

Sustainability Appraisal and SEA of North Hertfordshire Land Allocations DPD

Appendix 2: Baseline review and key sustainability issues

October 2007

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Key Sustainability Issues

SA Objective ¹	Issues	Source
ECONOMIC ACTIVITY		
1 Achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth	Difficulties in competing with large urban centres for provision of employment and facilities	Discussion with Officer Steering Group
	Promotion of rural tourism. Visitors can be important to rural areas, but the District is not seen as a prime tourist location.	Discussion with Officer Steering Group
	Need to provide more high quality employment in the District. This will help reduce the disparity between local income and that of commuters, and to reduce the environmental impacts of commuting. One cause of this is the high cost of housing; employers don't see the District as a location of choice.	Herts Rural Innovation Strategy (p30) North Herts Learning Forum Action Plan LSC Action Plan
	Recruitment of skilled workers: within rural Hertfordshire 15% of employers report difficulty in recruiting the skills they need. This compares with a 10% average for Hertfordshire and as little as 2% in the south of the County. Equally 19% of Hertfordshire firms report that a lack of skilled labour is a limiting factor in increasing output.	NHDC Corporate Plan (p6) Discussion with Officer Steering Group
LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS		
<u>2(a) Minimise the development of greenfield land and other land with high environmental and amenity value</u>	The need to provide additional housing for local needs, and to meet additional regional requirements will require the use of greenfield sites and put significant pressure on the environment and quality of life in the District. Possible developments are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the proposed expansion of Stevenage (West of A1(M) into the North Hertfordshire green belt the proposed expansion of Luton, which will impact onto the North Hertfordshire parishes lying against its boundary, which are in the green belt 	NHDC Corporate Plan (p6) Key issue 'We will protect the environment by vigorously challenging airport and greenfield housing development.'
<u>2 (c) deliver more sustainable location patterns and reduce the use of motor vehicles</u>	Population and mobility factors have changed the function of villages from employment service centres to dormitory/residential functions reducing their social and physical diversity.	Herts Rural Innovation Strategy (p31)
	The high levels of journeys and complex settlement pattern means that it is difficult to maintain a commercially viable passenger transport for journeys other than to London.	Herts Rural Innovation Strategy (p31)
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION		

¹ Those relevant to the SEA Directive are shown underlined

SA Objective ¹	Issues	Source
<u>3(a) Protect and maintain biodiversity</u>	Possible housing developments discussed above, plus the proposed expansion of London Luton and Stansted airports will have a significant impact on District's environment.	NHDC Community Strategy (p 7)
<u>3(b) Protect and enhance landscapes</u>	Pressures on locally significant habitats and species in the District. These include fragmentation of habitats, loss of corridors and the direct impacts of agriculture and new development.	Discussion with Officer Steering Group Biodiversity Action Plan
<u>3(d) Reduce pollution from any source</u>	Quality of surface and ground water is threatened by the water supply needs and drainage from future developments. Adequate supply for future developments is also an issue: see 6a below.	Herts Environmental Forum Strategy Discussion with Officer Steering Group
CLIMATE CHANGE		
<u>4(a) Reduce greenhouse gas emissions</u>	Transport use is a significant contributor to global warming. Journey lengths are above the county average for work and leisure journeys in North Hertfordshire//Stevenage, and there is a high car use for the school run.	North Herts Area Transport Plan (NHATP) Table 7 Issues and problems identified through consultation. NHDC Rural Strategy (Annex 4 – Priority 7 – transport) County Transport Plan
	Domestic and commercial energy use is also a significant contributor to global warming.	Discussion with Officer Steering Group
A JUST SOCIETY		
5(a) Share access to services and benefits of prosperity fairly	Whilst the District is relatively prosperous there are pockets of income and/ or multiple deprivation in relation to national standards. In the towns these occur in Hitchin (West Mill) and Letchworth (South East) In the rural areas specific issues are isolation and lack of access to services.	NHDC Corporate Plan (p4) Anti-Poverty Strategy 1998, summarised in Appendix to NHDC Social Inclusion Strategy. Herts Rural Innovation Strategy (p31) Community Legal Service Strategy 2003
5(b) Provide access to services and facilities for all	There has been a reduction in village services and employment over the last 20 years. This particularly affects the elderly and young people. The number of households in the area with an elderly person in it is higher than the national average at 34%. This rises to 43% in some parts of the District. Some villages have high percentages of young people that have limited access to services. This is because of lack of planned recreational activities within villages and limited public transport to larger settlements. The same issue applies to elderly and young people living in some neighbourhood	Herts Rural Innovation Strategy (p31) Older Peoples Strategy

SA Objective ¹	Issues	Source
	areas of our towns.	
5(d). Increase access to decent and affordable housing	There is a need to improve supply of high-quality affordable housing. The need for affordable housing has been exacerbated by insufficient development of affordable units over the last decade. Coupled with significant inflation in the housing market the gap has widened between the 'haves' and 'have-nots'. Specific issues on affordable housing include key worker housing, housing for young people and the disabled.	NHDC Corporate Plan (p6) Herts Rural Innovation Strategy (p30) NHDC Rural Strategy (Annex 4 – Priority 4 – Housing) Housing Strategy 2004 Affordable housing programme
5(e) Reduce crime rates and fear of crime	NHDC is generally very safe, but fear of crime is an issue in the District. The crime survey showed that areas of concern about crime and disorder are spread throughout the District. A particular issue is street crime in town centres, which is naturally higher due to the concentration of licensed premises, clubs and car parks etc.	NHDC Corporate Plan (p7) North Herts CDRP Strategy 2005-08 Crime Audit 2004 Fear of Crime Survey 2004 Discussion with Officer Steering Group
5(f) Improve conditions and services that engender good health and reduce health inequalities	Generally speaking across all age groups the population of North Hertfordshire and Stevenage enjoys good health compared with national averages. This however masks some areas at ward or sub-ward level of significant deprivation and poorer health status. The incidence of age-related poor health, including fuel poverty (hypothermia related) and senility are higher in North Hertfordshire.	Health Improvement and Modernisation Programme, North Herts and Stevenage PCT 2005 (p6) Director of Public Health Report 2005 Discussion with Officer Steering Group.
	Noise from air and road transport has a significant effect on quality of life in the District. Proposed developments will have significant additional impacts.	Discussion with Officer Steering Group
	There are also important local issues regarding the need to integrate and co-ordinate transport services and arrangements to improve access to health facilities.	Health Improvement and Modernisation Programme, North Herts and Stevenage PCT. (p35) Health Scrutiny report
RESOURCE USE AND WASTE		
6 (a). Use natural resources efficiently; reuse, use recycled where possible	Hertfordshire has the highest domestic water use in the country. The proposed new developments will put significant pressure on water supply infrastructure, and will require water to be piped in from outside the District.	Discussion with Officer Steering Group
	The most recent figures available (1997) show that Hertfordshire was a net importer of	Herts Minerals Local Plan

