

# IIA002

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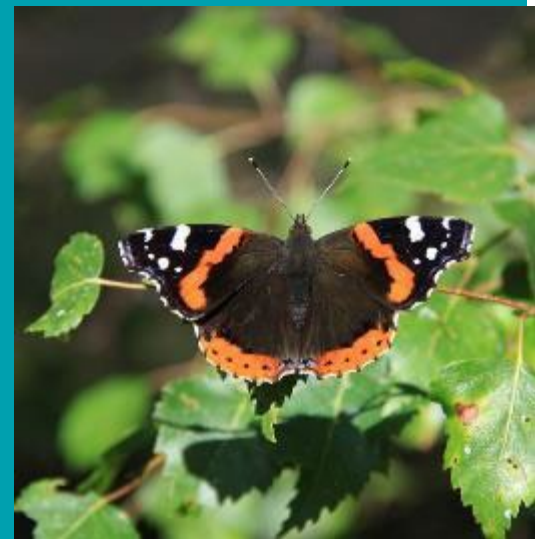
The consultation has been extended to run for ten weeks from 10am on Thursday 11 August 2022 until 4pm on Thursday 20 October 2022.

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Chelmsford City Council

## **Integrated Impact Assessment of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan: Issues and Options Consultation Document**

Integrated Impact Assessment Report





## Report for

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## Document revisions

No.	Details	Date
1	Draft	8 <sup>th</sup> July 2022
2	Final	2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2022

# Non-technical summary

## Purpose of this report

This Non-Technical Summary (NTS) provides an overview of the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) of the Chelmsford Review of the Adopted Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation Document (the Issues and Options Consultation Document). The IIA is being carried out on behalf of Chelmsford City Council (the Council) by Wood Environment & Infrastructure UK Ltd (Wood) to help integrate sustainable development, health and equalities issues into the emerging Review of the Adopted Local Plan.

The following sections of this NTS:

- provide an overview of the review of the adopted Chelmsford Local Plan and the Issues and Options Consultation Document;
- describe the approach to undertaking the IIA of the Issues and Options Consultation Document;
- summarise the findings of the IIA of the Issues and Options Consultation Document; and
- set out the next steps in the IIA of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan.

## What is the Chelmsford Review of the Adopted Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation Document?

The Review of the Adopted Local Plan will set out how much new development will be accommodated in Chelmsford City Council's Administrative Area to 2041 and where this growth will be located. It will also contain planning policies and land allocations. For brevity, the term 'the City Area' is used throughout this document to describe the Council's administrative area.

The Issues and Options Consultation Document is the first stage of consultation on the Review of the Adopted Local Plan. The Issues and Options Consultation Document sets out the planning issues that face Chelmsford over the next 15 years and approaches for the way they could be addressed. The key elements of the document include:

- Spatial Principles (the high level objectives that guide the approach to the Local Plan);
- Housing Target Projections (approaches relating to how many houses should be built up to 2041);
- Employment Target Projections (relating to how many jobs should be supported up to 2041); and
- Spatial Approaches (relating to where new development should go).

**Further information about the preparation of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and the Issues and Options Consultation Document is set out in Section 1.3 and Section 1.4 of the IIA Report and is available via the Council's website: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-local-plan/local-plan-review-2022/>**

## What is Integrated Impact Assessment?

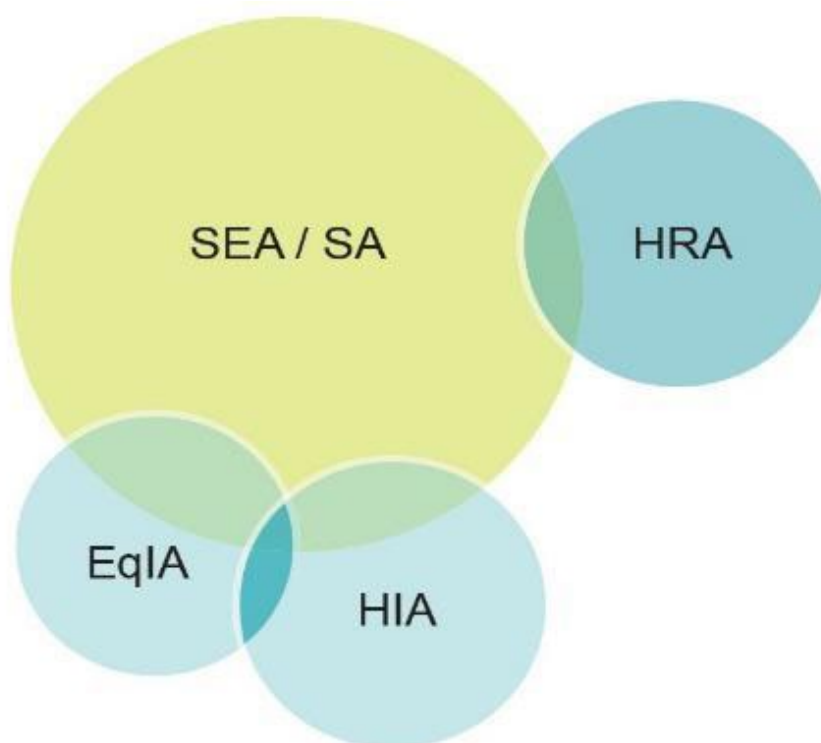
The IIA brings together into a single framework four different strands of assessment, Sustainability Appraisal (SA), Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Health Impact Assessment (HIA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) (Figure NTS1), in order to assess the socio-economic and environmental effects of the Local Plan.

The first stage of the IIA process involved consultation on a Scoping Report. The Scoping Report set out the proposed approach to the assessment of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and was subject to consultation that ran from Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April until Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022. The Scoping Report is available to view on the Council's website here: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-local-plan/local-plan-review-2022/>.

The subsequent appraisal of the Local Plan is an iterative process involving the appraisal and refinement of the Local Plan with the findings published as part of the Issues and Options Consultation Document, Preferred Options Consultation and Draft Pre-Submission Local Plan.

**Section 5** of the main report presents the findings of the assessment in respect of the proposed housing and employment requirement and spatial approaches, whilst **Section 6** presents interim results of the HRA and **Appendix H** the initial Equalities Impact Assessment.

Figure NTS1    Overlaps between the different forms of assessment



## What Has Happened So Far?

Based on the five stages of undertaking a SA/SEA, **Figure NTS 2** shows the stages of producing the IIA i.e. SA/SEA, EqIA, HIA and HRA. The first stage (**Stage A**) of the IIA process involved consultation on a Scoping Report. The Scoping Report set out the proposed approach to the assessment of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan including an Assessment Framework and was subject to consultation that ran from Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April until Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

**Stage B** is an iterative process involving the assessment and refinement of the Local Plan with the findings to be presented in interim IIA Reports published alongside the Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation Document, Preferred Options Consultation and Draft Pre-Submission Local Plan. The IIA Report to which this NTS relates represents the first formal output of Stage B.

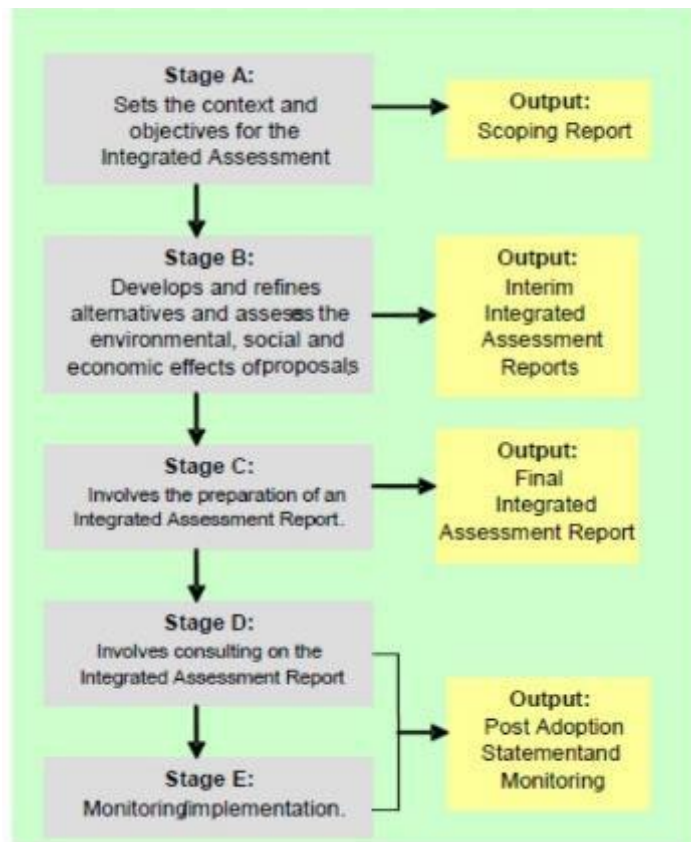
At **Stage C**, a Submission draft IIA Report will be prepared to accompany the submission draft Local Plan and will be available for consultation alongside the draft Local Plan itself prior to consideration by an independent planning inspector (**Stage D**).

Following Examination in Public (EiP), the Council will issue a Post Adoption Statement as soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of the Local Plan. During the period of the Local Plan, the Council will monitor its implementation and any significant social, economic and environmental effects (**Stage E**).

## How has the Issues and Options Consultation Document Been Appraised?

To support the assessment of the Local Plan, an Assessment Framework has been developed. This contains a series of sustainability objectives and guide questions that reflect both the current socio-economic and environmental issues which may affect (or be affected by) the Local Plan and the objectives contained within other plans and programmes reviewed for their relevance to the SA and Local Plan. The Assessment Objectives are shown in **Table NTS 1**.

Figure NTS2 The IIA Process





**Table NTS1 Assessment Objectives Used to Appraise the Issues and Options Consultation Document**

1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the multifunctional green infrastructure network.
2. Housing: To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes.
3. Economy, Skills and Employment: To achieve a strong and stable economy which offers rewarding and well located employment opportunities to everyone.
4. Sustainable Living and Revitalisation: To promote urban renaissance and support the vitality of rural centres, tackle deprivation and promote sustainable living.
5. Health and Wellbeing: To improve the health and wellbeing of those living and working in the Chelmsford City area.
6. Transport: To reduce the need to travel, promote more sustainable modes of transport and align investment in infrastructure with growth.
7. Land Use and Soils: To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.
8. Water: To conserve and enhance water quality and resources.
9. Flood Risk and Coastal Erosion: To reduce the risk of flooding to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.
10. Air: To improve air quality.
11. Climate Change: To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change.
12. Waste and Natural Resources: To promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover) and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.
13. Cultural Heritage: To conserve and enhance the historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.
14. Landscape and Townscape: To conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes.

The Spatial Principles have been assessed for their compatibility with the Assessment Objectives. The Housing Target Projections, Employment Projections and Spatial Approaches contained in the Issues and Options Consultation Document have been appraised using matrices to identify likely significant effects on the Assessment Objectives. A qualitative scoring system has been adopted which is set out in **Table NTS 2**.

**Table NTS2 Scoring System Used in the Assessment of the Issues and Options Consultation Document**

Score	Description	Symbol
Significant Positive Effect	The approach contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective.	++
Minor Positive Effect	The approach contributes to the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	+

Score	Description	Symbol
Neutral	The approach does not have any effect on the achievement of the objective	0
Minor Negative Effect	The approach detracts from the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	-
Significant Negative Effect	The approach detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective.	--
No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the approach and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.	~
Uncertain	The approach has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.	?

NB: where more than one symbol/colour is presented in a box it indicates that the assessment has identified both positive and negative effects. Where a box is coloured but also contains a '?', this indicates uncertainty over whether the effect could be a minor or significant effect although a professional judgement is expressed in the colour used. A conclusion of uncertainty arises where there is insufficient evidence for expert judgement to conclude an effect.

## Local Plan Vision and Strategic Priorities

The Issues and Options Consultation Document sets out the following vision for the Review of the Adopted Local Plan:

*"Guiding Chelmsford's growth towards a greener, fairer and more connected community."*

Nine Strategic Priorities have been developed (**Table NTS3**).

**Table NTS3 Strategic Priorities of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan**

Proposed Strategic Priority – Review of the Adopted Local Plan
<b>Priorities for climate</b>
<p><b>1. Addressing the Climate and Ecological Emergency (NEW priority)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mitigate the impacts of climate change and adapt to its consequences</li> <li>Ensure new development moves towards delivering net-zero carbon emissions (energy efficiency, sustainable construction, renewable energy, infrastructure for active and sustainable travel)</li> <li>Ensure development adapts to minimise adverse impacts that create climate and ecological change, including managing flood risk and reducing carbon emissions</li> <li>Encourage tree planting and an increase in woodland expansion</li> <li>Ensure sustainable drainage systems in developments</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Promoting smart, active travel and sustainable transport (NEW priority)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote/prioritise active travel and sustainable transport</li> <li>Reduce reliance on fossil fuelled vehicles</li> <li>Support the provision of strategic and local transport infrastructure to enable a future for alternatives to fossil fuelled vehicles</li> <li>Make provision for charging electric vehicles</li> <li>Make provision for infrastructure to support active travel and the use of sustainable modes of transport</li> <li>Promote innovations in transport including smart technology</li> </ul>

Proposed Strategic Priority – Review of the Adopted Local Plan
<p><b>3. Protecting and enhancing the natural and historic Environment, and support an increase in biodiversity and ecological networks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan positively for biodiversity net gain and green infrastructure including high quality green spaces</li> <li>Minimise the loss of the best and most versatile agricultural land to ensure future food production</li> <li>Protect/enhance the River Valleys and increase opportunities for sustainable travel</li> <li>Ensure that new development respects the character and appearance of the City's varied landscapes</li> </ul>
Priorities for growth
<p><b>4. Ensuring sustainable patterns of development and protecting the Green Belt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure we plan positively to meet identified development needs</li> <li>Promote development of previously developed land in Chelmsford's Urban Area</li> <li>Use the Settlement Hierarchy to identify most sustainable existing locations</li> <li>Locate development in locations that are close to existing or proposed local facilities so people can walk/cycle and be less reliant on the car</li> <li>Protect the Green Belt from inappropriate development</li> <li>Ensure accordance with the Minerals Local Plan, Waste Local Plan and South East Inshore Marine Plan</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Meeting the needs for new homes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide high quality new homes that meet people's needs (market, affordable, starter, supported, specialist, Gypsies and Travellers)</li> <li>Address the imbalance between the supply and need for affordable housing for rent</li> <li>Meet identified targets/needs for numbers and types of homes required to be built each year</li> <li>Maintain a good supply of homes throughout the Local Plan period</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. Fostering growth and investment and providing new jobs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure Chelmsford's businesses thrive, continue to innovate and can be even more productive and resilient</li> <li>Foster new economic growth and new jobs</li> <li>Ensure a flexible rolling supply of employment land over the Local Plan period</li> <li>Support the retention of existing designated employment and rural employment areas to maintain supply and choice of employment floorspace</li> <li>Promotion of a circular economy</li> </ul>
Priorities for place
<p><b>7. Creating well designed and attractive places, and promoting the health and social well-being of communities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the health and wellbeing of communities</li> <li>Encourage healthy lifestyles and living environments for all residents for example by providing new green spaces, quality housing and enhanced walking and cycling infrastructure</li> <li>Ensure that the integrity of communities is maintained, and social cohesion is promoted in new development</li> <li>Ensure that all new development meets the highest standards of design</li> <li>Require the use of masterplans and encourage design codes where appropriate for strategic scale developments</li> <li>Ensure new development helps provide new primary health services</li> <li>Promote community involvement in the long-term management and stewardship of new strategic residential development</li> <li>Encourage development to be future-proofed and as sustainable and energy efficient as possible</li> </ul>
<p><b>8. Delivering new and improved infrastructure to support growth</b></p>



Proposed Strategic Priority – Review of the Adopted Local Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address city-wide infrastructure needs</li> <li>Maximise the efficient use of existing infrastructure capacities</li> <li>Explore opportunities for new sustainable infrastructure</li> <li>Ensure that necessary new or upgraded local infrastructure is provided alongside new development when it is needed</li> <li>Ensure appropriate and timely strategic infrastructure to support new development</li> </ul>
<b>9. Encouraging resilience in retail, leisure, commercial and cultural development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the vitality and viability of Chelmsford City Centre, South Woodham Ferrers Town Centre and Principal Neighbourhood Centres</li> <li>Promote a range of functions which contribute to the vibrancy of Chelmsford City Centre and maintain its position as a leading destination.</li> <li>Enhance the retail, leisure, commercial and cultural development offer of South Woodham Ferrers Town Centre</li> <li>Protect existing and support new/enhanced leisure, sports, arts, cultural and recreation facilities to ensure that all parts of the City Council area are vibrant and successful</li> </ul>

## Findings of the Assessment of the Issues and Options Consultation Document

It is important that the Strategic Priorities for the Local Plan are aligned with the IIA objectives. The Strategic Priorities have therefore been appraised for their compatibility with the objectives that comprise the IIA Framework to help establish whether the general approach to the Local Plan is in accordance with the principles of sustainability. A compatibility matrix has been used to record the appraisal and this is presented in **Table NTS4**.

Table NTS4 IIA Objectives and Strategic Priorities Compatibility Matrix

Assessment Objective	Strategic Priorities								
	1. Addressing the Climate and Ecological Emergency	2. Promoting smart, active travel and sustainable transport	3. Protecting and enhancing the Natural and Historic Environment, and support an increase in biodiversity and ecological networks	4. Ensuring sustainable patterns of development and protecting the Green Belt	5. Meeting the needs for new homes	6. Fostering growth and investment and providing new jobs	7. Creating well designed and attractive places, and promoting the health and social well-being of communities	8. Delivering new and improved infrastructure to support growth	9. Encouraging resilience in retail, leisure, commercial and cultural development
1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the multifunctional green infrastructure network.	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	?	0

Assessment Objective	Strategic Priorities								
	1. Addressing the Climate and Ecological Emergency	2. Promoting smart, active travel and sustainable transport	3. Protecting and enhancing the Natural and Historic Environment, and support an increase in biodiversity and ecological networks	4. Ensuring sustainable patterns of development and protecting the Green Belt	5. Meeting the needs for new homes	6. Fostering growth and investment and providing new jobs	7. Creating well designed and attractive places, and promoting the health and social well-being of communities	8. Delivering new and improved infrastructure to support growth	9. Encouraging resilience in retail, leisure, commercial and cultural development
2. Housing: To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes.	-	0	-	?	+	+	?	+	0
3. Economy, Skills and Employment: To achieve a strong and stable economy which offers rewarding and well located employment opportunities to everyone.	-	0	-	?	0	+	?	+	+
4. Sustainable Living and Revitalisation: To promote urban renaissance and support the vitality of rural centres, tackle deprivation and promote sustainable living.	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+
5. Health and Wellbeing: To improve the health and wellbeing of those living and working in the Chelmsford City area.	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+
6. Transport: To reduce the need to travel, promote more sustainable modes of transport and align investment in infrastructure with growth.	+	+	0	?	0	?	0	+	+
7. Land Use and Soils: To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.	+	0	+	+	-	-	+	?	0
8. Water: To conserve and enhance water quality and resources.	+	0	+	+	?	0	+	?	0
9. Flood Risk: To reduce the risk of flooding to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.	+	0	+	+	?	0	+	?	0
10. Air: To improve air quality.	+	+	+	+	?	0	?	-	0
11. Climate Change: To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change.	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	-	0

Assessment Objective	Strategic Priorities								
	1. Addressing the Climate and Ecological Emergency	2. Promoting smart, active travel and sustainable transport	3. Protecting and enhancing the Natural and Historic Environment, and support an increase in biodiversity and ecological networks	4. Ensuring sustainable patterns of development and protecting the Green Belt	5. Meeting the needs for new homes	6. Fostering growth and investment and providing new jobs	7. Creating well designed and attractive places, and promoting the health and social well-being of communities	8. Delivering new and improved infrastructure to support growth	9. Encouraging resilience in retail, leisure, commercial and cultural development
12. Waste and Natural Resources: To promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover) and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.	+	0	0	0	-	0	?	0	0
13. Cultural Heritage: To conserve and enhance the historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.	0	0	+	+	-	?	+	?	0
14. Landscape and Townscape: To conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes.	+	0	+	+	-	?	+	?	0

### Key

+	Compatible	?	Uncertain
0	Neutral	-	Incompatible

The key findings of this assessment are as follows:

- Interactions between Strategic Priorities and the IIA Objectives are predominantly compatible or neutral in character.
- Uncertainties are principally associated with Strategic Priorities 5, 6 and 8 (meeting the need for new homes, economic development and infrastructure provision), reflecting the sustainability performance of development being dependent upon its scale, location, design and proposed mitigation measures.
- Potential incompatibilities exist between housing and economic development (IIA Objectives 2 and 3 respectively) and environmental protection and enhancement (Strategic Priorities 1 and 3), reflecting the frequent need for compromises to be made between development and environmental interests.

- Similarly, potential incompatibilities between land use and environmental protection (IIA Objectives 7, 10 & 11) and delivering homes, jobs and supporting infrastructure (Strategic Priorities 5, 6 and 8), reflecting the need for compromises to be made between development and environmental interests.

Where possible incompatibilities or uncertainties have been identified, these stand a greater chance of being resolved if development takes place in accordance with all the Strategic Priorities. As such, an incompatibility or uncertainty is not necessarily irreconcilable or insurmountable but one that may need to be considered in the development of policies that comprise the Local Plan.

## Housing Requirement

The Council is proposing a Housing Requirement figure of 1,000 homes per annum for the plan period 2022 – 2041. Retaining a 20% supply buffer and considering existing supply across the period 2022 -2041, there is a shortfall of 7,966 homes in total, as summarised below:

Housing Requirement 2022-41	Homes
19 years x 1,000 homes (standard method)	19,000
+20% supply buffer	3,800
Total (Requirement + Buffer)	22,800
Existing Supply 2022-41 (total completions, allocations, permissions, windfall)	14,834
Shortfall	7,966

## Assessment

The Housing Requirement has been assessed against the IIA objectives, using the qualitative scoring system in **Table NTS2**. The emerging findings of the assessment are summarised in **Table NTS5**.

Table NTS5 Assessment of Indicative Housing Allocation

Assessment Objective	1. Biodiversity	2. Housing	3. Economy	4. Sustainable Living and Revitalisation	5. Health and Wellbeing	6. Transport	7. Land Use	8. Water	9. Flood Risk	10. Air Quality	11. Climate Change	12. Waste and Natural Resources	13. Cultural Heritage	14. Landscape and Townscape
Approach														
Standard Method Requirement + 20% Buffer (22,800 homes) minus 14,834 = <b>7,966 net</b> (1,200 dwellings p.a.)	-/?	++	++	+/-	+/- /?	+/- /?	-- /+	-/?	-/?	-/?	-/?	-/?	+/-	+/-

The key likely significant sustainability effects associated with the Housing Requirement relate to:

- **Housing (Objective 2):** the approach would meet in full, and exceed, the assessed housing requirement for the Chelmsford City Area over the plan period. This is in accordance with the objective of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) to boost housing supply.
- **Economy (Objective 3):** the approach would help to stimulate economic growth through the provision of a workforce as well as consumers. Development proposals are typically careful to ensure homes, jobs and infrastructure are delivered in a co-ordinated fashion to help limit excess in- or out-commuting and ensure a degree of self-containment.
- **Land use (Objective 7):** whilst brownfield land will be used through windfall sites, a significant area of greenfield land will be required.

The negative (and uncertain) effects identified across a range of the IIA objectives reflects the potential for housing growth to result in adverse environmental impacts. These potential effects will require further consideration in the identification of site allocations and development of policies for the Local Plan and in this regard, there is the potential for new housing to deliver benefits in respect of, for example, sustainable travel, health and enhancements to townscapes.

## Employment Land Requirement

Whilst the Adopted Local Plan employment policies are still relevant and site allocations for new employment development are also progressing in line with projections, some policies will require updating and additional policies may be required in the light of changes to national planning policy and new legislation. Changes are also required to ensure that the plan continues to meet future employment needs to 2041.

The Issues and Options Consultation Document proposes a continuation of the existing approach to employment land provision, i.e. a flexible rolling employment land supply across the plan period to 2041).

## Assessment

The proposed approach to the Employment Land Requirement has been assessed against the IIA objectives using the qualitative scoring system in **Table NTS2**. The emerging findings of the assessment are summarised in **Table NTS6**.

**Table NTS6** Assessment of Proposed Approach to the Employment Allocation

Assessment Objective	1. Biodiversity	2. Housing	3. Economy	4. Sustainable Living and Revitalisation	5. Health and Wellbeing	6. Transport	7. Land Use	8. Water	9. Flood Risk	10. Air Quality	11. Climate Change	12. Waste and Natural Resources	13. Cultural Heritage	14. Landscape and Townscape
Project current allocation	-/?	0	++/?	+	+	-	+/-	-/?	-/?	-	-	-	+/- /?	+/- /?

The key likely significant sustainability effects associated with the Employment Land Requirement relate to:

- **Economy (Objective 3):** The provision of employment land will support economic growth across Chelmsford, delivering deliver jobs and supporting regeneration and investment.
- **No significant negative effects** on the IIA objectives have been identified.

The negative (and uncertain) effects identified across a range of the IIA objectives reflects the potential for economic development to result in adverse environmental impacts. These potential effects will require further consideration in the development of policies for the Local Plan and will require particular attention in the identification of site location, design and mitigation measures. There is the potential for new employment uses to deliver benefits in respect of, for example, sustainable travel, health and enhancements to townscapes.

## Spatial Approaches

Five Spatial Approaches relating to the delivery of the proposed housing and employment growth have been identified in the Issues and Options Consultation Document, ranging from the continuation of the approach of the adopted Local Plan, through to more divergent approaches including growth along transport corridors and a free-standing new settlement. An overview of the Spatial Approaches in terms of the quantum of housing to be distributed across the Chelmsford City Area is presented in **Table NTS7**.

Table NTS7 Summary of Proposed Spatial Approaches

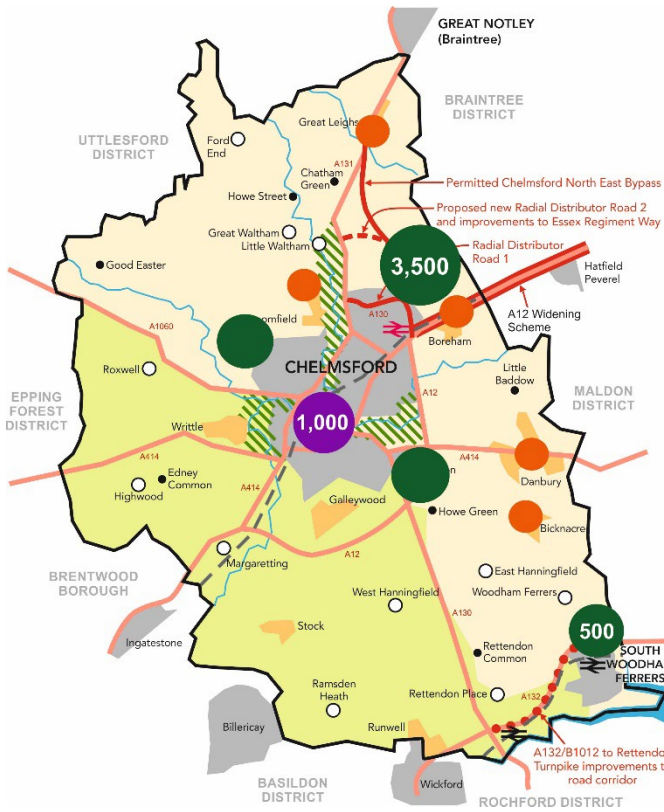
	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	Approach C: Wider Strategy	Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	Approach E: New Settlement
Brownfield sites in Chelmsford Urban Area	1,000	2,500	1,000	1,000	1,000
Edge of Chelmsford extension ((West Chelmsford, East Chelmsford)	1,500	1,500	1,500	500	
North of South Woodham Ferrers	500	500	500	500	
North East Chelmsford	3,500*	3,500*	3,500*	4,500*	3,000*
Key Service Settlements (Bicknacre, Boreham, Broomfield, Danbury, Great Leighs)	1,500**		1,000**		
Service Settlements (East Hanningfield, Ford End, Great Waltham, Little Waltham, Rettendon Place, Woodham Ferrers)			500**		
Settlements with good proximity to transport corridors (Chatham Green, Howe Green, Rettendon Common)				1,500**	
New Strategic Settlement/ Garden Community (Hammonds Farm)					4,000

\* 2,500 is already within the existing allocation area but not allocated for development within the current Plan period up to 2036

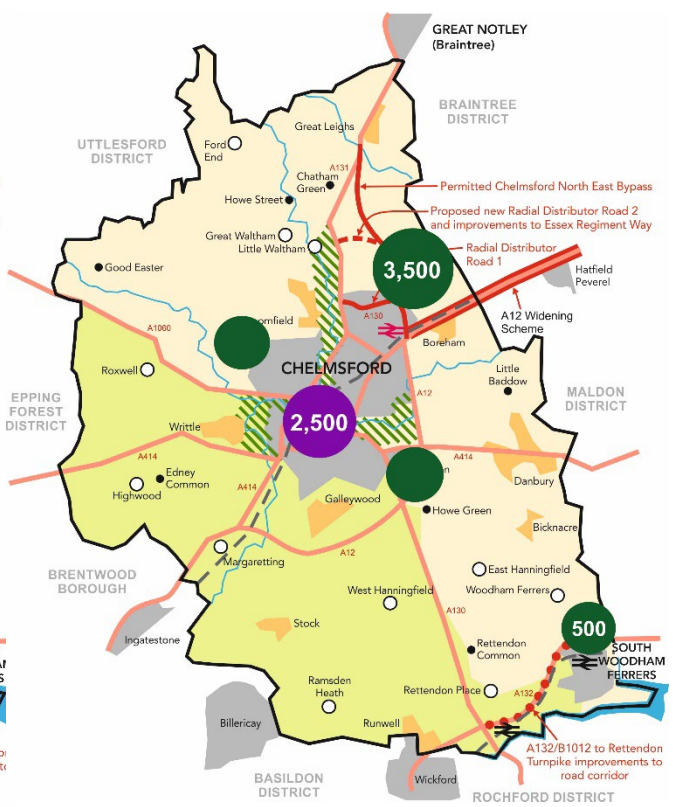
\*\* Split across one or more settlement



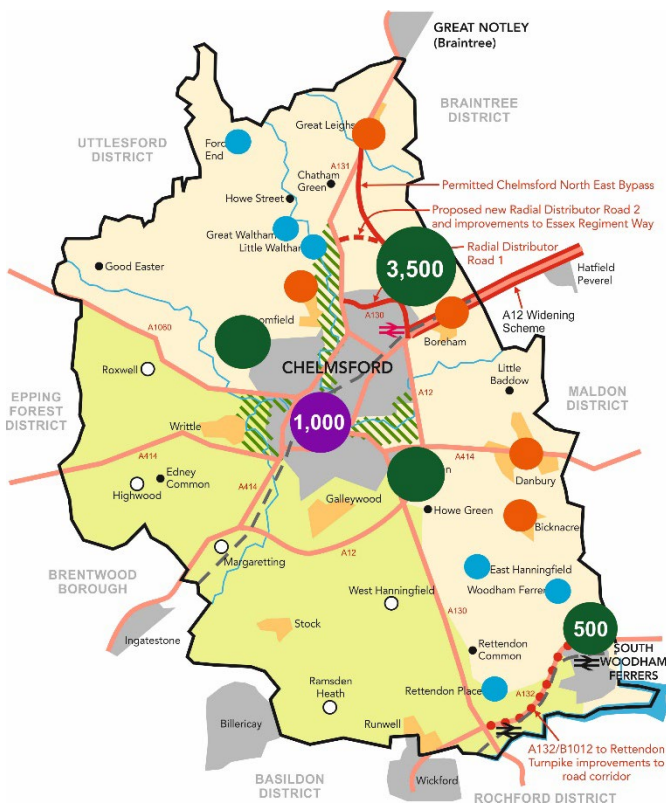
### Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy



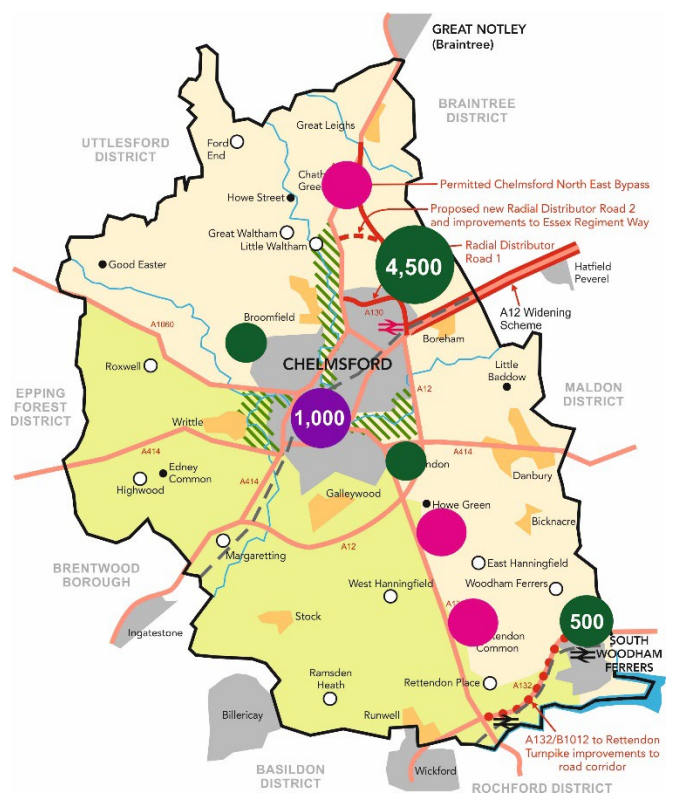
### Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas



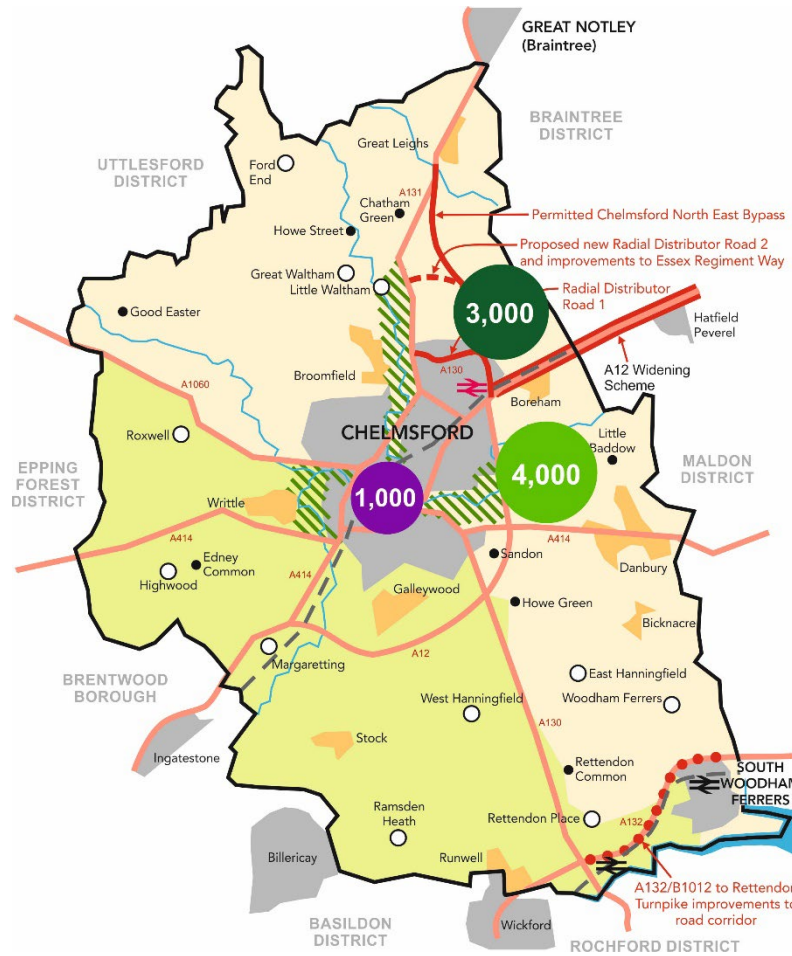
### Approach C: Wider Strategy



### Approach D: Growth along Transport Corridors



## Approach E: New Settlement



## Assessment

The Spatial Approaches have been assessed against the IIA objectives using the qualitative scoring system in **Table NTS2**. The emerging findings of the assessment are summarised in **Table NTS8**.

The key likely significant sustainability effects associated with Spatial Approaches relate to:

- **Housing (Objective 2):** Realising the delivery of homes to help meet local and sub-regional needs, including affordable housing.
- **Economy (Objective 3):** The provision of employment land will support economic growth across Chelmsford, delivering deliver jobs and supporting regeneration and investment.
- **Sustainable Living and Revitalisation (Objective 4):** Delivery of continued and enhanced health of urban areas through brownfield land use, economic growth, infrastructure and service provision and investment in the public realm generally.
- **Health and Well-Being (Objective 5):** The provision of more and a wider range of services associated with population growth.
- Significant negative effects associated with **Land Use (Objective 7)** and **Landscape (Objective 14)**, reflecting the permanent loss of these resources to urban development.

The negative (and uncertain) effects identified across a range of the IIA objectives reflects the potential for economic development to result in adverse environmental impacts. These potential effects will require further consideration in the development of policies for the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and will require particular attention in the identification of site location, design and mitigation measures. There is the potential for new employment uses to deliver benefits in respect of, for example, sustainable travel, health and enhancements to townscapes.

All approaches are capable of delivering housing and employment requirements over the plan period, resulting in positive sustainability effects. There are broadly similar likely effects (mixed positive and negative) across all approaches in respect of biodiversity, cultural heritage, flood risk, land use and resource use, with potential uncertainty in respect of sustainable living and revitalisation, air quality and climate change associated with Approach D which is an untested approach. For all approaches, water resource use is an issue, reflecting regional local supply deficits.

The uncertainties and negative effects recorded emphasise the importance of the monitoring of the performance of sustainability indicators to help implement mitigation measures which would help improve the performance of all approaches, notably in respect of air quality, biodiversity, climate change and health and well-being.

Table NTS8 Summary of the sustainability effects of the Spatial Approaches

Assessment Objective														
Approach	1. Biodiversity	2. Housing	3. Economy	4. Sustainable Living and Revitalisation	5. Health and Wellbeing	6. Transport	7. Land Use	8. Water	9. Flood Risk	10. Air Quality	11. Climate Change	12. Waste and Natural Resources	13. Cultural Heritage	14. Landscape and Townscape
Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	+/-/?	++	++/-	++/-	++/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	~	+/-/?	+/-/?
Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	+/-/?	++/?	++	++/-	++/-	++/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/?	~	+/-/?	+/-/?
Approach C: Wider Strategy	+/-/?	++	+	++/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	~	+/-/?	+/-/?
Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	+/-/?	++/?	++	+/-/?	++/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	?	+/-	~	+/-/?	+/-/?
Approach E: New Settlement	+/-/?	++/?	++/?	+/-	++/-	+/-/?	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-/?	+/-	~	+/-/?	+/-/?

Table NTS9 Commentary on Spatial Strategy Approaches Appraisal

<p><b>Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy</b></p> <p>This approach continues the spatial strategy approach of the adopted Local Plan, with new allocations on previously developed land and at larger villages, and expanding allocated sites.</p> <table> <tr> <th>Location type</th><th>Where</th><th>Indicative number</th></tr> <tr> <td>Growth in urban areas</td><td>Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area</td><td>1,000</td></tr> <tr> <td>Expanding allocated sites</td><td>North East Chelmsford Garden Community</td><td>3,500</td></tr> <tr> <td>Expanding allocated sites</td><td>South Woodham Ferrers</td><td>500</td></tr> <tr> <td>Expanding allocated sites</td><td>West Chelmsford and east Chelmsford</td><td>1,500 in total across the two areas</td></tr> <tr> <td>Development at larger villages</td><td>Bicknacre, Boreham, Broomfield, Danbury, Great Leighs</td><td>1,500 in total across the listed areas</td></tr> </table>			Location type	Where	Indicative number	Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	1,000	Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	3,500	Expanding allocated sites	South Woodham Ferrers	500	Expanding allocated sites	West Chelmsford and east Chelmsford	1,500 in total across the two areas	Development at larger villages	Bicknacre, Boreham, Broomfield, Danbury, Great Leighs	1,500 in total across the listed areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The current approach has been implemented and monitored since the adoption of the Local Plan with consequent broadly positive effects across assessment objectives.</li> <li>Significant positive effects are identified in respect of housing, economy, Sustainable Living and Revitalisation and health and well-being, reflecting opportunities for securing benefits which act together i.e. homes, jobs, services and a redevelopment opportunities.</li> <li>There is uncertainty in respect of the effects on air quality, climate change and resource use, reflecting the need for long term monitoring and potential interventions to address these issues.</li> <li>Minor positive and negative effects have been identified across the majority of the remaining IIA objectives, although there is some uncertainty at this stage. These effects will require further consideration, should the Spatial Approach be taken forward, in the identification of site allocations and development of Local Plan policies.</li> </ul>
Location type	Where	Indicative number																			
Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	1,000																			
Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	3,500																			
Expanding allocated sites	South Woodham Ferrers	500																			
Expanding allocated sites	West Chelmsford and east Chelmsford	1,500 in total across the two areas																			
Development at larger villages	Bicknacre, Boreham, Broomfield, Danbury, Great Leighs	1,500 in total across the listed areas																			
<p><b>Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas</b></p> <p>This continues the approach already being used in the adopted Local Plan, but maximises development in the City Centre and urban area, and expands allocated sites.</p> <table> <tr> <th>Location type</th><th>Where</th><th>Indicative number</th></tr> <tr> <td>Growth in urban areas</td><td>Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area</td><td>2,500</td></tr> <tr> <td>Expanding allocated sites</td><td>North East Chelmsford Garden Community</td><td>3,500</td></tr> <tr> <td>Expanding allocated sites</td><td>South Woodham Ferrers</td><td>500</td></tr> <tr> <td>Expanding allocated sites</td><td>West Chelmsford and east Chelmsford</td><td>1,500 in total across the two areas</td></tr> </table>				Location type	Where	Indicative number	Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	2,500	Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	3,500	Expanding allocated sites	South Woodham Ferrers	500	Expanding allocated sites	West Chelmsford and east Chelmsford	1,500 in total across the two areas			
Location type	Where	Indicative number																			
Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	2,500																			
Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	3,500																			
Expanding allocated sites	South Woodham Ferrers	500																			
Expanding allocated sites	West Chelmsford and east Chelmsford	1,500 in total across the two areas																			



**Approach C: Wider Strategy**

This approach continues the spatial strategy approach of the adopted Local Plan, with new allocations on previously developed land and at larger villages, and expanding allocated sites. In addition, it proposes some development at smaller villages.

Location type	Where	Indicative number
Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	1,000
Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	3,500
Expanding allocated sites	South Woodham Ferrers	500
Expanding allocated sites	West Chelmsford and East Chelmsford	1,500 in total across the two areas
Development at larger villages	Bicknacre, Boreham, Broomfield, Danbury, Great Leighs	1,000 in total across the listed areas
Development at smaller villages	East Hanningfield, Ford End, Great Waltham, Little Waltham, Rettendon Place, Woodham Ferrer	500 in total across the listed areas

- The type and range of effects across the IIA objectives are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of approaches A and B. This approach has broadly positive effects associated with the delivery of homes, services and employment opportunities in accessible locations. However, this approach would deliver growth in smaller settlements, helping to ensure that local needs are met across the City Area.
- The wider dispersal of growth is likely to bring negative issues associated with the inefficient use of land, air quality and compromises to the aspiration of an urban renaissance, and less potential in economic development as a result of spatially less-concentrated growth.

**Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors**

This approach continues the spatial strategy approach of the adopted Local Plan, with new allocations on previously developed land and expanding allocated sites including maximising growth at Chelmsford Garden Community. In addition, it proposes some growth along main transport corridors.

Location type	Where	Indicative number
Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	1,000
Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	4,500

- The type and range of effects across the IIA objectives are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Approaches A, B and C. This approach has broadly positive effects associated with the delivery of homes, services and employment opportunities in accessible locations. This approach focuses investment in specific areas, such as trunk road corridors and junctions and is likely to deliver economic growth, although potentially at the expense of wider goals such as social inclusion and reliance on private cars.
- Notwithstanding the partial implementation of this approach through the current Local Plan, there is wide-ranging uncertainty associated with its outcomes across a range of measures such as affordable housing in



Expanding allocated sites	South Woodham Ferrers	500	sustainable locations, renewing urban areas and impacts on landscapes and cultural heritage and in the inefficient use of land. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The approach remains largely untested as a spatial approach and consequently attracts greater uncertainty in implementation than other approaches.</li></ul>
Expanding allocated sites	West Chelmsford and east Chelmsford	500 in total across the two areas	
Growth along transport corridors	Chatham Green, Howe Green, Rettendon Common	1,500 in total across one or more of the listed areas	

<b>Approach E: New Settlement</b> <p>This approach continues the spatial strategy approach of the adopted Local Plan, with new allocations on previously developed land and expanding the Chelmsford Garden Community. In addition, it proposes a new large settlement/garden community.</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The type and range of effects across the IIA objectives are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Approaches A, B, C and D. This approach has broadly positive effects associated with the delivery of homes, services and employment opportunities in the urban area. However, whilst in part an extension of the existing approach in the adopted Local Plan, greater uncertainty is associated with the concentration of development activity in a limited number of locations which may mean that some local needs are not met. Further, reflecting the complexity of bringing forward large allocations, there could be greater uncertainty associated with delivery of a new settlement in the plan period.</li><li>This approach could have greater adverse effects on some IIA objectives relative to other approaches, and in particular land use and landscape. Further, accessibility to key services and employment opportunities may be reduced relative to other approaches whilst emissions to air (including greenhouse gas emissions) could be greater. This reflects the more detached nature of a new settlement from the main urban area.</li><li>This approach could deliver a new sustainable neighbourhood. This may deliver sustainability benefits including reduced traffic in the Chelmsford Urban Area.</li></ul>
Location type	Where	Indicative number	
Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	1,000	
Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	3,000	
New large settlement/garden community	Hammonds Farm (east of A12/north of A414)	4,000	

## Accessibility Mapping and Appraisal

Chelmsford City Council has commissioned detailed analysis<sup>1</sup> of the relative accessibility of the 26 settlement areas across the City Area (grouped into 8 broad locations) and the Spatial Approaches A - E. Some 14 appraisal criteria (including walking, cycling and public transport connectivity and access to key services) have been used as part of the modelling exercise to produce an overall accessibility score.

## Habitats Regulations Assessment

Regulation 105 of the *Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017* (as amended) states that if a land-use plan is “(a) is likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects); and (b) is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site” then the plan-making authority must “...make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site in view of that site’s conservation objectives” before the plan is given effect. The process by which Regulation 105 is met is known as Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). The Council has a statutory duty to prepare the Local Plan and is therefore the Competent Authority for an HRA.

Regulation 105 essentially provides a test that the final plan must pass; there is no statutory requirement for HRA to be undertaken on draft plans or similar developmental stages (e.g. issues and options; preferred options). However, it is accepted best-practice for the HRA of strategic planning documents to be run as an iterative process alongside plan development.

**Section 6** of this report provides guidance on the HRA-related issues that will be relevant to both the plan development and the HRA. It includes:

- an outline of the proposed approach and scope of the Local Plan HRA;
- a summary of the environmental and European site baseline, as currently understood, and any known data gaps or environmental aspects subject to future studies;
- informal guidance for the Council on any HRA-related issues or risks that may be relevant to the Options selection process, and/or which may need to be considered when reviewing the Local Plan.

As the Review of the Adopted Local Plan is at an early stage in its development this report **is not** an ‘HRA screening’, ‘draft HRA’ or similar. It provides an initial baseline and exploration of local HRA-related issues only; it does not provide any formal or guideline HRA conclusions and all observations within the report are necessarily preliminary and subject to further assessment as the plan evolves and the baseline data are updated. However, it is evident that none of the I&O objectives or options will create fundamental systematic effects that cannot be avoided or mitigated irrespective of how the objectives and options are defined through allocation and policy. The data within the report will be reviewed and updated as the Review of the Adopted Local Plan evolves.

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<sup>1</sup> Essex Highways (2022) Chelmsford Local Plan Review - Sustainable Accessibility Mapping & Appraisal: Technical Note incl. Appendices

## Health Impact Assessment and Equalities Impact Assessment

Reflecting the need for early consideration of equalities matters, Appendix H presents a high level EqIA. As Local Plan policies and proposals are firmed up, a detailed Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and Equalities impact Assessment (EqIA) will be undertaken as part of the assessment of Preferred Options according to the assessment frameworks set out in the Scoping Report and the initial observations set out in **Appendix H**.

Health, well-being and equalities matters are included at a high level within this current assessment through the assessment of growth, economic and spatial approaches against Health and well-being (Objective 5), and implicit in Housing (Objective 2), Economy (Objective 3) and Sustainable Living and Revitalisation (Objective 4) where access to homes, jobs and services are included in the guide questions.

The specification of policies within the Review of the Adopted Local Plan, along with locationally-specific allocations as part of the preferred options stage, will enable the detailed assessment of the likely impacts against detailed health and equalities measures.

## Mitigation and Enhancement

The assessment contained in this Report has identified (see **Section 5.7**) a range of measures to help address potential negative effects and enhance positive effects associated with the implementation of the approaches contained in the Issues and Options Consultation Document. These measures are highlighted within the detailed assessment matrices and will be considered by the Council in refining the approaches and developing the policies that will comprise the Review of the Adopted Local Plan.

## Next Steps

This Interim IIA Report is being issued for consultation alongside the Issues and Options Consultation Document. The consultation will run from Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2022 for eight weeks until Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

The findings of the Interim IIA Report, together with consultation responses and further evidence base work, will be used to help refine and select the preferred approach to be taken forward as part of the Local Plan. The preferred approach in addition to emerging Local Plan policies and site allocations will form the Preferred Options Consultation. The Preferred Options Consultation Document will also be subject to IIA.

## PLEASE NOTE:

**The consultation has been extended to run for ten weeks from 10am on Thursday 11 August 2022 until 4pm on Thursday 20 October 2022.**

## **This Consultation: How to Give Us Your Views**

We would welcome your views on any aspect of the IIA Report. In particular, we would like to hear your views as to whether the effects which are predicted are likely and whether there are any significant effects which have not been considered.

Please provide your comments by 4pm on Thursday 6th October 2022. The Council encourages people to submit comments via its consultation portal at:

[www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planningpolicyconsult](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planningpolicyconsult)

Alternatively, comments can be sent to:

- By email – [planning.policy@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@chelmsford.gov.uk)
- By post – Spatial Planning Services, Chelmsford City Council, Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford, CM1 1JE
- By hand – During normal opening hours to Chelmsford City Council Customer Service Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford.

## **PLEASE NOTE:**

**The consultation has been extended to run for ten weeks from 10am on Thursday 11 August 2022 until 4pm on Thursday 20 October 2022.**

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# 1. Introduction

## PLEASE NOTE:

**The consultation has been extended to run for ten weeks from 10am on Thursday 11 August 2022 until 4pm on Thursday 20 October 2022.**

## 1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 Chelmsford City Council (the Council) is currently preparing a Review of the Adopted Local Plan (the Local Plan) for Chelmsford City Council's Administrative Area (the City Area). The Local Plan will replace the current Local Plan that was adopted in May 2020, setting out the vision, objectives, planning policies and site allocations that will guide development in the local authority area to 2041. Wood Environment & Infrastructure UK Limited (hereafter 'Wood') has been commissioned by the Council to undertake an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) of the Local Plan.
- 1.1.2 The IIA will appraise the environmental, social and economic performance of the Local Plan and any reasonable alternatives. In doing so, it will help to inform the selection of the approaches for the Local Plan concerning (in particular) the quantum, distribution and location of future development in Chelmsford and associated policies. The IIA process will also identify measures to avoid, minimise or mitigate any potential negative effects that may arise from the Local Plan's implementation as well as opportunities to improve the contribution of the Local Plan towards sustainability.
- 1.1.3 The IIA brings together into a single framework four different strands of assessment, Sustainability Appraisal (SA), Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA), and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) in order to assess the socio-economic and environmental effects of the Local Plan.
- 1.1.4 As part of the preparation of the Local Plan, the Council has prepared the Chelmsford Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation Document (the Issues and Options Consultation Document)<sup>2</sup>. This document sets out the planning issues that face Chelmsford over the next 15 years and approaches for the way they could be addressed. It is being published for consultation between Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2022 for eight weeks until Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022.
- 1.1.5 This report presents the findings of the IIA of the Issues and Options Consultation Document.

## 1.2 Purpose of this Report

- 1.2.1 Under Section 19(5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Council is required to carry out a SA of the Local Plan to help guide the selection and development of policies and proposals in terms of their potential social, environmental and economic effects. In undertaking this requirement, local planning authorities must also incorporate the requirements of European Union Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment, referred to as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive, and its transposing regulations the

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<sup>2</sup> [www.chelmsford.gov.uk/new-local-plan](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/new-local-plan)

Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (statutory instrument 2004 No. 1633)<sup>3</sup>.

- 1.2.2 The SEA Directive and transposing regulations seek to provide a high level of protection of the environment by integrating environmental considerations into the process of preparing certain plans and programmes. The aim of the SEA Directive is *"to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment."*
- 1.2.3 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2021) sets out that local plans are key to delivering sustainable development (para 32) and that they must be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development, as follows: *"Local plans and spatial development strategies should be informed throughout their preparation by a sustainability appraisal that meets the relevant legal requirements. This should demonstrate how the plan has addressed relevant economic, social and environmental objectives (including opportunities for net gains). Significant adverse impacts on these objectives should be avoided and, wherever possible, alternative options which reduce or eliminate such impacts should be pursued. Where significant adverse impacts are unavoidable, suitable mitigation measures should be proposed (or, where this is not possible, compensatory measures should be considered)."*
- 1.2.4 Planning Practice Guidance (2021) makes clear that SA plays an important role in demonstrating that a local plan reflects sustainability objectives and has considered reasonable alternatives. In this regard, IIA will help to ensure that a local plan is "justified", a key test of soundness that concerns the extent to which a plan is the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives and available and proportionate evidence.
- 1.2.5 IIA will therefore be an integral part of the preparation of the Local Plan. In accordance with paragraph 32 of the NPPF, IIA of the Local Plan will help to ensure that the likely social, economic and environmental effects of the Plan are identified, described, appraised and communicated. Where negative effects are identified, measures will be proposed to avoid, minimise or mitigate such effects. Where any positive effects are identified, measures will be considered that could enhance such effects.
- 1.2.6 This IIA Report supports the development and refinement of the Local Plan by appraising the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of the approaches that comprise the Issues and Options Consultation Document. This will help promote sustainable development through the early integration of sustainability considerations into the preparation of the Local Plan and selection of approaches. More specifically, this IIA Report sets out:
- an overview of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan;

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<sup>3</sup> Under the Withdrawal Act, EU-derived domestic legislation (such as existing environmental regulations that implement EU Directives) and Direct EU legislation (such as EU regulations and decisions) which were in force immediately prior to the end of the transition period continued to form part of UK domestic law after 31 December 2020. After 31 December 2020, however, Parliament is at liberty to introduce future changes to the existing legislation since, after 31 December 2020, the UK will no longer be bound by EU legislation.



- a review of relevant international, national, regional, sub-regional and local plans, policies and programmes;
- baseline information for the Local Plan area across key sustainability topics;
- key economic, social and environmental issues relevant to the assessment of the Local Plan;
- the approach to undertaking the assessment of the Issues and Options Consultation Document;
- the findings of the assessment of the Issues and Options Consultation Document; and
- conclusions and an overview of the next steps in the IIA process.

## 1.3 The Chelmsford Review of the Adopted Local Plan – An Overview

### Requirement to Prepare a Local Plan

- 1.3.1 The NPPF<sup>4</sup> determines that each local planning authority should prepare a local plan for its area. Local plans should set out the strategic priorities and policies to deliver:
- the homes and jobs needed in the area;
  - the provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development;
  - the provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
  - the provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities; and
  - climate change mitigation and adaptation and conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape.
- 1.3.2 Planning Practice Guidance (2021)<sup>5</sup> clarifies (at paragraph 002 'Local Plans') that local plans *"should make clear what is intended to happen in the area over the life of the plan, where and when this will occur and how it will be delivered"*.

### Preparation of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan

- 1.3.3 The Council's Local Development Scheme (LDS) was published in November 2021<sup>6</sup>. The LDS sets out the timetable for production of the Local Plan in accordance with the requirements for plan production set out in The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012).

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<sup>4</sup> Department for Communities and Local Government (2021) National Planning Policy Framework. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework>

<sup>5</sup> Department for Communities and Local Government (2021) Planning Practice Guidance. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>

<sup>6</sup> Available from <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/resources/assets/inline/full/0/6226965.pdf>

- 1.3.4 The Council has a statutory duty to review the Local Plan at least every five years under Regulation 10A of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The NPPF (2021) sets out in paragraph 33 that policies in local plans and spatial development strategies should be reviewed to assess whether they need updating at least once every five years, and should then be updated as necessary. It also states that reviews should be completed no later than five years from the adoption date of a plan (which would be 28 May 2025) and should take into account changing circumstances affecting the area, or any relevant changes in national policy. Relevant strategic policies will need updating at least once every five years if their applicable local housing need figure has changed significantly; and they are likely to require earlier review if local housing need is expected to change significantly in the near future. The adopted Local Plan commits to a full or partial review of the Plan in Policy S13 to commence in 2022. The key plan preparation milestones are detailed in **Table 1.1**.

**Table 1.1 Local Plan Preparation Milestones**

Stage	Date
Evidence gathering and public participation – Scoping Consultation (Regulation 18) (Issues and Options)	August – October 2022
Preferred Options Consultation (Regulation 18)	Summer 2023
Consultation on Draft Pre-Submission Local Plan (Regulation 19)	Early 2024
Submission (Regulation 22)	Summer 2024
Examination in Public (Regulation 24)	Autumn 2024
Adoption (Regulation 26)	Spring 2025

- 1.3.5 Adoption of the Local Plan is due to take place in Spring 2025. This will be preceded by three principal periods of consultation during which the Local Plan will be developed and refined taking into account (*inter-alia*) national planning policy and guidance, the Council's evidence base, the outcomes of consultation and the findings of the IIA. As part of this process, the Council has prepared the Issues and Options Consultation document and which represents the first stage of consultation on the Local Plan.
- 1.3.6 Further information in respect of the review of the Local Plan is available via the Council's website at: [www.chelmsford.gov.uk/lp-review](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/lp-review)

## 1.4 The Issues and Options Consultation Document

### Scope of the Issues and Options Consultation Document

- 1.4.1 The Issues and Options Consultation Document sets out the planning issues that face the City Area over the next 15 years and approaches for the way they could be addressed.

The key elements of the document, and which are the subject of assessment in this IIA Report, include:

- Spatial Principles;
- Housing Target Projections;
- Employment Target Projections; and
- Spatial Approaches.

1.4.2 These key elements of the Issues and Options Consultation Document are discussed in-turn below.

### Spatial Principles and Strategic Priorities

1.4.3 The Issues and Options Consultation Document sets out Spatial Principles that are intended to support and guide the Spatial Approaches for the Local Plan. A total of nine Spatial Principles are identified, as follows:

- a. Optimise the use of suitable previously developed land for development
- b. Continue the renewal of Chelmsford City Centre and its Urban Area
- c. Locate development at well connected and sustainable locations
- d. Locate development to avoid or manage flood risk
- e. Protect the Green Belt
- f. Respect the character and appearance of landscapes and the built environment, and preserve or enhance the historic environment and biodiversity
- g. Focus development at the higher order settlements outside the Green Belt and respect the existing development pattern and hierarchy of other settlements
- h. Ensure development is deliverable
- i. Ensure development is served by necessary infrastructure
- j. Utilise existing and planned infrastructure effectively.

1.4.4 The proposed Strategic Priorities to deliver these principles are set out in **Table 1.2**.

**Table 1.2 Proposed Strategic Priorities**

Proposed Strategic Priority – Review of the Adopted Local Plan
<b>Priorities for climate</b>
<b>1. Addressing the Climate and Ecological Emergency (NEW priority)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mitigate the impacts of climate change and adapt to its consequences</li> <li>• Ensure new development moves towards delivering net-zero carbon emissions (energy efficiency, sustainable construction, renewable energy, infrastructure for active and sustainable travel)</li> </ul>

### Proposed Strategic Priority – Review of the Adopted Local Plan

- Ensure development adapts to minimise adverse impacts that create climate and ecological change, including managing flood risk and reducing carbon emissions
- Encourage tree planting and an increase in woodland expansion
- Ensure sustainable drainage systems in developments

#### 2. Promoting smart, active travel and sustainable transport (NEW priority)

- Promote/prioritise active travel and sustainable transport
- Reduce reliance on fossil fuelled vehicles
- Support the provision of strategic and local transport infrastructure to enable a future for alternatives to fossil fuelled vehicles
- Make provision for charging electric vehicles
- Make provision for infrastructure to support active travel and the use of sustainable modes of transport
- Promote innovations in transport including smart technology

#### 3. Protecting and enhancing the natural and historic Environment, and support an increase in biodiversity and ecological networks

- Plan positively for biodiversity net gain and green infrastructure including high quality green spaces
- Minimise the loss of the best and most versatile agricultural land to ensure future food production
- Protect/enhance the River Valleys and increase opportunities for sustainable travel
- Ensure that new development respects the character and appearance of the City's varied landscapes

### Priorities for growth

#### 4. Ensuring sustainable patterns of development and protecting the Green Belt

- Ensure we plan positively to meet identified development needs
- Promote development of previously developed land in Chelmsford's Urban Area
- Use the Settlement Hierarchy to identify most sustainable existing locations
- Locate development in locations that are close to existing or proposed local facilities so people can walk/cycle and be less reliant on the car
- Protect the Green Belt from inappropriate development
- Ensure accordance with the Minerals Local Plan, Waste Local Plan and South East Inshore Marine Plan

#### 5. Meeting the needs for new homes

- Provide high quality new homes that meet people's needs (market, affordable, starter, supported, specialist, Gypsies and Travellers)
- Address the imbalance between the supply and need for affordable housing for rent
- Meet identified targets/needs for numbers and types of homes required to be built each year
- Maintain a good supply of homes throughout the Local Plan period

#### 6. Fostering growth and investment and providing new jobs

- Ensure Chelmsford's businesses thrive, continue to innovate and can be even more productive and resilient
- Foster new economic growth and new jobs
- Ensure a flexible rolling supply of employment land over the Local Plan period
- Support the retention of existing designated employment and rural employment areas to maintain supply and choice of employment floorspace
- Promotion of a circular economy

### Priorities for place

## Proposed Strategic Priority – Review of the Adopted Local Plan

### 7. Creating well designed and attractive places, and promoting the health and social well-being of communities

- Promote the health and wellbeing of communities
- Encourage healthy lifestyles and living environments for all residents for example by providing new green spaces, quality housing and enhanced walking and cycling infrastructure
- Ensure that the integrity of communities is maintained, and social cohesion is promoted in new development
- Ensure that all new development meets the highest standards of design
- Require the use of masterplans and encourage design codes where appropriate for strategic scale developments
- Ensure new development helps provide new primary health services
- Promote community involvement in the long-term management and stewardship of new strategic residential development
- Encourage development to be future-proofed and as sustainable and energy efficient as possible

### 8. Delivering new and improved infrastructure to support growth

- Address city-wide infrastructure needs
- Maximise the efficient use of existing infrastructure capacities
- Explore opportunities for new sustainable infrastructure
- Ensure that necessary new or upgraded local infrastructure is provided alongside new development when it is needed
- Ensure appropriate and timely strategic infrastructure to support new development

### 9. Encouraging resilience in retail, leisure, commercial and cultural development

- Promote the vitality and viability of Chelmsford City Centre, South Woodham Ferrers Town Centre and Principal Neighbourhood Centres
- Promote a range of functions which contribute to the vibrancy of Chelmsford City Centre and maintain its position as a leading destination.
- Enhance the retail, leisure, commercial and cultural development offer of South Woodham Ferrers Town Centre
- Protect existing and support new/enhanced leisure, sports, arts, cultural and recreation facilities to ensure that all parts of the City Council area are vibrant and successful

## Housing Requirement

- 1.4.5 The Council is proposing a Housing Requirement figure of 1,000 homes per annum for the plan period 2022 – 2041. Retaining a 20% supply buffer and considering existing supply across the period 2022 -2041, there is a shortfall of 7,966 homes in total, as summarised below:

<b>Housing Requirement 2022-41</b>	<b>Homes</b>
19 years x 1,000 homes (standard method)	19,000
+20% supply buffer	3,800
Total (Requirement + Buffer)	22,800
Existing Supply 2022-41 (total completions, allocations, permissions, windfall)	14,834
Shortfall	7,966

## Employment Target Projections

- 1.4.6 Whilst the adopted Local Plan employment policies are still relevant and site allocations for new employment development are also progressing in line with projections, some policies will require updating and additional policies may be required in the light of changes to national planning policy and new legislation. Changes are also required to ensure that the Local Plan continues to meet future employment needs to 2041.
- 1.4.7 The Issues and Options Consultation Document proposes a continuation of the existing approach to employment land provision, i.e. a flexible rolling employment land supply across the plan period (equating to 725 net additional jobs per annum to 2041).

## 1.5 Spatial Approaches

### Overview

- 1.5.1 Five Spatial Approaches relating to the distribution of housing and employment growth in the City Area have been identified in the Issues and Options Consultation Document, ranging from the continuation of the approach of the adopted Local Plan, through to more divergent approaches including growth along transport corridors and a free-standing new settlement. An overview of the Spatial Approaches in terms of the quantum of housing to be distributed across the City Area is presented in **Table 1.3**.

Table 1.3 Summary of Proposed Spatial Approaches

	<b>Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy</b>	<b>Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas</b>	<b>Approach C: Wider Strategy</b>	<b>Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors</b>	<b>Approach E: New Settlement</b>
Brownfield sites in Chelmsford Urban Area	1,000	2,500	1,000	1,000	1,000
Edge of Chelmsford extension ((West Chelmsford, East Chelmsford)	1,500	1,500	1,500	500	
North of South Woodham Ferrers	500	500	500	500	
North East Chelmsford	3,500*	3,500*	3,500*	4,500*	3,000*
Key Service Settlements (Bicknacre, Boreham, Broomfield, Danbury, Great Leighs)	1,500**		1,000**		
Service Settlements (East Hanningfield, Ford End, Great Waltham, Little Waltham, Rettendon Place, Woodham Ferrers)			500**		
Settlements with good proximity to transport corridors (Chatham Green, Howe Green, Rettendon Common)				1,500**	
New Strategic Settlement/ Garden Community (Hammonds Farm)					4,000

\* 2,500 is already within the existing allocation area but not allocated for development within the current Plan period up to 2036

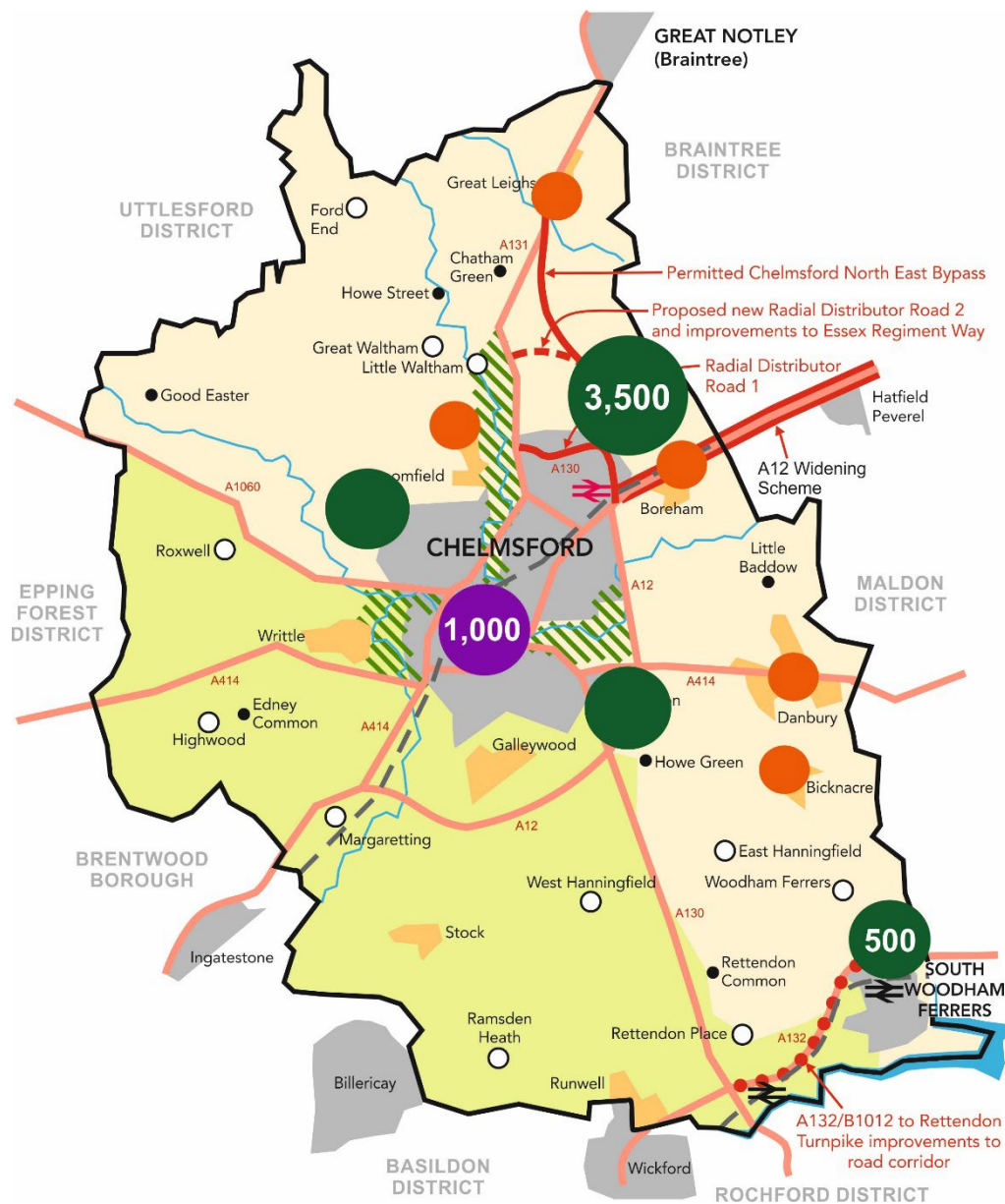
\*\* Split across one or more settlement



## Approach A – Growing the existing strategy

- 1.5.2 This approach continues the approach already being used in the adopted Local Plan, with new allocations on previously developed land and at larger villages, and expanding allocated sites.

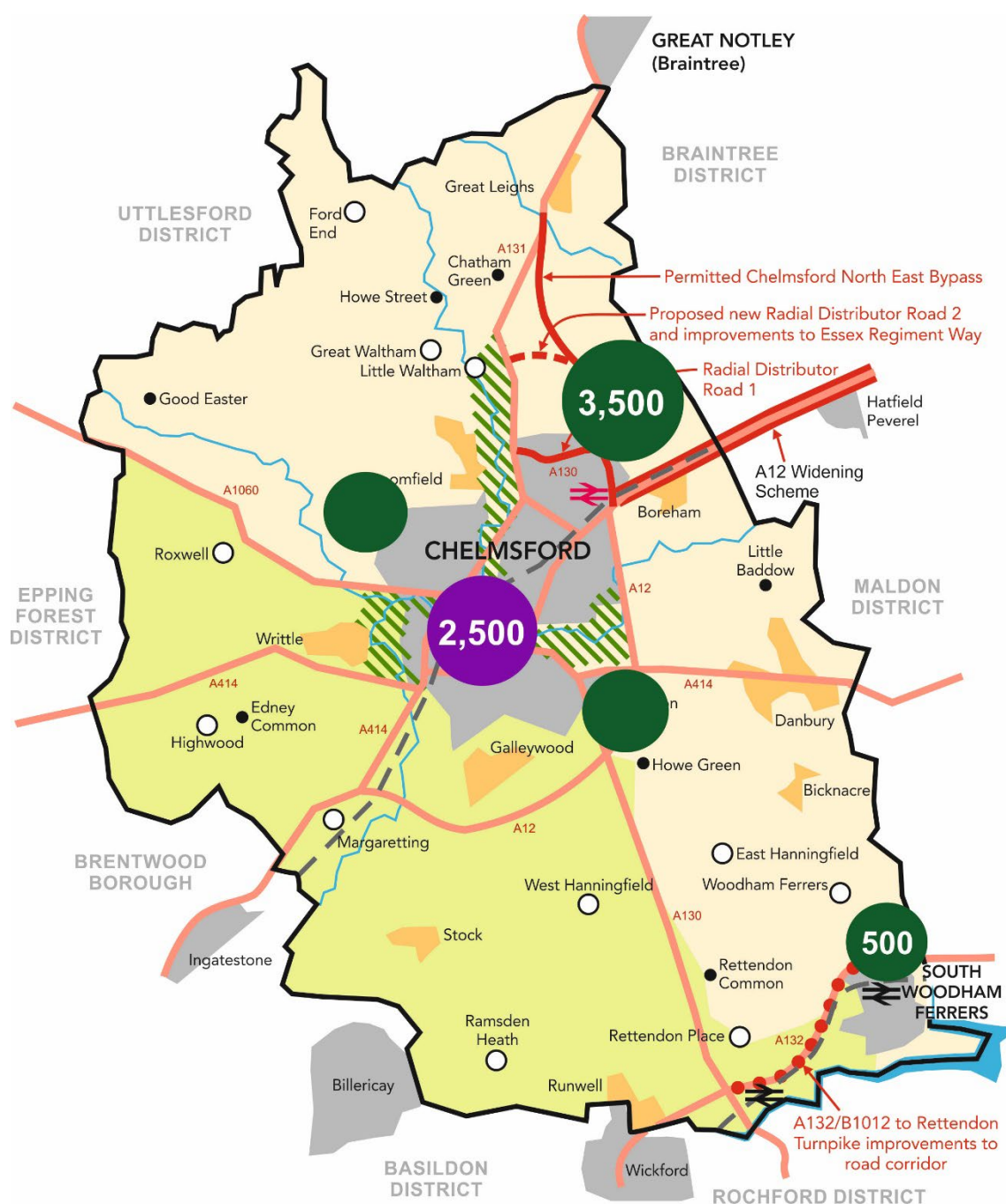
Location type	Where	Indicative number
Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	1,000
Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	3,500
Expanding allocated sites	South Woodham Ferrers	500
Expanding allocated sites	West Chelmsford and east Chelmsford	1,500 in total across the two areas
Development at larger villages	Bicknacre, Boreham, Broomfield, Danbury, Great Leighs	1,500 in total across the listed areas



## Approach B – Concentrating growth in urban areas

1.5.3 This continues the approach already being used in the adopted Local Plan, but maximises development in the City Centre and urban area, and expands allocated sites.

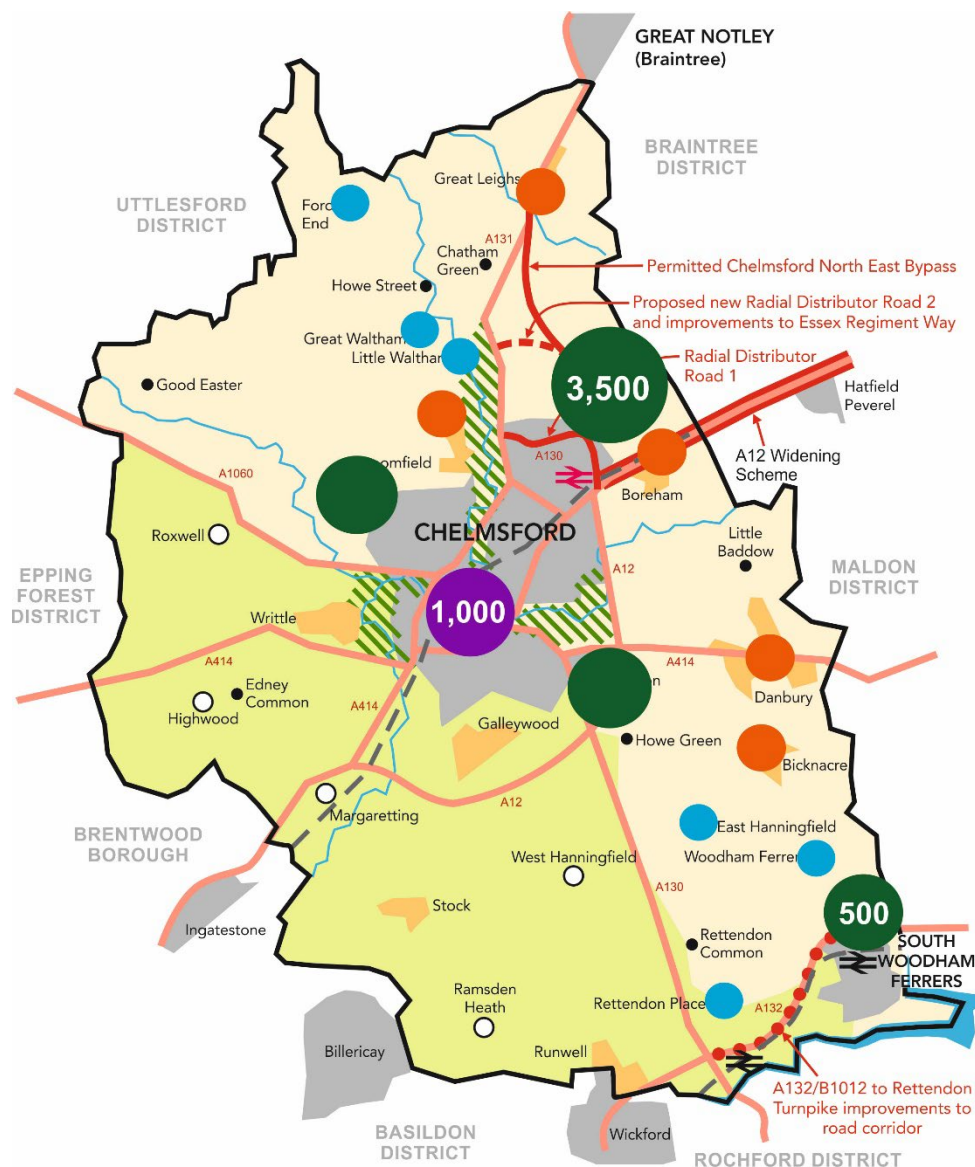
Location type	Where	Indicative number
Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	2,500
Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	3,500
Expanding allocated sites	South Woodham Ferrers	500
Expanding allocated sites	West Chelmsford and east Chelmsford	1,500 in total across the two areas



## Approach C – Exploring a wider strategy

- 1.5.4 This approach continues the approach already being used in the adopted Local Plan, with new allocations on previously developed land and at larger villages, and expanding allocated sites. In addition, it proposes some development at smaller villages.

Location type	Where	Indicative number
Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	1,000
Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	3,500
Expanding allocated sites	South Woodham Ferrers	500
Expanding allocated sites	West Chelmsford and East Chelmsford	1,500 in total across the two areas
Development at larger villages	Bicknacre, Boreham, Broomfield, Danbury, Great Leighs	1,000 in total across the listed areas
Development at smaller villages	East Hanningfield, Ford End, Great Waltham, Little Waltham, Rettendon Place, Woodham Ferrers	500 in total across the listed areas

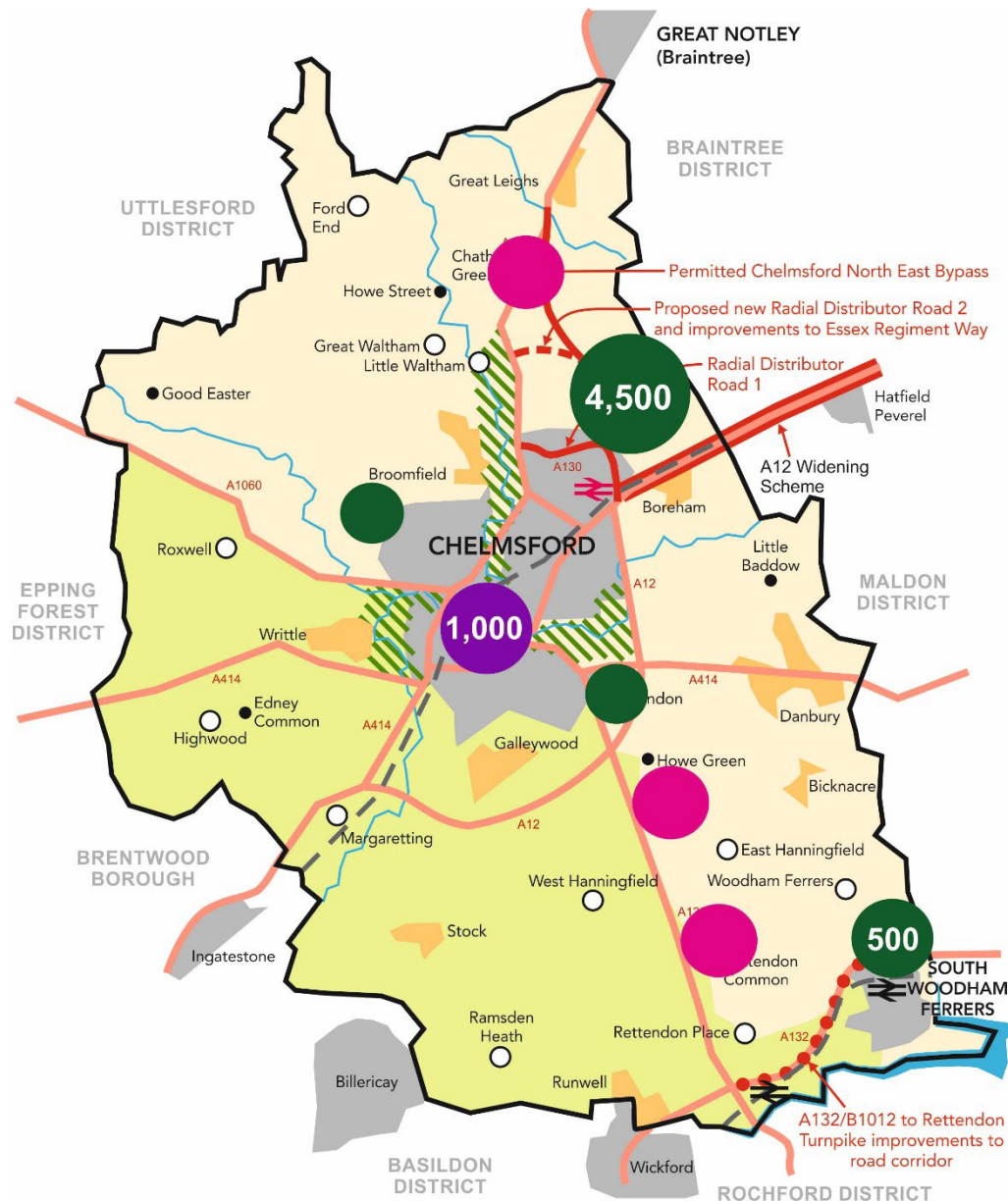




## Approach D – Exploring growth along transport corridors

- 1.5.5 This approach continues the approach already being used in the adopted Local Plan, with new allocations on previously developed land and expanding allocated sites including maximising growth at Chelmsford Garden Community. In addition, it proposes some growth along main transport corridors.

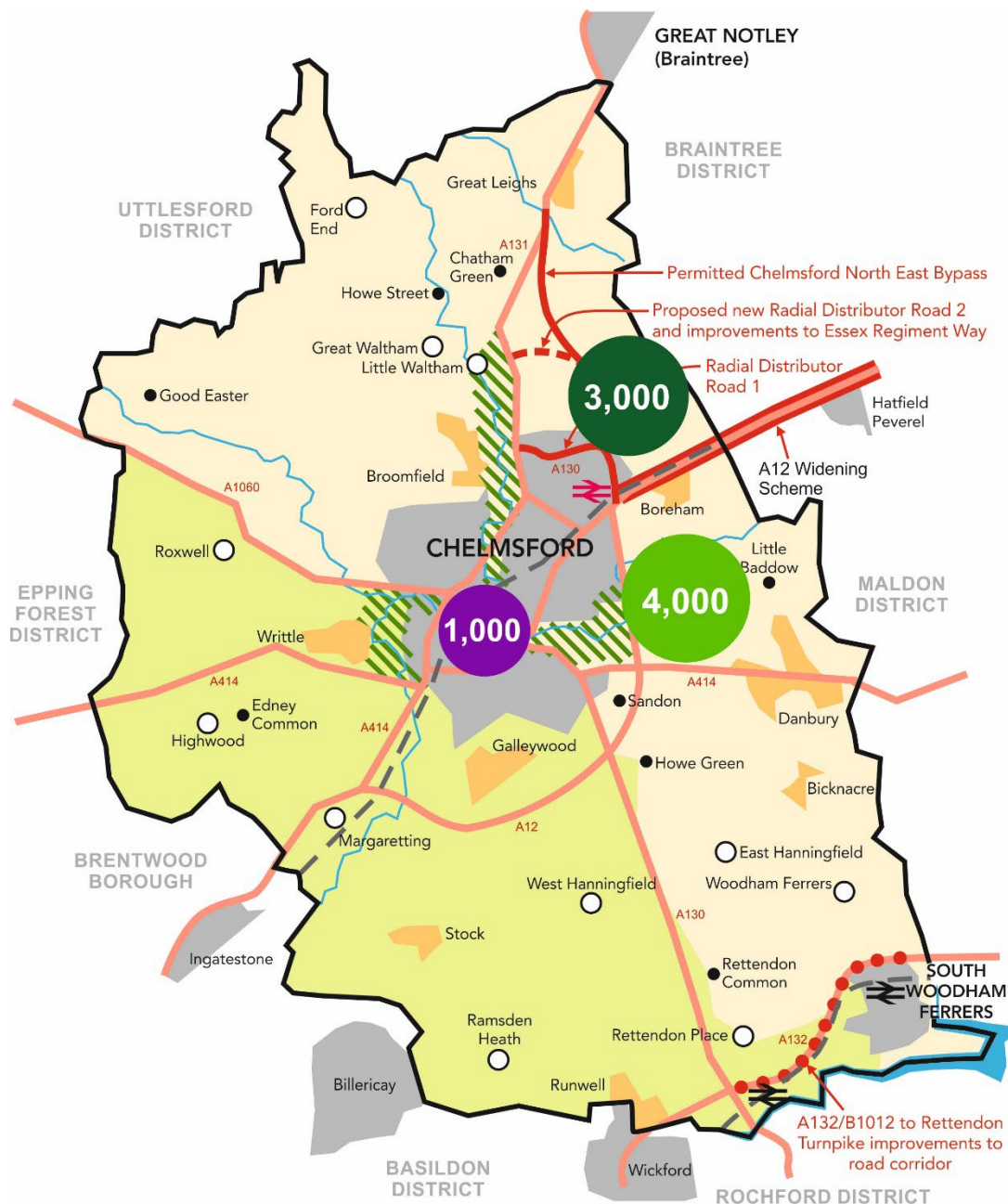
Location type	Where	Indicative number
Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	1,000
Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	4,500
Expanding allocated sites	South Woodham Ferrers	500
Expanding allocated sites	West Chelmsford and east Chelmsford	500 in total across the two areas
Growth along transport corridors	Chatham Green, Howe Green, Rettendon Common	1,500 in total across one or more of the listed areas



## Approach E – Exploring a new settlement

- 1.5.6 This approach continues the approach already being used in the adopted Local Plan, with new allocations on previously developed land and expanding the Chelmsford Garden Community. In addition, it proposes a new large settlement/garden community.

Location type	Where	Indicative number
Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	1,000
Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	3,000
New large settlement/garden community	Hammonds Farm (east of A12/north of A414)	4,000



- 1.5.7 For each approach, information is provided in the Issues and Options Consultation Document relating to likely associated infrastructure requirements.

## 1.6 Supporting Policies

- 1.6.1 The Local Plan will include new and amended policies to reflect changes in legislation, wider policies and implementation of the adopted Local Plan. **Table 1.4** sets out, by strategic priority, areas, where new or amended policies might be required. As policy wording has yet to be drafted, these policy areas have not been assessed as part of this IIA; this assessment will be presented in the IIA of the Preferred Options Consultation Document.

