

Sustainability Appraisal and SEA of North Hertfordshire Core Strategy and Development Policies

Appendix 1: Review of Policies, Plans and Programmes

November 2014

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Overview and document history

Task A1 of the appraisal process involves identifying other relevant policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives.

Relevant documents at international, national, regional and local level have been reviewed. For each document the following information has been collated:

- Key objectives relevant to the Local Plan and SA
- Key targets and indicators relevant to the Local Plan and SA
- Implications for the Local Plan
- Implications for SA

This information has been used to inform the subsequent stages of the process, which are covered in later sections of this document:

- identification of sustainability issues (task A3);
- development of the SA framework (task A4); and
- baseline review (task A2).

The review was updated in July 2012 to reflect the changes in the planning system, with minor updates in September 2014. All references in the document to the Core Strategy and the LDF should be taken to mean the Local Plan.

European Plans, Programmes and Policies

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
|--|--|--|-------------------------------|
| <p>Mainstreaming sustainable development into EU policies: 2009 review of the EU Strategy for Sustainable Development (July 2009)</p> | | <p>Status: Adopted by the EU in 2006</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eussd/</p> | | | |
| <p>The 2009 review builds on the 2006 EU sustainable development strategy. It keeps the same objectives, namely:</p> <p>o limit climate change and its costs and negative effects to society and the environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that our transport systems meet society’s economic, social and environmental needs whilst minimising their undesirable impacts on the economy, society and the environment • To promote sustainable consumption and production patterns • To improve management and avoid overexploitation of natural resources, recognising the value of ecosystem services • To promote good public health on equal conditions and improve protection against health threats • To create a socially inclusive society by taking into account solidarity between and within generations and to secure and increase the quality of life of citizens as a precondition for lasting individual well-being | <p>The 2009 review notes mixed progress on the 2006 targets (below). It does not set new targets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyoto Protocol commitments for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2008 – 2012, • 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. • Reaching an overall saving of 9% of final energy consumption over 9 years until 2017 • Reducing transport noise both at source and through mitigation measures to ensure overall exposure levels minimise impacts on health. • Halving road transport deaths by 2010 compared to 2000. • Improving the environmental and social performance for products and processes and encouraging their | <p>No direct implications</p> | <p>No direct implications</p> |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
|--|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| | <p>uptake by business and consumers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving management and avoiding overexploitation of renewable natural resources such as fisheries, biodiversity, water, air, soil and atmosphere, • Halting the loss of biodiversity and contributing to a significant reduction in the worldwide rate of biodiversity loss by 2010. • Avoiding the generation of waste and enhancing efficient use of natural resources by applying the concept of life-cycle thinking and promoting reuse and recycling • Curbing the increase in lifestyle-related and chronic diseases, particularly among socioeconomically disadvantaged groups and areas. • Reducing health inequalities within and between Member States by addressing the wider determinants of health and appropriate health promotion and disease prevention strategies. • Significantly increasing the labour market participation of women and older workers according to set targets, as well as increasing employment of migrants by 2010. • Promoting increased employment of young people. By the end of 2007 every young person who has left school and is unemployed should be offered a job, apprenticeship, additional training or other employability measure within six | | |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
|--|--|--|--|
| | months, and within no more than 4 months by 2010. | | |
| EU Spatial Development Perspective (May 1999) | | Status: No formal status, there is a commitment from member states to take it forward in producing their own national and regional planning policies | |
| Source: http://europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/official/reports/som_en.htm | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • development of a balanced and polycentric urban system and a new urban-rural relationship; • securing parity of access to infrastructure and knowledge; and • sustainable development, prudent management and protection of nature and cultural heritage. | None | Mainly relevant at national and regional scale | Mainly relevant at national and regional scale |
| EU Sixth Environmental Action Plan (July 2002) | | Status: | |
| Source: http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/newprg/index.htm | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to stabilise the atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases at a level that will not cause unnatural variations of the earth's climate. • to protect and restore the functioning of natural systems and halt the loss of biodiversity in the European Union and globally. To protect soils against erosion and pollution. • to achieve a quality of the environment where the levels of man-made contaminants, including different types of radiation, do not give rise to significant impacts on or risks to human health. • to ensure the consumption of renewable and non-renewable resources does not exceed the carrying capacity of the environment. To achieve a de-coupling of resource use from economic growth through significantly improved resource efficiency, dematerialization of the economy, and waste prevention. <p>A 7th Action Plan is in development but not published.</p> | <p>Numerous actions are identified but few specific targets other than for greenhouse gas emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the short term, the EU is committed, under the Kyoto Protocol, to achieving an 8% reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases by 2008-2012 compared to 1990 level (in the longer term a global reduction of 20-40% will be needed). | Key European context | Key European context |
| Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU Biodiversity strategy to 2020 (2011) | | Status: EU Strategy | |
| Source : http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=REPORT&reference=A7-2012-0101&language=EN | | | |
| Following the failure to achieve the 2010 Biodiversity target, the EU set out a new vision and target for biodiversity post 2010. The vision is: | No specific targets identified | No direct implications | Key European context |

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| <p><i>By 2050, EU biodiversity and the ecosystem services it provides – its natural capital - are protected, valued and appropriately restored for biodiversity's intrinsic value and for their essential contribution to human wellbeing and economic prosperity, and so that catastrophic changes caused by the loss of biodiversity are avoided.</i></p> <p>The headline target is to halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restoring them in so far as is feasible, while stepping up the EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.</p> <p>Six targets underpin the headline target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserving and restoring nature • Maintaining ecosystems and their services • Ensuring the sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries • Combating alien species • Addressing the global biodiversity crisis • Contributions from other environmental policies and initiatives | | | |
| <p>EU Water Framework Directive (2000)</p> | | <p>Status: EU Directive</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/index_en.html</p> | | | |
| <p>This European legislation is designed to integrate the way water bodies are managed across Europe.</p> <p>The Water Framework Directive is a set of guidelines for managing large bodies of water. Its main aims are to improve water quality while reducing any danger 'a water body' poses, such as flooding. It's also designed to stop the deterioration of wetlands and improve aquatic habitats for wildlife.</p> <p>The main objectives of the WFD are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhance the status and prevent further deterioration of aquatic ecosystems and associated wetlands - there is a requirement for nearly all inland and coastal waters to achieve 'good status' by 2015; • promote the sustainable use of water; • reduce pollution of water, especially by 'priority' and 'priority hazardous' substances; • lessen the effects of floods and droughts; • rationalise and update existing water legislation and introduce a co-ordinated | <p>The WFD requires that a River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) is produced for each defined River Basin Districts (RBD). These include provision for assessing and monitoring and should include targets.</p> | <p>The LDF should take account of the relevant requirements of the WFD. This will typically require the consideration of relevant EA guidance.</p> | <p>Water resources are an important aspect of sustainability which should be considered in the SA objectives</p> <p>The RBMP for Herts is also reviewed below.</p> |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <p>approach to water management based on the concept of river basin planning.</p> <p>The Environment Agency is the 'competent authority' responsible for the implementation of the WFD in England and Wales.</p> | | | |
| <p>Natura 2000: Habitats Directive and Birds Directive</p> | | <p>Status: EU Directives</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index_en.htm And http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/birdsdirective/index_en.htm</p> | | | |
| <p>The Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992) requires EU Member States to create a network of protected wildlife areas, known as Natura 2000, across the European Union. This network consists of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs), established to protect wild birds under the Birds Directive (Council Directive 79/409/EEC of 2 April 1979). These sites are part of a range of measures aimed at conserving important or threatened habitats and species.</p> | <p>No specific targets identified.</p> | <p>Plan should be screened to check whether appropriate assessment of its impact on Natura 2000 sites is required</p> | <p>None, unless screening indicates that the Plan will have significant impacts on Natura 2000 sites.</p> |

National Plans, Programmes and Policies

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>Mainstreaming sustainable development – the Government’s vision and what it means in practice (February 2011)</p> | | <p>Status:UK government vision for sustainable development</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://sd.defra.gov.uk/2012/03/mainstreaming-sustainable-development-one-year-in/</p> | | | |
| <p>The paper is a 'refreshed vision' that builds on the principles of the 2005 sustainable development strategy. It is focussed on mainstreaming sustainable development into all areas of Government. Key elements of the approach are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministerial leadership and oversight • Leading by example • Embedding SD into policy • Transparent and independent scrutiny <p>It commits the Government to a presumption in favour of sustainable development in the new National Planning Policy Framework (see below).</p> <p>Key areas for action are on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The green economy • Climate change • Protecting and enhancing the natural environment • Fairness and improving wellbeing • Building a big society <p>The 2011 vision builds on the principles of the 2005 sustainable development strategy, which still stand. These principles are:</p> | <p>The previous set of sustainable development indicators have not been updated since 2010. A new set of indicators is in development.</p> <p>There are no targets for local authorities flowing from this document.</p> | <p>Plan should conform to the requirements of the vision and earlier strategy.</p> | <p>Ensure that the key policy requirements are reflected in the SA Framework objectives and appraisal criteria.</p> |

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| <p>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.</p> <p>Ensuring a Strong, Healthy and Just Society Meeting the diverse needs of all people in existing and future communities, promoting personal wellbeing, social cohesion and inclusion, and creating equal opportunity for all.</p> <p>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 (polluter pays), and efficient resource use is incentivised.</p> <p>Promoting Good Governance Actively promoting effective, participative systems of governance in all levels of society – engaging people's creativity, energy, and diversity.</p> <p>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.</p> | | | |

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| <p>Creating the conditions for integration (February 2012)</p> | | <p>Status: UK Government vision and action plan</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/communities/integration</p> | | | |
| <p>Sets out the Government's approach to achieving a more integrated society in England, focussing on creating the conditions for everyone to live and work successfully alongside each other.</p> <p>The paper identifies 5 key factors for achieving integration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackling extremism and intolerance • Social mobility • Common ground • Participation • Responsibility | <p>The Government want to create the conditions for civic leadership. However it does not set targets or indicators</p> | <p>The paper recognises 'place' as a key factor in promoting integrated communities. It focusses more on social capital rather than planning issues.</p> | <p>Useful background information but no direct implications</p> |
| <p>World class places – the Government's strategy for improving quality of place (May 2009)</p> | | <p>Status: UK Government strategy – prepared by previous Government</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/worldclassplaces</p> | | | |
| <p>Sets out the Government's commitment to improving the quality of communities and 'places'. The key objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen leadership on quality of place at the national and regional level • Encourage local civic leaders and local government to prioritise quality of place • Ensure relevant government policy, guidance and standards consistently promote quality of place and are user-friendly • Put the public and community at the centre of place-shaping • Ensure all development for which central government is directly responsible is built to high design | <p>No targets or indicators set.</p> | <p>Commitment to develop new planning policy on green space and green infrastructure but this has been superceded by the current Government's new national planning policy framework.</p> <p>Other commitments to boost design quality in publically funded buildings, homes and neighbourhoods.</p> <p>Proposal for better support for local authority planning committees.</p> <p>Useful background reference on place and planning.</p> | <p>Useful context for SA in terms of overall goals for places.</p> |