SA Objective ¹	Issues	Source
	sand and gravel with consumption exceeding sales by 0.356mt.	Second Deposit Draft (para 1.4.3)
6(b) Reduce waste	Need to reduce waste and increase recycling rates, particularly because waste sites within the County will be full by 2008.	NHDC Corporate Plan (p6) Herts Waste Strategy (p5) Discussion with Officer Steering Group

Economy

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
1 Achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth									
Gross Value Added £ per head	The estimated GVA per head in NHDC in 2004 was £15,229* *This estimate should be treated with caution because of methodological difficulties making local area estimates.	1995 11,989 1996 12,903 1997 14,327 1998 15,732 1999 16,540 2000 17,696 2001 18,578	10,443 10,961 11,726 12,372 12,698 13,340 13,909	10,996 11,625 12,375 13,148 13,691 14,260 14,781		Annual average growth (%) 1995 – 2001 UK 5.0 England 5.1 EoE 4.9 Herts 7.6		Noting the difficulties with small area estimates, the GVA per head in NHDC appears lower than the county average, but above the regional average.	http://www.dtistats.net/sd/bci/bciregionseast.htm Source: Regional Accounts, ONS http://enquire.hertscc.gov.uk/lea/lea6final.pdf Hertfordshire Local Economy Assessment 2004
New (VAT registered) businesses surviving 3 years (percentage)		1993 65.1 1994 65.1 1995 68.8 1996 70.1 1997 69.7 1998 67.9 1999 68.2	63.6 64.2 67.1 68.5 69.8 68.8 68.1	62.1 62.5 65.3 66.0 67.4 66.3 66.5		No clear trends are identifiable from these data.		The percentage of VAT registered businesses in Herts. surviving for 3+ years was slightly above both regional and national averages.	http://www.dtistats.net/sd/bci/bciregionseast.htm Source: Small Business Service, DTI
Employment rate Percentage of people of working age in employment (Residence-based)	1999 76.5 2000 79.0 2001 80.4 2002 80.2 2003 82.0	79.6 81.8 80.4 80.3 81.0	77.6 79.1 79.0	74.0 74.4 74.6		No clear trend data available. LFS estimates 28,000 employed people in N. Herts in 2001. (Note that National figures refer to GB rather than England.)		The employment rates in the district and county are similar and significantly above the national average.	http://www.dtistats.net/sd/bci/bciregionseast.htm Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics (Note that 1999 figures are not ONS estimates and that 2001 figures are not consistent with Census totals)
Unemployed benefit claimants (rate) (Annual figures year ending March 31st)	2000 1.6 2001 1.2 2002 1.0 2003 1.3 2004 1.5	1.5 1.2 1.1 1.4 1.4	2.3 1.9 1.7 1.8 1.8	3.3 2.8 2.5 2.5 2.5				The claimant rate in N Herts. is approximately the county average which is lower than both regional and national averages.	http://www.dtistats.net/sd/bci/bciregionseast.htm Source: Labour Market Division, ONS
Investment in businesses (£m annual average 1998-2002)			Mfg 1322 Service 4680 Other 852 Total 6854	13920 48726 8443 71089		No clear trends are identifiable for regional or national figures over the period.		Investment in the Eastern region represented about 10% of total investment for	http://www.dtistats.net/sd/bci/bciregionseast.htm Source: Figures for the years 1998 to 2002 were derived from the Annual Business Inquiry (ABI),

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
								England, of which about 20% was foreign and 19% went into manufacturing industries.	ONS
Employment Employee jobs – workplace based	1998 49,197 1999 46,389 2000 48,788 2001 51,361 2002 49,820	495,646 473,030 494,041 502,267 487,617	2,188,185 2,147,063 2,241,651 2,271,254 2,277,763	21,158,389 21,602,111 21,914,852 22,057,115 22,175,255		Nationally there was a rise of approximately 5% in the total number of jobs over the period 1998-2002. There about 50,000 jobs in N Herts. with no clear trend over the period			http://www.dtiats.net/sd/bci/bciregionseast.htm Source: Annual Business Inquiry (Note that year-on-year variations for small areas should be treated with caution as they may not be statistically significant because of the sample size)
Employee jobs by sector	2003	North Herts	EoE	GB				There are slightly more jobs in manufacturing and construction than the national average and a lower proportion of service jobs, most notably in the public sector.	http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431797/report.aspx Source: annual business inquiry employee analysis (2003)
	Total employee jobs	49,998	-	-					
	Full-time	33,369	66.7	66.7					
	Part-time	16,629	33.3	33.3					
	Manufacturing	7,532	15.1	12.8					
	Construction	2,650	5.3	5.1					
	Services	39,334	78.7	80.2					
	Distribution, hotels & restaurants	13,836	27.7	26.2					
	Transport & communications	1,508	3.0	6.2					
	Finance, IT, other business activities	11,249	22.5	19.8					
	Public admin, education & health	8,310	16.6	22.9					
	Other services	4,431	8.9	5.1					
	Tourism-related	3,286	6.6	7.8					
Employment by occupation (residents)	Percentages	North Herts	EoE	GB				Over half of residents of the district in employment work as managers or professionals, significantly above the national average of 40%. A lower proportion work in administration and skilled trades than the national average and a higher proportion work in services. Less than 15% work in low skilled occupations compared to the	http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431797/report.aspx Source: local area labour force survey (Mar 2003-Feb 2004)
	Soc 2000 major group 1-3	50.7	40.8	40.5					
	1 Managers and senior officials	19.1	16.2	14.6					
	2 Professional occupations	15.6	11.5	12.1					
	3 Associate professional & technical	15.9	13.0	13.8					
	Soc 2000 major group 4-5	17.3	25.6	24.4					
	4 Administrative & secretarial	10.8	13.6	13.0					
	5 Skilled trades occupations	6.5	12.0	11.4					
	Soc 2000 major group 6-7	17.3	15.3	15.5					
	6 Personal service occupations	8.6	7.5	7.5					
	7 Sales and	8.7	7.7	8.0					