**Table 1.4 Potential New or Amended Policy Areas by Strategic Priority**

Strategic Priority	Potential New or Amended Policy Areas
<b>Strategic Priorities for Climate</b>	
Addressing the Climate and Ecological Emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requiring all new development to include small-scale renewable energy on-site, such as PV panels and small wind turbines, and requiring all large-scale developments to consider community scale renewable energy generation.</li> <li>• Net zero new homes</li> <li>• BREEAM alternatives</li> <li>• New site allocations</li> <li>• Requiring three new trees to be planted for all net new dwellings.</li> <li>• Ensuring new streets are tree-lined.</li> <li>• Water use and re-use</li> <li>• Re-use/recycling of materials in development.</li> </ul>
Promoting smart, active travel and sustainable transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing provision for electric vehicle charging points (EVCPs) and fast charging EVCPs for new housing and employment development.</li> <li>• Increasing provision for well-designed and secure cycle parking and electric cycle charging points for new housing and employment development, as well as associated storage facilities for cycle equipment (helmets, paniers etc.)</li> <li>• Requiring contributions towards or the provision of car clubs on all major development sites, not just the larger strategic sites.</li> <li>• Requiring the layout of major site allocations for housing and employment to explore opportunities to future proof for autonomous vehicles.</li> <li>• Allocating or safeguarding land for expanding current Park and Ride sites.</li> <li>• Opportunities could also be taken to ensure that the locations and layout of future housing and employment site allocations help enable direct access to the walking and cycling network proposed by the Chelmsford Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) in order to encourage active travel.</li> <li>• 15/20 Minute Walkable Neighbourhoods within major new developments including large strategic housing site allocations.</li> </ul>



Strategic Priority	Potential New or Amended Policy Areas
Protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment, and support an increase in biodiversity and ecological networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Require at least 20% Biodiversity Net Gain for all major developments.</li> </ul>
<b>Strategic Priorities for Growth</b>	
Ensuring sustainable patterns of development and protecting the Green Belt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Role of the Green Wedge in the contribution it can make in accommodating active travel corridors to link the City Centre with existing and new development on the edge of the City.</li> </ul>
Meeting the needs for new homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider whether it is appropriate to have a higher Housing Requirement to meet the housing needs of specific groups.</li> <li>Consider whether it is appropriate to include a Housing Requirement for designated neighbourhood areas.</li> <li>Consider whether a different approach to the mix of market housing is required.</li> <li>Consider whether the level, type and mix of affordable housing needs to change.</li> <li>Incorporating a First Homes exceptions site policy.</li> <li>Consider whether the threshold for Affordable Housing needs to be the same as the national standard.</li> <li>Consider whether the approach to Specialist Residential Accommodation needs to be more flexible.</li> <li>Consider allocating more smaller sites to meet the need to identify land to accommodate at least 10% of the Housing Requirement on sites no larger than one hectare.</li> <li>Should we be considering allocating new affordable housing sites adjacent to defined settlement boundaries? Would this enable the delivery of more affordable housing? Consider whether it is appropriate to have a new policy resisting inappropriate development of residential gardens.</li> </ul>
Fostering growth and investment and providing new jobs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing facilities where people from different businesses can share working spaces or premises as well as supporting services.</li> <li>Supporting Small and Medium Enterprises and business start-ups by providing facilities for co-working space and grow on space.</li> <li>Allocating additional employment space to meet future needs identified.</li> <li>Reflecting new legislation which allows the conversion from offices and light industrial premises to residential and other uses without planning permission.</li> <li>Delivering a range of diverse of employment sites with different employment uses to support economic growth and maintain Chelmsford's position as a diverse, well balanced and strong local economy.</li> </ul>

Strategic Priority	Potential New or Amended Policy Areas
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring a flexible supply of land and premises for employment development in a changing employment context (including retail restructure, pandemic and changing commuting patterns etc.)</li> <li>Supporting economic development in the rural areas of Chelmsford.</li> <li>Supporting the growth of new sectors linked to the growth of Anglia Ruskin University such as medical technologies and to support the Essex Sector Development Strategy for other target sectors, including quantum and space.</li> <li>Nurturing the growth of existing sectors such as the creative sector and tourism sector.</li> <li>Supporting the growing green economy.</li> <li>Ensuring that the employment opportunities in the Garden Community maximise the delivery of the adopted Garden Community Principles and support the development of 5,500 new homes.</li> <li>Looking beyond the Chelmsford administrative area and embracing the opportunities presented across wider economic geographies, including the North Essex Economic Board area and London.</li> <li>Requiring development and end-use Employment and Skills Plans for larger developments to align construction skills and job opportunities with training provision.</li> </ul>
<b>Strategic Priorities for Place</b>	
Creating well designed and attractive places, and promoting the health and social wellbeing of communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health Impact Assessments (HIAs) for larger development proposals.</li> <li>Healthy Places – explore how we can bring the objectives of the Council's Livewell Development Accreditation into planning policy.</li> <li>Housing density standards</li> <li>Design Codes</li> </ul>
Delivering new and improved infrastructure to support growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No immediate changes</li> </ul>
Encouraging resilience in retail, leisure, commercial and cultural development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No immediate changes</li> </ul>

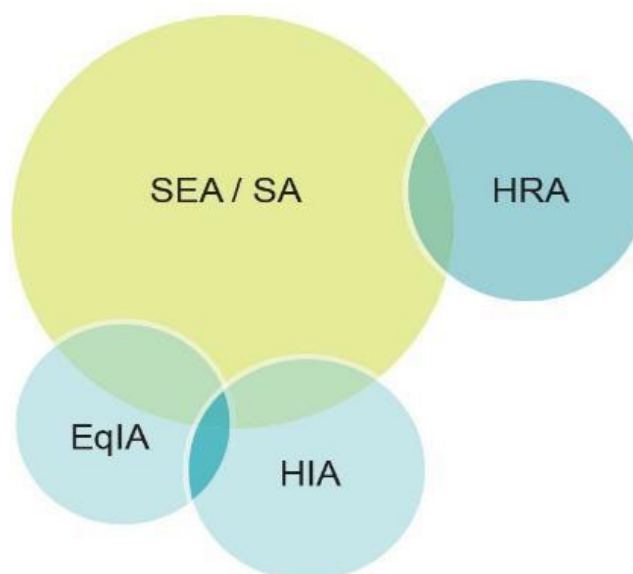
## 1.7 Integrated Impact Assessment

### What is Integrated Impact Assessment?

- 1.7.1 The IIA brings together into a single framework four different strands of assessment, Sustainability Appraisal (SA), Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Health Impact Assessment (HIA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) and Habitats Regulations

Assessment (HRA) (**Figure 1.1**), in order to assess the socio-economic and environmental effects of the Local Plan.

Figure 1.1 Overlaps between the different forms of assessment



## Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- 1.7.2 SA is an iterative, evidence based and qualitative process that appraises the environmental, social and economic performance of the Local Plan against a set of sustainability objectives in order to identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant social, economic and environmental effects. Where appropriate, the SA will highlight areas where measures to avoid, minimise or mitigate any potential negative effects could be required. Similarly, and where appropriate, opportunities to enhance the contribution that the Local Plan could make to sustainability should be identified. In undertaking this requirement, local planning authorities must<sup>7</sup> also incorporate the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004<sup>8</sup> (SEA Regulations). The SEA Regulations seek to provide a high level of protection of the environment by integrating environmental considerations into the process of preparing certain plans and programmes.

## Equalities Impact Assessment (EqlA)

- 1.7.3 EqlA is a tool to assist the Council in complying with requirements under the UK Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty, which require public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities. Legislation identifies nine protected characteristics and the EqlA considers the potential for effects on these.

<sup>7</sup> Paragraph 32 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2021)

<sup>8</sup> Statutory Instrument 2004 No. 1633 *The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004*. Available from [SEA Regulations](#)

- 1.7.4 Reflecting the need for early consideration of equalities matters, **Appendix H** presents a high level EqIA. As Local Plan policies and proposals are firmed up, a detailed Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and EqIA will be undertaken as part of the assessment of Preferred Options according to the assessment frameworks set out in the Scoping Report and the initial observations set out in **Appendix H**.

## Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

- 1.7.5 HIA will assess the main health and wellbeing impacts of policies and proposals in order to identify any opportunities for the emerging planning policies to maximise the benefits and avoid any potential adverse impacts. The HIA process looks at the positive and negative health and wellbeing impacts of development as well as assessing the indirect implications for the wider community. Essex County Council, as part of the Essex Design Guide<sup>9</sup> has produced the Essex Healthier Places Guidance which together with the Livewell Development Accreditation provides the criteria for the specific consideration of health-related issues.
- 1.7.6 Health, well-being and equalities matters are included at a high level within this current assessment through the assessment of growth, economic and spatial approaches against Health and well-being (Objective 5), and implicit in Housing (Objective 2), Economy (Objective 3) and Sustainable Living and Revitalisation (Objective 4) where access to homes, jobs and services are included in the guide questions.
- 1.7.7 The specification of policies within the Review of the Adopted Local Plan, along with locationally-specific allocations as part of the preferred options stage, will enable the detailed assessment of the likely impacts against detailed health and equalities measures.

## Habitats Regulations Assessment

- 1.7.8 Regulation 105 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (the 'Habitats Regulations') states that if a land-use plan is "(a) is likely to have a significant effect on a European site<sup>10</sup> or a European offshore marine site<sup>11 12</sup> either alone or in combination with other plans or projects); and (b) is not directly connected with or necessary

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.essexdesignguide.co.uk/supplementary-guidance/health-impact-assessments/process-method/>

<sup>10</sup> 'European sites' are: any Special Area of Conservation (SAC) from the point at which the European Commission and the UK Government agreed the site as a 'Site of Community Importance' (SCI) (if this was before 31 Jan 2020); any classified Special Protection Area (SPA); and any candidate SAC (cSAC). However, the term is also commonly used when referring to potential SPAs (pSPAs), to which the provisions of Article 4(4) of Directive 2009/147/EC (the 'new wild birds directive') apply; and to possible SACs (pSACs) and listed Ramsar Sites, to which the provisions of the Habitats Regulations are applied a matter of Government policy (NPPF para. 176) when considering development proposals that may affect them. "European site" is therefore used in this report in its broadest sense, as an umbrella term for the above designated sites

<sup>11</sup> 'European offshore marine sites' are defined by Regulation 15 of *The Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2007* (as amended); these regulations cover waters (and hence sites) over 12 nautical miles from the coast.

<sup>12</sup> The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 were amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 to reflect the UK's exit from the EU. These largely carried forward the provisions and terminology of the 2017 Regulations (so, for example, the term 'European site' is currently retained and for all practical purposes the definition is essentially unchanged). However, the UK European sites are no longer legally part of the 'Natura 2000' network of protected sites, with this being replaced in the UK by the 'national site network' which comprises all existing SACs and SPAs and any new SACs and SPAs designated under the 2019 Regulations (Ramsar sites do not form part of the network). This also has relevance if compensation measures are required for an adverse effect, as the relevant metric is the overall coherence of the 'national site network'. The 2019 Regulations establish management objectives for the 'national site network' which contribute to the conservation of UK habitats and species that are also of pan-European importance, and to the achievement of their favourable conservation status within the UK.

*to the management of the site” then the plan-making authority must “... make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site in view of that site’s conservation objectives” before the plan is given effect. The process by which Regulation 105 is met is known as Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)<sup>13</sup>.*

- 1.7.9 An HRA determines whether there will be any ‘likely significant effects’ (LSE) on any European site as a result of a plan’s implementation (either on its own or ‘in combination’ with other plans or projects) and, if so, whether these effects will result in any adverse effects on site integrity. The Council has a statutory duty to prepare the Local Plan and is therefore the Competent Authority for an HRA.

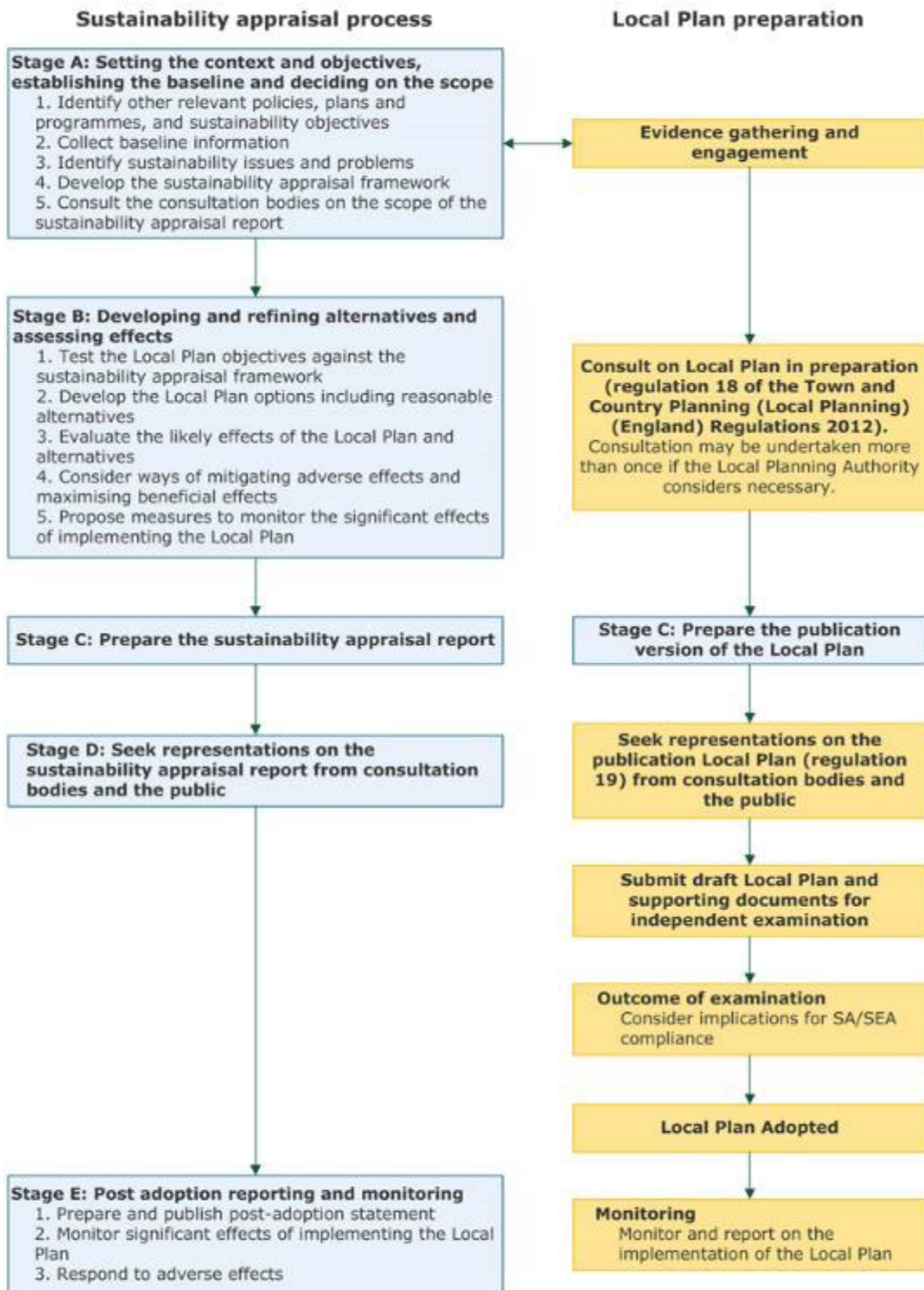
## Stages in the Impact Assessment Process

- 1.7.10 There are five key stages in the SA process and these are highlighted in **Figure 1.2** together with links to the development of the Local Plan. The stages for the IIA preparation process mirror those of SA.

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<sup>13</sup> The term ‘Appropriate Assessment’ has been historically used to describe the process of assessment; however, the process is more accurately termed ‘Habitats Regulations Assessment’ (HRA), with the term ‘Appropriate Assessment’ limited to the specific stage within the process.

Figure 1.2 The Sustainability Appraisal (IIA) Process and Linkages with Local Plan Preparation



Source: Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) (2014) *Planning Practice Guidance*.

- 1.7.11 For the purposes of this IIA Report, in Figure 1.2, stages B and C should be viewed as referring to the Issues and Options Consultation Document rather than the Local Plan. SA stage B and C will be repeated for the Preferred Options Consultation Draft, the Draft Pre-Submission Review of the Adopted Local Plan and the Submission Draft Review of the



Adopted Local Plan. For Sustainability Appraisal Report read Integrated Impact Assessment Report.

- 1.7.12 The first stage (**Stage A**) led to the production of a SA Scoping Report<sup>14</sup>. Informed by a review of other relevant policies, plans and programmes as well as baseline information and the identification of key sustainability issues affecting the Chelmsford City Area, the Scoping Report set out the proposed framework for the assessment of the Local Plan (the Assessment Framework).
- 1.7.13 The Scoping Report was subject to consultation that ran from Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April until Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022. A total of 11 responses were received to the consultation from the statutory SEA consultation bodies (Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England) as well as a range of other stakeholders. Responses related to all aspects of the Scoping Report and have resulted in amendments to the Assessment Framework. **Appendix A** contains a schedule of the consultation responses received to the Scoping Report, the Council's response and the subsequent action taken and reflected in this IIA Report.
- 1.7.14 **Stage B** is an iterative process involving the appraisal and refinement of the Local Plan with the findings presented in a series of interim IIA Reports published alongside the Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation Document and Preferred Options Consultation Document. In this context, this report represents the first formal output of Stage B and is intended to support the development and refinement of the Local Plan by testing the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of the proposals contained within the Issues and Options Consultation Document using the revised Assessment Framework. This will help promote sustainable development through the early integration of sustainability considerations (including health and equality) into the preparation of the Local Plan. This IIA Report has been issued for consultation alongside the Issues and Options Consultation Document.
- 1.7.15 At **Stage C**, a submission draft IIA Report will be prepared to accompany the submission draft Local Plan. This will be prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the SEA Directive and will be available for consultation alongside the draft Local Plan itself prior to consideration by an independent planning inspector (**Stage D**).
- 1.7.16 Following Examination in Public (EiP), and subject to any significant changes to the draft Local Plan that may require appraisal as a result of the EiP, the Council will issue a Post Adoption Statement as soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of the Local Plan. This will set out the results of the consultation and IIA process and the extent to which the findings of the IIA have been accommodated in the adopted Local Plan. During the period of the Local Plan, the Council will monitor its implementation and any significant social, economic and environmental effects (**Stage E**).

## 1.8 Structure of this Report

- 1.8.1 This Report is structured as follows:

<sup>14</sup> Wood (2022) Integrated Impact Assessment of the Review of the Adopted Chelmsford Local Plan

- **Non-Technical Summary** - Provides a summary of the IIA Report including the findings of the assessment of plan approaches;
- **Section 1: Introduction** - Includes a summary of the Local Plan and the Issues and Options Consultation Document, an overview of IIA, report contents and an outline of how to respond to the consultation;
- **Section 2: Review of Plans and Programmes** - Provides an overview of the review of those plans and programmes relevant to the Local Plan and IIA that is contained at **Appendix B**;
- **Section 3: Baseline Analysis** - Presents the baseline analysis of the City Area's social, economic and environmental characteristics and identifies the key sustainability issues that have informed the Assessment Framework and IIA;
- **Section 4: IIA Approach** - Outlines the approach to the IIA of the Issues and Options Consultation Document including the Assessment Framework;
- **Section 5: Assessment of Effects** - Presents the findings of the assessment of the Issues and Options Consultation Document;
- **Section 6: Conclusions and Next Steps** - Presents the conclusions of the IIA of the Issues and Options Consultation Document and details the next steps in the assessment process.

1.8.2 This IIA Report has been prepared in accordance with the reporting requirements of the SEA Directive and associated Regulations, although at this early stage in the development of the Local Plan and IIA thereof it is too premature for all of these requirements to be met (in particular, those requirements relating to the assessment of cumulative effects and monitoring). A Quality Assurance Checklist is presented at **Appendix C**.

## 1.9 How to Comment on this IIA Report

1.9.1 This IIA Report has been issued for consultation alongside the Issues and Options Consultation Document from Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2022 for eight weeks until Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022. Details of how to respond to the consultation are provided below.

### This Consultation: How to Give Us Your Views

We would welcome your views on any aspect of the IIA Report. In particular, we would like to hear your views as to whether the effects which are predicted are likely and whether there are any significant effects which have not been considered. Please provide your comments by 4pm on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022. The Council encourages people to submit comments via its consultation portal at: [www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planningpolicyconsult](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planningpolicyconsult)

Alternatively, comments can be sent to:

- By email – [planning.policy@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@chelmsford.gov.uk)
- By post – Spatial Planning Services, Chelmsford City Council, Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford, CM1 1JE
- By hand – During normal opening hours to Chelmsford City Council Customer Service Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford.

### PLEASE NOTE:

The consultation has been extended to run for ten weeks from 10am on Thursday 11 August 2022 until 4pm on Thursday 20 October 2022.

## 2. Review of Plans, Policies and Programmes

### 2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 One of the first steps in undertaking the IIA is to identify and review other relevant plans and programmes that could influence, or be influenced by, the Local Plan. The requirement to undertake a plan and programme review and identify the environmental and wider sustainability objectives relevant to the plan being assessed is set out in the SEA Directive. An 'Environmental Report' required under the SEA Directive should include:

*"An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes" to determine "the environmental protection objectives, established at international (European) community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme...and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation" (Annex 1 (a), (e)).*

- 2.1.2 Plans and programmes relevant to the Local Plan may be those at an international/European, UK, national, regional, sub-regional or local level, as relevant to the scope of the document. The review of relevant plans and programmes aims to identify the relationships between the Local Plan and these other documents, i.e. how the Local Plan could be affected by the other plans' and programmes' aims, objectives and/or targets, or how it could contribute to the achievement of their sustainability objectives. The review also ensures that the relevant environmental protection and sustainability objectives are integrated into the IIA. Additionally, reviewing plans and programmes can provide appropriate information on the baseline for the plan area and help identify the key sustainability issues.
- 2.1.3 The completed review of plans and programmes has been used to provide the policy context for the subsequent appraisal process and help to inform the development of objectives and guide questions that comprise the Assessment Framework (see **Section 4**).

### 2.2 Review of Plans and Programmes

- 2.2.1 Over 100 international/European, national, regional/sub-regional and local level plans and programmes were reviewed for the Scoping Report (and updated in light of consultation responses to the Scoping Report). These are listed in **Table 2.1**, with the results of the review provided in **Appendix B**.

Table 2.1 Plans and Programmes Reviewed for the IIA of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan

**Plan/Programme****International/European Plans and Programmes**

- The Cancun Agreement (2011)
- Council Directive 91/271/EEC for Urban Waste-water Treatment
- European Commission (EC) (2011) A Resource- Efficient Europe- Flagship Initiative Under the Europe 2020 Strategy, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions (COM 2011/21)
- EC (2013) Seventh Environmental Action Programme to 2020 'Living well, within the limits of our planet'
- EC (2013) Towards Social Investment for Growth and Cohesion – including implementing the European Social Fund 2014-2020
- EC (2014) A Policy Framework for Climate and Energy in the Period from 2020 to 2030
- EC (2021) Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change
- European Landscape Convention 2000 (became binding March 2007)
- European Union (EU) European Employment Strategy
- EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)
- EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (94/62/EC)
- EU Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)
- EU Directive on the Landfill of Waste (99/31/EC)
- EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)
- EU 2001/42/EC on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment (SEA Directive)
- EU Directive 2002/91/EC (2002) Directive 2002/91/EC on the Energy Performance of Buildings
- EU Environmental Noise Directive (Directive 2002/49/EC)
- EU Bathing Waters Directive 2006/7/EC
- EU (2006) Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy
- EU Floods Directive 2007/60/EC
- EU Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC) and previous directives (96/62/EC; 99/30/EC; 2000/69/EC & 2002/3/EC)
- EU Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/409/EEC)
- EU Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC) & Subsequent Amendments
- EU Directive on Waste (Directive 75/442/EEC, 2006/12/EC 2008/98/EC as amended)
- EU Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC)
- EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 – towards implementation
- EU (2015) Invasive Alien Species Regulation (1143/2014/EU)
- The Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada Convention)
- The European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Valetta Convention)
- EU (2020) Biodiversity Strategy to 2030
- UNESCO World Heritage Convention (1972)
- UNFCCC (1997) The Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC
- UN (2016) The Paris Agreement
- UN (2021) COP26
- World Commission on Environment and Development (1987) Our Common Future (The Brundtland Report)
- The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), Johannesburg, September 2002 - Commitments arising from Johannesburg Summit (2002)

**National Plans and Programmes**

- Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (DBEI) (2017) Clean Growth Strategy
- DBEI (2018) Industrial Strategy: building a Britain fit for the future
- DBEI (2021) Carbon Budgets – Fourth to Sixth Carbon Budgets
- Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) (2001) The Historic Environment: A Force for our Future
- DCMS (2007) Heritage Protection for the 21st Century - White Paper
- DCMS (2008) Play Strategy for England

## Plan/Programme

- DCMS (2013) Scheduled Monuments & Nationally Important but Non-Scheduled Monuments
- DCMS (2015) Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation
- DCMS (2016) The Culture White Paper
- Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) (2008) Living Working Countryside: The Taylor Review of Rural Economy and Affordable Housing
- DCLG (2014) Planning Policy for Traveller Sites
- DCLG (2021) Planning Practice Guidance
- DCLG (2014) National Planning Policy for Waste
- DCLG (2014) Written Statement on Sustainable Drainage Systems
- Department for Education (2014) Home to School Travel and Transport Guidance
- Department for Education (2016) DfE Strategy 2015 – 2020: World Class Education and Care
- Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) (2009) The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan: National Strategy for Climate and Energy
- Department for Food and Rural Affairs (2002) "Working with the grain of nature – A Biodiversity Strategy for England"
- Defra (2004) Rural Strategy
- Defra (2007) The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- Defra (2019) Clean Air Strategy
- Defra (2007) Strategy for England's Trees, Woods and Forests
- Defra (2008) England Biodiversity Strategy Climate Change Adaptation Principles Conserving Biodiversity in a Changing Climate
- Defra (2010) Making Space for Nature: A Review of England's Wildlife Sites and Ecological Network
- Defra (2011) Safeguarding Our Soils: A Strategy for England
- Defra (2011) Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services
- Defra (2012) UK post 2010 Biodiversity Framework
- Defra (2013) The National Adaptation Programme – Making the Country Resilient to a Changing Climate
- Defra (2021) Waste Management Plan for England
- Defra (2013) Government Forestry and Woodlands Policy Statement
- Defra (2017) Air Quality Plan for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) in UK
- Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLHC) (2021) National Design Guide
- DLHC (2021) National Model Design Code
- Department for Transport (2019) Future of Mobility: Urban Strategy
- Department for Transport (2021) Transitioning to zero emission cars and vans: 2035 delivery plan
- Environment Agency (2009) 'Water for people and the environment' - Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales
- Environment Agency (2016) Managing Water Extraction
- Environment Agency (2021) Flood risk assessments: climate change allowances
- Forestry Commission (2005) Trees and Woodlands Nature's Health Service
- Historic England (2015) Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Notes 1 to 3
- HM Government (1979) Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act
- HM Government (1981) The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
- HM Government (1990 Planning) (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
- HM Government (2000) Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
- HM Government (2003) Sustainable Energy Act
- HM Government (2016) Energy Act
- HM Government (2004, revised 2006) Housing Act
- HM Government (2005) Securing the future - delivering UK sustainable development strategy
- HM Government (2006) The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006
- HM Government (2007) Energy White Paper - Meeting the Energy Challenge
- HM Government (2008) The Climate Change Act 2008 (as amended)
- HM Government (2008) The Planning Act 2008
- HM Government (2009) The UK Renewable Energy Strategy
- HM Government (2010) The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010
- HM Government (2010) Flood and Water Management Act 2010
- HM Government (2010) Local Growth: Realising Every Place's Potential

## Plan/Programme

- HM Government (2010) White Paper: Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Strategy for Public Health in England
- HM Government (2011) Water for Life, White Paper
- HM Government (2011) Plan for Growth
- HM Government (2011) National Infrastructure Plan
- HM Government (2011) The Localism Act
- HM Government (2011) UK Marine Policy Statement
- HM Government (2021) South East Marine Plan
- HM Government (2013) Carbon Plan: Delivering our Low Carbon Future
- HM Government (2013) The Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) Regulations 2013
- HM Government (2013) Achieving Strong and Sustainable Economic Growth
- HM Government (2014) Water Act 2014
- HM Government (2015) Water Framework Directive (Standards and Classification) Directions (England and Wales) 2015
- HM Government (2016) Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016
- HM Government (2016) Government Response to the Committee on Climate Change
- HM Government (2017) The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017
- HM Government (2021) Environment Act
- HM Government (2021) Build Back Better: Our Plan for Growth
- HM Government (2022) Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener
- Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (2017) (MHCLG) Fixing Our Broken House Market
- MHCLG (2017) Planning for the Right Homes in the Right Places
- MHCLG (2021) National Planning Policy Framework
- NHS England (2014) Five Year Forward View
- NHS England (2017) Next Steps on the Five Year Forward View
- Public Health England (2020) Health Impact Assessment in spatial planning - A guide for local authority public health and planning teams
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## Regional Plans and Programmes

- Essex and Suffolk Water (2019) Water Resources Management Plan
- Water Resources East (2022) The Emerging Water Resources Regional Plan for Eastern England
- Environment Agency (2009) Water for People and the Environment: Water Resource Strategy – Regional Action Plan for Anglian Region
- Environment Agency (2010) Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan 2
- Environment Agency (2015) River Basin Management Plan Anglian River Basin District
- Environment Agency (2016) River Basin District Flood Risk Management Plan Anglian River Basin District
- Mayor of London (Greater London Authority) (2014) London Infrastructure Plan 2050
- Mayor of London (Greater London Authority) (2021) The London Plan: The Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London
- Mid Essex CCG (2014) Five Year Strategy 2014-2019
- Natural England (2015) Site Improvement Plan: Essex Estuaries
- South East Local Enterprise Partnership (2015) Rural Strategy 2015 – 2021
- South East Local Enterprise Partnership (2017) Growth Deal Round 3
- Woodland for Life (2011) Realising the benefits of trees, woods and forests in the East of England

## Sub-Regional (County) Plans and Programmes

- Environment Agency (2009) North Essex Catchment Flood Management Plan
- Essex Biodiversity Project (2011) Essex Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2020
- Essex County Council (2008) Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Essex (2007-2032)
- Essex County Council (2008) Essex Strategy 2008-2018 – Liberating Potential: Fulfilling Lives, Essex Partnership
- Essex County Council (2009) Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan
- Essex County Council (2011) Essex Transport Strategy: The Local Transport Plan for Essex
- Essex County Council (2012) Economic Growth Strategy



## Plan/Programme

- Essex County Council (2014) Essex Minerals Local Plan
- Essex County Council (2014) Economic Plan for Essex
- Essex County Council (2022) Essex Sector Development Strategy
- Essex County Council (2015) Education Transport Policy
- Essex County Council (2016) Essex Cycling Strategy
- Essex County Council (2017) Chelmsford's Future Transport Network
- Essex County Council (2021) Essex Walking Strategy
- Essex County Council (2020) Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy
- Essex County Council (2020) The Essex Prosperity and Productivity Plan
- Essex County Council (2020) Developers' Guide for Infrastructure Contributions
- Essex County Council (2020) Sustainable Drainage Systems Design Guide
- Essex County Council (No Date) The Future of Essex
- Essex County Council and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council (2017) Waste Local Plan
- Essex County Council (2018, updated often) The Essex Design Guide
- Essex County Council (2018) Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
- Essex county Council (2018) Essex Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2022
- Essex County Council (2020) Local and Neighbourhood Planners' Guide to School Organisation
- Essex County Council (2020) Essex Children and Young People's Plan
- Essex County Council (2020) Essex Green Infrastructure Strategy
- Essex County Council (2021) Everyone's Essex: our plan for levelling up the county 2021 to 2025
- Essex County Council (2021) Organisation Plan 2021/22
- Essex County Council (2021) The Essex Plan for Working Families
- Essex County Council (2022) Levelling up Essex – An Essex White Paper
- Essex County Council (2022) Essex early Years and Childcare Strategy 2022-2027
- Essex Climate Action Commission (2021) Net Zero: Making Essex Carbon Neutral
- Essex Planning Officers Association (2021) Livewell Development Accreditation
- Essex Planning Officers Association (2021) Essex Healthy Places – Advice Notes for Planners, Developers and Designers
- Essex County Council (2021) Essex Baseline and Pathway to Net Zero
- Essex Planning Officers Association (2009) Parking Standards - Design and Good Practice
- Essex Police (2020) Force Plan 2020/2021
- Essex School Organisation Service (2022) 10 Year Plan – Meeting the demand for mainstream school places in Essex
- Essex School Organisation Service (2022) Garden Communities and Planning School Places
- Essex Wildlife Trust (2013) Living Landscapes – A Vision for the Future of Essex
- Geo Essex (2013) Essex Local Geodiversity Action Plan
- Highways England (2021) A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening - public consultation
- South East Local Enterprise Partnership (2014) Growth Deal and Strategic Economic Plan
- South East Local Enterprise Partnership (2015) Rural Strategy 2015 - 2021

## Local Plans and Programmes (including neighbouring authority Local Plans)

- Braintree, Brentwood, Chelmsford, Maldon and Uttlesford Councils (2006) Landscape Character Assessments
- Braintree District Council (2011) Core Strategy
- Braintree District Council (2014) Site Allocations and Development Management Plan
- Braintree District Council (2021) Local Plan 2013-2033 Section 1
- Brentwood District Council Review of the Adopted Local Plan 2016-2033
- Chelmsford City Council (2004) Historic Environment Characterisation Project
- Chelmsford City Council (2004) Parks and Green Spaces Strategy 2004-2014
- Chelmsford City Council (2005) Nature Conservation Reference Guide for Chelmsford Borough
- Chelmsford City Council (2008) Air Quality Action Plan Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area
- Chelmsford City Council (2008) Community Plan – Chelmsford Tomorrow Vision 2021
- Chelmsford City Council (2010) Private Sector Housing Strategy 2010-2015
- Chelmsford City Council (2011) Chelmsford Town Centre Public Realm Strategy SPD
- Chelmsford City Council (2012) Allotment Strategy

## Plan/Programme

- Chelmsford City Council (2012) Be Moved - Chelmsford Sport & Arts Strategy 2012-16
- Chelmsford City Council (2012) Meeting the needs of Older People: A Strategy for Older People in Chelmsford
- Chelmsford City Council (2012) Public Health Strategy
- Chelmsford City Council (2013) Biodiversity Action Plan 2013-17
- Chelmsford City Council (2021) Solar Farm Development SPD
- Chelmsford City Council (2021) Planning Obligations SPD
- Chelmsford City Council (2015) Chelmsford Museums Forward Plan 2015-2017
- Chelmsford City Council (2015) Housing Strategy Statement 2015/2016
- Chelmsford City Council (2015) Tree Management Policy
- Chelmsford City Council (2016) Local Wildlife Site Review
- Chelmsford City Council (2016) Chelmsford Open Space Study 2016 – 2036
- Chelmsford City Council (2017) Chelmsford West End Vision Informal Guidance
- Chelmsford City Council (2017) Chelmsford Economic Strategy
- Chelmsford City Council (2018) Management and Maintenance Plan 2018-2022
- Chelmsford City Council (2018) Open Space Study 2016-2036
- Chelmsford City Council (2019) Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024
- Chelmsford City Council (2020) Chelmsford Local Plan 2013-2036
- Chelmsford City Council (2021) Making Places SPD
- Chelmsford City Council (2019) Health and Wellbeing Plan
- Chelmsford City Council (2022) Housing Strategy
- Chelmsford City Council (2020) Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan
- Chelmsford City Council (2020) Essex Coast RAMS Strategy and SPD
- Chelmsford City Council (2021) Our Chelmsford, Our Plan
- Epping Forest District Council Review of the Adopted Local Plan (emerging)
- Maldon District Council Review of the Adopted Local Plan (emerging)
- Maldon District Council (2017) Local Development Plan 2014-2029
- Rochford District Council (2011) Core Strategy
- Rochford District Council (2014) Allocations Plan
- Safer Chelmsford Partnership (2021) Safer Chelmsford Partnership Strategy 2021/22
- South Woodham Ferrers (2021) South Woodham Ferrers Neighbourhood Plan 2020-2036
- Uttlesford District Council Local Plan (emerging)
- Village Design Statements SPDs (various)
- Writtle (2021) Writtle Neighbourhood Plan 2020-2036

## 2.3 Key Messages

2.3.1 The review of plans and programmes presented in **Appendix B** has identified a number of objectives and policy messages relevant to the Local Plan and scope of the IIA across the following topic areas:

- Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure;
- Population and Community;
- Health and Wellbeing;
- Transport and Accessibility;
- Land Use, Geology and Soils;
- Water;
- Air Quality;

- Climate Change;
- Material Assets;
- Cultural Heritage; and
- Landscape and Townscape.

2.3.2 These messages are summarised in **Table 2.2** together with the key sources and implications for the Assessment Framework. Only the key sources are identified; however, it is acknowledged that many other plans and programmes could also be included.

**Table 2.2 Key Messages Arising from the Review of Plans and Programmes**

Key Objectives and Policies	Key Source(s)	Implications for the IIA Framework
<b>Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance biodiversity, including designated sites, species of principal importance, habitats and ecological networks.</li> <li>• Identify opportunities for green infrastructure provision.</li> </ul>	Environment Act: The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature; Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services; UK post 2010 Biodiversity Framework; NPPF; Realising the Benefits of trees, woods and forests in the East of England, Essex Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2020, Chelmsford City Council Biodiversity Action Plan, Chelmsford City Council Parks and Green Spaces Strategy.	The IIA Framework should include a specific objective relating to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity including green infrastructure provision.
<b>Population and Community</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address deprivation and reduce inequality through regeneration.</li> <li>• Ensure social equality and prosperity for all.</li> <li>• Provide high quality services, community facilities and social infrastructure that are accessible to all.</li> <li>• Meet the full affordable and private market housing need for Chelmsford within the administrative boundary where possible.</li> <li>• Consider any requests from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development.</li> <li>• Make appropriate provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.</li> <li>• Ensure that there is an adequate supply of employment land to meet local</li> </ul>	NPPF; Planning Policy for Traveller Sites; The London Plan; The future of Essex; Chelmsford City Council Economic Strategy, Chelmsford Local Plan 2013-2036, Making Places SPD; Essex Prosperity and Productivity Plan	<p>The IIA Framework should include objectives and/or guide questions relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• addressing deprivation and promoting equality and inclusion;</li> <li>• the provision of high quality community facilities and services;</li> <li>• the provision of high quality housing;</li> <li>• the enhancement of education and skills;</li> <li>• delivery of employment land that supports economic diversification and the creation of high quality, local jobs;</li> <li>• enhancing Chelmsford City Centre;</li> <li>• enhancing the area's town and other centres.</li> </ul>

Key Objectives and Policies	Key Source(s)	Implications for the IIA Framework
<p>needs and to attract inward investment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage economic diversification including growth in high value, high growth, high knowledge economic sectors.</li> <li>• Encourage rural diversification and support rural economic growth.</li> <li>• Create local employment opportunities.</li> <li>• Enhance skills in the workforce to reduce unemployment and deprivation.</li> <li>• Improve educational attainment and ensure the appropriate supply of high quality educational facilities.</li> <li>• Promote the vitality of the City Centre and support retail and leisure sectors.</li> <li>• Promote the vitality of other centres.</li> </ul>		
<b>Health and Wellbeing</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote improvements to health and wellbeing.</li> <li>• Promote healthier lifestyles.</li> <li>• Minimise noise pollution.</li> <li>• Reduce crime including the fear of crime.</li> <li>• Reduce anti-social behaviour.</li> <li>• Ensure that there are appropriate facilities for the disabled and elderly.</li> <li>• Deliver safe and secure networks of green infrastructure and open space.</li> </ul>	<p>NPPF; Joint Essex Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2022, Be Moved – Chelmsford's Sport and Art Strategy 2012-2016, Parks and Green Spaces Strategy and Public Health Strategy, Chelmsford Air Quality Management Plan, Chelmsford Local Plan 2013-2036, Essex Children and Young People's Plan.</p>	<p>The IIA Framework should include a specific objective and/or guide questions relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the promotion of health and wellbeing;</li> <li>• the delivery of health facilities and services;</li> <li>• the provision of open space and recreational facilities;</li> <li>• reducing crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</li> </ul>
<b>Transport and Accessibility</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage sustainable transport and reduce the need to travel.</li> <li>• Reduce traffic and congestion.</li> <li>• Improve public transport provision.</li> <li>• Encourage walking and cycling.</li> <li>• Enhance accessibility to key community facilities, services and jobs for all.</li> <li>• Ensure timely investment in transportation infrastructure to accommodate new development.</li> <li>• Promote sustainable freight movement.</li> <li>• Locate new housing development in sustainable locations or in locations that can be made sustainable.</li> </ul>	<p>NPPF; Essex Transport Strategy - The Local Transport Plan for Essex; Essex Cycling Strategy; Essex Walking Strategy; Essex Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy</p>	<p>The IIA Framework should include objectives and/or guide questions relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reducing the need to travel, particularly by car;</li> <li>• the promotion of sustainable forms of transport;</li> <li>• encouraging walking and cycling;</li> <li>• maintaining and enhancing accessibility to key facilities, services and jobs;</li> <li>• reducing congestion and enhancing road safety;</li> <li>• investment in transportation infrastructure to meet future needs.</li> </ul>
<b>Land Use, Geology and Soils</b>		

Key Objectives and Policies	Key Source(s)	Implications for the IIA Framework
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage the use of previously developed (brownfield) land.</li> <li>Promote the re-use of derelict land and buildings.</li> <li>Reduce land contamination.</li> <li>Protect soil quality and minimise the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land.</li> <li>Promote high quality design.</li> <li>Avoid damage to, and protect, geologically important sites.</li> <li>Encourage mixed use development.</li> </ul>	Safeguarding Our Soils: A Strategy for England; Making Places SPD, Chelmsford Local Plan 2013-2036.	<p>The IIA Framework should include objectives and/or guide questions relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>encouraging the use of previously developed land and buildings;</li> <li>reducing land contamination;</li> <li>avoiding the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land;</li> <li>promoting high quality design including mixed use development;</li> <li>protecting and avoiding damage to geologically important sites.</li> </ul>
<b>Water</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect and enhance surface and groundwater quality.</li> <li>Improve water efficiency.</li> <li>Avoid development in areas of higher flood risk.</li> <li>Reduce the risk of flooding arising from new development.</li> <li>Ensure timely investment in water management infrastructure to accommodate new development.</li> <li>Promote the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</li> </ul>	Water Framework Directive; Drinking Water Directive; Floods Directive; Flood and Water Management Act 2010; Water for Life, White Paper; NPPF; Essex and Suffolk Water Final Water Resources Management Plan, Water Resource Strategy – Regional Action Plan for the Anglian Region, Anglian River Basin District Management Plan and Essex Local Flood Management Strategy.	<p>The IIA Framework should include specific objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of water quality and quantity and minimising flood risk.</p>
<b>Air Quality</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that air quality is maintained or enhanced and that emissions of air pollutants are kept to a minimum.</li> </ul>	Air Quality Directive; Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; NPPF and Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area Action Plan.	<p>The IIA Framework should include a specific objective and/or guide question relating to air quality.</p>
<b>Climate Change</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise the effects of climate change.</li> <li>Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases that may cause climate change.</li> <li>Encourage the provision of renewable energy.</li> <li>Move towards a low carbon economy.</li> <li>Promote adaptation to the effects of climate change.</li> </ul>	Climate Change Act 2008; Carbon Plan: Delivering our Low Carbon Future; UK Renewable Energy Strategy; NPPF, Essex Design Guide, Levelling up Essex – An Essex White Paper, Making Places SPD, Solar Farm SPD.	<p>The IIA Framework should include a specific objective relating to climate change mitigation and adaptation.</p>
<b>Material Assets</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover).</li> </ul>	Waste Framework Directive; Landfill Directive; Waste Management Plan for England;	<p>The IIA Framework should include objectives and/or guide questions relating to:</p>

Key Objectives and Policies	Key Source(s)	Implications for the IIA Framework
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the adequate provision of local waste management facilities.</li> <li>• Promote the efficient and sustainable use of mineral resources.</li> <li>• Promote the use of local resources.</li> <li>• Avoid the sterilisation of mineral reserves.</li> <li>• Promote the use of substitute or secondary and recycled materials and minerals waste.</li> <li>• Ensure the timely provision of infrastructure to support new development.</li> <li>• Support the delivery of high quality communications infrastructure.</li> <li>• Promote the maximum recovery of minerals from construction, demolition and excavation wastes by segregating, reusing and recycling minerals generated as a result of development/redevelopment.</li> </ul>	<p>NPPF; National Planning Policy for Waste ; Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Essex, Essex Minerals Local Plan, Essex County Council and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council Waste Local Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promotion of the waste hierarchy;</li> <li>• the sustainable use of minerals;</li> <li>• investment in infrastructure to meet future needs.</li> </ul>
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conserve and enhance cultural heritage assets and their settings.</li> <li>• Maintain and enhance access to cultural heritage assets.</li> <li>• Respect, maintain and strengthen local character and distinctiveness.</li> <li>• Improve the quality of the built environment.</li> </ul>	<p>NPPF; Historic Environment Characterisation Project and Making Places SPD, Essex Design Guide.</p>	<p>The IIA Framework should include a specific objective relating to the conservation and enhancement of cultural heritage.</p>
<b>Landscape and Townscape</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of natural landscapes and townscapes.</li> <li>• Promote access to the countryside.</li> <li>• Promote high quality design that respects and enhances local character.</li> <li>• Avoid inappropriate development in the Green Belt.</li> <li>• Ensure that the Green Belt endures beyond the plan period.</li> <li>• Conserve and enhance the undeveloped coastline.</li> </ul>	<p>NPPF; Public Realm Strategy, Village Design Statement, Making Places SPD, and Chelmsford, Maldon and Uttlesford Council's Landscape Character Assessments, Essex Design Guide.</p>	<p>The IIA Framework should include a specific objective relating to the protection and enhancement of landscape and townscapes.</p>



## 3. Baseline Analysis

### 3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 An essential part of the IIA process is the identification of current baseline conditions and their likely evolution. It is only with a knowledge of existing conditions, and a consideration of their likely evolution, can the effects of the Local Plan be identified and appraised and its subsequent success or otherwise be monitored. The SEA Regulations also requires that the evolution of the baseline conditions of the plan area (that would take place without the plan or programme) is identified, described and taken into account.

3.1.2 This section of the Scoping Report identifies and characterises current socio-economic (including health and equality) and environmental baseline conditions for Chelmsford, along with how these are likely to change in the future. The baseline analysis is presented for the following topic areas:

- Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure;
- Population and Community;
- Health and Wellbeing;
- Transport and Accessibility;
- Land Use, Geology and Soils;
- Water;
- Air Quality;
- Climate Change;
- Material Assets;
- Cultural Heritage; and
- Landscape and Townscape.

3.1.3 Additionally, this section presents a high level overview of the City Area.

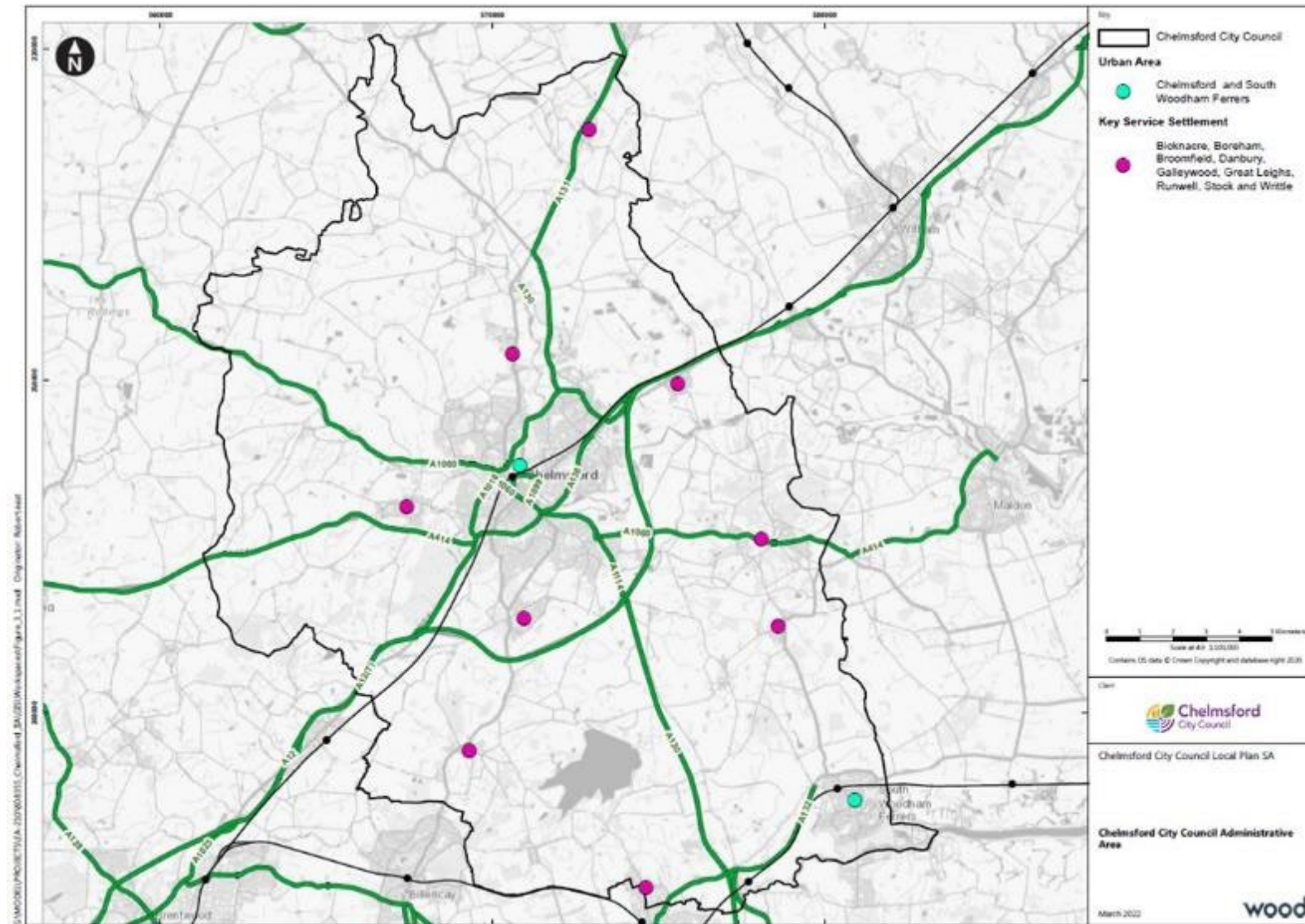
3.1.4 To inform the analysis, data has been drawn from a variety of sources, including: the 2011 Census (Census 2021 results are to be released in October 2022); Nomis; Chelmsford City Council's Authority Monitoring Report; the emerging Local Plan evidence base; Environment Agency; Historic England; Essex County Council; Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019; Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). Information from the Local Government Association has been used, especially its benchmarking tool at: <https://lginform.local.gov.uk/>

3.1.5 The key sustainability issues arising from the review of baseline conditions are summarised at the end of each topic.

## 3.2 The City Area: An Overview

- 3.2.1 The Chelmsford City Area is located centrally within Essex in the East of England and is approximately 30 miles to the north east of London (see **Figure 3.1**). It covers an area of approximately 130 square miles and is one of two cities in Essex (Chelmsford was awarded city status on 1st June 2012) in addition to the town of South Woodham Ferrers, villages and open countryside. Chelmsford is bordered by seven local authorities: Braintree and Uttlesford to the north; Maldon to the east; Brentwood, Basildon and Rochford to the south; and Epping Forest to the west.
- 3.2.2 The Chelmsford City Area is connected by a number of rail links, with frequent services operating between Chelmsford, London Liverpool Street, Ipswich and Norwich and between South Woodham Ferrers and London. There are several primary road routes within the local authority area including the A12 linking with London and the M25. The A12 also offers direct links into East Anglia.
- 3.2.3 Chelmsford has two major centres; the principal settlement of Chelmsford City in the centre of the local authority area and the town of South Woodham Ferrers to the south east. Beyond these centres, the local authority area is characterised by a number of villages surrounded by open countryside. The Chelmsford Local Plan identifies Chelmsford's other 'Key Defined Settlements' as including: Bicknacre; Boreham; Broomfield; Danbury; Galleywood; Great Leighs; Runwell; Stock; and Writtle. A summary of the key characteristics of these settlements including high level constraints mapping is contained at **Appendix D**. There are a large number of Service Settlements and Small Settlements across the City Council area.
- 3.2.4 The Chelmsford City Area has a large number of key strengths, not least its good connectivity to London, a strong economy boasting particular strengths in the financial and business services sectors and ready access to the countryside. However, there are also issues which need to be addressed to ensure the area's long term sustainability including, in particular, a rapidly growing population, pockets of deprivation, high commuting levels and environmental constraints including Green Belt and flood risk. These strengths and issues are discussed further in the sections that follow.

Figure 3.1 Chelmsford City Council Administrative Area



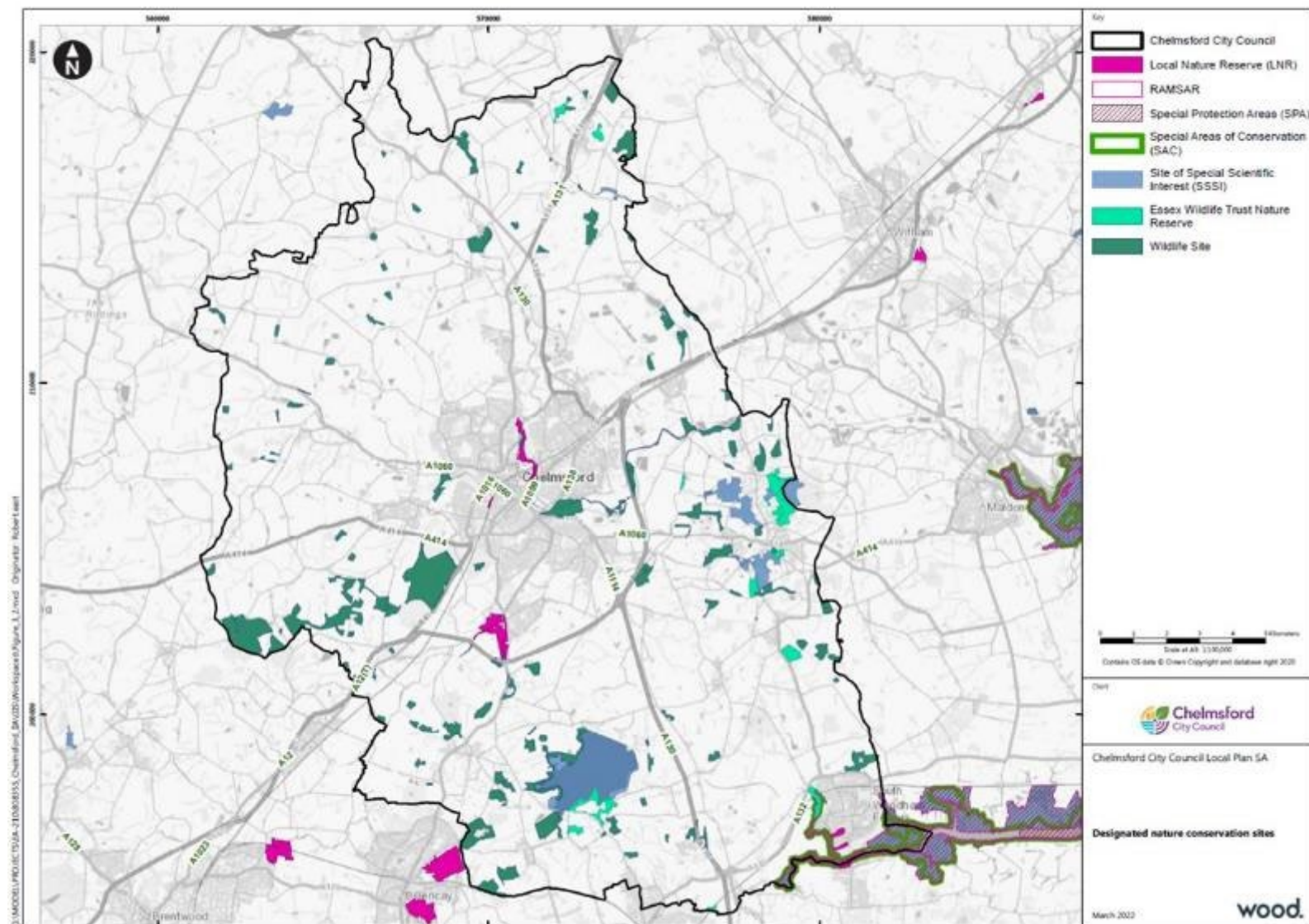
### 3.3 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure

#### Biodiversity

- 3.3.1 Biodiversity is defined as the variety of plants (flora) and animals (fauna) in an area, and their associated habitats. The importance of preserving biodiversity is recognised from an international to a local level. Biodiversity is important in its own right and has value in terms of quality of life and amenity.
- 3.3.2 The Chelmsford City Area has a rich and varied natural environment including a range of sites designated for their habitat and conservation value. **Figure 3.2** shows designated nature conservation sites within and in close proximity to the local authority area.
- 3.3.3 Sites of European importance (Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and RAMSARs) are designated to conserve natural habitats and species of wildlife which are rare, endangered or vulnerable in the European Community (EC). In the UK, these formally formed part of the 'Natura 2000' network of sites protected under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and now form part of the UK national site network following the UK's departure from the European Union. There are three European sites within the Chelmsford City Area: Crouch and Roach Estuaries (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 3) SPA; Crouch and Roach Estuaries Ramsar; and the Essex Estuaries SAC together with four additional sites within approximately 10km.
- 3.3.4 The conservation objectives for all of the sites have been revised by Natural England in recent years to increase consistency of assessment and reporting. As a result, the high-level conservation objectives for all sites are effectively the same.
- 3.3.5 The objectives for SACs are:
- "With regard to the SAC and the natural habitats and/or species for which the site has been designated (the 'Qualifying Features'...), and subject to natural change; ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring [as applicable to each site];*
- *the extent and distribution of the qualifying natural habitats;*
  - *the extent and distribution of the habitats of qualifying species;*
  - *the structure and function (including typical species) of the qualifying natural habitats;*
  - *the structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species;*
  - *the supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely;*
  - *the supporting processes on which the habitats of qualifying species rely;*
  - *the populations of qualifying species; and,*
  - *the distribution of qualifying species within the site."*



Figure 3.2 Designated Nature Conservation Sites



3.3.6 For SPAs the objectives are:

*"With regard to the SPA and the individual species and/or assemblage of species for which the site has been classified (the 'Qualifying Features'...), and subject to natural change; ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring:*

- *the extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features;*
- *the structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features;*
- *the supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely;*
- *the population of each of the qualifying features; and,*
- *the distribution of the qualifying features within the site."*

3.3.7 Natural England has prepared a Site Improvement Plan (SIP) for Essex Estuaries<sup>15</sup> which covers (inter alia) the Crouch and Roach Estuaries (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 3) SPA and the Essex Estuaries SAC. The SIP provides a high level overview of the issues (both current and predicted) affecting the condition of features on the sites and outlines the priority measures required to improve the condition of the features.

3.3.8 In response to visitor pressures from an increased population, the Essex Coast Recreational Disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy 2018-2038 (Essex RAMS)<sup>16</sup> has been developed in partnership with Natural England and 12 councils in Essex. The strategy sets out a long-term strategic approach to lessen the impact of local housing development on protected birds along the Essex coast. The Essex RAMS aims to prevent bird and habitat disturbance from recreational activities. It does this through a series of mitigation measures, which encourage all coastal visitors to enjoy their visits responsibly.

3.3.9 Within the Chelmsford City Area there are eight Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) covering an area of 2,412.77 hectares (ha):

- River Ter;
- Newney Green Pit;
- Blake's Wood & Lingwood Common;
- Woodham Walter Common;
- Danbury Common;
- Thrift Wood, Woodham Ferrers;
- Hanningfield Reservoir; and
- Crouch and Roach Estuaries.

3.3.10 The conditions of each SSSI, as assessed by Natural England, are summarised in **Table 3.1**.

<sup>15</sup> Natural England (2015) *Site Improvement Plan: Essex Estuaries*. Available online: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5459956190937088>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/essex-coast-rams/>



Table 3.1 Condition of SSSIs within the Chelmsford City Area

Site	Area (ha)	Condition (% of area)
River Ter	6.41	100% favourable
Newney Green Pit	0.08	100% favourable
Blake's Wood & Lingwood Common	87.33	100% favourable
Woodham Walter Common	79.65	100% favourable
Danbury Common	70.96	48.26% favourable; 51.74% unfavourable but recovering
Thrift Wood, Woodham Ferrers	19.45	100% favourable
Hanningfield Reservoir	402.91	100% favourable
Crouch and Roach Estuaries	1,729.13	23.08% favourable; 76.25% unfavourable but recovering; 0.67% unfavourable no change

Source: Natural England (various) *Designated Sites Condition Summaries*.

3.3.11 In addition to the above European and nationally designated nature conservation sites, there are four Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) (Marconi Ponds, Chelmer Valley Riverside, Galleywood Common and Fenn Washland) and 171 Local Wildlife Sites (LoWS) which are non-statutory sites of importance for nature conservation value but which play a fundamental role in the conservation of the area's biodiversity.

3.3.12 There are a number of core areas of biodiversity and ecological importance within the Chelmsford City Area which include:

- Danbury/Little Baddow - a large concentration of heathland, woodland and grassland sites, many of which are already managed by conservation organisations;
- Writtle Forest/Hylands - a concentration of ancient woodlands that form a key part of an ancient landscape;
- Hanningfield - Billericay border - a number of ancient woodlands;
- The River corridors - the river valleys running through the local authority area contain LoWSs along their length;
- South Woodham Ferrers - the Crouch Estuary is part of a large SSSI and SPA linking to sites in Maldon and Rochford Districts;
- The Green Wedge - in the vicinity of the Chelmsford Urban Area, the Green Wedge contains a number of LoWSs as well as publicly owned land (see **Figure 3.10**).

3.3.13 The Chelmsford City Council Local Wildlife Sites Review, 2016<sup>17</sup> updates the previous review undertaken in 2004 that ratified 150 Local Wildlife Sites (then referred to as 'Wildlife Sites'). The 2016 review identified a net increase of 21 Sites to give a new total of

<sup>17</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2016) *Local Wildlife Sites Review*. Available online: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/resources/assets/attachment/full/0/72699.pdf>

171 Local Wildlife Sites. This increase in number belies many significant changes within the LoWS network, with numerous additions and amalgamations, and a few deletions.

- 3.3.14 The Chelmsford Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) 2013-2018<sup>18</sup> highlights that the Chelmsford City Area has a diverse biodiversity and contains examples of 14 of the 20 habitats included in the Essex BAP (EBAP)<sup>19</sup>. Action Plans have been developed for the following habitats: hedgerows; traditional orchards; lowland meadows; lowland dry acid grassland and heathland; lakes and ponds; rivers; lowland raised bog; reed beds; lowland mixed deciduous woodland; wet woodland; wood pasture and parkland; and urban.

## Green Infrastructure

- 3.3.15 Green infrastructure encompasses all “green” assets in an authority area, including parks, river corridors, street trees, managed and unmanaged sites and designed and planted open spaces.
- 3.3.16 Chelmsford City Council’s Open Space Study<sup>20</sup> has identified the existing provision of open space within Chelmsford as set out in **Table 3.2**.

Table 3.2 Existing Open Space Provision

Typology	Existing provision (ha)	Existing provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Allotments	42.65	0.25
Amenity Green Space	76.98	0.46
Park and Recreation Ground (public and private combined)	273.47	1.63
<i>Park and Recreation Ground</i>	<i>165.83</i>	<i>0.99</i>
<i>Outdoor Sport (pitches)</i>	<i>50.22</i>	<i>0.3</i>
<i>Outdoor Sport (fixed)</i>	<i>8.69</i>	<i>0.05</i>
<i>Outdoor sport (private)</i>	<i>48.73</i>	<i>0.29</i>
Play Space (Children)	8.21	0.05
Play Space (Youth)	1.4	0.01
Accessible Natural Green Space	1,829.83	10.87
Education	176.69	1.05
Churchyards and Cemeteries	36.39	0.22

<sup>18</sup> Chelmsford Biodiversity Forum (2013) *Chelmsford Biodiversity Action Plan for the City of Chelmsford 2013-2017*. Available online: [http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred\\_options/local\\_plan\\_preferred\\_options\\_document?pointId=s1490092140850](http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred_options/local_plan_preferred_options_document?pointId=s1490092140850)

<sup>19</sup> Essex Biodiversity Project (2012) *The Essex Biodiversity Action Plan 2010 – 2020*. Available online: <http://www.essexbiodiversity.org.uk/biodiversity-action-plan>

<sup>20</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2016) *Chelmsford Open Space Study*. Available online: [http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred\\_options/local\\_plan\\_preferred\\_options\\_document?pointId=s1490092140850](http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred_options/local_plan_preferred_options_document?pointId=s1490092140850)

- 3.3.17 The Council has been awarded 17 Green Flag awards for nineteen of its parks with the Cemetery and Crematorium gaining a Green Flag Award in its own right (see **Table 3.3**). Three parks, Admirals Park, Tower Gardens and West Park, combine to form one award and Brookend Gardens and Chancellor Park combine to form another. Chelmer Park and Jubilee Park also combine to form one award as do Boleyn Gardens the Grand Vista and Beaulieu Park Recreation Ground, Melbourne Park and Andrews Park. Springfield Hall Park has a Green Flag award in its own right.

**Table 3.3 Chelmsford City Area Parks with Green Flag Awards**

<b>Parks with Green Flag Awards</b>	<b>Size (ha)</b>
Oaklands Park, Moulsham Street, Chelmsford	4.8
Boleyn Gardens the Grand Vista and Beaulieu Park, Chelmsford	9.12
Admirals Park, Tower Gardens and the adjoining West Park, Chelmsford	29.4
Chelmer Park and Jubilee Park	16.99
Hylands Estate	232
Coronation Park	5.72
Compass Gardens and Saltcoats Park	10.08
Melbourne Park and Andrews Park	25.77
Brook End Gardens and Chancellor Park	8.11
Central Park	14.87
Lionmede Recreation Ground	2.0
Chelmsford Cemetery & Crematorium	7.8
Springfield Hall Park	14.40
Chelmer Valley Local Nature Reserve	18.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>444.06</b>

Source: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/news/green-flag-awards-success-for-15-chelmsford-parks/>

- 3.3.18 In addition to those identified above, Andrews Park on Patching Hall Lane achieved Green Flag Award in its own right in 2020<sup>21</sup> and in 2021, 17 parks were awarded Green Flag status with Galleywood Common and Frankland Fields also awarded this status<sup>22</sup>. The Council has also committed itself to continuing to positively manage its parks to ensure it can earn even more of these rewards and continue to have many high quality parks. In 2021, the parks of Admirals Park/Tower Gardens including the adjoining West Park,

<sup>21</sup> Chelmsford City Council Green Flag Awards success for 15 Chelmsford parks. Available at: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/news/green-flag-awards-success-for-15-chelmsford-parks/>

<sup>22</sup> Love Your Chelmsford (2021) Green Flag. Available online [https://loveyourchelmsford.co.uk/green-spaces/green\\_flag/](https://loveyourchelmsford.co.uk/green-spaces/green_flag/)

Hylands Estate and Oaklands Park all received Green Heritage Site awards for their excellence.

3.3.19

The existing Local Plan contains a Green Wedge designation for its river valleys and policies that seek to protect them to ensure these important natural resources are conserved. These are the basis of Chelmsford's green infrastructure network and are, therefore, an important resource and amenity for the residents of the urban area of Chelmsford. Key objectives are to maximise public enjoyment of the river valleys, protect and enhance ecological health and diversity, preserve local landscape and wildlife links between the countryside and Chelmsford's urban area and recognise the Sandford Mill Special Policy Area.

### Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

3.3.20

Information in respect of the condition of SSSIs and the extent of the habitat network indicates that biodiversity in the Chelmsford City Area is being well managed and protected. Notwithstanding, common threats to biodiversity have been identified in the Chelmsford BAP which include:

- Many sites are now small and isolated. This makes it difficult for specialist plants and animals to move between sites and hence more vulnerable to damage. They are also more difficult to manage.
- The biodiversity value for many habitats has developed as a result of human management over centuries. If this management stops, natural succession will take place and the wildlife value will decline as those features that are important for specialist species are lost.
- In grassland and heathland sites, neglect leads to scrub and eventually woodland colonising, in woods this can result in the loss of age structure when coppicing stops. Ponds and lakes might become full of vegetation and eventually silt up.
- The changes in agricultural practices over the past century have led to significant changes in the landscape. Larger machinery requires larger fields which have resulted in the loss of hedges and ditches. Better drainage results in fewer wetlands and ponds. Traditional orchards are no longer considered to be economically viable and many of the traditional fruit varieties are hard to store or are difficult to transport. The most significant impacts, however, arose from the introduction of chemical fertilisers and pesticides; this has resulted in substantial declines in plant diversity and associated fauna.
- Nutrient enrichment usually arises due to run-off from agricultural land or sewerage discharges. This is particularly an issue for rivers and other water bodies but can also affect grassland within the floodplain and heathlands.
- New development can result in the direct loss of habitats (e.g. building on a site) or indirect damage (e.g. increased recreational pressure or more intensive management of grassland and ponds).
- Introduced species of plants and animals can cause significant problems to native species.

- Climate change, particularly with more extreme weather events, will place more stresses on a range of habitats.

- 3.3.21 There are a number of ongoing initiatives and projects that together will help to conserve and enhance biodiversity and which would be expected to continue without the Local Plan. These include the delivery of the Chelmsford BAP and the emerging Nature Recovery Networks. With specific regard to green infrastructure, the Council's Parks and Green Spaces Strategy<sup>23</sup> sets out a collective vision for improved green spaces and which includes an objective to support the Chelmsford BAP.
- 3.3.22 It is reasonable to assume that without the Review of the Adopted Local Plan, existing trends would continue. National planning policy contained in the NPPF and existing Development Plan policy (such as Strategic Policy S4 – Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment) would help to ensure that new development protects and enhances biodiversity.
- 3.3.23 The Council has also expressed a desire to improve its parks further in order to ensure it receives further national awards.

### Summary of Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to conserve and enhance biodiversity including sites designated for their nature conservation value.
- The need to provide net gains in biodiversity where possible.
- The need to maintain, restore and expand Biodiversity Action Plan habitats.
- The need to safeguard existing green infrastructure assets.
- The need to enhance the multifunctional green infrastructure network, addressing deficiencies and gaps, improving accessibility for all users and encouraging multiple uses where appropriate.

## 3.4 Population and Community

*Note: at time of the compilation of this Scoping Report, the results of the 2021 Census were not available. Initial results are planned to be published in October 2022, see:*

[Topic summaries and area profiles - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/topics/population/census2021/summary)

### Demographics

- 3.4.1 As of 2016<sup>24</sup>, the Chelmsford City Area had a population of 174,197, an increase of 8.7% since the 2001 Census when the population stood at 157,072. Approximately half of

<sup>23</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2013) *Parks and Green Spaces Strategy 2004-2014*. Available online:

[http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred\\_options/local\\_plan\\_preferred\\_options\\_document?pointId=s1490092140850](http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred_options/local_plan_preferred_options_document?pointId=s1490092140850)

<sup>24</sup> Available from NOMIS (2017) Labour Market Profile – Chelmsford. Available online:

<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157214/report.aspx?town=chelmsford#tabrespop>

Chelmsford's population resides in the Chelmsford Urban Area and South Woodham Ferrers. Of the total resident population, 49.4% are male and 50.6% female.

3.4.2

**Table 3.4** illustrates that the population of the Chelmsford City Area has continued to rise year on year between the periods of 2016 to 2020. Chelmsford is the fourth most populated authority district in the east of England, with only the local authority areas of East Suffolk, Colchester and Basildon being more populated<sup>25</sup>. The ratio of males to females within the region has remained consistent with the 2016 values as of 2020. Note: the 2021 Census results are to be released in Autumn 2022.

**Table 3.4 Total resident population (from 2016 to 2020) for Chelmsford**

Period	Chelmsford Population
2016	174,197
2017	176,194
2018	177,079
2019	178,388
2020	179,549

Source: LG Inform<sup>26</sup>.

## Diversity

### Ethnicity

3.4.3

Using ONS category descriptions, the population of Chelmsford is predominantly White (93.9% of the population) with the second largest ethnic group being Asian/Asian British (2.9%). The split of population by ethnicity is similar to Essex as a whole. The proportion of the Chelmsford City area's population that is white (93.9%) is higher than the East region as a whole (90.8%) and England (85.4%) whilst the percentage of Asian/Asian British, Black, African, Caribbean or Black British or of mixed or multiple ethnic groups are lower (see **Table 3.5**).

**Table 3.5 Ethnicity of all residents**

	Chelmsford (%)	Essex (%)	East Region (%)	England (%)
<b>Asian or Asian British</b>	2.9	2.5	4.8	7.8
<b>Black, African, Caribbean or Black British</b>	1.2	1.3	2.0	3.5
<b>Mixed or multiple ethnic groups</b>	1.6	1.5	1.9	2.3

<sup>25</sup> LG Inform (2020), Total resident population (2020) for All local authority districts East. Available at: Total resident population in Chelmsford | LG Inform (local.gov.uk), accessed 14.02.2022.

<sup>26</sup> LG Inform (2020), Total resident population (from 2016 to 2020) for Chelmsford. Available at: Total resident population in Chelmsford | LG Inform (local.gov.uk), accessed 14.02.2022.



<b>White</b>	93.9	94.3	90.8	85.4
<b>Other ethnic group</b>	0.4	0.4	0.5	1.0

Source: ONS (2020) Population profiles for local authorities in England using 2011 Census data<sup>27</sup>

## Religious Belief

3.4.4 The split of religion beliefs identified by residents within the Chelmsford City Area is very similar to that within Essex. Christianity is the predominant religion in Chelmsford (61.9%) similar to the Essex figure (61.8%) and slightly higher than the East region (59.7%) and the England figure (59.4%) (see **Table 3.6**). After Christianity, Islam is the next most predominant religion in the City Council area (1.0%).

**Table 3.6 Religious Groups**

Religion	Chelmsford (%)	Essex (%)	East region (%)	England (%)
<b>Christian</b>	61.9	61.8	59.7	59.4
<b>Buddhist</b>	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5
<b>Hindu</b>	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.5
<b>Jewish</b>	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.5
<b>Muslim</b>	1.0	1.0	2.5	5.0
<b>Sikh</b>	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.8
<b>Other religion</b>	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
<b>No religion</b>	28.2	28.1	27.9	24.7
<b>Religion not stated</b>	7.0	7.2	7.3	7.2

Source: ONS (2020) Population profiles for local authorities in England using 2011 Census <sup>28</sup>

## Civil Partnerships and Marriage

3.4.5 For the Chelmsford population, aged 16 or over, in the 2011 Census, 21.8% are single (never married), 50.0% are married, 0.2% are in a registered same-sex civil partnership, 3.4% are separated (but still legally married or in a registered same-sex civil partnership), 13.6% are divorced or formally in a registered same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved and 10.6% are widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership.<sup>29</sup>

<sup>27</sup> ONS (2020) Population profiles for local authorities in England. Available online: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/articles/populationprofilesforlocalauthoritiesinengland/2020-12-14> accessed 24.02.2022

<sup>28</sup> Available online: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/qs208ew> accessed 24.02.22

<sup>29</sup> ONS (2022) Nomisweb using Marital and civil partnership status by sex by age - Household Reference Persons census 2011 data.

## Sexual Orientation

- 3.4.6 Around 0.2% of the Chelmsford population are in a civil partnership (same sex marriage was introduced after the 2011 Census).<sup>30</sup> Data based on the Annual Population Survey in 2019 found that for the East region 2.1% of people identified as lesbian, gay or bisexual. This is lower than the England average of 2.7%.<sup>31</sup>

## Gypsy, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

- 3.4.7 There are two main longstanding publicly funded Travelling Showpeople sites in the Chelmsford City Area which provide 22 pitches in total with capacity for 44 caravans, 92 authorised private Traveller caravans and 47 authorised private Travelling Showpeople caravans<sup>32</sup>.

## Deprivation

- 3.4.8 The English Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) measures relative levels of deprivation in small areas of England called Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOA). Deprivation refers to an unmet need, which is caused by a lack of resources including for areas such as income, employment, health, education, skills, training, crime, access to housing and services, and living environment.
- 3.4.9 The 2015 IMD ranked the Chelmsford City Area 253<sup>st</sup> out of 317 local authorities (where a rank of 1 is the most deprived in the country and a rank of 326 is the least deprived) placing Chelmsford in the top 20% least deprived local authority areas nationally<sup>33</sup>.
- 3.4.10 By 2019, the City Area had continued to improve on the whole, scoring 260<sup>th</sup> out of 317 local authorities<sup>34</sup>. Chelmsford performs particularly well in respect of crime, employment and health and disability with the local authority area being within the 20% least deprived nationally for these domains. However, there are pockets of deprivation across the Chelmsford City Area with some LSOAs, such as those within the wards of Marconi, Patching Hall and St Andrews, being within the most deprived in the country and this has remained the case in 2019.

## Housing

- 3.4.11 As at the 2011 Census, the Chelmsford City Area had a total of 71,166 dwellings, an increase of 5,253 dwellings (8.0%) since 2001. The latest Authority Monitoring Report for 2020-21<sup>35</sup> shows there were 820 dwelling completions for the monitoring year (compared to the annual target of 805) and 7,015 dwellings since 2013.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid.

<sup>31</sup> ONS (2021) Sexual orientation, UK: 2019. Available online:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/culturalidentity/sexuality/bulletins/sexualidentityuk/2019#sexual-orientation-in-the-uk> accessed 25.02.22

<sup>32</sup> Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (2021) Traveller caravan count: July 2021. Available online:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/traveller-caravan-count-july-2021>

<sup>33</sup> DCLG (2015) *English indices of deprivation*. Available online:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/english-indices-of-deprivation> .

<sup>34</sup> Indices of Deprivation 2015 and 2019. Available at: [http://dclgapps.communities.gov.uk/imd/iod\\_index.html#](http://dclgapps.communities.gov.uk/imd/iod_index.html#), accessed 15.02.2022.

<sup>35</sup> Chelmsford City Council (March 2022) Annual Monitoring Report covering the period 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021, available at: [6322108.pdf\(chelmsford.gov.uk\)](https://6322108.pdf(chelmsford.gov.uk))

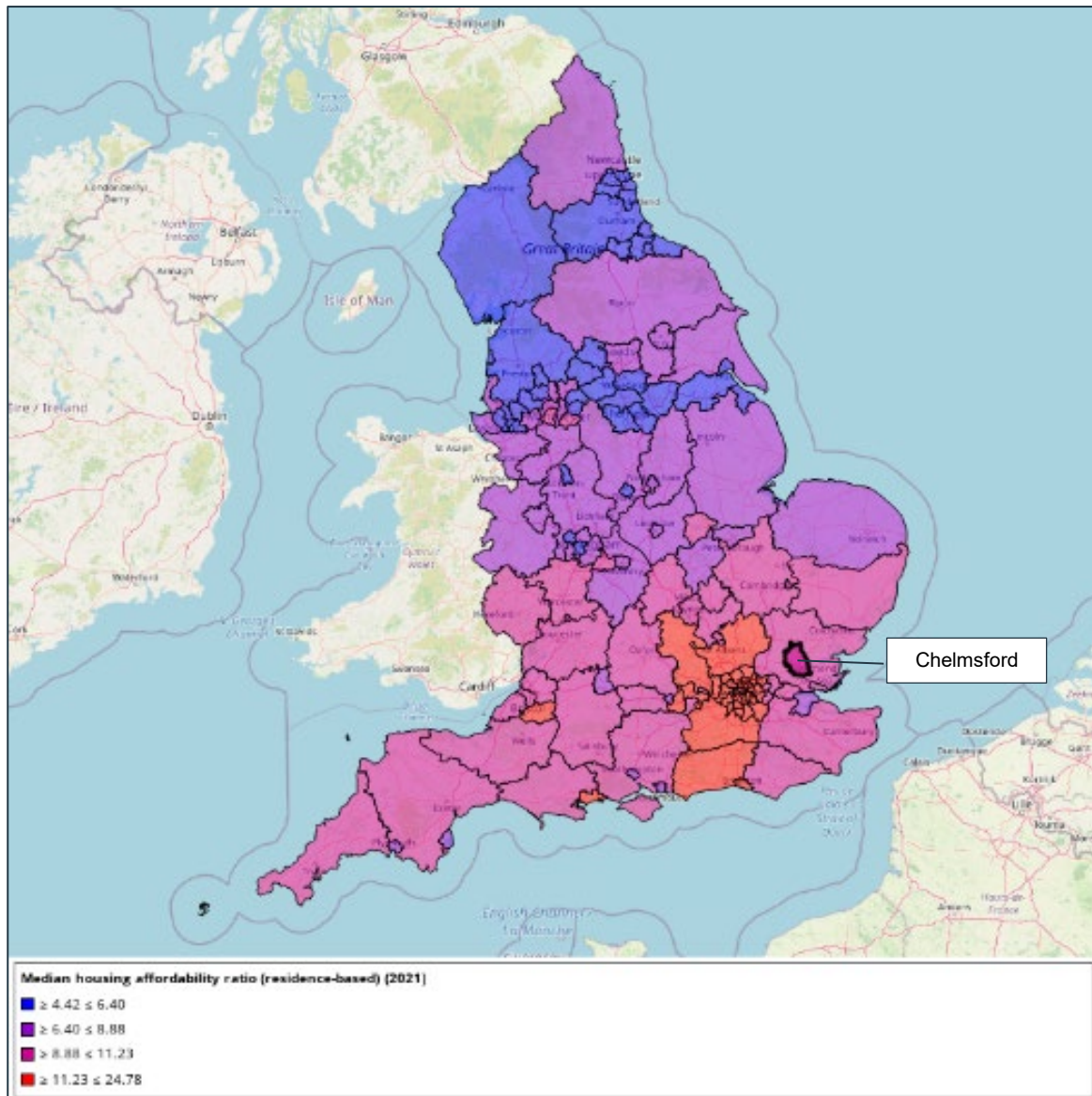
- 3.4.12 In terms of dwelling type, 63.29% of Chelmsford households were detached or semi-detached houses at the 2011 Census with the average number of bedrooms per property being 2.9. With regard to tenure, owner occupiers accounted for around 74% of Chelmsford's stock, 13% were in accommodation managed by a Registered Social Landlord and 12% were privately rented and 1% were provided rent free. The 2011 Census showed that owner occupation fell by 5% from 2001 and social stock by 2.4% whilst the private rented sector increased by 5.2%. This is similar to trends nationally.
- 3.4.13 In December 2021, the average house price for all properties in Chelmsford was £353,799 which is in line with figure for Essex (£353,218) but above that for the East of England (£339,502) and England as a whole (£293,339)<sup>36</sup>. The increase in average house price since December 2020 is 5.8%. House prices for the following types of property in Chelmsford were as follows:
- detached: £641,506
  - semi-detached: £385,901
  - terraced: £300,372
  - flats: £205,117
- 3.4.14 Housing affordability in the Chelmsford City Area, as in other areas of the County and Country, is a significant issue. **Figure 3.3**<sup>37</sup> illustrates that Chelmsford (a ratio of 10.18) sits above the Essex average but below London and counties to the north and south.
- 3.4.15 Responding to this issue, the Chelmsford Housing Strategy<sup>38</sup> recognises that Chelmsford faces a housing crisis (the City Council made that declaration on 22 February 2022) including in respect of:
- ever-growing numbers of Chelmsford residents (no longer just young people) being unable to afford to buy or rent privately a property that meets their needs;
  - over 300 families and individuals being homeless, with more likely as we emerge from Covid 19, requiring the City Council to provide expensive and often unsuitable temporary accommodation; and
  - a growing need for various kinds of specialised housing that, along with all affordable housing, is in very short supply.
- 3.4.16 The strategic priorities identified in the Housing Strategy are:
1. Increasing the supply of affordable homes with a focus on larger units
  2. Increasing the supply of affordable homes from the existing housing stock
  3. Supporting landlords and tenants of privately rented homes
  4. Enabling the right supply of specialist housing to meet local need
  5. Developing effective partnerships
  6. Monitoring trends and performance to inform future actions

<sup>36</sup> Land Registry (2022) Land registry UK House Price Index. Available online: <https://landregistry.data.gov.uk/app/ukhpi>

<sup>37</sup> Source: LG inform at: <https://lginform.local.gov.uk/dataAndReports/explorer/9150?category=200066>

<sup>38</sup> Chelmsford City Council (March 2022) Chelmsford Housing Strategy, 2022 – 2027 at: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/resources/assets/attachment/full/0/46360.pdf>

Figure 3.3 Housing Affordability Ratios



Source: LG Inform

## Economy

3.4.17

The Council's Employment Land Review (ELR) (2015)<sup>39</sup> provides a comprehensive overview of the economy of the Chelmsford City Area. It highlights that Chelmsford has been a major driver of growth within the Heart of Essex sub-region, which comprises the local authority areas of Chelmsford, Brentwood and Maldon. It has the largest economy in the Heart of Essex and contributed £3.4 billion to the UK economy in 2011 (around 60% of the total Heart of Essex contribution). Between 1998 and 2004, the economy grew year on year by 5.4%, this was well above the growth rate in both Brentwood and Maldon (around 4% year on year). Growth slowed to a more modest 0.2% year on year during the latter part of the decade.

<sup>39</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2015) *Employment Land Review*. Available online: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-new-local-plan/documents/files/EMPLOYMENT%20LAND%20REVIEW%20PUBLISHED%20JAN%202015%20WEB.pdf>

- 3.4.18 Economic productivity in Chelmsford is in line with the UK average. Relative to other local authorities, the economy of Chelmsford is larger than the national median and the employment base is also larger. However, Gross Value Added (GVA) per head is average.
- 3.4.19 The Chelmsford City Area has the largest business base within the Heart of Essex and has over 8,500 businesses supporting 83,000 jobs. Nearly 90% of jobs are in the service sector, making a contribution of £3 billion into the UK economy<sup>40</sup>.
- 3.4.20 **Table 3.7** shows that employment opportunities within the Chelmsford City Area are strong. A large percentage of its population is either economically active (86.2%) or in employment (81.2%), with both of the scores being higher than the East of England (81.0% & 77.9%) and Great Britain (78.4% & 74.8%). The Chelmsford City area also continues to benefit from low unemployment (3.6%), which is better than the East of England (3.8%) and Great Britain (4.4%).

**Table 3.7 Economic Activity 2021**

	Chelmsford (numbers)	Chelmsford (%)	East of England (%)	Great Britain (%)
Economically Active	95,700	86.2	81.0	78.4
In employment (of working age population)	89,800	81.2	77.9	74.8
Unemployed (of working age population)	3,300	3.6	3.8	4.4

Source: NOMIS (2021) Labour Market Profile <sup>41</sup>

- 3.4.21 The composition of resident occupations in the Chelmsford City Area is set out in **Table 3.8**. It illustrates a higher proportion of managerial and professional employment occupations within Chelmsford when compared to regional and national averages. Conversely, employment in process plant, machine operative and elementary occupations was lower than regional and national averages.

**Table 3.8 Employment Breakdown by Occupation 2021**

	Chelmsford (Numbers)	Chelmsford (%)	East (%)	Great Britain (%)
Occupational Group				
Managers and senior officials / professional occupations / associate professional and technical	47,500	52.9	48.2	49.7
Administrative and secretarial / skilled trades	19,700	21.9	21.1	19.0

<sup>40</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2017) *Chelmsford Economic Strategy*. Available online: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/EasySiteWeb/GatewayLink.aspx?allId=76517>

<sup>41</sup> [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/labour-market-profile)

	Chelmsford (Numbers)	Chelmsford (%)	East (%)	Great Britain (%)
Caring, leisure and other service occupations / sales and customer service	13,800	15.3	15.9	16.2
Process plant and machine operatives / elementary occupations	8,800	9.8	14.8	15.1

Source: NOMIS (2021) Labour Market Profile <sup>42</sup>

- 3.4.22 Average gross weekly earnings in 2021 were £667.20 for the Chelmsford City Area, £628.60 for the East of England and £613.10 for Great Britain.
- 3.4.23 An analysis of planning application data over the past ten years contained in the ELR (2015) shows that over 160,000 m<sup>2</sup> of business floorspace has been granted planning permission in allocated employment areas, some of which is new space and some of which will be additions to existing stock. The City Centre has an office floorspace stock of approximately 285,000 m<sup>2</sup>, the largest stock anywhere in Essex.
- 3.4.24 The ELR also highlights that there is a significant amount of business activity taking place within the parishes and rural areas of the Chelmsford City Area. Excluding Great Baddow, Springfield, Broomfield, Writtle and South Woodham Ferrers there are 1,300 businesses occupying an estimated 255,000 m<sup>2</sup> of floorspace (222,000 m<sup>2</sup> of which is outside of the allocated employment sites in those areas).

## Skills and Education

- 3.4.25 The resident population of the Chelmsford City Area is relatively well educated and highly skilled. Over a third of the working age population (41.3%) were qualified to degree level (NVQ 4) or above, higher than the averages for Essex and the East of England region but slightly lower than the national average of 43.5%. (**Table 3.9**).

**Table 3.9 Level of Qualification Obtained 2021**

Level	Chelmsford (no.)	Chelmsford (%)	East of England (%)	Great Britain (%)
<b>NVQ4 And Above</b>	44,400	41.3	39.5	43.5
<b>NVQ3 And Above</b>	67,200	62.5	58.1	61.5
<b>NVQ2 And Above</b>	87,800	81.5	76.7	78.2
<b>NVQ1 And Above</b>	99,700	92.6	88.5	87.6
<b>Other Qualifications</b>	#	#	5.8	5.9
<b>No Qualifications</b>	#	#	5.7	6.6

Source: NOMIS (2021) Labour Market Profile <sup>43</sup> # Sample size too small for a reliable estimate

<sup>42</sup> NOMIS (2021) Labour Market Profile – Chelmsford. [Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/statistics)

<sup>43</sup> NOMIS (2020) Labour Market Profile – Chelmsford. Available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157214/report.aspx>, accessed 15.02.2022.



- 3.4.26 Chelmsford is home to Anglia Ruskin University, one of the fastest growing universities in the UK. Chelmsford also hosts Writtle University College, which is a land-based science college of national acclaim and delivers degrees on behalf of the University of Essex. Both institutions provide a range of research and consultancy services to businesses, working in partnership to add value to their business and are therefore important drivers of the local economy. In addition, Chelmsford College is developing its specialism in engineering, science and technology.

## Community Facilities and Services

- 3.4.27 Larger services such as schools and health facilities are predominantly focused within the two main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers. There is a high concentration of services and facilities within Chelmsford City Centre with a more limited range available at the key neighbourhood centres of North Melbourne, Chelmer Village, Gloucester Avenue and Great Baddow. In the rural areas beyond the Green Belt, the settlements of Bicknacre, Broomfield, Boreham, Danbury and Great Leighs have access to a good range of facilities and are located on important public transport corridors. These services may include primary schools, shops, surgeries and green spaces. Other rural settlements have a more limited range of facilities and public transport services.
- 3.4.28 Chelmsford has a strong retail sector that supports over 10,000 jobs. With some 125,000 m<sup>2</sup> of retail floorspace in the City Centre, Chelmsford performs well against other towns and is attractive to new investors given its socio-economic and demographic composition. This will continue to be a strong sector in Chelmsford and important to the local economy<sup>44</sup>, although the longer term impacts of Covid-19 have yet to be assessed.

## Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.4.29 The latest projections<sup>45</sup> estimate that the population of the Chelmsford City Area will increase by 15.25% between 2018 and 2043.
- 3.4.30 The Council's Objectively Assessed Housing Need Study, updated in November 2016<sup>46</sup>, recommends a target of 805 dwellings per annum over the period 2013 to 2037. This is an increase of 30 dwellings per annum from that identified in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)<sup>47</sup>. The adopted Chelmsford Local Plan 2020 confirms that 805 dwellings per annum is required and planned for the period of 2013-2036 (18,515 net new homes)<sup>48</sup>. The adopted Local Plan 2020 also identifies a need for nine permanent pitches

<sup>44</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2015) *Employment land review*. Available online:

[http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred\\_options/local\\_plan\\_preferred\\_options\\_document?pointId=s1490092140850](http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred_options/local_plan_preferred_options_document?pointId=s1490092140850)

<sup>45</sup> ONS (2018) *Subnational Population Projections for England: 2018-based projections*. Available online: [Population projections for local authorities: Table 2 - Office for National Statistics](https://population.projections.gov.uk/local-authorities/table-2-office-for-national-statistics)

<sup>46</sup> Peter Brett Associates (2016) *Braintree District Council, Chelmsford City Council, Colchester Borough Council, Tendring District Council Objectively Assessed Housing Need Study*. Available online:

[http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred\\_options/local\\_plan\\_preferred\\_options\\_document?pointId=s1490092140850](http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred_options/local_plan_preferred_options_document?pointId=s1490092140850)

<sup>47</sup> DCA (2015) *Chelmsford City Council Strategic Housing Market Assessment Update 2015*. Available online:

[http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred\\_options/local\\_plan\\_preferred\\_options\\_document?pointId=s1490092140850](http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred_options/local_plan_preferred_options_document?pointId=s1490092140850)

<sup>48</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2020) *Chelmsford Local Plan 2020*. Available at: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-local-plan/adopted-local-plan/>, accessed 15.02.2022.

for Gypsies and Travellers and 24 permanent plots for Travelling Showpeople for the same period.