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| <p>and sustainability standards and promotes quality of place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage higher standards of market-led development • Strengthen quality of place skills, knowledge and capacity | | | |
| <p>Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services</p> | | <p>Status: Government strategy</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2011/08/19/pb13583-biodiversity-strategy-2020/</p> | | | |
| <p>This national biodiversity strategy supercedes that published in 2002 and sets targets for action up to 2020. It builds on the Natural Environment White Paper and aims to provide a comprehensive picture of how the Government is implementing international and EU commitments. It also sets a strategic direction for biodiversity policy over the next decade.</p> <p>The mission for the Strategy is:</p> <p><i>To halt biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people</i></p> <p>The priority areas for action are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A more integrated large-scale approach to conservation on land and at sea • Putting people at the heart of biodiversity policy • Reducing environmental pressures • Improving our knowledge | <p>The strategy is linked to a set of high level outcomes:</p> <p>Outcome 1 By 2020 we will have put in place measures so that biodiversity is maintained and enhanced, further degradation has been halted and where possible, restoration is underway, helping deliver more resilient and coherent ecological networks, healthy and well-functioning ecosystems, which deliver multiple benefits for wildlife and people, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1A. Better wildlife habitats with 90% of priority habitats in favourable or recovering condition and at least 50% of SSSIs in favourable condition, while maintaining at least 95% in favourable or recovering condition; • 1B. More, bigger and less fragmented areas for wildlife, with no net loss of priority habitat and an increase in the overall extent of priority habitats by at least 200,000 ha; • 1C. By 2020, at least 17% of land and inland water, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, conserved through effective, | <p>The strategy notes that <i>'through reforms of the planning system, we will take a strategic approach to planning for nature....We will pilot biodiversity offsetting, to assess its potential to deliver planning policy more effectively.'</i></p> <p>The strategy encourages larger and more joined up ecological networks as a priority.</p> <p>No specific actions related to planning – these will be delivered through planning reforms (see below) but useful context and has been a strong influence on the development</p> | <p>Biodiversity is a key aspect of sustainable development that needs to be included within the SA framework. The baseline review should include indicators of biodiversity.</p> |

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| <p>The strategy is linked to the National Ecosystem Assessment published in June 2011. To support delivery, the Government established Local Nature Partnerships across England – supported by a £1m fund in 2011/12.</p> <p>published post-devolution, builds on the 1994 UK Biodiversity Action Plan published in response to the UN Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) signed at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.</p> <p>The aim of the Strategy is to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A halting, and if possible a reversal, of declines in priority habitats and species, with wild species and habitats as part of healthy, functioning ecosystems</i> • <i>The general acceptance of biodiversity's essential role in enhancing the quality of life, with its conservation becoming a natural consideration in all relevant public, private and non-governmental decisions and policies</i> <p>The strategy includes a chapter entitled <i>A holistic approach</i> which seeks to change the emphasis of nature conservation away from concentration on designation of conservation areas and protection of species at risk to a broader approach to the environment as a whole.</p> <p>It also contains chapters on specific sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture • Water and wetlands • Woodland and forestry • Towns, cities and development • The coasts and seas <p>And on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local and regional action | <p>integrated and joined up approaches to safeguard biodiversity and ecosystem services including through management of our existing systems of protected areas and the establishment of nature improvement areas;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1D. Restoring at least 15% of degraded ecosystems as a contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation. <p>Outcome 2 By 2020 we will have put in place measures so that biodiversity is maintained, further degradation has been halted and where possible, restoration is underway, helping deliver good environmental status and our vision of clean, healthy, safe productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas. This will be underpinned by the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2A. By the end of 2016 in excess of 25% of English waters will be contained in a well-managed Marine Protected Area network that helps deliver ecological coherence by conserving representative marine habitats; • 2B. By 2020 we will be managing and harvesting fish sustainably; • 2C. By 2022 we will have marine plans in place covering the whole of England's marine area, ensuring the sustainable development of our seas, integrating economic growth, social need and ecosystem management. <p>Outcome 3 By 2020, we will see an overall</p> | | |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The economics and funding of biodiversity The engagement of business Promoting education and public understanding <p>More detailed action plans in respect of the key themes and sectors are included as appendices.</p> | <p>improvement in the status of our wildlife and will have prevented further human-induced extinctions of known threatened species.</p> <p>Outcome 4 By 2020, significantly more people will be engaged in biodiversity issues, aware of its value and taking positive action.</p> <p>Specifically on planning, the Strategy notes that the Natural Environment White paper sets the approach on planning and the natural environment. Key points relevant to this strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will retain protection and improvement of the natural environment as core objectives for local planning and development management. The planning system will continue to facilitate coherent and resilient ecological networks in association with local partners and reflect the value of natural systems. We want the planning system to contribute to our objective of no net loss of biodiversity; to encourage local authorities to promote multi-functional development so that we get the most from land; and to protect our best and most versatile agricultural land. The Government will consult extensively on a draft of the National Planning Policy Framework, and has already invited comments on its content and received responses from a wide range of environmental and other interests. | | |
| <p>National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)</p> | | <p>Status: Government Policy</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/planningpolicy/planningpolicyframework/</p> | | | |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
|---|--|--|--|
| <p>The recently launched National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) represents a significant change to the planning system in England. It seeks to radically streamline planning and has rendered much pre-existing planning guidance obsolete.</p> <p>The NPPS is based around a 'presumption in favour of sustainable development'.</p> <p>It defines these two words as follows:</p> <p>Sustainable means ensuring that better lives for ourselves don't mean worse lives for future generations</p> <p>Development means growth. We must accommodate the new ways in which we will earn our living in a competitive world. We must house arising population, which is living longer and wants to make new choices, we must respond to the changes that new technologies offer us. Our lives, and the places in which we live them, can bet better, but they will certainly be worse if things stagnate.</p> <p>The NPPG is also clear as to the importance of protecting the natural and historic environment, promoting high quality design.</p> <p>It removes regional planning structures and promotes neighbourhood planning. It also gives responsibility for nationally significant infrastructure back to central government.</p> | <p>The new NPPF aims to give more power and accountability to local communities and decision makers over planning.</p> <p>There are no targets and indicators but there is a definition of the three pillars of sustainable development and the role that planning has in each:</p> <p>an economic role – contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right type is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth and innovation; and by identifying and coordinating development requirements, including the provision of infrastructure;</p> <p>a social role – supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by providing the supply of housing required to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by creating a high quality built environment, with accessible local services that reflect the community's needs and support its health, social and cultural well-being; and</p> <p>an environmental role – contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; and, as part of this, helping to improve biodiversity, use natural resources prudently, minimise waste and pollution, and mitigate and adapt to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.</p> <p>Core principles for planning are that it should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genuinely plan led | <p>Of fundamental importance to any refresh or renewal of local planning documents – the NPPF must be taken into account in the preparation of local and neighbourhood plans and is a material consideration in planning decisions.</p> <p>The NPPG is clear that new development can be a positive thing, but only when set within a sustainability framework.</p> <p>It notes that planning should not just be about scrutiny but a creative exercise in finding ways to enhance and improve places. It should include people and communities.</p> <p>At the heart of the National Planning Policy Framework is a presumption in favour of sustainable development, which should be seen as a golden thread running through both plan-making and decision-taking.</p> <p>For plan-making this means that</p> <p>Local planning authorities should positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of their area</p> <p>Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change, unless:</p> <p>Any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the Framework taken as a whole; or specific policies in the Framework indicate development should be restricted.</p> | <p>Sets out a framework for planning based around sustainable development and therefore highlights the importance of proper sustainability appraisal of all planning documents.</p> <p>The sustainability appraisal will need to test that sustainable development is a clear thread running through the local development plan and that there is a balance between economic, social and environmental concerns set within a commitment to intergenerational equity.</p> |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not simply about scrutiny • Proactively drive and support sustainable economic development • Always seek to secure high quality design • Take account of the different roles and characters of different areas • Support the transition to a low carbon future • Contribute to conserving and enhancing the natural environment • Encourage the effective use of land • Promote mixed use development and multiple benefits • Actively manage development to maximise use of public transport, walking and cycling • Take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being | | |
| National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) | | Status: Government policy | |
| Source: http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/ | | | |
| This online guidance supersedes a wide variety of previous guidance documents. | | The Plan needs to take account of the detailed guidance included in the NPPG | The guidance includes a specific section on SA/SEA which outlines the requirements for Local Plans, and this is the key summary of the statutory requirements that need to be followed. The SA also needs to take account of guidance relating to relevant sustainability issues. This includes air quality, climate change, historic environment, design, town centres, health and well being, flood risk, minerals, natural environment, noise, open space and water supply and quality. |
| PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management (2011) | | Status: Government policy | |
| Source: http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/planningpolicystatement10 | | | |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <p>This new PPS replaces an earlier edition (published 2005) and PPG10 published in 1999. It is one of the few PPS' to remain 'live' following the publication of the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPG) in 2012. This will remain in place until the new National Waste Management Plan for England is published.</p> <p>The land-use planning system has an important role to play in achieving sustainable waste management. All planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help deliver sustainable development through driving waste management up the waste hierarchy, addressing waste as a resource and looking to disposal as the last option, but one which must be adequately catered for • 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 • Help implement the national waste strategy, and supporting targets, are consistent with obligations required under European legislation and support and complement other guidance and legal controls such as those set out in the Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994 • Help secure the recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without harming the | <p>Not applicable.</p> | <p>PPS10 should be taken into account by local planning authorities in preparing local development plans.</p> <p>PPS10 sets out decision making principles for all planning authorities to adhere to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional planning bodies should prepare regional spatial strategies (RSS) which aim to provide sufficient opportunities to meet the identified needs of their area for waste management for all waste streams. In turn, planning authorities should prepare local development documents that reflect their contribution to delivering the RSS • Waste management should be considered alongside other spatial planning concerns, such as transport, housing, economic growth, natural resources and regeneration, recognising the positive contribution that waste management can make to the development of sustainable communities, and should be integrated effectively with other strategies including municipal waste management strategies • The planned provision of new capacity and its spatial distribution should be based on clear policy objectives, robust analysis of available data and information, and an appraisal of options. Policy objectives should be in line with the planning policies set out in this PPS and be linked to measurable indicators of change | <p>PPS10 is clear that:</p> <p><i>Sustainability appraisal (incorporating strategic environmental assessment) should be applied so as to shape planning strategies that support the Government's planning objectives for waste management set out in this PPS</i></p> <p>It therefore confirms the need for SA to be undertaken. It also requires that waste be a key consideration in planning documents. The SA objectives should therefore include objectives devoted to sustainable waste management.</p> <p>Waste management should be based on the waste hierarchy and set within the agreed UK sustainable development principles.</p> |

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| <p>environment, and enable waste to be disposed of in one of the nearest appropriate installations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflect the concerns and interests of communities, the needs of waste collection authorities, waste disposal authorities and business, and encourage competitiveness • Protect green belts but recognise the particular locational needs of some types of waste management facilities when defining detailed green belt boundaries and, in determining planning applications, that these locational needs, together with the wider environmental and economic benefits of sustainable waste management, are material considerations that should be given significant weight in determining whether proposals should be given planning permission • Ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management. <p>A companion guide provides guidance on the implementation of policies set out in the PPS.</p> | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability appraisal (incorporating strategic environmental assessment) should be applied so as to shape planning strategies that support the Government's planning objectives for waste management set out in this PPS • Indicators should be monitored and reported on in regional planning bodies' and waste planning authorities' annual monitoring reports. Such monitoring should be the basis on which regional planning bodies and waste planning authorities periodically review and roll forward their waste planning strategies. Reviews should reflect any changes to the national waste strategy and occur at least every five years, or sooner if there are signs of under-provision of waste management capacity or over-provision of disposal options where these would undermine movement up the waste hierarchy. <p>Development plan documents should identify sites and areas suitable for new and enhanced waste management facilities, based on a range of criteria.</p> | |
| <p>Planning policy for Traveller sites (March 2012)</p> | | <p>Status: Government policy</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/planningpolicytravellers</p> | | | |
| <p>This short document sets out new guidance on planning policy for travellers.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government's aims in respect of traveller sites are: | <p>This policy must be taken into account in developing local plans and should be a material consideration in planning decisions.</p> | <p>Useful context when considering the particular issues facing travellers as part of the review of the social aspects of the sustainability appraisal.</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning • to ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites • to encourage local planning authorities to plan for sites over a reasonable timescale • that plan-making and decision-taking should protect Green Belt from inappropriate development • to promote more private traveller site provision while recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites • that plan-making and decision-taking should aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective • for local planning authorities to ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies • to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply • to reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan-making | | |