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
customer service occs Soc 2000 major group 8-9 8 Process plant & machine operatives 9 Elementary occupations		14.8 4.3 10.5	18.3 7.1 11.2	19.6 7.7 11.8				national average of almost 20%.	
% of economically active population with NVQ3 or higher qualifications	2000 49.5 2001 53.6	50.2 50.3	43.0 43.4	44.2 44.4				A skilled workforce is a key requirement for attracting and supporting innovative businesses. N Herts residents of working age have qualification well above national and regional averages, and amongst the highest of any district in the country.	http://www.dtstats.net/sd/bci/bciregionseast.htm Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics
Average weekly earnings by place of work	2000 339 2001 362 2002 383 2003 384 2004 393	398 416 421 441 489	349 366 377 396 410	361 382 400 412 427		Nationally, the annual rise in earnings was over 4% over this period. The figure for N Herts appears to be slightly lower, but this is probably not statistically significant. (Note that estimates of annual earnings are slightly higher than suggested by weekly earnings due to surveying effects.)		Jobs in N Herts are significantly lower paid than the national average, whilst those in the county as a whole are above average. This points to the need to improve the quality of employment within the District.	http://www.statistics.gov.uk/STATBASE/Product.asp?vlnk=13101 Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) (Note that year-on-year variations for small areas should be treated with caution as they may not be statistically significant because of the sample size)
Average weekly earnings by place of residence	2002 458 2003 463 2004 473	481 505 519	411 429 447	401 415 429		The data are not sufficiently robust to identify clear trends over this period. They suggest that the rate of increase in N Herts. has been below the national average, but differences are not statistically significant. (See note on annual earnings above)		Average earnings by residents of the District are below the Herts. average but significantly above the national average. The disparity between average earnings by workplace and residence suggests that a significant number of people are commuting out of District to obtain higher paid employment.	http://www.statistics.gov.uk/STATBASE/Product.asp?vlnk=13101 Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) (Note that year-on-year variations for small areas should be treated with caution as they may not be statistically significant because of the sample size)

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
Average house prices by house type	1996	82,391	95,838	71,771	73,117	Average house prices in N Herts are 20% above the national average and increased slightly more over the period 1996-2004.		* Flat includes maisonettes.	http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_control/documents/contentservertemplate/odpm_index.hcst?n=1575&l=3 Source: Land Registry http://www.landreg.gov.uk/
	1997	91,093	107,129	78,930	80,599				
	1998	105,368	121,910	86,794	87,778				
	1999	112,099	134,324	95,700	98,385				
	2000	136,799	158,559	110,372	110,589				
	2001	148,289	173,202	124,616	121,769				
	2002	169,028	201,519	149,299	141,108				
	2003	201,956	227,179	172,257	159,357				
	2004	218,768	243,347	190,218	181,330				
	1 st Q 2005								
	D'ached	445,192							
	Semi	227,826							
	Terrace	177,898							
Flat*	137,303								
Average	220,884								
Average house price to earnings ratio	10.7 (2004)	9.6	8.9	8.2		Over the period 2000 to 2004 house prices in the District increased significantly more than average earnings with the price/earnings ratio increasing from 7.8 to 10.7		The price/earnings ratio for N Herts is one of the highest for any district in the UK.	Calculated from above data.

Land Use and Development Patterns

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
2(a) Minimise the development of greenfield land and other land with high environmental and amenity value									
Proportion of new homes built on previously developed land	% built on brownfield sites 2001/2 25.0 2002/3 50.8 2003/4 57.6 2004/5 53.6	1993	63	52	53	By 2008, 60 per cent of additional housing in England should be provided on previously developed land and through the conversions of existing buildings.		The proportion of new homes built on brownfield sites in NHDC is significantly below the county and slightly below regional and national averages.	http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_032255.pdf NHDC Housing Monitoring Report 2004-05
		1994	69	56	51				
		1995	67	56	54				
		1996	73	53	54				
		1997	86	53	53				
		1998	78	54	55				
		1999	80	58	56				
		2000	65	53	56				
		2001	74	58	58				
		2002	84	58	60				
		2003		59	60				
		Average	76	57	64				
		Stock of previously developed land.	36 hectares of which 16 hectares identified as suitable for housing.		7,930 hectares				
Loss of greenfield land	2001/2 hectares 6.19								Source: NHDC

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
to residential development	2002/3 21.32 2003/4 3.68 2004/5 15.37								
Area of Green belt	N Herts 1997 14,060 2003 14,060		London and SE 600,320 600,470	England 1,652,300 1,671,600				37% GB	http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_031125.hcsp
Number of vacant properties	2.35% (2002 based on survey of 1000 properties) of which 0.37% (approx 200) were long-term vacant.			3.4% (April 202) 3.9% (EHCS 1996)		No trend data available			North Hertfordshire Empty Homes Strategy 2004-2007 (Oct 2004).
Density of new housing development	Average density per hectare 2001/2 23.2 2002/3 27.4 2003/4 43.7 2004/5 24.5	1993 25 1994 25 1995 24 1996 24 1997 22 1998 24 1999 24 2000 24 2001 24 2002 27 2003 28 Average 25	24 23 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 25 28	26 24 24 25 25 25 25 25 25 27 33	Target range 30-50			The drop in density for the most recent year appears to be due to the large number of replacement dwellings and conversions in rural areas in 2004-5.	http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_032255.pdf NHDC Housing Monitoring Reports

2(b) Provide access to green spaces

Amount of open space per 1000 population	Under investigation.								
Number of sports pitched per 1000 population	There was a total of 128.06 hectares of pitch space in NHDC (2003). This exceeded the minimum Sports Council standard of 1.2 hectares per 1000 residents. However, there was a 11% shortfall against the Sports Council							The main shortfall in provision is for Baldock which had 37% shortfall in outdoor play space and was the only town to have a shortfall (16%) in pitch space.	Pavilions, Playing Fields and Sports Pitches Strategy NHDC 2005 -2010

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
	standard of 1.6 hectares of outdoor play space per 1000 residents.								
Provide opportunities for people to come into contact with and appreciate wildlife and wild places	Rights of way in NHDC								Source: Hertfordshire CC
		No. Length km							
	Footpaths	811 447							
	Bridleways	43 151							
	Roads used as public paths	19 19							
	Bridleway open to all traffic	42 46							
2(c) Deliver more sustainable location patterns and reduce the use of motor vehicles									
Distance traveled to work (percentage people between 16 and 74 by distance range)	2001								
	From home	18 16	16	14		There was a 10% reduction in the number of people resident in Herts travelling less than 5km to work between 1991 and 2001. The proportion travelling 5 to 10 km remained constant, whilst those travelling more than 10 km increased by around 10%.		Increases in the proportion of Herts workers travelling further to work suggests that county is increasingly becoming a dormitory for commuting with fewer local jobs.	http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/ Source: Census 2001, ONS
	<2km	26 20	22	20					
	2<5km	15 17	18	20					
	5<10km	16 15	15	18					
	10<20km	13 16	15	15					
	20<30km	5 7	7	5					
	30<40km	3 3	3	2					
	40<60km	2 3	2	2					
	60km<	3 3	3	3					
Mode of travel to work	2001	% people between 16 and 74				Local targets 2021	There was a 3% drop in the number of people travelling to work by car between 1991 and 2001, and 1% and 2% reductions in bus use and walking respectively. Other modes remained constant, but there was a 4% increase in people working from home, suggesting this was the main factor reducing car use.		http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/ Source: Census 2001, ONS
		N Herts	Herts	EoE	England				
	People who work mainly from home	10	9	9	9				
	Underground, Metro, Light Rail or Tram	0	2	1	3				
	Train	8	9	6	4				
	Bus, Mini Bus or Coach	2	3	4	8				
	Motorcycle, Scooter or Moped	1	1	1	1	Letchworth /Baldock			
	Driving a Car or Van	60	59	59	55	66%			
	Passenger in a Car or Van	5	5	6	6	Royston			
	Taxi or Minicab	0	1	0	1	63.5%			
	Bicycle	2	2	4	3				
	On foot	10	9	9	10				
Proportion of journeys by green modes of travel		% all journeys				The Herts original target was to double cycling between 1996 and 2002 and double again before 2012.			http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/ttdr03.pdf Hertfordshire's Traffic & Transport Data Report 2003
		1999	2002						
	Car/d	59	66						
	Car/p	11	10						
	Bus	7	6						
	Train	6	5						
	Cycle	2	2						
	Walk	12	8						
	Other	2	2						
	Car/d - car drivers								
	Car/p - car passengers								
	Other - other private vehicles								
		% all journeys		2003					
		Car/d	45	40					
		Car/p	24	23					
		Bus	2	6					
		Other pub	3	4					
		Walk	23	25					
		Other	3	3					