- 3.4.31 Due to the ageing population of the Chelmsford City Area and wider Essex region, housing must meet the needs of this ageing population and not be solely focused on large family housing.
- 3.4.32 The East of England Forecast Modelling baseline forecast<sup>49</sup> shows employment growth (in terms of the total employment) in Chelmsford increasing from 92,100 jobs in 2014 to 107,700 jobs in 2036, a total growth of 15,600 jobs, or approximately 709 jobs per annum. This increase is shown across a variety of sectors, with the largest increases seen in the health, retail and construction sectors. The adopted Local Plan 2020 provides slightly different figures and has planned for 725 new jobs per annum for the period of 2013-2036, with a minimum requirement of 55,00sqm new business floorspace (Use Classes B1-B8) to be created<sup>50</sup>.
- 3.4.33 The East of England Forecasting Model also indicates that GVA per capita (i.e. per head of the resident population) will increase from £20,300 to £27,400 between 2012 – 2036, one of the fastest economic growth rates in Essex.
- 3.4.34 The Retail Capacity Study (2015)<sup>51</sup> confirms that current allocations for comparison shopping in the City will meet future demand. However, the Study concludes that a priority for the Council should be to strengthen the convenience shopping role of Chelmsford City Centre and ensure that the neighbourhood and local centres continue to perform a strong convenience goods role which serves local needs. The adopted Local Plan 2020 has identified and established policies that would seek to create 11,500sqm of new retail floorspace within the City Centre or Designated Centres within Chelmsford's Urban Area, with a further 1,900sqm retail floorspace at South Woodham Ferrers<sup>52</sup>.
- 3.4.35 Essex County Council provided updated figures on the school places demand within the Chelmsford City Area in its 10 Year Plan – Meeting the demand for school places in Essex 2021-2030. **Table 3.10** sets out where expansion or a new school was built in the past five years. There is a need for new schools or the expansion of existing schools in order to meet the future demand for school places, at all levels, across the Chelmsford City Area, though current demand is quite well satisfied (most schools have some minor capacity, with few in negative capacity (over demand)).

**Table 3.10 Chelmsford School Expansion and New School Requirements**

District	School	Project Type
Chelmsford	Beaulieu Park School	New School
Chelmsford	Boreham Primary	Expansion

<sup>49</sup> Cambridge Insight (2016) *East of England forecasting Model*. Available online: <http://www.cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/EEFM>.

<sup>50</sup> Ibid.

<sup>51</sup> GVA (2015) *Chelmsford Retail Capacity Study 2015*. Available online: [http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred\\_options/local\\_plan\\_preferred\\_options\\_document?pointId=s1490092140850](http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred_options/local_plan_preferred_options_document?pointId=s1490092140850)

<sup>52</sup> Ibid.

District	School	Project Type
Chelmsford	Broomfield Primary	Expansion
Chelmsford	Little Waltham Primary	Expansion
Chelmsford	Maltese road Primary	New School
Chelmsford	Margaretting Primary	Expansion
Chelmsford	Moulsham High	Expansion
Chelmsford	Moulsham Infant	Expansion
Chelmsford	Moulsham Junior	Expansion
Chelmsford	Springfield Primary	Expansion

Source: 10 Year Plan – Meeting the demand for school places in Essex 2021-2030<sup>53</sup>

## Key Sustainability Issues

- Overall, the need to create sustainable places where people want to live, work and relax.
- The need to enable housing growth, using the standard method to identify the minimum number of homes to be planned for and planning for a mix of accommodation to suit all household types.
- The need to make best use and improve the quality of the existing housing stock.
- The need to support the delivery of independent living housing for older people and people with disabilities.
- The need to deliver a range of employment sites to support economic growth.
- The need to ensure a flexible supply of land for employment development.
- The need to address the surplus of unsuitable office space in the City Centre.
- The need to support economic development in the rural areas of Chelmsford.
- The need to support the growth of new sectors linked to the growth of Anglia Ruskin University, such as medical technologies.
- The need to raise incomes and especially for those whose incomes are in the lowest quartile.
- The need to reduce out-commuting to London for work by encouraging businesses to invest and set up within Chelmsford.
- The need to tackle pockets of deprivation that exist in the area.

<sup>53</sup> Essex County Council (2021) 10 Year Plan – Meeting the demand for school places in Essex 2021-2030. Available at: <https://www.essex.gov.uk/school-organisation-and-place-planning/school-organisation-and-place-planning-service>, accessed 15.02.2022

- The need to maintain and raise educational attainment and skills in the local labour force.
- The need to maintain and enhance the vitality of the City Centre and South Woodham Ferrers as well as the area's larger villages.
- The need to strengthen the convenience shopping role in Chelmsford City Centre and ensure that the neighbourhood and local centres continue to perform a strong convenience goods role which serves local needs.
- The need to address forecast deficits in, in particular, school places and early years and childcare provision.
- The need to support the City Area's educational establishments including Anglia Ruskin University and Writtle University College.
- The need to safeguard existing community facilities and services and ensure the timely delivery of new facilities to meet needs arising from new development.
- The need to safeguard the identity of existing communities.
- The need to safeguard and maintain and enhance access to cultural and community facilities which benefit and support sustainable communities.

## 3.5 Health and Wellbeing

### Health

#### Physical Health

- 3.5.1 The 2017 Health Profile for Chelmsford produced by Public Health England<sup>54</sup> highlighted that the health of Chelmsford's population was generally good with life expectancy for both men and women higher than the England average. Life expectancy was 6.7 years lower for men and 2.9 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Chelmsford than in the least deprived areas. These trends have continued, as seen in the 2019 Health Profile for Chelmsford<sup>55</sup>, which also identified that the health of the people in Chelmsford is generally better than the England average and that the life expectancy of men and women in this area is higher than the England average. However, it was also identified that approximately 11.8% (3,550) children live in low income families within the area. It was also identified that the life expectancy for men in the most deprived areas of Chelmsford was 5.3 years lower (better than 2017) and 4.8 years lower for women (worse than 2017) than the areas of least deprivation.
- 3.5.2 Estimated levels of adult physical activity were higher than the England average in 2016, though by 2019 this has changed, with the levels of estimated activity being slightly lower in the Chelmsford City Area than the England average.

<sup>54</sup> Public Health England (2017) *Chelmsford District Health Profile 2017*. Available online: <http://fingertipsreports.phe.org.uk/health-profiles/2017/e07000070.pdf>

<sup>55</sup> Public Health England (2019) *Chelmsford District Health Profile 2019*. Available at: <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/static-reports/health-profiles/2019/e07000070.html?area-name=chelmsford>, accessed 15.02.2022.

- 3.5.3 The rate of people killed and seriously injured on roads are higher than average in 2016 and this trend has continued in 2019 and is expected to continue to worsen, meaning more people are expected to die on the roads of the Chelmsford City Area than the average for England.
- 3.5.4 Rates of sexually transmitted infections and TB were better than the average for England, which is a trend that has continued into 2019. Rates of statutory homelessness in 2016 was lower than the England average. However, there has been a considerable change in both trends as of 2019, with the Chelmsford City Area now having a higher case of homelessness than the England average and this trend seems set to continue.
- 3.5.5 Rates of violent crime, long term unemployment, early deaths from cardiovascular diseases and early deaths from cancer are lower than or in keeping with the average for England in 2016 and these trends have continued to 2019.

## Mental Health

- 3.5.6 The rate of alcohol-related harm hospital stays is 560 per 100,000 population, lower than the average for England. This represents 942 stays per year. By 2019, this figure had risen to 582 alcohol specific hospital stays among those under 18, representing 1008 admissions per year, which is still lower than the England average<sup>56</sup>.
- 3.5.7 The rate of self-harm hospital stays is 183 per 100,000 population. This represents 312 stays per year. By 2019, this figure has fallen to 150 per 100,000 population, representing 260 admissions per year to hospital and remains lower than the England average.
- 3.5.8 The estimated dementia diagnosis rate (for those aged 65 and over) in 2020 stands at 55.2% which is below that for England as whole (61.6%) reflecting that many people predicted to be suffering from dementia may not be being diagnosed.<sup>57</sup>
- 3.5.9 The suicide rate within the Chelmsford area (12.2 per 100,000) in 2020 is higher than that for the region (10.8 per 100,000) and England as a whole (10.4 per 100,000) and suicide rates have been increasing in recent years and have been above the England average since 2015<sup>58</sup>.

## Children's Health

- 3.5.10 In Year 6, 16.1% of children were classified as obese, which was lower than the average for England. By 2019 this has increased to 16.8% of children being classed as obese, a 0.7% increase since 2017<sup>59</sup>.
- 3.5.11 The rate of alcohol specific hospital stays among those under 18 was 19 per 100,000 population, lower than the average for England (2017). By 2019, this figure has dropped to

<sup>56</sup> Ibid.

<sup>57</sup> Office for Health Improvement & Disparities (2022) Fingertips Local Authority Health Profiles. Available online:

[https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/area-search-results/E07000070?place\\_name=Chelmsford&search\\_type=parent-area](https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/area-search-results/E07000070?place_name=Chelmsford&search_type=parent-area)

<sup>58</sup> Office for Health Improvement & Disparities (2022) Fingertips Local Authority Health Profiles. Available online:

[https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/area-search-results/E07000070?place\\_name=Chelmsford&search\\_type=parent-area](https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/area-search-results/E07000070?place_name=Chelmsford&search_type=parent-area)

<sup>59</sup> Public Health England (2019) Chelmsford District Health Profile 2019. Available at: <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/static-reports/health-profiles/2019/e07000070.html?area-name=chelmsford> accessed 15.02.2022.

9 per 100,000 population, which has ensured Chelmsford is considerably lower than the average for England<sup>60</sup>.

- 3.5.12 Levels of teenage pregnancy, GCSE attainment, breastfeeding and smoking at time of delivery are also lower than the England average and this trend has continued to 2019<sup>61</sup>.

## Disability

- 3.5.13 It is predicted that there are 3,286 people (2.35% of the population) aged 18 plus in Chelmsford with a learning disability in 2019 which is very similar to Essex (2.34%), East region (2.34%) and England (2.36%)<sup>62</sup>. The number of people predicted to have a moderate or severe learning disability is 682 (0.49%) which is also the same as Essex (0.48%), East region (0.48%) and England (0.49%)<sup>63</sup>.
- 3.5.14 With regards to physical impairments, it is predicted that 11,287 people (10.01% of the population) aged 18 plus in Chelmsford have a physical impairment in 2019 which is very similar to Essex (10.13%) as a whole.
- 3.5.15 The percentage of people considered to have day-to-day activities limited a little (24.3%) is similar to Essex as a whole (24.6%). However, the percentage of people who considered to have day-to-day activities limited a lot (18.4%) is lower than the Essex figure (21.5%).<sup>64</sup>

## Healthcare Provision

- 3.5.16 Healthcare provision in the Chelmsford City Area includes Broomfield Hospital and a range of private and NHS health care providers. There are also four private hospitals in Chelmsford and new GP surgeries at Danbury and South Woodham Ferrers and new healthcare facilities proposed as part of the major new development to the north-east of the City Centre. GP-patient ratio data for the NHS Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group highlights that, as at 2014, ratios were 1,654.3 patients per Full Time Equivalent (FTE) GP. This is above the UK average of 1,580 patients per FTE<sup>65</sup>.
- 3.5.17 Local priorities in Chelmsford include reducing obesity, reducing alcohol-related harm, helping people to age well, tackling homelessness and reducing suicide rates.

## Open Space

- 3.5.18 The provision of open space, sports and recreational facilities can play a significant role in the promotion of healthy lifestyles. As highlighted in Chelmsford City Council's Open Space Study<sup>66</sup>, there are 1,829.83 ha of accessible natural green space within the Chelmsford City Area. The Open Space study maps in detail current levels provision by

<sup>60</sup> Ibid.

<sup>61</sup> Ibid.

<sup>62</sup> Essex County Council (2019) Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2019 and District Profile Reports. Available online: <https://data.essex.gov.uk/dataset/exwyd/essex-jsna-and-district-profile-reports-2019> accessed 25.2.2022

<sup>63</sup> Ibid.

<sup>64</sup> Ibid.

<sup>65</sup> GP Online (2014) Huge variation in GP-patient ratio across England revealed. Available online: <http://www.gponline.com/exclusive-huge-variation-gp-patient-ratio-across-england-revealed/article/1327390>

<sup>66</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2016) Chelmsford Open Space Study 2016 – 2036. Available online: [http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred\\_options/local\\_plan\\_preferred\\_options\\_document?pointId=s1490092140850](http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred_options/local_plan_preferred_options_document?pointId=s1490092140850) .



quantity and quality, and by implication deficits by individual settlement. Provision standards are set out and surpluses/deficits are calculated (**Table 3.11**).

**Table 3.11 Open Space Surpluses/Deficits**

Study Area	Allotments	Amenity Green Space	Park, Sport and Recreation Ground (public and private combined)	Park and Recreation Ground	Outdoor Sport (Pitches)	Outdoor Sport (Fixed)	Outdoor Sport (Private)	Play Space (Children)	Play Space (Youth)
Chelmsford	4.42	-8.27	-6.72	-31.40	13.05	4.26	7.37	-0.63	-2.82
Rural North	-0.46	7.32	0.63	-4.15	1.77	0.06	2.95	0.31	-0.19
Rural South	-2.81	1.84	23.33	-8.77	10.31	0.82	20.97	-0.05	-0.76
Rural West	0.78	3.11	3.71	0.14	1.93	0.11	1.53	0.21	-0.16
South Woodham Ferrers	-4.38	-4.48	-8.68	-15.63	6.50	0.00	0.45	-0.12	-0.70
Urban Areas	-4.83	13.34	-0.23	-35.79	16.66	3.44	15.46	0.07	-2.36

Source: Chelmsford Open Space Study Table 21

3.5.19 The importance of access to high quality open space is increasingly recognised as fundamental to quality of life and, as such, is likely to secure a higher profile in the future, and consequently currently detailed plan policies seek to remedy deficiencies through protection, enhancement and new provision, via open space standards.

3.5.20 For new development, principles of good design should be applied in respect of the standards of provision for different types of open space, in turn contributing to the achieving the aims of the City's Green Infrastructure Strategic Plan<sup>67</sup>. This document sets out in detail access to natural greenspace across the City Area.

## Crime

3.5.21 As of 2021, the overall crime rate in Chelmsford was 83 crimes per 1,000 people, which is 2.5% higher than the rate of Essex (81 per 1,000 residents)<sup>68</sup>. However, Chelmsford is considered to be the 53<sup>rd</sup> safest major town in England, Wales and Northern Ireland<sup>69</sup>. **Table 3.12** and **Figure 3.4** illustrate the historic crime rates for Chelmsford and the types and amount of crimes committed within the City Area as compared to Essex, respectively.

**Table 3.12 Historical Crime Rates for Chelmsford**

Year	Crime rate per 1,000 people	Total Crimes
2021	83	9,883
2020	79	9,390

<sup>67</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2018) Chelmsford Green Infrastructure Strategic Plan available at: <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/resources/assets/attachment/full/0/1124120.pdf>

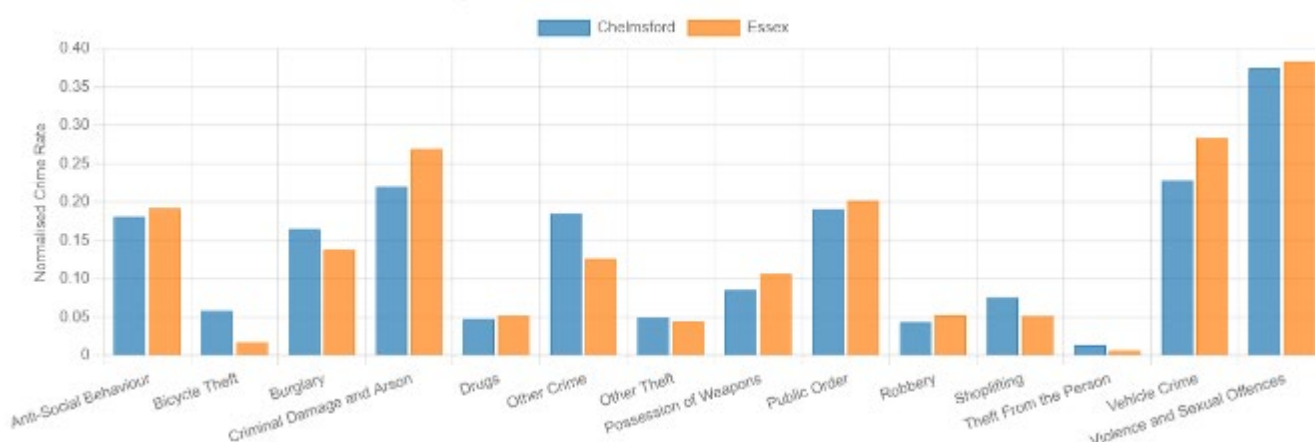
<sup>68</sup> CrimeRate (2021) Crime and Safety Chelmsford. Available at: <https://crimerate.co.uk/essex/chelmsford#:~:text=The%20overall%20crime%20rate%20in,of%2081%20per%201%2C000%20residents.&text=This%20is%204.5%25%20higher%20than,2020's%20crime%20rate%20of%2037>, accessed 15.02.2022.

<sup>69</sup> Ibid.

Year	Crime rate per 1,000 people	Total Crimes
2019	90	10,664
2018	82	9,750
2017	70	8,273
2016	57	6,808

Source: CrimeRate<sup>70</sup>

Figure 3.4 Crime in Chelmsford Compared to Essex



### Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Review of the Adopted Local Plan

3.5.22 Chelmsford City Council's vision for health and wellbeing is<sup>71</sup> "to work with communities and residents to reduce health inequalities and improve the opportunities for adults and children so that they can enjoy a healthy, safe, and fulfilling life." This vision is supported by the overarching principles of:

- Partnership working;
- A focus on prevent of ill-health and early intervention;
- Increase communication and making use of technology;
- Improve mental health and wellbeing; and
- Effective health service and self-care.

3.5.23 Chelmsford City Council's contribution to delivering better health outcomes, as set out above, is delivered within the context of a much wider local coalition of partners under the

<sup>70</sup> CrimeRate (2021) Crime and Safety Chelmsford. Available at:

<https://crimerate.co.uk/essex/chelmsford#:~:text=The%20overall%20crime%20rate%20in,of%2081%20per%201%20C000%20residents.&text=This%20is%204.5%25%20higher%20than,2020's%20crime%20rate%20of%2037>, accessed 15.02.2022.

<sup>71</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2019) Health & Wellbeing Plan. Available online:

<https://www.livewellcampaign.co.uk/app/uploads/2019/12/Chelmsford-Health-Wellbeing-Plan-2019.pdf>

new public health arrangements. The Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy for Essex 2018-2022 (2018)<sup>72</sup> sets out a vision:

*"We want all people in Essex to live healthy, happy and full lives and to be able to fulfil their potential, including those who might be vulnerable. We want every child to get a great start in life. We want everybody to live in a strong, sustainable and supportive community with good opportunities for work and other meaningful activity and a healthy standard of living. We want everybody to be able to maximise their capabilities with control over their own lives, including the ability to make healthy lifestyle choices for themselves and their families. We want to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to enjoy life long into old age. We want everyone to have access to high quality health services delivered in the right way at the right time when they need specialist help and support."*

- 3.5.24 The Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy for Essex 2018-2022 identifies a number of challenges for health including: an ageing population with more people with long term conditions; the life expectancy gap is widening and there are significant health inequalities; 1 in 3 10-11 year olds and two thirds of adults are overweight or obese; people with mental health problems struggle to get housing and work; mental health issues are common and suicide has increased; and dementia diagnosis is not as good it could be.
- 3.5.25 The Essex Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2026 (in preparation) sets out five key priorities:
- Improving mental health and wellbeing
  - Physical activity and healthy weight
  - Supporting long term independence
  - Alcohol and substance misuse
  - Health inequalities & the wider determinants of Health
- 3.5.26 The life expectancy of males within the most deprived area of Chelmsford has improved in recent years; however, the life expectancy of women in these areas has considerably worsened. Whilst the NPPF and existing Development Plan policies will be expected to help protect health and promote healthy lifestyles, the Review of the Adopted Local Plan will provide an opportunity to facilitate further the promotion of healthy lifestyles including through safeguarding existing open space and recreational facilities and addressing deficiencies. The Local Plan could also help to ensure the future provision of health facilities and services to meet local needs.
- 3.5.27 The latest data from Essex Police shows that in the year up to January 2022<sup>73</sup>, antisocial behaviour had reduced substantially, which may reflect the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic, but all crime had increased. Overall, the picture was mixed with, for example, 10 types of victim-based crime showing a reduction on the previous year but the majority (29) showing an increase. The baseline illustrates that Chelmsford continues to manage to

<sup>72</sup> Essex Health and Wellbeing Board (2012) *Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy for Essex*. Available online: [http://www.wecb.org.uk/sites/default/files/Essex\\_Health\\_Wellbeing\\_Strategy\\_new\\_format\\_v8%5B1%5D.pdf](http://www.wecb.org.uk/sites/default/files/Essex_Health_Wellbeing_Strategy_new_format_v8%5B1%5D.pdf)

<sup>73</sup> Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex (2022) *Essex Police Performance*. Available online: <https://www.essex.pfcc.police.uk/essex-police-performance-2-2/>

keep its crime rates against various types of crime lower than or keeping with the average for Essex.

3.5.28

The Police and Crime Plan for Essex 2021-2024<sup>74</sup> has the following priorities:

- Further investment in crime prevention
- Reducing drug driven violence
- Protecting vulnerable people and breaking the cycle of domestic abuse
- Reducing violence against women and girls
- Improving support for victims of crime
- Protecting rural and isolated areas
- Preventing dog theft
- Preventing business crime, fraud and cyber crime
- Improving safety on our roads
- Encouraging volunteers and community support
- Supporting our officers and staff
- Increasing collaboration

## Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to protect the health and wellbeing of Chelmsford's population.
- The need to promote healthy lifestyles and in particular reduce obesity and increase levels of physical activity.
- The need to plan for an ageing population.
- The need to address health inequalities, especially for those in the most deprived areas.
- The need to combat suicide and its causes.
- The need to protect and enhance open space provision across the Chelmsford City Area.
- The need to support high quality design that creates safe and secure communities.
- The need to safeguard existing health care facilities and services and ensure the timely delivery of new facilities and services to meet needs arising from new development.

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<sup>74</sup> Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex (2021) *Police and crime plan 2021 – 2024*. Available online: <https://www.essex.pfcc.police.uk/what-we-are-doing/police-and-crime-plan/>

## 3.6 Transport and Accessibility

### Transport Infrastructure

- 3.6.1 There are several primary road routes within the Chelmsford City Area. The A12 is a trunk road and runs from London and the M25, centrally in a north-easterly direction onwards to Suffolk and Norfolk. Two other significant primary routes are the A130, which runs north-south across Essex, and the A414, which begins in Harlow and terminates in Maldon.
- 3.6.2 Chelmsford has two Park and Ride facilities (Chelmer Valley and Sandon) with frequent connections to the City Centre for commuters and shoppers.
- 3.6.3 Chelmsford rail station is one of the busiest in the East of England, accommodating up to 8.6 million passenger trips per year in 2019-20<sup>75</sup>. **Table 3.13** illustrates the estimated usage of the rail stations within the Chelmsford City Area. It should be noted that the Covid-19 pandemic likely affected passenger numbers in many ways due to lockdowns, furlough and a public desire to not travel. As can be seen, Chelmsford railway station remains, and will continue to be, an extremely important station for Chelmsford and the surrounding area.

Table 3.13 Stations within Chelmsford and their estimated usage 2019-2021

Station Name	Entries and Exits (2020-21)	Entries and Exits (2019-20)	Entries and Exits (2018-19)	Entries and Exits (2017-18)
<b>Chelmsford</b>	1,716,828	8,606,294	8,619,942	8,536,968
<b>South Woodham Ferrers</b>	71,784	473,240	510,558	546,564
<b>Battlesbridge</b>	5,580	19,848	21,108	16,804

Source: Office of Rail and Road<sup>76</sup>

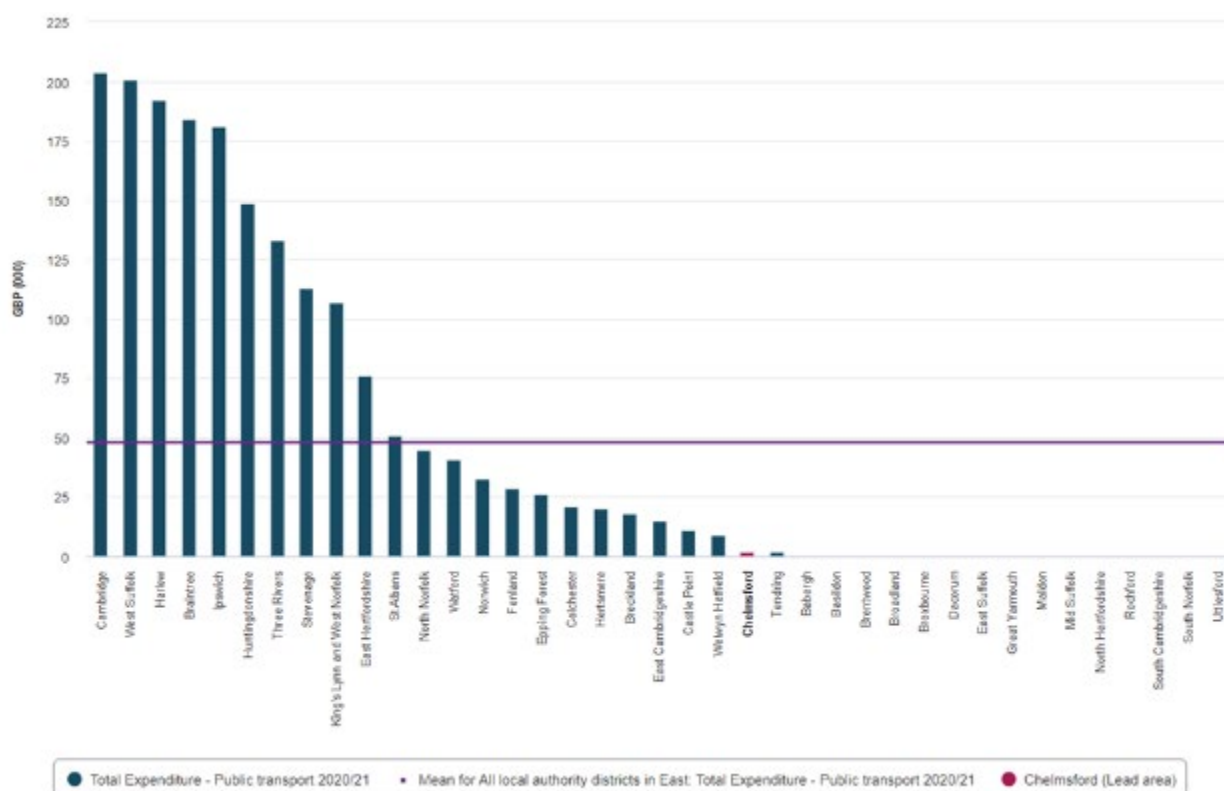
- 3.6.4 Regular services connect Chelmsford with London Liverpool Street (with up to ten trains per hour), Ipswich and Norwich. A recently completed programme of upgrade works, including train capacity, has enhanced the accessibility and usability of Chelmsford Station. A new North East Chelmsford railway station (Beaulieu Station) has outline planning permission and is expected to be delivered in 2025/26. This will be a key element of the City's planning strategy for the area, and will help to remove traffic from the outskirts of the city as part of the 'Chelmsford future transport network – strategic zonal focus'. The station and Boreham Interchange together will comprise an important transport hub, which in turn, will help stimulate investment and development in the area north east of the station. Park and ride facilities are an important aspect of this approach.
- 3.6.5 Chelmsford is around 25 to 30 minutes' drive from London Stansted Airport (via the A130/A120), and London Heathrow, London Gatwick, London City, Luton and Southend airports are all within a 1-1.5hrs drive time.

<sup>75</sup> Office of Rail and Road (2021) Estimates of Station Usage. Available at: <https://dataportal.orr.gov.uk/statistics/usage/estimates-of-station-usage>, accessed 15.02.2022.

<sup>76</sup> Office of Rail and Road (2021) Estimates of Station Usage. Available at: <https://dataportal.orr.gov.uk/statistics/usage/estimates-of-station-usage>, accessed 15.02.2022.

- 3.6.6 The Global Commuting Index as reported on Uswitch, highlights that the UK as a whole has quite poor public transport and that the Chelmsford area scored 4.19/10 due to high public transportation costs and long commuting times<sup>77</sup>.
- 3.6.7 As illustrated in **Figure 3.5**, the Chelmsford City Area has limited spend on public transport/general transport perhaps reflecting relatively high costs facing residents/commuters.

Figure 3.5 Total Expenditure – Public Transport (2020/21) for All local authority districts in East England



Source: LG Inform<sup>78</sup>

## Movement

- 3.6.8 According to the 2011 Census, the average distance travelled to work by Chelmsford residents was 18.9 km in 2011 which represents an increase of approximately 4 km compared to 2001. **Table 3.14** compares the distance travelled to work by residents in 2001 and 2011 and highlights that the proportion of people travelling less than 10km has decreased marginally whilst the proportion travelling over 10km has increased. The 2011 Census also illustrates that the primary means of travelling to work is by car or van

<sup>77</sup> Uswitch (2021) The best and worst area in the UK for commuting. Available at: <https://uswitchwidgets.rvupartners.co.uk/global-commuting-index/uk-ranked/index.html#> accessed 15.02.2022.

<sup>78</sup> LG Inform (2021) Total Expenditure – Public transport in Tower Hamlets. Available at: [https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lghostandard?mod-metric=8201&mod-area=E09000030&mod-group=AllUnitaryLainCountry\\_England&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup](https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lghostandard?mod-metric=8201&mod-area=E09000030&mod-group=AllUnitaryLainCountry_England&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup), accessed 16.02.2022.



(40.63%) with 9.18% of residents travelling by train. Note: the impact of COVID-19 on these volumes and patterns has yet to be determined.

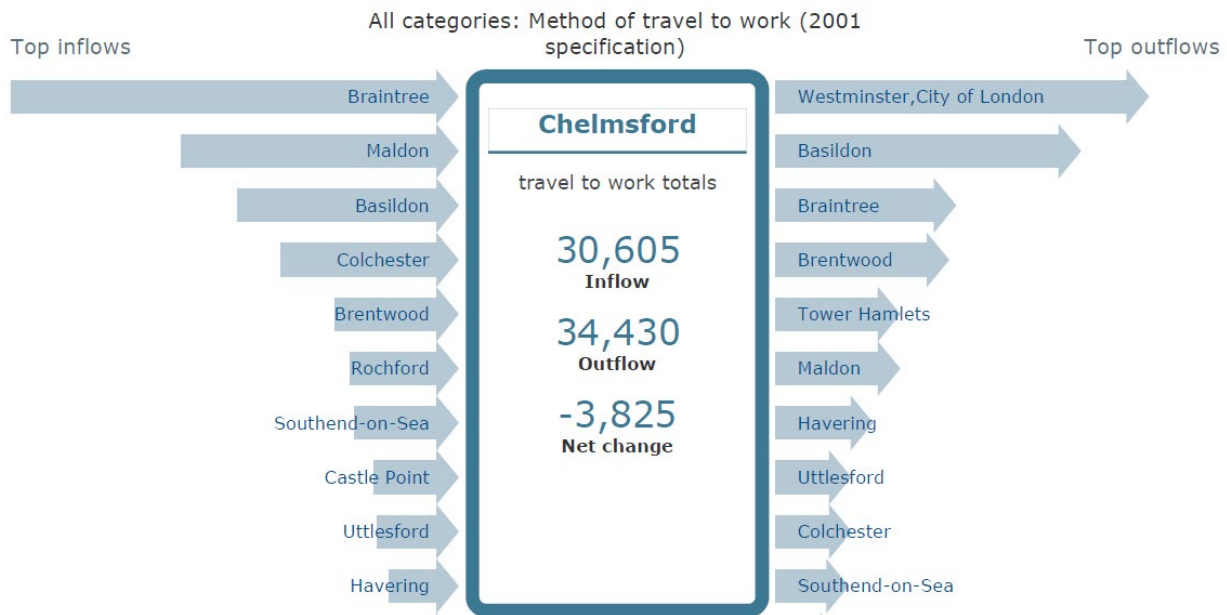
Table 3.14 Distance Travelled to Work

Distance Travelled to Work	Number of People (2001)	% of People in Employment (2001)	Number of People (2011)	% of People in Employment (2011)
Less than 2 km	14,069	17.03	14,061	16.26
2 km to less than 5 km	14,051	17	14,068	16.27
5 km to less than 10 km	7,630	9.23	7,708	8.91
10 km to less than 20 km	16,242	19.66	12,168	14.08
20 km to less than 30 km	7,138	8.64	5,357	6.2
30 km to less than 40 km	3,715	4.5	3,584	4.8
40 km to less than 60 km	2,143	2.59	11,698	13.53
60 km and over	1,556	1.88	1,569	1.81
Working from home	8,857	10.72	8,857	10.25
Other	7,220	8.73	7,381	8.54

Source: ONS (2001) *Census 2001*; ONS (2011) *Census 2011*.

- 3.6.9 Commuting flows indicate that there is a significant outflow of commuters from the Chelmsford City Area alongside a significant inflow. In 2011, a total of 30,605 workers commuted into Chelmsford from other local authorities whilst 34,430 residents commuted out of Chelmsford. This represents a net outflow of 3,825 workers.
- 3.6.10 **Figure 3.6** shows the workplace destinations of the Chelmsford City Area's workforce for 2011. It demonstrates that the majority of residents commuted to Westminster, City of London (5,702 people) followed by the neighbouring authorities of Basildon, Braintree and Brentwood. Braintree, meanwhile, was the origin of the most in-commuters to the local authority area (6,854 people).

Figure 3.6 Workplace Destinations



Source: NOMIS (2014) *Location of usual residence and place of work by method of travel to work*. Available online: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/WU03UK/chart/1132462182>

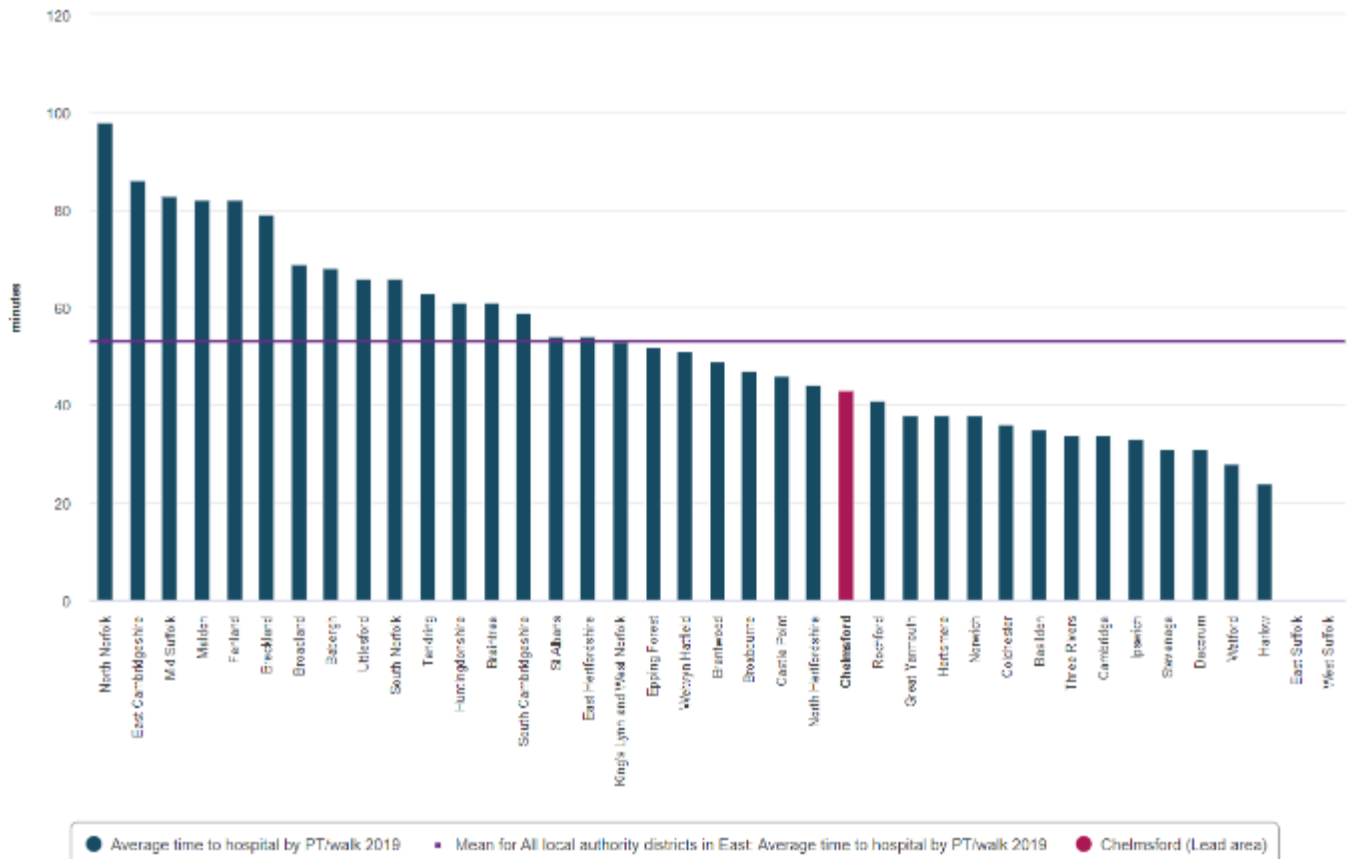
- 3.6.11 Roads are considered to be operational when running at up to 90% capacity; the remaining 10% provides flexibility, resilience and reliability. Chelmsford's road network is operating at 96% capacity during peak times, so sheer volume of traffic can lead to delays. There is not the available space in the City Centre to increase capacity on the existing roads, or to build new roads.<sup>79</sup>
- 3.6.12 The Chelmsford City Area benefits from having, relative to all other local authorities in the East, low travel times to a hospital through public transport or walking. The average time taken for such a journey by these transportation methods is 43 minutes in 2019 and **Figure 3.7** highlights how this compares favourably against the other local authorities in the East. The time of 43 minutes in 2019 is consistent with the times such a trip would take<sup>80</sup>.

<sup>79</sup> Essex County Council (2016) *Chelmsford's future transport network*. Available online:

<http://www.essexhighways.org/highway-schemes-and-developments/major-schemes/chelmsford-future-transport-network.aspx>

<sup>80</sup> Ibid.

Figure 3.7 Travel time in minutes to nearest hospital by public transport/walking (2019) for all local authority districts in East England



Source: LG Inform<sup>81</sup>

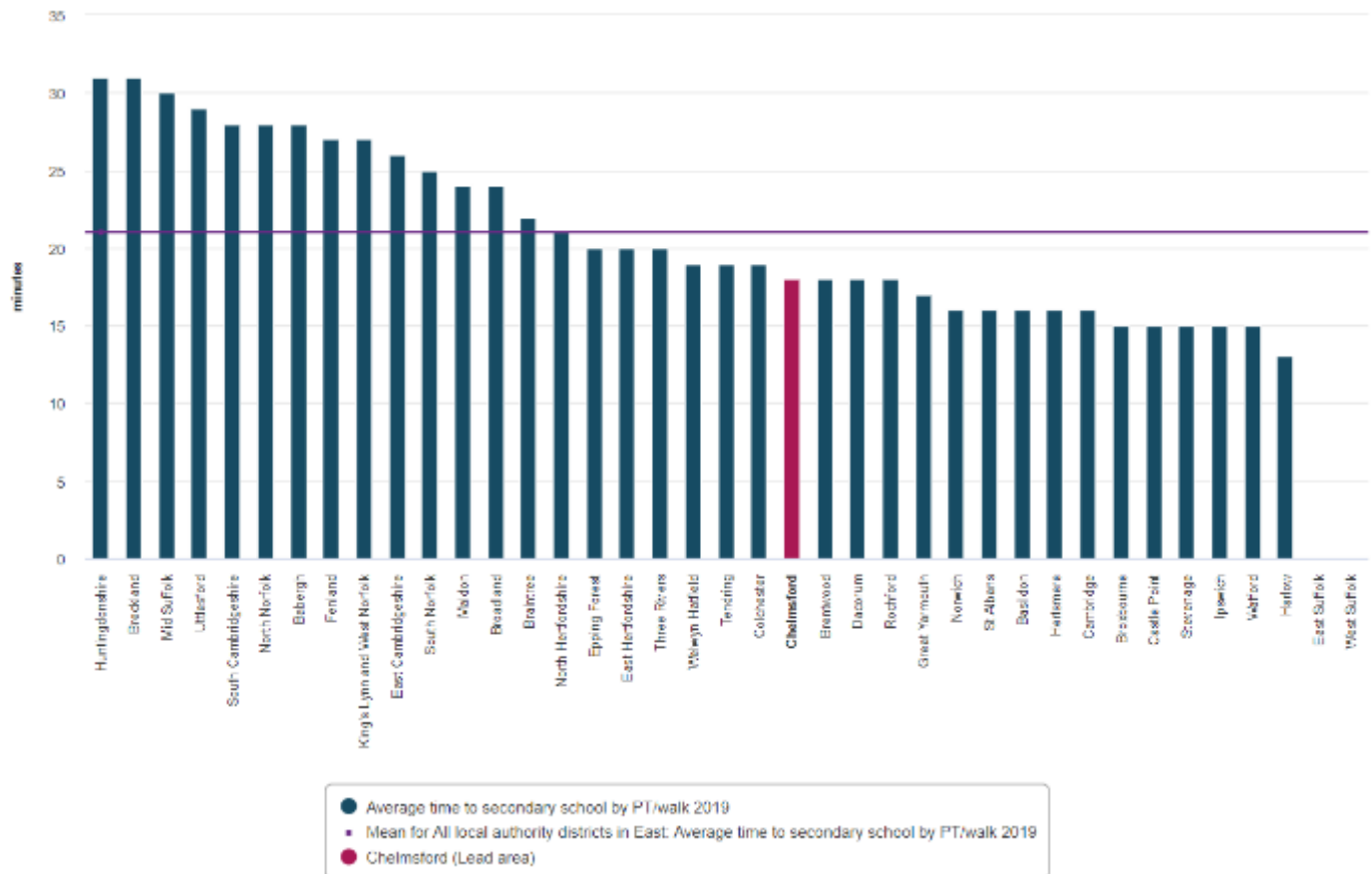
3.6.13

The Chelmsford City Area benefits from having accessible secondary schools by public transport or walking, with the average journey using these methods taking only 18 minutes. This compares favourably to the other local authorities in the East and compares well against the combined average for the East of England of 21 minutes, which can be seen in **Figure 3.8**. As there are usually a higher density of primary schools in an area when compared to secondary schools, Chelmsford also scored well against the accessibility of primary schools by walking or public transport as the average travel time of these journeys is nine minutes<sup>82</sup>.

<sup>81</sup> LG Inform (2021) Travel time in minutes to nearest hospital by public transport/walking in Chelmsford. Available at: [https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=10238&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion\\_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup](https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=10238&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup), accessed 16.02.2022.

<sup>82</sup> LG Inform (2021) Travel time in minutes to nearest primary school by public transport/walking in Chelmsford. Available at: [https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=10226&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion\\_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup](https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=10226&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup), accessed 16.02.2022.

Figure 3.8 Travel time in minutes to nearest secondary school by public transport/walking (2019) for all local authority districts in East England



Source: LG Inform<sup>83</sup>

3.6.14

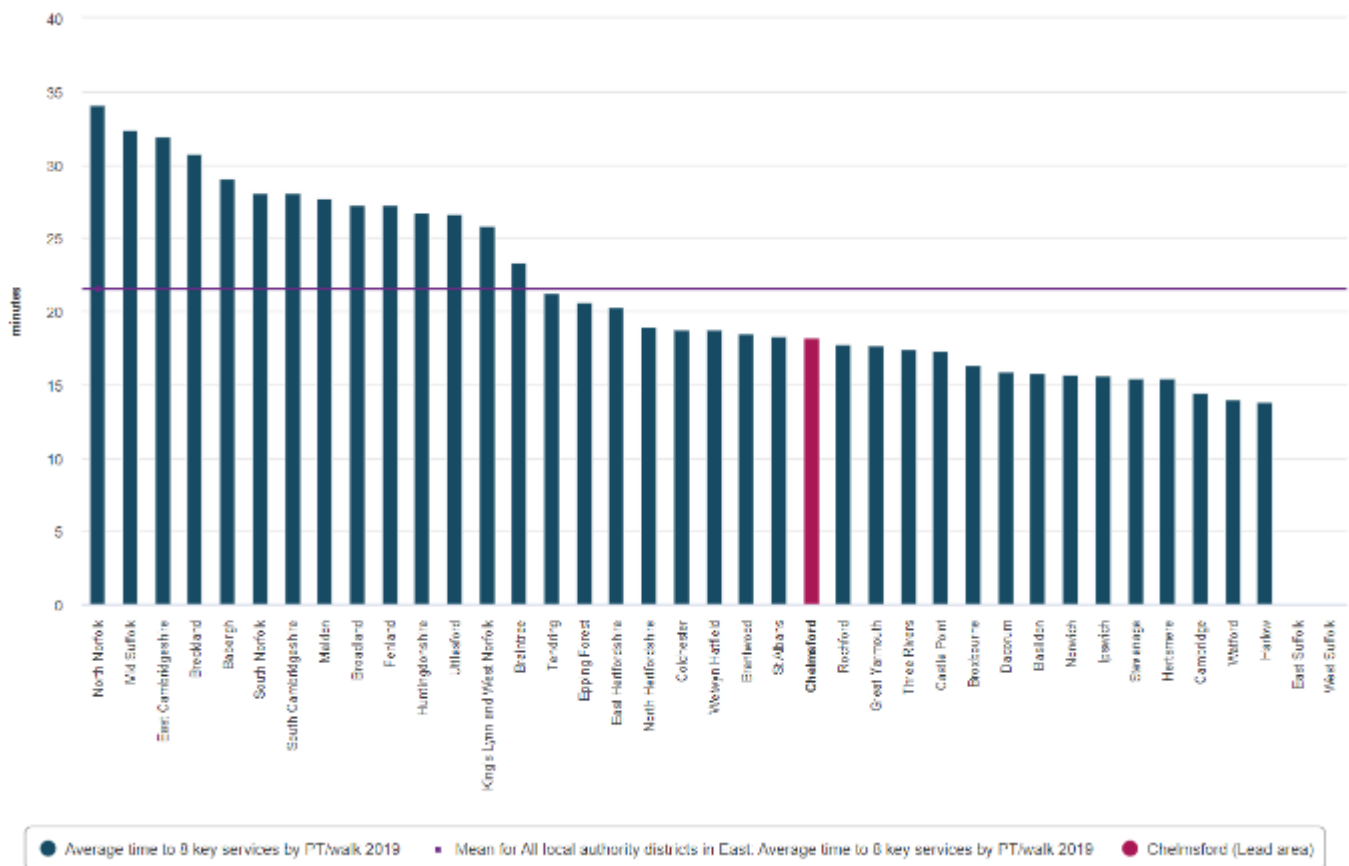
The Chelmsford City Area additionally benefits from low travel times by walking and public transport to 8 key services<sup>84</sup> (18.2 minutes), being below the average for such trips within the local authorities of the East (21.5 minutes), which is illustrated in **Figure 3.9**. Chelmsford also benefits from a good score with regard to travel time by cycling to 8 key services of 15.9 minutes, whilst the average for local authorities in the East is 19.5 minutes<sup>85</sup>.

<sup>83</sup> LG Inform (2021) Travel time in minutes to nearest secondary school by public transport/walking in Chelmsford. Available at: [https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=10229&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion\\_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup](https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=10229&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup), accessed 16.02.2022.

<sup>84</sup> The 8 key services are the average of minimum journey times to medium sized centres of employment (500-4999 jobs), primary schools, secondary schools, further education, GPs, hospitals, food stores and town centres.

<sup>85</sup> LG Inform (2021) Travel time in minutes to 8 key services by cycle in Chelmsford. Available at: [https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=10250&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion\\_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup](https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=10250&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup), accessed 16.02.2022.

Figure 3.9 Travel time in minutes to 8 key services by public transport/walking in (2019) for all local authority districts in East England



Source: LG Inform<sup>86</sup>

## Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Review of the Adopted Local Plan

3.6.15 An increase in population and households within the Chelmsford City Area will in-turn generate additional transport movements. Based on existing trends, the majority of these movements are likely to be by car with a continuation of (net) out-commuting but also substantial in-commuting. This could result in increased pressure on the local road network and public transport infrastructure with congestion on key trunks roads including the A12, A130 and A414 east and west of Chelmsford. In this regard, a number of junctions on the strategic highway network have capacity constraints and pinch points. Demand for rail transport is also expected to increase.

3.6.16 Essex County Council's vision for Chelmsford's future transport network is follows<sup>87</sup>:

*"For Chelmsford's transport system to become 'best in class' rivalling similar cities across the UK offering enhanced connectivity, and access to opportunities for residents, visitors and businesses to support the sustainable economic growth of the city."*

<sup>86</sup> LG Inform (2021) Travel time in minutes to 8 key services by public transport/walking in Chelmsford. Available at: [https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lqastandard?mod-metric=10249&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion\\_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup](https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lqastandard?mod-metric=10249&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup), accessed 16.02.2022.

<sup>87</sup> Ibid

- 3.6.17 To ensure the delivery of this vision, funding from planning obligations has been secured<sup>88</sup> to deliver a variety of schemes following a zonal approach. The central zone will focus on improving the quality of the public realm, managing traffic efficiently and providing alternative sustainable transport options. The mid zone focuses on journeys within the City limits, 56% of which are currently made by private car. Sustainable alternatives to the private car will be identified and walking and cycling will be promoted. In the outer zone, which targets journeys from outside Chelmsford, schemes will focus on encouraging rail use, removing traffic from the outskirts of the City and using signage to direct drivers to the most appropriate routes.
- 3.6.18 The adopted Local Plan 2020 also includes a number of policies and proposals to enhance transport in the local authority area. Specific developments include the Chelmsford North East By-pass (with Phase 1 expected to open in 2024) and the new North East Chelmsford rail station (referenced above), in addition to capacity improvements at the existing station, transport links between new neighbourhoods and Chelmsford City Centre, additional Park and Ride sites, bus priority and bus-based rapid transit (ChART). Improvements to the A12: junction 19 (Chelmsford North) to junction 25 (A120 interchange) are also planned by National Highways with widening to provide three lanes between Chelmsford and Colchester. In this context, it would be expected that some transport improvements would be delivered independently of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan. Chelmsford City Council has also been involved with developing transport improvements for north/west Chelmsford, including initiatives such as DigiGo which is a fully electric shared public transport service offering on-demand or pre-bookable travel.<sup>89</sup>
- 3.6.19 The adopted Local Plan 2020 provides within its Strategic Policy S9 a long list of infrastructure requirements it will try to attain throughout its lifetime in order to improve the infrastructure of Chelmsford, especially in places where it is desperately needed<sup>90</sup>. The Local Plan also seeks to encourage the use of park and ride facilities and encourage the creation of new park and ride facilities and to improve the pedestrianisation of the area. Strategic Policy S10 supports Policy S9 by trying to ensure the financial contributions required in order to implement needed infrastructure and to ensure new infrastructure is in the best/most suitable places possible.
- 3.6.20 The Chelmsford City Area does benefit from accessible educational facilities, with travel times to primary schools and secondary schools being relatively low. Travel times to 8 key services by cycling, walking and public transport, showing that such services are currently well positioned across the area to ensure they are accessible.

## Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to ensure timely investment in transport infrastructure and services through securing developer funded works or contributions and other sources of funding.
- The need to address congestion, particularly on and around the main A12, A130 and A414 transport corridors.

<sup>88</sup> Chelmsford City Council (March 2022) Infrastructure Funding Statement 2020/21

<sup>89</sup> See: <https://www.essexhighways.org/digigo>

<sup>90</sup> Ibid.



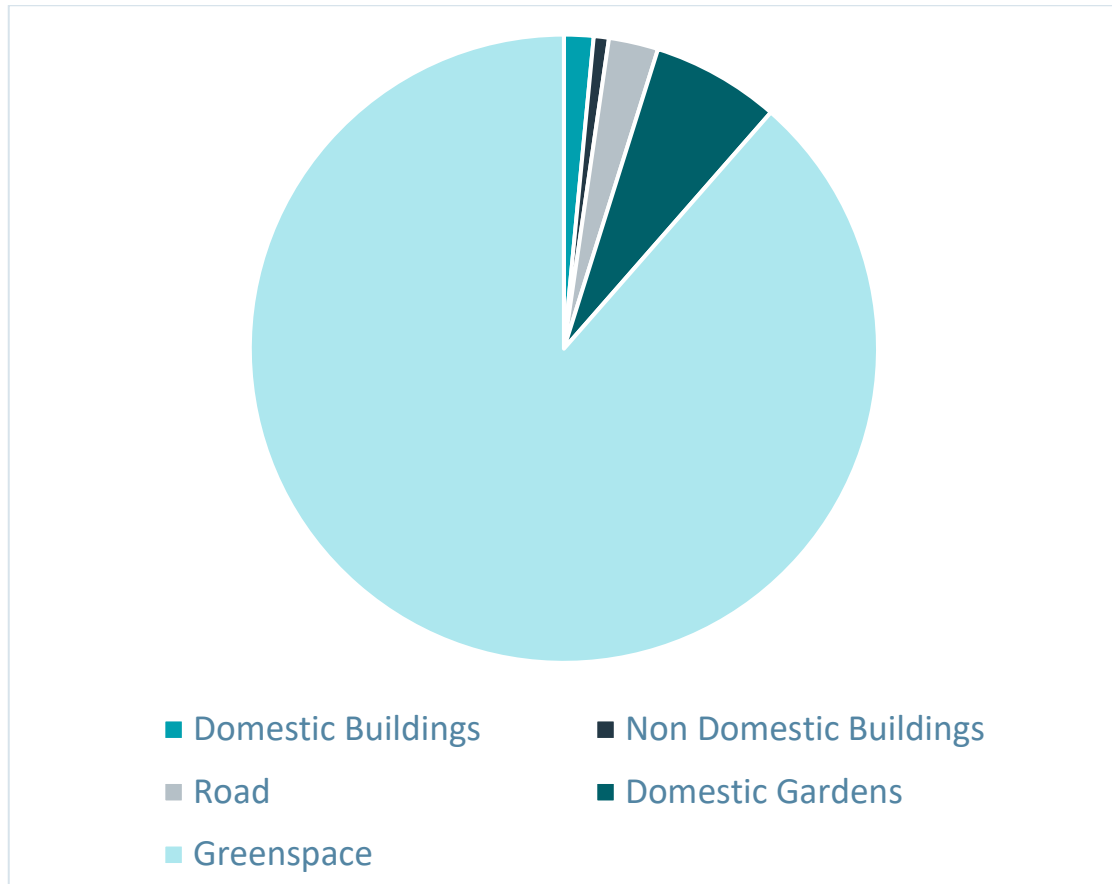
- The need to address existing junction capacity issues.
- The need to enhance the connectivity of more remote settlements, particularly to the north of the Chelmsford City Area.
- The need to encourage alternative modes of transport to the car, including the expansion of park and ride sites.
- The need to ensure that new development is accessible to a range of community facilities and services and jobs so as to reduce the need to travel.
- The need to reduce out-commuting by creating a stronger employment market within the Chelmsford City Area.
- The need to encourage walking and cycling, as part of active travel.
- The need to encourage the use of public transport, and in particular key transport interchanges between different modes, namely bus and rail.
- The need to encourage car sharing, especially along heavily congested transport corridors.
- The need to address congestion in and around the City Centre.
- The need to investigate more innovative and creative ways to tackle behaviour change, rather than simply the monitoring of travel patterns.

## 3.7 Land Use, Geology and Soils

### Land Use

3.7.1 **Figure 3.10** illustrates the key land uses in the Chelmsford City Area (as at 2005) and highlights that the majority of the area (84.7%) was classified as green space, slightly lower than the regional average of 88.1% and national average of 87.5%.

Figure 3.10 Land Use



## Geology

- 3.7.2 The geology of the Chelmsford City Area can be separated into two areas; Northern areas are underlain by the London Clay Formation (composed of clay, or silty clays with small calcareous nodules and selenite crystals), southern areas are characterised by outcrops of the Claygate Beds (silts and silty clays with inter-bedded fine grained sands) overlying the London Clay and are generally found associated with higher ground. Occasionally, the Bagshot Beds (fine grained sands) are found overlying the Claygate Beds. Near Tye Green, the Bagshot Beds are overlain by the Bagshot Pebble Bed (approximately 4m of rounded black flint pebbles).
- 3.7.3 Drift deposits overlying the solid geology consist mainly of the Lowestoft Formation in the northern area of the local authority area, which comprises Glaciofluvial Deposits, Till and Glaciolacustrine Deposits except in the areas around large river channels where Head Deposits are prevalent. In the southern part of the Chelmsford City Area, the predominant superficial deposits are the Head Deposits.
- 3.7.4 River Terrace Deposits and alluvium tend to be located around river channels.<sup>91</sup>
- 3.7.5 There are two designated sites of geological interest in the Chelmsford City Area, River Ter SSSI and Newney Green Pit SSSI. River Ter SSSI is representative of a lowland stream with

<sup>91</sup> British Geological Survey (1975) *Geological Survey of England and Wales*. Available online: <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/data/maps/maps.cfc?method=viewRecord&mapId=9660>

a distinctive floor regime. In addition, the site demonstrates characteristic features of a lowland stream including pool-riffle sequences, bank erosion, bedload transport and dimensional adjustments to flooding frequency.<sup>92</sup> Newney Green Pit SSSI, meanwhile, provides exposures in the important Middle Pleistocene sequence first recognised in Suffolk, namely Kesgrave (Thames) Gravel, with a Cromerian Palaeosol (fossil soil horizon) developed in its upper layers, and overlain by the Lowestoft (Anglian) Till.<sup>93</sup>

## Soils

- 3.7.6 The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) system developed by Defra provides a method for assessing the quality of farmland. The system divides the quality of land into five categories, as well as non-agricultural and urban. The 'best and most versatile land' is defined by the NPPF as that which falls into Grades 1, 2 and 3a.
- 3.7.7 Best and most versatile agricultural land in the Chelmsford City Area generally lies to the north/north west of the Chelmsford Urban Area and which is characterised by Grade 2 ('Very Good') quality land. Land to the south of the urban area, meanwhile, is predominantly Grade 3 ('Good') agricultural land.

## Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Review of the Adopted Local Plan

- 3.7.8 National planning policy encourages the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed and also seeks to protect the best and most versatile agricultural land. Similarly, the adopted Local Plan 2020 seeks to avoid the significant, irreversible or permanent loss of the best and most versatile agricultural land (see Policies S1, S7 and S8, for example) and promotes the use of previously developed land. However, if councils do not have a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years' worth of housing against their housing requirements, the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development can often outweigh other national and local policy constraints.
- 3.7.9 The Council has produced an assessment of the capacity of future development sites. The 2021 Five Year Housing Land Supply Position Statement<sup>94</sup> and associated Site Schedule show there is a supply of 4,025 dwellings forecast to be completed in the next 5 years. On the basis of the five year housing requirement and the forecasted housing supply, Chelmsford City Council can demonstrate a suitable supply of housing for over 5 years.

## Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to encourage development on previously developed (brownfield) land.
- The need to make best use of existing buildings and infrastructure.
- The need to protect the best and most versatile agricultural land.

<sup>92</sup> Natural England (2017) *River Ter SSSI*. Available online:

<https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteDetail.aspx?SiteCode=S2000058&SiteName=&countyCode=15&responsiblePerson=>

<sup>93</sup> Natural England (2017) *Newney Green Pit SSSI*. Available online:

<https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteDetail.aspx?SiteCode=s1003975>

<sup>94</sup> Chelmsford City Council (April 2021) Five-Year Housing Land Supply Position Statement, at:

<https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/resources/assets/attachment/full/0/4585661.pdf>

- The need to protect and enhance sites designated for their geological interest.

## 3.8 Water

### Water Quality

- 3.8.1 The majority of the Chelmsford City Area is located within the River Chelmer catchment. The River Chelmer drains a 648 km<sup>2</sup> catchment in south Essex. The River Chelmer, which rises upstream of Thaxted, flows in a south eastwards direction to Chelmsford. The River Wid is a major tributary to the River Can which itself joins the River Chelmer in Chelmsford. Downstream of Chelmsford, the River Chelmer is canalised and flows eastwards to the tidal discharge point at Beeleigh Falls near Maldon. At the southern extremity of the local authority area, South Woodham Ferrers is situated within the River Crouch catchment.
- 3.8.2 The other watercourses within the Chelmsford City Area are:
- Roxwell Brook;
  - Boreham Brook;
  - Newlands Brook;
  - One Bridge Brook Chignall;
  - Baddow Meads Ditch;
  - Fen Brook;
  - Rettendon Ditch;
  - Runwell Brook;
  - Margaretting Brook;
  - Sandon Brook;
  - Sandon Brook East Arm; and
  - Eyotts Farm Ditch.
- 3.8.3 The RBMP highlights that the most common pressures for not achieving good status or potential include:
- physical modification from agriculture and rural land management
  - phosphates from agriculture and rural land management; and
  - dissolved oxygen from agriculture and rural land management and the water industry.
- 3.8.4 For groundwater quality, the main reasons for poor status were high or rising nitrate concentrations, with some failures for pesticides and other chemicals. The main reason for poor quantitative status was that abstraction levels – mainly for drinking water – exceeded the rate at which aquifers recharge.

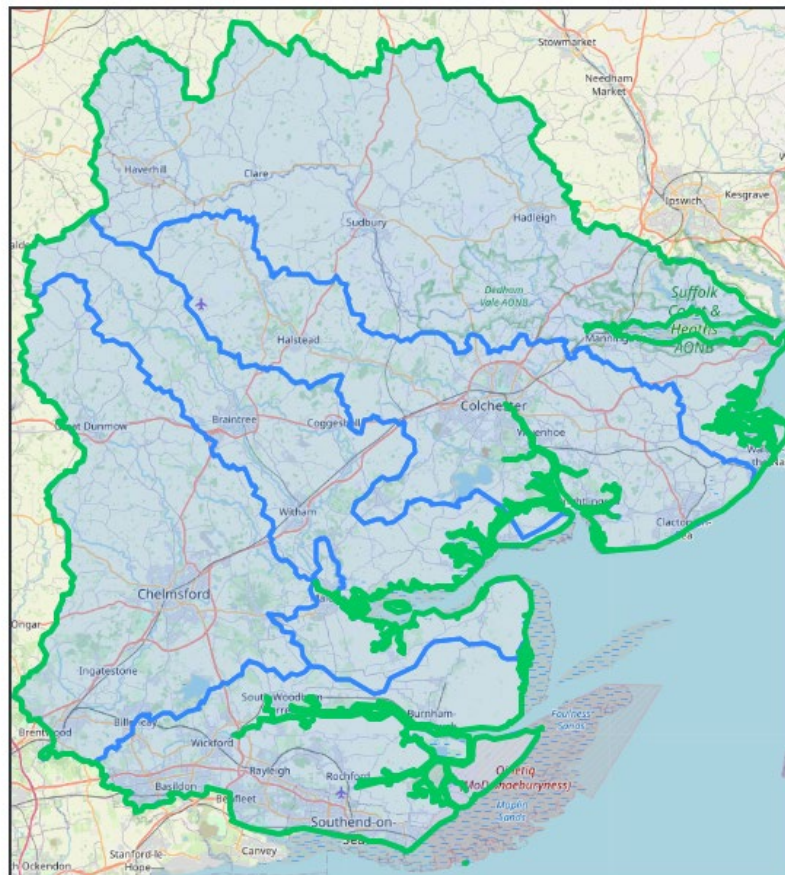
3.8.5

The Chelmsford City Area falls within the Combined Essex Management Catchment (**Figure 3.11**) and Chelmer Operational Catchment. Data from 2019<sup>95</sup> records a mixed picture of ecological and chemical status with room for improvement across both measures (**Table 3.15**).

Table 3.15 Ecological and Chemical Status of Water Bodies and Water Body Elements in the Essex Combined Management Catchment 2019

Ecological status or potential	Bad	Poor	Moderate	Good	High	Total
Number of water bodies	0	14	52	4	0	70
Number of water body elements	15	56	83	112	381	647
Chemical status		Fail	Good	Total		
Number of water bodies		70	0	70		
Number of water body elements		181	830	1011		

Figure 3.11 The Essex Combined Management Catchment



Source: <https://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/ManagementCatchment/3018>

<sup>95</sup> <https://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/ManagementCatchment/3018/classifications>

## Water Resources

- 3.8.6 The public water supply for the Chelmsford City Area is provided by Essex & Suffolk Water (E&SW). Chelmsford lies within the Essex Water Resource Zone (WRZ) bounded by the Thames Estuary in the south and the Essex coastline as far north as Salcott in the east. The intrinsic water resources include the Essex rivers, the Chelmer, Blackwater, Stour and Roman River which support pumped storage reservoirs at Hanningfield and Abberton (which has recently been enlarged and enhanced to provide long term water resources for Essex), and treatment works at Langford, Langham, Hanningfield and Layer. The remaining water sourced from inside the Essex WRZ (approximately 3% of total water supplied in the zone) is derived from groundwater via Chalk well and adit sources in the south and south west of the zone at Linford, Stifford, Dagenham and Roding, each with on-site treatment. Water transferred into the Essex supply area comes from two sources, namely the Chigwell raw water bulk supply from Thames Water's Lee Valley Reservoirs and the Ely and Ouse to Essex Transfer Scheme<sup>96</sup>.
- 3.8.7 A Water Cycle Study was prepared for the City Area in 2010 and updated in 2018. In total, three Water Recycling Centres (WRCs) will serve to manage the wastewater of the proposed future development across the City Area. Two of these, Great Leighs and South Woodham Ferrers, are considered to require revised quality conditions (permits) to accommodate the future development proposed in the 2021-2036. Upgrades may be required to the WRC and careful development phasing is also recommended. The Chelmsford WRC is considered to have sufficient capacity.
- 3.8.8 The WCS also identifies that there is significant water demand stress across the City Area. In consequence, there are key drivers requiring that water demand is managed across the area for all new development, in order to achieve long term sustainability in terms of water resources. Overall, the WCS concludes there are no constraints with respect to water services infrastructure and the water environment to delivering development on the basis that strategic water resource options and wastewater solutions are developed in advance of development coming forward.
- 3.8.9 The Emerging Water Resources Regional Plan for Eastern England<sup>97</sup> describes the entire Eastern England as being 'seriously water stressed', with demand likely to double by 2050. It is noted that: *"while future water demand drivers from population and housing growth are significant, these could be largely offset through demand management measures such as leakage reduction and a focus on household and non-household water efficiency, enabled by an increase in measures such as smart metering."* However, *"water demand management alone is not going to provide sufficient water to enable the region's environmental vision to be realised while also aiming to support water-dependent economic activity. Significant new infrastructure will be required."* A final Regional Plan is planned for 2023.

<sup>96</sup> Essex and Suffolk Water (2014) Final Water Resources Management Plan 2014. Available at: [https://www.eswater.co.uk/\\_assets/documents/ESW\\_Final\\_Published\\_PR14\\_WRMP\\_Report\\_-\\_V3\\_-\\_08OCT14.pdf](https://www.eswater.co.uk/_assets/documents/ESW_Final_Published_PR14_WRMP_Report_-_V3_-_08OCT14.pdf)

<sup>97</sup> Water Resources East (2022) The Emerging Water Resources Regional Plan for Eastern England available at: <https://wre.org.uk/projects/the-regional-plan/>



## Flood Risk

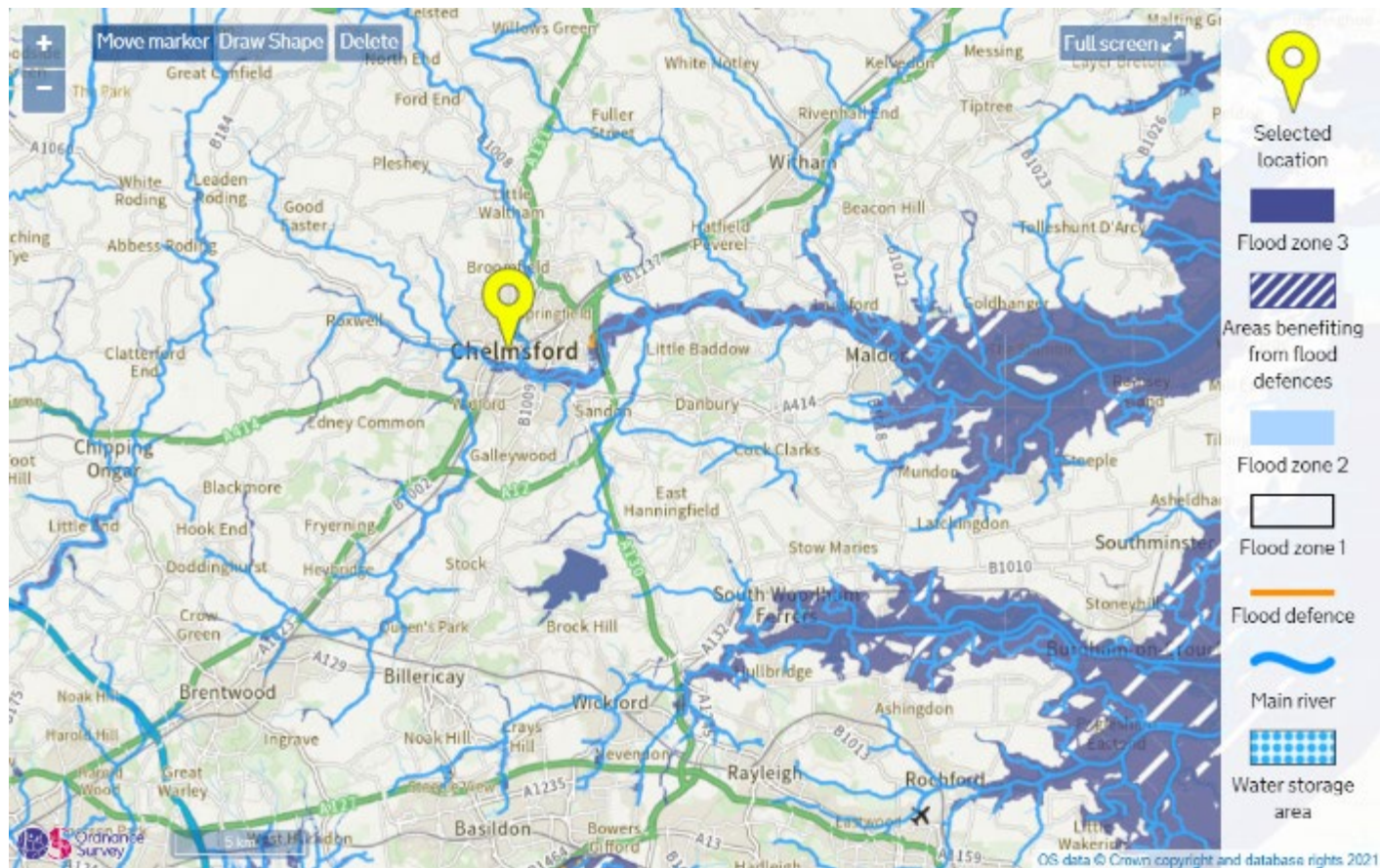
- 3.8.10 The NPPF seeks to ensure that flood risk is taken into account at the plan making stage in order to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding and to direct development away from areas at highest risk. **Figure 3.12** shows the prevalence of Flood Zones 2 and 3 across the Chelmsford City Area.
- 3.8.11 The 2017 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) for the Chelmsford City Area highlights that Chelmsford has historically been subject to flooding from several sources of flood risk. The primary fluvial flood risk is associated with the River Chelmer and its tributaries. The main urban area at risk is Chelmsford City. Other areas that are shown to be at risk include Margaretting, Bicknacre and Writtle. The primary tidal flood risk is associated with the tidal River Crouch, Fenn Creek and Clements Green Creek. The main urban area at risk is South Woodham Ferrers. However, much of the area benefits from defences consisting of sea walls and embankments.
- 3.8.12 The Risk of Flooding from Surface Water map<sup>98</sup> shows a number of prominent overland flow routes; these predominantly follow topographical flow paths of existing watercourses or dry valleys with some isolated ponding located in low lying areas. In addition, a number of these follow local road infrastructure. Surface water flooding is shown to be a risk to the majority of towns and villages within Chelmsford. The sewers are managed by Anglian Water<sup>99</sup>.

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<sup>98</sup> Environment Agency (2021) *Extent of flood risk from surface water*. Available online: <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/long-term-flood-risk/map>

<sup>99</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2017) *Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment*. Available online: [http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred\\_options/local\\_plan\\_preferred\\_options\\_document?pointId=s1490092140850](http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred_options/local_plan_preferred_options_document?pointId=s1490092140850)

Figure 3.12 Environment Agency Flood Zone Map Zones 2 and 3



Source: Environment Agency Flood Zone Map (2021).

### Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Review of the Adopted Local Plan

- 3.8.13 The projected increase in the population of the Chelmsford City Area will result in increased pressure on water resources which could affect water availability and quality. However, the WCS indicates that the local water infrastructure can be upgraded to meet the increased demand for both wastewater management and potable drinking water.
- 3.8.14 The RBMP anticipates an improvement in the ecological status of surface water bodies and the quantitative states of groundwater bodies whilst the chemical status of surface water bodies and groundwater bodies are likely to remain the same.
- 3.8.15 The Chelmsford Surface Water Management Plan (2014) outlines the preferred surface water management strategy for Chelmsford. It establishes a long-term action plan to support the management of surface water flood risk across the City Area<sup>100</sup>.

<sup>100</sup> Chelmsford CC and the Environment Agency have been working together for many years to develop a flood alleviation scheme for the City. This project is currently in development working towards delivery later in the 2020s. Options are currently being assessed and are likely to involve a combination of upstream storage, natural flood management, amendments to the channel to improve conveyance, and localised defences. Developing this will involve working with partners and landowners and as part of the Local Plan the potential for the scheme should be considered as land may need to be set aside to enable delivery of the scheme [EA Communication, 30/05/22].

3.8.16

Taking into account national planning policy set out in the NPPF and adopted Local Plan policy, it is expected that flood risk would be managed without the Review of the Adopted Local Plan. Further, proactive action is being taken to secure new defences which are essential to reduce the risk of future flooding to over 1,200 existing commercial properties and homes and assist in the regeneration of the City. However, flood risk has the potential to be a significant constraint on future development and there is an increased risk that new development could be inappropriately sited without up-to-date policy and site allocations. Further, opportunities to ensure the timely delivery of flood alleviation schemes may not be realised.

## Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to protect and enhance the quality of water sources in the Chelmsford City Area.
- The need to promote the efficient use of water resources.
- The need to ensure the timely provision of new water services infrastructure to meet demand arising from new development.
- The need to locate new development away from areas of flood risk, taking into account the effects of climate change.
- The need to ensure the timely provision of flood defence/management infrastructure.

## 3.9 Air Quality

3.9.1

Legislative frameworks and guidance in relation to air quality have been established at both the European and UK level. Policies aim to reduce exposure to specific pollutants by reducing emissions and setting targets for air quality. Policies are driven by the aims of the EU Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC)<sup>101</sup>. The key objective is to help minimise the negative impacts on human health and the environment. The Directive sets guidance for member states for the effective implementation of air quality targets.

3.9.2

The UK's National Air Quality Strategy<sup>102</sup> sets health-based standards for eight key pollutants and objectives for achieving them. This is to ensure a level of ambient air quality in public places that is safe for human health and quality of life. It also recognises that specific action at the local level may be needed depending on the scale and nature of the air quality problem.

3.9.3

Local authorities have a duty to undertake a full review and assessment of air quality in accordance with the National Air Quality Strategy. Where there is a likelihood of a national air quality objective being exceeded, the Council must declare an Air Quality

<sup>101</sup> European Commission (2008) Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe. Available online: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:32008L0050>

<sup>102</sup> Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in partnership with the Scottish Executive, Welsh Assembly Government and Department of the Environment Northern Ireland (2007) *The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, Volume 1*. Available online: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/69336/pb12654-air-quality-strategy-vol1-070712.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69336/pb12654-air-quality-strategy-vol1-070712.pdf)

Management Area (AQMA) and prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) setting out the measures it intends to put in place in pursuit of the objectives.

- 3.9.4 The main source of air pollution in Chelmsford is road traffic emissions from major roads, notably the A12, A414, A138, A130 and B1016. Other pollution sources, including commercial, industrial and domestic sources, also make a contribution to background pollution concentrations.
- 3.9.5 Air pollution, through nitrogen deposition, acid deposition and toxic effects, directly and indirectly affects the health of the natural environment. Whilst some emissions (such as nitrogen oxides associated with the burning of fossil fuels) have fallen overall, others such as ammonia have remained high. Localised effects associated with pollutants can be severe, where, for example nitrogen enrichment encourages nitrogen-tolerant plant growth (such as along road verges), eutrophication of water bodies and inhibition of lichen growth.
- 3.9.6 There are two AQMAs in the Chelmsford City Council Area. The Army & Navy AQMA (see **Figure 3.13**) is focused on the Army and Navy Roundabout which serves as a junction to both the A1114 and the A138 Chelmer Road. In addition to these trunk roads, two major residential link roads (Baddow Road and Van Diemens Road) also converge on the roundabout. Congestion is a major issue on all of the converging roads; this is most acute during peak period traffic. In this context, the AQMA has been designated due to exceedances in Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>). An Air Quality Action Plan is in place for this AQMA to further monitor and manage the air quality of the area and ensure air quality improves.
- 3.9.7 The second AQMA is a small section of Maldon Road (specifically “*stretch of road between Gay Bowers Lane and Danbury Village Green*”<sup>103</sup>), which is located in Danbury, illustrated in **Figure 3.14**. This AQMA was designated because of high levels of nitrogen dioxide being produced in the area. An Army and Navy Sustainable Transport Package has recently been approved<sup>104</sup>.

<sup>103</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2018) Environment Act 1995 Part IV Section 83(1) Chelmsford City Council A414 Maldon Road, Danbury Air Quality Management Order 2018. Available at: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/environment-and-public-health/air-quality/monitoring-and-managing/#:~:text=There%20are%20two%20Air%20Quality,of%20Maldon%20Road%20in%20Danbury>, accessed 16.02.2022.

<sup>104</sup> <https://www.essexhighways.org/highway-schemes-and-developments/highway-schemes/chelmsford-schemes/army-and-navy-taskforce>

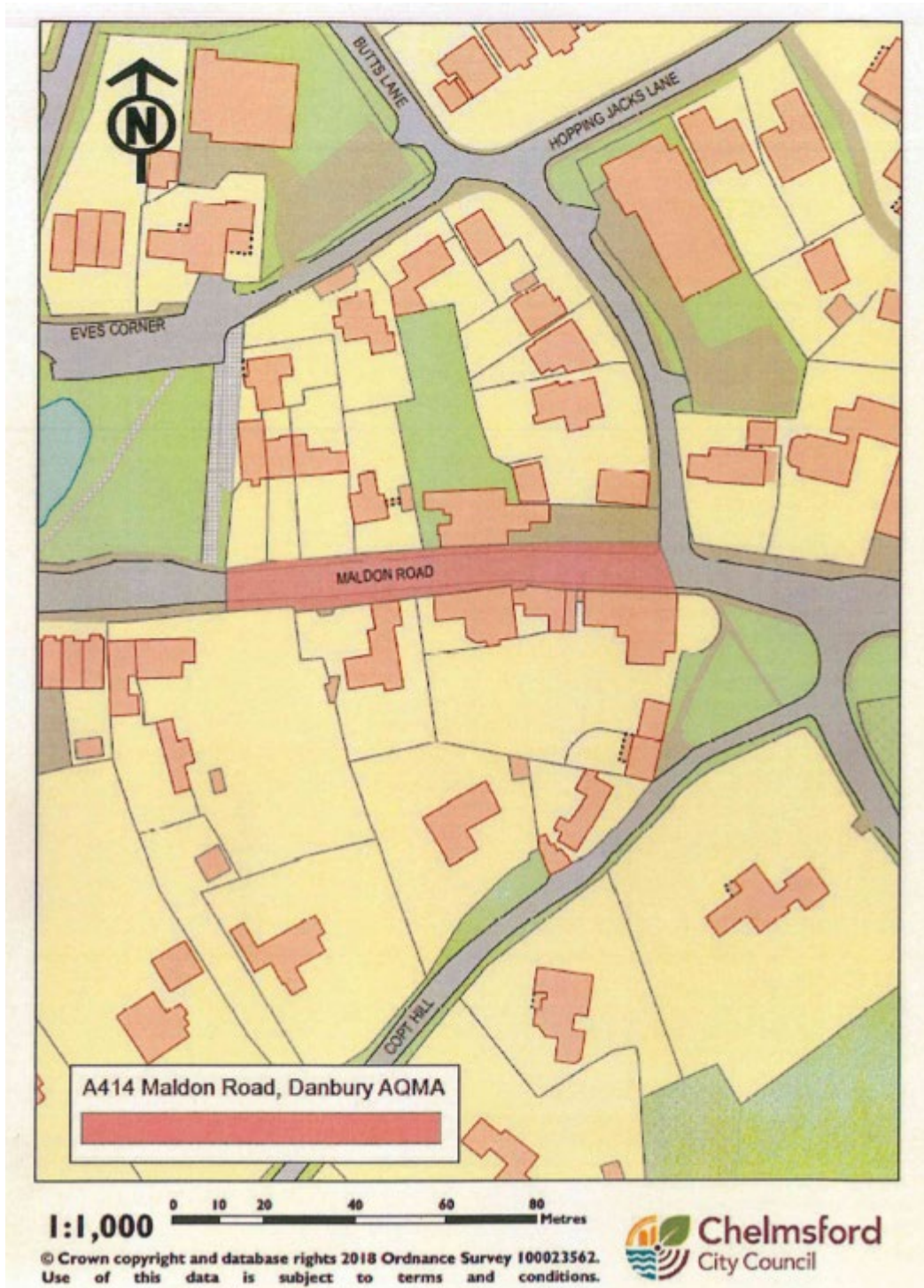


Figure 3.13 Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area





Figure 3.14 A414 Maldon Road, Danbury Air Quality Management Area Order 2018



3.9.8 Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, measuring air quality for 2020 and 2021 is difficult because results vary compared to other years due to lockdowns and lower travel activity. This is confirmed by the 2021 Local Air Quality Monitoring Report, which explicitly states that



air pollution in 2020 reduced significantly due to the Covid-19 pandemic<sup>105</sup>. As this document identified, air quality will rise to become an issue again as the UK starts to return to 'normalcy' as the Covid-19 pandemic slows down, with the document stating the following priorities:

- To conclude development of the Chelmsford Air Quality Strategy;
- Undertake further air quality and traffic monitoring in the Maldon Road Danbury AQMA;
- To progress actions set out in the Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan.

3.9.9 Whilst the Chelmsford City Area has air quality issues, the fraction of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution between the period of 2014-2019 has remained steady at around 5.6, which is keeping with the scores for local authorities in the East<sup>106</sup>.

### Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Review of the Adopted Local Plan

3.9.10 As part of the schemes have been put in place to address air quality. **Table 3.16** summarises the investments in sustainable transport infrastructure associated with the City Growth Package<sup>107</sup>. More widely, the development of Park & Ride schemes at Chelmer Valley and Sandon will continue to contribute to changes in patterns of travel behaviour and consequent effects on air quality,

3.9.11 To complement the successful CyclePoint secure cycle storage facilities installed at Chelmsford rail station in 2014, the Council has installed thirteen toast-rack bike stands in the Fairfield Road car park and Marconi Plaza to provide additional parking for up to 130 bikes and encourage sustainable commuting to the railway station. An e-scooter trial<sup>108</sup> runs until November 2022 with some 380,000 hires since February 2021. The effect of the schemes completed to date on the AQMA has not been quantified within any Air Quality Annual Status Report and in turn their effects on the evolution of the air quality baseline have yet to be evaluated.

<sup>105</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2021) 2021 Air Quality Annual Status Report. Available at: <https://essexair.org.uk/AQInEssex/LA/Chelmsford.aspx?View=reports&ReportType=Chelmsford&ReportID=Chelmsford21ASR&StartIndex=1&EndIndex=7> accessed 16.02.2022.

<sup>106</sup> LG Inform (2022) Fraction of mortality attributable to particulate air pollution in Chelmsford. Available at: [https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=12096&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion\\_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup](https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=12096&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup) accessed 16.02.2022.

<sup>107</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2020) Air Quality Annual Status Report <https://essexair.org.uk/Reports/Chelmsford-City%20-Council2020-ASR.pdf>

<sup>108</sup> <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/leisure-theatres-and-museums/visiting-chelmsford/chelmsford-e-scooter-trial/>

Table 3.16 Chelmsford City Growth Package Measures

Scheme	Works	Proposed Completion
Broomfield Road	Installation of cycle tracks	Winter 2020-21
City Centre cycle parking	Creation of additional cycle parking facilities	Complete
City Centre Parkway / Victoria Road South	Improving congestion on Parkway	Complete
Chelmer Valley Road	Creation of dedicated bus lane	Summer 2020
Chelmer Village cycleway	Improvements for cycling and walking	Complete
Essex Regiment Way	Introduction of a safe crossing	Winter 2021
Great Baddow to City Centre	Creation of new cycle route	Complete
Great Waltham to City Centre	Creation of new cycle route	Winter 2020-21
New London Road bus lane	Works to prioritise buses	Summer 2020
New Street cycle route	Creation of cycle tracks	Summer 2020
Signage and technology	Improvement into signage and automated traffic management	Winter 2020-21
Tindal Square / Market Road cycle lane	Creation of new public square and new cycle lane	Winter 2020-21 (Market Road) Summer 2021 (Public Square)
Writtle cycleway / Admiral Park bridge	Improvement to cycle way and replacement of bridge	Summer 2020 (Cycle way complete)

Source: Chelmsford City Council (2020) <https://essexair.org.uk/Reports/Chelmsford-City%20-Council2020-ASR.pdf>

## Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to minimise the emissions of pollutants to air, including through continued investment in sustainable transport options and infrastructure to support the use of electric vehicles.
- The need to improve air quality, particularly in the Army & Navy AQMA and the Maldon Road, Danbury AQMA.

### 3.10 Climate Change

- 3.10.1 Rising global temperatures will bring changes in weather patterns, rising sea levels and increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather. The effects of climate change will be experienced internationally, nationally and locally with certain regions being particularly vulnerable.
- 3.10.2 In 2010, a Local Climate Impacts Profile (LCLIP) prepared on behalf of Essex Partners Adapting to Climate Change<sup>109</sup> highlighted that 160 severe weather-related incidents affected Essex services, business and communities, between January 2004 to December 2009 and which included:
- *Heavy rain and flooding:* Flooding and heavy rain caused over 60 incidents across Essex ranging from road and rail disruption to the disruption of public sector service such as school closure and surge of calls to the emergency services.
  - *Strong winds:* Exceptionally strong winds have increased. In March 2008 the winds were reaching up to 60 mph, while the previous year winds reached 50 mph. These winds caused structural damage to buildings from falling trees, rail and road disruptions, and power cuts.
  - *Extreme winter temperatures:* The winter of 2009/10 affected Essex public sector services like most of the UK as a number of roads remained inaccessible due to grit supplies running low. Road incidents and rail disruptions increased. While, long term damage to roads such as potholes caused by these conditions prove to be expensive to repair.
  - *Extreme summer temperatures:* Extreme summer temperatures as experienced in 2003 and 2006 can cause substantial disruption, such as health concerns in vulnerable people and agricultural difficulties intensified by drought conditions.
- 3.10.3 The policy and legislative context in relation to climate change was established at the international level (Kyoto Agreement) and has been transposed into European, national and local legislation, strategies and policies. Reducing man made carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions to the atmosphere is a national objective in order to contribute to reduce the rate of climate change and its long term implications. This is driven in the UK by the Climate Change Act (2008) (as amended 2019), which sets a legally binding commitment for the UK government to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 100% of 1990 levels (net zero) by 2050.
- 3.10.4 **Table 3.17** details the reducing emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> from industry, domestic source within the Chelmsford City Area, with industrial/commercial and domestic emissions both reducing by approximately 30% over the period 2014-2019, compared to no reduction in transport emissions.

<sup>109</sup> Calder, A. (2010) *Essex Local Climate Impact Profile*. Commissioned by Essex Partners Adapting to Climate Change. Available online: [https://www.essex.gov.uk/Environment%20Planning/Environmental-Issues/Strategic-Environment/Documents/Essex\\_Climat\\_Impacts\\_Profile.pdf](https://www.essex.gov.uk/Environment%20Planning/Environmental-Issues/Strategic-Environment/Documents/Essex_Climat_Impacts_Profile.pdf)

Table 3.17 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimates - Total in Chelmsford (kilotonnes)

	Industry <sup>110</sup>	Commercial <sup>111</sup>	Domestic <sup>112</sup>	Transport <sup>113</sup>	Total <sup>*114</sup>
<b>2014</b>	130.8	110.6	298.8	394.9	957
<b>2015</b>	118.1	95.4	290.1	402.9	924.8
<b>2016</b>	106.5	82.1	275.2	413.8	894.9
<b>2017</b>	103.2	73.2	258.5	414	857.7
<b>2018</b>	97.9	72.9	258.6	403.8	841.6
<b>2019</b>	86.9	67.3	250.3	394.8	815.2

Source: LG Inform

- 3.10.5 The prudent use of fossil fuels and reducing levels of energy consumption will help to achieve lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Between 2005 and 2012, total energy consumption in the Chelmsford City Area decreased from 3,849.5 Gigawatt Hours (GWh) to 3,536.4 GWh. This represents a reduction in energy consumption of 8.1%, although this is significantly lower than the decrease in emissions at the regional level (16.8%) and the national (UK) level (16.5%) over the same period. At 2012, transport was the largest consuming sector of energy equating to 37.4% of all energy consumed. In comparison, the domestic sector consumed 35.7% of energy whilst industry and commercial consumed 27.0%. This is similar to regional trends but differs from the national (UK) average where industry and commercial is the dominant consuming sector followed by domestic and transport.
- 3.10.6 Measures to prevent or minimise the adverse effects of climate change include: efficient use of scarce water resources; adapting building codes to future climate conditions and extreme weather events; building flood defences and raising the levels of dykes; and more climate resilient crop selection (e.g. drought-tolerant species). The UK Government considers the development of a low carbon economy combined with a greater proportion of energy generated by renewable means as essential.
- 3.10.7 This is further enforced by the Government production of a more up to date NPPF, which requires local authorities to do more to combat climate change and tasks developers with considering their potential effects with greater scrutiny than previous versions. The Commons has also issued a climate emergency and though this is not legally binding, it reflects that the vast majority of MPs agree that climate change is an emergency that

<sup>110</sup> LG Inform (2022) CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimates - Industry in Chelmsford. Available at: [https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=15469&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion\\_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup](https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=15469&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup), accessed 16.02.2022.

<sup>111</sup> LG Inform (2022) CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimates - Commercial in Chelmsford. Available at: [https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=15470&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion\\_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup](https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=15470&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup), accessed 16.02.2022.

<sup>112</sup> LG Inform (2022) CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimates - Domestic in Chelmsford. Available at: [https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=437&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion\\_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup](https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=437&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup), accessed 16.02.2022.

<sup>113</sup> LG Inform (2022) CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimates - Transport in Chelmsford. Available at: [https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=438&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion\\_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup](https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=438&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup), accessed 16.02.2022.

<sup>114</sup> LG Inform (2022) CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimates - Total in Chelmsford. Available at: [https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=440&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion\\_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup](https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=440&mod-area=E07000070&mod-group=AllDistrictInRegion_East&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup), accessed 16.02.2022.

requires immediate and continuous action. The UK is therefore tasked with achieving a reduction in carbon emissions to zero by 2050.