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| | <p>and planning decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure for local planning authorities to have due regard to the protection of local amenity and local environment. | | |
| <p>Laying the Foundations: A house Strategy for England (November 2011)</p> | | <p>Status: Government strategy</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/housingstrategy2011</p> | | | |
| <p>The Housing strategy sets out a package of reforms to intended to get the housing market moving again, lay the foundations for a more responsive, effective and stable housing market in the future , support choice and quality for tenants and improve environmental standards and design quality.</p> <p>Government has removed density targets and revoked regional strategies. They are also introducing Neighbourhood Planning and a community Right to Build.</p> | <p>No local targets but national aims for increases in housing supply, including releasing public land across England capable of supporting 100,000 new homes.</p> | <p>Includes a range of measures pertinent to the local planning system, such as proposals to allow developers to require local authorities to reconsider S106 agreements. Government has removed density targets and revoked regional strategies. They are also introducing Neighbourhood Planning and a community Right to Build.</p> <p>The strategy also supports new, locally planned large scale developments of new homes. Communities will be given a greater say in such developments and the Government plans to work with investors and local authorities to promote the use of tools such as Local Development Orders, which will help to streamline planning and reduce the risks and delay in securing planning approval.</p> <p>This approach is also intended to support local authorities and communities by</p> | <p>Significant contextual information for the SA in creating a new model for local delivery of housing based around a range of new powers and greater community involvement. Also places an emphasis on high quality design and sustainability.</p> |

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| | | providing stronger mechanisms for getting good design quality and early resources to help shape and manage the community infrastructure. Local Development Orders could be used, for example, to ensure good design quality through requiring that development adheres to codes established with the community. | |
| The Future of Transport White Paper (DETR July 2004) | | Status: Government White Paper | |
| Source: | | | |
| <p>Set out Government plans for transport in the long term. The strategy is built around 3 central themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustained investment over the long term • Improvement in transport management, and • Planning ahead <p>A new 'vision' for transport was published in 2011.</p> | The white paper does not contain detailed quantified targets or specific indicators. | Important policy context, but not directly relevant to the NHDC LDF, because they are not a transport planning authority. | <p>The issues surrounding access and travel are important considerations for the SA. Effective access to employment, education and services is vital to improving QoL and contributes to social inclusion. But transport, and the infrastructure to support, it has large environmental impacts, including contributing to greenhouse gas emissions. The SA must consider these issues, and in particular</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing the need to travel by private car; • Reducing the volume of freight traffic; and • Improving accessibility of key services to local communities |
| UK Air Quality Strategy (2007) | | Status: | |
| Source: http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/air/air-quality/approach/ | | | |
| This Strategy describes the plans drawn up by the Government and the devolved administrations to improve and protect ambient air quality in the UK in the medium-term. The proposals aim to protect | <p>The pollutants covered are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • benzene; • 1,3-butadiene; • carbon monoxide; • lead; | Not directly relevant to the LDF, but it should consider any effects policies may have on the levels of air pollution. | Protection of the environment is a key sustainability objective and improving air quality should be amongst the SA objectives. |

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| <p>people's health and the environment without imposing unacceptable economic or social costs.</p> <p>In March 2010, Defra and the devolved administrations published Air Pollution: Action in a Changing Climate which makes links between the need to curb local air pollution and tackle climate change.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ammonia • PAH • oxides of nitrogen; • ozone; • particles (PM10 and PM2.5); and • sulphur dioxide. <p>Targets are set for each of these.</p> | | |
| <p>UK Low Transition Carbon Plan (2009)</p> | | <p>Status: White Paper</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/tackling/carbon_plan/lctp/lctp.aspx</p> | | | |
| <p>The Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) published a White Paper, the UK Low Carbon Transition Plan in July 2009. The Plan is accompanied by a suite of documents, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UK Renewable Energy Strategy (discussed further below) • The UK Low Carbon Industrial Strategy, • Consultation on Renewable Electricity Financial Incentives, • Low Carbon Transport: A Greener Future. | <p>The plan sets out how the UK will achieve a 34% cut in CO₂ equivalent emissions by 2020</p> | <p>LDF policies should take account of the need to minimise the use of energy and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, particular in regard to transport and access, building design and the increased use of renewable energy. (Responses to the consultation processes saw planning as a major constraint on introduction of renewable energy generation.)</p> | <p>Climate change issues need to be considered in developing the SA framework, both in terms of adaptation and mitigation.</p> |
| <p>UK Renewable Energy Strategy (2009)</p> | | <p>Status: Government strategy</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/what_we_do/uk_supply/energy_mix/renewable/res/res.aspx</p> | | | |
| <p>To help achieve legally binding EU targets, the strategy includes actions in four principle areas</p> <p>1) <i>In the planning process. This includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • establishing a new planning process for nationally significant infrastructure projects (as | <p>The UK Renewable Energy Strategy describes how the UK will meet its legally binding target to supply 15% of all of the energy it uses from renewable sources by 2020. It anticipates that this will be achieved by using renewable energy technologies to supply:</p> | <p>See above</p> | <p>See above</p> |

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| <p>introduced in the Planning Act 2008, see below);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support for English regions to develop evidence-based strategies for achieving 2020 renewable energy targets; • developing skills and providing resources to support swifter development and implementation of regional and local energy planning policy; • helping to resolve environmental impacts of renewable energy technologies and address spatial conflicts with other uses such as radar and navigation <p>2) <i>In establishing the Office of Renewable Energy Deployment.</i> This office will work with other Government departments and stakeholders to remove barriers in the planning system, strengthen the supply chain and stimulate investment.</p> <p>3) <i>In extending a range of financial mechanisms. This includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extending the Renewables Obligation for large scale renewable electricity generation; • amending the Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation; • renewable heat incentive and feed-in-tariffs to pay a guaranteed premium for each unit of renewable heat or small-scale renewable electricity generation <p>4) <i>In investing in emerging technologies. This includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting offshore wind, marine energy and advanced biofuels; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 30% of our electricity, • 12% of our heat • 10% of our energy for transport. | | |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> investing in the Severn Estuary tidal power project <p>The Renewables Roadmap was published in 2011.</p> | | | |
| <p>The UK Fuel Poverty Strategy (Dec 2001)</p> | | <p>Status: Government Strategy</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/consumers/fuel_poverty/strategy.shtml</p> | | | |
| <p>Though now more than a decade old, this strategy identifies the main causes of food poverty in the UK as: ...a combination of poor energy efficiency in homes and low incomes. Other factors include the size of some properties in relation to the number of people living in them, and the cost of fuel.</p> <p>And its effects as: Fuel poverty damages people's quality of life and imposes wider costs on the community. The most direct effects are in relation to the health of people living in cold homes. Although these risks apply to all people, older people, children, and those who are disabled or have a long-term illness are especially vulnerable.</p> | <p>The stated goal of the strategy is to seek an end to the blight of fuel poverty for vulnerable households by 2010. Fuel poverty in other households will also be tackled once progress is made on the priority vulnerable groups.</p> <p>The specific interim targets for England is: By 2004, to have assisted 800,000 vulnerable households through the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (HEES) now marketed as the Warm Front Team (WFT) and to reduce the number of non-decent social sector homes by one third (though not all of these will be occupied by fuel poor households).</p> <p>The strategy contains proposals for monitoring and detailed indicators related to fuel poverty issues. Two annual monitoring reports and an action plan have been published subsequently.</p> | <p>The strategy is not directly relevant to the LDF and does not specifically relate to planning issues. However, planning policies and control should consider the energy efficiency of new builds and conversions.</p> | <p>Fuel poverty impacts on many quality of life issues, particularly relating to health and the vulnerable. These should be considered within the SA framework.</p> <p>Potentially useful source of comparative data for baseline, although no data below regional level.</p> |
| <p>Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendments) Regulations 2011 (April 2011)</p> | | <p>Status: Government regulation</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/communityinfrastructurelevy/</p> | | | |
| <p>The Community Infrastructure Levy is a new levy that local authorities in England and Wales can choose to charge on new developments in their area. The money can</p> | <p>No targets</p> | <p>Significant new mechanism to help enhance the community benefits deriving from planning decisions.</p> | <p>Useful context for the sustainability appraisal. A mechanism that could be considered as a proposed way of enhancing the sustainability outcomes from</p> |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <p>be used to support development by funding infrastructure that the council, local community and neighbourhoods want - for example new or safer road schemes, park improvements or a new health centre. It applies to most new buildings and charges are based on the size and type of the new development.</p> <p>Local authorities should introduce the levy because it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • delivers additional funding to carry out a wide range of infrastructure projects that support growth and benefit the local community • gives them the flexibility and freedom to set priorities for what the money should be spent on • provides developers with much more certainty 'up front' about how much money they will be expected to contribute, which in turn encourages greater confidence and higher levels of inward investment • ensures greater transparency for local people, because they will be able to understand how new development is contributing to their community and • enables local authorities to allocate a share of the levy raised in a neighbourhood to deliver infrastructure the neighbourhood wants <p>The Community Infrastructure Levy came into force on 6 April 2011. The regulations have been amended to ensure local authorities have more control over the processes for operating the levy by removing the centrally prescribed arrangements for payment, removing the threshold for in kind payments of land,</p> | | | <p>new developments.</p> |

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| making minor amendments to close potential loopholes and improve how the levy system works. | | | |
| Government review of waste policy in England (June 2011) | | Status: Government policy and action plan | |
| Source: http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2011/06/14/pb13540-waste-review/ | | | |
| <p>This review describes the Governments vision for managing waste and resources better. It covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable use of materials • Waste prevention and recycling • Regulation and enforcement • Householders and local authorities working together • Business waste collection • Energy recovery • Landfill • Infrastructure and planning <p>The vision is based around the application of the waste hierarchy and on sustainable management of resources.</p> | <p>Key targets: The key target is to meet the revised Waste Framework Directive target to recycle 50% of household waste by 2020.</p> <p>The review also seeks to establish the correct balance between waste reduction, recycling and energy from waste and to address wider issues related to environmental impact, employment and climate change.</p> | This strategy is only marginally relevant to the LDF to the extent that planning policies may affect the delivery of the waste review. | Management of waste is an important SD issue that needs to be considered in the SA. |
| Localism Act (2012) | | | |
| Source : http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/planningandbuilding/2126303 | | | |
| The Localism Act, which received Royal assent in November 2011, sets out new neighbourhood planning powers intended to give local people a major say in helping to shape the look and feel of their areas. Over 200 neighbourhood planning front-runner projects have trialled these new powers. | None – but allows local authorities more freedom in some respects. | None directly, but important context. | No direct implications. |

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| <p>The key new measures in the Localism Act of relevance in this context are:</p> <p>General power of competence i for all English local authorities, including eligible parish councils. Councils can now legally do anything an individual could do unless specifically prohibited by law.</p> <p>Community Right to Build giving communities a new way to deliver development they want.</p> <p>New planning enforcement rules which give councils the ability to take action against people who deliberately conceal un-authorized development.</p> <p>Abolition of the Infrastructure Planning Commission Major planning decisions are returned to Government Ministers.</p> | | | |