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Road freight movements	There was a 1% reduction of HGV flows in N. Herts between 2002 and 2003 and a 0.7% reduction in flows on roads excluding motorways and trunk roads.	<p>AAWD HGV flows Herts</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2002</th> <th>2003</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>M'w/T</td> <td>8520</td> <td>8540</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prin.</td> <td>1160</td> <td>1140</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>350</td> <td>360</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>200</td> <td>215</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>HGV MVKm/d Herts</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2002</th> <th>2003</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>M'w/T</td> <td>1.38</td> <td>1.38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prin.</td> <td>0.72</td> <td>0.69</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>0.10</td> <td>0.10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>0.16</td> <td>0.18</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		2002	2003	M'w/T	8520	8540	Prin.	1160	1140	B	350	360	C	200	215		2002	2003	M'w/T	1.38	1.38	Prin.	0.72	0.69	B	0.10	0.10	C	0.16	0.18	<p>Road freight by origin</p> <p>Million tonnes</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr><td>1993</td><td>170</td></tr> <tr><td>1994</td><td>169</td></tr> <tr><td>1995</td><td>177</td></tr> <tr><td>1996</td><td>168</td></tr> <tr><td>1997</td><td>186</td></tr> <tr><td>1998</td><td>182</td></tr> <tr><td>1999</td><td>181</td></tr> <tr><td>2000</td><td>179</td></tr> <tr><td>2001</td><td>186</td></tr> <tr><td>2002</td><td>187</td></tr> <tr><td>2003</td><td>198</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	1993	170	1994	169	1995	177	1996	168	1997	186	1998	182	1999	181	2000	179	2001	186	2002	187	2003	198	<p>Road freight by origin</p> <p>Million tonnes</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr><td>1993</td><td>1277</td></tr> <tr><td>1994</td><td>1346</td></tr> <tr><td>1995</td><td>1352</td></tr> <tr><td>1996</td><td>1369</td></tr> <tr><td>1997</td><td>1380</td></tr> <tr><td>1998</td><td>1379</td></tr> <tr><td>1999</td><td>1323</td></tr> <tr><td>2000</td><td>1347</td></tr> <tr><td>2001</td><td>1345</td></tr> <tr><td>2002</td><td>1390</td></tr> <tr><td>2003</td><td>1404</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	1993	1277	1994	1346	1995	1352	1996	1369	1997	1380	1998	1379	1999	1323	2000	1347	2001	1345	2002	1390	2003	1404		Flow counts for 2002 and 2003 suggest that the volume of HGV traffic remained reasonably stable across the District and County over those years. Regional data shows an increase of 17% in the tonnage of road freight originating in East of England between 1993 and 2003 compared with a 4% rise for England as a whole. In 2003 63% of the road freight tonnage originating in EoE was transported within the Region, with the majority of the remainder going to London, SE and E. Midlands.		http://www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft_control/documents/contentservertemplate/dft_index.html?n=12589&l=4 Regional Transport Statistics, DfT, Nov 2004 Source: National Travel Survey http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/ttdr03.pdf Hertfordshire's Traffic & Transport Data Report 2003 Note that data for District and County are based on average daily flows, whereas Regional and National data are based on estimates of annual total freight lifted.
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Environmental Protection

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
3(a) Protect and enhance biodiversity									
Populations of wild birds	Available data do not allow consistent estimates of bird populations at District level.	<p>Skylark (representing farmland) showed a 13% increase in numbers in Herts between 1999-2000. Nationally there was a 20% decline over the period 1994-2003, with a similar decline in the Eastern Region.</p> <p>Song Thrush (representing woodlands and mixed farmland) showed an 18% increase 1999-2000. Regionally the species declined by 19% 1994-2003 despite an increase of 15% nationally over the same period.</p>	<p>Regionally the indicator for farmland birds declined by 10% over the period 1994 to 2003. Of the 19 species recorded 12 showed population declines whilst 7 species showed increases</p> <p>Regionally the indicator for woodland birds increased by 3% over the period 1994 to 2003. Of the 20 species recorded 10 showed population declines whilst 10 species showed increases.</p>	<p>Nationally the indicator for farmland birds declined by 5% over the period 1994 to 2003. Of the 19 species recorded 7 showed population declines whilst 8 species showed increases.</p> <p>Nationally the indicator for woodland birds declined by 4% over the period 1994 to 2003. Of the 33 species recorded 11 showed population declines whilst 15 species showed increases.</p>			<p>Chart 4.32 - Farmland species: 1994 – 2003</p>	<p>The Hertfordshire Bird Club, Scientific Committee (Hertfordshire Natural History Society) have produced a Hertfordshire Red Data List for Birds (Hertfordshire Bird Report 2001. Hertfordshire Bird Club, HNHS, 2004).</p> <p>The Hertfordshire Red Data List for birds comprises 53 species. Of these, sufficient data was collected during the county Breeding Birds atlases (1967-1973 & 1988-1992) to show trends of distribution (% of county's tetrads occupied) for 46 Red List species.</p> <p>For the 46 Red Data List species, atlas data shows that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 species had stable distributions • 13 species increased their distributions • 29 species decreased in their 	<p>http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/wildlife/research/download/wbrds200503.pdf</p> <p>Source: Wild bird indicators for the English regions: 1994 – 2003 (Defra, March 2005)</p> <p>www.bto.org/bbs/results/bbsreport.htm</p> <p>Source: Breeding Bird Survey Reports (BTO/JNCC/RSPB)</p> <p>http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfsto/re/qol4.pdf</p> <p>Quality of Life Report 2004, (HEF, 2005)</p> <p>Hertfordshire Biological Records Centre</p>
						<p>Chart 4.34 - Woodland species: 1994 – 2003</p>			