- 3.10.8 Chelmsford City Council has also declared a climate emergency in 2019, joining 115 first/second tier councils in doing so and joins the 71 of this group who have set themselves a target of achieving net zero carbon (for council related process) by 2030<sup>115</sup>.
- 3.10.9 Following the declaration of a climate emergency, the Council issued a Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan in 2020 with the following aims<sup>116</sup>:
- i. *"Establishing a 'carbon baseline' position*
  - ii. *Updating planning guidance on how on-site renewable energy measures can be integrated into new developments and for all new dwellings to incorporate sustainable design features to reduce CO2 and NO2 emissions and the use of natural resources [including putting in place a low carbon infrastructure in strategic growth areas]*
  - iii. *Working with Essex County Council to improve movement around the City, including improvements to the cycling and walking infrastructure, to reduce traffic congestion and journey times and encourage more sustainable travel choices*
  - iv. *Implementing further measures to reduce the amount of waste generated and ensure that as much as possible of any waste that is generated is reused, recycled or composted*
  - v. *Implementing measures to lower energy consumption, ensure the most efficient use of water resources, reduce pollution and improve air quality*
  - vi. *Undertaking a greening programme to significantly increase the amount of woodland and the proportion of tree cover in Chelmsford*
  - vii. *Implementing measures to improve the 'green infrastructure' of Chelmsford, protecting and expanding natural habitats and increasing biodiversity*
  - viii. *Improving the environmental quality, attractiveness and recreational potential of public spaces, rivers and waterways and associated green corridors in the City Centre and surrounding areas*
  - ix. *Upgrading the Council's vehicle fleet to embrace the latest low emission technology, including ultra-low emission electric powered vehicles as they become operationally and commercially viable*
  - x. *Supporting the Environment Agency to implement the Margaretting flood alleviation scheme and other flood mitigation measures to reduce the risk of flooding to residential and commercial properties in the City*
  - xi. *Establishing a 'green investment fund' to support the Council's environment plan*

<sup>115</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2019) Chelmsford City Council declares a climate and ecology emergency. Available at: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/news/video-chelmsford-city-council-declares-a-climate-and-ecology-emergency/>, accessed 16.02.2022.

<sup>116</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2020) Chelmsford Climate emergency and declaration action plan. Available at: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/communities/climate-emergency-declaration-and-action-plan/#:~:text=In%20July%202019%2C%20we%20declared,net%2Dzero%20carbon%20by%202030.&text=In%20January%202020%2C%20we%20agreed,reducing%20carbon%20emissions>

- xii. *Reviewing the Council's investment strategy in light of the Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration*
- xiii. *Reviewing the Council's procurement policies and practices in light of the Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration*
- xiv. *Creating opportunities for people, local organisations and businesses to get involved, to influence and to inspire innovation and cooperation in response to the key challenges identified in the Climate and Ecological Emergency*
- xv. *Reviewing the Council's human resources and employment policies and practices in light of the Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration"*

3.10.10 As of 2016, the East of England region generated 8,157 GWh of electricity from renewable sources, higher than all other English regions except Yorkshire and Humber, which generated 19,315 GWh primarily from bioenergy for which the average was 3,602 GWh. This represents an increase in generation of over 500% since 2003. The principal source of electricity was wind, largely offshore wind, which accounted for a combined 4,490 GWh of electricity generated<sup>117</sup>.

### Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Review of the Adopted Local Plan

3.10.11 UK Climate Projections (UKCP18)<sup>118</sup> provide climate information for the UK up to the end of this century and projections of future changes to the climate are given, based on simulations from climate models. Projections are broken down to a regional level across the UK and illustrate the potential range of changes and the level of confidence in each prediction.

3.10.12 According to the UKCP18, the following climatic changes are likely:

- By the end of the 21st century, all areas of the UK are projected to be warmer, more so in summer than in winter. This projected temperature rise in the UK is consistent with future warming globally.
- By 2070, in the high emission scenario, the likely temperature increase amounts to 0.9 °C to 5.4 °C in summer, and 0.7 °C to 4.2 °C in winter.
- Hot summers are expected to become more common. The summer of 2018 was the equal-warmest summer for the UK along with 2006, 2003 and 1976. Climate change has already increased the chance of seeing a summer as hot as 2018 to between 12-25%. With future warming, hot summers by mid-century could become even more common, near to 50%.
- Rainfall patterns across the UK are not uniform and vary on seasonal and regional scales and will continue to vary in the future.

<sup>117</sup> Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (2017) *Regional Statistics 2003-2016: Generation*. Available online: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics>

<sup>118</sup> Met Office (2021) UK Climate Projections: Headline Findings [https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/binaries/content/assets/metofficegovuk/pdf/research/ukcp/ukcp18\\_headline\\_findings\\_v3.pdf](https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/binaries/content/assets/metofficegovuk/pdf/research/ukcp/ukcp18_headline_findings_v3.pdf)



- Despite overall summer drying trends in the future, new data from UKCP Local (2.2km) suggests future increases in the intensity of heavy summer rainfall events. These increases in UKCP Local (2.2km) are typically greater than those in the Regional (12 km).
- UKCP Local (2.2km) suggests significant increases in hourly precipitation extremes in the future.
- For London, sea level rise by the end of the century (when compared to 1981-2000), for the low emission scenario is very likely to be in the range 0.29 m to 0.70 m. For a high emission scenario, the range is very likely to be 0.53 m to 1.15 m.
- We can continue to expect increases to extreme coastal water levels driven mainly by increases in mean sea level rise, although we cannot rule out additional changes in storm surges.

3.10.13

In addition, the following broad threats will occur:

- decrease in water resources exacerbated by a potential increase in demand;
- increase in risk to people, property and the environment from flooding;
- hotter and sunnier summers putting public health and safety at greater risk;
- hotter summers causing greater "heat stress" to buildings, utilities and the transport system; and
- decrease in soil moisture (particularly during summer and autumn) affecting agriculture, the natural environment and landscape.

3.10.14

Climate change is occurring and will continue regardless of local policy intervention. However, national policy on climate change, adopted Local Plan policy and other plans and programmes alongside the progressive tightening up of Building Regulations will help to ensure that new development is located and designed to adapt to the effects of climate change and that measures are in place to mitigate climate change. Notwithstanding this, without the Review of the Adopted Local Plan, the Council is likely to have less control over, in particular, the location of new development which could exacerbate climate change impacts and mean that opportunities to mitigate effects (for example, through reducing transport movements, tree planting and district-scale renewable energy solutions) may be missed.

## Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to ensure that new development anticipates and can be adapted to the effects of climate change.
- The need to increase woodland and tree cover to help mitigate and adapt to climate change.
- The need to mitigate climate change including through maximising renewable energy provision at site and district level.

### 3.11 Material Assets

#### Waste

- 3.11.1 Essex County Council is the waste disposal authority and the minerals and waste planning authority for the County, including the Chelmsford City Area. Chelmsford City Council, meanwhile, is a waste collection authority with a statutory duty under the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (as amended) to arrange for the collection of household waste in its area.
- 3.11.2 Growing levels of waste and a number of fiscal instruments have led authorities to recycle and compost more waste, landfill less and use waste as a means to generate power. Increased recycling and composting rates as well as energy recovery rates in future years will, however, be necessary if a reduction in the volume of waste going to landfill is to occur. The Waste Management Plan for England (2021) requires that by 2035 the re-use and the recycling of municipal waste is increased to a minimum of 65% by weight and the amount of municipal waste landfilled is reduced to 10% or less of the total amount of municipal waste generated (by weight).
- 3.11.3 **Table 3.18** illustrates, by local authority area within Essex, the total amount of waste produced and proportion recycled. Chelmsford records some 55.3% of waste as recycled or composted, the County average being 49.9%.

**Table 3.18** Amounts and proportions of waste produced and recycled by Essex Local Authority Area 2020/21

Authority	Household Residual Waste (Tonnes)	Household Waste Reused or Recycled (Tonnes)	Household Waste Composted (Tonnes)	Total Household Waste (Tonnes)	Household Waste Reused or Recycled (%)	Household Waste Composted (%)	Total Recycled or Composted (%)	Number of Households
Basildon Borough Council	46507.21	20890.36	18,822	86,220	24.2%	21.8%	46.1%	79,085
Braintree District Council	31273.09	12632.13	14,920	58,825	21.5%	25.4%	46.8%	66,168
Brentwood Borough Council	18634.57	7141.50	5,964	31,740	22.5%	18.8%	41.3%	34,072
Castle Point Borough Council	19245.27	8891.85	9,094	37,031	23.5%	24.6%	48.0%	38,908
Chelmsford City Council	34338.12	18027.24	24,412	76,777	23.5%	31.8%	55.3%	77,768
Colchester Borough Council	31213.87	17483.50	16,240	64,937	26.9%	25.0%	51.9%	83,647
Epping Forest District Council	25555.55	16618.48	18,256	60,430	27.5%	30.2%	57.7%	57,163
Harlow Council	17700.44	8626.78	3,878	30,206	28.6%	12.8%	41.4%	38,618
Maldon District Council	11235.93	7308.32	8,178	26,722	27.3%	30.6%	58.0%	28,784
Roohford District Council	14985.91	8397.30	12,465	35,848	23.4%	34.8%	58.2%	36,491
Tendring District Council	30879.06	11583.37	9,240	51,703	22.4%	17.9%	40.3%	71,766
Uttlesford District Council	16559.27	10677.70	7,257	34,494	31.0%	21.0%	52.0%	38,433
<b>Waste Collection Authority Total</b>	<b>298,128</b>	<b>148,079</b>	<b>148,725</b>	<b>594,932</b>	<b>24.9%</b>	<b>25.0%</b>	<b>49.9%</b>	<b>650,903</b>
<b>Essex County Council - Waste Disposal Authority Total</b>	<b>40,352</b>	<b>50,320</b>	<b>10,945</b>	<b>101,617</b>	<b>49.5%</b>	<b>10.8%</b>	<b>60.3%</b>	<b>650,903</b>
<b>Recycling of MBT Residual Waste</b>		<b>2,867</b>						
<b>Essex Waste Partnership Total</b>	<b>335,613</b>	<b>201,266</b>	<b>159,670</b>	<b>696,549</b>	<b>28.9%</b>	<b>22.9%</b>	<b>51.8%</b>	<b>650,903</b>

## Minerals

- 3.11.4 Government policy promotes the general conservation of minerals whilst at the same time ensuring an adequate supply is available to meet needs. Mineral resources are not distributed evenly across the country and some areas are able to provide greater amounts of certain minerals than they actually use.
- 3.11.5 A summary of Essex's minerals profile is provided within Essex Minerals Local Plan (2014)<sup>119</sup>, <sup>120</sup>. It highlights that:
- Essex has extensive deposits of sand and gravel; there are more localised deposits of silica sand, chalk, brickearth and brick clay;
  - marine dredging takes place in the extraction regions of the Thames Estuary and the East Coast, whilst aggregate is landed at marine wharves located in east London, north Kent, Thurrock, and Suffolk. Essex has no landing wharves of its own;
  - there are no hard rock deposits in the County so this material must be imported into Essex. This currently occurs via rail to the existing rail depots at Harlow and Chelmsford;
  - Essex is the largest producer and consumer of sand and gravel in the East of England;
  - there are 20 permitted sand and gravel sites in Essex, one silica sand site, two brick clay and one chalk site;
  - there are two marine wharves and four rail depots capable of handling aggregates;
  - construction, demolition and excavation waste is also recycled at 29 dedicated and active aggregate recycling sites; and
  - aggregate is both imported into Essex (hard rock, and sand and gravel) and exported (sand and gravel, primarily to London).
- 3.11.6 Policy P1 of the Minerals Local Plan allocates Blackley Quarry, Great Leighs and A40 Land at Shellow Cross Farm in Chelmsford as preferred and reserve sites for sand and gravel extraction. Bulls Lodge Quarry, meanwhile, is allocated under Policy S5 as a Strategic Aggregate Recycling Site (SARS) (i.e. a site with a capacity to recycle at least 100,000 tonnes per annum as a minimum). Chelmsford Rail Depot is allocated as a safeguarded transshipment site whilst Bulls Lodge and Essex Regiment Way are identified as safeguarded coated stone plants.

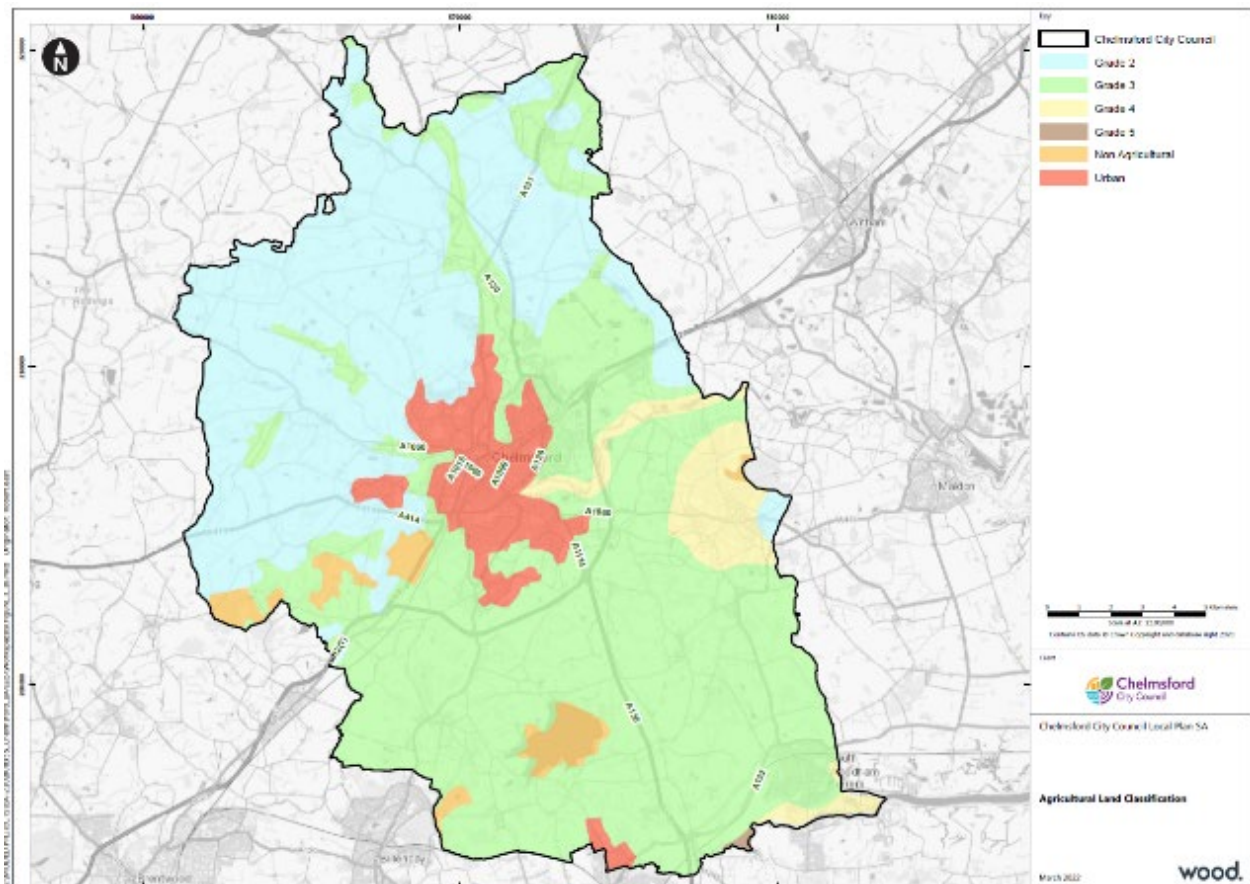
## Soils

- 3.11.7 The Chelmsford City Area benefits from having a wide range of agricultural land that is high quality, which can be seen by **Figure 3.15** below.

<sup>119</sup> Essex County Council (2014) *Essex Minerals Local Plan Adopted July 2014*. Available from: <https://www.essex.gov.uk/Environment%20Planning/Planning/Minerals-Waste-Planning-Team/Planning-Policy/minerals-development-document/Documents/Essex%20Minerals%20Plan%20-%20Adopted%20July%202014.pdf>

<sup>120</sup> Essex County Council (2021) Interim Minerals Authority Monitoring Report 2021 Available at: <https://assets.ctfassets.net/knkzaf64jx5x/4otwoarfxoJmBuxFRNPRyJ/b2d56d210e8a2d7bcf0a80436f659d80/Interim-Minerals-Authority-Monitoring-Report-2018-2020.pdf>

Figure 3.15 Agricultural Land Classification



Source: Chelmsford Local Plan 2013-2036<sup>121</sup>

### Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Review of the Adopted Local Plan

- 3.11.8 Overall, between 2005/06 and 2015/16 the waste arisings in Essex reduced by 1% (from 0.687mt in 2005/06 to 0.679mt in 2015/16). However, when compared to the lowest total waste managed in any monitoring period (in 2012/13), the total local authority collected waste arisings increased by 0.034mtpa, which could be attributed to an increase in households within County.
- 3.11.9 The way that the household waste arisings is managed has changed drastically. Since 2005/06, the amount the recycles has increased by 41%, which is comparable to the 30% reduction in the amount being sent to landfill during the same timeframe. The single largest improvement is within the amount of waste that is composted, which has nearly doubled since 2005/06, although this is the smallest waste type managed.
- 3.11.10 However, the Chelmsford City Area still has considerable issues with household waste and the amount of waste that is not sent to recycling, which can be seen in the household waste data for the past five years.

<sup>121</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2020) Chelmsford Local Plan 2013-2036. Available at: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-local-plan/adopted-local-plan/>, accessed 23.02.2022.

- 3.11.11 Overall, waste generation in the Chelmsford City Area is expected to increase, commensurate with population growth. This could place pressure on existing waste management facilities, although it is envisaged that recycling/reuse rates would also continue to rise and new facilities will be established. In this regard, the Council's strategy and improvement plan for recycling and waste collection services<sup>122</sup> seeks to deliver a significant reduction in the amount of energy and natural resources consumed and a corresponding reduction in the level of greenhouse gases that are generated by producing less waste and achieving high levels of reuse, recycling and energy recovery. The Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Essex<sup>123</sup>, meanwhile, seeks to achieve high levels of recycling, with an aspiration to achieve collectively 60% recycling of household waste by 2020.
- 3.11.12 The replacement Essex Waste Local Plan 2017<sup>124</sup> highlights that there will be an increase in the amount of waste that is generated in the plan area by 2032, subject to future waste minimisation measures and changes in construction practises. In particular, it highlights that:
- a capacity gap currently exists for biological waste treatment, which is anticipated to increase to 217,000 tpa;
  - a capacity gap has been forecast for 2031/32 for inert waste management, with a further 1.5mtpa required by this period;
  - a capacity gap of 50,250 tpa hazardous waste management has been expected by 2031/32.
- 3.11.13 The Essex Waste Local Plan 2017 also establishes an aim for the Essex and Southend-on-Sea region to be net self-sufficient by 2032.
- 3.11.14 New development (both within the Chelmsford City Area and nationally) may place pressure on local mineral assets to support construction. However, the adopted Minerals Local Plan (2014) sets requirements for the provision of primary minerals for the County for the 18 year period to 2029. This Plan is currently under review. In the case of preferred sites for sand and gravel extraction, the principle of extraction has been accepted and the need for the release of minerals proven.
- 3.11.15 Overall, planning for waste and minerals is a County function and in consequence, the baseline would not be expected to change significantly without the Review of the Adopted Local Plan. However, policies in the Review of the Adopted Local Plan could support the objectives of the emerging Waste Local Plan and adopted Minerals Local Plan including by, for example, promoting the provision of on-site recycling facilities and the sustainable use of materials in new development.

<sup>122</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2009) *Managing waste in Chelmsford... today and tomorrow. A strategy and improvement plan for recycling and waste collection services in Chelmsford*. Available online: [http://chelmsford.govplatform.firmstep.com/sites/default/files/documents/files/Managaing\\_waste\\_in\\_Chelmsford...\\_today\\_and\\_tomorrow\\_-\\_Strategy\\_for\\_Recycling\\_and\\_Waste\\_Collections\\_S.pdf](http://chelmsford.govplatform.firmstep.com/sites/default/files/documents/files/Managaing_waste_in_Chelmsford..._today_and_tomorrow_-_Strategy_for_Recycling_and_Waste_Collections_S.pdf)

<sup>123</sup> Essex County Council (2008) *Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Essex (2007 to 2032)*. Available online: [http://www.essex.gov.uk/Environment%20Planning/Recycling-Waste/Waste-Strategy/Documents/Waste\\_Strategy\\_-\\_version\\_approved\\_by\\_ECC\\_Full\\_Council\\_on\\_15.07.08.pdf](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Environment%20Planning/Recycling-Waste/Waste-Strategy/Documents/Waste_Strategy_-_version_approved_by_ECC_Full_Council_on_15.07.08.pdf)

<sup>124</sup> Essex County Council and Southend on Sea Borough Council (2017) *Essex and Southend-on-Sea Waste Local Plan*. Available at: <https://www.southend.gov.uk/development-plan-documents/essex-southend-waste-local-plan>, accessed 16.02.2022.

## Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to minimise waste arisings and encourage reuse and recycling.
- The need to promote the efficient use of mineral resources.
- The need to ensure the protection of Chelmsford's mineral resources from inappropriate development, in accordance with the adopted Minerals Local Plan.
- The need to address identified capacity gaps for waste management that currently exist and are forecast to exist.
- The need to achieve net self-sufficiency by 2032.

## 3.12 Cultural Heritage

### Chelmsford

- 3.12.1 Chelmsford's cultural heritage is a key feature of the local authority area. The National Heritage List for England includes the following entries for the Chelmsford City Area:
- 1,012 listed building entries (comprising 21 Grade I, 43 Grade II\* and 948 Grade II listed buildings<sup>125</sup>);
  - 19 scheduled monuments; and
  - 6 registered parks and gardens (comprising 1 Grade II\* and 5 Grade II parks and gardens).<sup>126</sup>
- 3.12.2 Designated heritage assets in the Chelmsford City Area are shown in **Figure 3.16**. Additionally, there are 25 conservation areas in the Chelmsford City Area. These mainly include historic villages and towns, but also other important historic areas such as the Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation and St John's Hospital.
- 3.12.3 There are also many buildings within the Chelmsford City Area which are not listed, but which contribute to the character of the area. The Council has recognised the buildings and structures which it feels are of particular local interest in a new local register<sup>127</sup>.
- 3.12.4 Chelmsford's coastline is situated on the north bank of the Crouch Estuary and consists of large areas of historical and archaeological interest. The zone historically comprised low lying salt marsh and grazing marsh, the Crouch and associated creeks facilitated exploitation of marine resources and access to coastal trade and transport. The archaeological resources comprise a varied range of deposits associated with the exploitation of the coastal region. Neolithic and Mesolithic land surfaces are preserved and overlain by later deposits. The wider City Area also includes numerous sites of

<sup>125</sup> Historic England (2022) Chelmsford Listed Buildings List. Available at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/results/?searchType=NHLE+Simple&search=Chelmsford>, accessed 17.02.2022.

<sup>126</sup> Historic England (2017) *National Heritage List for England*. Available online: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/>

<sup>127</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2017) *Register of buildings for local value*. Available online: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/conservation-areas-and-listed-buildings/listed-buildings-in-chelmsford/register-of-buildings-of-local-value/>



archaeological importance, many of which have archaeological potential but have no statutory protection.

3.12.5

Within the Chelmsford City Area, the current historical assets that are on the Historic England 'At Risk' register are shown below<sup>128</sup>. The number of heritage assets at risk within the Chelmsford City Area has increased from two in 2017 to four in 2022.

- West End Conservation Area;
- Church of St Michael, The Street, Roxwell, Grade II\* Listed Building;
- Church of St Andrew, Church Road, Boreham, Grade I Listed Building;
- Danbury Park, Danbury / Sandon, Grade II Registered Park and Garden.

### Likely Evolution of the Baseline without the Review of the Adopted Local Plan

3.12.6

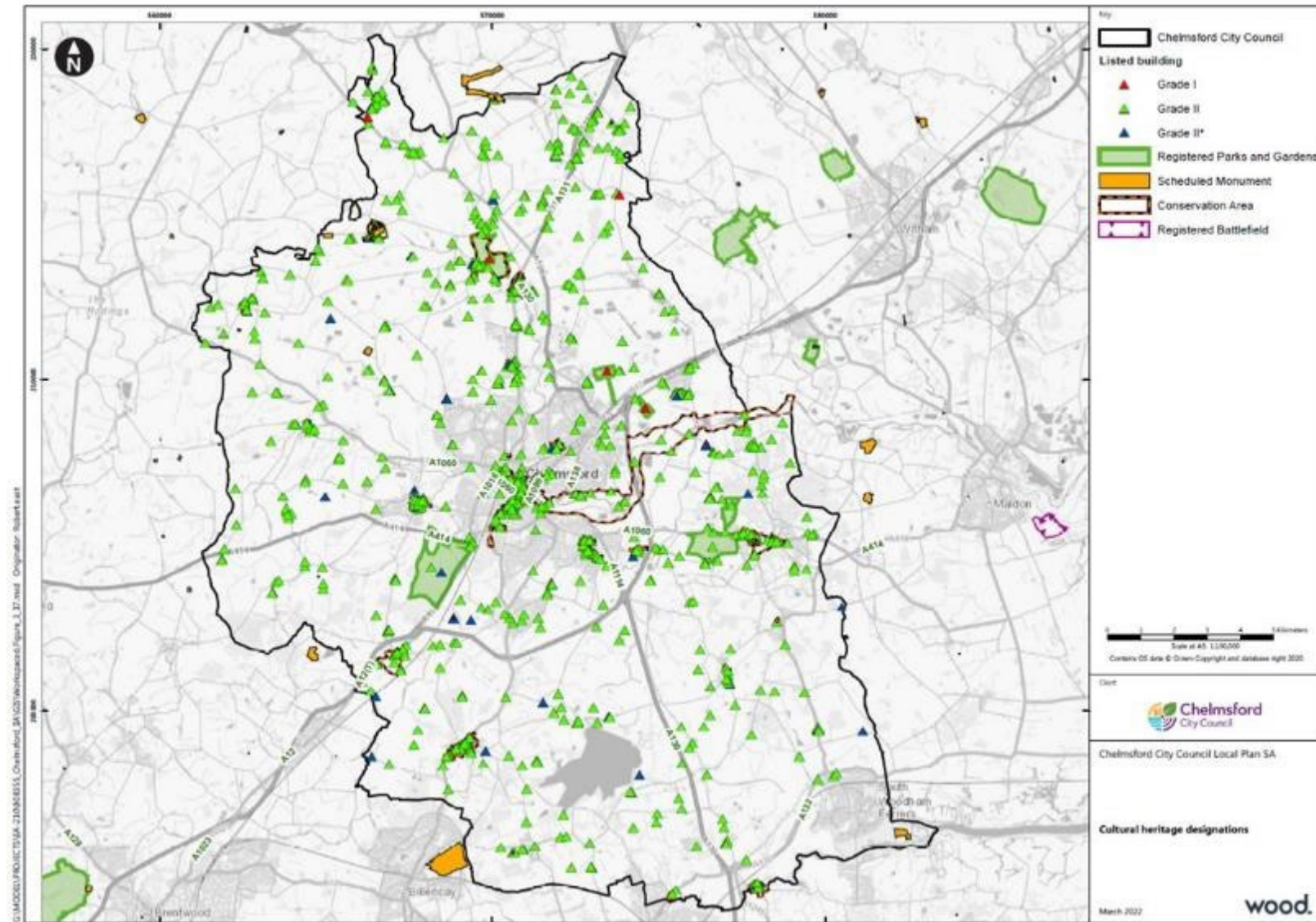
It is reasonable to assume that the majority of Chelmsford City Area's designated heritage assets would be protected without the Review of the Adopted Local Plan (since works to them invariably require consent). However, elements which contribute to their significance could be harmed through inappropriate development in their vicinity. Opportunities to enhance assets may also be missed. Further, other non-designated elements which contribute to the character of the area could be harmed without an up-to-date policy framework. Notwithstanding this, it is recognised that national planning policy set out in the NPPF and adopted Local Plan policy and associated guidance would together provide a high level of protection in this regard.

### Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to protect and enhance Chelmsford City Area's cultural heritage assets and their settings.
- The need to avoid harm to designated heritage assets and the contribution made by their setting.
- The need to recognise the value of non-designated heritage assets and protect these where possible.
- The need to recognise the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of landscapes and townscapes.

<sup>128</sup> Historic England (2022) *Heritage at risk register*. Available online: <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/heritage-at-risk/search-register/results/?searchType=HAR&search=chelmsford>, accessed 17.02.2022.

Figure 3.16 Designated Cultural Heritage Assets



### 3.13 Landscape and Townscape

#### Landscape

- 3.13.1 The landscape of the Chelmsford City Area has evolved as a result of an interaction of the physical structure of the landscape and the vegetation and land uses that cover it. The basic structure of the landscape is fundamentally influenced by its underlying rocks and relief.
- 3.13.2 The Chelmsford City Area comprises two National Landscape Character Areas (NCA)<sup>129</sup>, namely South Suffolk and North Essex Clayland to the north and Northern Thames Basin to the south. The South Suffolk and North Essex Clayland is an ancient landscape of wooded arable countryside with a distinct sense of enclosure. The overall character is of a gently undulating, chalky boulder clay plateau, the undulations being caused by the numerous small-scale river valleys that dissect the plateau. There is a complex network of old species-rich hedgerows, ancient woods and parklands, meadows with streams and rivers that flow eastwards. Traditional irregular field patterns are still discernible over much of the area, despite field enlargements in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The widespread moderately fertile, chalky clay soils give the vegetation a more or less calcareous character. Gravel and sand deposits under the clay are important geological features, often exposed during mineral extraction, which contribute to our understanding of ice-age environmental change.
- 3.13.3 The Northern Thames Basin is an area rich in geodiversity, archaeology and history and diverse landscapes ranging from the wooded Hertfordshire plateaux and river valleys, to the open landscape and predominantly arable area of the Essex heathlands, with areas of urbanisation mixed in throughout. Urban expansion has been a feature of this area. This has put increased pressure on the area in terms of extra housing developments, schools and other necessities for expanding populations, with a consequential reduction in tranquillity.
- 3.13.4 The Landscape Character Assessment for the local authority area<sup>130</sup> identifies the following Landscape Character Types:
- River Valley, characterised by:
    - ▶ v-shaped or u-shaped landform which dissects Boulder Clay/Chalky Till plateau;
    - ▶ main river valley served by several tributaries;
    - ▶ flat or gently undulating valley floor;
    - ▶ intimate character in places; and

<sup>129</sup> Natural England (2014) *National character area profiles*. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making/national-character-area-profiles>

<sup>130</sup> Chris Blandford Associates (2006) *Braintree, Brentwood, Chelmsford, Maldon and Uttlesford Landscape Character Assessments*. Available at: [http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred\\_options/local\\_plan\\_preferred\\_options\\_document?pointId=s1490092140850](http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal/preferred_options/local_plan_preferred_options_document?pointId=s1490092140850)

- ▶ wooded character in places.
- Farmland Plateau, characterised by:
  - ▶ elevated gently rolling Boulder Clay/Chalky Till plateau landscape which is incised by river valleys;
  - ▶ network of winding lanes and minor roads;
  - ▶ medium to large-scale enclosed predominantly arable fields;
  - ▶ long distance views across valleys from certain locations; and
  - ▶ well wooded in places (with several areas of semi-natural and ancient woodland).
- Drained Estuarine Marsh, characterised by:
  - ▶ areas of flat, artificially drained former saltmarsh currently grassland and cultivated fields;
  - ▶ visible sea walls separate drained former marshland and current saltmarsh/mudflats;
  - ▶ lack of large areas of trees or woodland; and
  - ▶ network of visible drainage ditches.
- Wooded Farmland, characterised by:
  - ▶ elevated undulating hills or ridges and slopes;
  - ▶ mixture of arable and pasture farmland;
  - ▶ pockets of common and pasture;
  - ▶ views to wooded horizons;
  - ▶ well wooded with blocks of mature mixed and deciduous woodland (including areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland); copses, hedges and mature single trees;
  - ▶ mature field boundaries;
  - ▶ framed views to adjacent character areas;
  - ▶ enclosed character in places; and
  - ▶ network of quiet, often tree-lined narrow lanes.

3.13.5

There are no national landscape designations affecting the Chelmsford City Area. However, a large proportion of the local authority area is Metropolitan Green Belt (about 35% of the total area). The Green Wedge is defined in the adopted Local Plan along the river valleys within Chelmsford and its suburbs, recognising the important visual and landscape function that they have for the City.

## Townscape

- 3.13.6 The City Centre has areas of distinct built character based on history, townscape and use, all requiring the reinforcement of their sense of place.
- 3.13.7 South Woodham Ferrers was the first large-scale application of the urban design principles promoted by the Essex Design Guide. The public and private sector delivery and the resulting character of the town's built environment as well as the relatively small size of the town set it apart from earlier new towns.

## Likely Evolution of the Baseline without the Review of the Adopted Local Plan

- 3.13.8 New development is likely to place pressure on the landscape of the Chelmsford City Area. Whilst national planning policy set out in the NPPF, adopted Local Plan policy and guidance contained in the Council's suite of SPD would continue to offer some protection and guidance, there is the potential that development could be inappropriately sited and designed without an up-to-date policy framework. This could adversely affect the landscape and townscape character of the area. Further, opportunities may not be realised to enhance landscape and townscape character through, for example, the provision of green infrastructure or the adoption of high quality design standards which reflects local character.

## Key Sustainability Issues

- The need to conserve and enhance Chelmsford City Area's landscape character including the character of its villages and surrounding countryside.
- The need to preserve and appropriately manage development within the Green Belt, Green Wedges and Coastal Protection Areas.
- The need to promote high quality design that respects local character.
- The need to maximise opportunities associated with new development to enhance townscape character and the quality of urban environments.
- The need to protect landscapes of value to the local economy where these have been specifically identified in landscape character statements.

## 3.14 Key Sustainability Issues

- 3.14.1 From the analysis of the baseline presented in the preceding sections, a number of key sustainability issues affecting the Chelmsford City Area have been identified. These issues are summarised in **Table 3.19**.

Table 3.19 Key Sustainability Issues Identified

Topic	Key Sustainability Issues
<b>Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to conserve and enhance biodiversity including sites designated for their nature conservation value.</li> <li>• The need to provide net gains in biodiversity where possible.</li> <li>• The need to maintain, restore and expand Biodiversity Action Plan habitats.</li> <li>• The need to safeguard existing green infrastructure assets.</li> <li>• The need to enhance the multifunctional green infrastructure network, addressing deficiencies and gaps, improving accessibility for all users and encouraging multiple uses where appropriate.</li> </ul>
<b>Population and Community</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall, the need to create sustainable places where people want to live, work and relax.</li> <li>• The need to enable housing growth, using the standard method to identify the minimum number of homes to be planned for and planning for a mix of accommodation to suit all household types.</li> <li>• The need to make best use and improve the quality of the existing housing stock.</li> <li>• The need to support the delivery of independent living housing for older people and people with disabilities.</li> <li>• The need to deliver a range of employment sites to support economic growth.</li> <li>• The need to ensure a flexible supply of land for employment development.</li> <li>• The need to address the surplus of unsuitable office space in the City Centre.</li> <li>• The need to support economic development in the rural areas of Chelmsford.</li> <li>• The need to support the growth of new sectors linked to the growth of Anglia Ruskin University, such as medical technologies.</li> <li>• The need to raise incomes and especially for those whose incomes are in the lowest quartile.</li> <li>• The need to reduce out-commuting to London for work by encouraging businesses to invest and set up within Chelmsford.</li> <li>• The need to tackle pockets of deprivation that exist in the area.</li> <li>• The need to maintain and raise educational attainment and skills in the local labour force.</li> <li>• The need to maintain and enhance the vitality of the City Centre and South Woodham Ferrers as well as the area's larger villages.</li> <li>• The need to promote a range of functions which contribute to the vibrancy of Chelmsford City Centre and ensure that the neighbourhood and local centres continue to perform a strong convenience goods role which serves local needs.</li> <li>• The need to address forecast deficits in, in particular, school places and early years and childcare provision.</li> <li>• The need to support the City Area's educational establishments including Anglia Ruskin University and Writtle University College.</li> <li>• The need to safeguard existing community facilities and services and ensure the timely delivery of new facilities to meet needs arising from new development.</li> <li>• The need to safeguard the identity of existing communities.</li> </ul>



Topic	Key Sustainability Issues
<b>Health and Wellbeing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to safeguard and maintain and enhance access to cultural and community facilities which benefit and support sustainable communities.</li> <li>• The need to protect the health and wellbeing of Chelmsford's population.</li> <li>• The need to promote healthy lifestyles and in particular reduce obesity and increase levels of physical activity.</li> <li>• The need to plan for an ageing population.</li> <li>• The need to address health inequalities,.</li> <li>• The need to combat suicide and its causes.</li> <li>• The need to protect and enhance open space provision across the Chelmsford City Area.</li> <li>• The need to support high quality design that creates safe and secure communities.</li> <li>• The need to safeguard existing health care facilities and services and ensure the timely delivery of new facilities and services to meet needs arising from new development.</li> </ul>
<b>Transport and Accessibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to ensure timely investment in transport infrastructure and services through securing developer funded works or contributions and other sources of funding.</li> <li>• The need to address congestion, particularly on and around the main A12, A130 and A414 transport corridors.</li> <li>• The need to address existing junction capacity issues.</li> <li>• The need to enhance the connectivity of more remote settlements, particularly to the north of the Chelmsford City Area.</li> <li>• The need to encourage alternative modes of transport to the car, including the expansion of park and ride sites.</li> <li>• The need to ensure that new development is accessible to a range of community facilities and services and jobs so as to reduce the need to travel.</li> <li>• The need to reduce out-commuting by creating a stronger employment market within the Chelmsford City Area.</li> <li>• The need to encourage walking and cycling, as part of active travel.</li> <li>• The need to encourage the use of public transport, and in particular key transport interchanges between different modes, namely bus and rail.</li> <li>• The need to encourage car sharing, especially along heavily congested transport corridors.</li> <li>• The need to address congestion in and around the City Centre.</li> <li>• The need to investigate more innovative and creative ways to tackle behaviour change, rather than simply the monitoring of travel patterns.</li> </ul>
<b>Land Use, Geology and Soils</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to encourage development on previously developed (brownfield) land.</li> <li>• The need to make best use of existing buildings and infrastructure.</li> <li>• The need to protect the best and most versatile agricultural land.</li> </ul>

Topic	Key Sustainability Issues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The need to protect and enhance sites designated for their geological interest.</li> </ul>
<b>Water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The need to protect and enhance the quality of water sources in the Chelmsford City Area.</li> <li>The need to promote the efficient use of water resources.</li> <li>The need to ensure the timely provision of new water services infrastructure to meet demand arising from new development.</li> <li>The need to locate new development away from areas of flood risk, taking into account the effects of climate change.</li> <li>The need to ensure the timely provision of flood defence/management infrastructure.</li> </ul>
<b>Air Quality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The need to minimise the emissions of pollutants to air, including through continued investment in sustainable transport options and infrastructure to support the use of electric vehicles.</li> <li>The need to improve air quality, particularly in the Army &amp; Navy AQMA and the Maldon Road, Danbury AQMA.</li> </ul>
<b>Climate Change</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The need to ensure that new development anticipates and can be adapted to the effects of climate change.</li> <li>The need to increase woodland and tree cover to help mitigate and adapt to climate change.</li> <li>The need to mitigate climate change including through maximising renewable energy provision at site and district level.</li> </ul>
<b>Material Assets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The need to minimise waste arisings and encourage reuse and recycling.</li> <li>The need to promote the efficient use of mineral resources.</li> <li>The need to ensure the protection of Chelmsford's mineral resources from inappropriate development, in accordance with the adopted Minerals Local Plan.</li> <li>The need to address identified capacity gaps for waste management that currently exist and are forecast to exist.</li> <li>The need to achieve net self-sufficiency by 2032.</li> </ul>
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The need to protect and where appropriate enhance Chelmsford City Area's cultural heritage assets and their settings.</li> <li>The need to avoid harm to designated heritage assets.</li> <li>The need to recognise the value of non-designated heritage assets and protect and where appropriate enhance these where possible.</li> <li>The need to recognise the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of landscapes and townscapes.</li> </ul>
<b>Landscape and Townscape</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The need to conserve and where appropriate enhance Chelmsford City Area's landscape character including the character of its villages and surrounding countryside.</li> </ul>

**Topic****Key Sustainability Issues**

- The need to preserve and appropriately manage development within the Green Belt, Green Wedges and Marine Conservation Zone.
- The need to promote high quality design that respects local character.
- The need to maximise opportunities associated with new development to enhance townscape character and the quality of urban environments.
- The need to protect landscapes of value to the local economy where these have been specifically identified in landscape character statements.



## 4. The Approach to Assessment

### 4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 This section describes the approach to the IIA of the Issues and Options Consultation Document. In particular, it sets out the Assessment Framework and how this has been used to appraise the key components of the Issues and Options Consultation Document. It also documents the difficulties encountered during the assessment process including key uncertainties and assumptions.
- 4.1.2 Screening EqlA and HIA assessments, using bespoke assessment criteria, will be produced once detailed policies and proposals for the Local Plan have been prepared at the Preferred Options stage. However, this assessment still considers the health and equalities impacts of the components of the Issues and Options Consultation Document through the application of the Assessment Framework.

### 4.2 Assessment Framework

- 4.2.1 The Assessment Framework comprises sustainability objectives and guide questions to inform the assessment. Establishing assessment objectives and guide questions is central to appraising the sustainability (including health and equalities) effects of the Local Plan. Broadly, the Assessment Objectives define the long term aspirations for the Chelmsford City Area with regard to social, economic and environmental considerations (including EqlA and HIA matters) and it is against these objectives that the components of the Issues and Options Consultation Document have been appraised.
- 4.2.2 **Table 4.1** presents the Assessment Framework including Assessment Objectives and associated guide questions. The Assessment Objectives and guide questions reflect the analysis of the key objectives and policies arising from the review of plans and programmes (**Section 2**), the key sustainability issues identified through the analysis of the socio-economic and environmental baseline conditions (**Section 3**) and comments received during consultation on the Scoping Report (see **Appendix A**). The SEA Directive topic(s) to which each of the Assessment Objectives relates is included in the third column.

Table 4.1 The Assessment Framework

Objective	Guide Questions	SEA Directive Topic(s)
<b>1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the multifunctional green infrastructure network.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it conserve and enhance international and national designated nature conservation sites (Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Ramsars and Sites of Special Scientific Interest) both within and beyond the local authority area?</li> <li>Will it conserve and enhance Local Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites and Ancient Woodland?</li> <li>Will it avoid damage to, and protect, geologically important sites?</li> </ul>	Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora Human Health

Objective	Guide Questions	SEA Directive Topic(s)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it conserve and enhance priority species and habitats?</li> <li>Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or restoration and link existing habitats as part of the development process through Biodiversity Net Gain?</li> <li>Will it enhance ecological connectivity and maintain and improve the multifunctional green infrastructure network?</li> <li>Will it provide opportunities for people to access the natural environment?</li> <li>Will it contribute to Biodiversity Net Gain across the City?</li> </ul>	
<b>2. Housing: To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it provide a range of housing types to meet the current and emerging need for market and affordable housing?</li> <li>Will it reduce the level of homelessness?</li> <li>Will it help to ensure the provision of good quality, well designed homes which meet the needs of all groups in society?</li> <li>Will it deliver homes of high energy efficiency standards which contribute to the City Area's zero carbon targets?</li> <li>Will it deliver pitches required for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople?</li> <li>Will it deliver independent living housing for older people and people with disabilities?</li> </ul>	Population
<b>3. Economy, Skills and Employment: To achieve a strong and stable economy which offers rewarding and well located employment opportunities to everyone.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it provide a supply of high quality employment land to meet the needs of existing businesses and attract inward investment?</li> <li>Will it maintain and enhance economic competitiveness and promote the interests of local businesses?</li> <li>Will it help to diversify the local economy?</li> <li>Will it provide good quality, well paid, and accessible employment opportunities that meet the needs of local people and all groups in society?</li> <li>Will it improve the physical accessibility of training and employment opportunities, including childcare provision?</li> <li>Will it support rural diversification and economic development?</li> <li>Will it promote a low carbon economy?</li> <li>Will it reduce out-commuting?</li> <li>Will it contribute to opportunities for home-working?</li> <li>Will it improve access to training to raise employment potential?</li> <li>Will it promote investment in educational establishments?</li> </ul>	Population
<b>4. Sustainable Living and Revitalisation: To promote urban renaissance and support the vitality of rural centres,</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it support and enhance the City of Chelmsford by attracting new commercial investment and reinforcing the City's attractiveness?</li> <li>Will it promote principles of inclusive and age-friendly design?</li> </ul>	Population Human Health



Objective	Guide Questions	SEA Directive Topic(s)
<b>tackle deprivation and promote sustainable living.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it encourage more people to live in urban areas?</li> <li>• Will it enhance the public realm, including provision for pedestrians and cyclists?</li> <li>• Will it enhance the viability and vitality of South Woodham Ferrers town centre and neighbourhood centres?</li> <li>• Will it tackle deprivation in the most deprived areas and reduce inequalities in access to education, employment and services amongst all social groups?</li> <li>• Will it maintain and enhance community facilities and services, through co-location, for example?</li> <li>• Will it increase access to schools and colleges?</li> <li>• Will it enhance accessibility to key community facilities and services?</li> <li>• Will it align investment in services, facilities and infrastructure with growth?</li> <li>• Will it contribute to regeneration initiatives?</li> <li>• Will it foster social cohesion and good community relations?</li> </ul>	
<b>5. Health and Wellbeing: To improve the health and wellbeing of those living and working in the Chelmsford City area.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it avoid locating development where environmental circumstances could negatively impact on people's health?</li> <li>• Will it maintain and improve access to multifunctional open space, leisure and recreational facilities for all residents?</li> <li>• Will it provide for the management and maintenance of open spaces, such as through Stewardship Agreements?</li> <li>• Will it promote healthier lifestyles amongst all residents?</li> <li>• Will it meet the needs of an ageing population and support those with disabilities?</li> <li>• Will it align investment in healthcare facilities and services with growth?</li> <li>• Will it improve access to healthcare facilities and services?</li> <li>• Will it promote community safety and reduce the fear of crime through safe and welcoming open and natural spaces?</li> <li>• Will it reduce actual levels of crime and anti-social behaviour?</li> <li>• Will it promote design that discourages crime?</li> <li>• Will it promote a healthier community food environment such as through opportunities for food growing?</li> </ul>	Population Human Health
<b>6. Transport: To reduce the need to travel, promote more sustainable modes of transport and align investment in infrastructure with growth.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it reduce travel demand and the distance people travel for jobs, employment, leisure and services and facilities?</li> <li>• Will it reduce out-commuting?</li> <li>• Will it encourage a shift to more sustainable modes of transport?</li> <li>• Will it encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport through the provision of connected, attractive and safe routes?</li> </ul>	Population Human Health Air Climatic Factors

Objective	Guide Questions	SEA Directive Topic(s)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it help to reduce traffic congestion and improve road safety?</li> <li>Will it allow for people with mobility problems or a disability to access buildings and places?</li> <li>Will it deliver investment in transportation infrastructure that supports growth in the Chelmsford City Area?</li> <li>Will it enhance Chelmsford's role as a key transport node?</li> <li>Will it reduce the level of freight movement by road?</li> </ul>	
<b>7. Land Use and Soils: To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it promote the use of previously developed (brownfield) land and minimise the loss of greenfield land?</li> <li>Will it avoid the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land?</li> <li>Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?</li> <li>Will it encourage the reuse of existing buildings and infrastructure?</li> <li>Will it prevent land contamination and facilitate remediation of contaminated sites?</li> </ul>	Material Assets Soil
<b>8. Water: To conserve and enhance water quality and resources.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it reduce water pollution and improve ground and surface water quality?</li> <li>Will it address issues associated with nutrient loading?</li> <li>Will it reduce water consumption and encourage water efficiency?</li> <li>Will it ensure that new water/wastewater management infrastructure is delivered in a timely manner to support new development?</li> </ul>	Water
<b>9. Flood Risk: To reduce the risk of flooding to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it help to minimise the risk of flooding to existing and new developments/infrastructure?</li> <li>Will it manage effectively, and reduce the likelihood of, flash flooding, taking into account the capacity of sewerage systems?</li> <li>Will it discourage inappropriate development in areas at risk from flooding?</li> <li>Will it ensure that new development does not give rise to flood risk elsewhere?</li> <li>Will it deliver multifunctional sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDs) where possible and promote investment in flood defences that reduce vulnerability to flooding?</li> </ul>	Climatic Factors Water
<b>10. Air: To improve air quality.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it maintain and improve air quality?</li> <li>Will it address air quality issues in the Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and the Maldon Road Danbury AQMA and prevent new designations of AQMAs?</li> <li>Will it avoid locating development in areas of existing poor air quality?</li> <li>Will it minimise emissions to air from new development, such as through the preparation of a sustainable travel plan to reduce car use?</li> </ul>	Air Human Health

Objective	Guide Questions	SEA Directive Topic(s)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it provide for electric charging points to support the adoption of electric vehicles?</li> <li>Will it affect air quality at designated sites that are sensitive to air pollution?</li> </ul>	
<b>11. Climate Change: To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it minimise energy use and reduce or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, assisting realisation of the City Area's emission targets?</li> <li>Will it plan or implement adaptation measures for the likely effects of climate change?</li> <li>Will it maximise the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy generation at site level and district level and reduce dependency on non-renewable sources?</li> <li>Will it promote sustainable design that minimises greenhouse emissions and is adaptable to the effects of climate change?</li> <li>Will it deliver homes and other buildings of high energy efficiency standards which contribute to the City Area's zero carbon targets?</li> </ul>	Climatic Factors
<b>12. Waste and Natural Resources: To promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover) and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it minimise the demand for raw materials?</li> <li>Will it promote the use of local resources?</li> <li>Will it reduce minerals extracted and imported?</li> <li>Will it increase efficiency in the use of raw materials and promote recycling?</li> <li>Will it result in development within a Minerals Safeguarding Area?</li> <li>Will it reduce waste arisings?</li> <li>Will it increase the reuse and recycling of waste?</li> <li>Will it support investment in waste management facilities to meet local needs?</li> </ul>	Material Assets
<b>13. Cultural Heritage: To conserve and enhance the historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it help to conserve and enhance existing features of the historic built environment and their settings, including archaeological assets?</li> <li>Will it tackle heritage assets identified as being 'at risk'?</li> <li>Will it promote sustainable repair and reuse of heritage assets?</li> <li>Will it protect or enhance the significance of designated heritage assets?</li> <li>Will it protect or enhance the significance of non-designated heritage assets?</li> <li>Will it promote local cultural distinctiveness, recognising the diversity of Chelmsford's population?</li> <li>Will it help to conserve historic buildings, places and spaces that enhance local distinctiveness, character and appearance through sensitive adaptation and re-use?</li> <li>Will it improve and promote access to buildings and landscapes of historic/cultural value?</li> </ul>	Cultural Heritage Landscape

Objective	Guide Questions	SEA Directive Topic(s)
<b>14. Landscape and Townscape: To conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes?</li> <li>Will it promote high quality design in context with its urban and rural landscape?</li> <li>Will it avoid inappropriate development in the Green Belt and maintain its extent?</li> <li>Will it help to conserve and enhance the Marine Conservation Zone?</li> <li>Will it avoid inappropriate erosion of the Green Wedge?</li> <li>Will it protect tranquil landscapes and areas?</li> </ul>	Landscape Cultural Heritage

4.2.3 **Table 4.2** shows the extent to which the Assessment Objectives encompass the range of issues identified in the SEA Directive.

**Table 4.2 Coverage of the SEA Directive Topics by the Assessment Objectives**

SEA Directive Topic	Assessment Objective(s)
<b>Biodiversity</b>	1, 10
<b>Population *</b>	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
<b>Human Health</b>	1, 4, 5, 6, 10
<b>Fauna</b>	1
<b>Flora</b>	1
<b>Soil</b>	7
<b>Water</b>	8, 9
<b>Air</b>	6, 10
<b>Climatic Factors</b>	6, 9, 11
<b>Material Assets *</b>	7, 12
<b>Cultural Heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage</b>	13, 14
<b>Landscape</b>	13, 14

\* These terms are not clearly defined in the SEA Directive.

## 4.3 Methodology

4.3.1 Based on the contents of the Issues and Options Consultation Document detailed in **Section 1.4**, the Assessment Framework has been used to appraise the following key components of the document:

- Spatial Principles;
- Housing and Employment Target Projections; and
- Spatial Approaches.

4.3.2 The approach to the assessment of each of the elements listed above is set out in the sections that follow.

## Spatial Principles

4.3.3 The Spatial Principles are intended to support and guide the Spatial Approaches for the Local Plan. It is therefore important that the Spatial Principles are aligned with the Assessment Objectives. The Spatial Principles contained in the Issues and Options Consultation Document (see **Section 1.4**) have therefore been appraised for their compatibility with the objectives that comprise the Assessment Framework to help establish whether the proposed general approach to the Local Plan is in accordance with the principles of sustainability. A compatibility matrix has been used to record the assessment, as shown in **Table 4.3**.

Table 4.3 Compatibility Matrix

Assessment Objective	Spatial Principle			
	Vision	Spatial Principle 1	Spatial Principle 2	Spatial Principle 3...etc
1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity	+	0	+	?
2. Housing	+	-	+	+
3. Etc...	+	0	+	?

### Key

+	Compatible	?	Uncertain
0	Neutral	-	Incompatible

NB: where more than one symbol/colour is presented in a box it indicates that the assessment has identified both compatibilities and incompatibilities between the Spatial Principles and the Assessment Objectives. Where a box is coloured but also contains a '?', this indicates a degree of uncertainty regarding the relationship between the Spatial Principles and the Assessment Objectives although a professional judgement is expressed in the colour used.

4.3.4 The findings of the compatibility assessment of the Spatial Principles and the Assessment Objectives are presented in **Section 5.2**.

## Housing and Employment Target and Projections

- 4.3.5 The Issues and Options Consultation Document sets out possible projections relating to the quantum of housing and jobs to be delivered in the Chelmsford City Area over the plan period. These projections have been appraised against each of the Assessment Objectives using an assessment matrix. The matrix includes:
- the Assessment Objectives;
  - a score indicating the nature of the effect for projection on each Assessment Objectives;
  - a commentary on significant effects (including consideration of the cumulative, synergistic and indirect effects as well as the geography, duration, temporary/permanence and likelihood of any effects) and on any assumptions or uncertainties; and
  - recommendations, including any mitigation or enhancements measures.
- 4.3.6 The format of the matrix that has been used in the assessment is shown in **Table 5.4**. A qualitative scoring system has been adopted which is set out in **Table 5.5** and to guide the assessment, specific definitions have been developed for what constitutes a significant effect, a minor effect or a neutral effect for each of the 14 Assessment Objectives; these can be found in **Appendix E**.

**Table 4.4 Assessment Matrix – Housing and Employment Target Projections**

Assessment Objective	Assessment
<b>1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity:</b> To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the green infrastructure network.	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b> A description of the likely effects of each approach on the Objective has been provided here.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mitigation and enhancement measures are outlined here.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any assumptions made in undertaking the assessment are listed here.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any uncertainties encountered during the assessment are listed here.</li> </ul>

**Table 4.5 Scoring System**

Score	Description	Symbol
Significant Positive Effect	The approach contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective.	++
Minor Positive Effect	The approach contributes to the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	+
Neutral	The approach does not have any effect on the achievement of the objective	0
Minor Negative Effect	The approach detracts from the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	-



Score	Description	Symbol
Significant Negative Effect	The approach detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective.	--
No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the approach and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.	~
Uncertain	The approach has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.	?

NB: where more than one symbol/colour is presented in a box it indicates that the assessment has identified both positive and negative effects. Where a box is coloured but also contains a '?', this indicates uncertainty over whether the effect could be a minor or significant effect although a professional judgement is expressed in the colour used. A conclusion of uncertainty arises where there is insufficient evidence for expert judgement to conclude an effect.

- 4.3.7 The completed assessment matrices are presented at **Appendix F** and **Appendix G**. Summaries of the results of the assessments are provided in **Section 5.3** and **Section 5.4** of this report.

## Spatial Approaches

- 4.3.8 The five Spatial Approaches set out in the Issues and Options Consultation Document have also been appraised using the Assessment Framework and definitions of significance with the findings presented in a matrix similar to that shown in **Table 4.4** but which permits a comparison of the approaches.
- 4.3.9 The completed assessment matrices are contained at **Appendix G**. The findings of the assessment of the spatial approaches are summarised in **Section 5.5** of this report.

## Secondary, Cumulative and Synergistic Effects

- 4.3.10 The SEA Directive and SEA Regulations require that the secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects of the Local Plan are assessed. In particular, it will be important to consider the combined sustainability effects of the policies and proposals of the Local Plan both alone and in-combination with other plans and programmes.
- 4.3.11 At this early stage in the development of the Local Plan, it has not been possible to consider the cumulative effects of the Local Plan as a whole or in combination with other plans and programmes (for example, the local plans of neighbouring authorities). This is because key decisions relating to the quantum and location of future development have yet to be made and policies are still to be developed. A detailed assessment of cumulative effects will therefore be undertaken at the Preferred Options consultation stage.

## 4.4 When the Assessment was Undertaken and by Whom

- 4.4.1 This IIA of the Issues and Options Consultation Document was undertaken by Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions UK Limited (Wood) in July 2022.

## 4.5 Difficulties Encountered in Undertaking the Assessment

4.5.1 The SEA Directive requires the identification of any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of knowledge) encountered during the assessment process. These uncertainties and assumptions are detailed in the assessment matrices. Those uncertainties and assumptions common across the assessment are outlined below.

### Uncertainties

- The exact quantum and location of future development to be accommodated in the Chelmsford City Area is not determined at this stage.
- The extent to which new housing development meets local needs will be dependent on the mix of housing delivered (in terms of size, type and tenure) which is currently unknown. In order to identify the mix of housing and the range of tenures required across the Housing Market Area, a revised SHMA is being produced.
- The extent to which job creation is locally significant will depend on the type of jobs created (in the context of the local labour market) and the recruitment policies of prospective employers.
- The level of investment in community facilities and services that may be stimulated by new development is uncertain at this stage and will in part be dependent on the policies of the Local Plan, site specific proposals and viability.
- The exact scale of greenhouse gas emissions associated with Local Plan approaches will be dependent on a number of factors including: the exact design of new development; future travel patterns and trends; technological changes; individual energy consumption behaviour; and the extent to which energy supply has been decarbonised over the plan period.
- The exact scale of waste generated will be dependent on a number of factors including: the design of new development; waste collection and disposal regimes; and individual behaviour with regard to recycling and reuse.
- The speed, scale and behavioural implications (such as patterns of work and commuting) associated with the recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic.

### Assumptions

- It is assumed that greenfield land will be required to accommodate some of the future growth over the plan period.
- It is assumed that new development would not be located on land designated for nature conservation.
- It is assumed that the Council will liaise with Essex and Suffolk Water with regard to infrastructure requirements for future development.
- Measures contained in the Essex and Suffolk Water's Water Resources Management Plan would be expected to help ensure that future water resource demands are met.

- There will be no development that will require diversion or modification of existing watercourses. However, if such measures are required, this could affect local water quality.
- It is assumed that, where appropriate, development proposals would be accompanied by a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and that suitable flood alleviation measures would be incorporated into the design of new development where necessary to minimise flood risk.
- It is assumed that the Essex Waste Local Plan will make provision to accommodate additional waste associated with growth in the Chelmsford City Area.



## 5. Assessment of Likely Effects

### 5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 This section presents the findings of the assessment of effects of the Issues and Options Consultation Document against the Assessment Objectives that comprise the Assessment Framework. It assesses the compatibility of the Local Plan Strategic Priorities with the Assessment Objectives (**Section 5.2**) before presenting a summary of the assessments of the housing target projections (**Section 5.3**), employment target projections (**Section 5.4**) and spatial approaches (**Section 5.5**). A range of potential mitigation and enhancement measures are also identified and which could be considered by the Council during the development of the Local Plan to help enhance positive effects and reduce negative effects (**Section 5.6**).

### 5.2 Strategic Priorities

- 5.2.1 The Issues and Options Consultation Document sets out Strategic Priorities that are intended to support and guide the Spatial Approaches for the Local Plan. These are reproduced below:

Proposed Strategic Priority – Review of the Adopted Local Plan
<b>Priorities for climate</b>
<p><b>1. Addressing the Climate and Ecological Emergency</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mitigate the impacts of climate change and adapt to its consequences</li> <li>Ensure new development moves towards delivering net-zero carbon emissions (energy efficiency, sustainable construction, renewable energy, infrastructure for active and sustainable travel)</li> <li>Ensure development adapts to minimise adverse impacts that create climate and ecological change, including managing flood risk and reducing carbon emissions</li> <li>Encourage tree planting and an increase in woodland expansion</li> <li>Ensure sustainable drainage systems in developments</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Promoting smart, active travel and sustainable transport</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote/prioritise active travel and sustainable transport</li> <li>Reduce reliance on fossil fuelled vehicles</li> <li>Support the provision of strategic and local transport infrastructure to enable a future for alternatives to fossil fuelled vehicles</li> <li>Make provision for charging electric vehicles</li> <li>Make provision for infrastructure to support active travel and the use of sustainable modes of transport</li> <li>Promote innovations in transport including smart technology</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Protecting and enhancing the natural and historic Environment, and support an increase in biodiversity and ecological networks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan positively for biodiversity net gain and green infrastructure including high quality green spaces</li> </ul>

Proposed Strategic Priority – Review of the Adopted Local Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimise the loss of the best and most versatile agricultural land to ensure future food production</li> <li>• Protect/enhance the River Valleys and increase opportunities for sustainable travel</li> <li>• Ensure that new development respects the character and appearance of the City's varied landscapes</li> </ul>
Priorities for growth
<p><b>4. Ensuring sustainable patterns of development and protecting the Green Belt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure we plan positively to meet identified development needs</li> <li>• Promote development of previously developed land in Chelmsford's Urban Area</li> <li>• Use the Settlement Hierarchy to identify most sustainable existing locations</li> <li>• Locate development in locations that are close to existing or proposed local facilities so people can walk/cycle and be less reliant on the car</li> <li>• Protect the Green Belt from inappropriate development</li> <li>• Ensure accordance with the Minerals Local Plan, Waste Local Plan and South East Inshore Marine Plan</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Meeting the needs for new homes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide high quality new homes that meet people's needs (market, affordable, starter, supported, specialist, Gypsies and Travellers)</li> <li>• Address the imbalance between the supply and need for affordable rented housing</li> <li>• Meet identified targets/needs for numbers and types of homes required to be built each year</li> <li>• Maintain a good supply of homes throughout the Local Plan period</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. Fostering growth and investment and providing new jobs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure Chelmsford's businesses thrive, continue to innovate and can be even more productive and resilient</li> <li>• Foster new economic growth and new jobs</li> <li>• Ensure a flexible rolling supply of employment land over the Local Plan period</li> <li>• Support the retention of existing designated employment and rural employment areas to maintain supply and choice of employment floorspace</li> <li>• Promotion of a circular economy</li> </ul>
Priorities for place
<p><b>7. Creating well designed and attractive places, and promoting the health and social well-being of communities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the health and wellbeing of communities</li> <li>• Encourage healthy lifestyles and living environments for all residents for example by providing new green spaces, quality housing and enhanced walking and cycling infrastructure</li> <li>• Ensure that the integrity of communities is maintained, and social cohesion is promoted in new development</li> <li>• Ensure that all new development meets the highest standards of design</li> <li>• Require the use of masterplans and encourage design codes where appropriate for strategic scale developments</li> <li>• Ensure new development helps provide new primary health services</li> </ul>



Proposed Strategic Priority – Review of the Adopted Local Plan	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote community involvement in the long-term management and stewardship of new strategic residential development</li> <li>Encourage development to be future-proofed and as sustainable and energy efficient as possible</li> </ul>	
<b>8. Delivering new and improved infrastructure to support growth</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address city-wide infrastructure needs</li> <li>Maximise the efficient use of existing infrastructure capacities</li> <li>Explore opportunities for new sustainable infrastructure</li> <li>Ensure that necessary new or upgraded local infrastructure is provided alongside new development when it is needed</li> <li>Ensure appropriate and timely strategic infrastructure to support new development</li> </ul>	
<b>9. Encouraging resilience in retail, leisure, commercial and cultural development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the vitality and viability of Chelmsford City Centre, South Woodham Ferrers Town Centre and Principal Neighbourhood Centres</li> <li>Promote a range of functions which contribute to the vibrancy of Chelmsford City Centre and maintain its position as a leading destination.</li> <li>Enhance the retail, leisure, commercial and cultural development offer of South Woodham Ferrers Town Centre</li> <li>Protect existing and support new/enhanced leisure, sports, arts, cultural and recreation facilities to ensure that all parts of the City Council area are vibrant and successful</li> </ul>	

- 5.2.2 A matrix has been completed to assess the compatibility of the Strategic Priorities contained in the Issues and Options Consultation Document against the Assessment Objectives. **Table 5.1** presents the results of this Compatibility Assessment.
- 5.2.3 The Strategic Priorities are broadly supportive of the Assessment Objectives with very few incompatibilities identified. All of the Assessment Objectives are supported by one or more of the Spatial Principles whilst conversely, none of the Spatial Principles have been assessed as being incompatible with all of the Assessment Objectives.
- 5.2.4 Assessment Objective 4 (Sustainable Living and Revitalisation) is particularly well supported by the Spatial Principles. This reflects their emphasis on supporting urban renewal and delivering development in accessible locations and which has also been assessed as being compatible with those Assessment Objectives relating to housing (Objective 2), the economy (Objective 3) and transport (Objective 6). Reflecting the desire to focus development towards urban areas, and allied with the intent to protect the Green Belt, Green Wedge and landscape character, the Spatial Principles are also considered to be particularly supportive of those Assessment Objectives relating to biodiversity (Objective 1), health and wellbeing (Objective 5), land use (Objective 7), cultural heritage (Objective 13) and landscape (Objective 14).
- 5.2.5 The assessment presented in **Table 5.1** highlights that in some instances, conflicts may exist between the Spatial Principles and the Assessment Objectives, or their relationship is uncertain. Where conflicts or uncertainties have been identified, this generally relates to, on the one hand, the aspiration for growth, and on the other, the need to protect and enhance environmental assets and minimise resource use, waste and greenhouse gas

emissions. In this regard, the Spatial Principle relating to the renewal of the City Centre is likely to lead to increased resource use (including water), waste generation and emissions associated with new development whilst effects on Chelmsford City Area's environmental assets are likely to be uncertain until the exact quantum and location of development has been determined. Conversely, those Spatial Principles that seek to protect the City Area's environmental assets could restrict growth and which may result in conflicts in respect of housing delivery (Objective 2) and the economy (Objective 3) in particular.

- 5.2.6 Where possible incompatibilities or uncertainties have been identified, these can be resolved if development takes place in accordance with all of the Spatial Principles. As such, an incompatibility or uncertainty is not necessarily insurmountable issues but one that may need to be considered in the development of policies that comprise the Local Plan.

Table 5.1 Compatibility Matrix

Assessment Objective	Strategic Priorities								
	1. Addressing the Climate and Ecological Emergency	2. Promoting smart, active travel and sustainable transport	3. Protecting and enhancing the Natural and Historic Environment, and support an increase in biodiversity and ecological networks	4. Ensuring sustainable patterns of development and protecting the Green Belt	5. Meeting the needs for new homes	6. Fostering growth and investment and providing new jobs	7. Creating well designed and attractive places, and promoting the health and social well-being of communities	8. Delivering new and improved infrastructure to support growth	9. Encouraging resilience in retail, leisure, commercial and cultural development
1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the multifunctional green infrastructure network.	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	?	0
2. Housing: To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes.	-	0	-	?	+	+	?	+	0
3. Economy, Skills and Employment: To achieve a strong and stable economy which offers rewarding and well located employment opportunities to everyone.	-	0	-	?	0	+	?	+	+
4. Sustainable Living and Revitalisation: To promote urban renaissance and support the vitality of rural centres, tackle deprivation and promote sustainable living.	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+
5. Health and Wellbeing: To improve the health and wellbeing of those living and working in the Chelmsford City area.	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+

Assessment Objective	Strategic Priorities								
	1. Addressing the Climate and Ecological Emergency	2. Promoting smart, active travel and sustainable transport	3. Protecting and enhancing the Natural and Historic Environment, and support an increase in biodiversity and ecological networks	4. Ensuring sustainable patterns of development and protecting the Green Belt	5. Meeting the needs for new homes	6. Fostering growth and investment and providing new jobs	7. Creating well designed and attractive places, and promoting the health and social well-being of communities	8. Delivering new and improved infrastructure to support growth	9. Encouraging resilience in retail, leisure, commercial and cultural development
6. Transport: To reduce the need to travel, promote more sustainable modes of transport and align investment in infrastructure with growth.	+	+	0	?	0	?	0	+	+
7. Land Use and Soils: To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.	+	0	+	+	-	-	+	?	0
8. Water: To conserve and enhance water quality and resources.	+	0	+	+	?	0	+	?	0
9. Flood Risk: To reduce the risk of flooding to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.	+	0	+	+	?	0	+	?	0
10. Air: To improve air quality.	+	+	+	+	?	0	?	-	0
11. Climate Change: To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change.	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	-	0
12. Waste and Natural Resources: To promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover) and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.	+	0	0	0	-	0	?	0	0

Assessment Objective	Strategic Priorities								
	1. Addressing the Climate and Ecological Emergency	2. Promoting smart, active travel and sustainable transport	3. Protecting and enhancing the Natural and Historic Environment, and support an increase in biodiversity and ecological networks	4. Ensuring sustainable patterns of development and protecting the Green Belt	5. Meeting the needs for new homes	6. Fostering growth and investment and providing new jobs	7. Creating well designed and attractive places, and promoting the health and social well-being of communities	8. Delivering new and improved infrastructure to support growth	9. Encouraging resilience in retail, leisure, commercial and cultural development
13. Cultural Heritage: To conserve and enhance the historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.	0	0	+	+	-	?	+	?	0
14. Landscape and Townscape: To conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes.	+	0	+	+	-	?	+	?	0

### Key

+	Compatible	?	Uncertain
0	Neutral	-	Incompatible

## 5.3 Housing Requirement

- 5.3.1 The Council is proposing a Housing Requirement figure of 1,000 homes per annum for the plan period 2022 – 2041. Retaining a 20% supply buffer and considering existing supply across the period 2022 – 2041, there is a shortfall of 7,966 homes in total, as summarised below:

Housing Requirement 2022-41	Homes
19 years x 1,000 homes (standard method)	19,000
+20% supply buffer	3,800
Total (Requirement + Buffer)	22,800
Existing Supply 2022-41 (total completions, allocations, permissions, windfall)	14,834
Shortfall	7,966

### Assessment

- 5.3.2 The Housing Requirement has been assessed against the Assessment Objectives, using the qualitative scoring system in **Table 2.2**. The emerging findings of the assessment are summarised in **Table 5.2**.

Table 5.2 Assessment of Indicative Housing Allocation

Assessment Objective	1. Biodiversity	2. Housing	3. Economy	4. Sustainable Living and Revitalisation	5. Health and Wellbeing	6. Transport	7. Land Use	8. Water	9. Flood Risk	10. Air Quality	11. Climate Change	12. Waste and Natural Resources	13. Cultural Heritage	14. Landscape and Townscape
Approach														
Standard Method Requirement + 20% Buffer (22,800 homes) minus 14,834 = <b>7,966 net</b> (1,200 dwellings p.a.)	-/?	++	++	+/-	+/- /?	+/- /?	--/+	-/?	-/?	-/?	-/?	-/?	+/-	+/-

- 5.3.3 The likely significant positive sustainability effects associated with the Housing Requirement relate to:
- **Housing (Objective 2):** the approach would meet in full, and exceed, the assessed housing requirement for the Chelmsford City Area over the plan period. This is in accordance with the objective of the NPPF to boost housing supply.
  - **Economy (Objective 3):** the approach would help to stimulate economic growth through the provision of a workforce as well as consumers, as long as development proposals deliver homes, jobs and infrastructure are delivered in a co-ordinated fashion to help limit excess in- or out-commuting and ensure a degree of self-containment.



- 5.3.4 The likely significant negative sustainability effects associated with the Housing Requirement relate to:
- **Land Use (Objective 7):** whilst brownfield land will be used through windfall sites, a significant area of greenfield land will be required.
- 5.3.5 Mixed (and uncertain) effects are identified across a range of the Assessment Objectives (sustainable living and revitalisation, health and well-being and transport) which reflects the potential for housing growth to result in positive and adverse environmental impacts. These potential effects will require further consideration in the identification of site allocations and development of policies for the Local Plan and in this regard, there is the potential for new housing to deliver benefits in respect of, for example, sustainable travel, health and enhancements to townscapes.
- 5.3.6 Minor negative and uncertain effects have been identified against biodiversity, water, flood risk, air quality, climate change and waste and natural resources reflecting the demands placed on the use of natural resources by housing growth, notwithstanding advances in building technologies and the mitigation of negative effects through building and site design. Uncertainty exists in the extent and speed of these sustainable interventions. More generally, residential development requirements and the more limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the Chelmsford City Area will mean that greenfield land is required for development.

## 5.4 Employment Land Requirement

- 5.4.1 Whilst the adopted Local Plan employment policies are still relevant and site allocations for new employment development are also progressing in line with projections, some policies will require updating and additional policies may be required in the light of changes to national planning policy and new legislation. Changes are also required to ensure that the Local Plan continues to meet future employment needs to 2041.
- 5.4.2 The Issues and Options Consultation Document proposes a continuation of the existing approach to employment land provision, i.e. a flexible rolling employment land supply across the plan period, i.e. a flexible rolling employment land supply across the plan period to 2041.

## Assessment

- 5.4.3 The proposed approach to the Employment Land Requirement has been assessed against the Assessment Objectives using the qualitative scoring system in **Table 2.2**. The emerging findings of the assessment are summarised in **Table 5.3**.

Table 5.3 Assessment of Employment Land Requirement

Assessment Objective	1. Biodiversity	2. Housing	3. Economy	4. Sustainable Living and Revitalisation	5. Health and Wellbeing	6. Transport	7. Land Use	8. Water	9. Flood Risk	10. Air Quality	11. Climate Change	12. Waste and Natural Resources	13. Cultural Heritage	14. Landscape and Townscape
Project current allocation	-/?	0	++/?	+	+	-	+/-	-/?	-/?	-	-	-	+/-/?	+/-/?

5.4.4 The key likely significant positive effects associated with the Employment Land Requirement relate to:

- Economy (Objective 3): The provision of employment land will support economic growth across Chelmsford, delivering deliver jobs and supporting regeneration and investment.

5.4.5 No significant negative effects have been identified in the assessment. However, negative (and uncertain) effects have been identified across a range of the Assessment Objectives associated with biodiversity, transport, air quality, climate change and waste and natural resources, reflecting increases in trends such as commuting, new infrastructure requirements and emissions associated with HGVs. As with housing, these potential effects will require further consideration in the development of policies for the Local Plan and will require particular attention in the identification of site location, design and mitigation measures. There is the potential for new employment uses to deliver benefits in respect of, for example, sustainable travel, health and enhancements to townscapes.

5.4.6 A minor positive effect has been identified in respect of Sustainable Living (Objective 4) and Health and Well-Being (Objective 5) reflecting the opportunities for the provision of local employment opportunities associated with the revitalisation of urban areas.

5.4.7 Mixed effects relate to land use (Objective 7), cultural heritage (Objective 13) and landscape/townscape (Objective 14) reflecting potential compromises to be made in allocating development, but also opportunities for the protection and enhancement of these resources.

## 5.5 Spatial Approaches

5.5.1 Five Spatial Approaches relating to the distribution of the proposed housing and employment growth have been identified in the Issues and Options Consultation Document, ranging from the continuation of the approach of the adopted Local Plan, through to more divergent approaches including growth along transport corridors and a free-standing new settlement. An overview of the approach in terms of the quantum of housing to be distributed across the Chelmsford City Area is presented in **Table 5.4**.

Table 5.4 Assessment of Summary of Proposed Spatial Approaches

	<b>Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy</b>	<b>Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas</b>	<b>Approach C: Wider Strategy</b>	<b>Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors</b>	<b>Approach E: New Settlement</b>
Brownfield sites in Chelmsford Urban Area	1,000	2,500	1,000	1,000	1,000
Edge of Chelmsford extension ((West Chelmsford, East Chelmsford)	1,500	1,500	1,500	500	
North of South Woodham Ferrers	500	500	500	500	
North East Chelmsford	3,500*	3,500*	3,500*	4,500*	3,000*
Key Service Settlements (Bicknacre, Boreham, Broomfield, Danbury, Great Leighs)	1,500**		1,000**		
Service Settlements (East Hanningfield, Ford End, Great Waltham, Little Waltham, Rettendon Place, Woodham Ferrers)			500**		
Settlements with good proximity to transport corridors (Chatham Green, Howe Green, Rettendon Common)				1,500**	
New Strategic Settlement/ Garden Community (Hammonds Farm)					4,000

\* 2,500 is already within the existing allocation area but not allocated for development within the current Plan period up to 2036

\*\* Split across one or more settlement

## Assessment

5.5.2 The Spatial Approaches have been assessed against the Assessment Objectives using the qualitative scoring system in **Table 2.2**. The emerging findings of the assessment are summarised in **Table 5.5**. Detailed assessment matrices are contained in **Appendix G**.

Table 5.5 Spatial Approaches Summary Assessment

Assessment Objective	1. Biodiversity	2. Housing	3. Economy	4. Sustainable Living and Revitalisation	5. Health and Wellbeing	6. Transport	7. Land Use	8. Water	9. Flood Risk	10. Air Quality	11. Climate Change	12. Waste and Natural Resources	13. Cultural Heritage	14. Landscape and Townscape
Approach														
Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	+/- /?	++	++/-	++/-	++/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	~	+/- /?	+/- /?
Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	+/- /?	++ /?	++	++/-	++/-	++/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/?	~	+/- /?	+/- /?
Approach C: Wider Strategy	+/- /?	++	+	++/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	~	+/- /?	+/- /?
Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	+/- /?	++ /?	++	+/- /?	++/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	?	+/-	~	+/- /?	+/- /?
Approach E: New Settlement	+/- /?	++ /?	++ /?	+/-	++/-	+/- /?	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/- /?	+/-	~	+/- /?	+/- /?

### Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy

5.5.3 Approach A continues the spatial strategy approach of the adopted Local Plan, with new allocations on previously developed land and at larger villages, and expanding allocated sites, as follows:

Location type	Where	Indicative number
Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	1,000
Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	3,500
Expanding allocated sites	South Woodham Ferrers	500
Expanding allocated sites	West Chelmsford and east Chelmsford	1,500 in total across the two areas
Development at larger villages	Bicknacre, Boreham, Broomfield, Danbury, Great Leighs	1,500 in total across the listed areas

- 5.5.4 The range and type of effects associated with the implementation of this approach centre on the significant positive effects anticipated on housing (Objective 2), the economy (Objective 3), sustainable living and revitalisation (Objective 4) and health and wellbeing (Objective 5), reflecting the concentration of new development within ready access to existing services and opportunities for regeneration. Residential development would also be dispersed throughout the City Area under this approach including to smaller settlements without major employers and which are less accessible to the City Centre. As a result, prospective residents in these settlements would be likely to have poorer accessibility to employment opportunities and mixed significant positive and negative effects have therefore been identified in respect of the economy (Objective 3).
- 5.5.5 In adopting a more dispersed approach to the distribution of future development, benefits associated with focusing development within and adjacent to urban areas may be reduced. However, this approach would support a wider distribution of investment across the City Area and which could support those aspects of Objective 4 that relate to the vitality of rural centres. Overall, this approach has been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on urban renaissance (Objective 4).
- 5.5.6 A mixed positive and significant negative effect is identified in respect of land use reflecting the efficient use of land through masterplanning at accepted densities but also the loss of significant areas of the land resource to urban development.
- 5.5.7 This approach has been assessed as having mixed positive and negative effects expected in respect of biodiversity (Objective 1), water (Objective 8), flood risk (Objective 9) and cultural heritage (Objective 13). Mixed positive and negative effects have also been identified in respect of landscape and townscape (Objective 14), although the reduced allocation of residential development adjacent to the urban areas and delivery in villages and service settlements could increase the potential for significant negative effects on the character of these smaller settlements and landscape, although this is dependent on the exact location, scale, density and design of development which is currently unknown.

## Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas

- 5.5.8 This continues the approach already being used in the adopted Local Plan, but maximises development in the City Centre and urban area, and expands allocated sites, as follows:

Location type	Where	Indicative number
Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	2,500
Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	3,500
Expanding allocated sites	South Woodham Ferrers	500
Expanding allocated sites	West Chelmsford and East Chelmsford	1,500 in total across the two areas

- 5.5.9 Approach B would deliver the majority of Chelmsford City Area's new housing in and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area with the expansion of allocated sites at North East Chelmsford, South Woodham Ferrers and West and East Chelmsford. This would help to

meet housing needs overall although the needs of settlements across the wider City Area might not be met. This approach has therefore been assessed as having a significant, uncertain positive effect on housing (Objective 2).

- 5.5.10 Focusing employment growth within and on the edge of the Chelmsford Urban Area and South Woodham Ferrers will help to ensure that the new employment opportunities created by employment development, as well as existing opportunities, are physically accessible to existing and prospective residents. Further, employment land provision, residential development and the delivery of supporting infrastructure within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area should ensure that the City continues to be a major driver of growth within the Heart of Essex sub-region. In consequence, Approach A has also been assessed as having a significant positive effect on the economy (Objective 3).
- 5.5.11 Additional development in these locations should ensure that prospective residents and workers have good access to key services, promote urban renaissance (including through the provision of services and facilities) and could help to address pockets of deprivation that exist in the Urban Area. This has been assessed as having a significant positive effect on urban renaissance (Objective 4) and health and wellbeing (Objective 5). However, this approach may result in a lack of investment in other settlements in the City Area including secondary local centres and service villages resulting in negative effects.
- 5.5.12 The concentration of new residential and employment development in and adjacent to urban areas, the promotion of mixed used urban extensions and the delivery of strategic improvements to the walking/cycling network are all likely to reduce the need to travel by car and encourage walking/cycling. Planning policies should seek to ensure that new development should also be well connected to the existing public transport network and may help to maintain existing, and stimulate investment in new, public transport provision. The possible locations, nature of future development and opportunities for more sustainable travel, mean that this approach has been assessed as having a significant positive effect on transport (Objective 6) and a positive effect on air quality (Objective 10) and climate change (Objective 11). However, an increase in local population will generate more transport movements and place pressure on the road network causing localised congestion, although development may support investment in highways improvements which could help to mitigate these adverse effects.
- 5.5.13 Development is likely to make use of brownfield land which is likely to have a positive effect on land use (Objective 7). However, development requirements and the limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the Chelmsford City Area will mean that greenfield land adjacent to the urban areas will be required to accommodate growth. In consequence, Approach B has also been assessed as having a significant negative effect on Objective 7.
- 5.5.14 Mixed effects have been identified in respect of water (Objective 8). This reflects the potential for new development to place pressure on water supplies and wastewater infrastructure but also potential to utilise water saving and reuse technologies. New development under this approach is also likely to have a negative effect on biodiversity (Objective 1) due to the potential for indirect adverse effects on ecology related to the development of greenfield land. However, the magnitude of any negative effects in this regard will be dependent on the exact location of development and the existing biodiversity value of sites. There may also be opportunities to mitigate adverse effects



and to enhance biodiversity, particularly through the enhancement of the City's Green Wedges and creation of green buffers.

- 5.5.15 The construction and operation of development under this approach could have both positive and negative effects on the historic environment (Objective 13) due to direct and indirect impacts on heritage assets but also the opportunities that development may present to enhance the setting of assets and/or promote heritage led development. With regard to landscape and townscape (Objective 14), the redevelopment of brownfield sites and enhancement of Green Wedges could help to conserve and enhance landscape character, built form and the quality of the built environment. However, negative effects on local landscape character and visual amenity are expected, principally due to the development of greenfield land.
- 5.5.16 Environment Agency flood maps indicate that surface water flooding is a potential constraint within the main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers. The loss of greenfield land under this approach could lead to an increased risk of flooding off site (as a result of the increase in impermeable surfaces). However, it can be reasonably assumed that new development proposals will incorporate suitable flood alleviation measures, thereby minimising the risk of flooding. More comprehensive measures might be required in specific localities. Overall, Approach B has therefore been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on flood risk (Objective 9).

### Approach C: Wider Strategy

- 5.5.17 Approach C continues the approach already being used in the adopted Local Plan, with new allocations on previously developed land and at larger villages, and expanding allocated sites. In addition, it proposes some development at smaller villages, as follows:

Location type	Where	Indicative number
<b>Growth in urban areas</b>	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	1,000
<b>Expanding allocated sites</b>	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	3,500
<b>Expanding allocated sites</b>	South Woodham Ferrers	500
<b>Expanding allocated sites</b>	West Chelmsford and East Chelmsford	1,500 in total across the two areas
<b>Development at larger villages</b>	Bicknacre, Boreham, Broomfield, Danbury, Great Leighs	1,000 in total across the listed areas
<b>Development at smaller villages</b>	East Hanningfield, Ford End, Great Waltham, Little Waltham, Rettendon Place, Woodham Ferrer	500 in total across the listed areas

- 5.5.18 Under Approach C, the majority of growth would continue to be focused in locations adjoining the existing built-up areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers. In consequence, the range and type of effects associated with the implementation of this approach are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Approaches A and B

above with significant positive effects anticipated on housing (Objective 2), the economy (Objective 3), and sustainable living and revitalisation (Objective 4)

- 5.5.19 Residential development would be more dispersed throughout the City Area under this approach including to smaller settlements without major employers and which are less accessible to the City Centre. As a result, prospective residents in these settlements would be likely to have poorer accessibility to employment opportunities (relative to Approaches A and B) and a minor positive effect has therefore been identified in respect of the economy (Objective 3) and a mixed effect in respect of health and well-being (Objective 5).
- 5.5.20 In adopting a more dispersed approach to the distribution of future development, benefits associated with focusing development within and adjacent to urban areas may be reduced relative to Approaches A and B. However, this approach would support a wider distribution of investment across the City Area and which could support those aspects of Objective 4 that relate to the vitality of rural centres. Overall, this approach has been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on urban revitalisation (Objective 4).
- 5.5.21 Development is likely to make use of brownfield land which is likely to have a positive effect on land use (Objective 7). However, development requirements and the limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the Chelmsford City Area will mean that greenfield land adjacent to the urban areas will be required to accommodate growth. In consequence, Approach C has, therefore, also been assessed as having a significant negative effect on Objective 7.
- 5.5.22 As with Approaches A and B, this approach has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effects expected in respect of biodiversity (Objective 1), water (Objective 8), flood risk (Objective 9) and cultural heritage (Objective 13). Mixed positive and negative effects have also been identified in respect of landscape and townscape (Objective 14), although the reduced allocation of residential development adjacent to the urban areas and delivery in villages and service settlements could increase the potential for negative effects on the character of these smaller settlements and landscape (although this is dependent on the exact location, scale, density and design of development which is currently unknown).
- 5.5.23 Distributing a proportion of new development to the City Area's smaller settlements could help to reduce associated traffic volumes and congestion within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area. However, whilst these settlements do offer community facilities and services, the range is more limited (although investment supported by new development could help to enhance their sustainability and self-sufficiency). Noting the nature of the additional infrastructure proposed and the more limited local employment opportunities in these smaller settlements, on balance, it is considered that a more dispersed approach to development is likely to increase the need to travel and associated emissions to air. Consequently, this approach has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on transport (Objective 6) and climate change (Objective 11).

## Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors

- 5.5.24 Approach D continues the approach already being used in the adopted Local Plan, with new allocations on previously developed land and expanding allocated sites including maximising growth at Chelmsford Garden Community as well as proposing some growth along main transport corridors, as follows:

Location type	Where	Indicative number
Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	1,000
Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	4,500
Expanding allocated sites	South Woodham Ferrers	500
Expanding allocated sites	West Chelmsford and east Chelmsford	500 in total across the two areas
Growth along transport corridors	Chatham Green, Howe Green, Rettendon Common	1,500 in total across one or more of the listed areas

- 5.5.25 This approach would deliver the majority of Chelmsford City Area's additional housing (and employment land) in and adjacent to the Chelmsford urban area, recent extensions to the north east and west and wider settlements, along with specific transport corridors (A131, A12/A130 junction and the A130). The range, type and magnitude of effects on the Assessment Objectives associated with this approach are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Approach A above with significant, uncertain positive effects on housing (Objective 2), the economy (Objective 3) and health and wellbeing (Objective 5). In directing growth along transport corridors, however, the benefits of growth elsewhere, such as in the urban area and wider settlements across the City Area, might be compromised. Overall, this approach has been assessed as having a mixed effect on sustainable living and revitalisation (Objective 4).
- 5.5.26 Whilst development focused on transport corridors will attract investment in road infrastructure and could encourage car use, there could also be opportunities for investment in sustainable transport modes such as guided bus routes. There could be an increased need to travel and associated emissions to air, without significant investment in sustainable transport approaches. In consequence, this approach has been assessed as having a mixed effect on transport (Objective 6), an uncertain effect on air quality (Objective 10) and a mixed effect on climate change (Objective 11).
- 5.5.27 As with other approaches, a substantial area of greenfield land would be required. Approach D has therefore been assessed as having a mixed positive and significant negative effect on land use (Objective 7).
- 5.5.28 As with other approaches which share urban growth and expansion of existing allocations, this approach has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effects expected in respect of biodiversity (Objective 1), water (Objective 8), flood risk (Objective 9), air quality (Objective 10), cultural heritage (Objective 13) and landscape and townscape (Objective 14).

## Approach E: New Settlement

- 5.5.29 Approach E continues the approach already being used in the adopted Local Plan, with new allocations on previously developed land and expanding the Chelmsford Garden Community. In addition, it proposes a new large settlement/garden community, as follows:

Location type	Where	Indicative number
Growth in urban areas	Chelmsford City Centre and Urban Area	1,000
Expanding allocated sites	North East Chelmsford Garden Community	3,000
New large settlement/garden community	Hammonds Farm (east of A12/north of A414)	4,000

- 5.5.30 The range and type of effects associated with this approach are likely to be similar to Approaches A, B, C and D. However, directing a large proportion of development toward a single new settlement/garden community is likely to introduce a degree of uncertainty, including the delivery of homes and jobs in a co-ordinated fashion (Objectives 2 and 3), sustainable transport (Objective 4) and the effects on landscape, the latter reflecting the scale of change in the potential location identified within the approach. Other measures relating to biodiversity, air and water (Objectives 1, 14, 10 and 8 respectively) are consistent with other approaches in the existence of positive and negative effects relating to the loss of resources and opportunities for the mitigation of negative effects. In directing growth to a new settlement, the benefits of growth elsewhere, such as in the urban area and smaller settlements across the City Area, might be compromised. Overall, this approach has been assessed as having an uncertain effect on sustainable living and revitalisation (Objective 4).
- 5.5.31 The delivery of community facilities and services (part of Objective 5) will provide a degree of self-sufficiency, although there could be an increased need to travel and associated emissions to air with an uncertain effect on transport (Objective 6), reflecting the likely need to establish new infrastructure to serve a new settlement.

## Summary

- 5.5.32 The likely significant positive sustainability effects associated with the Spatial Approaches relate to:
- **Housing (Objective 2):** Realising the delivery of homes will help to help meet local and sub-regional needs, including for affordable housing.
  - **Economy (Objective 3):** The provision of employment land will support economic growth across Chelmsford, delivering jobs and supporting regeneration and investment.