Regional and Sub-Regional Plans, Programmes and Policies

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <p>East of England Plan 2001-2021</p> | | <p>Status: Regional Policy</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.eera.gov.uk/What-we-do/developing-regional-strategies/east-of-england-plan/east-of-england-plan-2001-2021/</p> | | | |
| <p>Although there is an intention to revoke this document, at the time of producing this report it still forms part of the Development Plan for North Herfordshire</p> <p>Overall Spatial Vision</p> <p>“By 2021 the East of England will be realising its economic potential and providing a high quality of life for its people by meeting their housing needs in sustainable and inclusive communities. At the same time it will reduce its impact on climate change and the environment through savings in energy and water use and by strengthening its stock of environmental assets.”</p> <p>objectives:</p> <p>Objective 1: To reduce the region’s impact on and exposure to the effects of climate change</p> <p>by:</p> | <p>The plan sets targets in respect of its own key objectives and other regional policies. Most key targets are quantified, but some are set as general aims, such as ‘to reduce unemployment’.</p> <p>The plan proposes 61 indicators relating to both specific targets and regional context. The process of developing the plan has been subject to a thorough SA, which includes consideration of 138 indicators, although not all have been quantified in the baseline because of lack of available relevant data.</p> | <p>Provides key regional policy framework for the LDF.</p> | <p>The regional issues and objectives outlined in the plan, and its SA, will inform the development of the LDF SA framework.</p> <p>The indicators proposed in the plan and its SA will inform the indicators to be used for the baseline data for the LDF SA.</p> |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • locating development so as to reduce the need to travel; • effecting a major shift in travel towards public transport, walking and cycling and away from car use; • maximising the energy efficiency of development and promoting renewable energy generation; and • minimising the risk of flooding. <p>Objective 2: To increase housing opportunities for people in the region by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • securing a step change in the delivery of additional housing throughout the region, and • especially in key centres for development and change; and • recognising a priority for the provision of affordable housing to meet identified needs,. <p>Objective 3: To realise the economic potential of the region and its people by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • facilitating the development needed to support the region's business sectors and clusters • and improvement of skills and the widening of opportunities in line with the Regional Economic Strategy; • providing for job growth broadly to match increases in housing and to improve the alignment between workplaces and homes; | | | |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintaining and strengthening the region's inter-regional connections particularly by • improving connections to economic opportunities in London; and • ensuring adequate and sustainable provision of transport infrastructure. <p>Objective 4: To improve the quality of life for the region's people by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring new development fulfils the principles of sustainable communities, providing a well designed living environment adequately supported by social and green infrastructure; • promoting social cohesion by improving access to work, services and other facilities especially for those who are disadvantaged: • maintaining cultural diversity while addressing the distinctive needs of each part of the region; • regeneration and renewal of disadvantaged areas; and • increasing community involvement in the implementation of the strategy at the local level. <p>Objective 5: to improve and conserve the region's environment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring the protection and enhancement of the region's environmental assets, including the built and historic environment, landscape and water; • re-using previously developed land and seeking environmental as well as development gains from the use of previously undeveloped land; | | | |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> protecting and where appropriate enhancing biodiversity through the protection of habitats and species, and new habitat creation through development; provision of a network of multi-function greenspace accessible to the region's people; and minimising the demand and use of water and other natural resources and reducing waste and increasing sustainable management of waste. | | | |
| <p>Living with climate change in the East of England (Feb 2003/Sep 2003)</p> | | <p>Status:Regional guidance study</p> | |
| <p>Source:</p> | | | |
| <p>A study of the potential impacts of climate change on the EoE, together with possible responses. The study is published in two stages: 1 Guidance on Spatial Issues and 2 Draft Guidance for Local Service Provision. There are also 3 summary reports, one general, one for local authorities and one for businesses.</p> <p>The study considers potential impacts under 2 scenarios: low emissions (2.0 °C) and high emissions (3.9°C) increases in global temperatures by 2080. Guidance is focussed on adaptation, rather than mitigation, measures. It suggest as an Over-arching Aim: <i>To work with climate change, rather than against it and manage the impacts for the benefit of future generations</i></p> | <p>There are no targets suggested, nor indicators proposed.</p> <p>The study includes analysis of regional strategies in relation to CC and an appraisal of the 4 spatial options in the RPG. It also considers sub-regional areas based on CC impacts. NH is at the boundary of 2 areas: Northern and Southern Heartland, but faces the issues characteristic of the Southern area: lack of water resources; water constraints and temperatures effecting agriculture and habitats; risk of subsidence on clay soils and fluvial flooding.</p> | <p>The issues raised by CC need to be considered in relation to the NHDC LDF. The study suggests the need to consider long-term impacts and risks, despite current uncertainties, but also stresses that CC impacts and responses need to be balanced against other considerations.</p> | <p>Climate change issues need to be considered in developing the SA framework, both in terms of adaptation and mitigation.</p> |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <p>and a Key Spatial Guiding Principle: <i>To reduce risk by guiding new development to those locations least vulnerable to the potentially adverse impacts of climate change</i></p> <p>And in more detail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect existing land uses from the impacts of sea level rise and fluvial flooding only where the benefits of doing so in environmental, economic and social terms clearly outweigh the capital and revenue costs • Avoid allowing development in locations that could constrain or reduce effectiveness of future options for adaptation (e.g. allowing development in areas that might prevent effective coastal and fluvial flood management in the future) • Where possible, allow for sea level rise to take its natural course • Avoid new development being located in areas at risk from sea level rise and storm surges • Guide new development to areas not at risk from fluvial flooding • Minimise the requirement for 'technical fixes' to solve flooding and water supply issues • Encourage local access to goods, services and facilities in order to reduce the need for movement and reliance on transport infrastructure that could be vulnerable to climate change impacts • Guide new development to locations that are least likely to experience water supply shortages • Guide development to locations that will not be at risk from subsidence | | | |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <p>arising from climate change (e.g. clay soils)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploit the environmental, social and economic opportunities afforded by climate change • Where possible compensate for loss of habitats by creation of similar habitats in less vulnerable areas | | | |
| <p>Developing Adaptation to climate change in the East of England (July 2011)</p> | | <p>Status: Regional support materials</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.sustainabilityeast.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=131&Itemid=54</p> | | | |
| <p>This project aims to provide evidence of work being carried out on adaptation by local authorities and stakeholders in order to consider how the climate change adaptation agenda can move forward in the East of England.</p> <p>It includes identifying relevant policy activities at a national level and their implications on climate change adaptation and local authorities. It also aims to identify factors that should be considered for the further development of adaptation, including collaboration between stakeholders for more efficient and effective working.</p> <p>The evidence within the research is based on a literature review and a survey of a wide range of stakeholders within the East of England.</p> | <p>There are no targets suggested, nor indicators proposed.</p> | <p>The issues raised by CC need to be considered in relation to the NHDC LDF. The study suggests the need to consider long-term impacts and risks, despite current uncertainties, but also stresses that CC impacts and responses need to be balanced against other considerations.</p> | <p>Climate change issues need to be considered in developing the SA framework, both in terms of adaptation and mitigation.</p> |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <p>Water resources strategy. Regional action plan for Anglian Region (Environment Agency, December 2009)</p> | | <p>Status: Regional action plan</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.eera.gov.uk/Documents/About%20EERA/Policy/Planning%20and%20Transport/PlanHome/RPG/RPG14/Supporting%20docs/EA%20WR%20Anglian%20STR.pdf</p> | | | |
| <p>This strategy is linked to the new Water Resource Strategy for England and Wales, launched in 2009. There are four main aims of the water strategy for England and Wales:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapting to and mitigating climate change • A better water environment • Sustainable planning and management of water resources • Water and the water environment are valued <p>This regional action plan should how it is intended to meet the challenges facing water resources in the Anglian region. It considers local pressures and priorities and reflects the measures in RBMPs.</p> | <p>There are no indicators or targets as such but many actions related to local planning</p> | <p>The issues raised by this strategy are important for the LDF.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The priorities for the strategy are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protecting the environment Driving water efficiency Ensuring resilience of water resources Sharing and development of water resources <p>Many specific actions are identified which involve local authorities including:</p> <p><i>An22 – we will encourage local authority planners to consider carbon use as part of their work on Water Cycle Strategies especially when water companies are planning new water services infrastructure</i></p> <p><i>An29 – we will develop closer links with mineral planners to identify and maximize water resources development opportunities</i></p> <p><i>An36 – we will work with planners, developers and water companies to guide, promote and ensure the implementation /retrofit of strategic and local sustainable drainage systems</i></p> | <p>The issue of water resources and demand is an important component of sustainability which needs to be considered in the SA framework. It is particularly significant in the Eastern region which has the lowest average rainfall of any UK region, and climate change is predicted to place significant additional pressures on resources.</p> |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| | | <p><i>where appropriate</i> An44 – we will consider opportunities to combine flood alleviation schemes with water resources development schemes, where appropriate, to maximize benefits for water resources whilst not compromising flood defences An45 – We will work with developers, LDVs and local planning authorities to encourage that all new developments are built to level three of the Code for Sustainable Homes</p> <p>These all will have to be reviewed in preparing local planning documents.</p> | |
| Sub-Regional | | | |
| Chilterns AONB Management Plan 2008-13 | | | |
| Source: http://www.chilternsaonb.org/conservation-board/management-plan.html | | | |
| <p>The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 introduced a statutory duty on local authorities and Conservation Boards to produce a management plan for an AONB. The plan contains policies and actions to conserve the natural beauty of the AONB and to help everyone enjoy it.</p> <p><i>The Chilterns AONB Management Plan 2008 – 2013: A Framework for Action</i> was produced by the Chilterns Conservation Board following a review of the 2002 – 2007 Plan and wide public consultation. It contains a comprehensive summary of the key issues</p> | Not applicable | The Strategy does not have statutory authority but N Herts LDF should take account of any relevant guidance. | The impacts of the LDF on the characteristics of Chiltern AONB should be considered in the SA. |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <p>facing the AONB and the management actions needed to conserve this special place.</p> <p>The Conservation Board has also prepared more detailed guidance for building design in the Chilterns. This has been adopted as SPG by the majority of LAs covering the AONB.</p> | | | |
| <p>Upper Ouse and Bedford Ouse Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy</p> <p>Cam and Ely Ouse, including South Level CAMS</p> <p>Upper Lee CAMS</p> | | | <p>Status: Environment Agency Strategies</p> |
| <p>http://publications.environment-agency.gov.uk/pdf/GEAN0305BIRM-e-e.pdf?lang= e</p> <p>http://publications.environment-agency.gov.uk/pdf/GEAN0207BLUY-e-e.pdf</p> <p>http://publications.environment-agency.gov.uk/pdf/GETH0506BKWP-e-e.pdf?lang= e</p> | | | |
| <p>Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS) are strategies for management of water resources at a local level. The first two are the two key CAMS for North Herts. Upper Lee CAMS also covers a small portion of the District. Within the Upper Ouse and Bedford Ouse the relevant area is Water Resource Management Unit (WRMU) 6: River Hiz. Within the Cam and Ely Ouse CAMS the relevant area is Water Resource Management Unit (WRMU) C – Upper River Cam, River Rhee and River Granta and Chalk. The CAMS set out how much water is available in the catchment and the Environment Agency’s abstraction licensing strategy for managing water resources.</p> <p>The vision for the Upper Ouse and Bedford Ouse Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (CAMS) is to ensure that the water</p> | <p>No specific targets and indicators. However, both CAMS report that the flows for both the Rivers Hiz and Rhee are over licensed. In addition the River Rhee chalk is overabstracted. The future strategy in summary is to allow these areas to remain overlicensed to meet the needs of rural areas, but not to allow new consumptive groundwater licences or new consumptive low flow (generally summer conditions) surface water licences. The Upper Lee CAMS has also identified that the catchment is over-abstracted, or is over licensed.</p> | <p>The three CAMS show that new water resources are not available to meet any increased demand generated by the proposed new housing developments. The LDF Core Strategy deals with Policy on water resources. However, the use of SUDS can protect water resources, and sites where SUDS are viable should therefore be prioritised for development.</p> | <p>Consider viability of SUDS when appraising individual sites.</p> |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| resources are managed sustainably for the future, with due regard for environmental, abstractors and other water users needs. | | | |
| Thames Region Catchment Flood Management Plan | | | Status: Environment Agency Strategy Consultation Document |
| Source: http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/regions/thames/323150/335688/1687000/1687502/?version=1&lang=e | | | |
| <p>Catchment Flood Management Plans (CFMPs) provide an overview for managing the long-term flood risk within a catchment over the next 50 to 100 years. The Thames Region covers a small part of the District. Most of the District is in the Anglian Region, which has not yet produced a CFMP.</p> <p>The Thames CFMP characterises the elements of the catchment in North Hertfordshire as “narrow flood plains and mixed land use”. It notes that compared with Thames Region as a whole, the level of flood risk in these catchments is small. Its approach for the catchment is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPS25 provides the policy framework to make sure that flood risk is considered in new developments. • There does not need to be a radical change in the way we manage the risk in these areas. We will continue to maintain watercourses, increase flood awareness and provide appropriate flood warnings. | None relevant | Ensure that choices of development sites take account of flood risk. | Consider flood risk when appraising individual sites. |
| Great Ouse Catchment Flood Management Plan | | | Status: Environment Agency Strategy Consultation Document |
| Catchment Flood Management Plans (CFMPs) provide an overview for managing the long-term flood risk within a catchment | None relevant | Ensure that choices of development sites take account of flood risk. | Consider flood risk when appraising individual sites |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <p>over the next 50 to 100 years. The Anglian region, in particular the Great Ouse River Basin covers the majority of district and the four towns of Hitchin, Letchworth, Baldock and Royston.</p> <p>Being located at the top of the catchment the majority of the district is covered by the policy 3 classification, which is simply continue with existing maintenance. Originally Hitchin had been viewed as having a higher flood risk level, however this was scaled back when more detailed modelling work was undertaken.</p> | | | |
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County Plans, Programmes and Policies

