
Core Strategy	Should set out the key elements of the planning framework for the area. It should comprise: a spatial vision and strategic objectives for the area; a spatial strategy; core policies; and a monitoring and implementation framework with clear objectives for achieving delivery.
Development Plan Documents (DPD)	A type of Local Development Document. DPDs include the Core Strategy, site-specific allocations of land and Area Action Plans (where needed).
Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)	Landscape Character Assessment is an objective method for describing landscape, based on the identification of generic landscape types (e.g. Open Downland) and more specific landscape character areas (e.g. Marlborough Downs). The approach identifies the unique character of different areas of the countryside without making judgements about their relative worth. Landscape character areas are classified based on sense of place, local distinctiveness, characteristic wildlife, natural features and nature of change.
Local Development Document (LDD)	There are two types of Local Development Document: Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents.
Local Development Framework (LDF)	Sets out, in the form of a 'portfolio', the Local Development Documents that collectively deliver the spatial planning strategy for the area in question. The LDF also includes the Statement of Community Involvement, the Local Development Scheme and the Annual Monitoring Report.
Local Development Scheme (LDS)	Sets out the local authority's programme for preparing the Local Development Documents.

SEA Directive	European Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment
Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)	Document explaining to stakeholders and the community how and when they will be involved in the preparation of the Local Development Framework, and the steps that will be taken to facilitate this involvement.
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	Generic term used internationally to describe environmental assessment as applied to policies, plans and programmes. In the UK, SEA is increasingly used to refer to an environmental assessment in compliance with the 'SEA Directive'.
Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)	A type of Local Development Document. Supplementary Planning Documents are intended to elaborate on DPD policies and proposals but do not have their statutory status. Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Generic term used to describe a form of assessment, which considers the economic, social and environmental effects of an initiative. SA, as applied to Local Development Documents, incorporates the requirements of the SEA Directive.

## 21 References

- Air Quality Review & Assessment (EHDC, 2002)
- Annex B1, Planning Policy Statement 12.
- Annex B2, Planning Policy Statement 12
- Building a Greener Future, Communities and Local Government (2006)
- Code for Sustainable Homes, Communities and Local Government (2006)
- DEFRA Soil Protection Programme (2005)
- Draft South East Plan (2006)
- East Hampshire Air Quality Information Strategy
- East Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan
- East Hampshire Community Safety Strategy
- East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy (2005-2015)
- East Hampshire Council Strategy (2005-2008)
- East Hampshire District Local Plan: Second Review (2006)
- East Hampshire Economic Development Strategy (2003/2008)
- East Hampshire Housing Equalities and Diversity Action Plan
- East Hampshire Housing Strategy (2003-2008)
- East Hampshire Leisure Vision 2002
- East Hampshire Local Character Assessment 2006
- East Hampshire Urban Capacity Study 2002
- East Hampshire Housing Equalities and Diversity Action Plan 2005-2008
- EC Communication towards a thematic strategy for soil protection (2004)
- Environment Agency: State of the Environment: Water Quality for East Hampshire (2005)
- Good Practice Guidance on Planning and Tourism (May 2006)
- Habitats Directive
- Habitats Regulations Screening Assessment to inform development of the East Hampshire LDF
- Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan
- Hampshire County Structure Plan (Review) (1996-2011)
- Hampshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan (1998)
- Hampshire Local Transport Plan (2006-2011)
- Hampshire Strategic Partnership – A Quality of Life Report 2006
- Integrated Regional Framework
- Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy
- Management Strategy
- National Statistics
- Nitrates Directive (1991)
- Planning and Pollution Control - Annex 2: Development on Land Affected by Contamination
- Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development (2005)
- Draft Supplement to PPS1 – Planning and Climate Change
- Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing (2006)
- Planning Policy Guidance 4: Industrial, Commercial Development and Small Firms (1992)
- Planning Policy Statement 6: Planning for Town Centres (2005)
- Planning Policy Statement 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (1997)
- Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (2005)
- Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management (2005)

- Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks (2004)
- Planning Policy Guidance 13: Transport (2001)
- Planning Policy Guidance 15: Planning and the historic environment (1994)
- Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and planning (1990)
- Planning Policy Statement 22: Renewable Energy (2004)
- Planning Policy Statement 23: Planning and Pollution Control (2004)
- Planning Policy Guidance 24: Noise (1994)
- Planning Policy Statement 25: Development and Flood Risk (2006)
- Regional Economic Strategy 2006-2016
- Regional Housing Strategy (RHS)
- Regional Planning Guidance 9 (Ch 10) Energy efficiency and renewable energy (2001)
- Regional Planning Guidance for the South East (RPG9) (2001)
- South East – Regional Waste Management Strategy (2004)
- Rural White Paper Our Countryside: A Fair Deal for Rural England (2000)
- Securing the future: UK Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)
- Sixth Environment Action Programme (2002 – 2012)
- Social Inclusion Statement – SEERA and Partners (2002)
- South Downs Management Plan – Consultation Draft (June 2006)
- South East Plan (Section E1) (Draft 2006)
- The Whitehill/Bordon Opportunity – A Community Vision for the town of Whitehill/Bordon
- The Whitehill/Bordon Opportunity – Baseline Report Vol.1 (2004)
- UK Biodiversity Action Plan (1992)
- Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (1991)
- Water Act (2003)
- Water Framework Directive (2000)
- Working Together for Clean Air: The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (January 2000) and Addendum (February 2003)
- Working with the Grain of Nature: The Biodiversity Strategy for England (2002)

PPS and PPG further details can be accessed on the Department for Communities and Local Government website (<http://www.communities.gov.uk>)

## Appendix 1 – List of Proposed SA/SEA Objectives.

SA/SEA Topic Area	SA/SEA Objectives
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce social exclusion and incidents of poverty in the District.</li> <li>• To ensure that young people choose to live in and contribute to the area.</li> <li>• To make provisions for a changing age structure within the population.</li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health.</li> </ul>
Employment & Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To raise educational achievement levels across the District and develop the opportunities for everyone to acquire the skills needed to find and remain at work.</li> <li>• To promote a vibrant and prosperous local economy that has a range of sustainable employment sites available and maintain a skilled resident workforce to support the long-term competitiveness of the District.</li> <li>• To create and sustain vibrant, attractive and clean town and village centres.</li> <li>• To ensure a thriving rural economy.</li> <li>• To promote sustainable tourism.</li> </ul>
Transport and Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve accessibility to all facilities and services particularly in rural areas.</li> <li>• To reduce the need to travel by car and shorten the length and duration of journeys.</li> </ul>
Crime & Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide a safe and secure environment.</li> </ul>
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that the residents of East Hampshire have the opportunity to live in a decent home which they can afford.</li> </ul>
Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To protect and enhance the historic and cultural heritage of the District.</li> </ul>

Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To address the causes of climate change and ensure that the District is able to adapt to it.</li> <li>• To promote sustainable construction, energy efficiency and the generation of renewable energy.</li> </ul>
Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve air quality.</li> </ul>
Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To make the most efficient use of previously developed land and buildings.</li> <li>• To protect and enhance soil quality and structure.</li> </ul>
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To enhance and protect the natural water environment and achieve sustainable water resources management.</li> <li>• To reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.</li> </ul>
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To protect and enhance local, national and international nature conservation interests.</li> </ul>
Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To protect and enhance the intrinsic local character of the landscape, sense of place and local distinctiveness.</li> <li>• To protect, enhance and make accessible for enjoyment, the District's public open spaces.</li> <li>• To enable recreational access to the countryside within environmental constraints.</li> </ul>
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce waste generation and achieve the sustainable management of waste.</li> </ul>
Material Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To meet local community needs for essential transport and utilities infrastructure having regard to environmental constraints.</li> </ul>

## Appendix 2 – SA/SEA Objectives, decision-making criteria and indicators.

SA/SEA Topic Area	SA/SEA Objectives	Decision-making Criteria: Does the Policy / Proposal...	Indicators
Population	To reduce social exclusion and incidents of poverty in the District	Reduce social exclusion in those areas most affected?	Changes in range of local facilities provided in rural areas.  Percent of people living in wards ranked 'most deprived' quartile nationally.
		Reduce the number of households in fuel poverty?	Percentage of households in fuel poverty.
		Reduce the number of children living in low-income households?	% Households with no adults in employment and with dependent children.
	To ensure that young people choose to live in and contribute to the area	Make young people feel safe?	Fear of crime data.
		Help young people find accommodation in the District?	% of take up of affordable housing by young people.
		Help young people find work and access training in the District?	% of young people who live and work in the District.
		Encourage young people engage in interesting activities?	
	To make provisions for a changing age structure within the population.	Improve the provision of health care, housing mix and social services for the elderly?	Improvements in health care provision.  % of new homes provided specifically for the elderly.