- **Sustainable Living and Revitalisation (Objective 4):** Delivery of continued and enhanced vibrancy of urban areas through brownfield land use, economic growth, infrastructure and service provision and investment in the public realm generally.
- **Health and Well-Being (Objective 5):** The provision of additional, and a wider range of, services associated with population growth will help to ensure the health and well-being of the resident population.
- **Transport (Objective 5):** Opportunities for delivering sustainable transport schemes associated with Approach B (Growth in Urban Areas) and Approach D (Transport Corridors).

5.5.33 The likely significant negative sustainability effects associated relate to:

- **Land Use (Objective 7):** Reflecting the permanent loss of these resources to urban development.
- **Landscape (Objective 14):** for Approach E, reflecting the scale of change in the potential location identified within the approach

5.5.34 All approaches are capable of delivering housing and employment requirements over the plan period, resulting in positive sustainability effects. There are broadly similar likely effects (mixed positive and negative) across all approaches in respect of biodiversity, cultural heritage, flood risk, land use and resource use.

5.5.35 There is potential uncertainty in respect of sustainable living and revitalisation, air quality and climate change associated with Approach D which is a new approach to distributing development and for transport provision with Approach E which would require new infrastructure. For all approaches, water resource use is an issue, reflecting regional local supply deficits but opportunities to employ sustainable technologies to minimise use.

## 5.6 Accessibility Mapping and Appraisal

5.6.1 Chelmsford City Council has commissioned detailed analysis<sup>131</sup> of the relative accessibility of the 26 settlement areas across the City Area (grouped into 8 broad locations) and the Spatial Approaches A - E. Some 14 appraisal criteria (including walking, cycling and public transport connectivity and access to key services) have been used as part of the modelling exercise to produce an overall accessibility score.

Location	Av. Score
1. Brownfield sites in Chelmsford Urban Area*	2.81
2. Edge of Chelmsford extension (West Chelmsford; East Chelmsford)	2.04
3. North of South Woodham Ferrers	2.14
4. North East Chelmsford	2.57

<sup>131</sup> Essex Highways (2022) Chelmsford Local Plan Review - Sustainable Accessibility Mapping & Appraisal: Technical Note incl. Appendices

5. Key Service Settlements (Bicknacre, Boreham, Broomfield, Danbury, Great Leighs)	2.01
6. Service Settlements (East Hanningfield, Ford End, Great Waltham, Little Waltham, Rettendon Place, Woodham Ferrers)	1.81
7. Settlements with good proximity to transport corridors (Chatham Green, Howe Green, Rettendon Common)	1.45
8. New Strategic Settlement/Garden Community (Hammonds Farm)	1.64

5.6.2 The results of the City Area-wide appraisal have been applied to each Spatial Approach as follows:

	<b>Approach A</b>	<b>Approach B</b>	<b>Approach C</b>	<b>Approach D</b>	<b>Approach E</b>
Score	1.90	2.01	1.89	1.86	1.71
Rank	2	1	3	4	5

5.6.3 The analysis makes the following observations on the relative performance of the approaches:

*"With a focus on housing development in the Chelmsford Urban Area and North East Chelmsford, Approach B is shown to make the most of the good levels of sustainable accessibility in these locations and therefore ranks a clear first in the comparison of Spatial Approaches.*

*Approach A and C have near identical scores, ranking second and third respectively, with the difference brought about by the allocation of housing proposed in the smaller service settlements for Approach C.*

*Approach D ranks fourth due to the allocation of housing in more rural settlement areas with limited sustainable accessibility. However, the score is not dissimilar to Spatial Approaches A and C, owing to the larger number of dwellings proposed in North East Chelmsford.*

*Finally, Approach E ranks fifth in this assessment given the focus of housing on the proposed Hammonds Farm site. However, it should be noted that this is an appraisal of the current position, and it is likely that potential strategic scale development at the Hammonds Farm site would introduce a good level of public transport and active mode provision to the area which would significantly improve its sustainable accessibility. In addition, development at this scale would also be required to provide significant on-site provision of employment, services, neighbourhood centres and education, all of which should be designed to encourage sustainable trips as the primary mode of travel."*

## 5.7 Health and Equality Assessment

5.7.1 A detailed Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and Equalities impact Assessment (EqIA) will be undertaken as part of the assessment of Preferred Options according to the assessment frameworks set out in the Scoping Report.



- 5.7.2 Health, well-being and equalities matters are included within this current assessment through the assessment of growth, economic and spatial approaches against Health and well-being (Objective 5), and implicit in Housing (Objective 2), Economy (Objective 3) and Sustainable Living and Revitalisation (Objective 4) where access to homes, jobs and services are included in the guide questions.
- 5.7.3 The specification of policies within the Review of the Adopted Local Plan, along with locationally-specific allocations as part of the preferred options stage, will enable the detailed assessment of the likely impacts against detailed health and equalities measures.

## 5.8 Mitigation and Enhancement

- 5.8.1 The assessment has identified a range of measures to help address potential negative effects and enhance positive effects associated with the implementation of the approaches contained in the Issues and Options Consultation Document. These measures will be considered by the Council in refining the approaches and developing the policies that will comprise the Local Plan.
- 5.8.2 A number of these mitigation and enhancement measures cut-across all of the approaches and have been summarised in **Table 5.6** below against the respective Assessment Objectives.

**Table 5.6 Cross-cutting Mitigation and Enhancement Measures**

Assessment Objectives	Measure
Objective 1 (Biodiversity)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should seek to avoid negative effects on the City Area's biodiversity assets and identify opportunities for enhancing their quantity and quality where appropriate.</li> <li>Careful consideration should be given to the selection of site allocations in order to avoid adverse effects on European, nationally and locally designated sites. Appropriate mitigation should be identified where necessary.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets, closely linked with existing and new development. This could include the designation of new Local Wildlife Sites.</li> <li>Extensions to green wedges and green buffers should be located in order to help mitigate the effects of growth on biodiversity and protected designated sites. Opportunities should be sought in these areas to promote biodiversity enhancement measures.</li> </ul>
Objective 2 (Housing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should seek to promote energy efficiency as part of wider principles of good design to ensure that the City Area's net zero targets are worked towards.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that all new development is designed and constructed according to best practice principles, promoting matters such as inclusive access, lifelong accommodation and energy efficiency and generation measures, where appropriate.</li> <li>The Local Plan could promote the voluntary use of the Lifetime Homes Standard and the Home Quality Mark to encourage the provision of high quality housing.</li> <li>The ongoing issue of affordability should be recognised within policy and appropriate measures taken, such as reviewing the proportion of affordable homes within new developments, along with tenure mixes.</li> <li>The Local Plan could ensure that a proportion of housing reflects the needs of an ageing population and also the specific needs of the disabled by requiring a proportion of dwellings</li> </ul>

Assessment Objectives	Measure
	to be wheelchair accessible and for a proportion of dwellings to achieve requirement M4(2) of the Building Regulations 2015, which relates to accessible and adaptable dwellings.
Objective 3 (Economy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that economic opportunities accompany housing development, helping to promote greater self-containment and the provision of training and skills development opportunities.</li> <li>The diversification of the local economy should be promoted along with opportunities for employment for all members of the population.</li> <li>The Local Plan could encourage local recruitment/training associated with the construction and operational phases of development.</li> </ul>
Objective 4 (Sustainable Living and Revitalisation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that new development supports specific regeneration opportunities where possible.</li> <li>Developer contributions towards key services and facilities should be sought where appropriate.</li> <li>New residential development should be located in close proximity to services and facilities and/or incorporate new facilities.</li> </ul>
Objective 5 (Health and Wellbeing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that open space and/or health facilities are provided on site/contributions are sought to provision off site, based on strategic green infrastructure provision.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that recreation opportunities are available to all groups of society through, for example, multifunctional green infrastructure provision and addressing deficits in formal recreation facility provision.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that development is not located in close proximity to unsuitable neighbouring uses.</li> <li>New development should be located in close proximity to health care facilities.</li> <li>Careful consideration should be given to the distribution of new development in respect of healthcare capacity/availability.</li> <li>Existing open space and recreational facilities should be protected and enhanced.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that new development (in isolation or cumulatively) does not significantly impact on air quality.</li> </ul>
Objective 6 (Transport)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Careful consideration should be given to the distribution/location of new development to ensure accessibility by transport modes other than the car.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the preparation of green travel plans as part of new development proposals.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should positively promote walking and cycling as part of new developments.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should seek to address the pressure on the current transport network, aligning with, and supporting, proposals contained in the existing Development Plan and Local Transport Plan.</li> </ul>
Objective 7 (Land Use)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed (brownfield land).</li> <li>Local Plan policies should prioritise the development of brownfield over greenfield land where possible.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should resist the development of best and most versatile agricultural land.</li> </ul>
Objective 8 (Water)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that all new development complies with best practice in water conservation through efficient use and recycling.</li> <li>Local Plan includes policies that promote water attenuation systems due to the underlying geology of the area.</li> </ul>

Assessment Objectives	Measure
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council should consider the potential for Local Plan policies to support water company water efficiency activities, including the requirement for new homes to include the optional requirement in the Building Regulations for 110 litres maximum daily allowable usage per person.</li> </ul>
Objective 9 (Flood Risk)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should avoid development in areas of flood risk (i.e. Flood Zones 2 and 3).</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that any new development avoids increasing the flood risk of existing development.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets to provide opportunities for flood storage where appropriate.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should seek to promote as close to greenfield runoff rates as possible, including strategic flood storage measures.</li> </ul>
Objective 10 (Air Quality)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to reduce congestion through sustainable transport interventions, for example.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that development within the Army and Navy AQMA is consistent with the objectives of the AQMA.</li> <li>New developments should be designed to ensure air quality is not compromised.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that new development (in isolation or cumulatively) does not significantly impact on air quality.</li> <li>Careful consideration should be given to the distribution/location of new development to ensure accessibility to key services, facilities and employment opportunities.</li> <li>Opportunities should be sought to secure investment in public transport provision.</li> </ul>
Objective 11 (Climate Change)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should promote high standards of energy efficient design including, where appropriate, renewable energy provision.</li> <li>Opportunities to promote district scale heating networks should be sought as part of the delivery of sustainable urban extensions.</li> <li>Wider opportunities to drive the City towards its zero carbon commitment should be explored.</li> <li>Careful consideration should be given to the distribution/location of new development to ensure accessibility to key services, facilities and employment opportunities.</li> </ul>
Objective 12 (Resource Use and Waste)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council should consider the potential for Local Plan policies to encourage the use of recycled and secondary materials in new developments.</li> <li>The provision of recycling facilities within new developments should be a component of Local Plan design and/or waste management policies.</li> <li>The reuse of construction and demolition wastes on site should be promoted.</li> </ul>
Objective 13 (Cultural Heritage)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to conserve and, where possible, enhance cultural heritage assets including by promoting heritage-led development.</li> <li>Policies within the Local Plan should promote high standards of architectural and urban design.</li> <li>The Local Plan should set out a strategic framework to preserve and enhance historic areas and promote high standards of new development.</li> </ul>
Objective 14 (Landscape and Townscape)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed (brownfield land). Local Plan policies should prioritise the development of brownfield land where possible.</li> <li>Detailed policies on high quality design should be contained within the Local Plan.</li> <li>Policies within the Local Plan and proposals should seek to conserve and enhance the character and quality of the City Area's landscapes and townscapes.</li> </ul>



## 6. Habitats Regulation Assessment

### 6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 Regulations 105 and 107 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) (the 'Habitats Regulations')<sup>132</sup> transpose the provisions of Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the 'Habitats Directive') as they relate to land-use plans in England and Wales. Regulation 105 states that if a land-use plan is "(a) is likely to have a significant effect on a European site<sup>133</sup> or a European offshore marine site<sup>134</sup> (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects); and (b) is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site" then the plan-making authority must "...make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site in view of that site's conservation objectives" before the plan is given effect.
- 6.1.2 The plan can only be given effect if it can be concluded (following an 'appropriate assessment') that the plan "...will not adversely affect the integrity" of a site, unless the provisions of Regulation 107 are met.
- 6.1.3 The process by which Regulation 105 is met is known as Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)<sup>135</sup>. An HRA determines whether there will be any 'likely significant effects' (LSE) on any European site as a result of a plan's implementation (either on its own or 'in combination' with other plans or projects)<sup>136</sup> and, if so, whether there will be any 'adverse

<sup>132</sup> The 2017 Regulations have been amended by the *Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019* to reflect the UK's exit from the EU, although these largely carried forward the provisions and terminology of the 2017 Regulations and do not fundamentally alter their interpretation. This report therefore primarily refers to the 2017 Regulations and (where appropriate for clarity) the relevant provisions of the Habitats Directive.

<sup>133</sup> As noted, the 2019 amendment to the Habitats Regulations largely carried forward the provisions and terminology of the 2017 Regulations, and so the term 'European site' is currently retained and for all practical purposes the definition is essentially unchanged. European sites are therefore: any Special Area of Conservation (SAC) from the point at which the European Commission and the UK Government agreed the site as a 'Site of Community Importance' (SCI) (if this was before 31 Jan 2020); any classified Special Protection Area (SPA); and any candidate SAC (cSAC). However, the term is also commonly used when referring to potential SPAs (pSPAs), to which the provisions of Article 4(4) of Directive 2009/147/EC (the 'new wild birds directive') are applied; and to possible SACs (pSACs) and listed Ramsar Sites, to which the provisions of the Habitats Regulations are applied a matter of Government policy (NPPF para. 181) when considering development proposals that may affect them. "European site" is therefore used in this document in its broadest sense, as an umbrella term for all of the above designated sites. Note, it is likely that this term will be supplanted at some point in the future although an appropriate UK-wide alternative has not yet been agreed (e.g. the NPPF in England has adopted the term 'Habitats sites' to refer collectively to those sites defined by Regulation 8, whereas the *Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019* uses the term 'National Site Network').

<sup>134</sup> 'European offshore marine sites' are defined by Regulation 18 of The Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017; these regulations cover waters (and hence sites) over 12 nautical miles from the coast.

<sup>135</sup> The term 'Appropriate Assessment' has been historically used to describe the process of assessment; however, the process is more accurately termed 'Habitats Regulations Assessment' (HRA), with the term 'Appropriate Assessment' limited to the specific stage within the process.

<sup>136</sup> Also referred to as the 'test of significance'.

effects on site integrity'<sup>137</sup>. The Council has a statutory duty to prepare the Local Plan and is therefore the Competent Authority for an HRA.

- 6.1.4 Regulation 105 essentially provides a test that the final plan must pass; there is no statutory requirement for HRA to be undertaken on draft plans or similar developmental stages (e.g. issues and options; preferred options). However, it is accepted best-practice for the HRA of strategic planning documents to be run as an iterative process alongside plan development, with the emerging policies or options reviewed during development to ensure that potentially adverse effects on European sites can be identified at an early stage, and avoided or mitigated through the plan development process. This is undertaken in consultation with Natural England (NE) and other appropriate consultees.
- 6.1.5 Wood Environment and Infrastructure UK Ltd (Wood) is supporting the Council with its HRA of the Local Plan, which also will inform the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA). This 'Issues and Options HRA Report' is intended to accompany the Issues and Options Regulation 18 consultation documentation and provide guidance on the HRA-related issues that will be relevant to both the plan development and the HRA. It includes:
- an outline of the proposed approach and scope of the Local Plan HRA;
  - a summary of the environmental and European site baseline, as currently understood, and any known data gaps or environmental aspects subject to future studies;
  - informal guidance for the Council on any HRA-related issues or risks that may be relevant to the Options selection process, and/or which may need to be considered when reviewing the Local Plan<sup>138</sup>.
- 6.1.6 As the Review of the Adopted Local Plan is at an early stage in its development this report **is not** intended to be, or replicate, a formal 'HRA screening'; nor is it a 'draft HRA' or similar. It will ultimately (with additional data and assessment) form part of the 'draft HRA' that is submitted alongside the Regulation 19 version of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan but is primarily intended to assist the Council as it develops its plan and provide an opportunity for consultees to comment on HRA-related issues.

## 6.2 Approach to HRA of the Local Plan

### Overview

- 6.2.1 European Commission guidance<sup>139</sup> and established case-practice suggests a four-stage process for addressing Articles 6(3) and 6(4), and hence Regulations 105 and 107 (see **Box 6.1**), although not all stages will necessarily be required.

<sup>137</sup> Also referred to as the 'integrity test'.

<sup>138</sup> Recognising that the effects of the broad options within the Issues and Options documentation cannot be meaningfully assessed at this point, as these will depend substantially on how the option is realised through policy and allocations; however, options that would seem likely to introduce fundamentally unavoidable significant adverse effects would be identified.

<sup>139</sup> *Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC* (EC 2002).



## Box 6.1 Stages of HRA

**Stage 1 – Screening or ‘Test of significance’**

This stage identifies the likely effects of a project or plan on a European site, either alone or ‘in combination’ with other projects or plans, and considers whether these effects are likely to be significant. The ‘screening’ test or ‘test of significance’ is a low bar, intended as a trigger rather than a threshold test: a plan should be considered ‘likely’ to have an effect if the competent authority is unable (on the basis of objective information) to exclude the possibility that the plan or project could have significant effects on any European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects; an effect will be ‘significant’ simply if it could undermine the site’s conservation objectives. Note that mitigation measures should not be considered at the ‘screening’ stage, in accordance with the **People over Wind** (Court of Justice of the European Union (ECJ) Case C-323/17); this reinforces the idea of screening as a ‘low bar’ and makes ‘appropriate assessments’ more common.

**Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment (including the ‘Integrity test’)**

An ‘appropriate assessment’ (if required) involves a closer examination of the plan or project where the effects on relevant European sites are significant or uncertain, to determine whether any sites will be subject to ‘adverse effects on integrity’ if the plan or project is given effect. The scope of any ‘appropriate assessment’ stage is not set, and the assessments will not be extremely detailed in every case (particularly if mitigation is clearly available, achievable, and likely to be effective). The assessments must be ‘appropriate’ to the effects and proposal being considered, and sufficient to ensure that there is no reasonable doubt that adverse effects on site integrity will not occur (or sufficient for those effects to be appropriately quantified should Stages 3 and 4 be required).

**Stage 3 – Assessment of Alternative Solutions**

Where adverse effects remain after the inclusion of mitigation, Stage 3 examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan that avoid adverse impacts on the integrity of European sites. A plan or project that has adverse effects on the integrity of a European site cannot be permitted if alternative solutions are available, except for imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI; see Stage 4).

**Stage 4 – Assessment Where No Alternative Solutions Exist and Where Adverse Impacts Remain**

This stage assesses compensatory measures where it is deemed that there are no alternatives that have no or lesser adverse effects on European sites, and the project or plan should proceed for imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI). The EC guidance does not deal with the assessment of IROPI, although the IROPI need to be sufficient to override the adverse effects on European site integrity, taking into account the compensatory measures that can be secured (which must ensure the overall coherence of the ‘national site network’).

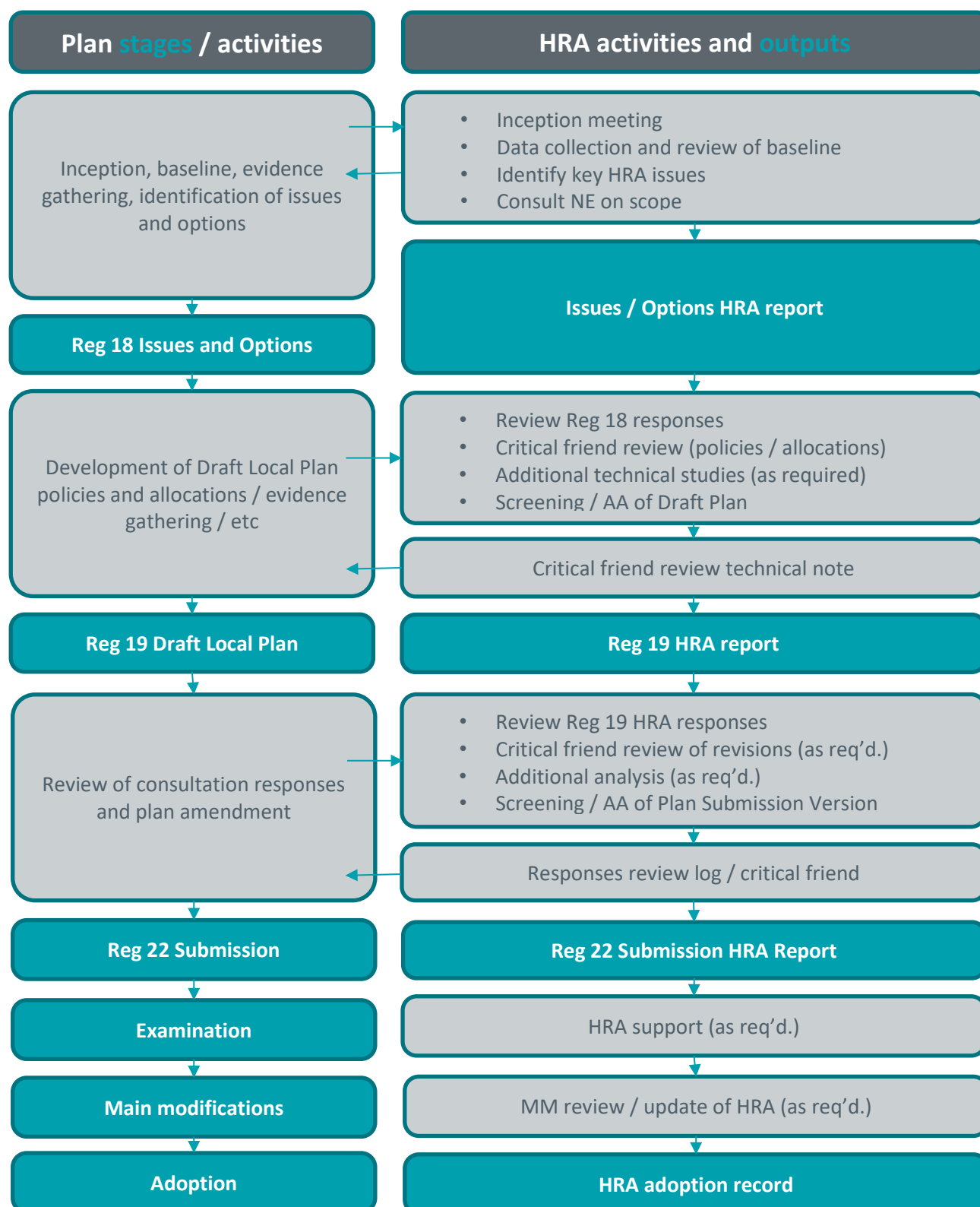
6.2.2 HRAs of local planning documents rarely proceed beyond Stage 2, as alternatives to policies or allocations that adversely affect the integrity of a European site<sup>140</sup> are almost

<sup>140</sup> Note, the UK European sites are no longer legally part of the ‘Natura 2000’ network of protected sites, with this being replaced in the UK by the ‘national site network’ which comprises all existing SACs and SPAs and any new SACs and SPAs designated under the 2019 Regulations (Ramsar sites do not form part of the network). This also has relevance if compensation measures are required for an adverse effect, as the relevant metric is the overall coherence of the ‘national site network’. The 2019 Regulations establish management objectives for the ‘national site network’ which contribute to the conservation of UK habitats and species that are also of pan-European importance, and to the achievement of their favourable conservation status within the UK.

always available.

- 6.2.3 As noted, it is important to recognise that these stages principally reflect the legislative tests applied to the final, submitted project or plan; there is no statutory requirement for HRA (or these specific stages) to be completed for draft plans or similar developmental stages. Attempting to rigidly apply these steps to the emerging or interim stages of strategic plans is not always appropriate, and often reduces the clarity and usefulness of the HRA as a plan-shaping process for both plan-makers and consultees.
- 6.2.4 In practice, therefore, there is flexibility for the HRA process to be run in a manner that provides maximum benefit for plan-development and sound decision-making, whilst still ultimately meeting the legislative tests.
- 6.2.5 The HRA of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan therefore employs an iterative and consultative approach to HRA, with outputs tailored to each stage of the plan development and consultation process, and the requirements of the key stakeholders, rather than trying to force the guideline HRA stages on to the emerging plan. The HRA therefore contributes to the plan evidence-base, so assisting with the development of sustainable policies from the beginning of the plan-making process rather than being a purely retrospective 'test' applied towards the end.
- 6.2.6 **Figure 6.1** below provides an overview of our preferred approach to the HRA of Local Plans, identifying the relationships between the HRA process / key outputs and the plan development / consultation points (Reg. 18 etc.). Note, this is indicative and additional outputs may be appropriate to support the Council as the plan evolves.
- 6.2.7 In summary, the early stages of the process will be relatively iterative and will not look like a 'formal' HRA – so, for example, the Issues and Options HRA report (this report) does not attempt to 'screen' the Issues and Options (partly as these will be too broad for any such assessment to be meaningful, although guidance would be provided to the Council if any options would clearly risk unavoidable adverse effects if pursued), but rather set out the current local baseline and intended scope, discuss potential data gaps, and identify the key HRA-related issues for the Review of the Adopted Local Plan to address in its development.
- 6.2.8 The HRA reporting will align more closely with the guideline stages as the Review of the Adopted Local Plan develops, with the Preferred Options being accompanied by a comprehensive 'Draft Local Plan HRA' report that will comprise a detailed 'screening' and (probably) 'appropriate assessment' of the Preferred Options Draft Plan, setting out the HRA-related evidence and the anticipated conclusion (if the plan were to be adopted as drafted, recognising that the HRA can only be completed for the final, adopted plan). This report would then be updated for subsequent consultation stages to reflect consultation responses and plan amendments.

Figure 6.1 Indicative HRA process for Local Plans



## Guidance

6.2.9 The following guidance has been used during the review and assessment of the review of the Adopted Local Plan:

- UK Government (2019). *Appropriate assessment: Guidance on the use of Habitats Regulations Assessment* [online]. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/appropriate-assessment> [Accessed March 2022].
- Tyldesley, D. & Chapman, C. (2022). *The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook* [online]. DTA Publications Limited. Available at: <https://www.dtapublications.co.uk/handbook/>. [Accessed March 2022].
- EC (2018). *Managing Natura 2000 sites: The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC*. Commission Notice C(2018) 7621 final, Brussels, 21.11.2018.
- Natural England (2020). *Guidance on how to use Natural England's Conservation Advice Packages in Environmental Assessments*. Natural England, Peterborough.
- European Commission (2018). *Managing Natura 2000 sites - The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC*. European Union, 1-86.
- Defra (2012). *The Habitats and Wild Birds Directives in England and its seas: Core guidance for developers, regulators & land/marine managers* [online]. Available at [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/82706/habitats-simplify-guide-draft-20121211.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/82706/habitats-simplify-guide-draft-20121211.pdf). [Accessed March 2022].
- PINS Note 05/2018: Consideration of avoidance and reduction measures in Habitats Regulations Assessment: People over Wind, Peter Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta. [withdrawn].
- SNH (2019). SNH Guidance Note: *The handling of mitigation in Habitats Regulations Appraisal – the People Over Wind CJEU judgement* [online]. Scottish Natural Heritage. Available at: <https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/2019-08/Guidance%20Note%20-%20The%20handling%20of%20mitigation%20in%20Habitats%20Regulations%20Appraisal%20-%20the%20People%20Over%20Wind%20CJEU%20judgement.pdf>. [Accessed March 2022].

6.2.10 Additional topic-specific guidance (for example, in relation to the assessment of air quality effects) is identified within the relevant assessment sections.

## Consultation and Plan Evolution

- 6.2.11 The HRA process is completed alongside the development of the Review of the Local Plan, and the HRA reports issued at each stage of the plan development reflect the assessment and process at that point in time.
- 6.2.12 Appropriate HRA reports will be produced to accompany the future plan consultation stages; additional consultations on specific technical aspects are undertaken and documented as required.

## Study Area

- 6.2.13 The zone of influence of a Local Plan varies according to the aspect being considered (for example, noise effects would rarely extend more than a few hundred metres from the

source), and so it is not usually appropriate to employ 'arbitrary' spatial buffers to determine those European sites that should be considered within an HRA.

- 6.2.14 However, as distance is a strong determinant of the scale and likelihood of most effects, the considered use of a suitably precautionary search area as a starting point for the assessment (based on an understanding of both the likely plan outcomes and European site interest features) has some important advantages. Using buffers allows the systematic identification of European sites using GIS, so minimising the risk of sites or features being overlooked, and ensures that sites for which there are no reasonable impact pathways can be quickly and transparently excluded from any further screening or assessment. It also has the significant advantage of providing a consistent point of reference for consultees following the assessment process, allowing the screening to focus on the potential effects, rather than on explaining why certain sites may or may not have been considered in relation to a particular aspect of the plan.
- 6.2.15 Most Local Plan HRAs adopt a 15km buffer for the identification of European sites that may be exposed to significant effects, with sites beyond this distance considered as required. The HRA of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan therefore considers:
- all European sites within 15km of the Council's administrative area;
  - any additional sites that may be hydrologically linked to the Local Plan's zone of influence; and
  - any additional sites identified by Natural England following the IIA Scoping Consultation (particularly in relation to air or water quality, see below).
- 6.2.16 This is considered to be a suitably precautionary starting point for the assessment of the Local Plan. Note: at the screening stage the assessment essentially assumes that there will be 'no effect' (and hence no possibility of 'in combination' effects) on European sites not included within the scope.

## Data Collection

- 6.2.17 The screening and appropriate assessment stages take account of the baseline condition of the European sites and their interest features<sup>141</sup>, including (where reported) data on
- the site boundaries and the boundaries of the component SSSIs;
  - the conservation objectives;
  - information on the attributes of the European sites that contribute to and define their integrity;
  - the condition, vulnerabilities and sensitivities of the sites and their interest features, including known pressures and threats;
  - the approximate locations of the interest features within each site (if reported); and

<sup>141</sup> The interest features are taken to be the qualifying features; and other site features that may be relevant to site integrity, particularly 'typical species' (for SACs) and within-site supporting habitats for SPAs.

- designated or non-designated 'functional habitats' (if identified).

6.2.18 These data are derived from:

- the most recent JNCC-hosted GIS datasets;
- the Standard Data forms for SACs and SPAs and Information Sheets for Ramsar sites;
- Article 12 and 17 reporting;
- the published site Conservation Objectives;
- Supplementary Advice to the conservation objectives (SACO) where available<sup>142</sup>;
- Site Improvement Plans (SIPs);
- Core Management Plans (Wales); and
- the supporting Site of Special Scientific Interest's favourable condition tables where relevant and where no SACOs applicable to the features are available.

6.2.19 Note:

- For SPAs, the qualifying features are taken as those identified on the most recent JNCC datasets and citations where these post-date the 2<sup>nd</sup> SPA Review (i.e. it will be assumed that any amendments suggested by the SPA review have been made) unless otherwise identified to us by NE; any site-specific issues relating to the SPA Review can be addressed in the screening and appropriate assessment of the preferred options (see below).
- The conservation objectives for Ramsar sites are taken to be the same as for the corresponding SACs / SPAs (where sites overlap); SSSI Definition of Favourable Condition (FCTs) are used for those features not covered by SAC/SPA designations.

6.2.20 Where possible the site data is used to identify other features that may be relevant to site integrity, particularly '**typical species**' (for SACs), within-site **supporting habitats**, and designated or non-designated '**functional habitats**'.

6.2.21 A '**typical species**' is broadly described by EC guidance as being any species (or community of species) which is particularly characteristic of, confined to, and/or dependent upon the qualifying Annex I habitat feature at a particular site. This may include those species which:

- are critical to the composition or structure of an Annex I habitat (e.g. constant species identified by the National Vegetation Classification (NVC) community classification);
- exert a critical positive influence on the Annex I habitat's structure or function (e.g. a bioturbator (mixer of soil/sediment), grazer, surface borer or predator);

<sup>142</sup> Natural England has published '*Supplementary advice on conserving and restoring site features*' for most European sites in England which describe in more detail the range of ecological attributes which are most likely to contribute to a site's overall integrity, and the targets each qualifying feature needs to achieve in order for the site's conservation objectives to be met.



- are consistently associated with, and dependent upon, the Annex I habitat feature for specific ecological needs (e.g. feeding, sheltering), completion of life-cycle stages (e.g. egg-laying) and/or during certain seasons/times; or
- are particularly distinctive or representative of the Annex I habitat feature at a particular site.

6.2.22 Within-site **supporting habitats** are those which support the population(s) of the qualifying species and which are therefore critical to the integrity of the feature.

6.2.23 '**Functional habitats**' are generally taken to be habitats or features outside a European site boundary that are important or critical to the functional integrity of the site habitats and / or its interest features. These might include, for example:

- 'buffer' areas around a site (e.g. dense scrub areas preventing public access; areas of land that reduce the effects of agricultural run-off; etc.);
- specific features or habitats relied on by mobile species during their lifecycle (e.g. high-tide roosts for waders; significant maternity colonies for bats known to hibernate within an SAC; areas that are critical for foraging or migration; etc).

## Reviewing the emerging plan

6.2.24 The principles<sup>143</sup> of 'screening' are applied to the emerging plan and its components (i.e. the policies and allocations) as part of an iterative review process, to ensure that:

- any necessary technical assessments focus on those plan aspects that are likely to result in significant effects on European sites; and
- that the policies of the adopted plan are drafted to provide appropriate overarching safeguards that help (alongside any subsequently identified mitigation) to ensure that the adopted plan will have no significant effects or no significant adverse effects.

6.2.25 The outcomes of the HRA reviews are reported as appropriate at each consultation stage; this reporting may outline anticipated conclusions in relation to specific plan aspects. The outcomes of these reviews are re-visited throughout plan evolution to ensure that they remain robust, and that the overall performance of the plan in relation to the safeguarding of European sites meets expectations.

6.2.26 The reviews are intended to be a coarse filter for identifying potential effect pathways that cannot be self-evidently discounted, and hence those aspects where further investigation ('appropriate assessment') is required to determine the scale or nature of any effects and / or any bespoke mitigation that is necessary, rather than detailed assessments in their own right.

<sup>143</sup> i.e. exploring whether significant effects on European sites are possible; note, from a strict procedural perspective the tests in Regulation 105 (including the 'test of significance') can only be formally applied to the plan intended for adoption and not to its various phases or iterations; therefore the term 'screening' is used advisedly when applied to assessments completed at earlier stages of the plan development.

## Screening / Assessment of the Draft Plan

- 6.2.27 The Preferred Options Draft Plan consultation will be accompanied by a comprehensive HRA document that will comprise a detailed 'screening' and (probably) 'appropriate assessment' of the Preferred Options Draft Plan, setting out the HRA-related evidence and the anticipated conclusion (if the plan were to be adopted as drafted, recognising that the HRA can only be completed for the final, adopted plan).
- 6.2.28 The HRA would include a '**screening**' of the European sites (excluding those sites and features that are not vulnerable (i.e. both exposed and sensitive) to the outcomes of the plan) as well as reviews of the policies and allocations to identify those that cannot have significant effects, alone or in combination, or which cannot be assessed at the plan level (e.g. policies that support development or other changes but which are too general to allow any specific assessments of effects (i.e. the locations, scale, quantum etc. are not specified below the geographical level of the plan, assuming that the type of development proposed is not such that significant effects would be unavoidable regardless of these aspects). The screening does not take into account 'mitigation', in accordance with 'People over Wind' (see below).
- 6.2.29 An '**appropriate assessment**' determines whether any aspect of the plan will have 'adverse effects on integrity' for any European sites, taking into account the sites' conservation objectives and conservation status. Site integrity (in HRA terms) is "*the coherent sum of the site's ecological structure, function and ecological processes, across its whole area, which enables it to sustain the habitats, complex of habitats and/or populations of species for which the site is designated*" (EC Guidance 'Managing Natura 2000' (2018)).
- 6.2.30 Where a site or interest feature has a 'favourable' conservation status then a 'no adverse effects on integrity' conclusion can be reached provided that this status will not be undermined by the plan or project at hand; if the conservation status is 'unfavourable' then the plan or project must not reduce the conservation status further or create conditions that would make it more difficult for the site or feature to reach 'favourable' conservation status. It should be noted that this is not simply a test of whether there are negative effects; an effect may be negative but not undermine the site's conservation objectives. The integrity test incorporates the precautionary principle, whereby plans or projects should not be approved unless there is no reasonable scientific doubt that adverse effects on site integrity will not occur<sup>144</sup>.
- 6.2.31 Appropriate assessments are therefore used to provide a more detailed examination of those plan aspects where significant effects are likely, or (commonly) where there is a residual uncertainty that the assessment is intended to resolve or a mitigation measure that requires examination. The 'appropriate assessment' stage may therefore conclude that the proposals are likely to have an adverse effect on the integrity of a site (in which case they should be abandoned or modified); or that the effects will be 'significant' but

<sup>144</sup> It should be noted that 'no reasonable scientific doubt' does not mean 'absolute certainty' (which is rarely achievable in any case, particularly at the plan level where detail on specific future developments is often unavailable); sufficient certainty may be achieved through the use of suitably conservative assumptions (e.g. in modelling) or evidence from best-practice elsewhere, taking into account any advice from the relevant statutory bodies. The plan-making authority can then put in place a legally enforceable framework that provides certainty by ensuring that the potential adverse effects identified using the best-available information will not be realised.

not adverse (i.e. an effect pathway exists, but those effects will not undermine site integrity, perhaps due to mitigation proposed for inclusion within the plan); or that the effects would, if screening were re-visited, be 'not significant' (i.e. the anticipated effect is subsequently shown to be nugatory or *de minimis*<sup>145</sup>).

- 6.2.32 The approaches used for appropriate assessments vary according to the sites affected and the effect-pathways.
- 6.2.33 Consideration of '**in combination**' effects is not a separate assessment but is integral to both the screening and appropriate assessment stages (although it should be noted that effects that are nil or nugatory and indistinguishable from background variations cannot operate 'in combination' and so can be excluded at the screening stage).
- 6.2.34 There is limited guidance available on the scope of the 'in combination' element, particularly with regard to which plans should be considered. However, the assessment should not be limited to plans at the same level in the planning hierarchy and there is consequently a wide range of plans that could have potential 'in combination' effects with the Local Plan.
- 6.2.35 The plans identified by the SA will provide the basis for the assessment of 'in combination' effects; these plans are reviewed to identify any potential effects and then considered (as necessary) within the screening and appropriate assessment stages. The assessment does not generally include national strategies, national policy or legislation since the Local Plan must be compliant with these. It is considered that 'in combination' effects are most likely in respect of other regional and sub-regional development plans and strategies.

## Notes on Mitigation and Avoidance

- 6.2.36 The development of avoidance or mitigation measures is important to the HRA and plan development process. 'Avoidance measures' are those that are implemented during the iterative plan development process (for example, abandoning a policy or allocation that is likely to have unavoidable adverse effects if implemented)<sup>146</sup>; mitigation measures are used where significant effects are identified in order to prevent adverse effects on a site's integrity<sup>147</sup>.
- 6.2.37 Avoidance or mitigation measures should aim to reduce the probability or magnitude of impacts on a European site until 'no likely significant effects' or 'no adverse effects on integrity' are anticipated, and they will generally involve the development and adoption of (for example) wording changes to policies, or additional safeguarding policies. Measures must be specific and targeted, and likely to work; it is not appropriate to re-state existing legislation or policy, for example by adding "*and must have no significant effect on any European site*" (or similar) to every policy. The avoidance or mitigation measures should

<sup>145</sup> In the absence of avoidance or mitigation measures, as per 'People over Wind'.

<sup>146</sup> Note, the term 'avoidance measures' in this context is not synonymous with the representation of 'mitigation' used in the People over Wind judgment; see also para. 2.3.21.

<sup>147</sup> Although it should be noted that not all 'likely significant effects' will require mitigation measures: the effect may be considered to be likely to be significant (i.e. has the potential to undermine the conservation objectives) but may be shown on further examination to be too limited to have any risk of adversely affecting site integrity.

also reflect the limited influence that the Council can exert on non-planning issues, and should not generally exceed requirements set by national planning policy or guidance.

- 6.2.38 The 'People Over Wind' judgment creates some issues for the application of avoidance and mitigation measures in the HRA process, stating that "...it is not appropriate, at the screening stage, to take account of the measures intended to avoid or reduce the harmful effects [mitigation] of the plan or project on that site"; as noted, this contrasts with established practice in this area (based on the 'Dilly Lane' judgment)
- 6.2.39 There is currently little information on the practical implementation of the 'People over Wind' judgment<sup>148</sup>, particularly for plan-level HRAs where the assessment process is usually concurrent with plan development and where measures are invariably incorporated into the plan before the formal 'screening' of the final version takes place. Indeed, many 'recommendations' derived from an iterative policy review process might be interpreted as 'avoidance' or 'mitigation' measures if viewed solely in terms of their implications for European sites, making it difficult to distinguish between basic good policy practice and 'mitigation'.
- 6.2.40 For example, generic policies promoting the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS); or safeguarding designated sites (including European sites); or requiring that developers ensure utility provision in advance of occupation, are fairly standard inclusions in virtually all land-use plans, but will all act to moderate potential environmental changes that could affect European sites. However, it would clearly be illogical to attempt to screen a hypothetical version of the plan that did not include such policies, particularly if these are included independently of the HRA results.
- 6.2.41 The broader context of the 'People over Wind' case suggests that the judgment is principally focusing on those instances where specific measures are included or relied on to avoid or mitigate a specific effect that has been identified, and which would otherwise be significant; the judgment argues that the effectiveness of any such measures should be examined through an appropriate assessment stage. It is therefore arguable that an exhaustive examination of a plan's genesis to see if any aspects might count as 'mitigation' for screening purposes is not necessary, or (arguably) consistent with the intent of the Habitats Directive or the 'People over Wind' judgment.
- 6.2.42 Therefore, the screening does not take account of specific measures that are included in response to a specific identified effect on a European site, and which are intended to avoid or reduce that effect. However, generic policy safeguards that would be included regardless of the presence of European sites are essentially just 'the plan' and are not considered to be 'mitigation' unless there is a specific effect or pathway that they are intended or relied on to obviate. Aspects requiring specific investigations to understand the problem (and hence the mitigation requirements), or which rely on established mitigation to avoid an effect, are subject to AA.

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<sup>148</sup> The Planning Inspectorate issued a guidance note (PINS Note 05/2018: *Consideration of avoidance and reduction measures in Habitats Regulations Assessment: People over Wind, Peter Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta*) although this did not provide substantive practical information for LPAs or clear guidance on what might constitute an 'avoidance measure' and has been withdrawn.

## Uncertainty and 'Down the Line' Assessment

- 6.2.43 For most policies, even at the strategic level, it will be clear if adverse effects are likely at an early stage, and in these instances the policy should not be included within the plan since plans should not include proposals which would be likely to fail the Habitats Regulations tests at the project application stage. For other options, however, the effects may be uncertain and it is therefore important that this uncertainty is addressed either through additional investigation or (if this is not possible) appropriate mitigation measures that provide certainty that the predicted effect will not occur or will not adversely affect site integrity.
- 6.2.44 It is usually possible to incorporate caveats or measures within policy text that are sufficient to ensure that adverse effects will not occur. However, for other policies this may not be possible because there is insufficient available information about the nature of the development that is being proposed through the policy to enable a robust conclusion to be reached. In these instances, it may be appropriate and acceptable for assessment to be undertaken 'down-the-line' at a lower tier in the planning hierarchy. For this to be acceptable, the following conditions must be met:
- the higher tier plan appraisal cannot reasonably predict the effects on a European site in a meaningful way; whereas;
  - the lower tier plan, which will identify more precisely the nature, scale or location of development, and thus its potential effects, retains enough flexibility within the terms of the higher tier plan over the exact location, scale or nature of the proposal to enable an adverse effect on site integrity to be avoided; and
  - HRA of the plan at the lower tier is required as a matter of law or Government policy.
- 6.2.45 This approach is applied as appropriate to the screening and appropriate assessment stages.

## 6.3 Baseline Summary and Impact Pathways

### Effect Pathways and Key Regional Pressures

- 6.3.1 The provisions of the Habitats Regulations ensure that 'direct' (encroachment) effects on European sites as a result of land use change (i.e. the partial or complete destruction of a European site) are extremely unlikely under normal circumstances, and this will not occur as a result of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan. Indeed, local plans will generally assist the safeguarding of European sites through their protective policies. However, there will be a number of areas where the direction, controls or influence provided by a plan can result in outcomes that can affect European site interest features.
- 6.3.2 Most potential effect pathways are associated with broad 'quantum of development' or population growth aspects, and whilst a local plan is not necessarily the main driver of these effects, they do have a key role in managing them locally through the site allocation process. In this context, the main aspects through which the Review of the Adopted Local Plan could affect European sites in the study area are:

- through individual allocations or supported developments that are 'directed' to a specific location or area; or
- through 'in combination' effects resulting from the cumulative impacts of development associated with the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and with the plans and programmes of external authorities (such as neighbouring LPAs).

6.3.3 The framework for the plan will be determined by the Issues and Options consultation, and so the scope and content of the plan is not currently known; in broad terms, however, the Local Plan is likely to include:

- provision for 22,800 homes over the plan period (the quantum of growth);
- policies providing geographical direction for development (typically specific housing and minerals site allocations, but also implicit location preferences for certain activities or sectors prescribed through (for example) areas of search);
- policies broadly supporting development or other changes, but which do not specify a quantum or location;
- various development management policies that set out the Council's tests or expectations when considering proposals, such as safeguarding policies, environmental protection policies or policies relating to design or other qualitative criteria.

6.3.4 These aspects could affect European sites on their own, through typical development-related mechanisms operating at the local scale in relation to specific allocations (e.g. noise, lighting, etc.; see **Table 6.1**); or collectively by exacerbating regional pressures (e.g. pressures on water supply).

**Table 6.1 Typical effect pathways and environmental changes associated with terrestrial development**

Pressure / Threat	Common environmental changes
<b>Hydrological changes</b>	Temperature changes Salinity changes Water flow changes Flood regime changes
<b>Pollution and other chemical changes</b>	Non-synthetic and synthetic compound contamination Radionuclide contamination Introduction of other substances (solid, liquid or gas) De-oxygenation Nutrient enrichment Organic enrichment
<b>Physical loss</b>	Physical loss of habitat Physical change to another habitat
<b>Physical damage</b>	Habitat structure changes Changes in suspended solids Siltation rate changes



Pressure / Threat	Common environmental changes
<b>Other physical pressures</b>	Litter Electromagnetic changes Noise changes Introduction of light Barrier to species movement Death or injury by collision
<b>Biological pressures</b>	Visual disturbance Genetic modification and translocation of indigenous species Introduction or spread of non-indigenous species Introduction of microbial pathogens Exploitation / harvesting of species Removal of non-target species during exploitation / harvesting

- 6.3.5 Significant effects or significant adverse effects as a result of individual allocations 'alone' are typically unlikely to avoidable as most environmental aspects have a limited 'zone of influence' within which environmental changes might be measurable (for example, noise effects on species will rarely be significant over 500m from the source based on natural rates of attenuation alone). However, the Local Plan HRA must also consider the potential for development supported by the plan to operate 'in combination' both internally (e.g. between allocations) or with external plans and programmes (e.g. cumulative housing growth regionally). 'In combination' changes are often of an inherently larger scale or operate over larger areas.
- 6.3.6 There is obviously a wide range of potential mechanisms and pathways for 'in combination' effects depending on the European sites and features. However, there are a few key mechanisms by which local plans (etc.) can operate cumulatively to affect European sites; these are noted below, and provide the broad framework for assessing potential 'in combination' effects associated with the Local Plan:
- **Recreational pressure:** Many European sites will be vulnerable to some degree of impact as a result of recreational pressure, although the effects of recreational pressure are complex and very much dependent on the specific conditions and interest features at each site. Local plans can influence recreational pressure through their allocations and associated controls.
  - **Urbanisation:** Urbanisation is generally used as a collective term covering a suite of often disparate risks and impacts that occur due to increases in human populations near protected sites. This would include varied aspects such as fly-tipping or vandalism, predation by cats, or the dispersal of invasive species, although the effects of these aspects depend on proximity, accessibility and the interest features of the sites. This is generally only realised where allocations are close to a designated site.
  - **Atmospheric pollution:** The most relevant air pollutants to habitats and species (particularly plant species) are the primary pollutants sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>, typically from combustion of coal and heavy fuel oils), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>, mainly from vehicles) and ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>, typically from agriculture). These pollutants affect habitats and species mainly through acidification and eutrophication. Local Plans will generally have few specific point-sources for air emissions and such emissions would typically be controlled through project-level permissions; the main issue for local plans

is the assessment of 'in combination' effects due to air quality changes that might be associated with the quantum of development growth proposed / supported by a Local Plan, particularly in relation to traffic and N-deposition.

- **Water resources and flow regulation:** The exploitation and management of water resources is connected to a range of activities, most of which are not directly controlled or influenced by local plans; for example, agriculture, flood defence, recreation, power generation, fisheries and nature conservation. Much of the water supply to water-resource sensitive European sites is therefore managed through specific consenting regimes that are independent of local plans. Increased housing growth (which is likely to be supported by a local plan) increases demand on public water supply abstractions, some of which are associated with European sites; however, the consenting regimes are subject to HRA and, importantly, water companies are required to produce 25-year Water Resource Management Plans (WRMPs) that take into account predicted population growth and protected sites when considering future water resource provision. It is therefore very unlikely that development within one local planning authority area could have direct and consequential effects on a European site if growth is in line with water company predictions, particularly as most water companies operate conjunctive-use systems that do not rely on single-source provision. This aspect is most typically managed through policy.
- **Water quality:** Most waterbodies and watercourses are affected to some extent by point or diffuse sources of pollutants, notably nitrates and phosphates. Point sources are usually discrete discharge points, such as wastewater treatment works (WTW) outfalls, which are generally managed through specific consenting regimes that are independent of local plans. In contrast, diffuse pollution is derived from a range of sources (e.g. agricultural run-off; road run-off) that cannot always be easily traced or quantified. Development promoted or supported by local plans is likely to increase demand on wastewater treatment works, and potentially increase run-off which could indirectly affect downstream European sites – although there will inevitably be attenuation as distance from the source increases.

6.3.7 In addition, many European interest features (particularly more mobile animal species) may use or be reliant on non-designated habitats outside of a European site during their life-cycle. Developments some distance from a European site can therefore have an effect on the site if its population of interest features is reliant on habitats being affected by a development. All of the above aspects (recreation, water resources, etc.) can therefore also affect European site integrity indirectly through effects on 'functional habitats' outside of the designated site boundary.

## 6.4 European Site Summaries

6.4.1 As noted, the HRA of the review of the Local Plan will consider potential effects on:

- all European sites within 15km of the Council's administrative area;
- any additional sites that may be hydrologically linked to the Local Plan's zone of influence; and

- any additional sites identified by Natural England following the Issues and Options consultation. This is considered to be a suitably precautionary starting point for the assessment of the review of the Local Plan. This area includes the following European sites (see also **Figure 6.2**).

- Essex Estuaries SAC
- Benfleet and Southend Marshes SPA
- Crouch and Roach Estuaries (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 3) SPA
- Blackwater Estuary (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 4) SPA
- Foulness (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 5) SPA
- Thames Estuary and Marshes SPA
- Benfleet and Southend Marshes Ramsar
- Blackwater Estuary (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 3) Ramsar
- Crouch and Roach Estuaries (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 3) Ramsar
- Blackwater Estuary (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 4) Ramsar
- Foulness (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 5) Ramsar
- Thames Estuary and Marshes Ramsar

6.4.2 In addition, **Abberton Reservoir SPA** and **Abberton Reservoir Ramsar** will be considered due to the reliance of the Essex Water Resource Zone (which covers Chelmsford) on this source, although the operation of this source is highly regulated in accordance with regional water resource demands and the Essex and Suffolk Water's Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP). There are no additional sites that have a direct hydrological connection to the administrative area (i.e. downstream sites). The previous HRA also considered potential effects associated with air quality changes on **Epping Forest SAC**.

6.4.3 **Note, at the screening stage the assessment would essentially assume that there will be 'no effect' (and hence no possibility of 'in combination' effects) on European sites not included within the scope.**

6.4.4 The following sections provide a summary of the European sites within 15km of the City Council area, including a contextual overview of each site; their interest features; their condition; and the current pressures and threats identified for each site<sup>149</sup>. These are based on the citations, the Site Improvement Plans (SIPs), information on the condition of the underlying SSSIs, and any supplementary advice provided by Natural England<sup>150</sup>. A summary of the conservation objectives is subsequently provided.

<sup>149</sup> The Natural England Site Improvement Plans identify 'pressures', which are factors that are known to be currently affecting a site, and 'threats' which are factors that may not be exerting a pressure at the moment but which have the potential to do so based on local site knowledge.

<sup>150</sup> NE has published '*Supplementary advice on conserving and restoring site features*' for most European sites, which describe in more detail the range of ecological attributes which are most likely to contribute to a site's overall integrity, and the targets each qualifying feature needs to achieve in order for the site's conservation objectives to be met.



Figure 6.2 European Sites in the Vicinity of the Proposed Study Area

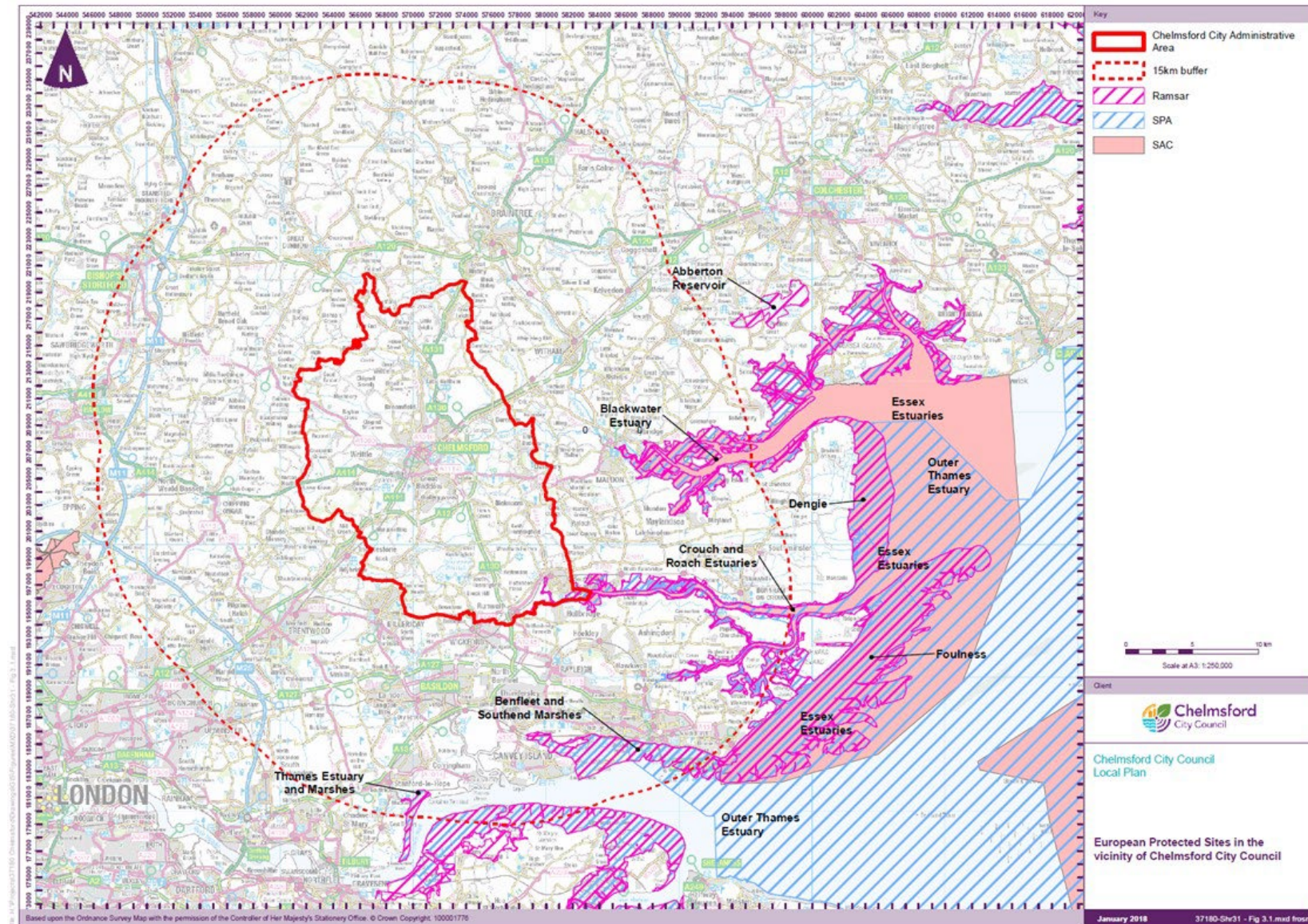


Table 6.2 European sites and interest features within 15km of the Chelmsford City Council Administrative Area or otherwise included in assessment scope

Site and Features	Summary of current threats and potential vulnerabilities to outcomes of Chelmsford Local Plan
<p><b>Essex Estuaries SAC</b>  <b><u>Annex I Features:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estuaries</li> <li>• Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</li> <li>• <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonizing mud and sand</li> <li>• <i>Spartina</i> swards (<i>Spartinion maritimae</i>)</li> <li>• Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glaucio-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)</li> <li>• Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (<i>Sarcocornetea fruticosi</i>)</li> <li>• Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time (Q)</li> </ul>	<p>The Essex Estuaries SAC covers the major estuaries of the rivers Colne, Blackwater, Crouch and Roach and the associated intertidal and subtidal habitats. The dominant habitat components are therefore the estuaries themselves; extensive intertidal mud and sandflats with a range of sediments and biotopes; and a range of saltmarsh habitats at various successional stages, for which it is considered one of the best sites in the UK. The saltmarsh at the site is known to be generally eroding, due to sea level rise, and so realignment and habitat creation schemes associated with the Shoreline Management Plan and Regional Habitat Creation Programme are an important component of the drive to achieve favourable condition. The majority of the site is in 'favourable' or 'unfavourable recovering' condition, with the latter generally being areas of saltmarsh that are under pressure from erosion. There are some isolated units in 'unfavourable declining' condition, typically due to inappropriate management of saltmarsh habitats (e.g. insufficient grazing). The SIP indicates that the main pressures on the SAC features are coastal squeeze; general development; fisheries; invasive species; and air pollution (particularly nitrogen deposition).</p>
<p><b>Crouch and Roach Estuaries (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 3) SPA</b>  <b><u>Article 4.2 qualification:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dark-bellied brent goose <i>Branta bernicla bernicla</i></li> <li>• Waterbird assemblage</li> </ul>	<p>The Crouch and Roach Estuaries SPA covers a complex of salt marsh, grazing marsh and intertidal habitats that provide important feeding and roosting sites for large numbers of waders and waterfowl in winter, particularly Dark-bellied brent geese. Unlike the other local estuaries, the intertidal zones of the Crouch and Roach estuaries are relatively narrow and constrained by the sea walls, at least in their upper reaches. These intertidal areas remain important for the site interest features, however, and Dark-bellied brent geese also make extensive use of the adjacent saltmarsh and grazing marsh habitats; the areas of permanent, ley and rotational grassland included within the SPA are therefore essential for the conservation of this species' population. The site therefore includes a number of terrestrial areas used for roosting and foraging, including grassland within the Blue House Farm nature reserve (east of North Fambridge) and around Marsh Farm Country Park (south of South Woodham Ferrers). Hen harrier were included on the original citation but recommended for removal under the SPA review. The majority of the site is in 'favourable' or 'unfavourable recovering' condition, with the latter generally being areas of saltmarsh that are under pressure from erosion. There are four small areas of grazing marsh in 'unfavourable no change' condition due to inappropriate management (e.g. insufficient grazing). The SIP indicates that the main pressures on the SPA features are coastal squeeze; general development; public disturbance; fisheries (particularly bait digging); and invasive species.</p>

## Site and Features

## Summary of current threats and potential vulnerabilities to outcomes of Chelmsford Local Plan

### Crouch and Roach Estuaries (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 3) Ramsar

#### Criterion 2:

- supports vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered species or threatened ecological communities (plant and invertebrate assemblages).

#### Criterion 5:

- regularly supports 20,000 or more waterbirds.

#### Criterion 6:

- regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of one species/subspecies of waterbirds (Dark-bellied brent goose).

This site is largely coincident with the Crouch and Roach Estuaries SPA. The bird interest features of this site (Criteria 5 and 6) are essentially the same as for the Crouch and Roach Estuaries SPA (see above). The Criterion 2 features are the rare, vulnerable or endangered species of plant and invertebrates, which are predominantly associated with the supra-tidal and terrestrial habitats. The main pressures on the Ramsar interest features will be the same as for the Essex Estuaries SAC and the Crouch and Roach Estuaries SPA.

### Blackwater Estuary (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 4) SPA

#### Article 4.1 qualification:

- Little tern *Sterna albifrons*
- Hen harrier *Circus cyaneus*

#### Article 4.2 qualification:

- Pochard *Aythya farina*
- Ringed plover *Charadrius hiaticula*
- Black-tailed godwit *Limosa limosa islandica*
- Grey plover *Pluvialis squatarola*
- Dunlin *Calidris alpina alpina*
- Dark-bellied brent goose *Branta bernicla bernicla*
- Waterbird assemblage

The Blackwater Estuary is the largest of the Essex Estuaries. The SPA includes extensive intertidal mudflats and the largest area of saltmarsh in Essex, as well as surrounding terrestrial habitats including grazing marsh, associated fleets and ditches, and semi-improved grassland. Shingle and shell banks and offshore islands are also a feature of the tidal flats. These areas provide a range of habitats for the site interest features. Much of the Blackwater saltmarsh is suffering erosion although in a number of locations managed realignment of the sea-defences is taking place, creating new estuarine habitat. The main breeding species (Little tern and Ringed plover) are associated with the shingle and shell banks and offshore islands, particularly (for Little tern) Mersea Island. The wintering species use all of the habitats at the site, particularly the saltmarsh (for roosting) and intertidal areas, although the associated grasslands are important foraging areas for Dark-bellied Brent geese. There is also some functional connectivity with other sites: Cormorants from the colony at Abberton Reservoir SPA take a large proportion of their food from here. The Golden plover population (recommended for inclusion as a feature by the SPA Review) is also thought to have functional connections with Abberton Reservoir SPA.

The majority of the site is in 'favourable' or 'unfavourable recovering' condition, with the latter generally being areas of saltmarsh that are under pressure from erosion. There are areas of grassland on Osea Island intended to provide foraging opportunities for Brent geese that are in 'unfavourable declining' condition due to inappropriate management (e.g. insufficient grazing). The SIP indicates that the main pressures on the SPA features are coastal squeeze; general development; public disturbance; fisheries (particularly bait digging); and invasive species.



## Site and Features

## Summary of current threats and potential vulnerabilities to outcomes of Chelmsford Local Plan

### Blackwater Estuary (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 4) Ramsar Criterion 1:

- sites containing representative, rare or unique wetland types (saltmarsh communities).

#### Criterion 2:

- supports vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered species or threatened ecological communities (invertebrate assemblage).

#### Criterion 3:

- supports populations of plant/animal species important for maintaining regional biodiversity (saltmarsh communities).

#### Criterion 5:

- regularly supports 20,000 or more waterbirds.

#### Criterion 6:

- regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of one species/subspecies of waterbirds (Black-tailed godwit; Grey plover; Dunlin; Dark-bellied brent goose).

This site is coincident with the Blackwater Estuary SPA. The bird interest features of this site (Criteria 5 and 6) are essentially the same as for the Crouch and Roach Estuaries SPA (see above). The site meets Criteria 1 and 3 primarily due to the extensive saltmarsh communities that are present. The Criterion 2 features are the invertebrate fauna, primarily associated with the supra-tidal and terrestrial habitats (ditches and grazing marshes). The main pressures on the Ramsar interest features will be the same as for the Essex Estuaries SAC and the Blackwater Estuary SPA.

### Benfleet and Southend Marshes SPA

#### Article 4.2 qualification:

- Knot *Calidris canutus*
- Dark-bellied brent goose *Branta bernicla bernicla*
- Grey plover *Pluvialis squatarola*
- Dunlin *Calidris alpina alpina*
- Ringed plover *Charadrius hiaticula*
- Wintering Assemblage.

This site is located on the north shore of the outer Thames Estuary, and covers an extensive area of saltmarsh, intertidal mudflats and shell banks, with associated supra-tidal grassland. The SPA features are primarily associated with the mudflats and saltmarsh, although areas of grassland are used for foraging (particularly by Brent geese) and high-tide roosting. The majority of the site is in 'favourable' or 'unfavourable recovering' condition, with the latter generally being areas of saltmarsh that are under pressure from erosion. There are areas of saltmarsh near Canvey Island that are in 'unfavourable no change' condition due to coastal squeeze. The SIP indicates that the main pressures on the SPA features are coastal squeeze; general development; public disturbance; fisheries (particularly bait digging); and invasive species.

### Benfleet and Southend Marshes Ramsar

#### Criterion 5:

- regularly supports 20,000 or more waterbirds.

#### Criterion 6:

- regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of one species/subspecies of waterbirds (Knot; Dark-bellied brent goose; Grey plover).

This site is coincident with the Benfleet and Southend Marshes SPA, and the bird interest features of this site (Criteria 5 and 6) are essentially the same as for the SPA (see above). The main pressures on the Ramsar interest features will be the same as for the Benfleet and Southend Marshes SPA.

## Site and Features

### Foulness (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 5) SPA

#### Article 4.1 qualification:

- Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*
- Common tern *Sterna hirundo*
- Little tern *Sterna albifrons*
- Sandwich tern *Sterna sandvicensis*
- Hen harrier *Circus cyaneus*
- Bar-tailed godwit *Limosa lapponica*

#### Article 4.2 qualification:

- Ringed plover *Charadrius hiaticula*
- Dark-bellied brent goose *Branta bernicla bernicla*
- Knot *Calidris canutus*
- Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*
- Grey plover *Pluvialis squatarola*
- Redshank *Tringa tetanus*
- Waterbird Assemblage.

### Foulness (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 5) Ramsar

#### Criterion 1:

- sites containing representative, rare or unique wetland types (saltmarsh communities).

#### Criterion 2:

- supports vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered species or threatened ecological communities (invertebrate assemblage).

#### Criterion 3:

- supports populations of plant/animal species important for maintaining regional biodiversity (saltmarsh communities).

#### Criterion 5:

- regularly supports 20,000 or more waterbirds.

#### Criterion 6:

- regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of one species/subspecies of waterbirds (Dark-bellied brent goose; Knot; Oystercatcher; Grey plover; Redshank; Bar-tailed godwit)

## Summary of current threats and potential vulnerabilities to outcomes of Chelmsford Local Plan

Foulness SPA covers a complex and extensive area of intertidal sand-silt flats, saltmarsh, shell banks, grazing marshes, grassland, islands and creeks. The flats are particularly important for wintering birds with the network of islands, creeks and grazing land providing sheltered feeding and roosting sites. Several of the breeding species (Little tern, Common tern, Sandwich tern, Ringed plover) are associated with the shingle and shell banks, particularly around Foulness Point and Maplin Sands, with Avocet also using the complex matrix of intertidal and supra-tidal habitats. These areas are also important high-tide roosts for birds from this SPA and from the Crouch, Roach and Thames estuaries. The site is owned by the Ministry of Defence and so access is partly restricted, which further increases its relative value in the area. The majority of the site is in 'favourable' or 'unfavourable recovering' condition, with the latter generally being areas of saltmarsh that are under pressure from erosion. There is an area of grazing marsh that is in 'unfavourable declining' due to the cessation of grazing for H&S reasons. The SIP indicates that the main pressures on the SPA features of the Essex Estuaries are coastal squeeze; general development; public disturbance; fisheries (particularly bait digging); and invasive species, although public disturbance and bait digging activities are less significant here due to Ministry of Defence (MOD) controls (although disturbance from military activities still occurs).

This site is coincident with the Foulness SPA. The bird interest features of this site (Criteria 5 and 6) are essentially the same as for the Foulness SPA (see above). The site meets Criteria 1 and 3 primarily due to the extensive saltmarsh communities that are present. The Criterion 2 features are the invertebrate fauna, primarily associated with the supra-tidal and terrestrial habitats (ditches and grazing marshes). The main pressures on the Ramsar interest features will be the same as for the Essex Estuaries SAC and the Foulness SPA.

## Site and Features

## Summary of current threats and potential vulnerabilities to outcomes of Chelmsford Local Plan

### Thames Estuary and Marshes SPA

#### Article 4.1 qualification:

- Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*
- Hen harrier *Circus cyaneus*

#### Article 4.2 qualification:

- Dunlin *Calidris alpina alpina*
- Knot *Calidris canutus*
- Black-tailed godwit *Limosa limosa islandica*
- Grey plover *Pluvialis squatarola*
- Ringed plover *Charadrius hiaticula*
- Redshank *Tringa tetanus*
- Waterbird Assemblage.

The majority of the Thames Estuary and Marshes SPA is located on the southern side of the Thames estuary. The site is dominated by extensive intertidal mudflats with fringing saltmarsh, with associated terrestrial habitats including grazing marsh; complex channels, fleets and ditches; and semi-improved grassland. A series of disused quarry pits have been transformed to create an extensive series of ponds and lakes at Cliffe Pools. These areas provide a variety of habitat types, which are important feeding and roosting sites for the large populations of bird species that use this site, including those during the spring and autumn migration periods. The majority of the site is in 'favourable' or 'unfavourable recovering' condition, although there are a few isolated areas of saltmarsh or grazing marsh that are in 'unfavourable declining', principally due to local management issues. As with the Essex Estuaries SIP, the main pressures on the SPA features are coastal squeeze; general development; public disturbance; fisheries (particularly bait digging); and invasive species.

### Thames Estuary and Marshes Ramsar

#### Criterion 2:

- supports vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered species or threatened ecological communities (plant and invertebrate assemblages).

#### Criterion 5:

- regularly supports 20,000 or more waterbirds.

#### Criterion 6:

- regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of one species/subspecies of waterbirds (Ringed plover; Black-tailed godwit; Grey plover; Dunlin; Knot; Redshank).

This site is largely coincident with the Thames Estuary and Marshes SPA. The bird interest features of this site (Criteria 5 and 6) are essentially the same as for the Thames Estuary and Marshes SPA (see above). The site meets Criterion 2 principally though the rarer plants and invertebrates that are primarily associated with the supra-tidal and terrestrial habitats (ditches and grazing marshes). The main pressures on the Ramsar interest features will be the same as for the Thames Estuary and Marshes SPA.

### Dengie (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 1) SPA

#### Article 4.1 qualification:

- Hen harrier *Circus cyaneus*

#### Article 4.2 qualification:

- Dark-bellied brent goose *Branta bernicla bernicla*
- Knot *Calidris canutus*
- Grey plover *Pluvialis squatarola*
- Waterbird Assemblage.

Dengie SPA is a large and unusually (for Essex) remote area of tidal mudflat and saltmarsh at the eastern end of the Dengie peninsula, between the Blackwater and Crouch Estuaries. It covers extensive intertidal flats and the largest continuous area of saltmarsh in Essex, and provides substantial and important feeding and roosting habitats for wintering populations of wildfowl and waders. The majority of the site is in 'favourable' or 'unfavourable recovering' condition, with the latter generally being areas of saltmarsh that are under pressure from erosion. The SIP indicates that the main pressures on the SPA features of the Essex Estuaries are coastal squeeze; general development; public disturbance; fisheries (particularly bait digging); and invasive species, although public disturbance is thought to be less significant here due to the site's relative isolation compared to the other estuarine areas.

## Site and Features

### Dengie (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 1) Ramsar

#### Criterion 1:

- sites containing representative, rare or unique wetland types (saltmarsh communities).

#### Criterion 2:

- supports vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered species or threatened ecological communities (coastal and saltmarsh plants and invertebrate assemblages).

#### Criterion 3:

- supports populations of plant/animal species important for maintaining regional biodiversity (saltmarsh communities).

#### Criterion 5:

- regularly supports 20,000 or more waterbirds.

#### Criterion 6:

- regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of one species/subspecies of waterbirds (Dark-bellied brent goose; Knot; Oystercatcher; Grey plover; Redshank; Bar-tailed godwit)

### Abberton Reservoir SPA

#### Article 4.2 qualification:

- Wigeon *Anas penelope*
- Pochard *Aythya ferina*
- Teal *Anas crecca*
- Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*
- Mute swan *Cygnus olor*
- Great crested grebe *Podiceps cristatus*
- Gadwall *Anas strepera*
- Tufted duck *Aythya fuligula*
- Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*
- Shoveler *Anas clypeata*
- Coot *Fulica atra*
- Waterbird Assemblage.

## Summary of current threats and potential vulnerabilities to outcomes of Chelmsford Local Plan

This site is largely coincident with the Dengie SPA, and the bird interest features of this site (Criteria 5 and 6) are essentially the same as for the SPA (see above). The site meets Criteria 1 and 3 primarily due to the extensive saltmarsh communities that are present, with Criterion 2 being met by the assemblage of rare coastal flora. The main pressures on the Ramsar interest features will be the same as for the Essex Estuaries SAC and the Dengie SPA.

Abberton Reservoir is a 500 ha. storage reservoir approximately four miles south of Colchester. It is the largest freshwater body in Essex. Around 40,000 birds visit the reservoir annually and it is particularly important as a moulting and roosting site for wildfowl and waders, partly due to its proximity to the Essex Estuaries. It is also important as a staging point for birds on passage. The margins of parts of the reservoir have well-developed plant communities that provide important opportunities for feeding, nesting and shelter. In addition, there is a notable breeding population of cormorant, which also use the nearby estuaries for feeding. Water levels (etc.) in the reservoir are controlled according to an agreed operating plan; as part of a recent scheme to increase capacity, the original concrete banks have been removed and the shoreline re-profiled, creating extensive new areas of shallow wetland habitat for the site's waterfowl. The reservoir is therefore in favourable condition. Based on the SIP, the main pressures on the SPA features are siltation (although this is equally a problem for the reservoir as a storage resource, and so is managed accordingly); and disturbance, primarily from aircraft (although the site receives large numbers of visitors the disturbing effect is limited due to management and the nature of the site).

## Site and Features

### Outer Thames Estuary SPA

- Common tern *Sterna hirundo*
- Little tern *Sterna albifrons*
- Red-throated diver *Gavia stellata*

## Summary of current threats and potential vulnerabilities to outcomes of Chelmsford Local Plan

The Outer Thames Estuary SPA was initially designated for its wintering population of red-throated diver, but has recently been extended (December 2017) to include foraging areas used by breeding tern species associated with SPAs on the Norfolk and Essex coasts. These extensions include areas that may be affected by the Chelmsford Local Plan, specifically sections of the Crouch and Roach estuaries that are used for foraging by common terns from Foulness SPA. The Outer Thames Estuary SPA now covers all of the Roach estuary and the Crouch downstream of North Fambridge. The SIP for the site has not been updated to reflect the amendment (as of January 2018) but the pressures on the Crouch and Roach sections of the SPA are likely to be similar to the pressures on the Crouch and Roach Estuaries SPA (i.e. coastal squeeze; general development; public disturbance; fisheries; and invasive species) although the tern interest features of the Outer Thames Estuary SPA will be less sensitive to some of these when foraging within the site compared to the interest features of the Crouch and Roach Estuaries SPA.

### Epping Forest SAC

#### Annex I Features:

- Atlantic acidophilous beech forests with *Ilex* and sometimes also *Taxus* in the shrublayer (*Quercion robori-petraeae* or *Ilici-Fagenion*)
- Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix* (Q)
- European dry heaths (Q)

#### Annex II species

- Stag beetle *Lucanus cervus*

Epping Forest is one of the few remaining large-scale examples of ancient wood-pasture in lowland Britain, and has retained habitats of high nature conservation value including ancient semi-natural woodland, old grassland plains and scattered wetland. The SAC covers a series of semi-natural woodland and grassland blocks between Wanstead in London (near the A12) and the M25 at Epping. The key pressures currently affecting the site (based on the SIP) are air pollution, management (undergrazing), and visitor pressure. All of the SSSI units where air pollution is identified as a key issue in an 'unfavourable' condition assessment are in the southern area of the Forest, between Chingford and Wanstead, rather than those areas near the M25.

## Key

Annex I / II: Habitats or species listed on Annex I or II (respectively) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the 'Habitats Directive')

Article 4.1 / 4.2: Bird species qualifying under Article 4.1 or 4.2 of Directive 2009/147/EC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (the 'new Wild Birds Directive')

Criterion 1, 2, etc. Ramsar criteria; there are nine criteria used as a basis for selecting Ramsar sites

## Conservation Objectives

6.4.5 The conservation objectives for the sites listed in **Table 6.2** have been revised by NE in recent years to increase consistency of assessment and reporting. As a result, the high-level conservation objectives for all sites are effectively the same:

For SACs:

- With regard to the SAC and the natural habitats and/or species for which the site has been designated (the 'Qualifying Features'...), and subject to natural change; ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring [as applicable to each site];
  - The extent and distribution of the qualifying natural habitats;
  - The extent and distribution of the habitats of qualifying species;
  - The structure and function (including typical species) of the qualifying natural habitats;
  - The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species;
  - The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely;
  - The supporting processes on which the habitats of qualifying species rely;
  - The populations of qualifying species; and,
  - The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

For SPAs:

- With regard to the SPA and the individual species and/or assemblage of species for which the site has been classified (the 'Qualifying Features'...), and subject to natural change; ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring:
  - The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features;
  - The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features;
  - The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely;
  - The population of each of the qualifying features; and
  - The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.

6.4.6 The conservation objectives for Ramsar sites are taken to be the same as for the corresponding SACs / SPAs (where sites overlap). The conservation objectives are considered when assessing the potential effects of plans and policies on the sites; information on the sensitivities of the interest features also informs the assessment.



## 6.5 Exposure of European Sites to Typical Local Plan Pressures

- 6.5.1 The following sections outline the baseline (as currently understood) for the key regional pressures identified above, and provide an indication of the likely exposure and/or sensitivity of the European site interest features to these pressures. This is not a 'screening' as there is insufficient information available on the plan contents at the I&O stage to complete a meaningful and robust assessment, and some baseline studies are being updated by the Council (see below); however, it does indicate those aspects that may require specific consideration when designing policy and selecting preferred options, and those that would appear to have a low probability of affecting European sites or features.
- 6.5.2 It should be noted that the Council is preparing various reports and studies to update the environmental baseline for the review of the Local Plan, some of which will be relevant to the HRA baseline including:
- Open space and green infrastructure;
  - Local Nature Recovery Strategies (for Biodiversity)
  - Green Wedges and Green Corridors;
  - Strategic Flood Risk Assessment;
  - Water Cycle Study (update of existing WCS);
- 6.5.3 Additional studies will be undertaken or co-opted as required depending on the impact pathways that are identified during the plan development process; these might include new or ongoing regional investigations, or studies relating to specific allocation sites.

### Recreational Pressure

- 6.5.4 Many European sites will be vulnerable to some degree of impact as a result of recreational pressure, although the effects of recreational pressure are complex and very much dependent on the specific conditions and interest features at each site. For example: some bird species are more sensitive to disturbance associated with walkers or dogs than others; some habitats will be more sensitive to trampling or mechanical disturbance than others; some sites will be more accessible than others.
- 6.5.5 The most typical mechanisms for recreational effects are through direct damage of habitats, or disturbance of certain species. Damage will most often be accidental or incidental, but many sites are particularly sensitive to soil or habitat erosion caused by recreational activities and require careful management to minimise any effects (for example, through provision and maintenance of 'hard paths' (boardwalks, stone slabs etc.) and signage to minimise soil erosion along path margins).
- 6.5.6 Disturbance of species due to recreational activities can also be a significant problem at some sites, although the relationship (again) is highly variable and depends on a range of factors including the species, the time of year and the scale, type and predictability of disturbance. Most studies have focused on the effects on birds, either when breeding or foraging. For example, a long-term monitoring project by Natural England on the Thanet Coast has found that turnstones (a shoreline-feeding waterbird) are particularly vulnerable

to disturbance from dogs, which interrupts their feeding behaviour and can prevent them from gaining sufficient body fat for overwintering or migration. Finney *et al.* (2005), meanwhile, noted that re-surfacing the Pennine Way significantly reduced the impact of recreational disturbance on the distribution of breeding Golden plover, by encouraging walkers to remain on the footpath.

- 6.5.7 In contrast, some species are largely unaffected by human disturbance (or even benefit from it) which can result in local or regional changes in the composition of the fauna. The scale, type and predictability of disturbance is also important; species can become habituated to some disturbance (e.g. noise), particularly if it is regular or continuous. Unpredictable disturbance is most problematic.
- 6.5.8 Most recreational activities with the potential to affect European sites are 'casual' and pursued opportunistically (e.g. walking, walking dogs, riding) rather than structured (e.g. organised group activities or trips to specific discrete attractions), which means that it can be difficult to quantify or predict either the uptake or the impacts of these activities on European sites and (ultimately) harder to control or manage effects. It also means that it is difficult to explore in detail all of the potential aspects of visitor pressure at the strategy level. However, it is possible for plans and strategies to influence recreational use of European sites through the planning process, for example by increasing the amount of green space required within or near developments if potentially vulnerable European sites are located nearby.
- 6.5.9 Recreational pressure has been identified as a significant pressure for the sites associated with the Essex Estuaries, which has resulted in the development of the Essex Coast Recreational Disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (RAMS); in broad summary this seeks developer contributions to help manage recreational pressure at the following sites:
- Essex Estuaries SAC
  - Hamford Water SAC, SPA and Ramsar
  - Stour and Orwell Estuaries SPA and Ramsar
  - Colne Estuary SPA and Ramsar
  - Blackwater Estuary SPA and Ramsar
  - Dengie SPA and Ramsar
  - Crouch and Roach Estuaries SPA and Ramsar
  - Foulness Estuary SPA and Ramsar
  - Benfleet and Southend Marshes SPA and Ramsar
  - Thames Estuary and Marshes SPA and Ramsar
- 6.5.10 The Council will continue its commitment to the RAMS in the revised Local Plan.
- 6.5.11 With regard to the other sites within the scope (Abberton **Reservoir SPA**, **Outer Thames Estuary SPA**, **Epping Forest SAC**) these are not considered to be particularly exposed to

recreational pressure associated with growth in Chelmsford due to distance and (for Abberton) existing access and management arrangements.

## Urbanisation

- 6.5.12 Urbanisation is generally used as a collective term covering a suite of often disparate risks and impacts that occur due to increases in human populations near protected sites. Typically, this would include aspects such as fly-tipping or vandalism, although the effects of these aspects again depend on the interest features of the sites: for example, predation of some species by cats is known to be sizeable (Woods *et al.* 2003) and can be potentially significant for some European sites. Recreational pressure is arguably one type of effect associated with urbanisation, although this is usually considered separately as it is less closely associated with proximity; as a broad guide, urbanisation effects are more likely when developments (etc.) are within a few hundred metres of a designated site, whereas people will typically travel further for recreation.
- 6.5.13 Where sensitive sites are involved, development buffers of around 400m are typically used to minimise the effects of urbanisation: for example, Natural England has identified a 400m zone around the Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA within which housing development should not be located due to the potential effects of urbanisation (particularly, the risk of chick predation by cats, which cannot be mitigated). Similarly, LPAs near the Thames Basin Heaths SPA have adopted a 400m zone around the SPA boundary where there is a presumption against new residential development as the impact on the SPA is considered likely to be adverse.
- 6.5.14 Of the sites within the scope only the **Crouch and Roach Estuaries SPA / Ramsar** at South Woodham Ferrers (and hence the overlapping areas of the **Essex Estuaries SAC**) are likely to be exposed to the outcomes of the Local Plan.

## Atmospheric Pollution

- 6.5.15 A number of pollutants have a negative effect on air quality; however, the most significant and relevant to habitats and species (particularly plant species) are the primary pollutants sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>, typically from combustion of coal and heavy fuel oils although this has declined substantially), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>, mainly from vehicles) and ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>, principally from agriculture), which (together with secondary aerosol pollutants<sup>151</sup>) are deposited as wet or dry deposits. These pollutants affect habitats and species mainly through acidification and eutrophication.
- 6.5.16 Acidification increases the acidity of soils, which can directly affect some organisms and which also promotes leaching of some important base chemicals (e.g. calcium), and mobilisation and uptake by plants of toxins (especially metals such as aluminium).

<sup>151</sup> Secondary pollutants are not emitted, but are formed following further reactions in the atmosphere; for example, SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> are oxidised to form SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> and NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> compounds; ozone is formed by the reaction of other pollutants (e.g. NO<sub>x</sub> or volatile organic compounds) with UV light; ammonia reacts with SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> and NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> to form ammonium (NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>).

- 6.5.17 Air pollution contributes to eutrophication within ecosystems by increasing the amounts of available nitrogen (N)<sup>152</sup>. This is a particular problem in low-nutrient habitats, where available nitrogen is frequently the limiting factor on plant growth, and results in slow-growing low-nutrient species being out-competed by faster growing species that can take advantage of the increased amounts of available N.
- 6.5.18 Overall in the UK, there has been a significant decline in Sulphur Oxides (SO<sub>x</sub>) and Nitrogen Oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions in recent years and a consequential decrease in acid deposition. In England, SO<sub>x</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> have declined by 97% and 72% respectively since 1970 (Defra, 2018) which is the result of a switch from coal to gas, nuclear and renewables for energy generation, and increased efficiency and emissions standards for cars. These emissions are expected to decline further in future years with the transition to electric vehicles. In contrast, emissions of ammonia have remained largely unchanged; they have declined by 10% in England since 1980 (Defra, 2018), but since 2008 have started to increase slightly.
- 6.5.19 The effect of SO<sub>x</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> decreases on ecosystems has been marked, particularly in respect of acidification; the key contributor to acidification is now thought to be deposited nitrogen, for which the major source (ammonia emissions) has not decreased significantly. Indeed, eutrophication from N-deposition (again, primarily from ammonia) is now considered the most significant air quality issue for many habitats.
- 6.5.20 The UK Air Pollution Information System (APIS) has been interrogated to identify those European sites and features in the study area where critical loads<sup>153</sup> for nutrient-N deposition and acidification are met or exceeded. APIS provides a comprehensive source of information on air pollution and the effects on habitats and species and although there are limitations to the data (see SNIFFER, 2007), particularly related to the scale at which data can be modelled, this provides the best basis for assessing the impacts of air emissions associated with the Local Plan in the absence of site-by-site monitoring data.
- 6.5.21 It should be noted that critical load values are generally provided for habitats rather than species, and that watercourses are not included as eutrophication of most watercourses due to air emissions is negligible compared to run-off from agricultural land.
- 6.5.22 In practice, the principal source of air pollution associated with the Local Plan will be related to changing patterns of vehicle use due to the promotion of new development (since the Local Plan is unlikely to provide for any new significant point-sources).
- 6.5.23 The Department of Transport's Transport Analysis *Guidance*<sup>154</sup> states that "*beyond 200m, the contribution of vehicle emissions from the roadside to local pollution levels is not significant*" and therefore this distance is used to determine the potential exposure of the European sites to any local effects associated with the Local Plan. Environment Agency (EA) guidance (EA, 2007) also states that "*Where the concentration within the emission footprint in any part of the European site(s) is less than 1% of the relevant long-term*

<sup>152</sup> Nitrogen that is in a form that can be absorbed and used by plants.

<sup>153</sup> 'Critical Loads' are the threshold level for the deposition of a pollutant above which harmful indirect effects can be shown on a habitat or species, according to current knowledge (APIS, 2019).

<sup>154</sup> See <http://www.dft.gov.uk/webtag/documents/expert/unit3.3.3.php#013>; accessed 15/06/14.

*benchmark (EAL, Critical Level or Critical Load), the emission is not likely to have a significant effect alone or in combination irrespective of the background levels".*

- 6.5.24 For the sites associated with the Essex estuaries some supporting habitats are vulnerable to diffuse atmospheric pollution and eutrophication, although eutrophication via agricultural run-off and flood water is overwhelmingly more significant than air pollution. The distance of most sites from the Chelmsford City Area (and from major roads) reduced the exposure of these sites. Currently, the sites considered most exposed to potentially significant air quality changes as a result of the Local Plan are:
- Epping Forest SAC (reflecting NE's response to the adopted Local Plan);
  - the sites associated with the Crouch and Roach Estuaries; and
  - the sites associated with the Blackwater Estuary.

## Water Resources

- 6.5.25 The exploitation and management of water resources is connected to a range of activities, most of which are not directly controlled or influenced by the Local Plan; for example, agriculture, flood defence, recreation, power generation, fisheries and nature conservation. Much of the water supply to water-resource sensitive European sites is managed through specific consenting regimes that are independent of the Local Plan.
- 6.5.26 It is clear that development supported or managed by the Local Plan is likely to increase demand for water, which could indirectly affect some European sites in the study area. When assessing the potential effects of increased water demand it is important to understand how the public water supply (PWS) system operates and how it is regulated with other water resource consents.
- 6.5.27 Essex and Suffolk Water (ESW) is responsible for supply to the Chelmsford City Area, which is within its Essex Water Resource Zone (WRZ). The supply network in this area is complex and highly integrated, which provides flexibility for the movement of raw and potable water around the WRZ as it is required (for both public water supply and augmentation of rivers during dry periods). In broad summary, most water for the Essex WRZ (around 77%) is derived from surface water abstractions within the WRZ (water from the rivers Chelmer, Blackwater and Stour, and the Roman River is passed to the storage reservoirs at Hanningfield and Abberton, or treated directly at local treatment works for supply), with a small percentage (~3%) derived from groundwater via chalk well and adit sources in the south and south west of the zone. The remaining 20% is provided as bulk supply from Thames Water's Lea Valley Reservoirs and by the Ely Ouse Essex Transfer Scheme (EOETS), which is owned and operated by the EA and transfers water from the Ely Ouse in Norfolk to Essex to augment flows in the rivers Stour and Blackwater in dry years.
- 6.5.28 However, the supply network is complex and there are a number of strategic inter-zone transfers and so direct and specific supply relationships cannot necessarily be made and it is rarely possible or appropriate to identify a particular 'source' for water supply to a specific area. Consequently, direct effects on specific European sites as a result of development within the Chelmsford City Area cannot necessarily be identified or quantified.

- 6.5.29 More importantly, the water resources planning process helps to ensure that growth in water demand does not affect European sites. The *Water Industry Act 1991*, as amended by the *Water Act 2003* and *Water Act 2014*, requires that all water companies must publish a Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) that sets out their strategy for managing water resources across their supply areas over the next 25 years and beyond. WRMPs use calculations of Deployable Output (DO) to establish supply/demand balances; this enables water companies to identify those WRZs with potential supply deficits over the planning period<sup>155</sup>. The calculations account for any reductions in abstraction that are required to safeguard European sites<sup>156</sup> and so the WRMP process (with other regulations) helps ensure (as far as is achievable) that future changes in demand will not affect any European sites<sup>157</sup>.
- 6.5.30 ESW is accounting for the growth predicted by Chelmsford City Council and other LPAs in forecasting for its new (2024) WRMP. The WRMPs provide the best estimate of future water resource demand, and therefore it is reasonable to assume that the growth predicted within the Local Plan can be accommodated without significant effects on any European sites due to PWS abstractions, assuming that the WRMP and its HRA reach this conclusion. Furthermore, since the WRMPs explicitly account for the growth predicted by the Council and other LPAs<sup>158</sup>, 'in combination' effects between the Local Plan and the WRMP are unlikely to occur. Having said that, the Local Plan can obviously help manage demand and promote water efficiency measures through its policy controls.
- 6.5.31 ESW is currently preparing its next WRMP (2024). Based on the previous WRMP it is likely that growth within the Chelmsford City area will not adversely affect any European sites through water resource pressures, although this will necessarily be reviewed as the Local Plan and the 2024 WRMP are developed.