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources																																																																													
								distribution However, it should be noted that the above data is old (33 years and 14 years respectively. The next national breeding birds atlas work is due to start in 2007 and will run until 2011, and the publication of new national and county breeding birds atlases will take some years to complete after the survey work ends																																																																														
Number and extent of designated and other sites	<p>Identified County Wildlife Sites, of all categories, account for about 6.5% of the District and, within this, those areas with some form of statutory nature conservation protection, excepting AONB, occupy only 652.6 Ha or 1.7%.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Area hectares</th> <th colspan="2">Cty WS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>2295.7</td> <td>1286.3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Woodland</td> <td>4559.5</td> <td>602.9</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tall Herb & Scrub</td> <td>195.3</td> <td>192.3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wetlands</td> <td>47.36</td> <td>40.86</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Cty WS – County Wildlife Sites are termed 1941 Wildlife Sites in the County BAP.</p>	Area hectares		Cty WS		Total	2295.7	1286.3		Woodland	4559.5	602.9		Tall Herb & Scrub	195.3	192.3		Wetlands	47.36	40.86		<p>In 2002 it was estimated that 11% of Herts represented important wildlife habitats.</p> <p>Designated and other sites in Herts:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>No</th> <th>Area(ha)</th> <th>%*</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="3">Ramsar</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>372</td> <td>0.23</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">SAC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>336</td> <td>0.21</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">SSSI</td> </tr> <tr> <td>43</td> <td>2,211</td> <td>1.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">1941 Wildlife Sites</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>17,215</td> <td>10.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">National Nature Reserves</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>238</td> <td>0.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Local Nature Reserves</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td> <td>799</td> <td>0.49</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">HMWT Nature Reserves</td> </tr> <tr> <td>42</td> <td>661</td> <td>0.41</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Woodland Trust Sites</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>460</td> <td>0.29</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Butterfly Conservation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>1.5</td> <td>0.001</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* % of total area of Herts. Note that some sites are included in more than one category.</p>	No	Area(ha)	%*	Ramsar			1	372	0.23	SAC			1	336	0.21	SSSI			43	2,211	1.4	1941 Wildlife Sites				17,215	10.67	National Nature Reserves			1	238	0.15	Local Nature Reserves			23	799	0.49	HMWT Nature Reserves			42	661	0.41	Woodland Trust Sites			7	460	0.29	Butterfly Conservation			1	1.5	0.001						Data for N. Herts shows estimates of the areas of different habitat types identified in the District, together with the area of each identified as County Wildlife Sites. The County data shows the areas of various designations together with the proportion of the total area of the county each represents.	NHDC Biodiversity Plan (adopted July 2005) The State of Biodiversity in 1992-2002 (HEF, 2003?)
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% of SSSIs in good condition	The SSSIs in N Herts extend to approximately 300 ha. Only 6% by area	Currently (1 Aug 2006), of the 1876 ha of SSSIs in Hertfordshire, 66%	As at 1 August 2006, 79% of SSSI's in the East of England were classed as being in	Since 1999, the number of SSSIs in the UK has increased by 2 per cent, from				The condition of SSSIs in N Herts is very poor compared to	Individual, County, Regional and National condition summaries available at www.english-nature.org.uk																																																																													

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
	are assessed as favourable/recovering. 82% are assessed as unfavourable declining and 12% are unfavourable with no change. (2005 based on assessment over the period 2001-2004)	are regarded as being in favourable/recovering condition, the remainder being generally unfavourable. No sites have been partly or wholly destroyed	favourable/recovering condition	6,625 to 6,782 in 2003. The total area of land designated as SSSIs has risen from 2,263 thousand hectares in 1999 to 2,427 thousand hectares in 2003, an increase of 7 per cent. Based on information available as at 1 August 2006, 73% of English SSSIs were assessed as being in a "favourable/recovering" condition.				county and national averages. This appears to be primarily due to the lack of satisfactory management of several of the larger woodland and grassland sites in the District. At the county level, the condition of SSSI is above the national average.	http://www.english-nature.org.uk/special/sssi/reportAction.cfm?Report=sdr1.3&Category=C&Reference=1021 http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/qol4.pdf Source: Quality of Life Report 2004, (HEF, 2005) http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/sustainable/quality04/main/04s06.htm Source: Quality of life counts: 2004
Implementation of BAP	See local BAP							No data at present but should become available in future as a result of monitoring BAP objectives.	NHDC Biodiversity Plan (adopted July 2005) Some additional information on current workplan available from Agenda for Biodiversity Cabinet Meeting 25 th July 2005.
Extent/populations of important BAP habitats and species	See local BAP							The NH BAP provides extensive estimates of habitats present in the District, together with counts of species of UK priority and conservation concern (noting the lack of sufficient data to fully evaluate these). It is impractical to summarise these data as a single indicator.	NHDC Biodiversity Plan (adopted July 2005)
3(b) Protect and enhance landscapes									
Area of ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW)	The total area of woodland in NH is 2296 Ha representing approx. 6% of total area of the District. Of which 1226 Ha covering 3.3% of the District is ASNW.	Total of 12,612 Ha of woodland representing 7.7% of county area.	Total of 115,256 Ha of woodland representing 6 % of Regional area.	Approximately 7% of England is covered by woodland of which about 40% is ASNW.					NHDC Biodiversity Plan (adopted July 2005) http://www.defra.gov.uk/erdp/docs/eastchapter/east12/wildlife.htm

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
	Most extant larger ancient semi-natural woods of the district, covering some 634 Ha or 1.6% are designated as County Wildlife Sites								
% of land designated for particular quality or amenity value	Under investigation								

3(c) Conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment

Number and extent of conservation areas	41 conservation areas with a total area of 1198.19 hectares. (June 2005)	There is no valid basis for comparative data.							Source: NHDC
Grade I and II* buildings at risk	There are currently 3 buildings in N Herts on the at risk register. One of these is Grade I and two are Grade II*	There are currently 8 buildings in Herts on the at risk register. One of these is Grade I and 7 are Grade II* (includes N Herts)	There are currently 124 buildings in EoE on the at risk register.	Nationally 3.6% of Grade I and II* were considered at risk in 2003.		Nationally the proportion of Grade I and II* considered at risk dropped from 3.8% in 1999 to 3.6% in 2003. Over this period the number at risk in the EoE increased slightly but the Region still has the lowest proportion of buildings at risk.		The EoE has the lowest percentage (2%) of buildings at risk of any English region and only 3 buildings are at risk within N Herts.	http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.1424 Source: English Heritage – Buildings at Risk Register
Number of ancient monuments destroyed or at risk	Currently 1 ancient monument at risk in N Herts. This is included in the building at risk register.	The only ancient monument currently at risk in Herts is the one in N Herts.	Currently 38 ancient monuments at risk in EoE.						http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.1424 Source: English Heritage – Buildings at Risk Register