Health	To improve the health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health	Improve accessibility to local health facilities?	% new development within 30 minutes by public transport of a GP and hospital.
		Reduce noise pollution?	Public concern over noise.
		Encourage healthy lifestyles, prioritising opportunities for leisure activities, walking and cycling	Changes to public open space provision.  Number of new school travel plans adopted.
Employment & Economy	To promote a vibrant and prosperous local economy that has a range of sustainable employment sites available and maintain a skilled resident workforce to support the long-term competitiveness of the District.	Ensure high and stable levels of employment for the resident workforce?	% of working age people who are economically active.  Unemployment rate.  Average gross weekly earnings of residents and employees.
		Promote vibrant and sustainable economic development, providing commercial and business premises, which meet the needs of the local economy, supported by the provision of key worker housing and a business support infrastructure?	Business registrations / formulation rate.  House income to price ratio.  Amount of vacant business floorspace.  Unmet demand for business premises.  Industrial/business land supply, land lost (including to residential development), developed (by type of development) - quality & quantity.  % new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of employment.
		Increase provision of better quality jobs / skilled employment?	Proportion of professional occupations among employed workforce.
		Ensure the correct mix of skills to meet the current and future needs of local employers?	Proportion of elementary occupations amongst employed workforce.

	To ensure a thriving rural economy	Diversify the rural economy?	New business/industrial floorspace in rural areas.
	To promote sustainable tourism	Encourage the development of a buoyant, sustainable tourism sector?	Percentage of jobs in the tourism sector.
	To create and sustain vibrant, attractive and clean town and village centres.	Maintain or enhance the range of shops, facilities or services in town or village centres?	Net change in retail, office and leisure development.  % Completed retail, office and leisure development in town and village centres.  Vacant shop premises in town and village centres.
	To raise educational achievement levels across the District and develop the opportunities for everyone to acquire the skills needed to find and remain in work	Increase numbers undertaking further and higher education?	Proportion of people qualified to degree level or higher.
		Enhance opportunities for adult education?	Proportion of adults with poor literacy and numeracy skills.
		Enhance training opportunities for higher quality employment?	% People aged 16-74 with no qualifications.
	Transport and Accessibility	To improve accessibility to all facilities and services, particularly in rural areas.	Improve access for the disabled?
Improve accessibility to health, education, shopping, leisure and employment?			% new residential development within 30 minutes by public transport of: a primary school and secondary school; further education; food shops; retail centres; and employment.

		Enhance community and public transport?	Improvements to community and public transport in rural areas.
	To reduce the need to travel by car and shorten the length and duration of journeys.	Improve travel choice?	Travel to work (%) by mode.  % Completed non-residential development complying with LDF car-parking standards.
		Reduce the need to travel?	Net commuting figures.
Crime & Safety	To provide a safe and secure environment	Reduce actual levels of crime?	Crime rates.
		Reduce the fear of crime, esp. among vulnerable individuals / communities?	Fear of crime.
		Adopting Secured by Design Standards?	Number of schemes meeting Secured by Design Standards.
Housing	To ensure that the residents of East Hampshire have the opportunity to live in a decent home which they can afford	Improve the supply of housing?	Whether housing completions are meeting requirements.
		Improve the mix of dwelling sizes and tenures to meet existing/future needs?	Mix of dwelling sizes in new development.

		Reduce house prices compared to average earnings?	Average property prices compared to average earnings.
		Improve the supply of affordable housing?	Provision of affordable housing. Households on the Joint Housing Register.
Cultural Heritage	To protect and enhance the historic and cultural heritage of the District	Enhance and protect the District's Conservation Areas?	Number of new Conservation Areas. Number of new character appraisals for conservation areas
		Reduce the number of Listed Buildings on the 'at risk' register?	Number of listed buildings on the 'at risk' register.
Climate	To address the causes of climate change and ensure that the District is able to adapt to it.	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by energy efficient construction and layout?	Refusals based on inadequate construction methods/materials/layout
	To promote sustainable construction, energy efficiency and the generation of renewable energy,	Increase energy generated from renewable sources?	Renewable energy capacity installed by type.
Air	To improve air quality	Improve air quality?	Number of days of air pollution
Soil	To make the most efficient use of previously developed land and buildings	Use land that has been previously developed in preference to Greenfield?	New homes built on previously developed land (%)  % Land developed for employment, which is on pdl.