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| County | | | |
| Hertfordshire Structure Plan 1991-2011 | | Status: Adopted March 1998 | |
| Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/plan/homes/hertstructureplan/planfuture/moreinfo/ | | | |
| <p>The Hertfordshire Structure Plan, covering the period to 2011, was adopted in March 1998. This is currently under review - with policies being 'rolled forward' to 2016. Consultation on the Structure Plan took place in the summer of 2002 and the "deposit stage" of draft policy alterations arising from that consultation occurred between the 5th March and the 16th April 2003. The subsequent stages of rolling forward the Structure Plan to 2016 are currently on hold.</p> | <p>Key policies for NHDC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The current plan requires NHDC to make provision for 10,400 including 2,600 west of the A1(M) at Stevenage, over the period 1991-2011. | <p>Provides the county-level strategic framework for the NHDC SDF.</p> | <p>Plan policies need to be considered in the SA.</p> |
| Hertfordshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2031 | | Status: County plan | |
| Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/transtreets/transplan/tp/ | | | |

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| <p>The vision of the LTP is: To provide a safe, efficient and resilient transport system that serves the needs of business and residents across Hertfordshire and minimises its impact on the environment.</p> <p>This will be achieved through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making best use of the existing network and introducing targeted schemes where improvements are required so as to deliver a reliable and readily usable transport network to benefit local business, encourage further economic growth and allow access for all to everyday facilities. • Promoting and supporting sustainable travel to reduce growth in car traffic and contribute to improved health and quality of life for residents with a positive impact on the environment and on the wider challenge of reducing transport's contribution to climate change. <p>Five goals support the vision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support economic development and planned dwelling growth • Improve transport opportunities for all and achieve behavioural change in mode choice • Enhance quality of life, health and the natural, built and historic environment for all Hertfordshire residents • Improve the safety and security of residents and other road users • Reduce transport's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and improve its resilience. | <p>The plan includes targets and indicators related to the vision and objectives. Many of these relate to national indicators which are no longer live.</p> | <p>The LDF should include policies that promote the sustainable transport aims of the LTP.</p> | <p>Access and transport are key aspects of sustainable development that need to be considered in the SA. Transport-related issues will be relevant to many SA objectives.</p> <p>A SEA has already been carried out on the LTS.</p> |
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| SEA of Local Transport Plan 2011-2031 | | Status: Formal SEA undertaken by Hertfordshire County Council | |
| <u>Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/transtreets/transplan/ltp/LTP3/LTP3sea/</u> | | | |
| Appraisal Framework contains a set of sustainable development objectives | Comprehensive set of targets and indicators contained in baseline review | The appraisal should be read in conjunction with the LTP: it gives additional information on the Sustainability implications of the Plan. | The results of the appraisal of policies should also inform this appraisal process. |
| A 50 Year Vision for the Wildlife and Natural Habitats of Hertfordshire: BAP (March 2006) | | Status: | |
| <u>Source: http://hef.org.uk/nature/biodiversity/</u> | | | |
| <p>The Herts BAP was drawn up in response to the <i>UK Biodiversity Action Plan</i> published in January 1994 and the detailed report, <i>Biodiversity: The UK Steering Group Report</i>, published December 1995 which includes detailed action plans for threatened habitats and species. It was originally produced in 1998 and the original habitat and species action plans, were revised in 205/6. Its aims are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that national targets for species and habitats, as specified in the UK Action Plan, are translated into effective action at the local level. • To identify targets for species and habitats appropriate to the local area, and reflecting the values of people locally. • To develop effective local partnerships to ensure that programmes for biodiversity conservation are maintained in the long-term. • To raise awareness of the need for biodiversity conservation in the local context. • To ensure that opportunities for | <p>The plan evaluates the status of habitats and species in the county and identifies key habitats and species of national and local significance and High Biodiversity Areas. The plan contains targets in respect of its planned actions, many of which are specific and detailed. The plan stresses that a BAP is both a product and on-going process. The agreed objectives for the BAP are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To establish a plan partnership through identifying and consulting key partners in the process. • To produce an overview of our present knowledge of the biodiversity resource in the county. • To prepare a series of prioritised habitat action plans to guide work on protecting, restoring and re-creating a sustainable level of biodiversity in the county. • Within each habitat action plan to identify detailed targets reflecting both national and local importance for the first ten years. • To identify a list of priority species for the preparation of action plans. Concise target statements should be prepared for all chosen species. <p>Relevant information on the BAP is held by: Catherine Wyatt</p> | <p>In considering the relations with other plans the BAP states: ‘Local Biodiversity Action Plans link to the statutory planning process in two ways. Information generated by the local biodiversity plans can provide detailed information for revision of development plans, for example, the identification of High Biodiversity Areas. In addition, the statutory planning process can make a major contribution to achievement of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan targets, in particular through policies for site protection and enhancement and the creation of new habitats in appropriate locations.’</p> | <p>Biodiversity is a key aspect of sustainable development that needs to be included within the SA framework. The baseline review should include indicators of biodiversity.</p> |

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| <p>conservation and enhancement of the whole biodiversity resource are fully considered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a basis for monitoring progress in biodiversity conservation, at both local and national level. • Within each habitat and species action plan to identify delivery mechanisms and sources of finance and advice. • To publish the plan and implement the agreed programme of action. • To establish a long term monitoring programme to measure the effectiveness of the Plan in achieving national and local targets. | <p>BAP Officer c/o East Hertfordshire District Council Wallfields, Pegs Lane Hertford SG13 8EQ</p> <p>Tel: 01992 531478 Email: Catherine.wyatt@eastherts.gov.uk</p> | | |
| <p>Hertfordshire Economic Outlook 2011</p> | | <p>Status: Consultation Draft</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.hertfordshirelep.com/docs/index?folder_id=5833356</p> | | | |
| <p>Review produced by the Local Economic Partnership, no objectives or targets as such.</p> | | <p>Identifies key economic challenges faced by the County.</p> | <p>See previous column.</p> |
| <p>Hertfordshire Waste Strategy 2002-2024</p> | | <p>Status:</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.wasteaware.org.uk/strategy/fullversion2.pdf</p> | | | |
| <p>A Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Hertfordshire setting out how waste problems are to be addresses over the next 2 decades.</p> <p>The strategy was updated by the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership in July 2007 and adopted by each authority in the following months. The Strategy was formally</p> | <p>The strategy includes detailed targets, mainly based on PSA and other existing targets. It does not contain any indicators as such, but they are implicit for many of the targets.</p> | <p>This strategy is only marginally relevant to the LDF to the extent that planning policies may effect the delivery of the waste strategy.</p> | <p>Management of waste is an important SD issue that needs to be considered in the SA.</p> |

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| launched at a signing ceremony on 27 November 2007. | | | |
| The Hertfordshire minerals and waste development framework and scheme (March 2005) | | Status: Submission document | |
| Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/waste/mineralsandwaste/ | | | |
| Sets out the timetable for the county MWDF in accordance with the requirements of The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, including interim arrangements. | Not applicable. | Will become a DPD once adopted. | Management of waste is an important SD issue that needs to be considered in the SA. |
| The Hertfordshire Waste Core Strategy and Development Policies Pre-submission (March 2010) | | Status: Submission document | |
| Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/waste/mineralsandwaste/ | | | |
| This document sets out the future strategy for potential waste development in the future. | Pushing waste up the hierarchy and increased recycling are important targets to consider with regard to sustainability. | This will become a DPD once adopted and will become part of the North Hertfordshire LDF. | Management of waste is an important SD issue that needs to be considered in the SA. |
| Hertfordshire Minerals Local Plan Review | | Status: | |
| Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/waste/mineralsandwaste/mlpplaceholder/ | | | |
| In accordance with the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), Hertfordshire County Council has a duty to prepare and review a Minerals Local Plan. The County Council adopted its first Minerals Local Plan in July 1998. Some policies were saved in March 2010. | | Of limited direct relevance to the LDF, since Herts County Council is the designated Minerals Planning Authority. | Minerals extraction is relevant to many aspects of sustainable development such as agriculture, transport, employment, land use planning and resource use. |

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| Rural Hertfordshire – an agenda for action 2001 – 2005 Hertfordshire Rural Forum | | Status: | |
| Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/ruralforum.pdf | | | |
| The agenda identifies key issues within 9 'Rural Strands': <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing • Transport/traffic • Rural Economy • Social Exclusion • Biodiversity/landscape • Access to services • Community identity and involvement • Needs of young people • Recreational pressures and opportunities | The agenda does not include specific targets or indicators. The aim of the agenda is seen as highlighting issues and problems that need to be addressed rather than a detailed strategy or action plan. | The particular issues affecting rural areas need to be considered in the NHDC LDF. | The particular issues affecting rural areas need to be considered in the SA framework for the NHDC LDF. |
| Rural Innovation Strategy – Hertfordshire Rural Forum (Apr 2003) | | Status: | |
| Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/finalrural.pdf | | | |
| In addition to the 'strands' identified in an <i>Agenda for Action</i> (see above) to strategy has the following objectives based on an analysis of strength and weaknesses of rural areas in the county: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To build capacity in local rural communities to encourage them to think about the longer-term potential of their area and to work together to address, in sustainable ways, the needs and issues identified. 2. To facilitate the development of competitive and sustainable rural economies that will help to create jobs and increase economic | The strategy was prepared primarily as an action plan to secure funding from EEDA. The strategy does not contain specific targets or indicators, but does suggest means of monitoring supported projects and actions. | The particular issues affecting rural areas need to be considered in the NHDC LDF. Little in this strategy is directly relevant to the LDF, but the strength and weaknesses analysis in Appendix 4 provides a useful summary of issues affecting rural areas in the county. | The particular issues affecting rural areas need to be considered in the SA framework for the NHDC LDF. Appendix 4 highlights issues that may need to be considered in the SA. |

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| <p>opportunities.</p> <p>3. To improve the quality of life for people living or working in rural communities by enhancing access to services and helping everyone to achieve their full potential.</p> <p>4. To protect and enhance the natural and historic rural environment, including extending access to the countryside and developing quality rural leisure opportunities.</p> | | | |
| <p>Hertfordshire Renewable and Low Carbon technical study (2010)</p> | | <p>Status: Study report</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/envplan/plan/renewablelowcarbonstudy/</p> | | | |
| <p>The 'Hertfordshire Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Technical Study' identifies opportunities to bring forward renewable and low carbon technologies within Hertfordshire and supports the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions from residential and non-residential development.</p> <p>The study was commissioned to support emerging planning policies across the County but will also guide the future development of sustainable energy sources within Hertfordshire.</p> | <p>Not applicable</p> | <p>Intended to help guide planning policies in relation to renewable and low carbon technologies.</p> <p>Sets out specific proposals for core strategy policies.</p> | <p>Increasing the proportion of energy obtained from renewable sources is a key requirement of sustainability. The reduction greenhouse gas emissions will need to be an objective within the SA framework.</p> |
| <p>Building Futures: A Hertfordshire Guide to Promoting Sustainability in Development (July 2006)</p> | | <p>Status: Consultation Draft</p> | |
| <p>Source: www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/plan/issues/buildingfuturesustainability/</p> | | | |
| <p>Includes key principles and guidance for sustainable design and construction</p> | <p>Not applicable</p> | <p>The LDF should support the implementation of this guide in order to</p> | <p>The document provides detailed guidance on many issues relevant to the SA of the</p> |