## Water Quality

- 6.5.32 Most waterbodies and watercourses in the Chelmsford City Area are affected to some extent by point or diffuse sources of pollutants, notably nitrates and phosphates. Point sources are usually discrete discharge points, such as wastewater treatment works

<sup>155</sup> Forecasts are completed in accordance with the Water Resources Planning Guidelines (published by the Environment Agency) and take into account (inter alia) economic factors (economic growth, metering, pricing), behavioural factors (patterns of water use), demographic factors (population growth, inward and outward migration, changes in occupancy rate), planning policy (LPA land use plans), company policies (e.g. on leakage control and water efficiency measures) and environmental factors, including climate change. The WRMP therefore accounts for these demand forecasts based on historical trends, an established growth forecast model and through review of local and regional planning documents.

<sup>156</sup> For example, sustainability reductions required by the Review of Consents (RoC) or the Environment Agency's Restoring Sustainable Abstractions (RSA) programme. It should be noted that, under the WRMP process, the RoC changes (and non- changes to licences) are considered to be valid over the planning period. This means that the WRMP (and its underlying assumptions regarding the availability of water and sustainability of existing consents) is compliant with the RoC and so the WRMP can only affect European sites through any new resource and production-side options it advocates to resolve deficits, and not through the existing permissions regime.

<sup>157</sup> Calculations of DO include for Target Headroom (precautionary 'over-capacity' in available water) to buffer any unforeseen variation in predicted future demand; the WRMP is also reviewed on a five-yearly cycle to ensure it is performing as expected and to account for any variations between predicted and actual demand.

<sup>158</sup> Defra/ EA guidance on WRMPs requires that forecast population and property figures be based, wherever possible, upon plans published by local authorities (including 'adopted', 'emergent', 'consultation' and 'draft' local plans).



(WwTW) outfalls, which are generally managed through specific consenting regimes that are independent of the Local Plan. Diffuse pollution is derived from a range of sources (e.g. agricultural run-off; road run-off) that cannot always be easily traced or quantified.

- 6.5.33 Development promoted or supported by the review of the Local Plan is likely to increase demand on wastewater treatment works, and potentially increase run-off which could indirectly affect some European sites. The Anglian River Basin Management Plan (RBMP; EA 2016) identifies a number of water quality issues in the 'Combined Essex' RBMP unit, with the management issues being physical modifications to watercourses, point source and diffuse pollution leading to elevated phosphate levels and changes to the natural water flows and levels. With regard to effects on European sites, it should be noted that the EA's Review of Consents determined that there was no adverse effect on the integrity of any European sites from nutrient enrichment due to EA consents (i.e. associated with sewerage treatment). The role of the Local Plan should therefore be to ensure, through policy controls, that infrastructure provision is planned and delivered ahead of developments being completed.
- 6.5.34 Run-off from impermeable surfaces can have considerable effects on waterbodies and watercourses, and is a notable issue in both urban and rural areas. Development has traditionally sought to capture and divert rain and run-off to the nearest watercourse or treatment facility as quickly as possible, and extensive drainage networks have been developed to facilitate this. However, as developed areas have increased so have the total volumes and flow rates of run-off. This has two principal effects: firstly, impermeable surfaces provide very little resistance to the mobilisation and transport of pollutants within run-off; and secondly, flow rates and volumes often exceed the capacity of the receiving drains or watercourses, causing localised flooding or the operation of combined sewer overflows (CSOs). The effect of run-off from developed areas can be mitigated or reduced by the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) and by increasing the area of permeable surfaces (both natural and artificial) within developed areas. These measures offer effective attenuation by reducing the volumes of surface run-off. They also increase the retention of pollutants and, in the case of some SuDS, can allow for treatment of pollutants.
- 6.5.35 Natural England<sup>159</sup> has recently issued advice to all local planning authorities in England on *"development proposals that have the potential to affect water quality in such a way that adverse nutrient impacts on designated habitats sites<sup>1</sup> cannot be ruled out. It also provides an update to those Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) whose areas include catchments where Natural England has already advised on how to assess the nutrient impacts of new development and mitigate any adverse effects, including through application of the nutrient neutrality methodology."*
- 6.5.36 The advice goes on to say that: *"In freshwater habitats and estuaries, poor water quality due to nutrient enrichment from elevated nitrogen and phosphorus levels is one of the primary reasons for habitats sites being in unfavourable condition. Excessive levels of nutrients can cause the rapid growth of certain plants through the process of eutrophication. The effects of this look different depending on the habitat, however in each case, there is a loss of*

<sup>159</sup> Natural England (16<sup>th</sup> March 2022) **Advice for development proposals with the potential to affect water quality resulting in adverse nutrient impacts on habitats sites.** Email to all Local Planning Authorities and other competent bodies.

*biodiversity, leading to sites being in 'unfavourable condition'. To achieve the necessary improvements in water quality, it is becoming increasingly evident that in many cases substantial reductions in nutrients are needed. In addition, for habitats sites that are unfavourable due to nutrients, and where there is considerable development pressure, mitigation solutions are likely to be needed to enable new development to proceed without causing further harm.*

*In light of this serious nutrient issue, Natural England has recently reviewed its advice on the impact of nutrients on habitats sites which are already in unfavourable condition. Natural England is now advising that there is a risk of significant effects in more cases where habitats sites are in unfavourable condition due to exceeded nutrient thresholds. More plans and projects are therefore likely to proceed to appropriate assessment.*

*The principles underpinning HRAs are well established. At the screening stage, plans and projects should only be granted consent where it is possible to exclude, on the basis of objective information, that the plan or project will have significant effects on the sites concerned. Where it is not possible to rule out likely significant effects, plans and projects should be subject to an appropriate assessment. That appropriate assessment must contain complete, precise and definitive findings which are capable of removing all reasonable scientific doubt as to the absence of adverse effects on the integrity of the site.*

*Appropriate assessments should be made in light of the characteristics and specific environmental conditions of the habitats site. Where sites are already in unfavourable condition due to elevated nutrient levels, Natural England considers that competent authorities will need to carefully justify how further inputs from new plans or projects, either alone or in combination, will not adversely affect the integrity of the site in view of the conservation objectives. This should be assessed on a case-by-case basis through appropriate assessment of the effects of the plan or project. In Natural England's view, the circumstances in which a Competent Authority can allow such plans or projects may be limited. Developments that contribute water quality effects at habitats sites may not meet the no adverse effect on site integrity test without mitigation.*

*Mitigation through nutrient neutrality offers a potential solution. Nutrient neutrality is an approach which enables decision makers to assess and quantify mitigation requirements of new developments. It allows new developments to be approved with no net increase in nutrient loading within the catchments of the affected habitats site.*

*Where properly applied, Natural England considers that nutrient neutrality is an acceptable means of counterbalancing nutrient impacts from development to demonstrate no adverse effect on the integrity of habitats."*

- 6.5.37 The advice includes a map identifying Nutrient Neutrality catchments (**Figure 6.3**) none of which cover or are within the Chelmsford Local Plan area.

Figure 6.3 European protected sites requiring nutrient neutrality strategic solutions



- 6.5.38 With regard to European sites in the study area, those most vulnerable to water quality impacts due to run-off will be the 'downstream receptors' – i.e. the sites associated with the Blackwater and Crouch estuaries. There is no risk of other water quality sensitive sites in the study area being affected (e.g. Abberton Reservoir or Benfleet and Southend)

Marshes) due to the absence of impact pathways. Since the water quality effects of the Local Plan are ultimately either controlled by existing consents regimes (which must undergo HRA) or have diffuse 'in combination' effects that are difficult to quantify, any assessment must focus on the development of suitable mitigating policy that will minimise the impacts of plan-supported development on water quality.

## Flooding / water level management

- 6.5.39 The implementation of the European Floods Directive (Directive 2007/60/EC) in England and Wales is being co-ordinated with the Water Framework Directive. Catchment Flood Management Plans (prepared by the EA), Shoreline Management Plans (prepared by coastal local authorities and the EA), River Basin District Flood Risk Management Plans (prepared by the EA) and Local Flood Risk Management Strategies (prepared by ECC) set out long term policies for flood risk management. The delivery of the policies from these long-term plans will help to achieve the objectives of these plans and the RBMPs.
- 6.5.40 Much of the Council's Administrative Area is at a low to moderate flood risk (based on EA flood maps) with the exception of areas of Chelmsford (which are vulnerable to fluvial flooding) and the lower-lying coastal areas around South Woodham Ferrers. Development supported by the Local Plan is unlikely to significantly alter regional flood risk levels, but may exacerbate the effects of local flooding. Run-off from impermeable surfaces can have considerable effects on waterbodies and watercourses, meaning that flow rates and volumes often exceed the capacity of the receiving drains or watercourses. This can lead to local water quality impacts on European sites. The effect of run-off from developed areas can be reduced by the use of SuDS and by increasing the area of permeable surfaces (both natural and artificial) within developed areas

## Effects on functional habitats or species away from European Sites

- 6.5.41 The provisions of the Habitats Regulations ensure that 'direct' (encroachment) effects on European sites as a result of land use change (i.e. the partial or complete destruction of a European site) are extremely unlikely under normal circumstances, and this will not occur as a result of the Local Plan. However, many European interest features (particularly more mobile animal species) may use or be reliant on non-designated habitats outside of a European site during their life-cycle. Developments some distance from a European site can therefore have an effect on the site if its population of interest features is reliant on the habitats being affected by a development and sufficient numbers are exposed to the environmental changes. All of the above aspects (recreation, water resources, etc.) can therefore also affect European site integrity indirectly through effects on functional habitats outside of the designated site boundary.
- 6.5.42 With regard to the European sites within the study area, this is primarily considered a potential issue for the Crouch and Roach Estuaries SPA and Crouch and Roach Estuaries Ramsar, specifically in relation to wintering Dark-bellied brent geese which are known to forage in agricultural fields at low and high tide. Indeed, Ward (2004) suggests that the majority of geese associated with the Crouch and Roach now forage inland on fields near the estuary, although aggregations on the Crouch are still recorded around Brandy Hole (south of the estuary) and Bridgemarsh Island. The species' use of farmland appears



variable according to cropping patterns and is not well-recorded by the standard Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) monitoring techniques.

- 6.5.43 In addition, NE has previously suggested that Golden plover can use functionally-linked land up to 20km from a SPA and that potential effects on Golden plover associated with Abberton Reservoir SPA / Ramsar and the Blackwater Estuary SPA / Ramsar should be considered. Several studies suggest that some areas of lowland farmland may be as important for this species as the habitats of the coastal and wetland SPAs typically associated with wintering waders (e.g. Mason & MacDonald 1999; Gillings 2003), and perhaps even more so.
- 6.5.44 Broadly, it appears that Golden plover retain an association with wetland or coastal sites, typically remaining within a few kilometres of these (except where significant regional movements of flocks occur in response to, for example, changing weather conditions), but will often spend several tidal cycles (or more) foraging and roosting in farmland, both during the day and night. This behaviour is known to be under-recorded by the standard Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) monitoring technique, with the result that increasing attention is being paid to the use of agricultural areas by overwintering Golden plover. The 2016 SPA Review (JNCC, 2016) includes Golden plover in a broad group of species that are known to be reliant on cropped habitats, which are under-represented in the SPA network (although the SPA Review suggests that this should be addressed outside the SPA Review process through *"wider countryside measures to preserve and promote permanent pasture as feeding and roosting habitat for the species"*). However, distributions vary annually and only a fraction of the potentially available fields will be used in a given year; this variability in use means that identifying potentially critical functional land, especially at large distances from the designated sites (i.e. 10km or more) is difficult at the plan-level.
- 6.5.45 With regard to the European sites within the study area, this is potentially an issue for all of the SPA / Ramsar sites.

## 6.6 Issues and Options Review

- 6.6.1 The Issues and Options documentation has been reviewed to inform this report and identify potential pathways for effects.
- 6.6.2 As noted, the plan framework provided by the Issues and Options is too high-level to support a meaningful HRA screening or appropriate assessment; this report does not therefore provide any formal or guideline HRA conclusions and all observations within the report are necessarily preliminary and subject to further assessment as the plan evolves and the baseline data are updated.
- 6.6.3 However, **none of the objectives or spatial approaches will make adverse effects on any European sites fundamentally unavoidable** (i.e. the objectives or spatial approaches will not 'bake in' adverse effects that cannot be avoided or mitigated irrespective of how the objectives and options are defined through allocation and policy).
- 6.6.4 The HRA is not a balancing test (i.e. it is not balancing positive effects against negative). This report also does not rank spatial approaches according to their risk of affecting European sites as (a) there is insufficient information to provide a robust ranking assessment and (b) any such ranking might result in the premature exclusion of viable or

preferable approaches for marginal HRA-related reasons; and (c) many of the factors potentially affecting the European sites locally are essentially 'in combination' quantum of development effects that would require consideration irrespective of the approach selected.

## 6.7 Plan Development Considerations

- 6.7.1 As noted, Chelmsford City Council is completing various reports and studies to update the environmental baseline for the Local Plan, some of which will be relevant to the HRA baseline (see **Section 6.1**). These will be accounted for as the HRA process is undertaken alongside the emerging plan.
- 6.7.2 There may be a need for allocation site promoters to provide ecological studies depending in the size, nature and location of a site submitted for allocation; in particular, it may be necessary to assess whether a potential allocation site is likely to have any functional associations or connectivity any European sites.

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## 7. Conclusions and Next Steps

### 7.1 Conclusions

- 7.1.1 This Interim IIA Report has presented the findings of the assessment of the Chelmsford Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation Document. Specifically, the IIA has considered the Local Plan spatial priorities, housing target projections, employment target projections and spatial approaches that together concern the quantum and distribution of future development in the Chelmsford City Area.
- 7.1.2 The assessment found that the Spatial Priorities for the Local Plan are broadly compatible with the Assessment Objectives. Where possible incompatibilities or uncertainties have been identified, these can be resolved if development takes place in accordance with the proposed Local Plan Spatial Priorities. As such, an incompatibility or uncertainty is not necessarily an insurmountable issue but one that may need to be considered in the development of policies that comprise the Local Plan.

### 7.2 Housing Requirement

- 7.2.1 The Council is proposing a Housing Requirement figure of 1,000 homes per annum for the plan period 2022 – 2041. The delivery, and exceedance, of the Housing Requirement will enable the City's housing needs to be met, along with opportunities to stimulate economic growth through the co-ordinated delivery of homes, jobs and infrastructure, along with opportunities for sustainable travel, health and well-being enhancements. There will be pressures on biodiversity, land use, resource use and climate change, challenging policy and site-specific proposals to employ best practice sustainable measures.

### 7.3 Employment Land Requirement

- 7.3.1 The Issues and Options Consultation Document proposes a continuation of the existing approach to employment land provision, i.e. a flexible rolling employment land supply across the plan period to 2041). No significant negative effects have been identified in the assessment. However, negative (and uncertain) effects have been identified across a range of the Assessment Objectives associated with biodiversity, transport, air quality, climate change and waste and natural resources, reflecting increases in trends such as commuting, new infrastructure requirements and emissions associated with HGVs. As with housing, these potential effects will require further consideration in the development of policies for the Local Plan and will require particular attention in the identification of site location, design and mitigation measures. There is the potential for new employment uses to deliver benefits in respect of, for example, sustainable travel, health and enhancements to townscapes.

## 7.4 Overview of Likely Effects Associated with the Spatial Approaches

- 7.4.1 All five of the proposed Spatial Approaches will deliver the required quantum of housing (with a 20% buffer), consequently the differences reflecting their spatial arrangement, reflecting opportunities to advance the current strategy, adopt a more dispersed approach or explore new approaches to development using transport corridors and a free-standing settlement.
- 7.4.2 All approaches will help to meet the housing needs of the City Area and the wider Housing Market Area, in turn providing a mix of dwellings, sizes and tenures can be provided, suitable for meeting current and future needs of those with specific accommodation requirements.
- 7.4.3 Development will help to deliver new and enhanced community infrastructure, notably health and leisure facilities as well as accessible and multifunctional open spaces. There is the opportunity to take a strategic approach to green infrastructure provision and a strategic non-car-based transport infrastructure which will yield health, quality of life, air quality and biodiversity benefits. Economic activity accompanying broader growth will stimulate inward investment with benefits for jobs growth (in volume and type), in turn enhancing well-being and life opportunities.
- 7.4.4 Uncertainties are associated with achieving regeneration opportunities under approaches which depart from the established approach, as well as reliance on development approaches which prove challenging to deliver, with significant implications for realising the Plan as a whole. Equally, small-scale developments are less likely to enable the delivery of large-scale infrastructure which would enable significant changes in environmental performance in measures such as air quality or biodiversity enhancement.
- 7.4.5 Across all approaches, significant challenges exist in mitigating natural resource use associated with development (in construction and operation entailing land use, water supply, aggregates and waste generation) which compromise sustainability aspirations. Changes to landscape and townscape character are inevitable and will require amelioration, although this will not always be possible. The pressures associated with a growing population on sensitive biodiversity receptors (notably the Essex Estuaries SAC and Crouch & Roach Estuaries SPA and Ramsar) will continue (particularly when compared with wider growth in bordering authorities), requiring greater attention measures such as the Essex Coast RAMS, designed to mitigate increased recreational activity.
- 7.4.6 All approaches are capable of delivering housing and employment requirements over the plan period, resulting in positive sustainability effects. There are broadly similar likely effects (mixed positive and negative) across all approaches in respect of biodiversity, cultural heritage, flood risk, land use and resource use. There is potential uncertainty in respect of sustainable living and revitalisation, air quality and climate change associated with Approach D which is a new approach to distributing development and for transport provision with Approach E which would new infrastructure. For all approaches, water resource use is an issue, reflecting regional local supply deficits but opportunities to employ sustainable technologies to minimise use.



## Towards a Preferred Spatial Strategy

- 7.4.7 In taking forward the Review of the Adopted Local Plan, careful consideration will need to be given to the preferred composition of the spatial strategy to maximise the sustainability benefits, and through the use, refinement and incorporation of strategic mitigation measures in planning policies such as those contained in **Table 6.6**, ensure that any adverse effects are minimised or reduced to an acceptable level.

## 7.5 Monitoring

- 7.5.1 It is a requirement of the SEA Directive to establish how the significant sustainability effects of implementing the Local Plan will be monitored. However, as earlier government guidance on SEA (ODPM *et al*, 2005) notes, it is not necessary to monitor everything, or monitor an effect indefinitely. Instead, monitoring needs to be focused on significant sustainability effects. Monitoring the Local Plan for sustainability effects can help to answer questions such as:

- Were the Assessment's predictions of sustainability effects accurate?
- Is the Local Plan contributing to the achievement of desired Assessment Objectives?
- Are mitigation measures performing as well as expected?
- Are there any adverse effects? Are these within acceptable limits, or is remedial action desirable?

- 7.5.2 Monitoring should be focussed on:

- Significant sustainability effects that may give rise to irreversible damage, with a view to identifying trends before such damage is caused.
- Significant effects where there was uncertainty in the IIA and where monitoring would enable preventative or mitigation measures to be undertaken.
- Where there is the potential for effects to occur on sensitive environmental receptors.

- 7.5.3 At this early stage in the development of the Local Plan and IIA it is considered premature to identify proposed monitoring indicators as the preferred Local Plan approaches have yet to be selected and, therefore, significant sustainability effects associated with the Plan's implementation are not yet known. The selection of the indicators that comprise the monitoring framework for the Local Plan will be made as an understanding of its key sustainability effects becomes clearer during the latter stages of the IIA. The monitoring framework will be finalised in the Post Adoption Statement.

## 7.6 Consulting on this IIA Report

- 7.6.1 This IIA Report is being issued for consultation and we would welcome your views on any aspect of this IIA Report. In particular, we would like to hear your views as to whether the effects which are predicted are likely and whether there are any significant effects which have not been considered.

- 7.6.2 We would welcome your views on any aspect of the IIA Report. In particular, we would like to hear your views as to whether the effects which are predicted are likely and whether there are any significant effects which have not been considered.
- 7.6.3 Please provide your comments by 4pm on Thursday 6th October 2022. The Council encourages people to submit comments via its consultation portal at:  
[www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planningpolicyconsult](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planningpolicyconsult)
- 7.6.4 Alternatively, comments can be sent to:
- By email – [planning.policy@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@chelmsford.gov.uk)
  - By post – Spatial Planning Services, Chelmsford City Council, Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford, CM1 1JE
  - By hand – During normal opening hours to Chelmsford City Council Customer Service Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford.

## 7.7 Next Steps

- 7.7.1 The findings of this IIA Report, together with consultation responses and further evidence base work, will be used to help refine and select the preferred approaches to be taken forward as part of the Local Plan. The preferred options in addition to emerging Local Plan policies and site allocations will form the Preferred Options Consultation which is due to take place in 2023. The Preferred Options Consultation Document will also be subject to further IIA.

### PLEASE NOTE:

**The consultation has been extended to run for ten weeks from 10am on Thursday 11 August 2022 until 4pm on Thursday 20 October 2022.**

# Appendix A Schedule of Scoping Report Consultation Representations and Responses/Actions

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
1 IIA SC5	Historic England	General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General support for the report, stating that it provides the basis for the development of an appropriate framework for assessing the significant effects which this plan might have upon the historic environment.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HE strongly advises that the conservation and archaeological team of the authority are closely involved throughout the preparation of the SEA/SA of this Plan.</li> </ul>	Noted
		Plans and programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The report should also refer to the draft South-East Marine Plan.</li> </ul>	South East Marine Plan now included in review of plans and programmes.
		Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In paragraph 3.12.2 of the report, Historic England would prefer the use of the term Designated Heritage Assets, in order to be consistent with National Planning Policy and Guidance.</li> </ul>	The wording has been changed from 'historic' to 'heritage'
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HE welcomes the reference to non-designated heritage assets in paragraphs 3.12.4 and 3.12.4.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General support for the assessment of potential impacts in the absence of an up-to-date Local Plan.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The text in paragraph 3.12.6 could be extended to refer to the wider role that landscape plays in</li> </ul>	Text amended

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			proving the setting for all heritage assets.	
		Key sustainability issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General support for this section and the issues set out in 3.18.</li> </ul>	Noted
		Landscape and Townscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General support, but suggestion for this section to link back to Cultural Heritage section.</li> </ul>	Noted – cross-reference added
		Approach to Integrated Impact Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General support for the proposed IIA Framework including objectives and associated guide questions to be used in the assessment of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan, set out in table 4.1.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion to re-word the first bullet point to <i>"Will it help to conserve and enhance existing features of the historic built environment and their settings, including archaeological assets, <u>both above and below ground</u>",</i> in order to make it clear that archaeological assets can also include unseen, below ground remains.</li> </ul>	The wording has been changed to include: 'below and above ground'
		Methodology Spatial Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expresses the need for a Heritage Impact Assessment produced in line with HE's Advice Note 3, in order to demonstrate that the allocation of this area is not incompatible with the requirements of the NPPF.</li> </ul>	Noted – a high level HIA will be undertaken by Chelmsford City Council as part of site- and policy-specific assessment, prior to any decision on allocation.
2	Tory Malhuish – Gallywood Parish Council	General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General support for the context of the IIA, the main economic, social, and environmental issues, and the proposed approach of the IIA presented in the Scoping Report.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notes regarding the Appendix 3 – Key Settlement Characteristics for Galleywood. One being that The Galleywood Medical Centre in Barnard</li> </ul>	Profile amended

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			Road closed in 2016, the other being that the school, Thriftwood School, Beehive Lane, is missing from the report.	
3	Suzanne Walker – Little Waltham Parish Council	General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion that the Scoping Report should also include issues around the building of communities in relation community spirit and integration, in order for people to feel part of a community.</li> </ul>	<p>Community identity and sense of belonging are covered in Health Impact Assessment criteria (Appendix G), as follows: Standard 4: Supporting Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of community facilities</li> <li>Reducing social isolation through design</li> <li>Personal safety and crime/fear of crime</li> <li>Engagement and consultation with the local community</li> </ul> <p>Community identity and sense of belonging are also covered Health &amp; Wellbeing part of the Assessment Framework.</p>
4	Darren Parker – The Essex Badger Protection Group	General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General objection to the context of the IIA set out in the Scoping Report.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General support for the economic, social, and environmental issues set out in the Scoping Report.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General objection to the approach to the IIA and the range of economic, environmental, and social issues covered.</li> </ul>	The approach to the IIA and range of topics covered reflects industry-standard approaches which have been tested at Examination.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dissatisfaction with the lack of engagement with local groups. The groups feels they are being dismissed.</li> </ul>	Noted – Chelmsford City Council to respond in detail.
5	Historic England		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The same response as Ref 1</li> </ul>	
6	Jenny Upton – Chelmer Housing Partnership		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion to include promoting skills training to deliver these new homes. Recommendation to look into promoting modern construction methods and developing people's skills to do this.</li> </ul>	Skills development is addressed in Assessment Objective 3. Economy, Skills and Employment: To achieve a strong and stable economy which offers rewarding and well located employment opportunities to everyone.

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Question on whether promoting net zero will help alleviate fuel poverty.</li> </ul>	This is a wider question to be addressed as part of further research at the County/national level.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concern that it focuses too much on Chelmsford. Suggestion for report to cover empty shops and rejuvenating local villages.</li> </ul>	Settlement profiles are included within the consideration of the Chelmsford Area as a whole.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion to include more about fostering social cohesion and good community relations.</li> </ul>	Social cohesion is addressed in Assessment Objective 5. Health and Wellbeing: To improve the health and wellbeing of those living and working in the Chelmsford City area.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion to include more information about community involvement.</li> </ul>	<p>The emerging Plan's Strategic Priority 7 concerns "Creating well designed and attractive places, and promoting the health and social well-being of communities" and the Assessment Objective 5 relates to "Health and Wellbeing: To improve the health and wellbeing of those living and working in the Chelmsford City area."</p> <p>Together, these will help to focus the appraisal of policies and proposals on their contribution to promoting community involvement, in turn helping to inform the Health Impact Assessment.</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion for there to be more focus on the connection between mental-health and the built environment.</li> </ul>	See above
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request for clarity on how housing is on a standard that will decrease poverty and between health.</li> </ul>	Housing quality is addressed in Assessment Objective 2. Housing: To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statement that the report is missing some focus on whether it addresses life outcomes not just the build quality.</li> </ul>	The Local Plan establishes the context for the provision of housing and employment opportunities which in turn affect life outcomes.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request for more focus on how poor housing contributes to increased poverty and poor health conditions.</li> </ul>	Whilst the connection between housing quality, poverty and health is well understood, this is the principal focus of wider Council and Government programmes. The Local Plan establishes the context for the provision of high quality housing and an environment which supports health and well-being.
7	James Smith – DWD		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General support for the economic, social, and environmental issues that are relevant to the local plan review</li> </ul>	Noted



Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request to be kept informed as the plan progresses and in particular included on any discussions regarding the CGC</li> </ul>	Noted
8	Amanda Parrott – CastlePoint	Baseline Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concern that there was not consideration made in the baseline for the affordability of homes in Chelmsford City, or the implications of unmet housing needs. Suggestion for Chelmsford City Council to review the Baseline Analysis in the IIA.</li> </ul>	Affordable housing issues now addressed in the baseline.
9	Natural England	Plans and programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two additional strategic guidance documents could be added: The Clean Air Strategy 2019 (Defra) and the Essex Green Infrastructure Strategy 2020.</li> </ul>	Now included in review of plans and programmes.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion to interrogate the Air Pollution Information System (APIS) for information on pollutants and their impacts for habitats and species at protected sites.</li> </ul>	This is a valuable but highly specific tool for individual habitats and forms of pollutant. Will be invaluable as part of the HRA and site-specific evaluation of likely effects.
		Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The report should explicitly state the importance of the Habitat Regulations Assessment in addressing the potential impact of development upon designated sites that are beyond the City Council administrative area</li> </ul>	The role of HRA is cited at page ii and pp.6/7 of the Scoping Report.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion to amend the first guide question by adding “both within and beyond the local authority area?”</li> </ul>	The question has been amended to fit the proposed wording.
		Land-use, Geology and Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The map in Figure 3.14 does not show how much of the land would fall within Grade 1,2 and 3a. Recommends adding this information to the map.</li> </ul>	The ALC map is a reasonable representation for this scale of analysis at this stage.

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion to amend the proposed guide question to "Will it avoid the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land?"</li> </ul>	The question has been amended to fit the proposed wording.
		Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The chapter does not address the potential impacts of poor or declining air quality upon the natural environment</li> </ul>	<p>The following action is identified: To progress actions set out in the Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan.</p> <p>Paragraph added on the effects of poor air quality on the natural environment.</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion to – add a guide question "Will it affect air quality at designated sites that are sensitive to air pollution?"</li> </ul>	The proposed guide question has been added.
		Landscape and Townscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Scoping Report should identify tranquil areas and explore whether they are at risk.</li> </ul>	Tranquil areas mapping was produced by the CPRE in 2006 and therefore cannot be relied upon as an objective source of information that might guide local plan production at this stage. However, the concept is helpful in assessing development effects (see response below).
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion to add a guide question "Will it protect tranquil landscapes and areas?"</li> </ul>	Guide question added
10	Essex County Council	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommend the use of consistent data to that being used for the Sustainable Accessibility Assessment is incorporated into the IIA process.</li> </ul>	Results from the sustainable accessibility assessment are incorporated into the assessment.
		Health Impact Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General support for the incorporation of a HIA as a key component of the IIA.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC would seek that the new Local Plan incorporates a specific policy requiring the need for appropriate developments to undertake a HIA.</li> </ul>	Noted – the emerging Review of the Adopted Local Plan cites the potential for a policy requirement relating to HIA and larger developments.
		Scope and Content of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcomes reference to the 'Review' addressing updated or new local strategic priorities and the need to accommodate additional development growth requirements.</li> </ul>	Noted

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommend paragraph 1.4.5 also makes reference to the provision of necessary infrastructure to accommodate and/or mitigate the impact of growth. It should read <i>"accommodate additional development growth requirements, including necessary infrastructure"</i> (Proposed on page 3 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	The wording has been changed to include: 'including necessary infrastructure'
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion the ECC has help with the review by undertaking a number of different assessments (See page 3 ECC response).</li> </ul>	Noted
		Plans and Programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A large number of different policy documents have been suggested in ECC's Appendix A, for consideration in the review.</li> </ul>	Noted
		Key Messages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After the review of the additional plans in ECC's Appendix A, any 'key messages' arising should be included within Table 2.2, as appropriate.</li> </ul>	Amended
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appendix B primarily refers to those adopted neighbouring Local Plans which presently provide the planning policy guidance for that district. However, ECC consider that those neighbouring Local Plans that are being prepared and have significantly progressed through the planning process should be identified, as they are likely to be adopted within the review timetable, namely Braintree and Epping Forest Local Plans.</li> </ul>	Local Plan references updated where appropriate:  Basildon has been withdrawn (11/03/22) for example.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It should be noted that Uttlesford District Council is preparing a new Local Plan and not a review as referenced on B89.</li> </ul>	Refence amended

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommends that Basildon, Brentwood, Maldon, Rochford and Uttlesford Local Plans are also referenced as either a review of the existing Plan or a new plan is being prepared.</li> </ul>	References updated where appropriate
		Population and Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC would encourage CCC to fully meet its own housing needs within its administrative boundary, as indicated in bullet 4. If this is not the case or a request is received from a neighbouring district to accommodate their unmet housing need, as per bullet 5, and or Gypsy and Traveller need, as per bullet 6, then ECC would expect the process outlined in the EPOA Guidance Note Mechanism for the Consideration of Unmet Housing Need (2017) and the Mechanism for the consideration of Unmet Gypsy and Traveller Need (2018) to be implemented.</li> </ul>	The wording has been changed to match ECC's proposed wording.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommend reference to 'objectively assessed housing needs' in Key Sustainability Issue 2 is replaced with reference to the 'standard method', as required in Planning Practice Guidance. It should read: <i>"The need to enable housing growth, using the standard method to identify the minimum number of homes to be planned for and planning for a mix of accommodation to suit all household types."</i> (Page 10 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	The wording has been changed to match ECC's proposed wording.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC, with responsibilities for Adult Social Care, supports the reference to the need to deliver independent living housing in Key Sustainability Issue 4, but</li> </ul>	Added

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			consider this should also make reference to the provision of housing for people with disabilities. It should read: <i>"The need to support the delivery of independent living housing for older people and <u>people with disabilities</u>"</i> (Page 11 of ECC response)	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC notes there is no reference to the considerable benefits of new build general needs housing having to be constructed to high standards of accessibility and adaptability.</li> </ul>	High standards of accessibility and adaptability are part of the provision of high quality housing, in turn controlled by development management policies and national standards
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC support a number of sustainability issues identified on page 50, however, However, ECC considers the Local Plan will also need to consider aspects of recovery from the economic impacts of COVID and the move towards net zero carbon emissions by 2030, as recommended in the Essex Climate Action Commissioner's (ECAC) Report 2021 Net Zero – Making Essex Carbon Neutral.</li> </ul>	The recommendations of the Essex Climate Action Commissioner's (ECAC) Report 2021 Net Zero – Making Essex Carbon Neutral are summarised and noted, although they remain as recommendations and not policy.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In addition to the issues identified on page 50, the issues listed in ECC' consultation response (on pages 11-12) need to be considered.</li> </ul>	Considered throughout
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support for Key Sustainability Issue 13 which seeks to maintain and raise educational attainment and skills in the local labour force.</li> </ul>	Noted
		Material Assets (Table 2.2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reference should be made to the need to avoid and sustainably manage construction waste in bullet point 3</li> </ul>	A new key objective has been added to Table 2.2, matching ECC's recommendation.

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommend an additional key message from Policy 4 of the Minerals Plan 2014 is added to read: <i><u>"Promote the maximum recovery of minerals from construction, demolition and excavation wastes by segregating, reusing and recycling minerals generated as a result of development/ redevelopment."</u></i> (Page 5 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	Now included in Table 2.2 under Material Assets.
		Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommend paragraph 3.3.19 should refer to the Essex Green Infrastructure Strategy (2020) and Essex Green Infrastructure Standards as ongoing initiatives, along with the establishing of a Local Nature Partnership (LNP) covering Greater Essex along with a Local Nature Recovery Strategy, which are being led by ECC</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC supports the reference to encouraging multiple uses of green infrastructure in Issue 4 and to enhance the GI network.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ECC 10 year plan has been updated – The info in paras 3.4.36, 3.4.27 and table 3.10 should be amended accordingly</li> </ul>	Wording has been amended to fit ECC's proposed wording.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The footnote 69 should be deleted as the Essex School Organisation Plan has been superseded by the '10 Year Plan'</li> </ul>	Wording has been amended to fit ECC's proposed wording
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC support Sustainable Issues (SI) 1, but consider it should be more consistent with NPPF para 174 d) where possible. It should read <i><u>"The need to conserve and enhance biodiversity through providing net gains in biodiversity where possible including sites designated for their nature"</u></i></li> </ul>	Amended



Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			<i>conservation value.</i> " (Page 9 of ECC response)	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SA Objective 1 and Guide question 6 should make reference to the green infrastructure being 'multifunctional' in Key Sustainability Issue 4. It should read: <i>"The need to enhance the <u>multifunctional</u> green infrastructure network, addressing deficiencies and gaps, improving accessibility and encouraging multiple uses where appropriate."</i> (Page 10 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	Objective 1, Guide Question 6, and Sustainability Issue 4 all now make reference to 'multifunctional' green infrastructure.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Key Sustainable Issues 4, reference should be made to the Essex Count Disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (Essex RAMS).</li> </ul>	Objective 1, Guide Question 6, and Sustainability Issue 4 all now make reference to 'multifunctional' green infrastructure.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC advise that consideration of 'off-site' measures (i.e. in and around the relevant European designated site(s)) is also required as part of the mitigation package for predicted recreational disturbance impacts in these cases.</li> </ul>	Noted – considered within the HRA
		Transport and Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paragraph 3.6.4 should also reference the role that the new Beaulieu Station will have in the 'Chelmsford future transport network – strategic zonal focus'. It should read: <i>"This will be a key element of the City's planning strategy for the area, and will help to <u>remove traffic from the outskirts of the city as part of the 'Chelmsford future transport network – strategic zonal focus'.</u>"</i> (Page 6 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	The wording of para 3.6.4 has been amended to fit ECC's recommended wording.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paragraph 3.6.17 refers to the 'Chelmsford future transport network –</li> </ul>	Reference added.

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			strategic zonal focus'. For completeness, ECC recommend the outer zone should also make reference to utilising the existing and future park and rides.	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paragraph 3.6.18 should make reference that the Chelmsford North East Bypass (CNEB)</li> </ul>	Reference included
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommend reference is also made to the Army and Navy Sustainable Transport Package, as this is a key gateway into the city centre, an existing pinch point on the network and is designated an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).</li> </ul>	Reference added
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To demonstrate the 'pinch points' inferred in para 3.6.15 there should also be reference to the A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme.</li> </ul>	This proposal has not yet been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC support Key Sustainability Issue 1 in terms of the need for timely investment in infrastructure but recommend this may be through developer funded works or contributions, e.g. S278 or S106 agreements. However, it should read: <i>"The need to ensure timely investment in transport infrastructure and services through securing developer funded works or contributions and other sources of funding."</i> (Page 14 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	The wording of Key Sustainability Issue 1 has been amended to include ECC's recommended text.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC consider Key Sustainability Issue 5 should refer to the 'expansion' of park and ride sites given the decision, as part of the Army and Navy Sustainable Transport Package scheme to expand</li> </ul>	The wording of Key Sustainability Issue 5 has been amended to include ECC's recommended text.

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			Sandon and Chelmer Valley park and ride sites instead of a new site in Widford. It should read: <i>"The need to encourage alternative modes of transport to the car, including the expansion of park and ride sites."</i> (Page 14 of ECC response)	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC supports the encouragement of the use of public transport and key interchanges of different modes, as highlighted in Key Sustainability Issue 9.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC supports Key Sustainability Issue 8 to encourage walking and cycling, as part of active travel.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC supports Key Sustainability Issue 11 in that there is a need to address congestion in and around the City Centre.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC supports Key Sustainability Issue 12, which identifies the need for more innovative ways to tackle behavioural change regarding the take up of sustainable modes rather than the present approach by simply monitoring travel patterns.</li> </ul>	Noted
		Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommend consideration is also given to the strategic water supply issues, as identified in the recent consultation on the Water Resources Draft Regional Plan (January – February 2022) by Water Resources East (WRE)</li> </ul>	Noted – details now included
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC seeks to work with CCC to ensure any water policy in the local plans sets out a clear framework for seeking to reduce</li> </ul>	Noted

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			water use and primate water re-use.	
		Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC is keen to work with CCC to secure the highest standards required to address climate change and net zero development and to embed these standards within policies in the emerging local plan</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC supports Key Sustainability Issue 1 whereby new development is adaptable to the effects of climate change.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC supports Key Sustainability Issue 2 to increase woodland and tree cover to help mitigate and adapt to climate change.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC supports Key Sustainability Issue 3 in relation to the need to increase renewable energy provision.</li> </ul>	<p>The wording of Key Sustainability Issue 3 has been amended to include ECC's recommended text.</p> <p>The wording of Guide Question 3 has been amended to include ECC's recommended text</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC notes that Key Sustainability Criteria 3 (page 103) only refers to mitigating the impact of climate change through the provision of 'increased renewable energy provision'.</li> </ul>	Wording amended, referencing maximising renewable energy provision
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In relation to Guide Question 4 in SA Objective 2 – Housing, ECC recommends more emphasis is placed on the wider provision of energy efficiency in not simply new homes.</li> </ul>	Guide question is considered to be appropriately phrased.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In relation to paras 3.10.9 and 3.10.10, ECC would seek more reference in the IIA for new development to be required to achieve net zero carbon by 2050 or sooner in accordance with the recommendations of</li> </ul>	The recommendations of the Essex Climate Action Commissioner's (ECAC) Report 2021 Net Zero – Making Essex Carbon Neutral are summarised and noted, although they remain as recommendations and not policy.

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			the ECAC and subsequent work programmes.	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggested amendments to Key Sustainability Issue 3. It should read: <i>"The need to mitigate climate change including through <u>maximising renewable energy provision at site and district level</u>."</i> (Page 16 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	Wording amended
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggested amendments to Guide Question 3 (Page 16 of ECC's response). It should read: <i>"Will it <u>maximise</u> the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy <u>generation at site level and district level</u> and reduce dependency on non-renewable sources?"</i> (Page 16 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	Wording amended
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggested addition of a Guide Question (Page 16 of ECC's response) It should read: <i>"Will it deliver <u>homes and other buildings</u> of high energy efficiency standards which contribute to the City's zero carbon targets?"</i> (Page 16 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	An additional guide question has been added, matching ECC's proposed wording.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The LLA and Review will need to consider that direct and cumulative impact of NSIPs relevant to the plan area including: Longfield Solar Farm, East Anglia GREEN, Bradwell B New Nuclear, and A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme – Highways England.</li> </ul>	Noted
		Material Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC would support a Site Waste Management Plan being prepared for sites to be allocated in the new Local Plan incorporated within a Waste Management Strategy.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Minerals Supply Audit should be submitted as</li> </ul>	Comment relevant to proposals for development

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			part of the documents to be included in any ES.	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommends reference is also made to the Essex Minerals Local Plan (MLP) Review within para 3.11.14</li> </ul>	Reference made
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC supports the Key Sustainability Issue 1 – 5 identified on page 97, subject to amendments</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommend an additional sentence be added to paragraph 3.11.14 to acknowledge that a 'Call for Sites' has commenced which will supplement existing allocations in the MLP. (Suggested text on page 18 of ECC's response)</li> </ul>	To be addressed in later iterations of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and accompanying IIA
		Health and Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support for Key Sustainability Issue 2.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC consider that CCC should also consider the impact of the proliferation of hot-food takeaways, including around schools if evidenced, in order to address obesity issues. Key Sustainability Issue 2 should read: <i>"The need to promote healthy lifestyles and in particular reduce obesity and increase levels of physical activity <u>and</u> <u>reduce the proliferation of fast food outlets in specific locations.</u>"</i> (Page 13 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	Key Sustainability Issue 2 has been amended to include ECC's suggested text.
		Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC supports the need to avoid harm to designated heritage assets in Key Sustainability Issue 2. However, to be consistent with NPPF, paragraph 194 reference should also be made to the contribution made by their setting. It should read: <i>"The need to avoid harm to designated heritage assets <u>and the contribution made by their</u></i></li> </ul>	Key Sustainability Issue 2 has been amended to fit ECC's suggestion.



Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			<u>setting.</u> " (Page 18 of ECC response)	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC welcomes reference to non-designated heritage assets in Key Sustainability Issue 3. However, should be amended to state: <i>"The need to recognise the value of non-designated heritage assets and protect where appropriate enhance these where possible. <u>Such sites should be retained in situ, where possible or subject to an appropriate programme of investigation, recording and reporting prior to development commencing</u>".</i> (Page 19 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	Key Sustainability Issue 3 has been amended to include ECC's suggested text.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommend paragraph 3.12.1 is amended to reflect the correct number of designated monuments. (See page 19 of ECC's Response)</li> </ul>	Para 3.12.1 has been amended to display the correct figures.
		Landscape and Townscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notes that para 3.13.2 does not reference to the Landscape Character Areas which are identified at the 1:25,000 scale.</li> </ul>	Noted, although finer grained data will be used in the assessment of development proposals.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommend reference is made to the requirement for street trees to be included within new developments in accordance with NPPF, paragraph 131.</li> </ul>	This is a detailed policy matter to be addressed as part of the implementation of good design. Reference is made in para 3.3.13 as part of Green Infrastructure.
		Proposed IIA Framework – SA Objective 1 – Biodiversity and Geodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>However, reference should be made to the green infrastructure being 'multifunctional' within SA Objective 1 and Guide Question 6. All other references to green infrastructure in the Scoping Report should be reviewed and referenced as to their multifunctionality, as appropriate (eg Table 2.2, page 24, bullet 2 - Identify opportunities for green infrastructure provision;</li> </ul>	Qualifying term added throughout

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			page 26, bullet 7). (Suggested wording on page 20 of ECC response)	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consideration should be given to the use of the Essex Green Infrastructure Strategy (2020) and Essex Green Infrastructure Standards in securing multifunctional green infrastructure.</li> </ul>	Documents has been reviewed and will be considered as part of policy development.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommend Guiding Question 8 should be clarified to refer to biodiversity net gain being required to be provided across the whole of the administrative area, and not just the City urban area. (i.e. remove 'across the city' from the question – page 20 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	Guide Question 8 has been amended and the phrase 'across the city' has been removed.
		Proposed IIA Framework – SA Objective 2 - Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommend an additional 'Guide Question' is added to provide consistency with Objective 5, Guide Question 5 which relates to meeting the needs of an ageing population and support those with disabilities. It should state: <i>"Will it deliver independent living housing for older people and people with disabilities."</i> (Proposed wording on page 20 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	A new Guide Question has been added, matching ECC's proposed wording.
		Proposed IIA Framework – SA Objective 4 – Sustainable Living and Revitalisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support for Guiding Question 7. Regarding new schools ECC points in the direction of Department for Educations Guidance 'Securing Developer Contributions Guidance Update (2019).</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>However, Guide Question 8 should also make reference to 'early years and childcare' for clarity. ECC recommend reference should also be made to access to schools being</li> </ul>	Guide Question 8 has been amended to include ECC's recommended text.

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			provided via safe and direct walking and cycling routes. It should read: <i>"Will it increase access to <u>schools via safe and direct walking and cycling routes, early years and childcare and colleges?</u>"</i> (Page 20 of ECC response)	
		Proposed IIA Framework – SA Objective 9 – Flood Risk and Coastal Erosion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommend Guiding Question 5 is amended to refer to the opportunities for SuDS measures to be multifunctional in terms of biodiversity enhancement, aesthetic and amenity value and forming part of public open spaces. It should read: <i>"Will it deliver <u>multifunctional</u> sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDs) <u>where possible</u> and promote investment in flood defences that reduce vulnerability to flooding?"</i> (Page 21 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	Guide Question 5 has been amended to include ECC's recommended text.
		Proposed IIA Framework – SA Objective 12 – Waste and Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC, as Minerals and Waste Authority, recommend that 'Guide Question 5' is amended to read: <i>"Will it <u>result in development within a Minerals Safeguarding Area</u>"</i> (Propose on page 21 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	Guide Question 5 has been amended to include ECC's recommended text.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In relation to NPPF para 212, ECC considers this requirement relates to any development rather than simply inappropriate development. ECC acknowledges that location within an MSAs is not an absolute barrier to future development. However, any development proposals or site selection process should consider the environmental feasibility and practicality of prior extraction to avoid the unnecessary sterilisation of mineral resources. It is necessary that this process also considers not simply the extent of the</li> </ul>	Noted – included within detained Development Management policies.

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			development site but also the land around the site in order that its allocation/development does not constrain any potential future use for mineral extraction.	
		Appendix E – Site Assessment Criteria – SA Objective 1 – Biodiversity and Geodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommends that Key Sustainability Issue 1 is strengthened to be consistent with NPPF, paragraph 174 d) and refer to 'net gains for biodiversity' where possible.</li> </ul>	Reference to net gains for biodiversity added.
		Appendix E – Site Assessment Criteria – SA Objective 4 – Sustainable Living and Revitalisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommends primary and secondary schools should be separated out from the other key services including GP surgeries, Pharmacies, supermarkets and proximity to town centres. A specific criteria should be included for primary and secondary education, as recommended in the Essex Design Guide, whereby any residential area should be no further than 600 metres walking distance from a primary school and 1500 metres for secondary school. Also gives direction towards ECC's Developers' Guide to Infrastructure Contributions (Section 5.3) and Garden Communities and Planning School Places Guide (Section 3).</li> </ul>	Noted – school-specific distance criteria added to Objective 4.
		Appendix E – Site Assessment Criteria – SA Objective 6 – Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC welcomes the assessment criteria reference to the impact on the highway network but consider this should clarify the impact is upon the capacity and safety of the highway network consistent with NPPF, paragraph 110 d). This is also consistent with ECC Development Management Policy DM1 - General Policy, whereby the Highway Authority will protect the highway network for the safe and</li> </ul>	The wording in Appendix E has been amended to fit ECC's recommended wording.

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			efficient movement of people and goods by all modes of travel. It should read: <i>"Impact on highway network <u>in terms of capacity and safety.</u>"</i> (Proposed on page 22 of ECC response)	
		Appendix E – Site Assessment Criteria – SA Objective 10 – Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Sustainability Issue 2 makes reference to the need to improve air quality, particularly in the Army &amp; Navy and the Maldon Road, Danbury AQMAs. ECC recommend the assessment criteria is amended to refer to both the AQMAs in the City area. It should read: <i>"Proximity to Army and Navy and Maldon Road, Danbury Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA)"</i> (Proposed on page 22 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	The wording in Appendix E has been amended to fit ECC's recommended wording.
		Appendix E – Site Assessment Criteria – SA Objective 12 – Waste and Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC recommend the 'Assessment Criteria' covers not simply MSAs but also Mineral Consultation Areas and Waste Consultation Areas, as required by Policy S8 – Safeguarding mineral resources and mineral reserves (MLP) and Policy S2 – Safeguarding Waste Management Sites and Infrastructure (WLP). It should read: <i>"Development in Minerals Safeguarding Areas; <u>Mineral Consultation Areas and Waste Consultation Areas</u>"</i> (Proposed on page 22 of ECC response)</li> </ul>	The wording in Appendix E has been amended to fit ECC's recommended wording.
		Appendix E – Site Assessment Criteria – SA Objective 13 – Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECC notes that the Assessment Criteria and Threshold relate to the effects on designated heritage assets with no reference to non-designated heritage assets. However, Appendix F - Indicative IIA Monitoring Criteria makes reference to possible indicators regarding the number of</li> </ul>	The wording in Appendix E has been amended to fit ECC's recommended wording.

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			developments permitted affecting designated and non-designated heritage assets. ECC recommend the assessment criteria is amended to that below and the thresholds accordingly. It should read: <i>"Effects on designated <u>and non-designated</u> heritage assets"</i>	
11	Pigeon (Sandon) Ltd – prepared by Savills	Table 2.2 – Key Objectives and policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Table 2.2 – Neither the NPPF, nor the Essex Transport Strategy support the proposed objective of reducing road freight movements.</li> </ul>	Noted – reference removed.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion to create an alternative objective that seeks to 'promote sustainable freight movements'.</li> </ul>	Included.
		Objective 3 – Economy Skills and Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support for the objective, but suggestion for the IIA to expressly recognise that importance of the employment and logistics sector in supporting the local economy, and its likely increasing importance in the post-pandemic era.</li> </ul>	Noted – however, inclusion would introduce an inappropriate degree of specificity at this stage.
		Objective 6 – Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support for the promotion of sustainable modes of transport in the IIA objectives.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support for the inclusion of reducing the need to travel, however the IIA should avoid an overly simplistic approach to considering proposals against this objective.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Object to objective 6 guide question: "Will it reduce the level of freight movement by road?" stating it is problematic, as freight movement by road should not be seen as being inherently contrary</li> </ul>	Amended to: Promote sustainable freight movement.



Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			to sustainable development.	
		General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concern that the IIA could result in a somewhat simplistic assessment options.</li> </ul>	Comment noted – a proportionate analysis is required.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion to amend IIA objectives a guide question to ensure future decision-makers recognise the importance of appropriately-located logistics development to both the local economy; and to ensuring an overall reduction in the need to travel / ensuring goods are moved sustainably.</li> </ul>	Disagree – this would introduce an inappropriate degree of specificity at this stage.
12	Vistry Group – produced by Carter Jonas	Green Belt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stressed the importance of undertaking a Green Belt review as part of the new Local Plan review.</li> </ul>	This issue is not for the IIA to determine.
13	BDP on behalf of Grosvenor and Hammonds Estate	Housing Affordability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Housing Baseline between paras 3.4.12 and 3.4.14 could provide a more detailed explanation of the of the Council's affordability needs or supply, which are outlined in the Council's recently published Housing Strategy.</li> </ul>	Noted – section expanded accordingly
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion for the IIA baseline to provide further evidence and explanation of the issues surrounding affordability.</li> </ul>	Noted – section expanded accordingly
		Support and Open Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommendation for baseline to more thoroughly analyse local supply and demand for particular types of open space and acknowledge the integral links between natural environments and improved health, social and cognitive development.</li> </ul>	Open space section expanded accordingly including reference to the GI Strategic Plan.
		General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support for main economic, social, and environmental issues</li> </ul>	Noted

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			identified in the scoping report.	
		Approach to Integrated Impact Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General support for approach to IIA.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support for contents of table 2.2, particularly the objective relating to Population and Community.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strong support for the emphasis placed on Sustainable Living and Revitalisation.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strong support for the council's commitment to developing a Spatial Strategy.</li> </ul>	Noted
		Net Zero (Approach to IIA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion for Council to elaborate on their net zero ambitions as part of a future sustainable urban Chelmsford.</li> </ul>	<p>Paras 3.10.10 and 3.10.11 set out the Council's pathway to net zero. These include measures which are reflected throughout the Appraisal Framework, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures to reduce CO2 and NO2 emissions</li> <li>The promotion of sustainable travel through infrastructure investment and behavioural change</li> <li>Reductions in waste generation and promoting re-use and recycling of waste</li> <li>lowering energy consumption, efficient use of water resources, reducing pollution and improving air quality</li> <li>significantly increase the amount of woodland and the proportion of tree cover</li> <li>measures to improve the 'green infrastructure' of Chelmsford, protecting and expanding natural habitats and increasing biodiversity</li> <li>Improving the environmental quality, attractiveness and recreational potential of public spaces, rivers and waterways in the City Centre and surrounding areas</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion that 'creating pathways to net zero' should be added as key issue under the topic of Net Zero.</li> </ul>	Policy to be developed which will consider this matter.

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion that the opportunities to address the climate crisis should be strongly reflected in the IIA framework.</li> </ul>	CCC declaration of a climate crisis is noted and numerous references included in the Assessment Framework, including key issues.
		Transport Infrastructure (Approach to IIA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appendix E – concern that criteria 6 'Transport Infrastructure Investment' does not clearly distinguish between investment in highways upgrades and active travel infrastructure.</li> </ul>	<p>Current criterion: <i>Development would support investment in transportation infrastructure and/or services</i></p> <p>is considered appropriate given the diversity of investment which could be possible.</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommendation to alter the wording of the threshold to make specific reference to active or sustainable travel infrastructure.</li> </ul>	Current reference to transport considered to be appropriate given the scope of the topic.
		Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion that the need for long term upskilling, training and support for growing businesses is also recognised in the Site Assessment Criteria.</li> </ul>	Included in guidance criteria under 3. Economy, Skills and Employment (Appendix D)
		Design Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support for the emphasis of the importance of health and wellbeing in the accreditation in appendix E</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Livewell Accreditation should be referenced in the IIA Framework, either within the Appendix D Definitions of Significance, or the Appendix E Site Assessment Criteria.</li> </ul>	Included in Appendix D
		Public Realm and Inclusive Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommend more clarification is provided on the meaning behind the phrase 'different groups within the society are taken into consideration'.</li> </ul>	Definite article 'the' removed
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concern about phrase: 'different groups within the society are taken into consideration'. The IIA should seek to provide more clarity on what this</li> </ul>	Summary point is appropriate to this context i.e. Appendix D Illustrative Guidance, in turn supported by reference to Livewell Guidance.

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			means in different place-making contexts.	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council should further develop the IIA Framework to ensure clarity is provided on the definitions of success for truly inclusive spaces.</li> </ul>	Noted – various indicators are provided which are considered appropriate and reflect EqIA measures, for example.
		Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing affordability and the ability of local people to access a suitable home should be a key focus in the new local plan, however this is not adequately reflected in the Appendix E Site Assessment Criteria.</li> </ul>	Criteria amended to included affordable housing.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommendation that the Site Assessment Criteria is expanded beyond the single criteria of 'net new dwellings' to include additional criteria that better reflects a site's potential contribution to the local housing market.</li> </ul>	The provision of a proportion of affordable housing is a long-standing policy requirement for the provision of new dwellings above a specific threshold.
14	Environment Agency	Flood Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concern that the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment is outdated. The SFRA mentioned in paragraph 3.16 is out of date for tidal, and fluvial and pluvial climate change.</li> </ul>	This evidence document will be updated as appropriate and reflected in future IIA Reports.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concern that the Climate Change section is outdated. (Links to more up-to-date information is included in EA's response)</li> </ul>	Climate change section updated accordingly.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The policies relating to Flood Alleviation scheme need reviewing. EA advise that a Local Plan policy based upon the alleviation scheme being built should be produced, as well as a policy for pre-alleviation scheme, in case the scheme does not go ahead.</li> </ul>	Noted – policies to be updated as appropriate.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The LPA could consider producing guidance in the form of a Supplementary</li> </ul>	Noted

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			Planning Document for the new Chelmsford alleviation scheme – so developers know how assess the flood risk within a site-specific FRA prior to any defences/scheme being in place.	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Policy 2 should clarify what is meant by 'safe'</li> </ul>	To be addressed as part of plan preparation
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 'key sustainability issues' section should clarify what is meant by 'adaptable'.</li> </ul>	Clarified to: The need to ensure that new development anticipates and can be adapted to the effects of climate change
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 9 and 11 of Table 4.1 should show how the framework will meet the criteria stated in pages 3 and 4 of EA's response</li> </ul>	Sections 9 and 11 of Table 4.1 amended to reflect suggested criteria
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Table appendix D8 should refer to the 1% (1 in 100) annual probability flood event with allowance for climate change and 0.1% (1 in 1000) annual probability event with allowance for climate change – not just FZ3 or Flood Zone 2 or 1 in 100/1000 floodplain. These events (Flood Zones need to be considered with climate change allowances).</li> </ul>	Amendments made
		Ecology and Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concern that the Plan probably is unlikely to deliver real improvements in terms of biodiversity and habitats. The new Plan needs to have bolder policies to repair damaged habitats and create and develop larger and strategically linked areas which will be rich in biodiversity.</li> </ul>	View noted – preparation of the plan takes place within the context of a range of strategies, including those relating to biodiversity and green infrastructure which have been prepared in consultation with the Environment Agency.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is no evidence that continuing the same strategy as the previous plans will be more successful.</li> </ul>	Noted

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunities need to be taken for habitat restoration and achieving a cohesive strategic network of larger and more connected high-quality habitats as proposed in the Lawton Review.</li> </ul>	There are wide-ranging references to Green infrastructure creation within new development and City-wide in line with the Chelmsford and Essex GI Strategies.
		Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Broad agreement with the assessment in terms of water quality.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EA states that CCC need to invest in water management infrastructure in a timely manner in order to accommodate new development.</li> </ul>	Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 3.8.6 - mentions WFD information in the 2015 RBMP: WFD classification 2019 are available and could be used to provide a more recent and specific to the Chelmsford area.</li> </ul>	Data updated via: <a href="https://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/a2a10b3a-2049-48ba-9ab5-fbc3ae26c9f9/wfd-river-canal-and-surface-water-transfer-water-bodies-cycle-2-classification-2019">https://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/a2a10b3a-2049-48ba-9ab5-fbc3ae26c9f9/wfd-river-canal-and-surface-water-transfer-water-bodies-cycle-2-classification-2019</a>
		Water Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EA states that an update of the Anglian River Basin Management Plan will be published at the end of this year. The draft RBMPs are currently available on gov.uk.</li> </ul>	Noted. Future IIA Reports will include reference to the RBMPs once published.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The report references Essex &amp; Suffolk Water's Water Resource Management Plan (WRMP) 2014, this is not their latest plan. E&amp;SW's current WRMP was published in 2019 and a WRMP for 2024 is currently being worked upon. The report should be considering the most up to date WRMP and future plans, as these will provide the most up to date resource assessment in the Essex Water Resource Zone.</li> </ul>	References amended
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are significant water resource pressure within</li> </ul>	Noted in the review of the Water Resources Regional Plan for Eastern England and in Table

Ref	Consultee	Report Chapter	Consultee Response Summary	Responses/Actions
			<p>this area. EA consider it particularly important that water efficiency measures are incorporated into all new developments. Measures such as the use of water efficient systems and fittings such as dual-flush toilets; water butts; water-saving taps and showers; and appliances with the highest water efficiency rating as a minimum. Greywater recycling and rainwater harvesting should also be considered.</p>	<p>2.2. Also a matter for the preparation of detailed policy.</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>EA suggests that local authorities should adopt and promote the building standard of 110 litres per person per day in all new builds.</li></ul>	<p>To be considered as part of the preparation of detail Local Plan policies – cited on the potential monitoring indicators (Appendix F)</p>





## Appendix B Review of Plans and Programmes

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<b>International/European Plans and Programmes</b>		
<b>The Cancun Agreement (2011)</b>		
Shared vision to keep global temperature rise to below two degrees Celsius, with objectives to be reviewed as to whether it needs to be strengthened in future on the basis of the best scientific knowledge available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No targets or indicators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should aim to reduce emissions.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include greenhouse gas emissions.</li> </ul>
<b>Council Directive 91/271/EEC for Urban Waste-water Treatment</b>		
<p>Its objective is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of urban waste water discharges and discharges from certain industrial sectors and concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Domestic waste water</li> <li>Mixture of waste water</li> <li>Waste water from certain industrial sectors</li> </ul>	<p>The Directive includes requirement with specific:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collection and treatment of waste water standards for relevant population thresholds</li> <li>Secondary treatment standards</li> <li>A requirement for pre-authorisation of all discharges of urban wastewater</li> <li>Monitoring of the performance of treatment plants and receiving waters and Controls of sewage sludge disposal and re-use, and treated waste water re-use</li> </ul>	SA Objectives should include priorities to minimise adverse effects on ground and/or surface water.
<b>EC (2011) A Resource- Efficient Europe- Flagship Initiative Under the Europe 2020 Strategy, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions (COM 2011/21)</b>		
<p>This flagship initiative aims to create a framework for policies to support the shift towards a resource-efficient and low-carbon economy which will help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boost economic performance while reducing resource use;</li> <li>Identify and create new opportunities for economic growth and greater innovation and boost the EU's competitiveness;</li> <li>Ensure security of supply of essential resources; and</li> <li>Fight against climate change and limit the environmental impacts of resource use.</li> </ul>	<p>Each Member State has a target calculated according to the share of energy from renewable sources in its gross final consumption for 2020. The UK is required to source 15 per cent of energy needs from renewable sources, including biomass, hydro, wind and solar power by 2020.</p> <p>From 1 January 2017, biofuels and bioliquids share in emissions savings should be increased to 50 per cent.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan policies should take into account the objectives of the Flagship Initiative.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives and guide questions that relate to resource use.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<b>EC (2013) <i>Seventh Environmental Action Programme to 2020 'Living well, within the limits of our planet'</i></b>		
The Directive establishes a set of binding measures to help the EU reach its 20% energy efficiency target by 2020. Under the Directive, all EU countries are required to use energy more efficiently at all stages of the energy chain from its production to final consumption.	<p>Specific measures relate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy distributors achieving 1.5% energy savings per year through energy efficiency measures;</li> <li>• Improving the efficiency of heating systems, installing double glazed windows or insulating roofs;</li> <li>• Purchasing energy efficient buildings, products and services, and performing energy efficient renovations;</li> <li>• Access to data on consumption;</li> <li>• Large companies to audit energy consumption (implemented in the UK through the Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme Regulations 2014);</li> <li>• National incentives for SMEs to undergo energy audits; and</li> <li>• Monitoring efficiency levels in new energy generation capacities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to contribute towards targets for energy efficiency.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include consideration of energy consumption and efficiency.</li> </ul>
<b>EC (2013) <i>Towards Social Investment for Growth and Cohesion – including implementing the European Social Fund 2014-2020</i></b>		
The Communication aims to direct Member States' policies towards social investment throughout life, with a view to ensuring the adequacy and sustainability of budgets for social policies. It also provides guidance to help reach the Europe 2020 targets by establishing a link between social policies, the reforms to reach the Europe 2020 targets and the relevant EU funds.	No target or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should have regard to the Europe 2020 targets.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include criteria relating to socio-economics.</li> </ul>
<b>EC (2014) <i>A Policy Framework for Climate and Energy in the Period from 2020 to 2030</i></b>		
The 2030 Climate and Energy Framework was adopted in 2014 and builds on the 2020 targets. The greenhouse gas emissions and renewable energy targets are binding, while the energy efficiency target will be reviewed in 2020.	<p>It sets three key targets for 2030:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at least 40% cuts in greenhouse gas emissions (from 1990 levels);</li> <li>• at least 27% share for renewable energy; and</li> <li>• at least 27% improvement in energy efficiency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should support longer term targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, increasing renewable energy and energy efficiency.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include the consideration of energy and greenhouse gas emissions.</li> </ul>
<b>EC (2021) <i>Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change</i></b>		

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
Highlights the importance of continuing to tackle climate change as the effects of climate change continue to grow each year. Places considerable importance on tackling climate change to reduce the chance/severity of droughts. The document calls for more effective climate and emissions data to be produced and analysed so that countries can better create and implement highly effective and ground-breaking climate change prevention plans.	No targets or indicators for the UK but the spirit and warnings of the document are relevant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan policies should seek to boldly tackle climate change and the regions contribution to climate change.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives and guide questions that relate to climate change/greenhouse gasses.</li> </ul>
<b>European Landscape Convention 2000 (became binding March 2007)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convention outlined the need to recognise landscape in law, to develop landscape policies dedicated to the protection, management and creation of landscapes, and to establish procedures for the participation of the general public and other stakeholders in the creation and implementation of landscape policies. It also encourages the integration of landscape into all relevant areas of policy, including cultural, economic and social policies.</li> </ul>	<p>Specific measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>raising awareness of the value of landscapes among all sectors of society, and of society's role in shaping them;</li> <li>promoting landscape training and education among landscape specialists, other related professions, and in school and university courses;</li> <li>the identification and assessment of landscapes, and analysis of landscape change, with the active participation of stakeholders;</li> <li>setting objectives for landscape quality, with the involvement of the public; and</li> <li>the implementation of landscape policies, through the establishment of plans and practical programmes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IIA objectives must consider the outcomes of the convention should feed into the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and associated documents.</li> </ul>
<b>European Union EU European Employment Strategy</b>		
Seeks to engender full employment, quality of work and increased productivity as well as the promotion of inclusion by addressing disparities in access to labour markets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No formal targets.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should deliver policies which support these aims</li> <li>The SA assessment framework should assess employment levels, quality of work and social inclusion</li> </ul>
<b>EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)</b>		
<p>This Directive has the objective of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources; and</li> <li>preventing further such pollution.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides for the identification of vulnerable areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider impacts of development upon any identified nitrate sensitive areas where such development falls to be considered within its scope.</li> <li>Policies should consider objective to promote environmentally sensitive agricultural practices.</li> </ul>
<b>EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (94/62/EC)</b>		
This Directive aims to harmonize national measures concerning the management of packaging and packaging waste in order, on the one hand, to prevent any impact thereof on the	No later than five years from the date by which this Directive must be implemented in national law (1996), between 50 %	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Again, while this directive dictates national legislation, the Review of the Adopted Local Plan itself can play an</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<p>environment of all Member States as well as of third countries or to reduce such impact, thus providing a high level of environmental protection, and, on the other hand, to ensure the functioning of the internal market and to avoid obstacles to trade and distortion and restriction of competition within the Community.</p> <p>To this end this Directive lays down measures aimed, as a first priority, at preventing the production of packaging waste and, as additional fundamental principles, at reusing packaging, at recycling and other forms of recovering packaging waste and, hence, at reducing the final disposal of such waste.</p>	<p>as a minimum and 65 % as a maximum by weight of the packaging waste will be recovered.</p> <p>Within this general target, and with the same time limit, between 25 % as a minimum and 45 % as a maximum by weight of the totality of packaging materials contained in packaging waste will be recycled with a minimum of 15 % by weight for each packaging material.</p>	<p>important role in controlling or providing a basis for better waste management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These targets are incorporated in national legislation – so Review of the Adopted Local Plan must adhere to them as appropriate.</li> </ul>
<b>Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)</b>		
Provides for the quality of drinking water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Standards are legally binding.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan should recognise that development can impact upon water quality and include policies to protect the resources.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should consider objectives relating to water quality</li> </ul>
<b>EU Directive on the Landfill of Waste (99/31/EC)</b>		
Sets out requirements to ensuring that where landfilling takes place the environmental impacts are understood and mitigated against.	By 2006 biodegradable municipal waste going to landfills must be reduced to 75% of the total amount (by weight) of biodegradable municipal waste produced in 1995 or the latest year before 1995 for which standardised Eurostat data is available.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan should take into consideration landfilling with respect to environmental factors.</li> <li>IIA Objectives should include priorities to minimise waste, increased recycling and re-use.</li> </ul>
<b>EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)</b>		
<p>Establishes a framework for the protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prevents further deterioration and protects and enhances the status of aquatic ecosystems and, with regard to their water needs, terrestrial ecosystems and wetlands directly depending on the aquatic ecosystems;</li> <li>Promotes sustainable water use based on a long-term protection of available water resources;</li> <li>Aims at enhanced protection and improvement of the aquatic environment, inter alia, through specific measures for the progressive reduction of discharges, emissions and losses of priority substances and the cessation or phasing-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The achievement of "good status" for chemical and biological river quality. Production of River Basin Management Plans.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan policies should consider how the water environment can be protected and enhanced. This will come about through reducing pollution and abstraction.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should considers effects upon water quality and resource.</li> <li>Protection and enhancement of water courses can be can also come about through physical modification. Spatial planning will need to consider whether watercourse enhancement can be achieved through working with developers.</li> </ul>

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<p>out of discharges, emissions and losses of the priority hazardous substances;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensures the progressive reduction of pollution of groundwater and prevents its further pollution, and</li> <li>Contributes to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts.</li> </ul>		
<b>European Directive 2001/42/EC on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment (SEA Directive)</b>		
<p>The SEA Directive provides the following requirements for consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Authorities which, because of their environmental responsibilities, are likely to be concerned by the effects of implementing the plan or programme, must be consulted on the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the Environmental Report. These authorities are designated in the SEA Regulations as the Consultation Bodies (Consultation Authorities in Scotland).</li> <li>The public and the Consultation Bodies must be consulted on the draft plan or programme and the Environmental Report, and must be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinions.</li> <li>Other EU Member States must be consulted if the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment in their territories.</li> <li>The Consultation Bodies must also be consulted on screening determinations on whether SEA is needed for plans or programmes under Article 3(5), i.e. those which may be excluded if they are not likely to have significant environmental effects.</li> </ul>	<p>Directive contains no formal targets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Directive sets the basis for SEA as a whole and therefore indirectly covers all objectives.</li> </ul>
<b>EU Directive 2002/91/EC (2002) Directive 2002/91/EC on the Energy Performance of Buildings</b>		
<p>The European Union Energy Performance of Buildings Directive was published in the Official Journal on the 4th January 2003. The overall objective of the Directive is to <i>promote the improvement of energy performance of buildings within the Community taking into account outdoor climate and local conditions as well as indoor climate requirements and cost effectiveness.</i></p>	<p>It aims to reduce the energy consumption of buildings by improving efficiency across the EU through the application of minimum requirements and energy use certification.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Directive will help manage energy demand and thus reduce consumption. As a result it should help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and ensure future energy security.</li> </ul>

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The Directive highlights how the residential and tertiary sectors, the majority of which are based in buildings, accounts for 40% of EU energy consumption.		
<b>EU Environmental Noise Directive (Directive 2002/49/EC)</b>		
<p>The underlying principles of the Directive are similar to those underpinning other overarching environment policies (such as air or waste), i.e.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring the environmental problem; by requiring competent authorities in Member States to draw up "strategic noise maps" for major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations, using harmonised noise indicators Lden (day-evening-night equivalent level) and Lnight (night equivalent level). These maps will be used to assess the number of people annoyed and sleep-disturbed respectively throughout Europe;</li> <li>Informing and consulting the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise, in line with the principles of the Aarhus Convention;</li> <li>Addressing local noise issues by requiring competent authorities to draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise quality where it is good. The directive does not set any limit value, nor does it prescribe the measures to be used in the action plans, which remain at the discretion of the competent authorities;</li> </ul> <p>Developing a long-term EU strategy, which includes objectives to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the longer term, and provides a framework for developing existing Community policy on noise reduction from source. With this respect, the Commission has made a declaration concerning the provisions laid down in Article 1.2 with regard to the preparation of legislation relating to sources of noise.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No targets or indicators, leaving issues at the discretion of the competent authorities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan will need to have regard to the requirements of the Environmental Noise Directive.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include for the protection against excessive noise.</li> </ul>
<b>EU Bathing Waters Directive 2006/7/EC</b>		
<p>Sets standards for the quality of bathing waters in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the physical, chemical and microbiological parameters;</li> <li>the mandatory limit values and indicative values for such parameters; and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Standards are legally binding.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan should recognise that development can impact upon water quality and include policies to protect the resources.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should consider objectives relating to water quality</li> </ul>



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the minimum sampling frequency and method of analysis or inspection of such water.</li> </ul>		
<b>EU (2006) Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy</b>		
<p>In June 2001, the first European sustainable development strategy was agreed by EU Heads of State. The Strategy sets out how the EU can meet the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. The Strategy proposes headline objectives and lists seven key challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change and clean energy;</li> <li>Sustainable transport;</li> <li>Sustainable consumption and production;</li> <li>Conservation and management of natural resources;</li> <li>Public health;</li> <li>Social inclusion, demography and migration; and</li> <li>Global poverty.</li> </ul>	<p>The overall objectives in the Strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguard the earth's capacity to support life in all its diversity, respect the limits of the planet's natural resources and ensure a high level of protection and improvement of the quality of the environment. Prevent and reduce environmental pollution and promote sustainable consumption and production to break the link between economic growth and environmental degradation;</li> <li>Promote a democratic, socially inclusive, cohesive, healthy, safe and just society with respect for fundamental rights and cultural diversity that creates equal opportunities and combats discrimination in all its forms;</li> <li>Promote a prosperous, innovative, knowledge-rich, competitive and eco-efficient economy which provides high living standards and full and high-quality employment throughout the European Union and</li> <li>Encourage the establishment and defend the stability of democratic institutions across the world, based on peace, security and freedom. Actively promote sustainable development worldwide and ensure that the European Union's internal and external policies are consistent with global sustainable development and its international commitments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should aim to create a pattern of development consistent with the objectives of the Strategy and in turn promote sustainable development.</li> </ul>
<b>EU Floods Directive 2007/60/EC</b>		
<p>Aims to provide a consistent approach to managing flood risk across Europe.</p>	<p>The approach is based on a 6 year cycle of planning which includes the publication of Preliminary Flood Risk Assessments, hazard and risk maps and flood risk management plans. The Directive is transposed into English law by the Flood Risk Regulations 2009.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan should recognise that development can impact vulnerability to flooding and increase risk due to climate change.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should considers objectives relating to flood risk.</li> </ul>
<b>EU Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC) and previous directives (96/62/EC; 99/30/EC; 2000/69/EC &amp; 2002/3/EC)</b>		
<p>New Directive provided that most of existing legislation be merged into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive) with no change to existing air quality objectives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No targets or indicators.</li> <li>Includes thresholds for pollutants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan policies should consider the maintenance of good air quality and the measures that can be taken to improve it through, for example, an encouragement to reduce vehicle movements.</li> </ul>

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<p>Relevant objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain ambient air quality where it is good and improve it in other cases; and</li> <li>Maintain ambient-air quality where it is good and improve it in other cases with respect to sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and oxides of nitrogen, particulate matter and lead.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives relating to air quality</li> </ul>
<b>EU Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/409/EEC)</b>		
<p>Identifies 181 endangered species and sub-species for which the Member States are required to designate Special Protection Areas.</p> <p>Makes it a legal requirement that EU countries make provision for the protection of birds. This includes the selection and designation of Special Protection Areas.</p>	<p>Target Actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creation of protected areas;</li> <li>Upkeep and management; and</li> <li>Re-establishment of destroyed biotopes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan should include policies to protect and enhance wild bird populations, including the protection of SPAs.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should consider objectives to protect and enhance biodiversity including wild birds.</li> </ul>
<b>EU Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC) &amp; Subsequent Amendments</b>		
<p>Directive seeks to conserve natural habitats. Conservation of natural habitats Requires member states to identify special areas of conservation and to maintain, where necessary landscape features of importance to wildlife and flora.</p> <p>The amendments in 2007:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>simplify the species protection regime to better reflect the Habitats Directive;</li> <li>provide a clear legal basis for surveillance and monitoring of European protected species (EPS);</li> <li>toughen the regime on trading EPS that are not native to the UK;</li> <li>ensure that the requirement to carry out appropriate assessments on water abstraction consents and land use plans is explicit.</li> </ul>	<p>There are no formal targets or indicators.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan policies should seek to protect landscape features of habitat importance.</li> <li>The IIA Framework objectives should include priorities for the protection of landscape features for ecological benefit.</li> </ul>
<b>EU Directive on Waste (Directive 75/442/EEC, 2006/12/EC 2008/98/EC as amended)</b>		
<p>Seeks to prevent and to reduce the production of waste and its impacts. Where necessary waste should be disposed of without creating environmental problems</p> <p>Seeks to protect the environment and human health by preventing or reducing the adverse impacts of the generation</p>	<p>Promotes the development of clean technology to process waste, promoting recycling and re-use.</p> <p>The Directive contains a range of provision including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The setting up of separate collections of waste where technically, environmentally and economically</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan policies should seek to minimise waste, and the environmental effects caused by it. Policies should promote recycling and re-use.</li> <li>IIA Objectives should include priorities to minimise waste, increased recycling and re-use.</li> </ul>

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and management of waste and by reducing overall impacts of resource use and improving the efficiency of such use.	<p>practicable and appropriate to meet the necessary quality standards for the relevant recycling sectors – including by 2015 separate collection for at least paper, metal, plastic and glass<sup>5</sup>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household waste recycling target – the preparing for re-use and the recycling of waste materials such as at least paper, metal, plastic and glass from households and possibly other origins as far as these waste streams are similar to waste from households, must be increased to a minimum of 50% by weight by 2020.</li> <li>Construction and demolition waste recovery target – the preparing for re-use, recycling and other material recovery of non-hazardous construction and demolition waste must be increased to a minimum of 70% by weight by 2020.</li> </ul>	
<b>EU Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC)</b>		
This Directive establishes a common framework for the use of energy from renewable sources in order to limit greenhouse gas emissions and to promote cleaner transport. It encourages energy efficiency, energy consumption from renewable sources and the improvement of energy supply.	Each Member State to achieve a 10% minimum target for the share of energy from renewable sources by 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should contribute towards increasing the proportion of energy from renewable energy sources where appropriate</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include consideration of use of energy from renewable energy sources</li> </ul>
<b>EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 – towards implementation</b>		
<p>The European Commission has adopted an ambitious new strategy to halt the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the EU by 2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The strategy provides a framework for action over the next decade and covers the following key areas:</li> <li>Conserving and restoring nature;</li> <li>Maintaining and enhancing ecosystems and their services;</li> <li>Ensuring the sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries;</li> <li>Combating invasive alien species;</li> <li>Addressing the global biodiversity crisis.</li> </ul>	<p>There are six main targets, and 20 actions to help Europe reach its goal.</p> <p>The six targets cover:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Full implementation of EU nature legislation to protect biodiversity</li> <li>2. Better protection for ecosystems, and more use of green infrastructure</li> <li>3. More sustainable agriculture and forestry</li> <li>4. Better management of fish stocks</li> <li>5. Tighter controls on invasive alien species</li> <li>6. A bigger EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss</li> </ol>	The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to protect and enhance biodiversity.
<b>EU (2015) Invasive Alien Species Regulation (1143/2014/EU)</b>		
This Regulation seeks to address the problem of invasive alien species in a comprehensive manner in order to protect native biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as to minimize and	No targets or indicators	The SEA assessment framework should include guide questions relating to invasive species.