		Meet appropriate density targets?	% New dwellings completed at: i) less than 30 per hectare ii) between 30 and 50 iii) above 50.
		Re-use buildings?	Number of schemes involving a change of use of buildings.
	To protect and enhance soil quality and structure	Reduce the amount of contaminated land?	Nett change in the amount of contaminated land.
		Avoid the use of higher-grade agricultural land?	Number of proposals resulting in the loss of Grade 1, 2 or 3a agricultural land.
Water	To enhance and protect the natural water environment and achieve sustainable water resources management	Reduce water consumption?	
		Promote re-use of water?	
		Enhance and protect the natural water environment including groundwater?	Rivers of Compliant with River Quality Objectives.  Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on grounds of water quality.
	To reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment	Limit development in areas of flood risk?	Development in areas of flood risk.  Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on grounds of flood defence.

		Employ the use of SuDS?	Number of new schemes incorporating SuDS.
Biodiversity	To protect and enhance local, national and international nature conservation interests	Protect and enhance sites designated for nature conservation interest or other areas of local nature conservation value?	Total area of SSSIs, and percentage area of SSSIs in a) favourable condition b) in an unfavourable condition but recovering.
		Protect and enhance Section 74 habitats and species?	Area of key habitats (e.g. reedbeds, length of watercourses, open standing water) and condition of these.
		Help achieve Biodiversity Action Plan targets?	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency/Natural England/Wildlife Trust on grounds of biodiversity.
Landscape	To protect and enhance the intrinsic local character of the landscape, sense of place and local distinctiveness	Maintain and enhance the character of the landscape?	Number of new Village Design Statements adopted.
	To enable recreational access to the countryside within environmental constraints	Improve recreational access to the countryside?	New countryside recreational facilities provided.
	To protect, enhance and make accessible for enjoyment, the District's public open spaces.	Protect and enhance public open spaces and encourage public enjoyment of the water environment?	Changes to public open space provision.
Waste	To reduce waste generation, dumping and disposal, and achieve the sustainable management of waste	Reduce household and other forms of waste?	Household waste arising.
		Increase waste recovery and recycling?	Percentage of household waste arising recycled.
Material Assets	To meet local community needs for essential transport and utilities infrastructure having regard to environmental constraints.	Provide adequate infrastructure to meet the demands of new development?	



## Appendix 3 – Proposed SA/SEA Objectives and Sub-Objectives for the Whitehill/Bordon Opportunity.

	Proposed Core Strategy SA/SEA Objectives	Proposed Whitehill/Bordon Opportunity Sub-Objectives
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce social exclusion and incidents of poverty in the District.</li> <li>To ensure that young people choose to live in and contribute to the area.</li> <li>To make provisions for a changing age structure within the population.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address the demographic imbalance in Whitehill/Bordon</li> <li>Reduce income inequality in Whitehill/Bordon.</li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve the health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure adequate provision for and access to health facilities for residents in the Whitehill/Bordon area.</li> <li>Promote healthy lifestyles in the Whitehill/Bordon area.</li> <li>Avoid adverse noise and vibration impacts on sensitive locations such as residential areas, schools and hospitals.</li> <li>Protect the amenity and safety of users of footpaths, bridleways and cycleways e.g. in areas close to military training areas.</li> </ul>