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| <p>in the following aspects of sustainable building:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • air • design • energy • materials • noise • waste • water | | <p>promote sustainability in building design and construction.</p> | <p>LDF, particularly SA objective 6(a) which includes consideration of encouraging 'sustainable design, use of sustainable building materials and minimise wastage caused by construction methods?'</p> |
| <p>Hertfordshire Strategic Sites Study (2011)</p> | | <p>Status: Consultation Draft</p> | |
| <p>Source:</p> | | | |
| <p>This Study forms part of a number of different projects being undertaken by Hertfordshire Works / Hertfordshire LEP, seeking to regain Hertfordshire's competitive economic edge.</p> <p>The study identifies the need for increased offer in terms of both size and nature of strategic sites. Identifying sites across the county appropriate for different uses</p> | <p>Not applicable</p> | <p>The document includes a site at Junction 7 of the A1(M) as a potential strategic site., incorporating high science / B1(b) uses.</p> | <p>The document provides guidance and a draft action plan for potential delivery of the site, including consideration of infrastructure constraints.</p> |

Local Plans, Programmes and Policies

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <p>North Hertfordshire District Council Priorities for the District 2012-13</p> | | <p>Status: Corporate plan</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/council_and_democracy/plans_and_objectives/priorities.htm</p> | | | |
| <p>This replaces the Corporate Plan for North Herts.</p> <p>It identifies three priorities for the council: Living within our means to deliver cost-effective services Working with local communities Protecting our environment for our communities</p> <p>The paper notes the potential of the Localism agenda for engaging and enabling local communities.</p> | <p>Not applicable</p> | <p>Important context in terms of council priorities, which should underpin planning documents.</p> | <p>The SA framework should be checked against the plan to ensure that all relevant issues have been considered.</p> |
| <p>North Hertfordshire Local Housing Strategy 2008-13 (2008)</p> | | <p>Status:</p> | |
| <p>Source:</p> | | | |
| <p>The vision of the LHS is of 'making North Hertfordshire a vibrant place to live, work and prosper'.</p> <p>The North Herts Housing Strategy sets out priorities, aims, actions and targets for housing over the next five years. The Strategy includes the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision and priorities • The challenge for housing | <p>Action 7 <i>To ensure maximum benefit from new build housing for the residents of the district</i></p> <p>The Council will deliver a minimum of 13,000 new homes by 2021; Negotiate an agreement that ensures that the district receive a satisfactory amount of the nominations to the affordable housing on the new development the border with Stevenage; and Minimise Greenfield release by developing the majority</p> | <p>Directly relevant to LDF</p> | <p>The provision of decent, affordable housing is an essential element of sustainability that needs to be considered in the SA. The LHS also includes requirements to cut carbon and improve the environmental performance of new housing in North Herts.</p> |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The local housing market • Sustainable communities • New housing • Greener healthier homes • Making best use of stock • Housing for diversity • Homelessness <p>The new Local Housing Strategy was adopted by the full council on the 26th June 2008. An update was published in 2010.</p> | <p>of new housing in urban areas (with the exception of the development on the Stevenage border).</p> <p>Action 8 <i>To enable the optimum amount of affordable housing</i></p> <p>The Council will: Maximise the delivery of affordable housing delivered through planning policy; and Monitor the number of additional affordable housing units delivered.</p> <p>Action 11 <i>To increase the quantity of new build affordable homes that meet the Lifetime Homes Standard23</i></p> <p>The Council will: Require 50% all new affordable housing developed on Council or RSL land to be of Lifetime Homes Standard; and Provide funding to encourage Lifetime Homes Standards for affordable housing on sites subject to s.106 agreements.</p> <p>A range of other actions also include indicators and targets of relevance.</p> | | |
| North Hertfordshire Homelessness Strategy | | Status: | |
| Source: | | | |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To prevent homelessness. 2. To provide a safety net for those people who do become homeless. 3. To increase supply and access to affordable housing. | <p>Objectives 1 and 2 are to be met via improved systems, staff training, partnerships, etc. (plus some changes to hostel provision). Objective 3 is covered by proposals in the NH Housing Strategy.</p> | <p>The issues most relevant to LDF should be covered in response to the Housing Strategy.</p> | <p>Ensure that the needs of the homeless are adequately considered in the SA.</p> |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| Home Energy Conservation Act (H.E.C.A) Progress Report (June 2001) | | Status: | |
| Source: | | | |
| <p>Aims of the strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To create housing conditions which provide affordable warmth. • To reduce air pollution caused by the production and consumption of energy. • To reduce the consumption of non-renewable fuel resources. • To increase public awareness of energy use and its effect on the environment. • To foster and facilitate the installation of energy efficiency measures in private sector properties. • To operate positive policies for improving the energy efficiency of the Council's own housing stock. • To promote changes in behaviour to reduce unnecessary energy consumption. • To encourage the incorporation of energy efficiency measures in new build and refurbishment projects. • To develop corporate working arrangements within the council, with landlords and other agencies to implement the strategy. • To take account of financial and other personal circumstances when implementing this strategy and, further, by the creation of a Fuel Poverty Strategy. | <p>Target as per Home Energy Conservation Act (H.E.C.A) 1995 – 30% reduction in energy consumption over 15 year period.</p> | <p>Mainly relevant to LDF for new build only.</p> | <p>Improvement in the efficiency of energy use is fundamental to sustainability. Needs to be considered in the SA.</p> |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| Biodiversity Action Plan | | Status: | |
| Source: | | | |
| <p>This local Biodiversity Action Plan is aimed at promoting integrated approaches towards effective biodiversity conservation and planning for sustainable development both within N.H.D.C. and in liaison with various partners. It should also help fulfil the role of the Council towards conserving the district's natural heritage as set out in measures such as The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, Local Government Act 2000, and Conservation (Natural Habitats etc.) 1994.</p> <p>It sets out a series of actions that are intended to enable the Council to identify priorities for biodiversity conservation; to establish resources and responsibilities for programmes of action, review and monitoring. Implicit within these actions is a requirement for promotion of enhanced awareness and education in biodiversity issues and opportunities for involvement for all levels of society.</p> | <p>The plan sets out currently known information and detailed actions in relation to habitats and species relevant to the District. Many of the actions are directed at improving the accuracy of data. It includes detailed targets for particular habitats as appendices. These are mainly stated in broad, rather than quantified terms.</p> | <p>'Local Biodiversity Action Plans link to the statutory planning process in two ways. Information generated by the local biodiversity plans can provide detailed information for revision of development plans, for example, the identification of High Biodiversity Areas. In addition, the statutory planning process can make a major contribution to achievement of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan targets, in particular through policies for site protection and enhancement and the creation of new habitats in appropriate locations.'</p> <p><i>A 50 Year Vision for the Wildlife and Natural Habitats of Hertfordshire: BAP (April 1998)</i></p> | <p>Biodiversity is a key aspect of sustainable development that needs to be included within the SA framework. The baseline review should include indicators of biodiversity.</p> |
| North Hertfordshire Rural Strategy 2010-15 (March 2005) | | Status: Strategy | |
| Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/community_and_living/rural_communities.htm | | | |
| <p>Key issues are grouped under ten headings:</p> <p>Protecting and Enhancing the Environment – heritage, climate change, reducing waste and</p> | <p>None</p> | <p>Many of the issues raised are directly relevant to the LDF, particularly under the themes of Housing; travel and strengthening communities</p> | <p>Ensure that all relevant issues raised are considered in the SA.</p> |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <p>encouraging recycling, biodiversity, access to the countryside</p> <p>Providing Decent and Affordable Housing – relevant, sustainable and affordable housing in rural areas</p> <p>Travel, Transport and Connectivity – parish travel plans, extended cycling strategy, improved public rights of way, better internet connectivity</p> <p>Children and Young People – improved opportunities for rural children and young people to take part in sport and physical activity, establish rural youth councils</p> <p>Strengthening Communities and Involving People – reduce social exclusion, greater community participation</p> <p>A Safer Community – responsible citizenship, community reassurance days, deal with anti-social motoring</p> <p>Health and Recreation – improve informal recreation opportunities, parish paths partnership, access to GPs and NHS dentists</p> <p>Older People – transport links, combat isolation of older people</p> <p>Economic Prosperity and Employment – sustainable economic development, Eastern Plateau, diversification</p> <p>Promoting Lifelong Learning,</p> | | | |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| Training and Skills Development – improve participation in education and training by people living in rural areas | | | |
| Play Area and Outdoor Youth Provision Strategy 2004 - 2010 | | Status: ? | |
| Source: | | | |
| Aims and objectives of the Play Area & Youth Provision Strategy are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide safe interesting and accessible outdoor playing space for children. • To provide outdoor local facilities for youth. • To ensure existing and future play facilities comply with current legislation and guidelines. • To integrate existing and future provision with planning policy. • To reduce future maintenance costs by standardising certain items of provision i.e. fencing and safety surfacing. | No specific targets, but the strategy includes a detailed audit of existing provision and an action plan. Analysis against the NPFA's "Six Acre Standard" shows under-provision in all 4 urban areas, with Baldock having less than 25% of target provision. | Adequate provision in sports facilities needs to be considered in the LDF. | Access to sports facilities is an important QoL issue, both as a leisure activity and for health benefits. This should be considered in the SA framework. |
| Allotment Strategy 2004 – 2009 | | Status: Strategy – now expired but not directly replaced. | |
| Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/allotments | | | |
| Aims and objectives of the Allotments Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase the number of allotment gardeners. • To promote allotment gardening for a healthy lifestyle. • To ensure allotment sites comply with current legislation and guidelines. • To integrate existing and future provision with planning policy. • To engage local allotment | No specific targets are included. | Provision of allotments should be considered in the LDF. | Allotment gardening accords with SD principles, offering a healthy leisure activity and local food. Allotments also assist biodiversity and provide green space in urban areas. |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <p>associations in the future direction of allotments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To formulate a sustainable maintenance and development programme in accordance with customer expectation. <p>The North Herts Greenspace Management Strategy, when finalised, will sit above the Allotment Strategy. An Allotment Action Plan for 2010-14 has also been published.</p> | | | |
| <p>Community Strategy for North Hertfordshire (Nov 2003)</p> | | <p>Status:</p> | |
| <p>Source:</p> | | | |
| <p>Under the Local Government Act 2000, LAs are required to develop community strategies. Their aim is to improve the efficiency of public service provision via public consultation and a joined-up approach to partnership. The NHCS involved a 3-year Area Visioning consultation process. It is implemented via the North Hertfordshire Local Strategic Partnership (NHLSP) which has about 30 public and voluntary sector member organizations.</p> | <p>The strategy includes detailed action plans for addressing issues raised during the consultation process, under the themes: Community Safety Education & Lifelong Learning Health Housing Leisure and Community Development Planning, Town Centres and Environment Transport Young People</p> <p>These include both district-wide and local area actions. The strategy outlines monitoring processes and will use 8 of the 38 Audit Commission QoL indicators for measurement purposes.</p> | <p>A number of action points are directly relevant to the LDF, particularly under the themes of Housing; Planning, Town Centres and Environment; and Transport.</p> | <p>The SA should consider issues raised in the strategy.</p> |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| Contaminated Land Strategy (March 2010) | | Status: Strategy | |
| Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/environment_and_planning/environmental_protection/contaminated_land/contaminated_land_strategy.htm | | | |
| <p>This strategy was drawn up under of Part IIA (inserted April 2000) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. This is extremely complex, but essentially requires local authorities to take a staged approach to the remediation of contaminated land:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The identification of land, with reference to an explicit definition, which can be formally determined to be 'contaminated land' 2) The identification of the action required to clean up this contaminated land 3) The identification of those responsible for the clean up of contaminated land <p>NHDC's Contaminated Land Strategy sets out how it will implement this regime .</p> | <p>Not applicable. The strategy is essentially a statement of how the new procedures are to be implemented.</p> | <p>Contaminated land issues need to be considered in drawing up the LDF.</p> | <p>Contaminated land issues need to be considered in the SA. They are relevant to pollution and the reuse of brownfield sites.</p> |
| North Hertfordshire Parking Strategy 2009-19 (2010) | | Status: Strategy | |
| Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/transport_and_streets/car_parking/car_parking_strategy.htm | | | |

| Key objectives relevant to plan and SA | Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA | Implications for plan | Implications for SA |
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| <p>This document sets out the Council's agreed approach to parking issues in North Hertfordshire, providing a local strategy that meets relevant national, regional and County policies.</p> | <p>Not applicable.</p> | <p>Car parking needs to be considered in the LDF, particularly with regard to new development.</p> <p>A good practice guide has been prepared (Harrison Webb Associates 2002). This report examined practical issues, such as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determining which developer contributions could and should be sought • the production of zonal maps (including defining and scoring parking zones) • how the standards could be applied • how to incorporate travel plans • how to set and apply accessibility charges • how the parking assessment fits in with the issue of a Transport Assessment | <p>Although sustainable development aims to reduce car use, it is important to car parking is managed to enable effective access to services and to minimise negative impacts. Car parking issues should be considered in the SA.</p> |