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mitigate the human health or economic impacts that these species can have.		
<b>The Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada Convention)</b>		
<p>The Convention for the protection of the architectural heritage of Europe is a legally binding instrument which set the framework for an accurate conservation approach within Europe.</p> <p>The following objectives are identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the idea of solidarity and cooperation among European Parties, in relation to heritage conservation.</li> <li>• It includes principles of "conservation policies" within the framework of European cooperation.</li> </ul> <p>Strengthen and promote policies for the conservation and development of cultural heritage in Europe.</p>	No specific target identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Adopted Local Plan policies should ensure that the historic environment is conserved and enhanced.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include objectives relating to conservation and enhancement of the historic environment.</li> </ul>
<b>The European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Valetta Convention)</b>		
This Convention aims to protect the European archaeological heritage as a source of European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study.	No specific target identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Adopted Local Plan policies should ensure that the historic environment is conserved and enhanced.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include objectives relating to conservation and enhancement of the historic environment.</li> </ul>
<b>EU (2020) Biodiversity Strategy to 2030</b>		
<p>This document outlines the EU's strategy for biodiversity up to 2030. It seeks to cause considerable recovery to Europe's biodiversity and to safeguard Europe from the following threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the impacts of climate change</li> <li>• forest fires</li> <li>• food insecurity</li> <li>• disease outbreaks – including protecting wildlife and fighting illegal wildlife trade</li> </ul> <p>The EU seeks to establish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A large EU-wide network of protected areas on land and sea</li> </ul>	None binding for the UK but the spirit and motivations of the document should be considered.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to protect local biodiversity and important designations.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should afford protection to biodiversity assets.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An EU nature restoration plan</li> <li>Introduce measures to enable the necessary transformative change</li> <li>Introduce measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge.</li> </ul>		
<b>UNESCO World Heritage Convention (1972)</b>		
The World Heritage Convention sets out the duties of States Parties in identifying potential sites and their role in protecting and preserving them. By signing the Convention, each country pledges to conserve not only the World Heritage sites situated on its territory, but also to protect its national heritage. The States Parties are encouraged to integrate the protection of the cultural and natural heritage into regional planning programmes, set up staff and services at their sites, undertake scientific and technical conservation research and adopt measures which give this heritage a function in the day-to-day life of the community.	No specific target identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan policies should ensure that the historic environment is conserved and enhanced.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives relating to conservation and enhancement of the historic environment.</li> </ul>
<b>UNFCCC (1997) The Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC</b>		
The Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC established the first policy that actively aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by industrialised countries.	Construction is a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions due to the consumption of materials and use of energy. The Kyoto Protocol aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions of the UK by 12.5%, compared to 1990 levels, by 2008 – 2012.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Kyoto Protocol is influential to achieving sustainable development as it encourages transition to a low carbon economy. Therefore it is an integral factor in planning documents.</li> </ul>
<b>UN (2016) The Paris Agreement</b>		
The Paris Agreement's central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Additionally, the agreement aims to strengthen the ability of countries to deal with the impacts of climate change. To reach these ambitious goals, appropriate financial flows, a new technology framework and an enhanced capacity building framework will be put in place, thus supporting action by developing countries and the most vulnerable countries, in line with their own national objectives.	No targets or indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should aim to reduce emissions.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include greenhouse gas emissions.</li> </ul>
<b>UN (2021) COP26</b>		

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<p>COP26 was the most recent, UN organised, meeting of world leaders and important people/businesses in order to create goals for the world to meet in order to address climate change. Representatives of nearly 200 countries attended the event. The following four driving actions were established, with every country in attendance being expected to take action and progress these driving actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mitigation – reducing emissions</li> <li>• Adaptation – helping those already impacted by climate change</li> <li>• Finance – enabling countries to deliver on their climate goals</li> <li>• Collaboration – working together to deliver even greater action.</li> </ul>	<p>UK is required to make considerable progress on the four driving actions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The COP26 is an influential and most recent global agreement that the UK is committed to in order to further make progress on reducing its contribution to climate change and is therefore an integral factor in planning documents.</li> </ul>
<b>World Commission on Environment and Development (1987) Our Common Future (The Brundtland Report)</b>		
<p>The Brundtland Report is concerned with the world's economy and its environment. The objective is to provide an expanding and sustainable economy while protecting a sustainable environment. The Report was an call by the United Nations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to propose long-term environmental strategies for achieving sustainable development by the year 2000 and beyond;</li> <li>• to recommend ways concern for the environment may be translated into greater co-operation among countries of the global South and between countries at different stages of economical and social development and lead to the achievement of common and mutually supportive objectives that take account of the interrelationships between people, resources, environment, and development;</li> <li>• to consider ways and means by which the international community can deal more effectively with environment concerns; and</li> <li>• to help define shared perceptions of long-term environmental issues and the appropriate efforts needed to deal successfully with the problems of protecting and enhancing the environment, a long term agenda for</li> </ul>	<p>The report issued a multitude of recommendations with the aim of attaining sustainable development and addressing the problems posed by a global economy that is intertwined with the environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Brundtland Report provided the original definition of sustainable development. The accumulated effect of the SA objectives seek to achieve sustainable development.</li> </ul>

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action during the coming decades, and aspirational goals for the world community.		
<b>The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), Johannesburg, September 2002 - Commitments arising from Johannesburg Summit (2002)</b>		
<p>Sustainable consumption and production patterns.</p> <p>Accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production - 10-year framework of programmes of action; Reverse trend in loss of natural resources.</p> <p>Renewable Energy and Energy efficiency.</p> <p>Urgently and substantially increase [global] share of renewable energy.</p> <p>Significantly reduce rate of biodiversity loss by 2010.</p>	<p>No targets or indicators, however actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greater resource efficiency;</li> <li>Support business innovation and take-up of best practice in technology and management;</li> <li>Waste reduction and producer responsibility; and</li> <li>Sustainable consumer consumption and procurement.</li> </ul> <p>Create a level playing field for renewable energy and energy efficiency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New technology development</li> <li>Push on energy efficiency</li> <li>Low-carbon programmes</li> <li>Reduced impacts on biodiversity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan can encourage greater efficiency of resources. Ensure policies cover the action areas.</li> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan can encourage renewable energy. Ensure policies cover the action areas.</li> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan can protect and enhance biodiversity. Ensure policies cover the action areas.</li> </ul>
<b>National Plans and Programmes</b>		
<b>Department for Business, Energy &amp; Industrial Strategy (DBEI) (2017) Clean Growth Strategy</b>		
<p>In the context of the UK's legal requirements under the Climate Change Act, our approach to reducing emissions has two guiding objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To meet our domestic commitments at the lowest possible net cost to UK taxpayers, consumers and businesses.</li> <li>2. To maximise the social and economic benefits for the UK from this transition.</li> </ol>	<p>Undergoing consultation so does not include fixed targets, however it discusses options for a number of sectors including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving business and industry efficiency;</li> <li>Improving our homes;</li> <li>Shifting to low carbon transport;</li> <li>Delivering clean, smart, flexible power;</li> <li>Enhancing the benefits of natural resources; and</li> </ul> <p>Leading in the public sector.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan policies should seek to promote low carbon growth.</li> </ul>
<b>DBEI (2018) Industrial Strategy: building a Britain fit for the future</b>		
<p>This document provides the industrial strategy for the UK. It seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>put the UK at the forefront of the artificial intelligence and data revolution;</li> </ul>	<p>Industries within the UK are required to be in conformity to this document and pursue its aims. The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should be constructed with the aims of this strategy in mind, though the document is broad and country wide in its approach and therefore does not contain relevant specific targets or indicators.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider how the Review of the Adopted Local Plan can encourage industries to meet the requirements of the Industrial Strategy.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should reflect the aims of the Industrial Strategy.</li> </ul>



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• maximise the advantages for the UK industry from the global shift to clean growth;</li> <li>• become a world leader in shaping the future of mobility; and</li> <li>• harness the power of innovation to help meet the needs of an ageing society.</li> </ul> <p>Innovation is at the heart of the strategy to ensure the industry of the UK is suitable for future needs and maximises economic growth.</p>		
<b>DBEI (2021) Carbon Budgets – Fourth to Sixth Carbon Budgets</b>		
<p>The government has committed itself to several carbon budgets, with the sixth carbon budget being the most up to date and committing the government to certain climate targets for the future. The Fifth Carbon Budget established that for 2028-2032, 1,725 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e of carbon emissions would be produced. The Sixth Carbon Budget established a carbon budget of 965 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e for the period of 2033-2037.</p> <p>The carbon budgets overall seek to ensure that the UK steadily brings down its carbon contributions through binding targets.</p>	<p>The carbon budgets are country wide and too broad/large scale to contain objectives specific to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan. The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider the spirit of the carbon budgets, with a general target to reduce the regions contribution to climate change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should result in the region reducing its contribution to climate change through reducing the amount of greenhouse gases it produces.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should seek to ensure the regions contribution to producing greenhouse gases is reduced.</li> </ul>
<b>Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) (2001) The Historic Environment: A Force for our Future</b>		
<p>Report sets the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• public interest in the historic environment is matched by firm leadership, effective partnerships, and the development of a sound knowledge base from which to develop policies;</li> <li>• the full potential of the historic environment as a learning resource is realised;</li> <li>• the historic environment is accessible to everybody and is seen as something with which the whole of society can identify and engage;</li> <li>• the historic environment is protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations; and</li> <li>• the historic environment's importance as an economic asset is skilfully harnessed.</li> </ul>	<p>No key targets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Adopted Local Plan policies should ensure the historic environment is utilised as both a learning resource and an economic asset, whilst ensuring it is sustained for future generations.</li> </ul>
<b>DCMS (2007) Heritage Protection for the 21st Century - White Paper</b>		

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<p>The Consultation Paper has three core principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing a unified approach to the historic environment;</li> <li>Maximising opportunities for inclusion and involvement; and</li> <li>Supporting sustainable communities by putting the historic environment at the heart of an effective planning system.</li> </ul>	No formal targets, but a number of measures/recommendations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives which take into account the White Paper's principles.</li> </ul>
<b>DCMS (2008) Play Strategy for England</b>		
<p>Strategy aims that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In every residential area there are a variety of supervised and unsupervised places for play, free of charge;</li> <li>Local neighbourhoods are, and feel like, safe, interesting places to play;</li> <li>Routes to children's play space are safe and accessible for all children and young people;</li> <li>Parks and open spaces are attractive and welcoming to children and young people, and are well maintained and well used;</li> <li>Children and young people have a clear stake in public space and their play is accepted by their neighbours;</li> <li>Children and young people play in a way that respects other people and property;</li> <li>Children and young people and their families take an active role in the development of local play spaces; and</li> <li>Play spaces are attractive, welcoming, engaging and accessible for all local children and young people, including disabled children, and children from minority groups in the community.</li> </ul>	Every local authority will receive at least £1 million in funding, to be targeted on the children most in need of improved play opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SA Objectives should seek to promote sport and physical activity and promote healthy lifestyles.</li> </ul>
<b>DCMS (2013) Scheduled Monuments &amp; Nationally Important but Non-Scheduled Monuments</b>		
<p>This policy statement sets out Government policy on the identification, protection, conservation and investigation of nationally important ancient monuments, under the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. It includes principles relating to the selection of scheduled monuments and the determination of applications for scheduled monument consent.</p>	No target or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The SA assessment framework should include specific objectives relating to cultural heritage</li> </ul>
<b>DCMS (2015) Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation</b>		

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<p>The key objectives set out within the Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• maximising international and domestic sporting success and the impact of major events</li> <li>• more people from every background regularly and meaningfully taking part in sport and physical activity, volunteering and experiencing live sport; and</li> <li>• a more productive, sustainable and responsible sport sector</li> </ul>	<p>The strategy includes 23 key performance indicators covering a range of factors. Those of particular relevance for the Review of the Adopted Local Plan are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KPI 1 – Increase in percentage of the population taking part in sport and physical activity at least twice in the last month;</li> <li>• KPI 2 – Decrease in percentage of people physically inactive (KPI 1 and 2 from Active Lives survey);</li> <li>• KPI 3 – Increase in the percentage of adults utilising outdoor space for exercise/ health reasons (MENE survey); and</li> </ul> <p>KPI 18 - Percentage of publicly owned facilities with under-utilised capacity (through revised National Benchmarking Service).</p>	<p>This plan will be relevant in the development of sport and cycle route type facilities and should be considered in the early stage of development.</p>
<b>DCMS (2016) The Culture White Paper</b>		
<p>The White Paper is structured around four core themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• everyone should enjoy the opportunities culture offers, no matter where they start in life;</li> <li>• the riches of our culture should benefit communities across the country;</li> <li>• the power of culture can increase our international standing; and</li> <li>• cultural investment, resilience and reform.</li> </ul>	<p>The White Paper includes a broad variety of indicators against the four core themes. Those of most relevance are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increase culture at the heart of Local Plans;</li> <li>• increase in heritage-led regeneration; and</li> <li>• reduction in number of 'at risk' heritage sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The IIA Framework should include objectives which take into account the White Paper's principles.</li> </ul>
<b>Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) (2008) Living Working Countryside: The Taylor Review of Rural Economy and Affordable Housing</b>		
<p>This report considered how to boost the economic gain of a rural area through encouraging sustainable economic growth and reviewing the set of planning policy documents to streamline the process.</p>	<p>No formal targets however greater support should be given to local authorities in achieving appropriate levels of affordable housing, particularly through increased interaction with housing corporations and registered social landlords.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SA should consider economic gains that are possible in the rural area, whilst addressing the issues of affordable housing in rural areas.</li> <li>• The SA should aim to ensure that the plan has sustainability objectives for affordable housing and ensuring that the needs of all aspects of the community are being met.</li> </ul>
<b>DCLG (2014) Planning Policy for Traveller Sites</b>		
<p>This document sets out the Government's planning policy for traveller sites. It identifies the following aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• that local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning</li> </ul>	<p>No formal targets are identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan will need to make appropriate provision for traveller sites, in accordance with national planning policy.</li> <li>• IIA Framework should include a specific guide question relating to provision for travellers.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites</li> <li>to encourage local planning authorities to plan for sites over a reasonable timescale</li> <li>that plan-making and decision-taking should protect Green Belt from inappropriate development</li> <li>to promote more private traveller site provision while recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites</li> <li>that plan-making and decision-taking should aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective</li> <li>for local planning authorities to ensure that their Local Plans includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies</li> <li>to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply</li> <li>to reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan making and planning decisions</li> <li>to enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure</li> <li>for local planning authorities to have due regard to the protection of local amenity and local environment.</li> </ul>		
<b>DCLG (2014) Planning Practice Guidance</b>		
Planning Practice Guidance is designed to support the NPPF. It reflects the objectives of the NPPF which are not repeated here.	No formal targets identified,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should reflect the Planning Practice Guidance.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should reflect the principles of the NPPF and the Planning Practice Guidance.</li> </ul>
<b>DCLG (2014) National Planning Policy for Waste</b>		
<p>Sets out detailed waste planning policies for local authorities. States that planning authorities need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to use a proportionate evidence base in preparing Local Plans</li> <li>Identify sufficient opportunities to meet the identified needs of their area for the management of waste streams</li> <li>Identifying suitable sites and areas</li> </ul>	The overall objective of the policy is to provide sustainable development by protecting the environment and human health by producing less waste and by using it as a resource wherever possible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider opportunities to reduce waste and encourage recycling and composting e.g. integration of recycling and composting facilities into new development and use of recycled materials in new buildings.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IIA Framework should consider objectives which relate to re-use, recycle and reduce.</li> </ul>
<b>DCLG (2014) Written Statement on Sustainable Drainage Systems</b>		
This statement sets out that it is the Government's expectation that sustainable drainage systems will be provided in new developments wherever this is appropriate.	No specific targets identified.	The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should reflect the Government's commitment to sustainable drainage systems.
<b>Department for Education (2014) Home to School Travel and Transport Guidance</b>		
<p>This guidance relates to home to school travel and transport, and sustainable travel. The guidance seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the use of sustainable travel and transport.</li> <li>Make transport arrangements for all eligible children.</li> </ul>	No specific targets identified although minimum travel distances are identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should promote sustainable travel and transport.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include SA objectives and/or guide questions relating to the promotion of sustainable travel and transport.</li> </ul>
<b>Department for Education (2016) DfE Strategy 2015 – 2020: World Class Education and Care</b>		
<p>This strategy is base around the following twelve strategic principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruit, develop, support and retain teachers</li> <li>Strengthen school and system leadership</li> <li>Drive sustainable school improvement</li> <li>Embed clear and intelligent accountability</li> <li>Embed rigorous standards, curriculum and assessment</li> <li>Ensure access to quality places where they are needed</li> <li>Deliver fair and sustainable funding</li> <li>Reform 16-19 skills</li> <li>Develop early years strategy</li> <li>Strengthen children's social care</li> <li>Support and protect vulnerable children</li> <li>Build character and resilience</li> </ol>	No specific targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should reflect the principles set out in this Planning Statement where appropriate.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives and/or guide questions relating to educational provision.</li> </ul>
<b>Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC) (2009) The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan: National Strategy for Climate and Energy</b>		
<p>This Paper plots out how the UK will meet the cut in emissions set out in the budget of 34% on 1990 levels by 2020. The Plan includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New money for a 'smart grid', and to help regions and local authorities prepare for and speed up planning decisions on</li> </ul>	<p>Sets out a vision that by 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More than 1.2 million people will be in green jobs;</li> <li>7 million homes will have benefited from whole house makeovers, and more than 1.5 million households will be supported to produce their own clean energy;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategy covers a number of SA objectives including climate change, energy and air quality; landscape; geology and biodiversity; and waste.</li> </ul>

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<p>renewable and low carbon energy whilst protecting legitimate environmental and local concerns;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding to significantly advance the offshore wind industry in the UK;</li> <li>Funding to cement the UK's position as a global leader in wave and tidal energy;</li> <li>Funding to explore areas of potential "hot rocks" to be used for geothermal energy;</li> <li>Challenging 15 villages, towns or cities to be testbeds for piloting future green initiatives;</li> <li>Support for anaerobic digestion;</li> <li>Encouraging private funding for woodland creation; and</li> <li>Reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill, and better capture of landfill emissions etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Around 40 percent of electricity will be from low-carbon sources, from renewables, nuclear and clean coal;</li> <li>We will be importing half the amount of gas that we otherwise would; and</li> <li>The average new car will emit 40% less carbon than now.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan &amp; associated documents must recognise the importance to cut emissions in line with national targets.</li> </ul>
<b>Department for Food and Rural Affairs (2002) "Working with the grain of nature – A Biodiversity Strategy for England"</b>		
<p>The vision is for 'a country – its landscapes and water bodies, coasts and seas, towns and cities – where wild species and habitats are part of healthy functioning ecosystems; where we nurture, treasure and enhance our biodiversity, and where biodiversity is a natural consideration of policies and decisions, and in society as a whole.'</p>	<p>Agreement targets have been set to bring 95% of SSSIs into favourable condition by 2010 and to reverse the decline in farmland birds.</p> <p>Headline Indicators include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The population of wild birds;</li> <li>The condition of Sites of Special Scientific Interest;</li> <li>Progress with Biodiversity Action Plans;</li> <li>Area of land under agri-environment agreement;</li> <li>Biological quality of rivers;</li> <li>Fish stocks around the UK fished within safe limits;</li> <li>Progress with Local Biodiversity Action Plans; and</li> <li>Public attitudes to biodiversity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop policies that support the vision emphasising biodiversity.</li> <li>Include sustainability objectives and criteria that address the headline indicators.</li> <li>Consider targets that require 95% of SSSI's within region to be of a favourable condition.</li> </ul>
<b>Defra (2004) Rural Strategy</b>		
<p>The Government's three priorities for rural policy are:</p> <p>1. Economic and Social Regeneration – supporting enterprise across rural England, but targeting greater resources at areas of greatest need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building on the economic success of the majority of rural areas.</li> </ul>	<p>No targets or indicators.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan policies should seek to support the overarching themes contained within the Rural Strategy. In particular promoting economic development in rural areas and tackling social exclusion, including the promotion of good access to services and facilities.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tackling the structural economic weaknesses and accompanying poor social conditions.</li> </ul> <p>2. Social Justice for All – tackling rural social exclusion wherever it occurs and providing fair access to services and opportunities for all rural people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social priorities are to ensure fair access to public services and affordable.</li> <li>In both more and less prosperous areas, to tackle social exclusion wherever it occurs.</li> </ul> <p>3. Enhancing the Value of our Countryside – protecting the natural environment for this and future generations.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies to maintain and to enhance the quality of the countryside should also be considered.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should consider policies that encompass the overarching actions of the strategy, in particular the promoting access to services and facilities, protecting the countryside and promoting appropriate economic development.</li> </ul>
<b>Defra (2007) Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland</b>		
<p>The Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sets out a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues;</li> <li>sets out the air quality standards and objectives to be achieved;</li> <li>introduces a new policy framework for tackling fine particles; and</li> <li>identifies potential new national policy measures which modelling indicates could give further health benefits and move closer towards meeting the Strategy's objectives.</li> </ul>	<p>The Air Quality Strategy sets out objectives for a range of pollutants that have not been reproduced here due to space constraints.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should take account of the Air Quality Strategy where there are likely to be issues relating to air quality</li> </ul>
<b>Defra (2007) Strategy for England's Trees, Woods and Forests (ETWFs)</b>		
<p>Key aims for government intervention in trees, woods and forests are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to secure trees and woodlands for future generations;</li> <li>to ensure resilience to climate change;</li> <li>to protect and enhance natural resources;</li> <li>to increase the contribution that trees, woods and forests make to our quality of life;</li> <li>and to improve the competitiveness of woodland businesses and products.</li> </ul> <p>These aims will form the basis on which the Delivery plan will be developed by Natural England and the Forestry Commission England (FCE). The strategy provides a national policy direction, which can be incorporated alongside regional priorities within regional forestry frameworks.</p>	<p>Strategy aims to create 2,200 hectares of wet woodland in England by 2010.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan policies to protect and enhance trees, woods and forests. In turn ensuring resilience to climate change.</li> </ul>



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<b>Defra (2008) England Biodiversity Strategy Climate Change Adaptation Principles Conserving Biodiversity in a Changing Climate</b>		
<p>The report sets out a number of broad principles and goals including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conserve existing biodiversity</li> <li>• Conserve protected areas and other high quality areas</li> <li>• Reduce sources of harm not linked to climate</li> <li>• Use existing biodiversity legislation and international agreements</li> <li>• Conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species</li> </ul>	<p>No targets or indicators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to support and protect existing habitats and species and ecological networks</li> </ul>
<b>Defra (2010) Making Space for Nature: A Review of England's Wildlife Sites and Ecological Network</b>		
<p>The report proposes the overall aim for England's ecological network should be to achieve a natural environment where, compared to the situation in 2000, biodiversity is enhanced with the diversity, functioning and resilience of ecosystems re-established in a network for nature that can sustain these levels into the future, even given continuing environmental change and human pressures</p>	<p>No formal targets or indicators but a number of recommendations are identified under the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the management and condition of wildlife sites</li> <li>• Improve the protection and management of remaining wildlife habitats</li> <li>• Become better at deriving multiple benefits from the ways society interacts with the environment</li> <li>• Need for society to accept change in nature conservation is necessary, desirable and achievable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to preserve the ecological network</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should consider the ecological network in its objectives/guidance questions</li> </ul>
<b>Defra (2011) Safeguarding our Soils – A Strategy for England</b>		
<p>The strategy is underpinned by the following vision:</p> <p>By 2030, all England's soils will be managed sustainably and degradation threats tackled successfully. This will improve the quality of England's soils and safeguard their ability to provide essential services for future generations.</p> <p>Achieving this vision will mean that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• agricultural soils will be better managed and threats to them will be addressed;</li> <li>• soils will play a greater role in the fight against climate change and in helping us to manage its impacts;</li> </ul>	<p>No further targets identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to protect soil quality where appropriate.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include an objective/guide question relating to the effects of policies/proposals on soils.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>soils in urban areas will be valued during development, and construction practices will ensure vital soil functions can be maintained; and</li> <li>pollution of our soils is prevented, and our historic legacy of contaminated land is being dealt with.</li> </ul>		
<b>Defra (2011) Biodiversity 2020: a Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services</b>		
The Strategy is designed to help to deliver the objectives set out in the Natural Environment White Paper.	<p>The strategy includes the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating 200,000 hectares of new wildlife habitats by 2020</li> <li>Securing 50% of SSSIs in favourable condition, while maintaining at least 95% in favourable or recovering condition</li> <li>Encouraging more people to get involved in conservation by supporting wildlife gardening and outdoor learning programmes</li> <li>Introducing a new designation for local green spaces to enable communities to protect places that are important to them</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop policies that support the vision emphasising biodiversity.</li> </ul>
<b>Defra (2011) Natural Environment White Paper: The Natural Choice - Securing the Value of Nature</b>		
The Natural Environment White paper sets out the Government's plans to ensure the natural environment is protected and fully integrated into society and economic growth.	<p>The White Paper sets out four key aims:</p> <p>(i) protecting and improving our natural environment;</p> <p>(ii) growing a green economy;</p> <p>(iii) reconnecting people and nature; and</p> <p>(iv) international and EU leadership, specifically to achieve environmentally and socially sustainable economic growth, together with food, water, climate and energy security and to put the EU on a path towards environmentally sustainable, low-carbon and resource-efficient growth, which is resilient to climate change, provides jobs and supports the wellbeing of citizens.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop policies that support the vision emphasising biodiversity.</li> </ul>
<b>Defra (2012) UK Post 2010 Biodiversity Framework</b>		
The Framework is to set a broad enabling structure for action across the UK between now and 2020:	The Framework sets out 20 new global 'Aichi targets' under 5 strategic goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan policies should seek to protect biodiversity</li> </ul>

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<p>i. To set out a shared vision and priorities for UK- scale activities, in a framework jointly owned by the four countries, and to which their own strategies will contribute;</p> <p>ii. To identify priority work at a UK level which will be needed to help deliver the Aichi targets and the EU Biodiversity Strategy;</p> <p>iii. To facilitate the aggregation and collation of information on activity and outcomes across all countries of the UK, where the four countries agree this will bring benefits compared to individual country work; and</p> <p>iv. To streamline governance arrangements for UK- scale activity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society</li> <li>• Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use</li> <li>• To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems species and genetic diversity</li> <li>• Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services</li> <li>• Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure that the objectives of biodiversity conservation and enhancement are taken into consideration.</li> </ul>
<b>Defra (2013) The National Adaptation Programme – Making the Country Resilient to a Changing Climate</b>		
<p>This Programme contains a mix of policies and actions to help adapt successfully to future weather conditions, by dealing with the risks and making the most of the opportunities.</p> <p>It sets out a number of objectives, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide a clear Local Plan framework to enable all participants in the planning system to deliver sustainable new development, including infrastructure that minimises vulnerability and provides resilience to the impacts of climate change.</li> <li>• To increase the resilience of homes and buildings by helping people and communities to understand what a changing climate could mean for them and to take action to become resilient to climate risks.</li> <li>• To ensure infrastructure is located, planned, designed and maintained to be resilient to climate change, including increasingly extreme weather events.</li> </ul>	<p>The Programme identifies a number of actions although no formal targets are identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Adopted Local Plan proposals should seek to adapt to the effect of climate change.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include an objective/guide question relating to climate change adaptation.</li> </ul>
<b>Defra (2021) Waste Management Plan for England</b>		
<p>Sets out the Government's ambition to work towards a more sustainable and efficient approach to resource use and management. The document includes measures to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage reduction and management of packaging waste</li> <li>• Promote high quality recycling</li> <li>• Encourage separate collection of bio-waste</li> </ul>	<p>The Plan seeks to ensure that by 2035:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the preparing for re-use and the recycling of municipal waste is increased to a minimum of 65% by weight.</li> <li>• the amount of municipal waste landfilled is reduced to 10% or less of the total amount of municipal waste generated (by weight).</li> </ul> <p>Local waste plans should:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider opportunities to reduce waste and encourage recycling and composting.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include an objective/guide question relating to waste management</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the re-use of products and preparing for re-use activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>promote high quality recycling including the setting up of separate collections of waste where technically, environmentally and economically practicable and appropriate to meet the necessary quality standards for the relevant recycling sectors.</li> <li>include measures to encourage the separate collection of bio-waste with a view to the composting and digestion of bio-waste.</li> <li>Include measures to be taken to promote the re-use of products and preparing for re-use activities</li> </ul>	
<b>Defra (2013) Government Forestry and Woodlands Policy Statement</b>		
<p>The Policy Statement has the following three key objectives, in priority order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protecting the nation's trees, woodlands and forests from increasing threats such as pests, diseases and climate change,</li> <li>Improving their resilience to these threats and their contribution to economic growth, people's lives and nature;</li> <li>Expanding them to increase further their economic, social and environmental value</li> </ul>	<p>To achieve the objectives, Defra will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with the Natural Capital Committee and the Office of National Statistics to develop a set of natural capital accounts for UK forestry and use this to develop a set of natural capital accounts for the Public Forest Estate,</li> <li>Develop a woodland ecosystem market roadmap by summer 2013 to bring together actions by Government and our partners over the next 5 years to (a) build knowledge (b) develop wider networks of collaboration and expertise and (c) implement mechanisms and projects to demonstrate good practice; and</li> <li>Work with other organisations and initiatives to support the further development of markets in forest carbon and other ecosystem services such as water and biodiversity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider opportunities to protect, enhance and expand the City's woodland resource.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should seek to protect woodland and enhance its value where practicable.</li> </ul>
<b>Defra (2017) Air Quality Plan for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2) in UK</b>		
<p>This plan sets out how the Government will improve air quality in the UK by reducing nitrogen dioxide emissions in towns and cities. The air quality plans set out targeted local, regional and national measures across 37 zone plans (areas which have identified air quality issues with nitrogen dioxide), a UK overview document and a national list of measures. Measures relate to freight, rail, sustainable travel, low emission vehicles and cleaner transport fuels, among others.</p>	<p>The plan identifies that Chelmsford is anticipated to meet its NO<sub>2</sub> requirements for roads in 2018.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should have regard to poor air quality and the need for locally specific measures to address this issue.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objective/guide questions relating to addressing air quality issues.</li> </ul>
<b>Defra (2019) Clean Air Strategy</b>		

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
Sets out how the government proposes to tackle all sources of air pollution, making air healthier to breathe, protecting nature and boosting the economy, complementing complements three other UK government strategies, the: Industrial Strategy the Clean Growth Strategy and the 25 Year Environment Plan	No specific targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should have regard to poor air quality and the need for locally specific measures to address this issue.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objective/guide questions relating to addressing air quality issues.</li> </ul>
<b>Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLHC) (2021) National Design Guide</b>		
<p>This document contains planning practice guidance regarding the creation of beautiful, enduring and successful places. The focus of the document is on explaining what constitutes good design. The document identifies the following ten characteristics that are important for good design:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Context</li> <li>Identity</li> <li>Built form</li> <li>Movement</li> <li>Nature</li> <li>Public spaces</li> <li>Uses</li> <li>Homes &amp; buildings</li> <li>Resources</li> <li>Lifespan</li> </ul>	No specific targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should encourage well designed developments and places over its lifespan.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objective/guide questions relating to good design.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2021) The Environment Act</b>		
<p>Sets out the Government's expectations for environmental improvement by setting out a legal framework covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental governance</li> <li>Environmental regulation</li> <li>Waste and resource efficiency</li> <li>Air quality and environmental recall</li> <li>Water</li> <li>Nature and biodiversity</li> <li>Conservation covenants</li> </ul>	<p>Delivery through the following Environmental Principles: integration, prevention, rectification at source, polluter pays and precautionary</p> <p>Delivery of Local Nature Recovery Strategies: - a network of spatial nature strategies</p> <p>Delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain through a Biodiversity Gain Plan</p> <p>The biodiversity gain objective is met in relation to development for which planning permission is granted if the biodiversity value attributable to the development exceeds the pre-development biodiversity value of the onsite habitat by at least the relevant percentage (i.e. 10%).</p>	<p>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should ensure that there are provisions for delivering Biodiversity Net Gain Delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain through a Biodiversity Gain Plan to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Details of the steps taken or to be taken to reduce the adverse effect of the development on biodiversity of the onsite habitat and any other habitat.</li> <li>– The pre and post biodiversity value of the onsite habitat(post – development value must be at least the value specified in the plan.</li> <li>– Any registered offsite biodiversity gain allocated to the development and the biodiversity value of that gain in relation to the development.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
	A "biodiversity gain site register" will be created for individual development sites which are also to be maintained for at least 3 decades following the completion of the scheme.	– Any biodiversity credits purchased for the development.
<b>Department for Transport (2019) Future of Mobility: Urban Strategy</b>		
This document seeks to quantify how transportation methods are changing and how transportation might look in the future. It identifies that individual travel is very slowly falling (person travel) whilst demand for mass travel (public transport etc) continues to rise.	No specific targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should ensure it provides the needed infrastructure over its lifetime.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should consider infrastructure improvements.</li> </ul>
<b>Department for Transport (2021) Transitioning to zero emission cars and vans: 2035 delivery plan</b>		
This document establishes a roadmap for the UK's transition to zero emission cars and vans over the next 15 years. The document commits the UK government to phasing out the sale of new petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2030, and that all new cars and vans will be fully zero emission from the tailpipe from 2035.	The phasing out of polluting cars and vans by 2035.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider how it can encourage a modal shift to more sustainable forms of transport and the uptake of more sustainable forms of private transport.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objective/guide questions relating to the creation of greenhouse gases.</li> </ul>
<b>Environment Agency (2009) 'Water for people and the environment' - Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales</b>		
<p>Strategy sets out how water resources in England and Wales should be managed and provides a plan of how to use them in a sustainable way, now and in the future. The Strategy aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>enable habitats and species to adapt better to climate change;</li> <li>allow the way we protect the water environment to adjust flexibly to a changing climate;</li> <li>reduce pressure on the environment caused by water taken for human use;</li> <li>encourage options resilient to climate change to be chosen in the face of uncertainty;</li> <li>better protect vital water supply infrastructure;</li> <li>reduce greenhouse gas emissions from people using water, considering the whole life-cycle of use; and</li> <li>improve understanding of the risks and uncertainties of climate change.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Target set for England, that the average amount of water used per person in the home is reduced to 130 litres each day by 2030.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan and associated documents should take on board objectives set within the Strategy. These particularly apply to providing efficiency in terms of water use and protecting water resources.</li> </ul>
<b>Environment Agency (2016) Managing Water Extraction</b>		

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Sets out the Environment Agency's policies for managing surface and ground water abstraction licences and proposals to help recover resources where abstraction is unsuitable.	The aim of this document is to contribute to the sustainable management of water resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should take account of water abstraction is a key requirement of many developments.</li> </ul>
<b>Environment Agency (2021) Flood risk assessments: climate change allowances</b>		
This document governs and provides advice on how developers and Local Authorities should use climate change allowances. The goal of the document is to overall ensure that the potential effects of climate change in terms of its effects on the local water environment (more rainfall, peak flows etc) have been properly considered.	No specific target or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should ensure any development constructed during its lifetime is resilient to the effects of climate change and especially from flooding.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objective/guide questions relating to flood risk and the effects of climate change.</li> </ul>
<b>Forestry Commission (2005) Trees and Woodlands Nature's Health Service</b>		
An advisory document which provides detailed examples of how the Woodland Sector (trees, woodlands and green spaces) can significantly contribute to people's health, well-being (physical, psychological and social) and quality of life. Increasing levels of physical activity is a particular priority.	No targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives which relate to providing more equal access to opportunities, services and facilities for recreation.</li> </ul>
<b>Historic England (2015) Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Notes 1 to 3</b>		
The purpose of these Good Practice Advice notes is to provide information on good practice to assist local authorities, planning and other consultants, owners, applicants and other interested parties in implementing historic environment policy in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the related guidance given in the National Planning Practice Guide (PPG).	No specific targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council should have regard to the Advice note in preparing the Review of the Adopted Local Plan.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives relating to conservation and enhancement of the historic environment.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (1979) Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act</b>		
The Act defines sites that warrant protection as ancient monuments. They can be a Scheduled Ancient Monuments or "any other monument which in the opinion of the Secretary of State is of public interest by reason of the historic, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching to it".	No targets identified.	The IIA Framework should include objectives and indicators relating to the cultural heritage, referencing Scheduled Monuments.
<b>HM Government (1981) The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981</b>		
The main UK legislation relating to the protection of named animal and plant species includes legislation relating to the UK	Under this Act, Natural England has responsibility for identifying and protecting SSSIs in England.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop policies that identify and continue the protection of SSSIs within the district.</li> </ul>



Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
network of nationally protected wildlife areas: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider targets that require 95% of SSSI's within region to be of a favourable condition.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (1990) Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act</b>		
The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 provides specific protection for buildings and areas of special architectural or historic interest.	No targets or indicators.	The IIA Framework should include objectives and indicators relating to the cultural heritage, referencing Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas.
<b>HM Government (2000) Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000</b>		
<p>This Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>gives people greater freedom to explore open country on foot;</li> <li>creates a duty for Highway Authorities and National Park Authorities to establish Local Access Forums;</li> <li>provides a cut-off date of 1 January 2026 for the recording of certain rights of way on definitive maps and the extinguishment of those not so recorded by that date;</li> <li>offers greater protection to wildlife and natural features, better protection for Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and more effective enforcement of wildlife legislation; and</li> <li>protects Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty with legislation similar to that for National Parks.</li> </ul>	Act seeks to protect sites of landscape and wildlife importance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SA objectives should seek to protect areas of landscape and wildlife importance.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2003) Sustainable Energy Act</b>		
The Act aims to promote sustainable energy development and use and report on progress regarding cutting the UK's carbon emissions and reducing the number of people living in fuel poverty.	Specific targets are set by the Secretary of State as energy efficiency aims.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Act requires the encouragement and reporting on the UK's attempts to increase energy efficiency and renewable energy use. The IIA Framework should include objectives relating to climate change and energy use.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2003) Energy White Paper - Our Energy Future, Creating a Low Carbon Economy</b>		
<p>Four Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to put ourselves on a path to cut the UK's carbon dioxide emissions - the main contributor to global warming - by some 60% by about 2050, with real progress by 2020;</li> <li>to maintain the reliability of energy supplies;</li> <li>to promote competitive markets in the UK and beyond, helping to raise the rate of sustainable economic growth and to improve our productivity; and</li> </ul>	Reduction in carbon dioxide emissions of some 60% from current levels by about 2050 with real progress by 2020.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan should ensure that policies are in place to encourage the reduction in carbon dioxide emissions whilst promoting sustainable economic growth.</li> <li>IIA Framework should include objectives which aim to provide a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to ensure that every home is adequately and affordably heated.</li> </ul>		
<b>HM Government (2004, revised 2006) Housing Act</b>		
The Act requires the energy efficiency of a building to be established and available as part of the Home Information Pack, part of the implementation of EU Directive 2002/91/EC.	Energy efficiency must be at least 20% greater in properties by 2010 than compared with 2000.	The Act requires greater energy efficiency in residential buildings. The IIA Framework should include objectives relating to climate change and energy use.
<b>HM Government (2005) Securing the Future – the UK Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)</b>		
<p>The Strategy has 5 guiding principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Living within environmental limits</li> <li>Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society</li> <li>Achieving a sustainable economy</li> <li>Promoting good governance</li> <li>Using sound science responsibly</li> <li>and 4 strategic priorities:</li> <li>sustainable consumption and production</li> <li>natural resource protection and environmental enhancement</li> <li>sustainable communities.</li> </ul>	<p>The Strategy contains a new set of indicators to monitor progress towards sustainable development in the UK. Those most relevant at the district level include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greenhouse gas emissions</li> <li>Road freight (CO2 emissions and tonne km, tonnes and GDP)</li> <li>Household waste (a) arisings (b) recycled or composted</li> <li>Local environmental quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider how the Review of the Adopted Local Plan can contribute to Sustainable Development Strategy Objectives. Consider using some of the indicators to monitor the effects of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and as basis for collecting information for the baseline review.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should reflect the guiding principles of the Strategy.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2006) The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006</b>		
<p>The Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Makes provision about bodies concerned with the natural environment and rural communities;</li> <li>Makes provision in connection with wildlife, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), National Parks and the Broads;</li> <li>Amends the law relating to rights of way;</li> <li>Makes provision as to the Inland Waterways Amenity Advisory Council;</li> <li>Makes provision as to the Inland Waterways Amenity Advisory Council; and</li> <li>Provides for flexible administrative arrangements in connection with functions relating to the environment and rural affairs and certain other functions; and for connected purposes.</li> </ul>	No targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IIA Framework should reflect the guiding principles of the Act.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2016) Energy Act 2016</b>		

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Sets out the Government's international and domestic Energy Strategy to respond to changing circumstances with respect to tackling climate change and ensuring secure, clean and affordable energy as we become increasingly dependent on imported fuel. Further it addresses the long term energy challenges faced and delivers four energy policy goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To put ourselves on a path to cutting CO2 emissions by some 60% by 2050 with real progress by 2020;</li> <li>To maintain the reliability of energy supplies;</li> <li>To promote competitive markets in the UK and beyond; and</li> <li>To ensure that every home is adequately and affordably heated.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan should ensure that policies are in place to encourage the reduction in carbon dioxide emissions whilst promoting sustainable economic growth.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives which seek to provide a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and encourages energy efficiency.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2008) The Climate Change Act 2008 (as amended)</b>		
<p>This Act aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to improve carbon management and help the transition towards a low carbon economy in the UK; and</li> <li>to demonstrate strong UK leadership internationally, signalling that the UK is committed to taking its share of responsibility for reducing global emissions in the context of developing negotiations on a post-2012 global agreement at Copenhagen next year.</li> </ul>	<p>The Act sets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legally binding targets - Green house gas emission reductions through action in the UK and abroad of at least 80% by 2050, and reductions in CO2 emissions of at least 26% by 2020, against a 1990 baseline. The 2020 target will be reviewed soon after Royal Assent to reflect the move to all greenhouse gases and the increase in the 2050 target to 80%.</li> <li>Further the Act provides for a carbon budgeting system which caps emissions over five year periods, with three budgets set at a time, to set out our trajectory to 2050. The first three carbon budgets will run from 2008-12, 2013-17 and 2018-22, and must be set by 1 June 2009.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Act sets out a clear precedent for the UK to lead in responding to the threats climate change provides. The Review of the Adopted Local Plan and associated documents must ensure that greenhouse gases are reduced or minimised and that energy use comes increasingly from renewable sources.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2008) The Planning Act 2008</b>		
Introduces a new system for nationally significant infrastructure planning, alongside further reforms to the Town and Country Planning system. A major component of this legislation is the introduction of an independent Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC), to take decisions on major infrastructure projects (transport, energy, water and waste). To support decision-making, the IPC will refer to the Government's National Policy Statements (NPSs), which will provide a clear long-term strategic direction for nationally significant infrastructure development.	No key targets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan and associated documents should take into account any relevant National Policy Statements when published.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2009) The UK Renewable Energy Strategy</b>		
<p>Strategy sets out to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Put in place the mechanisms to provide financial support for renewable electricity and heat worth around £30 billion between now and 2020;</li> <li>Drive delivery and clear away barriers;</li> </ul>	<p>A vision is set out in the document whereby by 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More than 30% of our electricity generated from renewables;</li> <li>12% of our heat generated from renewables; and</li> <li>10% of transport energy from renewables.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives which seek to provide support for renewable energy.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase investment in emerging technologies and pursue new sources of supply; and</li> <li>• Create new opportunities for individuals, communities and business to harness renewable energy.</li> </ul>		
<b>HM Government (2010) The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010</b>		
This is the UK transposition of EC Directive 92/43/EC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.	The Regulations provide for the designation and protection of 'European sites', the protection of 'European protected species', and the adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European Sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The IIA Framework should include objectives which seek to conserve the natural environment.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2010) Flood and Water Management Act 2010</b>		
The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 makes provisions about water, including provision about the management of risks in connection with flooding and coastal erosion.	<p>Those related to water resources, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To widen the list of uses of water that water companies can control during periods of water shortage, and enable Government to add to and remove uses from the list.</li> <li>• To encourage the uptake of sustainable drainage systems by removing the automatic right to connect to sewers and providing for unitary and county councils to adopt SUDS for new developments and redevelopments.</li> <li>• To reduce 'bad debt' in the water industry by amending the Water Industry Act 1991 to provide a named customer and clarify who is responsible for paying the water bill.</li> <li>• To make it easier for water and sewerage companies to develop and implement social tariffs where companies consider there is a good cause to do so, and in light of guidance that will be issued by the Secretary of State following a full public consultation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should improve the water environment of the region over its lifetime and ensure new development are not at risk of flooding.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should have guide questions relating to flood risk.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2010) Local Growth: Realising Every Place's Potential</b>		
<p>Sets out a goal to promote strong, sustainable and balanced growth.</p> <p>Focuses on the approach to local growth proposing measures to shift power away from central government to local communities, citizens and independent providers.</p> <p>LEPs introduced to provide a vision and leadership for local economic growth.</p>	LEPs will be expected to fund their own day to day running costs or submit bids to the Regional Growth Fund, to try and stimulate enterprise by supporting projects with potential to create economic growth and employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should have due regard to the need for strong, sustainable and balance growth.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should consider the nature of growth to ensure that the economy remains balanced and growth is sustainable.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2010) White Paper: Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Strategy for Public Health in England</b>		

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Aims to create a 'wellness' service (Public Health for England) and to strengthen both national and local leadership.	No formal targets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should support this plan through policy.</li> <li>The SA should look at healthy issues and the way the site allocations will support these.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2011) Water for Life: White Paper</b>		
<p>Water for Life describes a vision for future water management in which the water sector is resilient, in which water companies are more efficient and customer focused, and in which water is valued as the precious and finite resource it is.</p> <p>Water for Life includes several proposals for deregulating and simplifying legislation, to reduce burdens on business and stimulate growth. Ofwat's proposals for reducing its regulatory burdens complement these.</p>	No target or indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should ensure that future water management is resilient, efficient and customer focused</li> <li>In order to ensure future water management is resilient SEA should consider resilience to climate change and should consider the human environment to ensure water companies remain customer focused.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2011) Plan for Growth</b>		
Programme of structural reforms to remove barriers to growth for businesses and equip the UK to compete in the global race	<p>No formal targets, sets out the government's four ambitions for growth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating the most competitive tax system in the G20;</li> <li>Encouraging investment and exports as a route to a more balanced economy;</li> <li>Making the UK the best place in Europe to start, finance and grow a business; and</li> <li>Creating a more educated workforce that is the most flexible in Europe</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should have regard to the need for strong and competitive growing economy</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2011) National Infrastructure Plan</b>		
Key goal to ensure the security of electricity and gas within the UK, The Plan seeks to clarify the potential contribution of shale gas and other unconventional resources to indigenous gas supplies through updated estimates of share gas resources.	The Plan contains major commitments to improve the UK's transport and broadband networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan should ensure that policies consider the goal of the Infrastructure Plan</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2011) The Localism Act</b>		
<p>The Localism Bill includes five key measures that underpin the Government's approach to decentralisation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community rights;</li> <li>Neighbourhood planning;</li> <li>Housing;</li> </ul>	No key targets or indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should take into consideration community involvement as and Enable communities to influence the decisions that affect their neighbourhoods and quality of life.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General power of competence;</li> <li>Empowering cities and other local areas.</li> </ul>		
<b>HM Government (2011) UK Marine Policy Statement</b>		
<p>The Marine Policy Statement (MPS) is the framework for preparing Marine Plans and taking decisions affecting the marine environment. It identifies the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote sustainable economic development;</li> <li>Enable the UK's move towards a low-carbon economy, in order to mitigate the causes of climate change;</li> <li>Ensure a sustainable marine environment which promotes healthy, functioning marine ecosystems and protects marine habitats, species and our heritage assets; and</li> <li>Contribute to the societal benefits of the marine area, including the sustainable use of marine resources to address local social and economic issues.</li> </ul>	No specific targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should support the implementation of the MPS where possible.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should reflect the objectives of the MPS.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2021) South East Inshore Marine Plan</b>		
<p>The Plan is an enabling mechanism, providing greater certainty about where new activities can best take place, and assisting marine users in determining preferred locations.</p> <p>Specifically, the South East Marine Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>enables efficient use of space, highlighting the need and opportunities for coexistence in areas with high concentrations of activity, or where the geography of the area does not allow alternatives</li> <li>enables communication and negotiation where co-existence is an option, so impacts can be avoided, minimised and/or mitigated. In some cases where impacts cannot be mitigated but where proposals will bring other benefits, the Plan enables these to be considered in the decision-making process</li> <li>gives greater certainty around current activity by providing real-time data through the Explore Marine Plans digital service</li> <li>provides appropriate safeguarding for areas of future resource potential where there is sufficient evidence and consents have been secured</li> <li>allows flexibility where evidence is limited so proponents and decision-makers are able to apply their knowledge and experience</li> <li>supports the development of proposals by:</li> </ul>	No specific targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should support the implementation of the South East Marine Plan where appropriate.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should reflect the objectives of the South East Marine Plan.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- setting out non-spatial requirements that apply to proposals regardless of their specific location, such as how an activity or development is undertaken</li> <li>- identifying how proposals can support the vision and objectives of the south east marine plan area to improve the chances of success in the decision-making process</li> <li>- providing context for when 'imperative reasons of overriding public interest' are being considered<sup>4</sup>, such as the need for nationally significant infrastructure</li> <li>- increasing awareness of which other relevant legislation, guidance and existing measures should or must be taken into consideration</li> </ul>		
<b>HM Government (2013) Carbon Plan: Delivering our Low Carbon Future</b>		
<p>This sets out how the UK will achieve decarbonisation within the framework of energy policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To make the transition to a low carbon economy while maintaining energy security, and minimising costs to consumers, particularly those in poorer households.</li> </ul>	No key targets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider policies in term of access by low-carbon means and also the capacity for sites to use low carbon sources of energy.</li> <li>• The IIA needs to ensure that the plan is embracing the low carbon agenda and appropriate sustainability objectives are utilised to assess the plan's credentials in terms of a low carbon future and the impact it could have on climate change.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2013) The Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) Regulations 2013</b>		
The Community Infrastructure Level (CIL) is a charge which may be applied to new developments by local authorities. The money can be used to support development by funding infrastructure that the council, local community and neighbourhoods want.	No key targets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should make some reference to the possibility of a Charging Schedule, as per the regulations.</li> <li>• The SA should make some reference to how proposed development will improve the social, economic and environmental issues that exist in areas that will accommodate housing.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2013) Achieving Strong and Sustainable Economic Growth</b>		
Sets out how the government is removing barriers to growth allowing the UK to compete in a rapidly changing global economy.	No formal targets but the policy contains a number of actions to attract investment within the UK, supporting local growth, investing in infrastructure and creating a more educated and flexible workforce.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop policies that have due regard to the need for a strong, sustainable and balanced growth</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2014) Water Act 2014</b>		



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The provisions in the Act enable the delivery of Government's aims for a sustainable sector as set out in the Water White Paper in a way that this is workable and clear. This Act aims to makes steps towards reducing regulatory burdens, promoting innovation and investment, giving choice and better service to customers and enabling more efficient use of scarce water resources.	No targets or indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IIA Framework should consider objectives seeking to protect and improve the quality of inland and coastal waters.</li> </ul>
<b>HM Government (2015) Water Framework Directive (Standards and Classification) Directions (England and Wales) 2015</b>		
The regulations implement provisions of the Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC), the Environmental Quality Standards Directive (Directive 2008/105/EC) and the priority substances amendment of these directives (Directive 2013/39/EU). This includes directions for the classification of surface water and groundwater bodies, monitoring requirements, standards for ecological and chemical status of surface waters, and environmental quality standards for priority substances.	No targets or indicators	The SEA should include objectives relating to water quality, water resources, sustainable water use, and biodiversity.
<b>HM Government (2016) Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016</b>		
<p>The Regulations provide a consolidated system of environmental permitting in England and Wales, and transpose the provisions of 15 EU Directives. It provides a system for environmental permits and exemptions for industrial activities, mobile plant, waste operations, mining waste operations, water discharge activities, groundwater activities, flood risk activities and radioactive substances activities. It also sets out the powers, functions and duties of the regulators.</p> <p>Certain flood risk activities are now regulated under the Environmental Permitting Regulations, with environmental permits required for some activities. There are slight variations between England and Wales.</p>	No targets or indicators	The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should accord with these Regulations.
<b>HM Government (2016) Government Response to the Committee on Climate Change</b>		
In June 2015 the Committee on Climate Change and the Adaptation Sub-Committee published the seventh progress report on Government's mitigation activity and the first statutory assessment of the National Adaptation Programme. This included five recommendations and it is those recommendations that are responded to within this response.	In June 2015 the Committee on Climate Change and the Adaptation Sub-Committee published the seventh progress report on Government's mitigation activity and the first statutory assessment of the National Adaptation Programme. This included five recommendations and it is those recommendations that are responded to within this response	In June 2015 the Committee on Climate Change and the Adaptation Sub-Committee published the seventh progress report on Government's mitigation activity and the first statutory assessment of the National Adaptation Programme. This included five recommendations and it is those recommendations that are responded to within this response

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<b>HM Government (2017) The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017</b>		
This is the UK transposition of EC Directive 92/43/EC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.	The Regulations provide for the designation and protection of 'European sites', the protection of 'European protected species', and the adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European Sites.	The IIIA Framework should include objectives which seek to conserve the natural environment.
<b>HM Government (2021) The Environment Act 2021</b>		
The Act supports the UK Government's 25 Year Environment Plan to improve the environment and brings about urgent and meaningful action to combat the environmental issues that the UK is facing. A key component of the Act is to set at least one long-term legally binding target in each of the following four key areas: air quality, resource efficiency and waste reduction, biodiversity and water. The Act sets out the criteria for these long-term targets which will also be supported by interim targets. These will be reviewed every five years via the Significant Improvement Test.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air quality: reducing annual mean level of fine particulate matter; reducing population exposure to particulate matter.</li> <li>Resource efficiency and waste reduction: increasing resource efficiency; reduce the volume of 'residual' waste.</li> <li>Biodiversity: improve the quality of habitats expressed through the condition of protected sites (SSSIs); improve the overall status of species populations; restore and create wildlife-rich habitat outside protected sites. The Act requires new development to achieve at least 10% biodiversity net gain.</li> <li>Water: reduce pollution from agriculture; reduce pollution from wastewater; reduce water demand.</li> </ul>	The IIA Framework should include objectives relating to the conservation and enhancement of natural resources (air, water, resource use and biodiversity) and include specific targets demonstrating how these objectives will be advanced over the lifetimes of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan.
<b>HM Government (2021) Building Back Better: Our Plan for Growth</b>		
Sets out the government's plans to support economic growth through significant investment in infrastructure, skills and innovation.	<p>Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stimulate short-term economic activity and drive long-term productivity improvements via record investment in broadband, roads, rail and cities, as part of our capital spending plans worth £100 billion next year.</li> <li>Connect people to opportunity via the UK-wide Levelling Up Fund and UK Shared Prosperity Fund, as well as the Towns Fund and High Street Fund, to invest in local areas.</li> <li>Help achieve net zero via £12 billion of funding for projects through the Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution.</li> <li>Support investment through the new UK Infrastructure Bank which will 'crowd-in' private investment to accelerate our progress to net zero, helping to level up the UK. This will invest in local authority and private sector infrastructure projects, as well as providing an advisory function to help with the development and delivery of projects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should take note of the broad approach to investment and in partnership identify where funding and other opportunities might reside.</li> <li>The IIIA Framework should ensure it considers how the Review of the Adopted Local Plan would take advantage of investment opportunities which seek to boost economic performance.</li> </ul>

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	<p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support productivity growth through high-quality skills and training: transforming Further Education through additional investment and reforming technical education to align the post-16 technical education system with employer demand.</li> <li>• Introduce the Lifetime Skills Guarantee to enable lifelong learning through free fully funded Level 3 courses, rolling out employer-led skills bootcamps, and introducing the Lifelong Loan Entitlement.</li> <li>• Continue to focus on the quality of apprenticeships and take steps to improve the apprenticeship system for employers, through enabling the transfer of unspent levy funds and allowing employers to front load apprenticeship training.</li> </ul> <p>Innovation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and incentivise the development of the creative ideas and technologies that will shape the UK's future high-growth, sustainable and secure economy.</li> <li>• Support access to finance to help unleash innovation, including through reforms to address disincentives for pension funds to invest in high-growth companies, continued government support for start ups and scale ups through programmes such as British Patient Capital, and a new £375 million Future Fund: Breakthrough product to address the scale up gap for our most innovative businesses.</li> <li>• Develop the regulatory system in a way that supports innovation.</li> <li>• Attract the brightest and best people, boosting growth and driving the international competitiveness of the UK's high-growth, innovative businesses.</li> <li>• Support our small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to grow through two new schemes to boost productivity: Help to Grow: Management, a new management training offer, and Help to Grow: Digital, a new scheme to help 100,000 SMEs save time and money by adopting productivity-enhancing software, transforming the way they do business.</li> </ul>	
<b>HM Government (2022) Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener</b>		
Sets out policies and proposals for decarbonising all sectors of the UK economy to meet our net zero target by 2050.	The Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution 1: Advancing Offshore Wind, including:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should take note of the approach to achieving net zero.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 40GW of offshore wind by 2030 including 1GW of floating wind (wind turbines generating electricity in water depths)</li> <li>– £160 million into modern ports and manufacturing infrastructure</li> <li>– The Offshore Transmission Network Review</li> <li>2: Driving the Growth of Low Carbon Hydrogen, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– An ambition for 5GW of low carbon hydrogen production capacity by 2030</li> <li>– £240 million Net Zero Hydrogen Fund</li> <li>– Hydrogen trials to test use of hydrogen in heating</li> </ul> </li> <li>3: Delivering New and Advanced Nuclear Power, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Pursuing large-scale nuclear projects, subject to value for money</li> <li>– Legislating for a new financing model for nuclear projects</li> <li>– £385 million Advanced Nuclear Fund to enable up to £215 million into Small Modular Reactors</li> <li>– £170 million for a R&amp;D programme on Advanced Modular Reactors</li> </ul> </li> <li>4: Accelerating the Shift to Zero Emission Vehicles, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– End the sale of new pure petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2030 and consult on phase out for diesel HGVs</li> <li>– £1 billion to support electrification of UK vehicles and their supply chains</li> <li>– £1.3 billion to accelerate the roll-out of charging infrastructure</li> <li>– Publish a Green Paper in 2021 on the UK's post-EU emissions regulation</li> </ul> </li> <li>5: Green Public Transport, Cycling and Walking, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– £120 million to begin introducing at least 4,000 zero emission buses</li> <li>– Billions of pounds in enhancements and renewals of the rail network</li> <li>– £5 billion to support buses, cycling and walking</li> </ul> </li> <li>6: Jet Zero and Green Ships, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A Jet Zero Council</li> <li>– £15 million to support production of</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure it considers how the Review of the Adopted Local Plan would address opportunities for achieving net zero targets, particularly in the use of zero emission vehicles, green public transport, cycling and walking.</li> </ul>

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	<p>Sustainable Aviation Fuels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– £20 million for the Clean Maritime Demonstration Programme</li> </ul> <p>7: Greener Buildings, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Ambition to install 600,000 heat pumps per year by 2028</li> <li>– Energy efficiency funding, including the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme and Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund</li> <li>– Strengthened energy efficiency requirements for private sector landlords</li> </ul> <p>8: Investing in Carbon Capture, Usage and Storage, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Commitment for two industrial clusters by mid 2020s, and an aim for four sites by 2030, capturing up to 10Mt CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per year</li> <li>– £1 billion CCUS Infrastructure Fund</li> </ul> <p>9: Protecting Our Natural Environment, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– £5.2 billion for flood and coastal defences</li> <li>– New National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty</li> <li>– £40 million second round for the Green Recovery Challenge Fund</li> <li>– Establish 10 long-term Landscape Recovery projects over the next four years</li> </ul> <p>10: Green Finance and Innovation, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– £1 billion Net Zero Innovation Portfolio (NZIP), including £100 million for Direct Air Capture and other Greenhouse Gas Removal (GGR) technologies</li> <li>– UK's first Sovereign Green Bond</li> <li>– Green Jobs Taskforce</li> </ul>	
<b>Ministry of Housing, Communities &amp; Local Government (2017) (MHCLG) Fixing Our Broken Housing Market</b>		
<p>This document identifies that the housing market within the UK is broken due to successive governments not ensuring enough housing is built across the country. The document establishes a strategy for increasing the number of homes created within the UK. The use of brownfield land, infilling and the use of smaller sites are identified as key to building more homes alongside government funding. The document identifies the following needs:</p>	<p>Increase the amount of housing Local Authorities create as much as possible/is reasonable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to encourage a range of housing developments during its lifetime.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure it considers how the Review of the Adopted Local Plan would provide for more housing over its lifetime.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>planning for the right homes in the right places</li> <li>building homes faster</li> <li>diversifying the market</li> <li>helping people now</li> </ul>		
<b>MHCLG (2017) Planning for the Right Homes in the Right Places</b>		
This document contains methodologies on how to best calculate housing need and a need to ensure that housing developments are proportionate to their local context (landscape, infrastructure etc) to ensure they are built in the right places.	No specific targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to encourage a range of housing developments during its lifetime.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should ensure it considers how the Review of the Adopted Local Plan would provide for more housing over its lifetime.</li> </ul>
<b>MHCLG (2021) National Planning Policy Framework</b>		
Achieving sustainable development	<p>The NPPF was first published in 2012 and previous iterations of the SA had regard to that version. The NPPF was replaced in 2018. The revised NPPF was updated in February 2019. The NPPF was further updated in 2021.</p> <p>Section 2 of the NPPF states that achieving sustainable development means that the planning system has three overarching objectives, which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways (so that opportunities can be taken to secure net gains across each of the different objectives) (8):</p> <p>a) an economic objective – to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure;</p> <p>b) a social objective – to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being; and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan must be consistent with the NPPF; and</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include a range of economic, social and environmental objectives/guide questions</li> </ul>

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	<p>c) an environmental objective – to contribute to protecting and enhancing protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, helping to improve biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.</p> <p>These objectives should be delivered through the preparation and implementation of plans and the application of the policies in this Framework; they are not criteria against which every decision can or should be judged. Planning policies and decisions should play an active role in guiding development towards sustainable solutions, but in doing so should take local circumstances into account, to reflect the character, needs and opportunities of each area (9).</p>	
Delivering a sufficient supply of homes	<p>To determine the minimum number of homes needed strategic policies should be informed by a local housing need assessment, conducted using the standard method in national planning guidance – unless exceptional circumstances justify an alternative approach which also reflects current and future demographic trends and market signals (60 61).</p> <p>The size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies (62).</p> <p>Where a need for affordable housing is identified, planning policies should specify the type of affordable housing required, and expect it to be met on-site unless (63):</p> <p>a) Off-site provision or an appropriate financial contribution in lieu can be robustly justified; and</p> <p>b) The agreed approach contributes to the objective of creating mixed and balanced communities.</p> <p>For major developments involving the provision of housing, planning policies should expect at least 10% of the homes to be available for affordable home ownership, unless this would exceed the level of affordable housing required in the area (76 65).</p> <p>Planning policies should identify a supply of (68):</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Adopted Local Plan should reflect national policy in relation to the delivery of a sufficient supply of homes; and</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure it considers how the Review of the Adopted Local Plan would provide for more housing over its lifetime.</li> </ul>



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	<p>a) specific, deliverable sites for years one to five of the plan period; and</p> <p>b) specific, developable sites or broad locations for growth, for years 6-10 and, where possible, for years 11-15 of the plan.</p>	
Building a strong, competitive economy	<p>Planning policies should (82):</p> <p>a) Set out a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth, having regard to Local Industrial Strategies and other local policies for economic development and regeneration;</p> <p>b) Set criteria, or identify strategic sites, for local and inward investment to match the strategy and to meet anticipated needs over the plan period;</p> <p>c) Seek to address potential barriers to investment, such as inadequate infrastructure, services or housing or a poor environment; and</p> <p>d) Be flexible enough to accommodate needs not anticipated in the plan, allow for new and flexible working practices (such as live-work accommodation), and to enable a rapid response to changes in economic circumstances.</p> <p>Paragraph 83 notes that Planning policies should recognise and address the specific locational requirements of different sectors. This includes making provision for clusters or networks of knowledge and data-driven, creative or high technology industries; and for storage and distribution operations at a variety of scales and in suitably accessible locations.</p> <p>Planning policies should support a prosperous rural economy and should enable (84):</p> <p>a) The sustainable growth of all types of business in rural areas, both through conversion of existing buildings and well-designed new buildings;</p> <p>b) The development and diversification of agricultural and other land-based rural business;</p> <p>c) Sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments which respect the character of the countryside; and</p> <p>d) The retention and development of accessible local services and community facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Adopted Local Plan to identify and meet the needs of the local economy; and</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure economic considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>

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Ensuring the vitality of town centres	<p>Planning policies and decisions should support the role that town centres play at the heart of local communities, by taking a positive approach to their growth, management and adaptation. Planning policies should (86):</p> <p>a) define a network and hierarchy of town centres and promote their long-term vitality and viability – by allowing them to grow and diversify in a way that can respond to rapid changes in the retail and leisure industries, allows a suitable mix of uses (including housing) and reflects their distinctive characters;</p> <p>b) define the extent of town centres and primary shopping areas, and make clear the range of uses permitted in such locations, as part of a positive strategy for the future of each centre;</p> <p>c) retain and enhance existing markets and, where appropriate, re-introduce or create new ones;</p> <p>d) allocate a range of suitable sites in town centres to meet the scale and type of development likely to be needed, looking at least ten years ahead. Meeting anticipated needs for retail, leisure, office and other main town centre uses over this period should not be compromised by limited site availability, so town centre boundaries should be kept under review where necessary;</p> <p>e) where suitable and viable town centre sites are not available for main town centre uses, allocate appropriate edge of centre sites that are well connected to the town centre. If sufficient edge of centre sites cannot be identified, policies should explain how identified needs can be met in other accessible locations that are well connected to the town centre; and</p> <p>f) recognise that residential development often plays an important role in ensuring the vitality of centres and encourage residential development on appropriate sites.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Adopted Local Plan to include an appropriate range of policies in relation to town centres; and</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure economic considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>
Promoting healthy and safe communities	<p>Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which (92):</p> <p>a) Promote social interaction, including opportunities for meetings between people who might not otherwise come into contact with each other;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Adopted Local Plan to include a range of policies and proposals to promote healthy and safe communities; and</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure health and well-being considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>

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	<p>b) Are safe and accessible, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion;</p> <p>c) Enable and support healthy lifestyles, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs. To provide the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies should (93):</p> <p>a) Plan positively for the provision and use of shared spaces, community facilities and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments;</p> <p>b) Take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community;</p> <p>c) Guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services;</p> <p>d) Ensure established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernize, and are retained for benefit of the community; and</p> <p>e) Ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services.</p> <p>Planning policies and decisions should protect and enhance public rights of way and access, including taking opportunities to provide better facilities for users, for example by adding links to existing rights of way networks including National Trails (100).</p> <p>The designation of land as Local Green Space through local and neighbourhood plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. Designating land as Local Green Space should be consistent with the Local Plan in respect of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or updated, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period (101).</p>	
Promoting sustainable transport	Transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals, so that (paragraph 104):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan to reflect policy in relation to sustainable transport; and</li> </ul>

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	<p>a) The potential impacts of development on transport networks can be addressed;</p> <p>b) Opportunities from existing or proposed transport infrastructure, and changing transport and usage are realized;</p> <p>c) Opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport use are identified and pursued;</p> <p>d) The environmental impacts of traffic and transport infrastructure can be identified, assessed and taken into account; and</p> <p>e) Patterns of movement, streets, parking and other transport considerations are integral to the design of schemes and contribute to making high quality places.</p> <p>Paragraph 105 states: The planning system should actively manage patterns of growth in support of these objectives. Significant development should be focused on locations which are or can be made sustainable, through limiting the need to travel and offering a genuine choice of transport modes. This can help to reduce congestion and emissions and improve air quality and public health. However, opportunities to maximise sustainable transport solutions will vary between urban and rural areas, and this should be taken into account in both plan-making and decision-making. Planning policies should (paragraph 106):</p> <p>a) Support an appropriate mix of uses across an area, and within larger scale sites, to minimise the number and length of journeys needed for employment, shopping, leisure, education and other activities;</p> <p>b) Be prepared with the active involvement of local highways authorities, other transport infrastructure providers and operators and neighbouring councils, so that strategies and investments for supporting sustainable transport and development patterns are aligned;</p> <p>c) Identify and protect, where there is robust evidence, sites and routes which could be crucial in developing infrastructure to widen transport choice and realise opportunities for large scale development;</p> <p>d) Provide for high quality walking and cycling networks and supporting facilities such as cycle parking;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IIA Framework should ensure sustainable transport considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
	<p>e) Provide for any large scale transport facilities that need to be located in the area, and the infrastructure and wider development required to support their operation, expansion and contribution to the wider economy; and</p> <p>f) Recognise the importance of maintaining a national network of general aviation airfields, and their need to adapt and change over time.</p> <p>Paragraph 109 - Planning policies and decisions should recognise the importance of providing adequate overnight lorry parking facilities, taking into account any local shortages, to reduce the risk of parking in locations that lack proper facilities or could cause a nuisance. Proposals for new or expanded distribution centres should make provision for sufficient lorry parking to cater for their anticipated use.</p>	
Making effective use of land	<p>Planning policies and decisions should promote an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses, while safeguarding and improving the environment and ensuring safe and healthy living conditions. Strategic policies should set out a clear strategy for accommodating objectively assessed needs, in a way that makes as much use as possible of previously-developed or 'brownfield' land (119).</p> <p>Planning policies and decisions should (120):</p> <p>a) encourage multiple benefits from both urban and rural land, including through mixed use schemes and taking opportunities to achieve net environmental gains – such as developments that would enable new habitat creation or improve public access to the countryside;</p> <p>b) recognise that some undeveloped land can perform many functions, such as for wildlife, recreation, flood risk mitigation, cooling/shading, carbon storage or food production;</p> <p>c) give substantial weight to the value of using suitable brownfield land within settlements for homes and other identified needs, and support appropriate opportunities to remediate despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated or unstable land;</p> <p>d) promote and support the development of under-utilised land and buildings, especially if this would help to meet identified needs for housing where land supply is constrained and available sites could be used more effectively (for</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Adopted Local Plan to include policies to secure the effective use of land and appropriate densities; and</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include considerations relating to the effective use of land are addressed.</li> </ul>

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	<p>example converting space above shops, and building on or above service yards, car parks, lock-ups and railway infrastructure)<sup>45</sup>; and</p> <p>e) support opportunities to use the airspace above existing residential and commercial premises for new homes. In particular, they should allow upward extensions where the development would be consistent with the prevailing height and form of neighbouring properties and the overall street scene, is well-designed (including complying with any local design policies and standards) and can maintain safe access and egress for occupiers.</p> <p>Paragraph 121 states local planning authorities, and other plan-making bodies, should take a proactive role in identifying and helping to bring forward land that may be suitable for meeting development needs, including suitable sites on brownfield registers or held in public ownership, using the full range of powers available to them. This should include identifying opportunities to facilitate land assembly, supported where necessary by compulsory purchase powers, where this can help to bring more land forward for meeting development needs and/or secure better development outcomes.</p> <p>Planning policies and decisions should support development that makes efficient use of land, taking into account (124):</p> <p>a) the identified need for different types of housing and other forms of development, and the availability of land suitable for accommodating it;</p> <p>b) local market conditions and viability;</p> <p>c) the availability and capacity of infrastructure and services – both existing and proposed – as well as their potential for further improvement and the scope to promote sustainable travel modes that limit future car use;</p> <p>d) the desirability of maintaining an area's prevailing character and setting (including residential gardens), or of promoting regeneration and change; and</p> <p>e) the importance of securing well-designed, attractive and healthy places.</p>	

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Achieving well designed places	<p>Planning policies and decisions should ensure that developments (130):</p> <p>a) will function well and add to the overall quality of the area, not just for the short term but over the lifetime of the development;</p> <p>b) are visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout and appropriate and effective landscaping;</p> <p>c) are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation or change (such as increased densities);</p> <p>d) establish or maintain a strong sense of place, using the arrangement of streets, spaces, building types and materials to create attractive, welcoming and distinctive places to live, work and visit;</p> <p>e) optimise the potential of the site to accommodate and sustain an appropriate amount and mix of development (including green and other public space) and support local facilities and transport networks; and</p> <p>f) create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users<sup>46</sup>; and where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion and resilience.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Adopted Local Plan to include policies and proposals that promote well designed places; and</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure design considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>
Protecting Green Belt land	<p>The Government attaches great importance to Green Belts. The fundamental aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open; the essential characteristics of Green Belts are their openness and their permanence (137).</p> <p>Green Belt serves five purposes (138):</p> <p>a) to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas;</p> <p>b) to prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another;</p> <p>c) to assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment;</p> <p>d) to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; and</p> <p>e) to assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Adopted Local Plan to demonstrate that national policy in relation to Green Belt has been appropriately applied; and</li> <li>• The IIA Framework does not assess options based on whether or not sites are in the Green Belt and it is proposed to maintain this approach. The framework provides the basis for identifying whether or not the Review of the Adopted Local Plan is consistent with the NPPF, e.g. through promotion of higher densities in centres.</li> </ul>



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	<p>Paragraph 140 states: Once established, Green Belt boundaries should only be altered where exceptional circumstances are fully evidenced and justified, through the preparation or updating of plans.</p> <p>Paragraph 141 states: Before concluding that exceptional circumstances exist to justify changes to Green Belt boundaries, the strategic policy-making authority should be able to demonstrate that it has examined fully all other reasonable options for meeting its identified need for development. This will be assessed through the examination of its strategic policies, which will take into account the preceding paragraph, and whether the strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) makes as much use as possible of suitable brownfield sites and underutilised land;</li> <li>b) optimises the density of development in line with the policies in chapter 11 of this Framework, including whether policies promote a significant uplift in minimum density standards in town and city centres and other locations well served by public transport; and</li> <li>c) has been informed by discussions with neighbouring authorities about whether they could accommodate some of the identified need for development, as demonstrated through the statement of common ground.</li> </ul> <p>Paragraph 141 - Once Green Belts have been defined, local planning authorities should plan positively to enhance their beneficial use, such as looking for opportunities to provide access; to provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation; to retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity; or to improve damaged and derelict land.</p>	
Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change.	Plans should take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating from rising temperatures. Policies should support appropriate measures to ensure the future resilience of communities and infrastructure to climate change impacts, such as providing space for physical protection measures, or making provision for the possible future relocation of vulnerable development and infrastructure (154).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Adopted Local Plan to encourage climate change adaption and mitigation, within the confines set by any local requirements for the sustainability of buildings and should reflect the Government's policy for national technical standards; and</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure climate and flooding considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>

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	<p>New development should be planned for in ways that (154):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) avoid increased vulnerability to the range of impacts arising from climate change. When new development is brought forward in areas which are vulnerable, care should be taken to ensure that risks can be managed through suitable adaptation measures, including through the planning of green infrastructure; and</li> <li>b) can help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as through its location, orientation and design. Any local requirements for the sustainability of buildings should reflect the Government's policy for national technical standards. To help increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy and heat, plans should (155):</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) provide a positive strategy for energy from these sources, that maximises the potential for suitable development, while ensuring that adverse impacts are addressed satisfactorily (including cumulative landscape and visual impacts);</li> <li>b) consider identifying suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources, and supporting infrastructure, where this would help secure their development; and</li> <li>c) identify opportunities for development to draw its energy supply from decentralised, renewable or low carbon energy supply systems and for co-locating potential heat customers and suppliers.</li> </ul> <p>Paragraph 161 states that all plans should apply a sequential, risk-based approach to the location of development – taking into account all sources of flood risk and the current and future impacts of climate change – so as to avoid, where possible, flood risk to people and property. They should do this, and manage any residual risk, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) applying the sequential test and then, if necessary, the exception test as set out below;</li> <li>b) safeguarding land from development that is required, or likely to be required, for current or future flood management;</li> <li>c) using opportunities provided by new development to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding (where appropriate through the use of natural flood management techniques); and</li> </ul>	

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	<p>d) where climate change is expected to increase flood risk so that some existing development may not be sustainable in the long-term, seeking opportunities to relocate development, including housing, to more sustainable locations.</p> <p>Paragraph 162 notes that the aim of the sequential test is to steer new development to areas with the lowest risk of flooding. Development should not be allocated or permitted if there are reasonably available sites appropriate for the proposed development in areas with a lower risk of flooding. The strategic flood risk assessment will provide the basis for applying this test. The sequential approach should be used in areas known to be at risk now or in the future from any form of flooding.</p> <p>Paragraph 163 notes that if it is not possible for development to be located in zones with a lower risk of flooding (taking into account wider sustainable development objectives), the exception test may have to be applied. The need for the exception test will depend on the potential vulnerability of the site and of the development proposed, in line with the Flood Risk Vulnerability Classification set out in national planning guidance.</p> <p>The application of the exception test should be informed by a strategic or site-specific flood risk assessment, depending on whether it is being applied during plan production or at the application stage. For the exception test to be passed it should be demonstrated that (164):</p> <p>a) the development would provide wider sustainability benefits to the community that outweigh the flood risk; and</p> <p>a) the development will be safe for its lifetime taking account of the vulnerability of its users, without increasing flood risk elsewhere, and, where possible, will reduce flood risk overall.</p> <p>Paragraph 165 states that both elements of the exception test should be satisfied for development to be allocated or permitted.</p> <p>In coastal areas, planning policies and decisions should take account of the UK Marine Policy Statement and marine plans. Integrated Coastal Zone Management should be pursued across local authority and land/sea boundaries, to ensure</p>	

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	<p>effective alignment of the terrestrial and marine planning regimes (170). Plans should reduce risk from coastal change by avoiding inappropriate development in vulnerable areas and not exacerbating the impacts of physical changes to the coast. They should identify as a Coastal Change Management Area any area likely to be affected by physical changes to the coast, and (171):</p> <p>a) be clear as to what development will be appropriate in such areas and in what circumstances; and</p> <p>b) make provision for development and infrastructure that needs to be relocated away from Coastal Change Management Areas.</p>	
Conserving and enhancing the natural environment	<p>Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by (174):</p> <p>a) Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan);</p> <p>b) Recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland;</p> <p>c) Minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures including Nature Recovery Networks 174);</p> <p>d) Preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans; and</p> <p>e) Remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Adopted Local Plan to reflect planning policy in respect of conserving and enhancing the natural environment; and</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure considerations relating to the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment are addressed.</li> </ul>

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	<p>Plans should: distinguish between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites; allocate land with the least environmental or amenity value, where consistent with other policies in the Framework, take a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure; and plan for the enhancement of natural capital at a catchment or landscape scale across local authority boundaries (175).</p> <p>Paragraph 176 states that great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which have the highest status of protection in relation to these issues. The conservation and enhancement of wildlife and cultural heritage are also important considerations in these areas and should be given great weight in National Parks and the Broads. The scale and extent of development within these designated areas should be limited. Planning permission should be refused for major development other than in exceptional circumstances, and where it can be demonstrated that the development is in the public interest. Consideration of such applications should include an assessment of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the need for the development, including in terms of any national considerations, and the impact of permitting it, or refusing it, upon the local economy;</li> <li>b) the cost of, and scope for, developing outside the designated area, or meeting the need for it in some other way; and</li> <li>c) any detrimental effect on the environment, the landscape and recreational opportunities, and the extent to which that could be moderated.</li> </ul> <p>To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should (179):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by</li> </ul>	

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	<p>national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation; and</p> <p>b) promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.</p> <p>In relation to ground conditions and pollution planning policies and decision should ensure that (183):</p> <p>a) a site is suitable for its proposed use taking account of ground conditions and any risks arising from land instability and contamination. This includes risks arising from natural hazards or former activities such as mining, and any proposals for mitigation including land remediation (as well as potential impacts on the natural environment arising from that remediation);</p> <p>b) after remediation, as a minimum, land should not be capable of being determined as contaminated land under Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act 1990; and</p> <p>c) adequate site investigation information, prepared by a competent person, is available to inform these assessments.</p> <p>Paragraph 184 states that where a site is affected by contamination or land stability issues, responsibility for securing a safe development rests with the developer and/or landowner.</p> <p>Paragraph 185 states that planning policies and decisions should also ensure that new development is appropriate for its location taking into account the likely effects (including cumulative effects) of pollution on health, living conditions and the natural environment, as well as the potential sensitivity of the site or the wider area to impacts that could arise from the development. In doing so they should:</p> <p>a) mitigate and reduce to a minimum potential adverse impact resulting from noise from new development – and avoid noise giving rise to significant adverse impacts on health and the quality of life;</p> <p>b) identify and protect tranquil areas which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise and are prized for their recreational and amenity value for this reason; and</p>	

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	<p>c) limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.</p> <p>Paragraph 186 states that planning policies and decisions should sustain and contribute towards compliance with relevant limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones, and the cumulative impacts from individual sites in local areas. Opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate impacts should be identified, such as through traffic and travel management, and green infrastructure provision and enhancement. So far as possible these opportunities should be considered at the plan-making stage, to ensure a strategic approach and limit the need for issues to be reconsidered when determining individual applications. Planning decisions should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones is consistent with the local air quality action plan.</p> <p>Paragraph 187 states that planning policies and decisions should ensure that new development can be integrated effectively with existing businesses and community facilities (such as places of worship, pubs, music venues and sports clubs). Existing businesses and facilities should not have unreasonable restrictions placed on them as a result of development permitted after they were established. Where the operation of an existing business or community facility could have a significant adverse effect on new development (including changes of use) in its vicinity, the applicant (or 'agent of change') should be required to provide suitable mitigation before the development has been completed.</p> <p>Paragraph 188 states that the focus of planning policies and decisions should be on whether proposed development is an acceptable use of land, rather than the control of processes or emissions (where these are subject to separate pollution control regimes).</p>	
Conserving and enhancing the historic environment	Paragraph 189 states that heritage assets range from sites and buildings of local historic value to those of the highest significance, such as World Heritage Sites which are internationally recognised to be of Outstanding Universal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Adopted Local Plan to reflect national policy in relation to conserving and enhancing the historic environment; and</li> </ul>



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	<p>Value. These assets are an irreplaceable resource and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations.</p> <p>Paragraph 190 states: plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. This strategy should take into account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of the heritage assets, and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;</li> <li>b) The wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;</li> <li>c) The desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and</li> <li>d) Opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.</li> </ul> <p>Paragraph 193 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should make information about the historic environment, gathered as part of policy-making or development management, publicly accessible.</p> <p>Paragraph 200 (note 68) of the NPPF identifies that non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest that are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments, should be considered subject to the policies for designated heritage assets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure considerations relating to the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment are addressed.</li> </ul>
Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals and waste	<p>Paragraph 210 states that planning policies should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) provide for the extraction of mineral resources of local and national importance, but not identify new sites or extensions to existing sites for peat extraction;</li> <li>b) so far as practicable, take account of the contribution that substitute or secondary and recycled materials and minerals waste would make to the supply of materials, before considering extraction of primary materials, whilst aiming to source minerals supplies indigenously;</li> <li>c) safeguard mineral resources by defining Mineral Safeguarding Areas; and adopt appropriate policies so that</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the Adopted Local Plan to include appropriate policies in relation to minerals and waste; and</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure minerals and waste considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>

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	<p>known locations of specific minerals resources of local and national importance are not sterilised by non-mineral development where this should be avoided (whilst not creating a presumption that the resources defined will be worked);</p> <p>d) set out policies to encourage the prior extraction of minerals, where practical and environmentally feasible, if it is necessary for non-mineral development to take place;</p> <p>e) safeguard existing, planned and potential sites for: the bulk transport, handling and processing of minerals; the manufacture of concrete and concrete products; and the handling, processing and distribution of substitute, recycled and secondary aggregate material;</p> <p>f) set out criteria or requirements to ensure that permitted and proposed operations do not have unacceptable adverse impacts on the natural and historic environment or human health, taking into account the cumulative effects of multiple impacts from individual sites and/or a number of sites in a locality;</p> <p>g) when developing noise limits, recognise that some noisy short-term activities, which may otherwise be regarded as unacceptable, are unavoidable to facilitate minerals extraction; and</p> <p>h) ensure that worked land is reclaimed at the earliest opportunity, taking account of aviation safety, and that high quality restoration and aftercare of mineral sites takes place.</p>	
<b>NHS England (2014) Five Year Forward View</b>		
The NHS Five Year Forward View sets out a vision for the future of the NHS.	No specific targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should promote health and wellbeing and help ensure the provision of adequate facilities and services.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include a specific objective relating to human health.</li> </ul>
<b>NHS England (2017) Next Steps on the Five Year Forward View</b>		
The NHS Five Year Forward View set out why improvements were needed on our triple aim of better health, better care, and better value. This Plan concentrates on what will be achieved	No specific targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should promote health and wellbeing and help ensure the provision of adequate facilities and services.</li> </ul>

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over the next two years, and how the Forward View's goals will be implemented.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IIA Framework should include a specific objective relating to human health.</li> </ul>
<b>Public Health England (2020) Health Impact Assessment in spatial planning - A guide for local authority public health and planning teams</b>		
<p>The guide focuses on the use of Health Impact Assessment (HIA) in the planning system. An HIA is a process that identifies the health and wellbeing impacts (benefits and harms) of any plan or development project. A properly conducted HIA recommends measures to maximise positive impacts; minimise negative impacts; and reduce health inequalities.</p> <p>It describes the health and wellbeing outcomes that are influenced through planning and how these outcomes can be optimised through the process of plan-making (when developing policies in local plans) and planning applications (designing proposals for development projects). It also describes how these health outcomes can be considered in other impact assessments (such as strategic and environmental impact assessments).</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Screening: Determine whether an HIA is needed and justified subject to anticipation of health impacts on population groups.</li> <li>2. Scoping: Identify the potential health impacts and target population groups to assess.</li> <li>3. Assessing: Assess the significance of health impacts, qualify and quantify potential costs and benefits, how health varies in different circumstances, across different populations and any alternatives.</li> <li>4. Reporting: Engage all relevant stakeholders and recommend preventative and mitigation actions to deliver the greatest possible health gain.</li> <li>5. Monitoring and evaluating: Include indicators and mechanisms, and set out processes and resources for the local authority and/or with the planning applicant to undertake and act on results of regular monitoring.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should promote health and wellbeing through the IIA process generally and the HIA specifically.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include a specific objective relating to human health and more specific health and well-being measures as part of the HIA.</li> </ul>
<b>Regional Plans and Programmes</b>		
<b>Essex and Suffolk Water (2019) Water Resources Management Plan</b>		
<p>Water companies in England and Wales are required to produce a Water Resources Management Plan that sets out how they aim to maintain water supplies over a 25-year period.</p> <p>The Essex and Suffolk Water WRMP demonstrates how in the medium to long new resources intend to be developed, leakage tackled and sensible water use promoted through metering and water efficiency campaigns. The long term strategy is to increase the robustness of the water resources network to climate change and reduce unsustainable abstractions.</p>	<p>The overall objective is to ensure sufficient water supplies for future generations especially in the face of climate change, housing growth and an increase in individual water use.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider opportunities to reduce water use and increase water efficiency and take account of infrastructure requirements arising from new development.</li> <li>IIA Framework should consider objectives which seek to minimise the use of water and ensure the delivery of appropriate infrastructure to accommodate new development.</li> </ul>
<b>Environment Agency (2009) Water for people and the Environment: Water Resource Strategy – Regional Action Plan for Anglican Region</b>		
<p>The Strategy's vision for water resource "is for there to be enough water for people and the environment".</p>	<p>Does not contain any targets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should ensure that water resources are used efficiently and the Plan contributes towards the objectives.</li> </ul>

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<p>"The management and use of water and land must be shown to be sustainable – environmentally, socially and economically. We require the right amount of good quality water for people, agriculture, commerce and industry and the environment".</p> <p>The Strategy has identified four actions which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protecting the environment.</li> <li>Driving water efficiency.</li> <li>Ensuring resilience of water resources.</li> <li>Sharing and development of water resources.</li> </ul>		
<b>Environment Agency (2010) Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan 2</b>		
<p>The SMP is an important part of the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) strategy for managing flooding and coastal erosion. This strategy has two key aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to reduce the threat of flooding and erosion to people and their property; and</li> <li>to benefit the environment, society and the economy as far as possible, in line with the Government's 'sustainable development principles'. These are standards set by the UK Government, the Scottish Executive and Welsh Assembly Government for a policy to be sustainable, and they are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Living within environmental limits</li> <li>Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society</li> <li>Achieving a sustainable economy</li> <li>Using sound science responsibly</li> </ul> </li> <li>Promoting good governance</li> </ul>	No targets or indicators.	
<b>Environment Agency (2015) River Basin Management Plan Anglian River Basin District</b>		
<p>The River Basin Management Plan contains the following objectives/targets for the Anglian River Basin District:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By 2015, 16 per cent of surface waters (rivers, lakes, estuaries and coastal waters) in this river basin district are going to improve for at least one biological, chemical or physical element, measured as part of an assessment of good status according to the Water Framework Directive. This includes an improvement of 1,700 km of the river network in relation to fish, phosphate, specific pollutants and other elements.</li> </ul>	No additional targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan policies should consider how the water environment can be protected and enhanced. This will come about through reducing pollution and abstraction.</li> <li>IIA Framework should consider effects upon water quality and resource.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By 2015 19 per cent of surface waters will be at good ecological status/potential and 45 per cent of groundwater bodies will be at good status. In combination 20 per cent of all water bodies will be at good status by 2015.</li> </ul>		
<b>Environment Agency (2016) River Basin District Flood Risk Management Plan Anglian River Basin District</b>		
<p>The Flood Risk Management Plan contains 20 objectives. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding Flood Risk and Working in Partnership</li> <li>Community preparedness and resilience</li> <li>Minimise community disruption</li> <li>Adapting to coastal erosion</li> <li>Avoid inappropriate development in areas of flood and coastal erosion</li> <li>Reduce risk to life, and property</li> <li>Maintain existing assets minimise the risk of flooding to residential properties</li> <li>Continue river, watercourse and tidal defence maintenance</li> <li>Reduce economic damage to non-residential properties</li> <li>Maintain existing assets minimise the economic damage from flooding to non-residential properties</li> <li>Contribute to achieving Water Framework Directive (WFD) objectives</li> <li>Minimise the negative impacts of flooding to designated nature conservation Sites</li> <li>Minimise the negative impacts of flooding to designated heritage sites</li> </ul>	No targets are included.	The IIA Framework should consider an objective to reduce flood risk.
<b>Mayor of London (Greater London Authority) (2015) The London Infrastructure Plan 2050</b>		
<p>The Plan makes the case for new and improved infrastructure provision in London in order to support high levels of forecast population growth.</p> <p>The Plan identifies the types and quantum of infrastructure required, how much it will cost and how it can be funded and delivered. It also explores options for housing the Capital's rapidly growing population, including locations outside of London's existing boundaries.</p>	<p>Projections suggest London's population will reach 11.27 million at 2050, a 37% increase from 2011. Coupled with an historic backlog of infrastructure investment, this will create a number of challenges to London's infrastructure. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demand for public transport is likely to increase by 50%</li> <li>Energy demand is expected to increase by 20% by 2050</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When considering housing provisions/targets the Review of the Adopted Local Plan should be mindful of the potential shortfall of around 7,000 new homes a year for London which may require to be accommodated in areas outside of London</li> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should acknowledge that London provides employment opportunities for many residents in Chelmsford.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The demand for water is predicted to exceed supply by 2016 with a 21% deficit in supply by 2040</li> <li>Need for new hub airport capacity in London, as Heathrow is approaching capacity</li> <li>Provision needed for a growing school age population, equivalent to 600 new schools and colleges, and</li> <li>Around 49,000 new homes a year need to be provided.</li> </ul>	
<b>Mayor of London (Greater London Authority) (2021) The London Plan: The Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London</b>		
<p>The Plan sets out the overall strategic plan for London, setting out an integrated economic, environmental, transport and social framework for the development of London. The Plan also contains the planning policies for London:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning London's Future – Good Growth</li> <li>Spatial Development Patterns</li> <li>Design</li> <li>Housing</li> <li>Social Infrastructure</li> <li>Economy</li> <li>Heritage and Culture</li> <li>Green Infrastructure and natural Environment</li> <li>Sustainable Infrastructure</li> <li>Transport</li> </ul>	<p>The Plan contains the ten-year housing targets for all of the authorities that comprise the London region. In total, it is expected that approximately 522,870 houses need to be built in the London area over the next ten years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should acknowledge that London provides employment opportunities for many residents in Chelmsford. The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should be mindful of the ambitious targets for house building within the London Plan, as Chelmsford might be required to provide housing to aid in meeting these targets if house building within London stalls.</li> </ul>
<b>Mid Essex CCG (2014) Five Year Strategy 2014-2019</b>		
<p>Our vision for Mid Essex is: 'Our communities working together to create innovative and sustainable local services delivering integrated first class health and social care for all'</p> <p>This vision will be delivered through:</p> <p>Our Key System Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resilient and engaged communities and citizens</li> <li>Person-centred and integrated care</li> <li>Appropriate use of and access to health and social care 7 days per week</li> <li>Improving patient experience and outcomes</li> <li>Whole system financial sustainability</li> </ul>	<p>Linked to our Vision, the CCG's overarching defining outcomes are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mid Essex residents to live a healthier and longer life</li> <li>Mid Essex residents are supported to look after their health and wellbeing</li> <li>Reduce inequalities in health for Mid Essex residents by narrowing the gap in life expectancy</li> <li>Mid Essex residents will be provided with good quality, harm free and affordable healthcare</li> <li>Mid Essex residents who are frail and have a long term condition will receive integrated health and social care</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to work with and support the health status and needs of the local population.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives and / or guide questions relating to the health.</li> </ul>

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<p>Our Success Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>System objectives delivered</li> <li>Key outcomes delivered</li> <li>Quality and patient experience is good</li> <li>Whole health and social care system financially stable by 18/19</li> </ul>	<p>services that will reduce their need to utilise health and social care services</p> <p>6. Mid Essex residents to be supported to access and use healthcare services appropriately</p>	
<b>Natural England (2015) Site Improvement Plan: Essex Estuaries</b>		
<p>Site Improvement Plans (SIPs) have been developed for each Natura 2000 site in England as part of the Improvement Programme for England's Natura 2000 sites (IPENS). Natura 2000 sites is the combined term for sites designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protected Areas (SPA).</p>	No targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to provide policies to support the Site Improvement Plan for the Essex Estuaries.</li> </ul>
<b>South East Local Enterprise Partnership (2015) Rural Strategy 2015 - 2021</b>		
<p>The Rural Strategy includes 9 objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support for rural businesses and businesses in rural areas</li> <li>Optimise the growth and development of the Agri-tech, Agri-food and Forestry-tech sectors</li> <li>Support the development of sustainable rural tourism</li> <li>Support development and provision of enhanced levels of connectivity</li> <li>Develop the skills of the rural workforce</li> <li>Build 'community capital' in our dispersed communities, villages and market towns</li> <li>Support development of a more efficient low carbon and sustainable rural economy</li> <li>Safeguard our natural assets, heritage and quality of life.</li> <li>Support sustainable development and planning to provide a sustainable future</li> </ul>	The Rural Strategy does not include targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IIA Framework should consider effects on the rural economy.</li> </ul>
<b>South East Local Enterprise Partnership (2017) Growth Deal Round 3</b>		
<p>The Economic Plan outlines the opportunities and challenges across the South East LEP area. It provides the economic context and outlines the LEP's approach to creating the conditions for growth across the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building on our economic strengths</li> </ul>	<p>The Economic Plan sets out the LEPs ambition to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>enable the creation of 200,000 sustainable private sector jobs over the decade to 2021, an increase of 11.4% since 2011;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should support the delivery of the Strategic Economic Plan.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives/guide questions relating to the promotion of economic</li> </ul>



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boosting our productivity</li> <li>Improving our skills</li> <li>Building more houses and re-building confidence</li> <li>Investing in our transport growth corridors/areas</li> </ul> <p>Round 3 funding includes a further £102m of government cash to help create jobs, support businesses and create new growth opportunities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>complete 100,000 new homes by 2021, which will entail, over the seven years, increasing the annual rate of completions by over 50% by comparison with recent years; and,</li> <li>lever investment totaling £10 billion, to accelerate growth, jobs and homebuilding.</li> </ul>	<p>development, skills, investment in transport infrastructure and housing.</p>
<b>Woodlands for Life (2011): Realising the Benefits of trees, woods and forests in the East of England</b>		
<p>Trees and woodland provide significant benefits to the social, economic and environmental fabric of East of England and have an increasingly important role in climate change mitigation and adaptation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>250ha a year of new woodland in Essex.</li> </ul>	<p>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan needs to recognise the importance of making the best use of woodland, trees and forests which can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote sustainable growth within environmental limits</li> <li>Reduce greenhouse gas emissions</li> <li>Adapt to impacts of climate change</li> <li>Increase resource efficiency and reduce recourse use and waste</li> <li>Conserve and restore the regions natural and built environment</li> <li>Promote employment learning, skills and innovation</li> </ul>
<b>Sub-Regional (County) Plans and Programmes</b>		
<b>Environment Agency (2009) North Essex Catchment Flood Management Plan Summary Report</b>		
<p>The aim of the CFMP is to "understand the scale and extent of flooding now and in the future, and set policies for managing flood risk within the catchment".</p> <p>The CFMP "should be used to inform planning and decision-making by key stakeholders" such as the Environment Agency, regional/local authorities, internal drainage boards, transportation planners, land owners/managers, the public and local businesses.</p> <p>The CFMP identifies the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where possible, flood risk should be managed by storing water on the floodplain upstream of Chelmsford.</li> <li>Redevelopment of floodplain areas is an opportunity to increase their flood resilience.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chelmsford City Centre and residential areas are at risk from flooding from the three watercourses (Can, Chelmer and Wid).</li> <li>Currently there are 366 properties at risk from the 1% annual probability river flood.</li> <li>There are some agricultural land at risk and some parts of the A1016,1099 and A138 at risk in the 1% annual probability river flood.</li> <li>There is a significant amount of mainly grade three agricultural land at risk in the 1% annual probability river flood.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to minimise the risk of flooding and ensure properties which are at risk of flooding are able to adapt.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which seek to reduce the risk of flooding.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flood awareness plans will be used to manage the consequences of flooding.</li> </ul>		
<b>Essex Biodiversity Project (2011) Essex Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2020</b>		
<p>The overarching aim of Biodiversity Action Plans is to "halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish more coherent ecological networks".</p>	<p>This Plan delivers a number of action plans which provide guidance for biodiversity works and relate to the 19 Priority Habitats of the Biodiversity 2020 Strategy, as well as the list of Priority Species and Habitats provided for in Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act.</p> <p>The actions plans are by habitat group and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arable field margin</li> <li>Hedgerows</li> <li>Traditional orchards (and Essex specific varieties)</li> <li>Lowland dry acid grassland</li> <li>Lowland meadows</li> <li>Lowland heathland</li> <li>Ponds</li> <li>Rivers</li> <li>Floodplain and coastal grazing marsh</li> <li>Lowland raised bog</li> <li>Reedbeds</li> <li>Coastal saltmarsh</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should protect the intrinsic value of the identified habitats and seek to improve them where possible.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include an objective/guide question which seeks to conserve and enhance habitats and species.</li> </ul>
<b>Essex County Council (2008) Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Essex (2007-2032)</b>		
<p>This Strategy sets out Essex's approach to dealing with municipal waste up to 2032. It sets out a waste hierarchy which follows reduce, re-use, recycle, recover and dispose.</p>	<p>The strategy sets out recycling targets which include recycling 60% of household waste by 2020 and reducing the amount of biodegradable waste sent to landfill to 131,386 tonnes by 2020 (386,319 tonnes were sent in the 2002 baseline year).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to implement the waste hierarchy to ensure the amount of municipal waste is reduced.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which ensure the amount of waste sent to landfills is reduced and encourage the uptake of recycling and reuse of materials.</li> </ul>
<b>Essex County Council (2008) Essex Strategy 2008-2018 – Liberating Potential: Fulfilling Lives</b>		
<p>The vision of the Essex Partnership is: "To support Essex people to liberate their potential and enjoy the best quality of life in England"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People want to be safe and healthy.</li> </ul>	<p>The plan sets out a number of actions including creating new links to major regeneration areas and active traffic management to help achieve the policies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should support development which promotes a high quality of life.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include social and environmental objectives/guide questions which encourage a healthier lifestyle.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Our ambition is to make Essex the safest place to live in England.</li> <li>People want to belong.</li> </ul>		
<b>Essex County Council (2009) Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan</b>		
<p>The objectives for the plan have been derived from two sources - the problems, issues and opportunities identified in the questionnaire and workshop evidence base for the plan, and a review of related policy and strategy documents and their objectives. These were discussed amongst the project Steering Group and public rights of way officers, to develop this agreed list of objectives:</p> <p>Environment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To re-use and recycle, where feasible, and promote sustainable measures</li> </ol> <p>Improved accessibility</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To incorporate approved pathways into the public rights of way network</li> <li>To better integrate rights of way with other access provision, initiatives and facilities</li> <li>To reduce fragmentation in the public rights of way network</li> <li>To improve accessibility on the public rights of way network</li> </ol> <p>Safety</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To assist in providing 'safer routes to schools'</li> <li>To promote safety</li> </ol> <p>Quality of life and good health</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To promote improved health and quality of life through the use of the public rights of way network</li> </ol> <p>Tourism and economy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To stimulate tourism and the local economy</li> </ol> <p>Communities and partnership</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To increase community involvement in the management of the public rights of way network</li> </ol>	No targets or indicators identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to protect and enhance public rights of way (PROW).</li> </ul>
<b>Essex County Council (2011) Essex Transport Strategy; The Local Transport Plan for Essex</b>		