3(d) Reduce pollution from any source

Rivers in good or fair quality	EA monitors the various rivers and streams in the District – for which detailed data are available, but not collated as indices of quality at a district level. Under further investigation.	For period 2001-03 approximately 62% of county rivers were classified as good and 95% as good or fair by chemical standards.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Good</th> <th>Good / Fair</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1990</td> <td>45</td> <td>92</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1995</td> <td>65</td> <td>98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2000</td> <td>81</td> <td>99</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Chemical</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1990</td> <td>21</td> <td>82</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1995</td> <td>40</td> <td>87</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1997</td> <td>26</td> <td>80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1998</td> <td>24</td> <td>80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1999</td> <td>28</td> <td>84</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2000</td> <td>46</td> <td>93</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Good	Good / Fair	1990	45	92	1995	65	98	2000	81	99	Chemical			1990	21	82	1995	40	87	1997	26	80	1998	24	80	1999	28	84	2000	46	93	In 2002, 94 per cent of English rivers were of good or fair chemical quality, compared with 89 per cent in 1998.					http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/qol4.pdf Source: Quality of Life Report 2004, (HEF, 2005)
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Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
Air quality – number of days per year any parameter exceeds its Nation Standard	There are no monitoring sites in N Herts conforming to the standards required for this indicator. However, the monitoring within district suggests conditions similar to the county figures.	<p>No. of exceedences 2003</p> <p>Rural 54</p> <p>Urban backgrnd 46.5</p> <p>Urban roadside 25.25</p>				No clear trends can be identified from available data. There are significant differences year on year due primarily to differing weather conditions.		The dominant pollutant causing most exceedences is ozone which tends not to be localised and is highly sensitive to weather conditions.	Herts. and Beds. Air Pollution Monitoring Network Annual Report, 2003
Number of Air Quality Management Areas	The Council has completed the first round of the air quality review and assessment process did not declare any Air Quality Management Areas.								Herts. and Beds. Air Pollution Monitoring Network Annual Report, 2003

Climate Change

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
4(a) Reduce greenhouse gas emissions									
Output of greenhouse gas and particularly CO₂			11 million tonnes carbon (2001)	114 million tonnes of carbon (2001)					http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/indicators/regional/index.htm Regional quality of life counts: 2003 Source: NETCEN
CO₂ emissions per capita (Kg C)			2,000 kg carbon per capita per year. (2001)	2,300 kg carbon per capita per year. (2001)					http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/indicators/regional/index.htm Regional quality of life counts: 2003 Source: NETCEN
Energy use per household	Under investigation							It is difficult to obtain data on household energy use because the privatised utilities treat these data as commercially confidential.	
% of energy from renewable sources			0.45% (600 GWh)	<2%					http://www.sustainability-east.com/assets/Renewables%20Report.pdf
Road freight movements								See Objective 2 (b)	
4(b) Improve the District's ability to adapt to climate change									
Area at risk from flooding	Investigating mapping at local level							EA flood risk maps indicate that only land immediately around rivers and streams are at risk in the District.	

A Just Society

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
5(a) Share benefits of prosperity fairly									
Index of multiple deprivation	Percentage of SOAs by quintiles of SOAs in England (2004) Most deprived <20% 0.0 20%-40% 5.1 40%-60% 22.8 60%-80% 29.1 >80% 43.0 Least deprived		Percentage of SOAs in the most and least deprived 20% of SOAs in England Most deprived <20% 6.2 >80% 30.5 Least deprived					Super Output Areas (SOA) are sub-ward areas, with average populations of around 1500. There are 32,482 in England and 79 in NHDC. Index of multiple deprivation(IMD) is a measure of deprivation based on 7 different domains of deprivation. IMD data is usually presented in rank order. Data indicate that NHDC has much lower deprivation than national and regional averages. No SOAs are in the most deprived quintile, and 43% of SOAs fall into the least deprived quintile. Although data indicate that deprivation in not a significant issue in the District as a whole, LDF policies should be monitored to ensure that they do not have a negative impact on the more deprived areas. The most deprived SOAs are concentrated in Letchworth and Hitchin.	
Percentage of People Claiming the Jobseeker's Allowance Benefit for a Year or More			1999 22.6 2000 20.2 2001 16.1 2002 12.4 2003 12.3 2004 13.2	24.5 22.1 19.2 16.1 15.2 15.7	No target identified				http://www.dtstats.net/sd/bci/bciregionseast.htm Source: Labour Market Division, ONS
% of children living in low-income households (below 60% of contemporary median)			2002-3 Before HC* 14 After HC 23 *housing costs	20 29					http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/indicators/regional/2003/h04.htm Regional Quality of Life Counts 2003 Source: DWP
5(b) Provide access to services and facilities for all									
Access to services	Banks and Building Societies 0-2kms 79% 2-4kms 11% 4-6kms 8% 6-8kms 2% Cash Machines							These data are estimated on the basis of 'crows flying' distances from GIS maps and so may not reflect true access	http://www.countryside.gov.uk/LAR/Landscape/RandE/dataHub/rural_services_series_dataarea/RS2004data.asp Source: The Countryside Agency, 2001

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
	0-2kms 90% 2-4kms 7% 4-6kms 3% Doctors Surgeries 0-2kms 85% 2-4kms 12% 4-6kms 3% Job Centres 0-2kms 52% 2-4kms 18% 4-6kms 11% 6-8kms 2% 8-10kms 3% 14-16kms 3% 16-18kms 10% 18-20kms 1% Libraries 0-2kms 74% 2-4kms 15% 4-6kms 9% 6-8kms 2% Petrol Stations 0-2kms 90% 2-4kms 7% 4-6kms 3% Post Offices 0-2kms 96% 2-4kms 4% Primary Schools 0-2kms 98% 2-4kms 2% Secondary Schools 0-2kms 72% 2-4kms 19% 4-6kms 6% 6-8kms 3% Supermarkets 0-2kms 83% 2-4kms 7% 4-6kms 8% 6-8kms 2%							distances. Despite the rural nature of much of the district over 90% of the population are within 4kms of most services with the exception of Job Centres.	
Access to services (rural areas)	See above.								
5(c) Promote community cohesion									
No indicators identified	Under investigation								