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| <p>Community Halls Strategy (October 2011)</p> | | <p>Status: Council policy</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/community_and_living/community_centres_and_facilities/community_halls_strategy.htm</p> | | | |
| <p>The purpose of this document is to define North Hertfordshire District Council's role in the operation of existing community halls, provide a</p> | <p>Not applicable</p> | <p>The replacement of existing facilities and provision of additional facilities could be achieved through the use of section 106 agreements.</p> | <p>Community facilities need to be considered when appraising access to services and facilities.</p> |

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| <p>strategy for supporting those facilities in a sustainable way, and advise on the construction and operational management of new builds in accordance with anticipated housing and infrastructure developments up to 2031</p> | | | |
| <p>Supplementary Planning Document Vehicle Parking Provision at New Development</p> | | <p>Status: Adopted as SPD March 2006 Updated 2011 Associated SA/SEA prepared off the SPD in line with national and European legislation.</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/local_development_framework/car_parking_zones_spd.htm</p> | | | |
| <p>This Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) supplements Policy 55 in the North Hertfordshire District Local Plan Number 2 with Alterations, and accords with guidance in Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 12: Local Development Frameworks. It is also consistent with North Hertfordshire District Council's (NHDC) Car Parking Strategy 2004 – 2009 (adopted 27 July 2004).</p> <p>The Parking Strategy is compatible with the SPG on Parking Provision at New Development adopted by Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) on 18 December 2000. The HCC Guidance supplements Policy 25: Car Parking, as set out in the Hertfordshire Structure Plan Review 1991 – 2011 (adopted April 1998) and is accompanied by a Best Practice Guide (published March 2003).</p> <p>The purpose of the SPD is to explain the Council's policy on vehicle parking provision at new development. Its intention is to provide clear guidance and more certainty for developers.</p> <p>The SPD explains two new, important</p> | <p>The SPD does not provide car-parking standards. Standards already exist in a number of documents and the SPD sets out guidance on how to interpret and apply these standards in North Hertfordshire.</p> | <p>Car parking needs to be considered in the LDF, particularly with regard to new development.</p> <p>The SPD provides guidance on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determining which developer contributions could and should be sought • the production of zonal maps (including defining and scoring parking zones) • how the standards could be applied • how to incorporate travel plans • how to set and apply accessibility charges • how the parking assessment fits in with the issue of a Transport Assessment | <p>Although sustainable development aims to reduce car use, it is important that car parking is managed to enable effective access to services and to minimise negative impacts. Car parking issues should be considered in the SA.</p> |

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| <p>differences to previous policy on parking at new development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firstly the Draft SPD explains how the concept of 'maximum' rather than 'minimum' standards; and • Secondly introduces a zonal approach to parking restraint within the four towns of Baldock, Letchworth Garden City, Hitchin and Royston as well as Knebworth. | | | |
| <p>Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document</p> | | <p>Status: Adopted Nov 2006 Associated SA/SEA prepared of the draft SPD in line with national and European legislation.</p> | |
| <p>Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/local_development_framework/planning_obligations_spd.htm</p> | | | |
| <p>The SPD is concerned with four towns of Baldock, Hitchin, Letchworth Garden City and Royston as well as the rural areas within North Hertfordshire District. It outlines the Council's approach to planning obligations in relation to planning applications and reflects the Council's corporate priorities and objectives. It will enable developers and landowners to be aware at an early stage what infrastructure and services may be sought to cope with additional demands brought on by new development and offset any harmful impacts to the natural, historic or built environment.</p> <p>The SPD takes into account the latest Government advice contained in Circular 05/2005 on Planning Obligations and will supplement Policy 51 – Development Effects and Planning Gain of the 'saved Local Plan'</p> | <p>The SPD sets certain standard charges and threshold requirements for developments. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community centre and halls • leisure • open space, outdoor sport and recreation • public realm • sustainable transport • waste collection and recycling • education • libraries • youth and child care • affordable housing <p>Guidance is also provided on other types of contributions, although no set target is provided. These include:</p> | <p>The provision of additional facilities, services and infrastructure would be achieved through the use of section 106 agreements. The standards therefore need to be included in the SPD.</p> | <p>Planning obligations need to be considered when appraising access to services and facilities.</p> |

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| <p>North Hertfordshire District Local Plan No.2 with Alterations. The SPD will eventually accompany relevant policies in the merging Local Development Framework (LDF).</p> <p>The cumulative impact of development is recognised as an important issue within the draft SPD, where it is considered that collectively new development, through incremental growth, creates additional demands.</p> <p>The SPD uses a 'standard charge' approach to address some of the likely impacts on infrastructure, services and facilities within an area.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • environmental issues • Economic development • Development an flood risk • Sustainable construction methods • Community safety. | | |
| <p>Housing Needs Assessment (2007), Housing Background Paper (2007), Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (2008), Housing Five Year Land Supply (2009), Strategic Housing Market Assessment (2009), Strategic Land Availability Assessment (2011), Defining the Housing Requirement (2011)</p> | | <p>Evidence and background reports for the LDF process.</p> | |
| <p>Source: see http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/environment_and_planning/planning/planning_policy_and_projects-2/evidence_base.htm</p> | | | |
| <p>Set the policy and evidence background for housing need and development within North Herts.</p> | <p>Include housing targets from the East of England Plan and the Milton Keynes and South Midlands Sub-Regional Strategy.</p> | <p>Housing is a key aspect of the Core Strategy. The Land Allocations DPD will also be a key plan in relation to the location of new housing.</p> | <p>Housing growth for the district is a key sustainability issue, in terms of meeting need and demand, but also in relation to environmental impacts of growth (e.g. water use, transport, CO2 emissions, impacts on local environmental quality etc).</p> |
| <p>Employment Land Review (updated 2011)</p> | | <p>Evidence base for LDF.</p> | |
| <p>Source: see http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/environment_and_planning/planning/local_development_framework/background_papers.htm</p> | | | |
| <p>One of the Council's strategic objectives is to promote "prosperous communities, creating opportunity for</p> | <p>In March 2005, the Council appointed consultants to carry out an Employment Land Review. The work was split into two parts, with</p> | <p>The document provides jobs targets and employment land demand figures for Core Policy L.</p> | <p>Employment sites are a key aspect of sustainability and their relationship to residential areas, in particular the new</p> |

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| <p>all by promoting sustainable local economic development". The Council's planning policy function has an important role to play in meeting this objective. In order to promote a prosperous economy, there must be adequate employment land and premises within the District. The portfolio of land and buildings should meet the needs of the local economy.</p> | <p>the second part taking place once the panel report had been published on the East of England Plan, Examination in Public. Part 1 was completed in February 2006. The panel report was published in June 2006, and Part 2 of the Employment Land Review has now been completed. The reason for doing Part 2 after the publication of the panel report was in the hope that it would contain more guidance on job targets for the district. The Employment Land Review will now form part of the evidence base for the Local Development Framework. In February 2007, Part 2 was further updated to take into account the revised job and housing figures in the Secretary of State's proposed modifications to the East of England Plan (which were largely unaltered by the final publication of the East of England Plan in May 2008). This has subsequently been updated to take account of the changing housing targets</p> | | <p>housing proposed as part of the East of England Plan will be important in terms of travel patterns.</p> |
| <p>Retail Town Centre Study (2009) and 2011 update</p> | | <p>Evidence base for LDF.</p> | |
| <p>Source: see http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/environment_and_planning/planning/local_development_framework/background_papers.htm</p> | | | |
| <p>In 2009, the Council appointed consultants to carry out a Town Centre and Retail Study of the four main towns in the district: Hitchin; Letchworth Garden City; Baldock and Royston. The aim of the study was to undertake an assessment of the four towns in terms of retail and leisure provision and opportunities using the latest available data. The figures for future floorspace were updated in 2011 to take account of the new housing targets.</p> | | <p>The outcomes of this study contribute towards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the review and monitoring of retail policies for inclusion in the LDF; • the retail section of Town Centre Strategies; • providing retail guidance in the production of Planning Briefs; • identifying opportunities for potential retail, leisure or mixed-used development sites within the four towns. | <p>Retail and leisure uses will impact on sustainability issues, including travel patterns.</p> |

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| North Herts Landscape Study (Character, Sensitivity and Capacity) (2011) | | LDF evidence base | |
| Source: see http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/environment_and_planning/planning/local_development_framework/background_papers.htm | | | |
| <p>This document is based on the original Landscape character Assessment work carried out by Babbie in 2004 and the subsequent Sensitivity and Capacity work carried out by the Landscape Partnership in 2011. The information in the Study is used for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advising on development control matters for NHDC and SBC • Policy development for future development plans • Providing a framework for other landscape planning | <p>No targets or indicators as such. Identifies sites of landscape sensitivity and capacity (to accommodate development). North Hertfordshire District comprises two nationally recognised character areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. East Anglian Chalk -the eastern part of the district 2. Chilterns – the area west of Stevenage <p>In addition small fragments of other character areas are represented:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. South Suffolk and North Essex Claylands 4. Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire clayland 5. North Thames basin <p>The Study itself includes general chapters on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical features of the landscape • Historical and cultural influences <p>It then provides detailed landscape character assessments of all areas of North Herts.</p> | <p>The purpose of the study is to ensure that any required new development is directed towards those sites that can best accommodate it. Change should only be accommodated whilst retaining and, where possible, strengthening regional character and local distinctiveness.</p> | <p>This is a key issue for NHDC and thus for the sustainability appraisal.</p> |
| Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) | | LDF evidence base | |
| Source: see http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/environment_and_planning/planning/local_development_framework/background_papers.htm | | | |
| <p>In order to guide development within North Hertfordshire and to ensure that the effects of flooding are properly considered in determining planning applications, the Council commissioned a Strategic Flood Risk</p> | <p>Identifies flood risk to potential development sites focusing on areas classified as Flood Zone 2 and 3 by the EA. Identifies flood risk in Zone 3 taking into account the presence and standard of existing flood defences.</p> | | <p>Location of new development should be steered away from flood risk areas (zones 2 and 3) and should ideally improve flood prevention infrastructure and measures. New development also has an impact on existing sewerage infrastructure and</p> |