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Employment &amp; Economy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To promote a vibrant and prosperous local economy that has a range of sustainable employment sites available and maintain a skilled resident workforce to support the long-term competitiveness of the District.</li> <li>• To raise educational achievement levels across the District and develop the opportunities for everyone to acquire the skills needed to find and remain at work.</li> <li>• To create and sustain vibrant, attractive and clean town and village centres.</li> <li>• To ensure a thriving rural economy.</li> <li>• To promote sustainable tourism.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop and maintain a skilled workforce in Whitehill/Bordon</li> <li>• Give everyone in the local area access to work opportunities, paid or unpaid.</li> <li>• Sustain economic growth and competitiveness in Whitehill/Bordon.</li> <li>• Provide a range of employment premises that will be attractive to a range of firms and activities.</li> <li>• Provide an enhanced town centre in Whitehill/Bordon.</li> <li>• Encourage urban regeneration in Whitehill/Bordon.</li> <li>• Increase opportunities for work in Whitehill/Bordon.</li> <li>• Improve education attainment levels in the Whitehill/Bordon area by giving everyone access to learning, training, skills and knowledge.</li> </ul>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Transport and Accessibility</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve accessibility to all facilities and services particularly in rural areas.</li> <li>• To reduce the need to travel by car and shorten the length and duration of journeys.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase community, leisure and health facilities for residents of Whitehill/Bordon and the surrounding area and improve access to them.</li> <li>• Reduce the need to travel, particularly by private car.</li> <li>• Provide greater opportunities for walking and cycling as a method to move around the town and surrounding area.</li> <li>• Improve public transport services around the town and to neighbouring key settlements.</li> </ul>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Crime &amp; Safety</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide a safe and secure environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote measures to discourage anti-social behaviour.</li> <li>• Design development to minimise crime.</li> </ul>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Housing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that the residents of East Hampshire have the opportunity to live in a decent home which they can afford.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase choice and mix of housing types in Whitehill/Bordon.</li> </ul>

Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To protect and enhance the historic and cultural heritage of the District.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect and enhance historic and cultural assets including archaeology, Listed Buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, the historic landscape and Conservation Areas.</li> </ul>
Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To address the causes of climate change and ensure the District is able to adapt to it.</li> <li>To promote sustainable construction, energy efficiency and the generation of renewable energy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.</li> <li>Avoid vulnerability to the effects of climate change.</li> <li>Adopt sustainable design and construction practices e.g. energy efficiency, water efficiency, recycling, reuse of building materials, layout and orientation of buildings.</li> <li>Increase proportion of energy used which is generated from renewable sources.</li> <li>Use district heating schemes.</li> </ul>
Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve air quality.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limit air pollution to levels that do not damage natural systems or health in and around Whitehill/Bordon.</li> <li>Reduce road congestion, particularly on the A325.</li> </ul>
Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To make the most efficient use of previously developed land and buildings.</li> <li>To protect and enhance soil quality and structure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optimise development on previously developed land.</li> <li>Ensure the efficient use of land by optimising density of development in Whitehill/Bordon.</li> <li>Reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality.</li> </ul>
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To enhance and protect the natural water environment and achieve sustainable water resources management.</li> <li>To reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoid water pollution.</li> <li>Maintain or decrease current levels of surface water runoff through the use of sustainable drainage systems.</li> <li>Maintain water abstraction and recharge within carrying capacity (including future capacity).</li> </ul>

Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To protect and enhance local, national and international nature conservation interests</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect and enhance biodiversity in and around Whitehill/Bordon.</li> <li>Protect and enhance designated and local sites of wildlife importance and the qualifying habitats and /or species.</li> <li>Provide opportunities for people to come into contact with and appreciate appropriate wildlife places in and around Whitehill/Bordon whilst encouraging respect for and raising awareness of the sensitivity of wildlife sites and wild places.</li> </ul>
Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To protect and enhance the intrinsic local character of the landscape, sense of place and local distinctiveness;</li> <li>To protect, enhance and make accessible for enjoyment, the District's public open spaces.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect and enhance the landscape and typical local landscape features and minimise visual impact to designated areas (proposed South Downs National Park and East Hampshire AONB)</li> <li>Value and protect diversity, the sense of place and distinctiveness of the area.</li> <li>Enhance the tranquillity of the area.</li> <li>Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible recreational open space.</li> <li>Develop a cohesive network of greenspace in and around Whitehill/Bordon.</li> </ul>
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce waste generation and achieve the sustainable management of waste.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimize waste, then re-use or recover it through recycling, composting or energy recovery.</li> <li>Re-use vacant and derelict buildings where appropriate.</li> </ul>
Material Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To meet local community needs for essential transport and utilities infrastructure having regard to environmental constraints.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure sufficient utilities, sewage, drainage systems are provided to serve the development.</li> <li>Optimise use of existing roads, bus/rail connections and public utilities.</li> </ul>