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources										
5(d) Increase access to decent and affordable housing																			
Homelessness	160 households were accepted as in priority need in 2003/04					An annual average of approximately 170 households were accepted as in priority need over the past 6 years. This figure peaked at 210 for 2002/03 but has since drop to 160 for 2003/04.			North Herts Homeless Strategy										
Number of new affordable homes	<table border="1"> <tr><td>2001/2</td><td>No.</td></tr> <tr><td>2002/3</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2003/4</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>2004/5</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>2004/5</td><td>77</td></tr> </table>	2001/2	No.	2002/3	0	2003/4	12	2004/5	4	2004/5	77								Source: NHDC
2001/2	No.																		
2002/3	0																		
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% of new homes that are affordable	<table border="1"> <tr><td>2001/2</td><td>%</td></tr> <tr><td>2002/3</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2003/4</td><td>1.7</td></tr> <tr><td>2004/5</td><td>0.8</td></tr> <tr><td>2004/5</td><td>17.1</td></tr> </table>	2001/2	%	2002/3	0	2003/4	1.7	2004/5	0.8	2004/5	17.1	17% (2001)			47%				Source: NHDC http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/you/raiseaware/quallife/qol/housing/
2001/2	%																		
2002/3	0																		
2003/4	1.7																		
2004/5	0.8																		
2004/5	17.1																		
Proportion of housing unfit or lacking appropriate insulation	6% of homes were statutorily unfit in 2003		28% (2001)	33% (2001)					http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/indicators/regional/2003/h04.htm Regional Quality of Life Counts 2003 Source: ODPM										
5(e) Reduce crime rates and fear of crime																			
Recorded crime by type per 1,000 of population	N Herts	Herts	EoE	E & W		Recorded crime by type per 100,000 of population		Figures for recorded crime in N Herts are significantly below county, regional and national averages for all classes of crime.	http://www.crimestatistics.org.uk/output/page1.asp Source: Home Office http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/indicators/regional/2003/h04.htm Regional Quality of Life Counts 2003 Source: Home Office										
	Vehicle and other theft					EoE	Eng												
	Apr-Jun 2003	7.8	9.1	9.3	11.3	1936	2517												
	Jul-Sep 2003	9.2	9.0	9.1	11.0	1482	1885												
	Oct-Dec 2003	7.7	9.0	8.8	10.4	Change	-23%	-25%											
	Jan-Mar 2004	6.5	9.5	8.5	10.3														
	Burglary					Burglary													
	Apr-Jun 2003	2.1	2.9	3.0	4.2	591	1073												
	Jul-Sep 2003	3.0	3.2	3.0	4.0	515	859												
	Oct-Dec 2003	3.0	3.0	2.8	3.7	Change	-13%	-20%											
	Jan-Mar 2004	2.9	3.2	2.9	3.7														
	Robbery					Robbery													
	Apr-Jun 2003	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	29	75												
	Jul-Sep 2003	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	91	217												
	Oct-Dec 2003	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	Change	215%	189%											
	Jan-Mar 2004	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.5														
	Violence against the person																		
	Apr-Jun 2003	2.0	2.5	3.7	4.4														
	Jul-Sep 2003	2.5	2.9	3.9	4.8														
	Oct-Dec 2003	2.4	3.0	3.7	4.5														

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
	Jan-Mar 2004 All crime	2.8	3.5	3.8	4.5				
	Apr-Jun 2003	18.2	21.7	23.7	29.0				
	Jul-Sep 2003	21.0	22.1	23.1	28.3				
	Oct-Dec 2003	20.8	22.9	22.9	27.6				
	Jan-Mar 2004	20.3	25.1	23.4	27.8				
Number of alcohol-related crimes and incidents of anti-social behaviour	100 arrests for drunkenness in 2003/04 143 cases of violence against the person, 96 driving and 113 other offences. where alcohol was considered a factor	No data located	No data located	No data located				The report notes that the recording of alcohol-related crimes is very unreliable.	Crime and Disorder Audit Report for NHDC Dec 2004.
Fear of crime	Fear of crime survey responses % of respondents worried or very worried about: Burglary 65% Theft from vehicle: 55%	County-wide figure on the same basis for theft from vehicle was 52%							Crime and Disorder Audit Report for NHDC Dec 2004.
5(f) Improve conditions and services that engender good health and reduce health inequalities									
General level of health (self-stated)	2001 Health % Good 72.1 Fairly good 21.2 Not good 6.7	73.1 20.3 6.6	70.4 22.0 7.6	68.8 22.2 9.0					ONS Neighbourhood Statistics.
Life expectancy by ward	Males 1991-3 75.5 1994-6 76.0 1997-9 76.3 2000-2 76.8 Change 1.3 Females 1991-3 79.5 1994-6 80.2 1997-9 80.0 2000-2 80.7 Change 1.2		75.0 75.7 76.3 77.0 2.0 80.1 80.4 80.8 81.4 1.3	73.7 74.4 75.1 76.0 2.3 79.1 79.6 80.0 80.6 1.5					http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/indicators/regional/2003/h04.htm Regional Quality of Life Counts 2003 Source: ONS http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=8841&Pos=1&ColRank=1&Rank=272