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| Assessment (SFRA). | <p>Determines, if not already known, the flood defence standards of protection.</p> <p>Determines the potential increase in flood risk to existing development due to increased run-off from any proposed development areas.</p> <p>Assesses the suitability of areas for the use of sustainable drainage systems.</p> <p>Assesses the potential increase in flood risk as a result of climate change.</p> <p>Assesses the effect of flood defence failures to establish areas of rapid inundation.</p> <p>The SFRA has concentrated on the following areas:-</p> <p>Whitwell and Kimpton to the south west.</p> <p>Hitchin, Letchworth Garden City and Baldock to the north.</p> <p>West of Stevenage</p> <p>The town of Royston has no watercourses within its immediate vicinity, therefore fluvial flood risk has not been assessed at this location.</p> | | capacity. This has been identified as an issue for the East of England (Rye Meads STW). |
| <p>Rye Meads Water Cycle Study (2009)</p> | | LDF evidence base | |
| <p>Source: see http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/environment_and_planning/planning/local_development_framework/background_papers.htm</p> | | | |
| <p>The RSS proposes ambitious growth targets for a region that is already described by the Environment Agency (EA) as experiencing serious water stress. The RSS has tasked Local Authorities in (or surrounding) the Rye Meads WwTW catchment with providing ambitious levels of growth; almost 70,000 new dwellings between 2001—2021. A similar rate of growth is also required following 2021. The timeframe for this WCS extends to 2031, to include the current RSS (to 2021) and the future RSS review. Throughout the development of the RSS, accompanying studies (see Sections 1.4 and 3.2) highlighted the</p> | <p>The water quality of rivers within the study area is generally compliant with objectives set by the EA, however under the emerging WFD the majority of watercourses will fail to meet the required quality, mainly due to excessive concentrations of nutrients.</p> <p>The WFD is a key risk, as Rye Meads WwTW may be required to produce a discharge with a much higher quality in the future than at present, which may even lead to a possible reduction of current maximum volumetric flow consent if the specified chemical and biological quality improvements are not achievable through improved treatment and financial investment. This has the potential to constrain development, but only after 2021. Before then, the EA have advised TWU that they are</p> | <p>This will provide an evidence base for the Local Authorities to ensure they comply with policy H1 of the RSS, which states that ‘Local planning authorities should plan for the delivery of housing for at least 15 years from the adoption of the relevant development plan documents.’</p> <p>There are two main ways in which new development can affect quality and hydro-ecology of receiving water systems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Altered surface runoff rate and quality • Increase in treated foul effluent and storm discharges from the foul sewerage catchment <p>The first issue can be addressed by the use of SUDS. The second issue will</p> | <p>There is a concern that existing water infrastructure in the area may not have the capacity to handle (or that current investment plans do not make provision for) the increased demands from new development proposed in the East of England Plan.</p> <p>Restrictions in capacity at Rye Meads [WwTW] will need to be overcome without harm to the adjacent Lee Valley Special Protection Area or its qualifying features.</p> <p>Consider viability of SUDS and constraints on the sewerage system when appraising individual sites.</p> |

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| <p>need for a detailed assessment of the Rye Meads area due to potential water infrastructure capacity restrictions. The RSS specifically mentions wastewater treatment as a key possible constraint to growth in the study area.</p> | <p>unlikely to tighten consent standards. Water efficiency measures, aspiring to achieve water neutrality, and routing flows from future development into other WwTW catchments where feasible, will allow the management of this risk to some extent. The EA have also advised that any required improvements would not be beyond best available technology, although the cost implications of this will have to be assessed internally by TWU. Utilising surface runoff attenuation and treatment (in both urban and rural locales), such as source control measures and integrated wetlands, can help to reduce the nutrient concentrations in the watercourses.</p> | <p>provide a constraint to development both in terms of the network capacity and sewage treatment capacity. The Plan should take account of both these issues in proposing sites for development.</p> | |
| <p>Green space strategy (2009) and Green infrastructure Plan (2009)</p> | | <p>LDF evidence base</p> | |
| <p>Source: see http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/environment_and_planning/planning/local_development_framework/background_papers.htm</p> | | | |
| <p>Green space strategy sets out standards for provision of green space in the district. The resulting standards will feed into the developing Green Infrastructure Plan (GIP) for North Hertfordshire District and Stevenage and will also feed into the Local Development Framework, specifically the proposed Planning Obligations SPD for North Herts.</p> <p>The Green Infrastructure Plan for the District, with particular reference to the Stevenage and North Hertfordshire Action Plan Area (SNAP), prepared in light of the significant future growth this area is expected to receive. The Plan will enhance existing green infrastructure and connections and provide a holistic consideration of green infrastructure deficiency, and likely future need in light of the growth</p> | <p>Green space</p> <p>Recreational and amenity green space standard 0.77 ha/1000 (towns), 2.49 ha/1000 (rural)</p> <p>Natural & semi-natural green space standard 1.47 ha/1000 (towns) 6.37 ha/1000 (rural)</p> <p>Other standards for allotments, play space and outdoor sports</p> <p>The GI Plan using Natural England's ANGSt model for GI provision.</p> | <p>The GI Plan sets out a landscape led, holistic and sustainable framework for the future growth of Stevenage, and for the four North Hertfordshire towns, planning for adequate and appropriate new green spaces and links, to create a 'greenprint' for new development which responds to the sense of place and connects communities better with their 'natural environment'.</p> | <p>Green infrastructure is an important component of the social and physical infrastructure of sustainable communities and is especially relevant when planning significant housing developments on Greenfield sites.</p> |

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| <p>of Stevenage, to inform priorities for new green infrastructure. The Plan establishes the policy context for green infrastructure and the baseline in terms of environmental and socio economic character. It also provides a GI deficiency analysis in addition to recommendations and design principles for the proposed GI network.</p> | | | |
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| Sub-District | | | |
| Hitchin Town Centre Strategy (Sept 2004) | | Status: | |
| Source: | | | |
| <p>This is the first Town Centre Strategy prepared under the Town Centre Template adopted by NHDC in May 2001.</p> <p>It sets out 54 detailed policies under the themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Use Activities • Community Facilities • Accessibility • Community Safety • Built Environment and Public Spaces • Promotion and Marketing | <p>No specific quantified targets.</p> <p>Proposals for monitoring but no specific indicators included.</p> | <p>Many of the issues and policies are relevant to the LDF and should be considered.</p> <p>The Hitchin Town Centre Strategy was developed in the context of current planning policies and may require amending to be compatible with the LDF once adopted.</p> | <p>Many of the issues raised should be considered in the SA framework, particularly in respect of the built environment, town centres and accessibility.</p> |
| Baldock Town Centre Strategy (January 2006) | | Status: Final Version | |
| Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/planning_policy_and_projects/planning_for_town_centres/baldock_town_centre_strategy.htm | | | |
| <p>This is the second Town Centre Strategy prepared under the Town Centre Template adopted by NHDC in May 2001. It includes an action plan, which will be reviewed on an annual basis.</p> <p>The strategy sets out the following vision for Baldock town centre: ‘To maintain, regenerate and develop an attractive, safe, accessible, vibrant and lively town centre, based on its historical context, for the local community and visitors to work, live and relax’.</p> <p>A number of key aims are also identified to achieve this vision, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure the long term economic sustainability and viability of the town centre; | <p>The accompanying Action Plan document contains a series of actions and outputs but these are directly related to the aims of the Strategy and are not of general relevance to the plan and SA.</p> | <p>This strategy and the LDF should be mutually supportive, with this strategy providing local expression of the LDF Core Strategy.</p> | <p>Many of the issues raised are considered in the SA framework, particularly in respect of the built environment, town centres and accessibility.</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote a balanced mix and range of land uses within the town centre that will contribute to its vitality and local character; • generate employment opportunities and housing for the benefit of the local community; • enhance the environment of the town centre by promoting and conserving the historic character and layout of the town, achieving good quality design and improving public spaces; • actively promote the weekly chartered street market and ensure it continues to operate successfully; • provide a safe and secure environment; • encourage development to the highest quality achievable which complements and enhances the historic character of the town; • promote a town centre accessible to all by encouraging a choice of transport modes; • improve access for pedestrians and other non-car users to and within the town centre; • improve and replace existing community facilities; • ensure the long term management and maintenance of the town centre as a whole, for the benefit of shoppers, businesses and residents; • improve tourism and inward investment to the town; • encourage greater community involvement in the life of the town centre; • retain the local identity/charm and cultural heritage of the town centre; and • make the most efficient use of land, buildings, energy, and materials. <p>The strategy includes policy guidance for the town centre under the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built Environment • Public Spaces • The Street Scene | | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancement Opportunities • Land Use Activities • Community Facilities • Transport & Access • Community Safety • Promotion & Marketing | | | |
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| Letchworth Garden City Town Centre Strategy (Jan 2007) | | Status: Adopted as Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in January 2007 | |
| Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/planning_policy_and_projects/planning_for_town_centres/letchworth_town_centre_strategy.htm | | | |
| <p>This is the third Town Centre Strategy prepared under the Town Centre Template adopted by NHDC in May 2001.</p> <p>It sets out 34 detailed policies under the themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built & historic environment • Public spaces • The Street Scene • Enhancement Opportunities • Land Use Activities • Community Facilities • Transport and Access • Community Safety • Promotion and Marketing | <p>No specific quantified targets.</p> <p>Proposals for monitoring as part of an Action Plan but no specific indicators included.</p> | <p>Many of the issues and policies are relevant to the LDF and should be considered.</p> <p>The Letchworth Garden City Town Centre Strategy was developed in the context of current planning policies and may require amending to be compatible with the LDF once adopted.</p> | <p>Many of the issues raised should be considered in the SA framework, particularly in respect of the built environment, town centres and accessibility.</p> |

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| North Hertfordshire Urban Design Assessment – District Assessment/North Hertfordshire Urban Design Assessment – Royston (Draft Reports June 2007) | | Status: Draft document | |
| Source: | | | |
| <p>The document provides a set of urban design criteria against which development, conservation and change can be assessed. They are divided into the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making places; • Continuity and enclosure; • Making connections; • Quality of the public realm; • Settlement-wide criteria. | Not applicable. | Many of the issues and guidance are relevant to the SPD and should be considered, particularly in the sections on the built and historic environment. | Many of the issues raised should be considered in the SA , particularly in respect of the historic built and environment. |
| Royston Town Centre Strategy | | LDF evidence base. | |
| Source: herts.gov.uk/index/environment_and_planning/planning/local_development_framework/background_papers.htm | | | |
| <p>This is the fourth town centre strategy prepared by the district council.</p> <p>It specifically sets out the following vision for Royston: “to have a thriving Town Centre with a strong sense of identity with a clearly identifiable and vibrant heart. New development will contribute to meeting the community’s aspiration for Royston to be an attractive success and sustainable historic market town in the local area. The Town Centre will be a welcoming place that is a pleasure to live in, work in and visit”</p> <p>Alongside the creation of the town centre strategy was the creation of an action plan, demonstrating the councils commitment</p> | Not applicable | Many of the issues and policies are relevant to the LDF and should be considered | |

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| acting as an enabler in delivering the strategy. | | | |
| NHDC Design SPD (July 2012) | | LDF evidence base. | |
| Source: | | | |
| <p>The design SPD expands on the emerging policies in both the Core Strategy DPD and Development Policies DPD, specifically <i>Core Policy B: Design and Sustainability</i> and <i>Development Policy 5: Design, safety and sustainability</i>.</p> <p>The SPD has been produced to inspire, raise standards and influence the design of development to ensure that it respects and complements the existing built character and natural environment of the District</p> | Not applicable | The Design SPD is expanding on policies within the Core Strategy and Development Policies. | Many of the issues in the design SPD are important sustainability concerns. Re-use of materials, reducing the need to travel, use of renewable technologies are all important considerations. |
| Hitchin UTP (2011) | | LDF evidence base | |
| http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/transtreets/transplan/tcatp/ | | | |
| <p>The aim is to develop a range of transport schemes, across all modes of travel, which will address existing problems and prepare Hitchin for future growth.</p> <p>The UTP sets out the proposed transport improvements for the next 5 years. The plan is designed to meet local needs as well as delivering against the wider policy context</p> | Not applicable | Many of the projects will be required in advance of development | |

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| Letchworth and Baldock UTP (Jan 2012) | | LDF evidence base. | |
| Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/transtreets/transplan/tcatp | | | |
| <p>The aim is to develop a range of transport schemes, across all modes of travel, which will address existing problems and prepare Letchworth for future growth.</p> <p>The UTP sets out the proposed transport improvements for the next 5 years. The plan is designed to meet local needs as well as delivering against the wider policy context</p> | Not applicable | Many of the projects will be required in advance of development | |
| Royston UTP (April 2010) | | LDF evidence base. | |
| http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/transtreets/transplan/tcatp/ | | | |
| <p>The aim is to develop a range of transport schemes, across all modes of travel, which will address existing problems and prepare Royston for future growth.</p> <p>The UTP sets out the proposed transport improvements for the next 5 years. The plan is designed to meet local needs as well as delivering against the wider policy context</p> | Not applicable | Many of the projects will be required in advance of development | Promoting more sustainable modes of transport in accordance with the Local Transport Plan and other Government guidance is a key feature |
| Vehicle Parking at New Development SPD (2011) | | LDF evidence base | |
| Source: | | | |
| The SPD will update the 2006 SPD setting parking standards for North | Specific parking standards to be determined. | Supplementary Planning document | Useful context. |

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| Hertfordshire in line with changes in national guidance and changing circumstances locally | | | |
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