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources																																																																																																														
Access to healthcare facilities	See access to services																																																																																																																						
Number of households effected by ambient noise	London Luton Airport received 147 complaints from 63 residents of NHDC in 2003.	The total number of complaints to Luton London Airport in 2003 was 680 from 338 complainants which related to a total of 1522 events of noise from aircraft.				There was a drop in total aircraft noise complaints in recent years from a maximum of 1,342 in 2001.		Noise complaints received by NHDC do not show any pattern of ambient noise problems. Aircraft noise seems to be the primary ambient noise issue for residents of NHDC.	http://www.luton.gov.uk/internet/Transport_and_streets/Public_transport/Air_services/London%20Luton%20airport%20annual%20monitoring%20report																																																																																																														
Deaths and serious injuries in road accidents	Road accident casualties North Herts <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Fatal</th> <th>Serious</th> <th>Slight</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1995</td><td>4</td><td>102</td><td>419</td><td>525</td></tr> <tr><td>1996</td><td>10</td><td>91</td><td>512</td><td>613</td></tr> <tr><td>1997</td><td>8</td><td>87</td><td>509</td><td>604</td></tr> <tr><td>1998</td><td>9</td><td>119</td><td>591</td><td>719</td></tr> <tr><td>1999</td><td>8</td><td>99</td><td>507</td><td>614</td></tr> <tr><td>2000</td><td>7</td><td>66</td><td>577</td><td>650</td></tr> <tr><td>2001</td><td>6</td><td>99</td><td>517</td><td>622</td></tr> <tr><td>2002</td><td>11</td><td>57</td><td>580</td><td>648</td></tr> <tr><td>2003</td><td>5</td><td>58</td><td>576</td><td>639</td></tr> <tr><td>2004</td><td>9</td><td>75</td><td>529</td><td>613</td></tr> </tbody> </table>			Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total	1995	4	102	419	525	1996	10	91	512	613	1997	8	87	509	604	1998	9	119	591	719	1999	8	99	507	614	2000	7	66	577	650	2001	6	99	517	622	2002	11	57	580	648	2003	5	58	576	639	2004	9	75	529	613	Road accident casualties Hertfordshire <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Fatal</th> <th>Serious</th> <th>Slight</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1995</td><td>45</td><td>1003</td><td>5454</td><td>6502</td></tr> <tr><td>1996</td><td>58</td><td>1099</td><td>5657</td><td>6814</td></tr> <tr><td>1997</td><td>58</td><td>1053</td><td>5660</td><td>6771</td></tr> <tr><td>1998</td><td>57</td><td>1103</td><td>5857</td><td>7017</td></tr> <tr><td>1999</td><td>53</td><td>895</td><td>5754</td><td>6702</td></tr> <tr><td>2000</td><td>54</td><td>858</td><td>6287</td><td>7199</td></tr> <tr><td>2001</td><td>49</td><td>845</td><td>5679</td><td>6573</td></tr> <tr><td>2002</td><td>58</td><td>756</td><td>5819</td><td>6633</td></tr> <tr><td>2003</td><td>38</td><td>650</td><td>5514</td><td>6202</td></tr> <tr><td>2004</td><td>51</td><td>640</td><td>5483</td><td>6174</td></tr> </tbody> </table>			Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total	1995	45	1003	5454	6502	1996	58	1099	5657	6814	1997	58	1053	5660	6771	1998	57	1103	5857	7017	1999	53	895	5754	6702	2000	54	858	6287	7199	2001	49	845	5679	6573	2002	58	756	5819	6633	2003	38	650	5514	6202	2004	51	640	5483	6174		No clear trends are identifiable from available data.		The rate of accidents per 1000 population is lower for N Herts than the county as a whole.	Hertfordshire Highways 01707 356223
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5(g) Increase participation in education and life-long learning																																																																																																																							
Percentage of population by age band and educational qualification	Insufficient data available to implement at present.																																																																																																																						
5(h) Maintain and improve culture, leisure and recreational activities that are available to all																																																																																																																							
No indicators identified	Under investigation																																																																																																																						

Resource Use and Waste

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
6(a) Use natural resources efficiently; reuse, use recycled where possible									
Consumption/ recycling of aggregates	No data currently available								
Construction and demolition waste going to landfill	No data currently available								
Number of dwellings created by re-use of existing buildings (conversion or change of use)	No. 2001/2 11 2002/3 23 2003/4 40 2004/5 56								Source: NHDC
Number of buildings designed to sustainability principles	Under investigation								
Average household water use per capita	Litres/person/day Anglian Three Valleys 99/00 150 170 00/01 155 175 01/02 150 181 02/03 159 178 03/04 163 191			2003/04 average estimate for all unmetered users across all supply companies was 158 l/p/d.				NHDC is covered by 2 supply companies. Anglian supplies most of the District with Three Valleys supplying predominantly rural areas in the south. Anglian consumption is approximately the national average, whereas 3 Valleys are the highest for any supplier being approximately 20% above average.	Data from Three Valleys report <i>Serving the community, protecting the environment 2004</i> . http://www.ofwat.gov.uk/aptrix/ofwat/publish.nsf/AttachmentsByTitle/leakage_03-04.pdf/\$FILE/leakage_03-04.pdf Security of supply, leakage and efficient use of water 2003 – 2004, Ofwat Dec 2004 Note that companies make estimates for their whole supply areas and cannot break this down to smaller areas.

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
Margin between water supply resources and projected demand	No local data are available, nor would these be particularly meaningful given the extensive distribution network used to maintain security of supply. North Herts spans both the Anglian and Thames EA Regions.		In 1997 0.95 cubic km of water was abstracted in the Anglian Region. This represented 23% of the estimated Annual Internal renewable water resources of 4.14 cubic km. Figures for Thames Region were 1.82 cubic km representing 59% of AIRWR of 3.09 cubic km.	For England and Wales the annual extraction rate in 1997 was 15.26 cubic km representing 22% of AIRWR of 68.17 cubic km.		No trend data available.		The percentage extraction rate of 23% for Anglian Region was slightly above the national average of 22%, but the rate for Thames Region at 59% was more than double the National average. This is one of the highest rates in Europe.	Water Resources for the Future – A strategy for Anglian Region, EA, March 2001
State of groundwater resources	NHDC lies on the Ivel Chalk aquifer. This has a significant surplus above the currently licensed abstraction rate, but see comments.							Comments on the Ivel Chalk aquifer: 'Increases in abstraction from the Chalk are not acceptable despite the water balance showing a surplus. The surplus is viewed with caution because firstly, there is a large volume of effluent and it may not be wise to plan to rely on such high effluent flows in future and secondly, this unit overlaps with Thames Region which may rely on groundwater resources in this unit.'	Water Resources for the Future – A strategy for Anglian Region, EA, March 2001
6(b) Reduce waste									
Annual per capita production of household waste	Waste per Capita (kg) 2002/03 534 2003/04 524 Waste per household (kg) 2000/01 1271 2002/03 1227 2003/04 1205		1998/9 491 2002/3 520	482 521		Per capita household waste produced in N Herts is approximately the national average, but recent trend data suggests that it is falling in the District whereas the national trend is a continuing rise.			http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/gol4.pdf Source: Quality of Life Report 2004, (HEF, 2005)

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
Percentage of household waste recycled or composted									http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/index.htm Source: Municipal Waste Management Survey, Published August 2004 http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/gol4.pdf Source: Quality of Life Report 2004, (HEF, 2005)
	1998-99	8			7.5	Local and regional recycling rates are above the national averages, but NHDC is performing below average for the county.			
	1999-00	10			8.2				
	2000-01	9	2002/03	18.5	9.0				
	2001-02	10	2003/04	21.9	10.3				
	2002-03	11			11.2				
	2003/04	17.7			12.5				
					14.5				
Percentage of waste landfilled		77% (2000/01) 71% (2003/04)						It is estimated that current Herts. landfill options will be exhausted by 2008.	Source: Hertfordshire Waste Strategy

Town Centres

Indicator	North Herts	Herts	East of England	National	Targets	Trends	Status	Comments	Data sources
7 Promote sustainable urban living									
Vacant units in main town centres	2004 2005 Hitchin 9 10 Letchworth 21 26 Baldock 8 6 Royston 13 16								Source: NHDC
Percentage of new retail (A1) in town centers versus out-of-town	% of new retail in town centres 2001/2 97.0 2002/3 23.5 2003/4 95.0 2004/5 100.0								Source: NHDC
% of all dwellings completed which are within town centres	% of new dwellings in town centres 2001/2 45.3 2002/3 36.1 2003/4 23.4 2004/5 16.0								Source: NHDC