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<p>This is the third Local Transport Plan and has been produced to respond to the needs of the communities in Essex.</p> <p>The vision of the Plan is "for a transport strategy that supports sustainable economic growth and helps deliver the best quality of life for the residents of Essex".</p> <p>The Plan sets five outcomes which comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide connectivity for Essex communities and international gateways to support sustainable economic growth and regeneration.</li> <li>• Reduce carbon dioxide emissions and improve air quality through lifestyle changes, innovation and technology.</li> <li>• Improve safety on the transport network and enhance and promote a safe travelling environment.</li> <li>• Secure and maintain all transport assets to an appropriate standard and ensure that the network is available for use.</li> <li>• Provide sustainable access and travel choice for Essex residents to help create sustainable communities".</li> </ul>	<p>As the main focus of growth, the population of Chelmsford is set to rise substantially in the near future, with the planned construction of 16,000 new homes by 2025. Over the same period, regeneration initiatives and new business developments aim to achieve the creation of an estimated 20,000 new jobs.</p> <p>To support this, and to ensure that Chelmsford remains an attractive location for its residents and businesses, innovative transport measures are required. Many of the key corridors into Chelmsford town centre are congested, especially during the peak periods, with specific problems at junctions. Although the bus and cycling networks are extensive and serve the town well there are a number of key improvements required. The railway station is also at capacity at peak times and in need of environmental improvements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should take into account the five outcomes of the Plan and ensure they are not compromised.</li> <li>• SA objectives/guide questions should seek to improve access to sustainable high quality modes of transport, ensure safety on the network is enhanced and reduce congestion.</li> </ul>
<b>Essex County Council (2012) Essex Economic Growth Strategy</b>		
<p>All of the proposals in the Strategy are designed to achieve five objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essex businesses are enabled and supported to be more productive, innovate and grow, creating jobs for the local economy;</li> <li>• Essex businesses are enabled to compete and trade internationally;</li> <li>• individuals are equipped and able to access better paid jobs through an education and skills offer that meets the needs of businesses;</li> <li>• the <b>life chances</b> of people in our most deprived areas are improved by ensuring that residents are able to access jobs and public services; and</li> <li>• securing the highways, infrastructure and environment to enable businesses to grow.</li> </ul>	<p>Essex will prosper if small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) across Essex become more productive</p> <p>The Strategy seeks to make the <b>Essex Growth Offer</b> to up to 500 SMEs with considerable expansion potential, targeting companies in our four priority growth sectors along with selected others.</p> <p>Increase the numbers starting <b>Apprenticeships</b> by 25% for 16-18 year olds and 33% for 19-24 year olds within two years, leading to an additional 3,096 people starting new jobs and/or acquiring new skills over that period - a higher proportion than usual will be within more technically related disciplines.</p> <p><b>Enterprise Areas</b></p> <p><b>Chelmsford Innovation Centre:</b> Creation of a Centre of Excellence for low carbon in Chelmsford, meeting needs and delivering open innovation activities to promote the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The policies in the Review of the Adopted Local Plan should help achieve the objectives sets out within the Strategy.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include objectives relating to economic growth.</li> </ul>

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	<p>commercial exploitation of the region's strengths in the sector.</p> <p><b>Chelmsford Rail Station and Days Yard:</b> Provision of new access to the station to facilitate development of commercial and residential sites.</p> <p><b>Chelmsford Town Centre Public Realm Improvements:</b> A series of significant public realm improvements in Chelmsford linked to major redevelopment sites.</p> <p><b>Chelmer Waterside Regeneration:</b> Expansion of the town centre with complementary commercial and residential development.</p>	
<b>Essex County Council (2014) Essex Minerals Local Plan</b>		
<p>1. To ensure sustainable minerals development can be approved without delay in accordance with the presumption in the National Planning Policy Framework.</p> <p>2. To ensure minerals development supports the proposals for sustainable economic growth, regeneration, and development outlined in adopted Local Plans/ LDFs prepared by Essex district/ borough/ city councils.</p> <p>3. To ensure that minerals development in the County fully promotes sustainable development.</p> <p>4. To ensure certainty for both developers and the public.</p> <p>5. To ensure that minerals and associated development provides for,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The minimisation of greenhouse gas emissions during the winning, working and handling of minerals.</li> <li>• Sustainable patterns of minerals transportation.</li> <li>• The integration of features which promote climate change mitigation and adaptation into the design of minerals restoration and after-care proposals.</li> </ul> <p>6. To ensure that local communities are consulted and their views considered during the development of minerals proposals and in the determination of planning applications for minerals development.</p>	<p>The proposed monitoring framework addresses the target to create a minimum of 200 hectares of UK priority habitat creation in Essex by 2029 through mineral site restoration or through contributions to support off-site enhancements in proximity to the extraction site. This is expressed in Policy S12. Of this 200ha target, 60ha is to be comprised of open mosaic habitats (essentially a mixture of habitats) on previously developed land, 50ha is to be restored to lowland heath and lowland dry acid grassland and a further 50ha to reed beds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan will need to consider the 'preferred sites' identified within the Minerals Plan and the associated implications as part of the Plan preparation.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which ensure the vision/objectives of the Minerals Plan are included and in physical terms the locations of the 'preferred sites' are taken into account as part of the assessment process.</li> </ul>

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<p>7. To ensure that the impacts on amenity of those people living in proximity to minerals developments are rigorously controlled, minimised and mitigated.</p> <p>8. To reduce reliance on primary mineral resources in Essex, firstly through reducing the demand for minerals and minimising waste, and secondly, by the re-use and use of recycled aggregates.</p> <p>9. To identify and safeguard the following mineral resources in Essex:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sand and gravel, silica sand, brickearth, brick clay and chalk reserves which have potential future economic and/ or conservation value. Unnecessary sterilisation should be avoided.</li> <li>• Existing and potential secondary processing and aggregate recycling facilities that are of strategic importance for future mineral supply to ensure that these are not compromised by other non- mineral development.</li> </ul> <p>10. To provide for a steady and adequate supply of primary aggregates and industrial minerals by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguarding transshipment sites for importing and exporting mineral products.</li> <li>• Meeting the mineral provision targets agreed by the East of England Aggregates Working Party, or as indicated by the Local Aggregate Assessment.</li> <li>• Identifying suitable mineral extraction sites through site allocations in the Plan</li> </ul> <p>11. To provide protection from minerals development to designated areas of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity, cultural and heritage importance, in a manner which is commensurate with their importance.</p> <p>12. To secure high quality restoration of extraction sites with appropriate after-care to achieve new after-uses which are beneficial and enhance the local environment.</p> <p>13. To maintain and/or enhance landscape, biodiversity and residential amenity for people living in proximity to minerals development.</p>		

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<p>14. To achieve more sustainable patterns of minerals transportation by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Giving preference to identifying local sources of aggregate as close as reasonably possible to urban growth areas and growth centres.</li> <li>• Optimising how mineral sites gain access to the strategic road network.</li> <li>• Mitigating the adverse traffic impacts of mineral extraction and associated development by appropriate traffic management measures.</li> <li>• Increasing the use and availability of rail and water facilities for the long haul movement of mineral products.</li> </ul>		
<b>Essex County Council (2014) Economic Plan for Essex</b>		
<p>This document provides the economic plan for Essex, though it is likely that parts of this document are outdated when compared to more recently produced economic documents. The plan seeks to achieve the following economic outcomes:</p> <p>1. We want to secure sustainable economic growth for businesses and communities across Essex. Everything in this plan supports this ambition.</p> <p>2. We will determine our success based on measures of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• job growth across Essex – we aim to secure 117,745 new jobs through the delivery of this plan;</li> <li>• increased levels of output across the economy – we want to see output increase in growth corridors and in key sectors;</li> <li>• improvements in productivity – we want to see sustained increases in the earnings of those working in Essex;</li> <li>• increased house building – we aim to see 81,310 new homes built over the life of this plan;</li> <li>• improvements in broadband – we want to maximise the number of households and businesses that have access to superfast broadband;</li> <li>• the skills of the Essex workforce – we want more Essex businesses to be able to recruit suitable people;</li> </ul>	<p>The creation of 117,745 new jobs and 81,310 new homes over the lifetime of the plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to grow Chelmsford job and housing market.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should have guide questions relating to economic growth and the creation of new housing.</li> </ul>



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the economic activity of our young people – we want Essex to be a NEET free county (people not in education, employment and training); and</li> <li>the delivery of infrastructure improvements that support business growth – we want businesses to have access to the right premises, and for Essex's transport links to enable, rather than inhibit economic growth.</li> </ul> <p>3. To help us manage progress towards this goal, we have commissioned specialised economic analysis to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>quantify baseline our position at 2014;</li> <li>project anticipated trends based on demographic changes and the impact of our plans and proposals; and</li> <li>provide regular updates on changes in the local economy.</li> </ul> <p>4. This intelligence will allow us to make evidence-based judgements on where our plans are progressing well, where progress is being made, and where further action is required.</p>		
<b>Essex County Council (2022) Essex Sector Development Strategy - Targeting a stronger, more inclusive, and more sustainable future economy</b>		
Identifies 5 economic sectors with significant growth potential that could be realised in Essex: Construction and Retrofit; Clean Energy; Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering; Digi-tech; and Life Sciences (including med-tech and care-tech). These economic sectors will deliver large numbers of good quality jobs for our residents.	<p>Strategic goal 1: A thriving economy using the sectors to market Essex as a centre of innovation and entrepreneurial spirit where the benefits of this growth are felt within the county. In practice that will mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– More high quality jobs in the sectors of the future</li> <li>– More funding for innovation</li> <li>– Good quality buildings for businesses</li> <li>– A business community that is ready to take advantage of innovation and technology</li> <li>– Residents with the skills and confidence to embrace digital services and employment opportunities.</li> </ul> <p>Strategic goal 2: An economy for everyone ensuring every resident of Essex has the opportunity to gain the skills and experience to succeed in the five sectors regardless of their background and identity. To do this we will deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A skills system that is aligned with the job and opportunities of the future</li> <li>– A collaborative approach between education, businesses, and local government to deliver the skills needed for employment in the five growth sectors</li> <li>– Clear pathways of employment from traditional sectors into</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to address opportunities identified in key economic sectors, targeting where land, premises and the drive toward zero carbon can assist this process.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should have guide questions relating to economic growth and the meeting of the needs of key business sectors.</li> </ul>

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	<p>the five growth sectors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Equality of opportunity in our in growth sectors.</li> </ul> <p>Strategic goal 3: An economy fit for the future centring green growth as intrinsic to the future growth of the five priority sectors to ensure we meet our target for a net zero county by 2035. Success for this opportunity looks like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Reduced emissions in line with our ambition for the County to become net zero</li> <li>– Progress towards a decentralised and decarbonised energy system</li> <li>– Sustainable new homes and a thriving retrofit sector to improve existing homes</li> <li>– Essex at the forefront of low carbon (solar, offshore wind, nuclear and hydrogen) energy development and employment</li> <li>– Harnessing innovation to reach our net zero ambitions.</li> </ul>	
<b>Essex County Council (2019) The Essex Prosperity and Productivity Plan</b>		
<p>Mission 1: A dynamic economy</p> <p>Mission 2: A resilient economy</p> <p>Mission 3: An inclusive economy</p> <p>Mission 4: A connected economy</p>	<p><b>Mission 1: A dynamic economy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the supply of industry-relevant qualifications</li> <li>• Increase the supply of industry-relevant qualifications</li> <li>• Increase the supply of industry-relevant qualifications</li> <li>• Support those who are already in the labour market to access new skills</li> </ul> <p><b>Mission 2: A resilient economy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Across all economic growth interventions, we will support the development of new industries associated with the transition to a more energy-efficient, lower carbon economy</li> <li>• We will incentivise the development and use of sustainable materials within the construction and development process</li> <li>• We will invest in the low carbon skills base</li> </ul> <p><b>Mission 3: An inclusive economy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will support opportunities for retraining</li> <li>• We will drive 'fair work'</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should recognise the changes, challenges and opportunities in the economy and in partnership respond accordingly</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should have guide questions relating to economic growth relating to skills development and the emerging economic landscape.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will seek to embed 'anchor institutions'</li> <li>We will respond to demographic change and evolving demand</li> </ul> <p><b>Mission 4: A connected economy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will work with Transport East to prioritise strategic transport investments</li> <li>We will link our wider investment offer with stronger connectivity</li> <li>We will drive high-speed digital connectivity</li> </ul>	
<b>Essex County Council (2015) Education Transport Policy</b>		
Essex County Council has a statutory duty to make arrangements to provide free home to school transport for some children of compulsory school age and discretion whether to provide transport for others. This document sets out Essex County Council's Home to School Transport Policy and describes how the Council fulfils its duties and exercises its discretionary powers as required under the Education Act 1996 and subsequent legislation.	No targets or indicators.	The IIA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which consider the accessibility of dwellings to educational services and facilities.
<b>Essex County Council (2016) Essex Cycling Strategy</b>		
<p>Sets out the key elements of a long term plan that will lead to a significant and sustained increase in cycling in Essex, establishing it in the public's mind as a 'normal' mode of travel, especially for short a-to-b trips, and as a major participation activity and sport for all ages.</p> <p>The Strategy is complemented by the Essex Cycle Action Programme.</p> <p><b>Objectives</b></p> <p>Double the number of cycling stages (trips) in Essex from 2014 levels by 2025 at our monitored counter sites and other key routes.</p> <p>Cultivate a mind-set that sees cycling as a normal, enjoyable and everyday activity for the majority of short journeys.</p> <p>Establish cycling as an enjoyable participation activity for health gain and a popular competitive sport.</p>	<p><b>PROVIDE</b></p> <p>Coherent Cycle Networks</p> <p>Local Cycling &amp; Walking Infrastructure Plans</p> <p>Cycling Action Plans</p> <p>Flagship Routes</p> <p><b>ENABLE</b></p> <p>Governance of the Essex Cycling Strategy</p> <p>Transformational Funding</p> <p>New and Improved Cycling Infrastructure in Essex</p> <p>Best Practice Design</p> <p><b>PROMOTE</b></p> <p>A 'Cycle Essex' brand</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should produce policies which support promotion of cycling as a commuter and leisure activity, supported by appropriate infrastructure within new neighbourhoods and more widely.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which identify how cycling activity can be promoted as part of sustainable travel choices, in turn contributing to wider sustainability objectives.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<b>Strategy</b> ENABLE – a focus on leadership that will drive the strategy forward. PROMOTE – a targeted increase in the promotion of cycling. PROVIDE – a step-change in the extent and quality of cycling infrastructure.	High Profile Events Increased support for local initiatives Cycling Strategy	
<b>Essex County Council (2017) Chelmsford's Future Transport Network</b>		
<p>£15 million has been secured to invest in sustainable transport measures in line with the vision of Chelmsford's future transport network. This investment will fund the Chelmsford City Growth Package – which aims to improve the city's transport network with a focus on sustainable transport options to support future housing and job growth and with highways capacity improvements where appropriate to address congestion hotspots.</p> <p>The Growth Package will improve the quality of transport options available to people when travelling to and within Chelmsford. It will include a package of smaller scale improvements across all types of transport. These schemes will help manage congestion and keep Chelmsford's road network moving in the future.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable and economic growth: Supporting planned growth, development and jobs.</li> <li>• Improved transport network reliability: To manage traffic levels across Chelmsford's road network to improve journey time reliability and maximising the use of the transport network.</li> <li>• Improved connectivity: To improve accessibility and connectivity into and within Chelmsford, to link communities together and to provide access to key services, transport hubs and opportunities such as jobs and education.</li> <li>• Sustainable Transport: offer an attractive and effective choice in the provision of sustainable travel (buses, cycling and walking) to encourage increased use and reduce pressure on the road network.</li> <li>• Attractive Environment: To protect, enhance and improve the quality of the natural, built and historic environment to enhance residents, workers and visitors quality of life.</li> <li>• Healthier Environment: To reduce the impacts of air pollution and raise health standards through the promotion of walking and cycling.</li> <li>• Safe transport network and environment: To improve safety on the transport network and enhance and promote a safe and secure travelling environment.</li> </ul>	<p>The IIA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which consider the accessibility the projected investment in transport infrastructure and the associated promotion of sustainable transport options.</p>
<b>Essex County Council (2021) Essex Walking Strategy</b>		

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<p>1 Increase walking for everyday trips</p> <p>2 Improve road safety for pedestrians</p> <p>3 Better design and enhanced accessibility</p> <p>4 Enable physical activity &amp; walking for health</p> <p>5 Enable more walking to schools</p> <p>6 Promote walking for leisure</p> <p>7 Support economic development</p> <p>8 Improve neighbourhoods and supporting the development of new communities</p> <p>Objective 9 Encourage walking by changing attitudes and behaviour</p>	<p>Strategy Walking Proposals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aim for 400 walking trips (for travel) per person per year by 2025 (where the average trip is approx. 1km or 10mins).</li> <li>• Promote park-and-stride</li> <li>• Grow footfall on priority walking networks to improve natural surveillance.</li> <li>• Collaborate with partners and developers to maximise and optimise walking</li> <li>• networks, including where appropriate those that connect with public transport services.</li> <li>• Implement a hierarchy system to allow greater focus of resources on the most used routes.</li> <li>• Promote Essex Design Guide and Garden Communities Principals in new developments.</li> <li>• Review design standards for walking infrastructure to ensure they encourage safe behaviour and meet pedestrian needs (including provision for the elderly and mobility-impaired).</li> <li>• Enable walking networks for key towns through development of LCWIPs.</li> <li>• Enable more accessible network of walking and cycling routes in Essex Support better wayfinding and legibility to encourage 'walking with confidence'.</li> <li>• Promote Active by Design principles – make walking the most convenient way to get around local areas.</li> <li>• Develop a framework for improving walking at a neighbourhood level by drawing on Healthy Streets Principles.</li> <li>• Develop a framework for working with developers to ensure that walking (and cycling) is designed in to new housing and communities, and provides links to existing destinations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should produce policies which support promotion of walking as a commuter and leisure activity, supported by appropriate infrastructure within new neighbourhoods and more widely.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which identify how walking activity can be promoted as part of sustainable travel choices, in turn contributing to wider sustainability objectives.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create better links to walking corridors between local neighbourhoods and new communities</li> </ul>	
<b>Essex County Council (2020) Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allow and enable residents to make an informed choice about how they travel for work, school and leisure;</li> <li>Improve the health, welfare and safety of all Essex residents by encouraging an active lifestyle through increased walking and cycling;</li> <li>Shape future planned growth and development in Local Plans at locations which promote the hierarchy of preferred modes of transport, namely walking, cycling and public transport, and focus development in locations which are or can be made sustainable;</li> <li>Importance of design to create attractive and safe environments that will be more welcoming and enticing to walking and cycling</li> <li>Better management of congestion to secure the resilience of the network;</li> <li>Embed high quality sustainable alternatives, reducing the need to travel by car;</li> <li>Reduce CO2 and other emissions;</li> <li>Promote and support the development of travel options being used to access employment, health, education and leisure facilities;</li> <li>To consolidate and build on existing Travel Plans developed within the County;</li> <li>Contribute to meeting the County Council's Sustainable Travel Business Plan targets that relate to the delivery of transport services.</li> </ul>	No targets or indicators identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should produce policies which support promotion of sustainable modes of travel within new development and as part of the transition of the City Area to a more sustainable footing.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which identify how sustainable travel choices can be secured, in turn contributing to wider sustainability objectives.</li> </ul>
<b>Essex County Council (2020) Developers' Guide for Infrastructure Contributions</b>		
This Guide aligns with the overall aims of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) by supporting sustainable development. By promoting a consistent and transparent approach, developers can be assured that they are making a fair contribution to the infrastructure needed to support growth, and local residents can understand how development in their area makes a positive contribution to their community.	No targets or indicators.	The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should produce policies which support the implementation of Section 106/Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)/developer contributions.

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The Guide also aims to assist Local Planning Authorities in producing Local Plans and supporting evidence they require, and where applicable, the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).		
<b>Essex County Council (2020) Sustainable Drainage Systems Design Guide</b>		
<p>As the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) Essex County Council is responsible for overseeing flood risk from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses. The LLFA is therefore expected to provide support to local planning authorities and the development industry on sustainable drainage proposals. This document forms the local standards for Essex and, together with the National Standards, strongly promotes the use of SuDS which help to reduce surface water runoff and mitigate flood risk.</p> <p>A return to more natural, sustainable methods of dealing with surface water from development will also have additional benefits for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water quality – SuDS can help prevent and treat pollution in surface water runoff, protecting and enhancing the environment and contributing towards Water Framework Directive objectives.</li> <li>• Amenity – SuDS can have visual and community benefits for the community</li> </ul>	No targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should produce policies which support the implementation of SuDS with regard to planning, design and delivery.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which consider the impact SuDS can have with regard to mitigating flooding.</li> </ul>
<b>Essex County Council (2017) The Future of Essex</b>		
Is an ongoing series of documents, reports, community groups and events that seek to improve Essex and ensure the region as a whole is a good place to work, live, play and relax. As part of these documents is the Essex Renewal Project, which will be produced in 2022 and help to guide Essex to recovering from the Covid-19 pandemic.	No specific targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider how to best encourage Essex to recover after the Covid-19 pandemic.</li> </ul>
<b>Essex County Council and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council (2017) Essex and Southend-on-Sea Waste Local Plan</b>		
The objectives of the Waste Local Plan are to ensure waste is properly managed within the region and for waste to be pushed up the waste hierarchy where able to ensure more waste is recycled. The document is underpinned by the principle of achieving net self-sufficiency where practical (not for radioactive or hazardous waste).	An overarching aim for the region to become self-sufficient for most forms of waste by 2032.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan needs to encourage more sustainable waste management.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include objectives/guide questions relating to waste management.</li> </ul>



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This document contains the waste management strategy for the region up to 2032, which underpinned by eight strategic objectives.		
<b>Essex County Council (2018, live document) Essex Design Guide</b>		
<p>This is a live document that the Council often updates. It provides guidance on what is considered to be good design. It covers a wide range of design/built environment topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency services</li> <li>• Layout details</li> <li>• Highways technical manual</li> <li>• Air quality</li> <li>• Garden communities</li> <li>• Parking design and detail</li> <li>• Developer contributions</li> <li>• SuDS</li> <li>• Built context</li> <li>• Architectural details</li> </ul>	The guidance is binding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider the principles of the design guide in terms of spatial context when considering the location of development.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include guide questions which relate to high quality design.</li> </ul>
<b>Essex County Council (2020) Essex Green Infrastructure Strategy</b>		
<p>Champions high quality green space and green infrastructure in Essex. The purpose of this strategy is to take a positive approach to enhance, protect and create an inclusive and integrated network of high-quality green infrastructure in Greater Essex. This will help to create a county-wide understanding of green infrastructure, its functions and values, and to identify opportunities for delivering green infrastructure.</p> <p>The purpose of this strategy is to take a positive approach to enhance, protect and create an inclusive and integrated network of high-quality green infrastructure in Greater Essex, to create a county-wide understanding of green infrastructure – its functions and values, and to identify opportunities for delivering green infrastructure. The aim is to guide and shape planning and other services through setting principles that can inform plans and strategies, that will enable a coherent approach and partner collaboration in the delivery and long-term management of multi-functional natural assets, which will</p>	<p>The Objectives of the Strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect existing green infrastructure, especially designated sites</li> <li>• Improve existing green infrastructure so it is better functioning for people and wildlife</li> <li>• Create more high-quality multi-functional green infrastructure, especially in areas of deficiency</li> <li>• Improve the connectivity of green infrastructure for people and wildlife</li> <li>• Increase use and inclusivity of green infrastructure across all user groups, social groups and abilities</li> <li>• Provide green infrastructure facilities to promote health and wellbeing</li> <li>• Working with partners to build and secure funding, effective governance and stewardship for new and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should include policies and proposal relating to the protection, enhancement and creation of green infrastructure resources.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include guide questions which relate to the protection, enhancement and creation of green infrastructure resources, both existing and as part of new development,</li> </ul>

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provide environmental, social and economic benefits for Greater Essex. When referring to Greater Essex, this includes the 12 Districts, Boroughs and City and the two unitary authorities.	existing green infrastructure to ensure their long-term sustainability	
<b>Essex County Planning Officers Association, (2021) Livewell Development Accreditation</b>		
<b>Livewell Developer Charter:</b> Commits developers to support the health and wellbeing principles within the accreditation scheme Based on an annual review Promotes developer commitment to delivering health and wellbeing throughout their business helping to support their own corporate responsibilities Training and advice provided by the Essex Planning Officers Association (EPOA)	Stage 1 – Livewell Design Award Developers assessed on how they have embedded healthy design principles into their emerging schemes Uses Health Impact Assessment or the Healthy Checklist  Stage 2 – Livewell Development Accreditation Development assessed on a credit-based scoring process on the following principles: Design of homes and spaces Active environment and connectivity Environmental Sustainability Supporting Communities Access to healthier food environments Improving access to education, skills and employment  Livewell Developments will be awarded at either bronze, silver or gold level subject to approval by a panel Panel to undertake site visit to assess the as built scheme against the scoring criteria. <b>Smaller scale schemes</b> Developer proposing schemes that do not meet the minimum size criteria (50 dwellings+) for an HIA can still submit their schemes for accreditation. Only three of the principles will be assessed against small scale schemes 'home/space design', 'active environment and connectivity, and 'environmental sustainability' for smaller schemes	Provides a criteria-based framework for the systematic and transparent evaluation of development proposals of all scales and how they contribute to health and well-being across the City Council area.
<b>Essex Planning Officers Association (2021) Essex Healthy Places – Advice Notes for Planners, Developers and Designers</b>		
Gathers together the state of play on the emerging health agenda, considering: Health in planning Policy and strategy	Various checklists developed to accompany health policy guidance.	Provides a criteria-based framework for the systematic and transparent evaluation of development proposals of all scales and how they contribute to health and well-being across the City Council area.

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<p>Essex Design Guide</p> <p>Sport England Local Delivery work within Essex Healthy Places guidance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active environments and active design principles</li> <li>• Encouraging active travel</li> <li>• Design of homes and housing</li> <li>• Access to open green and blue space</li> <li>• Supporting community participation and lifetime neighbourhoods</li> <li>• Access to healthier food environments and locally sourced food</li> <li>• Education, skills development and employment</li> <li>• Access to healthcare infrastructure</li> <li>• Environmental sustainability</li> </ul> <p>Health Impact Assessments</p> <p>Environmental Impact Assessments</p>		
<b>Essex County Council (2018) Local Flood Risk Management Strategy</b>		
<p>This document establishes several 'measures' that underpin and govern how flooding will be managed and considered within the region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measure 1: Investigating Floods – The Council will investigate the reasons for flooding, how flooding occurred and provide aid to people affected by flooding.</li> <li>• Measure 2: Mapping local routes for water – The Council will keep a record of the regions water environment to help Measure 1 and to create better flood management practices.</li> <li>• Measure 3: Looking after our watercourses – Ensure the watercourses of the region are well maintained to ensure they can operate as important water and flood management assets.</li> <li>• Measure 4: Planning for future floods – The Council will try to ensure the regions flood resilience improves.</li> <li>• Measure 5: Influencing new development and drainage – The Council will ensure new developments do not compromise its surroundings flood resilience and will look favourably on developments that increase an areas flood resilience.</li> <li>• Measure 6: Building new flood defences – The Council will invest in new flood defences.</li> </ul>	<p>Improve the flood resilience of the Essex region.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should improve the flood resilience of the region over its lifetime.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should contain a guide question relating to flood risk.</li> </ul>

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<b>Essex County Council (2018) Essex Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2022</b>		
<p>This document seeks to improve the health and wellbeing of the residents of the region. It also identifies the following areas of focus:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improve mental health and wellbeing</li> <li>2. Addressing obesity, improving diet and increasing physical activity</li> <li>3. Influencing conditions and behaviours linked to health inequalities</li> <li>4. Enabling and supporting people with long term conditions and disabilities</li> </ol>	<p>Improve the health and wellbeing of the residents of the Essex region.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should improve the health and wellbeing of the region's residents over its lifetime.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should contain guide questions relating to health and wellbeing.</li> </ul>
<b>Essex County Council (2020) Local and Neighbourhood Planners' Guide to School Organisation</b>		
<p>This document provides guidance to those who are producing Local and Neighbourhood plans to ensure they best consider if new school places are needed. Such plans need to consider what the current capacity of school places is and the validity of expanding school places.</p>	<p>No specific target or indicators.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider if it could or is required to provide new school places.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should address training and education considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>
<b>Essex County Council (2020) Essex Children and Young People's Plan</b>		
<p>This plan originally was produced in 2016, but it was updated in 2020. The 2016 plan resulted in a continued improvement in the lives of children within the region, which the 2020 update seeks to continue and capitalise on. The key points the plan seeks to continue/capitalise on past successes on are outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resilient children and young people</li> <li>• Stable and thriving families</li> <li>• Inclusive and supportive schools and communities</li> <li>• Safe and accessible neighbourhoods</li> </ul>	<p>To capitalise on the success of the 2016 plan to ensure the health and wellbeing of the region's children continues to improve.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider how it could improve the health and wellbeing of the region's children.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include health and well-being considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>
<b>Essex County Council (2021) Organisation Plan 2021/22</b>		
<p>This plan contains the following focus areas for the region, which will be given considerable funding in order to tackle or address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Securing inclusive economic growth</li> <li>• Helping people get the best start and age well</li> <li>• Helping to create great places</li> <li>• Transforming the Council</li> </ul>	<p>No specific targets or indicators.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider how it could help address the focus areas identified.</li> </ul>

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<b>Essex County Council (2021) The Essex Plan for Working Families</b>		
<p>This plan seeks to improve the lives of working families within the region by focusing on the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Childcare – improve access to affordable childcare</li> <li>• Housing – support working families finance their housing costs</li> <li>• Information advice &amp; guidance – ensure families can access the information and guidance they need</li> <li>• Skills &amp; employment – help parents gain the skills they need and to foster a culture of good employment practices in employers</li> <li>• Living costs – help families manage their living costs</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure economic and training considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>
<b>Essex County Council (2022) Levelling up Essex – An Essex White Paper</b>		
<p>This white paper seeks to identify current barriers preventing Essex from 'levelling up':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are more than 123,000 people in Essex, 40,000 of whom are children, that live in areas that are in the 20% most deprived of the whole UK. This is a figure that has doubled since 2007.</li> <li>• At Key Stage 4 there is a 30% gap in educational attainment between the most and least deprived areas in the county.</li> <li>• There is on average a 12 year life expectancy gap between the most and least deprived areas of the county.</li> <li>• Health outcomes among the residents of the most deprived areas of the county are significantly worse: 87% higher instance of Respiratory progressive diseases (COPD); 69% increase of mental health conditions; and adult obesity is 53% higher</li> </ul>	<p>To tackle the barriers identified that are preventing the region from 'levelling up'.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider how it can address all/some of the barriers identified in this white paper.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure economic, training and health considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>
<b>Essex County Council (2021) Essex Baseline and Pathway to Net Zero</b>		
<p>Baseline of emissions in Essex and a future emissions pathway which has been developed by modelling the impact of the recommended actions of the Essex Climate Action Commission (ECAC) in respect of the following sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Domestic buildings</li> <li>- Industrial &amp; Commercial (I&amp;C) buildings</li> <li>- Industrial processes</li> <li>- Road transport</li> </ul>	<p>No targets set</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reference points for the determination of the performance of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan area</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Land use and agriculture</li> <li>- Household waste</li> </ul> <p>Scenarios to 2050 for energy mixes in new development are set out.</p>		
<b>Essex County Council (2021) Everyone's Essex: our plan for levelling up the county 2021 to 2025</b>		
<p>Outlines commitments across four key areas to levelling up across Essex:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the economy</li> <li>• the environment</li> <li>• children and families</li> <li>• promoting health, care and wellbeing for all the parts of our population who need our support</li> </ul>	<p><b>Good jobs</b></p> <p>We will work hard to address the impacts of the Covid pandemic on unemployment by supporting business recovery and building a stronger economy for the future, enabling people to build the skills they need to be part of it, and working alongside Essex businesses to help reduce barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups.</p> <p><b>Infrastructure</b></p> <p>We will deliver and maintain high quality infrastructure to improve opportunities for people living in Essex as well as supporting a growing economy and the delivery of new homes and communities by investing in the region of £1 billion by the end of this council.</p> <p><b>Future growth and investment</b></p> <p>We will help grow existing businesses and the economic sectors of the future in Essex, including the arts, and secure high levels of new investment by working with partners to promote the county, by creating the conditions for growth and by maximising the impact of public sector spend within the county.</p> <p><b>Green growth</b></p> <p>We will develop Essex as a centre for innovation, supporting new technologies and business models to enable our economy to transition to net zero and secure green jobs for the future by ensuring we have the right local skills and drawing in investment opportunities.</p> <p><b>Levelling up the economy</b></p> <p>We will work to level up the economy by addressing the drivers of socioeconomic inequality (including income, education, employment, health and housing), based on the foundation of good jobs and a higher skilled and healthier workforce.</p> <p><b>Net zero</b></p> <p>We will work across the council and the county to hit our net zero targets, by ensuring that the council significantly reduces its carbon footprint, whilst also supporting an acceleration in</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider how the commitments can be supported through plan policies and proposals.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure the topics considered in the levelling-up agenda are addressed.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
	<p>the progress towards sustainable housing and energy, and active and alternative forms of travel across the county.</p> <p><b>Transport and built environment</b></p> <p>We will deliver a step change in sustainable travel across the county, by growing passenger transport and active travel, and will ensure we support the move towards net zero, climate resilient developments, including our new garden communities, by delivering sustainable, healthy neighbourhoods for the future.</p> <p><b>Minimise waste</b></p> <p>We will minimise the impact on the environment by supporting residents and businesses to reduce waste and increase the amounts recycled, and by working with others to deliver a more circular economy whereby we better protect our natural resources through the efficient and ongoing reuse of materials.</p> <p><b>Green communities</b></p> <p>We will work with communities and businesses, providing advice and support to enable and empower local action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build climate resilience.</p> <p><b>Levelling up the environment</b></p> <p>We will help all our communities to enjoy a high-quality environment, by making them more resilient against flooding, heat stress and water shortages, by enhancing our county's green infrastructure and by reducing air pollution.</p> <p><b>Health</b></p> <p>We have 5 commitments for promoting health, care and wellbeing for all the parts of our population who need our support.</p> <p><b>Health lifestyles</b></p> <p>We will aim to increase the proportion of people able to live healthy lifestyles by embedding a community-first approach, by helping people to overcome social isolation, mental ill health and substance misuse, and by helping people to live fit and active lifestyles.</p> <p><b>Promoting independence</b></p> <p>We will work with key partners and the adult safeguarding board to help individuals to live free from abuse and neglect and will enable residents to live independently by assisting them to access suitable accommodation, supporting access to employment and meaningful activities, and enabling independence at home through reablement, care technology,</p>	



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	<p>and market shaping to ensure strong domiciliary support, and investment in housing.</p> <p><b>Place-based working</b></p> <p>We will deliver better care that meets the needs of residents by joining up care and support with local partners in a place, including with district councils, health partners and the local voluntary and community sector.</p> <p><b>Carers</b></p> <p>We will help those carers of all ages whose caring duties are impacting most on their wellbeing by achieving a step change in the advice, guidance and support we provide to support wellbeing and independence, and by targeting it at those who need it most.</p> <p><b>Levelling up health</b></p> <p>We will seek to reduce health inequalities by bringing together partners and communities to address the socio-economic drivers that underpin poor health outcomes, such as poor housing, poverty, economic insecurity and low skills.</p> <p><b>Education outcomes</b></p> <p>We will achieve educational excellence and high standards for all children and young people as we recover from the pandemic, by working in partnership with early years providers, schools, colleges and universities, by building greater coherence across the system and by engaging businesses, communities and the arts sector in supporting education outcomes.</p> <p><b>Family resilience and stability</b></p> <p>We will work to strengthen family resilience and stability, as part of thriving communities, by embedding an approach that tackles the drivers of family instability and provide support to low income, vulnerable and working families.</p> <p><b>Safety</b></p> <p>We will continue to improve the safety of Essex residents, including children and young people, by sustaining our nationally recognised approach to early intervention, safeguarding and neglect, addressing domestic abuse, child criminal and sexual exploitation, and peer on peer violence and abuse. We will continue close working with our partners to help make our communities safer and address key issues such as violence and vulnerability, and safety for women and girls.</p> <p><b>Outcomes for vulnerable children</b></p>	

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	<p>We will work to improve outcomes for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups including Children in Care, Care Leavers, Children with SEND and children from BAME communities, by working with children, young people and partners across the system.</p> <p><b>Levelling up outcomes for families</b></p> <p>We will work to address inequalities affecting children and families by focusing on recovery from the pandemic, tackling family poverty, mental health support, emotional wellbeing and healthy, active and productive lifestyles, and making sure that we engage hard to reach groups.</p>	
<b>Essex County Council (2022) Essex early Years and Childcare Strategy 2022-2027</b>		
<p>This strategy provides a number of aims that will govern how childcare is approached within in the regions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aim 1 - Children and their families achieve their potential with support from an effective and connected early years system that as a clear vision, purpose, and direction</li> <li>• Aim 2 - All children have a positive journey through their early years and are well supported to transition to Reception and start Year 1</li> <li>• Aim 3 - Children who may be at risk of poor outcomes are prioritised for high quality targeted</li> <li>• Aim 4 - Children's early learning and development is expertly supported by a strong, skilled, and knowledgeable early years and childcare system workforce</li> <li>• Aim 5 - Parents can access sufficient, high quality and fully inclusive childcare places that support early learning and childcare needs</li> <li>• Aim 6 - Families are enabled to be the best they can be</li> </ul>	No specific targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should work to improve the lives of children and families.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure economic and training considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>
<b>Essex Climate Action Commission (2021) Net Zero: Making Essex Carbon Neutral</b>		
<p>Sets out Essex Climate Action Commission's key steps to reaching net zero by 2050 through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green Infrastructure</li> <li>• Energy</li> <li>• Built Environment</li> <li>• Existing Building</li> <li>• Transport</li> <li>• Waste</li> </ul>	<p><b>Green Infrastructure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 per cent of all land in Essex will enhance biodiversity and the natural environment by creating natural green infrastructure. We expect these figures to be 25 per cent by 2030 and 30 per cent by 2040.</li> <li>• 50 per cent of farmland in Essex will adopt sustainable land stewardship practices by 2030; 75 per cent by 2040 and 100 per cent by 2050.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider the measures suggested and the extent to which policies and proposals can respond.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should consider the topics and targets set out in this document.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase urban greening – 30 per cent greening of our towns, villages, and new developments by 2040: increased greenspace creation, naturalising existing green space, greening the public realm, and developing SuDS. Every citizen of Essex can contribute by making space for nature, either in their own gardens or buildings, or through communal areas where they live.</li> <li>• For the 75,000 properties in Essex still at risk of flooding, we will develop schemes to increase their flood resilience by 2050 and aim for three-quarters of the schemes developed to include integrated water management and natural flood management techniques.</li> <li>• Develop and agree new policy on coastal flooding and erosion risk management that specifies long-term, evidence-based, quantified outcomes that have the buy-in of the affected communities and stakeholders.</li> <li>• Coastal flood resilience schemes in critical areas to be implemented by 2023.</li> <li>• Ensure that adaptation (and mitigation) are integrated into the Environmental Land Management system.</li> <li>• Develop a Funding and Partnership Development Programme.</li> </ul> <p><b>Energy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essex to be made a centre of innovation for emerging renewable technologies (e.g. small scale nuclear and manufacturing of renewables products such as solar tiles).</li> <li>• A network of community energy neighbourhoods to be built across every district in Essex, to generate, store, share and use energy locally by 2035.</li> <li>• Essex to produce enough renewable energy within the county to meet its own needs by 2040.</li> <li>• All large-scale renewable developments to have an element of community ownership from 2021.</li> <li>• 1.43 GW of large-scale solar panels to be built on available land without compromising current agricultural land by 2030.</li> <li>• Solar panels to be installed on every available roof on domestic, industrial and commercial buildings by 2050, with a target of 25 per cent by 2030.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All new build houses, industrial and commercial units to have solar panels fitted immediately.</li> <li>• One-third of commercial buildings to be retrofitted as far as possible with renewable systems by 2030.</li> <li>• Retrofit across the whole housing stock by 2040, introduce an incentive to accelerate the shift to low carbon heating solutions.</li> <li>• Bioenergy to be used for all rural homes that are hard to decarbonise through electrification by 2030.</li> <li>• 100 per cent of fuel-poor households to be retrofitted and supplied with affordable renewable energy by 2030.</li> <li>• All gas-fired power in Essex to be repurposed to bioenergy by 2035.</li> <li>• All waste heat from industrial and commercial use to be captured and reused (where local demands exists) by 2035.</li> <li>• Create hydrogen storage facilities to store excess renewable energy (off-shore wind and solar) by 2030.</li> <li>• Facilities to be created to produce green hydrogen to fuel heavy goods vehicles by 2040.</li> <li>• The EV charging network to be rapidly expanded beyond the UK national average, focusing particularly on rural locations.</li> </ul> <p><b>Built Environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All new schools commissioned to be carbon zero by 2022 and carbon positive by 2030.</li> <li>• All new homes and all new commercial buildings granted planning permissions to be carbon zero by 2025.</li> <li>• All new homes and non-domestic buildings granted planning permission to be carbon positive by 2030.</li> <li>• District Local Plans should reflect the Government's 25-year Environment Plan and incorporate green infrastructure, including making sustainable drainage (SuDs) as a default requirement on all new developments, supported by the developer contribution.</li> <li>• New homes should provide space for high levels of recycling to support a new circular economy (see chapter Waste). Essex Design Guide (<a href="http://essexdesignguide.co.uk">essexdesignguide.co.uk</a>) to be updated to reflect best environmental practice in net zero and resilience.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essex to set goals for reversing the national decline in urban greenspace.</li> <li>• Support local planning officers, by providing training and building expertise in responding to the climate crisis.</li> <li>• Review of the Essex employment, training, skills, procurement, and business operations to deliver the ambitions of the ECAC and partners in relation to innovative and green construction for a carbon zero future.</li> <li>• We need to support the housing sector – which is a key employer in Essex – to develop new opportunities and skills and make sure we can be part of green construction sector growth. Essex seeks to lead the way, working with our universities, buildings industry and local planners to be at the forefront of building innovation, with a clear focus on building with nature.</li> <li>• Essex should bring forward net zero developments urgently to showcase these new approaches, with a major scheme under construction by 2023.</li> <li>• The industry needs to secure sustainable building materials with an urgent focus on green procurement standards in place by end of 2022.</li> <li>• The Essex Developers Group should establish a Climate Change Charter and 'demonstrator' projects.</li> <li>• New developments (buildings and infrastructure) should have SuDS as the default option and only be given the right to connect to the sewer system once national SuDS standards have been met.</li> <li>• Local Plan policies and transportation policies must support active travel and prioritise walking and cycling, promoting them as the natural choice, particularly for shorter journeys.</li> </ul> <p><b>Existing Buildings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All schools should have smart meters by the end of 2021. 50 per cent of Essex schools to be retrofitted to net zero standards by 2025 and 100 per cent by 2030.</li> <li>• All anchor institutions estates – that is buildings owned by the public sector in Essex, and all local authorities, NHS, police, fire, schools, and universities - to be retrofitted to net zero carbon standards by 2030. We</li> </ul>	

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	<p>need to develop adaptation and mitigation plans for these estates including care homes, hospitals, schools, and prisons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two-thirds of all homes to be retrofitted as far as possible to net zero carbon standards by 2030 and all by 2040 with incentives introduced to accelerate the shift to low carbon heating solutions.</li> <li>• Existing homes – carbon emissions reduction of 50 per cent by 2030 and carbon zero by 2040. 100 per cent of fuel poor homes to be retrofitted and supplied with affordable energy by 2030.</li> <li>• All retrofit schemes should include water efficiency alongside energy efficiency.</li> <li>• Prioritise using waste heat where possible – usually in urban areas where there is a high demand for heating and cooling.</li> <li>• Rural homes that are hard to decarbonise with electric heating, will be supported to move to more sustainable fuel sources such as bioenergy. Bring forward a programme to implement 10 walkable neighbourhoods by 2021 and then 20 schemes each year between 2022-2030.</li> <li>• Existing towns and villages must seek to support and provide for more adaptation measures. This should include green space to be retrofitted in local areas, which includes measures such as tree planting, and green roofs and walls (see chapter Land Use and Green Infrastructure) Introduce a stronger policy on sustainable drainage (SuDS) which will replicate natural water drainage. There must be clarity on who is adopting and maintaining the SuDS systems.</li> <li>• Transportation policies must support active travel and prioritise walking and cycling, promoting them as the natural choice, particularly for shorter journeys.</li> <li>• Optimise energy use in the public estate by 25 per cent by 2025 and 50 per cent by 2030.</li> <li>• Essex should invest in green construction training for a zero carbon future by 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>Transport</b></p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essex Highways to update its Highways and Transportation Policies in 2021. To minimise the need for travel, all new developments (residential, business, tourist etc.) need to be built in the right place, designed around sustainability – designing out the need to travel. Where this isn't possible sustainable and active travel should be embedded in full, from the start.</li> <li>• By the end of 2021 introduce 10 Walkable Neighbourhoods across Essex and further 20 every year to 2030, where all key amenities, such as shops, are available within a 20-minute radius, reducing rat running and pollution, and returning streets back to their communities.</li> <li>• By 2022: introduce School Streets for 25 schools across the county and an additional 20 every year to 2050. This can be done using current walking and cycling infrastructure, speed restrictions and traffic management systems to promoting safer, greener, and healthier streets. We also need to encourage bus and train travel over cars for longer journeys to school.</li> <li>• By 2030 reduce city centre and town car congestion by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introducing dedicated, well-planned cycling and walking routes across all urban and rural locations and to all railway stations.</li> <li>• Upgrading and expanding the National Cycle Network and integrate with existing local routes.</li> <li>• Working with businesses to improve onsite facilities and develop routes.</li> <li>• Promoting bus travel. Introduce three new subsidy-free Park &amp; Choose (pedal, scoot, stride) sites.</li> <li>• Using Park and Ride as a stepping stone to more widespread public transport use.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Explore options to create car-free town centres by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• incentivising the pedestrianisation of key centres and rural locations.</li> <li>• introducing road tolling and multi-occupancy lanes.</li> <li>• introducing charges for car use in city centres.</li> <li>• reducing the availability of city centre parking.</li> <li>• launching a county-wide Car-Free Day.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Encourage both formal and informal car-sharing options and car-sharing clubs, and introduce five workplace levies, with local anchor institutions to encourage car-sharing.</li> </ul>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand 3PR (a school parking initiative) and school zones projects.</li> <li>• Work with local businesses to introduce new delivery hubs and greener delivery vehicles • Introduce 10 local delivery hubs by 2022 followed by the wide adoption of local delivery hubs. • Introduce e-cargo bike pilots in five locations by 2022, leading to wider introduction through 2030. • Explore other delivery vehicle types including autonomous options. • Explore complementary solutions e.g. retiming delivery.</li> <li>• Essex County Council to develop a detailed EV strategy including the charge point business models to help businesses and the public sector electrify their current fleet. • Expand the charging network beyond the UK national average, focusing particularly on rural locations. • Electrify the Essex County Council fleet. • Explore options for alternative fuelling of vans. • Comprehensive trial and roll out of e-bikes. Essex County Council will embrace new technology • Embed micro-mobility solutions. Expand e-scooter and e-bikes schemes to new developments / Park and Ride and explore rural options. • Kickstart innovative solutions such as electric demand responsive transport with a clear pathway to commerciality.</li> <li>• It is vital to publicly commit to rebuilding public transport post-COVID and funding our bus and rapid transit network effectively.</li> <li>• Ringfence income from other initiatives, e.g. parking levies, to improve sustainable, low carbon bus travel.</li> <li>• Build behaviour change strategy and education campaign focussing on active travel, public transport and discouraging unnecessary car use. This underpins all other recommendations.</li> </ul> <p><b>Waste</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2025: all Essex residents and businesses will have access to kerbside recycling services. We know the service currently varies greatly within the county and we want to see a commitment to make sure a minimum standard of kerbside recycling is consistently available to all properties. With at least the core materials being</li> </ul>	

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	<p>collected for our residents to encourage them to adopt the habit of recycling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2030: at least 70 per cent of the waste the Council collects is reused, recycled, or composted.</li> <li>• By 2030: everyone in Essex to have reduced their waste by 10 per cent of 2020 levels. Establish an Essex Waste Innovation Fund with an early focus on plastic substitution opportunities and enhancing local reprocessing capacity. Develop the Essex Waste Partnership to fully engage with producers, industry, and research bodies to support the circular economy and unlock opportunities. Provide support to residents and businesses so they can make the right choices.</li> <li>• By 2030: Essex should commit to send zero waste to landfill sites.</li> <li>• By 2024: a network of community-based reuse and repair hubs to be established across Essex to help people fix what they already have or donate items for others to reuse.</li> <li>• By 2025: systems are in place so all biodegradable waste in the county is put to beneficial use through composting, recycling, or energy generation. The adoption of life-cycle analysis so the greenhouse gas emissions from the products and services bought, and the waste system, service design and treatment technologies used, can be measured and fully considered to ensure choices that minimise impacts. The development of a strategic vision for waste shared by the local authorities in Essex, which has principles of the circular economy at its core.</li> </ul>	
<b>Essex Planning Officer Association (2009) Guidance Note: Parking Standards – Design and Good Practice</b>		
Objective to "Develop new parking standards for Essex that are functional, serve the community and enhance the living environment, deliver sustainable economic growth and employment."	<p>Through the review group a number of conclusions have been drawn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 93 out of 267 (35%) wards in Essex have an average car ownership in excess of 1.5 vehicles per household (2001 census).</li> <li>• 70% of Essex is rural and for many areas public transport does not offer an attractive alternative to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should include policy references which covers parking provision to ensure developments meets National parking standards.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure design considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>

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	<p>the private car (e.g. service frequency, destination etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is acknowledged that previously advised garage dimensions are too small for modern cars (random sample of manufacturer's specification 2007).</li> <li>78% of garages are not used to store vehicles but used for general storage/utility uses instead (Mouchel resident's study 2007).</li> <li>Often rear parking courts are used to facilitate the increase in use of wheelie bins and recycling storage containers (working group site visits 2007).</li> <li>Parking bays are of an inadequate size for modern vehicle (working group site visits 2007, random sample of manufacturer's specification 2007).</li> <li>Parking Courts are often poorly located and designed as well a unattractive and not secure (working group site visits 2007),</li> <li>Parking courts must have easy and direct access to dwellings.</li> <li>Setbacks from garages and gates lead to vehicles parking in front of garages and blocking footways (working group site visits 2007, random sample of manufacturer's specification 2007).</li> </ul>	
<b>Water Resources East (2022) The Emerging Water Resources Regional Plan for Eastern England</b>		
<p>The document provides the strategic context and approach for addressing water demand challenges and states that: "The entire Eastern England is now classified as 'seriously water stressed'. It is short of water now and if nothing changes that shortage will get worse" and that: "Essentially, we are facing a climate and biodiversity crisis with water being the visible sign of this crisis. This emerging regional plan contains the seeds to help address the water crisis in Eastern England, in coexistence with the national context."</p> <p>In respect of new housing development, the document notes that "While future water demand drivers from population and housing growth are significant, these could be largely offset through demand management measures such as leakage reduction and a focus on household and non-household water efficiency, enabled by an increase in measures such as smart</p>	No specific targets or indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should include policies which address water supply and demand issues, particularly in respect of new development.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should ensure water resource considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>

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metering. However, the assumption that this increase can be offset is dependent on changing current behaviours of water users, supported by policies, regulation and interventions that make it easy to act to reduce water usage."		
<b>Essex Police (2020) Force Plan 2020/2021</b>		
<p>This plan is a short document that sets out how the Essex police force will tackle crime and what priority areas they have. Their priorities are to prevent, investigate and tackle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• violence in all its forms</li> <li>• online crime</li> <li>• anti-social behaviour</li> <li>• gangs and organised crime</li> <li>• safety/crime on the roads</li> <li>• domestic abuse</li> <li>• burglary</li> </ul> <p>They also have an aim to support and protect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• children and vulnerable people</li> <li>• victims of crime</li> <li>• visibility in communities</li> </ul>	No specific targets or indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to tackle crime and create safe spaces from people to live and work.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure community safety considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>
<b>Essex School Organisation Service (2022) 10 Year Plan – Meeting the demand for mainstream school places in Essex</b>		
<p>This document contains a series of forecasts and plans split over the following areas, which state what the areas school capacity should be and what needs to be done in the future to ensure enough school places are created:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mid Essex</li> <li>• North East Essex</li> <li>• South Essex</li> <li>• West Essex</li> </ul>	No specific targets or indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to ensure it provides for enough school places over its lifetime.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure education considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>
<b>Essex School Organisation Service (2022) Garden Communities and Planning School Places</b>		
<p>This document seeks to identify the number of school places needed in the regions garden communities/potential garden communities that could be created in the future.</p>	No specific targets or indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to ensure it provides for enough school places over its lifetime.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure education considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>

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<b>Essex Wildlife Trust (2013) Living Landscapes – A Vision for the Future of Essex</b>		
The Living Landscapes' vision is to restore, recreate and reconnect wildlife habitats including SSSIs, Local Wildlife Sites and Nature Reserves, so that the species living within them can move through the landscape more easily, and continue to survive and thrive long into the future.	Essex used to be a wildlife-rich county. The county had many wildflower meadows; we have lost over 90% of them. Since 1930 we have lost 72% of our coastal marsh. Skylark numbers halved between 1969 and 1991 and the Song Thrush has declined by 73% since the mid 1970s.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to protect and enhance local wildlife habitats</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives and / or guide questions relating to the conservation and enhancement wildlife habitats.</li> </ul>
<b>Geo Essex (2013) Essex Local Geodiversity Action Plan</b>		
This document provides guidance on Essex's geodiversity, which has a number of aspects that are unique to the region.	No specific targets or indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to protect and conserve the geodiversity of the region</li> <li>The IIA Framework should ensure geodiversity considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>
<b>Highways England (2021) A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening - public consultation</b>		
Proposals relating to the enhancement of A12, from Boreham Interchange to Marks Tey. Including consideration of the following topics relating to the scheme: Environment; Traffic; Walking, cycling and horse riding; Safety and operations; Economic growth; Property and landowners; Bypassed routes and other side roads; Construction	No specific targets or indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should take into account the implications of this investment for matters such as traffic flows, congestion and attractiveness of the area to inward investment.</li> </ul>
<b>South East Local Enterprise Partnership (2014) Growth Deal and Strategic Economic Plan</b>		
<p>The Economic Plan outlines the opportunities and challenges across the South East LEP area. It provides the economic context and outlines the LEP's approach to creating the conditions for growth across the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building on our economic strengths</li> <li>Boosting our productivity</li> <li>Improving our skills</li> <li>Building more houses and re-building confidence</li> <li>Investing in our transport growth corridors/areas</li> </ul>	<p>The Economic Plan sets out the LEPs ambition to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>enable the creation of 200,000 sustainable private sector jobs over the decade to 2021, an increase of 11.4% since 2011;</li> <li>complete 100,000 new homes by 2021, which will entail, over the seven years, increasing the annual rate of completions by over 50% by comparison with recent years; and,</li> <li>lever investment totalling £10 billion, to accelerate growth, jobs and homebuilding.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should support the delivery of the Strategic Economic Plan.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives/guide questions relating to the promotion of economic development, skills, investment in transport infrastructure and housing.</li> </ul>
<b>South East Local Enterprise Partnership (2015) Rural Strategy 2015-2021</b>		
This strategy seeks to improve the rural economy of Essex. It also seeks to grow the rural economy and ensure it remains a mixture of traditional and new/innovative employment opportunities. It also seeks to increase the amount of affordable housing in rural areas.	No specific targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should improve the rural economy of Essex and increase the amount of affordable housing in the rural area.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IIA Framework should include objective/guide questions relating to improving the economy and housing.</li> </ul>
<b>Local Plans and Programmes (including neighbouring local authorities)</b>		
<b>Braintree, Brentwood, Chelmsford, Maldon and Uttlesford Councils (2006) Landscape Character Assessments</b>		
These documents contain the Landscape Character Assessments for the Braintree, Brentwood, Chelmsford, Maldon and Uttlesford Council areas, which provide important local landscape character information.	No relevant targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should take note of the identified landscape characters that exist within the region and ensure it supports them.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should have objectives/guide questions relating to landscape.</li> </ul>
<b>Braintree District Council (2011) Core Strategy</b>		
<p>The Core Strategy sets out strategic growth locations and the level of provision that should be made for future housing in each of the towns, key service villages and other villages in the District.</p> <p>The Core Strategy sets out the overall target for job provision in the District between 2001 and 2026, as well as identifying strategic employment allocations.</p> <p>The Core Strategy identifies broad areas of growth for town centre retailing and regeneration.</p>	No relevant targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is potential for interaction between the Core Strategy and the Review of the Adopted Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.</li> </ul>
<b>Braintree District Council (2014) Site Allocations and Development Management Plan</b>		
<p>The pre submission site allocations plan shows the location of smaller non-strategic site allocations needed to meet the Council's Core Strategy required level of housing development up to 2026.</p> <p>The ADMP has reviewed existing employment sites in accordance with the NPPF requirements and identifies which employment sites in current or recent use, should be protected for employment uses, and which should instead be allocated for housing, retail or other purposes.</p>	No relevant targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is potential for interaction between the emerging Review of the Adopted Local Plan and the Review of the Adopted Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.</li> </ul>
<b>Braintree District Council (2021) Local Plan 2013-2033 Section 1</b>		

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<p>Section 1 of the Local Plan provides strategic objectives and goals for the Braintree region, with Section 2 currently being reviewed to see if it can be adopted.</p> <p>Section 1 also provides planning policies that outline to developers what is considered acceptable development. The Section 1 plan is underpinned by support for sustainable development in-line with the NPPF.</p> <p>Section 1 also covers the areas of Colchester and Tendring.</p>	<p>The following housing requirements per annum have been established by this plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Braintree: 716</li> <li>Colchester: 920</li> <li>Tendring: 550</li> </ul> <p>The total minimum housing requirements for the plan period 2013-2033:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Braintree: 14,320</li> <li>Colchester: 18,400</li> <li>Tendring: 11,000</li> <li>Total over the three areas: 43,720</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should be in accordance with the objectives and policies of this plan and not compromise its ambitious house building targets.</li> </ul>
<b>Brentwood District Council Local Plan 2016-2033</b>		
<p>The Plan sets out policies, proposals and site allocations to guide future development in the Borough. It will enable the Council to manage growth while protecting key areas, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing and economic growth requirements;</li> <li>Retail, leisure and other commercial development;</li> <li>Infrastructure for transport and utilities (such as energy, telecoms, and water);</li> <li>Local community facilities (such as local shops, schools and healthcare);</li> <li>Conservation and protection of the natural and historic environment; and</li> <li>Climate change and provision of renewable energy.</li> </ul>	No relevant targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is potential for interaction between the Local Plan and the Review of the Adopted Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2004) Historic Environment Characterisation Project</b>		
<p>The report reveals the sensitivity, diversity and value of the historic environment resource within the local authority areas. The report should facilitate the development of positive approaches to the integration of historic environment objectives into spatial planning.</p>	No specified targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should facilitate development whilst protecting the historic fabric of Chelmsford.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives/guide questions that relate to Chelmsford's historic environment.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2004) Chelmsford Parks and Green Spaces Strategy 2004-2014</b>		



Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<p>The vision of the Strategy is:</p> <p><i>"Chelmsford's green spaces belong to local people. They should be safe, cherished and accessible to all; managed for the future in order to co-ordinate and balance the needs of various interest groups fairly, and to achieve an ever-improving quality of life for all our residents and visitors".</i></p>	No measurable targets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should include policies that contribute to the maintenance and provision of parks and green spaces in Chelmsford. In particular, the Council should consider appropriate standards of green space to be provided with new development, the quality of linkages and accessibility of them and the necessity of securing appropriate management regimes.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should ensure adequate coverage of parks and green spaces.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2005) Nature Conservation Reference Guide for Chelmsford Borough</b>		
This report evaluates the existing network of important wildlife sites as part of the ongoing Review of the Adopted Local Plan process. It aims to identify important Wildlife Sites and to describe the wildlife resource we have in the county as a whole.	No relevant targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider how it can contribute to the protection of the City's wildlife sties.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives/and or guide questions which help protect existing wildlife resources.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2008) Air Quality Action Plan Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area</b>		
The statutory purpose of the Action Plan, and thus the Council's overall aim in producing this Action Plan, is to reduce the harmful level of NO <sub>2</sub> within the AQMA. Whilst reductions in congestion may improve air quality this is not the primary aim of this document. The purpose of the Action Plan is to consider a wide variety of options that will contribute to an improvement in air quality and select viable options for development.	That plan identifies a 9.4% reduction in NO <sub>2</sub> from 2007 levels is required to meet Air Quality Strategy Guideline Values.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives to protect and enhance air quality.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2008) Community Plan – Chelmsford Tomorrow Vision 2021</b>		
<p>The Community Plan priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintaining a safe community</li> <li>Improving our local environment</li> <li>Meeting local transport needs</li> <li>Providing the best opportunities for learning and personal development</li> <li>Providing stable employment and improved prosperity</li> <li>Enhancing healthy living</li> <li>Promoting culture as the key to our future</li> </ul>	<p>Several targets are identified under the five themes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Managing Growth;</li> <li>Environmental Protection and Enhancement;</li> <li>Balanced Communities;</li> <li>Quality of Life; and</li> <li>Economic Prosperity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Community Plan is now dated. However, its priorities should help to inform the IIA Framework and Review of the Adopted Local Plan.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2010) Private Sector Housing Strategy 2010-2015</b>		
<p>The overall aim of the strategy is to improve housing conditions both in terms of standards, accessibility, energy efficiency and to encourage a thriving private rented sector by recognising landlords that are operating an excellent business whilst also using enforcement action against landlords and owners whose properties pose a health and safety risk to occupiers.</p> <p>The following priorities are identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• self help by way of loans and creating further capacity through the development of suitable equity release options.</li> <li>• actions to address risks that cause 'falls' in homes and cold homes.</li> <li>• wherever possible bring homes up to the Decent Homes Standard when assessing for loan assistance to prevent further decline of stock condition.</li> <li>• run awareness campaigns to areas of properties shown to be most likely to have poor conditions.</li> <li>• actively promoting energy savings measures.</li> <li>• targeting work around fuel poverty.</li> <li>• increasing standards in the private rented sector.</li> <li>• re-licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation and implementation of a rolling three year inspection programme recognising higher level of risk in this area.</li> <li>• improving the Disabled Facility Grant process for customers.</li> <li>• planning with Registered Social Landlords and other partner organisation for the anticipated growing demand for Disabled Facility Grants as our population ages.</li> <li>• increased intervention on empty homes if numbers continue to increase.</li> </ul>	<p>The Strategy identifies a number of actions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should include policies that seek to support a thriving private rented sector.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2011) Chelmsford Town Centre Public Realm Strategy</b>		
<p>The Public Realm Strategy aims to provide a coordinated design vision and programme for the routes, streets and spaces within the town centre. The core objectives identified to create a good public realm are:</p>	<p>The SPD sets out a number of practical objectives for Chelmsford to meet the core objectives which are outlined below:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to provide policies to promote and manage growth within the City Centre.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optimise public use;</li> <li>• Public safety;</li> <li>• Ease of pedestrian mobility and accessibility;</li> <li>• Sustainable transport;</li> <li>• Conservation and character enhancement;</li> <li>• Enable development of key sites;</li> <li>• Economic investment;</li> <li>• High quality good-looking spaces.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify streets and spaces which require action;</li> <li>• Set out a programme of works with priorities identified based on condition, regeneration impact and connection with other improvement programmes;</li> <li>• Complement the transport and development strategy for the town centre;</li> <li>• Complement the cultural strategy;</li> <li>• Help provide access to development sites to enable new residential development;</li> <li>• Aid funding bids and to assist attracting further investment in the town centre;</li> <li>• Facilitate community engagement, to respond to local needs and preferences;</li> <li>• Guide project design and implementation to meet objectives and obtain value for money;</li> <li>• Ensure a joined-up approach to the town centre public realm;</li> <li>• Secure use of a sustainable palette of surface materials, plants and street furniture.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The IIA Framework should include guide questions relating to the City Centre.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2012) Allotment Strategy</b>		
<p>This strategy places importance on the maintenance and expansion of the region's allotments, which provides great places to grow food and offer green spaces for people and local biodiversity.</p>	<p>No specific targets or indicators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider how it could improve allotments.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should ensure health and well-being considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2012) Be Moved - Chelmsford Sport &amp; Arts Strategy 2012-16</b>		
<p>The Strategy sets out the following vision: <i>"To encourage people who live, work &amp; visit Chelmsford to get actively involved in sport &amp; arts, to support local organisations and to develop the City's high quality of life &amp; reputation in the East of England"</i></p> <p>The 5 goals for the Council's Leisure and Cultural Services to work towards are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To promote health and wellbeing</li> </ul>	<p>The Strategy includes a range of actions and targets relating to sports and arts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should promote sport and arts.</li> <li>• The IIA Framework should include guide questions that seek to retain and enhance the Council's local sports and arts facilities.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To build an Olympic and Paralympic legacy</li> <li>To facilitate community initiatives to enrich society</li> <li>To deliver a high quality and varied programme of sport and arts</li> <li>To ensure our services are right for you</li> </ul>		
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2012) Meeting the needs of Older People: A Strategy for Older People in Chelmsford</b>		
<p>The Strategy sets out the following priorities for older people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>improving communications and information</li> <li>supporting older people living in their own home</li> <li>helping older people to improve their health and wellbeing</li> <li>improving transport, mobility and access for older people</li> </ul>	No targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to ensure that development meets the needs of older people.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include a specific guide question relating to meeting the needs of older people.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2012) Public Health Strategy</b>		
<p>The Strategy's vision for public health is:</p> <p><i>'Where all individuals and families are able to pursue healthy, ambitious and prosperous lives. Where active and responsible citizens work together with healthcare providers and local institutions to help tackle detrimental health-related behaviour, reduce health inequalities, and tackle pockets of deprivation to improve the health and wellbeing of the whole community.'</i></p>	No targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives that promote public health.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2013) Chelmsford Biodiversity Action Plan 2013-17</b>		
<p>The objective of the BAP is to ensure the long-term survival of the biodiversity and to seek opportunities to increase the amount of suitable habitat by improving the management of existing areas and seeking habitat creation where appropriate.</p> <p>Specifically objectives with a spatial implication are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify key wildlife sites and corridors;</li> <li>Ensure biodiversity is enhanced through the development of sustainable communities;</li> <li>Maintain and enhance key wildlife sites;</li> <li>Protect sites which include ancient unimproved grassland;</li> <li>Protect and support rivers, streams and associated habitats, reservoirs and gravel pits;</li> </ul>	<p>Targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and declare LNRs to above English Nature minimum standards;</li> <li>Manage sites that include ancient unimproved grassland;</li> <li>Ensure the protection of the water vole;</li> <li>Pursue schemes to create large areas of standing water;</li> <li>Maintain the distribution of ponds;</li> <li>Create new heathland;</li> <li>Ensure consideration of hedgerows in development control;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider policies to protect, maintain and enhance wildlife sites and other natural habitats.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include specific objectives relating to the conservation of habitats and species.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure ponds are surveyed, particularly for GCN when development proposed;</li> <li>Secure the integrity of heathland and acid grassland. Safeguard Black Poplars;</li> <li>Halt loss of species rich and ancient hedgerows; and</li> <li>Ensure retention and management of ancient woodland.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the management of field margins favouring EBAP species; and</li> <li>Continued protection of coastal grazing marsh.</li> </ul>	
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2013) Building for Tomorrow SPD</b>		
<p>This SPD provides guidance on sustainable design in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessing the environmental performance</li> <li>The location of development and sustainable travel</li> <li>Working with nature – enhancing biodiversity</li> <li>Managing surface water run-off</li> <li>Reducing energy demand and carbon dioxide emissions</li> <li>Using low carbon or renewable energy technologies</li> <li>Conserving water resources</li> <li>Selecting construction materials with low environmental impact</li> <li>Managing construction site pollution and waste</li> </ul>	<p>The SPD identifies the Council's expectations in respect of development performance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should promote sustainable design and construction.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include guide questions relating to sustainable design and construction.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2021) Planning Obligations SPD</b>		
<p>This Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) sets out the City Council's approach towards seeking planning obligations when considering planning applications. It identifies topic areas where planning obligations may be applicable depending on the scale of development, and the possible planning contributions which would fall to be applicable to the different thresholds identified.</p>	<p>Policy DC31 requires that in new developments of 15 dwellings or more or residential sites of 0.5 hectare or more and within small rural Defined Settlements of 5 dwellings or more, provision is made for 35% of the total number of dwellings to be in the form of affordable housing. The 35% applies across the whole development; it does not only apply to the part of the development above the threshold.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to meet needs for affordable housing and include revised affordable housing requirements/thresholds.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include guide questions relating to the provision of affordable housing.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2014) Chelmsford Air Quality Management Plan</b>		
<p>The Council's 2014 Air Quality Progress Report sets out the following summary of previous air quality assessments undertaken for the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Detailed Assessment concluded that the annual mean objective for NO<sub>2</sub> would not be met by 2005. The Council</li> </ul>	<p>The Council's overall aim is to reduce the harmful the level of NO<sub>2</sub> within the AQMA.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider how it can contribute to the air quality management. This could be through the promotion of sustainable forms of travel, and the location of new development in area of good accessibility.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<p>declared an Air Quality Management Area on 1st December 2005 at Army Navy Roundabout;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In October 2012, the AQMA was amended to reduce the size, based on the Detailed Assessment completed in 2010 and monitoring results from 2010 and 2011.</li> <li>The 2013 Progress Report showed confirmed that all monitoring locations with relevant exposure were meeting the Air Quality Objectives</li> <li>The 2014 Progress Report shows that Chelmsford City Council has measured an exceedance of the Air Quality Objectives for Nitrogen Dioxide within the existing AQMA.</li> <li>Chelmsford City Council has not identified any other pollutant that may be exceeding the Air Quality Objectives.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IIA Framework should include objectives/guide questions relating to air quality.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2015) Chelmsford Museums Forward Plan 2015-2017</b>		
<p>The development plan for 2015-2017 will focus on the following key issues:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To retain accredited status with Arts Council England for both the Chelmsford Museum and the Essex Regiment Museum.</li> <li>To provide quality permanent and temporary exhibitions</li> <li>To build a sustainable economic framework for Chelmsford Museums for the future</li> <li>To provide excellent customer care for all our visitors</li> <li>To increase participation in Chelmsford Museums by all sectors of the community</li> <li>To provide excellent collections management</li> <li>To continue to respond to initiatives aimed at developing the future development of Sandford Mill as a local visitor destination</li> </ul>	No targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should include policies that seek to support museums.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should ensure cultural considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2015) Housing Strategy Statement 2015/2016</b>		
<p>The Statement sets out the Council's aim to deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An increased availability of good, genuinely affordable homes for purchase and for rent</li> <li>Residents living in safer and healthier homes</li> </ul>	No specific targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to deliver housing to meet local needs.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homelessness reduced as a direct result of our Housing Advice work</li> <li>Vulnerable residents, including older people and those with a disability, living in housing that suits their needs</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IIA Framework should include a specific objective relating to the delivery of housing to meet local needs.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2015) Tree Management Policy</b>		
The Policy includes a range of objectives relating to tree management.	No targets identified.	The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should include policies relating to tree management.
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2016) Local Wildlife Site Review</b>		
The principal objective of this review is to update the local wildlife site network within the Chelmsford City administrative area in the light of changes in available knowledge and by application of the current site selection criteria for Essex, published January 2010 and with minor terminology updates dated January 2016. This updated information can contribute to a robust evidence base as required of each local authority.	The review requests that each Local Wildlife Site should be visited every year, to monitor its condition, identify threats and to increase our knowledge of the plants and animals present.	The IIA Framework should include objectives to maintain and enhance biodiversity open space.
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2016) Chelmsford Open Space Study 2016 – 2036</b>		
<p>The aims of the Study are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide an audit of existing open space, indoor and outdoor leisure facilities within the City's administrative area and immediate boundaries;</li> <li>Provide an assessment of these facilities in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility;</li> <li>Provide a community and stakeholder needs assessment;</li> <li>Identify gaps in provision, over provision and priority guidelines for future investment; Develop and provide a strategy determining the actions and resources required to guide the City Council's decision making up until 2031.</li> </ul>	No targets or indicators	The IIA Framework should include objectives to maintain and enhance public open space.
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2017) Chelmsford West End Vision Informal Guidance</b>		
<p>This document provides a vision and guidance for development within the West End. The West End has great development opportunities but also suffers from the following issues that the document hopes to combat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>areas of deprivation</li> </ul>	No specific targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to improve the West End.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should ensure economic considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>



Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>segregation from City Centre</li> </ul> <p>The above will be addressed by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Development of key sites to deliver business uses and residential development, with enhanced cultural and public facilities</li> <li>2. Reinforced cultural focus and stronger links between cultural and arts functions and local businesses</li> <li>3. Enhancement of the built environment</li> <li>4. Engagement with and investment of local businesses in the future direction of the area</li> <li>5. Continued public realm improvements</li> </ol>		
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2017) Chelmsford Economic Strategy</b>		
<p>The seven strategic priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivering enabling infrastructure;</li> <li>Creating a skilled workforce;</li> <li>Enhancing the City Centre;</li> <li>Supporting businesses;</li> <li>Ensuring a supply of suitable land and premises; and</li> <li>Developing the rural economy</li> <li>Targeting priority sectors.</li> </ul>	<p>A report will be produced on an annual basis for the Chelmsford Business Board, based on the seven strategic priorities identified in this Strategy and will detail progress made against these.</p>	<p>The IIA Framework should ensure economic considerations are addressed.</p>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2018) Management and Maintenance Plan 2018-2022</b>		
<p>This plan seeks to improve the management and maintenance of the open/green spaces of Chelmsford and ensure the following eight key service objectives are achieved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A welcoming Place</li> <li>2. Healthy, Safe and Secure</li> <li>3. A well maintained and clean Park</li> <li>4. Environmental Management</li> <li>5. Biodiversity, Landscape &amp; Heritage</li> <li>6. Community Involvement</li> <li>7. Marketing and Communication</li> <li>8. Management</li> </ol>	<p>No specific targets and indicators.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to improve the open and green spaces of the region.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should contain objectives/guide questions relating to open/green spaces.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2018) Open Space Study 2016–2036</b>		
<p>The aims of the Study are to:</p>	<p>No targets or indicators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to improve the open spaces of the region.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide an audit of existing open space, indoor and outdoor leisure facilities within the City's administrative area and immediate boundaries;</li> <li>• Provide an assessment of these facilities in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility;</li> <li>• Provide a community and stakeholder needs assessment;</li> <li>• Identify gaps in provision, over provision and priority guidelines for future investment; Develop and provide a strategy determining the actions and resources required to guide the City Council's decision making up until 2031.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The IIA Framework should include objectives to maintain and enhance public open space.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2019) Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024</b>		
<p>This strategy seeks to address and tackle the issues that cause people to be homeless. It also seeks to support the homeless and rough sleepers. Its main aims are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase the number of households that are prevented from becoming homeless</li> <li>• To increase the involvement of other agencies supporting the Council to prevent homelessness</li> <li>• To increase choice and options for those at risk of homelessness</li> <li>• To improve the quality and reduce the cost of temporary accommodation</li> </ul>	To reduce homelessness within the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to address homelessness and rough sleepers.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2020) Chelmsford Local Plan 2013-2036</b>		
<p>This plan contains the planning policies for the Chelmsford area. It fundamentally establishes what development will be considered acceptable and where development should be located. It is underpinned by a vision in which Chelmsford will continue to grow and be an excellent place to live, work and spend leisure time. The document is also underpinned by the following strategic policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic Priority 1 - Ensuring sustainable patterns of development</li> <li>• Strategic Priority 2 - Meeting the needs for new homes</li> <li>• Strategic Priority 3 - Fostering growth and investment and providing new jobs</li> </ul>	Annual Monitoring Report	There is potential for interaction between the emerging Review of the Adopted Local Plan and the Review of the Adopted Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Priority 4 – Protecting and enhancing retail, leisure and commercial development</li> <li>Strategic Priority 5 - Delivering new and improved strategic infrastructure</li> <li>Strategic Priority 6 - Delivering new and improved local infrastructure</li> <li>Strategic Priority 7 - Protecting and enhancing the Natural and Historic Environment, and the Green Belt</li> <li>Strategic Priority 8 - Creating well designed and attractive places, and promoting healthy communities</li> <li>Strategic Priority 9 – Reinforcing Chelmsford's regional role as 'Capital of Essex'</li> </ul>		
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2019) Health and Wellbeing Plan</b>		
<p>A strategy for improving the health and wellbeing of people in Chelmsford and reducing health inequalities. The Plan identifies population needs, key priorities, and actions we will take to address them as part of a wide system of partners. Five priorities are identified:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Partnership working</li> <li>2. A focus on prevention of ill health and early intervention</li> <li>3. Increase communication and making use of technology</li> <li>4. Improve mental health and wellbeing</li> <li>5. Effective health service and self-care</li> </ol>	<p>Detailed actions by theme are set out, relating to the City Council's remit through promoting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A safer and greener place</li> <li>Fairer and inclusive growth</li> <li>Healthy, active and enjoyable lives</li> <li>Connected Chelmsford</li> </ul>	<p>The IIA Framework should reflect these priorities and actions for promoting health and well-being.</p>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2021) Our Chelmsford, Our Plan</b>		
<p>Sets out our priorities which will improve the lives of residents with new priorities under four themes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A fairer and inclusive Chelmsford We want to promote sustainable and environmentally responsible growth to stimulate a vibrant, balanced economy, a fairer society and providing more housing of all types.</li> <li>2. A safer and greener place This means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>making Chelmsford more attractive</li> <li>promoting Chelmsford's green credentials</li> <li>ensuring communities are safe</li> <li>creating a distinctive sense of place</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Healthy, active and enjoyable lives</li> </ol>	<p>Contains an extensive list of actions and expected outcomes, many of which are directly related to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan.</p>	<p>Ensure that, where appropriate, the IIA Framework covers the four themes within the document and the associated actions and outcomes.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>encouraging people to live well</li> <li>promoting health and activity</li> <li>reducing social isolation</li> <li>making Chelmsford a happier place to live, work and play</li> </ul> <p>4. Connected Chelmsford</p> <p>This means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>bringing people together</li> <li>empowering local people</li> <li>working in partnership to build community capacity, stronger communities and to secure investment in the city</li> </ul>		
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2022) Housing Strategy</b>		
<p>Sets out priorities relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing the supply of affordable homes with a focus on larger units</li> <li>Increasing the supply of affordable homes from the existing housing stock</li> <li>Achieving a better balance of tenures</li> <li>Support for landlords and tenants in the private rented sector</li> <li>Enable the right supply of specialist and supported accommodation</li> <li>Reduce energy consumption</li> <li>Monitoring and Working with Partners</li> </ul>	<p>The Local Plan is identified as a key document in delivering the strategy through identifying the current and future need for homes in Chelmsford and policies that will help provide affordable homes and specialist housing and its delivery through strategic allocations and development management process.</p>	<p>The IIA Framework needs to reflect the Housing Strategy priorities through the identification of measures such as the delivery of affordable housing.</p>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2020) Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan</b>		
<p>Following the declaration by the Council of a Climate and Ecological Emergency on 16 July 2019, the Action Plan is aimed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>reducing carbon emissions</li> <li>lowering energy consumption</li> <li>reducing waste and pollution</li> <li>improving air quality</li> <li>greening Chelmsford</li> <li>increasing biodiversity</li> <li>encouraging more sustainable travel choices</li> </ul> <p>The numerous specific actions cover all areas of the Council's delivery remit.</p>	<p>Various targets and actions ranging across the Council's delivery remit, including energy efficiency measures and environmental enhancement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan will play an important role in delivering the Action Plan and the IIA Framework should reflect the established priorities.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2020) Essex Coast RAMS Strategy and SPD</b>		
The strategy sets out a long-term strategic approach to lessen the impact of local housing development on protected birds along the Essex coast. The Essex RAMS aims to prevent bird and habitat disturbance from recreational activities. It does this through a series of mitigation measures, which encourage all coastal visitors to enjoy their visits responsibly. The SPD supports the Essex RAMS, which sets out how the mitigation measures will be funded.	Delivers the mitigation necessary to avoid significant adverse effects from 'in-combination' impacts of residential development that is anticipated across Essex; thus protecting the Habitats (European) sites on the Essex coast from adverse effect on site integrity. All new residential developments within the evidenced Zone of Influence where there is a net increase in dwelling numbers are included in the Essex Coast RAMS. The Essex Coast RAMS identifies a detailed programme of strategic mitigation measures which are to be funded by developer contributions from residential development schemes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure the HRA uses the RAMS Strategy and SPD as the reference point for determining the effectiveness of policies and proposals within the Review of the Adopted Local Plan.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2021) Making Places SPD</b>		
This SPD provides further guidance for developers and decision makers on the design and location of new developments to ensure they are as sustainable and robust as possible.	No specific targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to improve the built environment through the design and implementation of development.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should ensure economic, social and environmental considerations are addressed.</li> </ul>
<b>Chelmsford City Council (2021) Solar Farm Development SPD</b>		
Provides guidance on the national and local policy context for solar developments and the specific issues associated with their siting and construction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National planning policy and guidance and local planning policy relevant to major stand-alone ground mounted solar PV modules (or "solar farm") developments</li> <li>Local guidance on preparing and submitting planning proposals for solar farm proposals and how planning applications will be considered in light of national and local policy requirements</li> <li>How solar farm developments should be assessed including issues such as landscape sensitivity, heritage, glint and glare, residential amenity, traffic, and biodiversity, and how impacts should be mitigated</li> <li>An overview of the standards required for solar farm developments proposed in Chelmsford to help ensure that the local area and communities are able to benefit as much as possible from solar farm development in Chelmsford</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that the IIA Framework takes account of the contribution of these developments to sustainable developments within the Local Plan area.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advice on Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and undertaking community consultation</li> <li>Practical information on studies and supporting information to be submitted alongside planning proposals, and</li> <li>An overview of locations considered to be preferred areas of search for solar farm proposals and the locations considered to be unsuitable or highly sensitive for solar farm development in Chelmsford.</li> </ul>	
<b>Epping Forest District Council (emerging) Local Plan Review</b>		
<p>Epping Forest is a largely rural district (over 92% Green Belt),</p> <p>The River Lea forms most of the western boundary to the district. The River Roding runs north-east to south-west, forming part of the district's eastern boundary between Ongar and Passingford Bridge then running between Loughton and Chigwell.</p> <p>The key natural feature is Epping Forest itself, which runs along the north-west boundary of Buckhurst Hill and Loughton to the southern end of Epping.</p> <p>The A414 is a key east-west route in the county, and this crosses the district from Harlow to Ongar on the way to Chelmsford and the Essex coast.</p>	No relevant targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is potential for interaction between the emerging Local Plan Review and the Review of the Adopted Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.</li> </ul>
<b>Maldon District Council (2017) Local Development Plan 2014-2029</b>		
<p>The LDP covers the whole of the Maldon District Council authority area. This equates to an area of 36,000 hectares which includes 70 miles of coastline.</p> <p>The settlements of Maldon, Heybridge and Burnham-on-Crouch are important drivers to the local economy. They collectively contribute approximately 18,000 jobs, which amounts to approximately two-thirds of all jobs in the District. Historically, Maldon's economy was based on agricultural production, coastal trade and manufacturing. However, in</p>	No relevant targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is potential for interaction between the emerging Local Development Plan and the Review of the Adopted Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<p>recent decades there has been a shift towards a mixed economy with an increased service sector.</p> <p>The District has strong spatial connections with a number of important growth areas including, the Haven Gateway, the Thames Gateway, London, Chelmsford and the M11 corridor.</p> <p>The District's natural landscape is dominated by the two estuaries and the extensive flat and gently undulating alluvial plain along the Rivers Blackwater and Crouch.</p>		
<b>Rochford District Council (2011) Core Strategy</b>		
<p>The District of Rochford is situated within a peninsula between the Rivers Thames and Crouch, and is bounded to the east by the North Sea. The District has land boundaries with Basildon and Castle Point District and Southend-on-Sea Borough Councils. It also has marine boundaries with Maldon and Chelmsford Districts. The District has linkages to the M25 via the A127 and has a direct rail link to London.</p> <p>The District is predominantly rural, which is reflected in the fact that 12,763 hectares are designated as Metropolitan Green Belt. Large areas of the District are of ecological importance, with Sites of Special Scientific Interest totalling 12,986 hectares.</p> <p>The strength of the spheres of influence of the large neighbouring centres of Southend, Basildon and Chelmsford means that traffic is drawn through Rochford District's own centres to them. This not only has an impact on traffic congestion in general, but also engenders concern with regards to air quality within the District's town centres.</p> <p>Particular locations where this is a concern include east of Rayleigh, where commuters to Basildon and Chelmsford are drawn through the centre of Rayleigh; west of Hockley, where those commuting by car to Southend or Chelmsford/Basildon are drawn through the centre</p>	No relevant targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is potential for interaction between the Core Strategy and the Review of the Adopted Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.</li> <li>The New Rochford Local Plan consulted on Spatial Options in September 2021.</li> </ul>



Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
of Hockley or Rayleigh, respectively; and east of Rochford, where vehicular movements would inevitably be directed through Rochford's historic centre.		
<b>Rochford District Council (2014) Allocations Plan</b>		
<p>The Core Strategy is the overarching planning policy document of the LDF, which sets out our main issues for the future and the policies which will shape the future development of the District. The Allocations Document sits below the Core Strategy in the LDF.</p> <p>The Allocations document provides a structure for clear, visible, consistent decision making by ensuring that land allocations for different uses are clearly set out. The Allocations Document does not just identify land for residential, educational, and employment development, sites across the District are also set out in this document for protection, including the Green Belt, Local Wildlife Sites, open spaces and the Upper Roach Valley.</p>	No relevant targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is potential for interaction between the Plan and the Review of the Adopted Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.</li> </ul>
<b>Safer Chelmsford Partnership (2021) Safer Chelmsford Partnership Strategy 2021/22</b>		
<p>This strategy is underpinned by the following vision: "Creating a safe environment to live, work and visit"</p> <p>Through community engagement and communication, the strategy hopes to reduce crime and increase the safety of Chelmsford.</p>	No relevant targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should seek to create a safer Chelmsford.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should contain objective/guide questions relating to safe communities.</li> </ul>
<b>South Woodham Ferrers (2021) South Woodham Ferrers Neighbourhood Plan 2020-2036</b>		
The neighbourhood plan for this area is an important planning consideration. It contains 11 policies relating to the Town Centre and eight policies relating to the areas design and character.	No relevant targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should be in accordance with the policies of this neighbourhood plan.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should contain objective/guide questions relating to good design.</li> </ul>
<b>Uttlesford District Council (emerging) Local Plan</b>		
The Regulation 18 plan envisages that by 2033, Uttlesford will continue to be one of the most desirable places to live and work in the UK. Uttlesford will be a place where residents choose to live, where communities thrive, are healthy and safe,	Provision will be made for about 14,100 net additional dwellings in Uttlesford during the Local Plan period 2011 to 2033. Of this total: 2,468 dwellings have already been built	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is potential for interaction between the emerging Uttlesford Local Plan and the Chelmsford Review of the Adopted Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan & IIA	Key targets and indicators relevant to the Review of the Adopted Local Plan and IIA	Commentary (how the IIA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
jobs and services are well connected, places have character and communities create and feel a 'pride of place'. A district of communities where the quality of life is high will be achieved by harnessing the benefits of new technology and promoting a healthy, safe and secure environment, with well-designed new development, sufficient housing and jobs with a good range of facilities.	2011-2016. 1,190 dwellings will be provided on small unidentified windfall sites between 2016-2033. 4,513 dwellings are already identified in outstanding planning permissions at 1 April 2016 in the towns and villages.  Provision will be made for a minimum net increase of 14,630 jobs in the period 2011-2033 to maintain a broad balance between homes and jobs and to maintain a diverse economic base.	
<b>Village Design Statements (various)</b>		
Village Design Statements consider village character. They provide guidance to ensure that any new development, or any other change, fits in with its local context.  A total of 18 Village Design Statements have been prepared in the Chelmsford City Area.	No targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should take into account Village Design Statements.</li> <li>The IIA Framework should include specific guide questions relating to the conservation and enhancement of local character.</li> </ul>
<b>Writtle (2021) Writtle Neighbourhood Plan 2020-2036</b>		
This neighbourhood plan provides further planning guidance for development within the area of Writtle. The Neighbourhood plan tries to ensure Writtle is a place that has only good, well designed developments within it that accords with Local, National and International standards.	No targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Review of the Adopted Local Plan should consider the desires of this neighbourhood plan.</li> <li>The IIA Framework does not requirement amendment.</li> </ul>



## Appendix C Quality Assurance Checklist

The Government's guidance on SEA<sup>160</sup> contains a quality assurance checklist to help ensure that the requirements of the SEA Regulations are met. Those requirements relevant to the Issues and Options stage of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan have been highlighted below.

Quality Assurance Checklist	
Objectives and Context	
• The plan's purpose and objectives are made clear.	Section 1.3 and Section 1.4.
• Sustainability issues, including international and EC objectives, are considered in developing objectives and targets.	Key sustainability issues identified through a review of relevant plans and programmes (see Section 2) and analysis of baseline conditions (see Section 4) have informed the development of the IIA Framework presented in Section 5.2.
• SEA objectives are clearly set out and linked to indicators and targets where appropriate.	Section 5.2 presents the assessment objectives and guide questions.
• Links with other related plans, programmes and policies are identified and explained.	A review of related plans and programmes is contained at Appendix B and summarised in Section 2 of this Report.
Scoping	
• The environmental consultation bodies are consulted in appropriate ways and at appropriate times on the content and scope of the Environmental Report.	The environmental bodies were consulted on the Scoping Report in March 2022.
• The assessment focuses on significant issues.	Sustainability issues have been identified in the baseline analysis contained in Section 4 of this SA Report on a topic-by-topic basis.
• Technical, procedural and other difficulties encountered are discussed; assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit.	Difficulties encountered in undertaking the appraisal of the Issues and Options Consultation Document are identified in Section 5.5 of this SA Report.
• Reasons are given for eliminating issues from further consideration.	No issues have been knowingly eliminated from this SA Report.
Baseline Information	

<sup>160</sup> Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (2005) *A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive*.

Quality Assurance Checklist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and their likely evolution without the plan are described.</li> </ul>	Section 4 of this SA Report presents the baseline analysis of the City Area's social, economic and environmental characteristics including their likely evolution without the Local Plan.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected are described, including areas wider than the physical boundary of the plan area where it is likely to be affected by the plan where practicable.</li> </ul>	Throughout Section 4 of this SA Report, reference is made to areas which may be affected by the Local Plan. It should be noted that the quantum of growth to be provided in the Local Plan and its distribution across the City Area has not yet been decided and will be determined through a process of options identification and appraisal, taking into account the evidence base, consultation and assessment including this Assessment. In consequence, it is not possible to determine with certainty those areas that are likely to be most affected by the Local Plan at this stage. Notwithstanding, Section 4.2 and Appendix D together present a summary of the characteristics of the City Area's key settlements.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Difficulties such as deficiencies in information or methods are explained.</li> </ul>	Difficulties encountered in undertaking the appraisal of the Issues and Options Consultation Document are identified in Section 5.5 of this SA Report.
Prediction and evaluation of likely significant effects	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Likely significant social, environmental and economic effects are identified, including those listed in the SEA Directive (biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climate factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape), as relevant.</li> </ul>	Section 5 summarises the appraisal of the sustainability performance of the Local Plan Spatial Principles, the housing target projection, the employment provision and spatial options contained in the Issues and Options Consultation Document. Detailed appraisal matrices are also provided at Appendix F and G and that have been developed to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both positive and negative effects are considered, and where practicable, the duration of effects (short, medium or long-term) is addressed.</li> </ul>	Positive and negative effects are considered within the appraisal matrices and within Section 5. Potential effects are identified in the short, medium and long-term.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Likely secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects are identified where practicable.</li> </ul>	At this early stage in the development of the Local Plan, it has not been possible to consider the cumulative effects of the Local Plan as a whole or in combination with other plans and programmes. This is because key decisions relating to quantum and location of future development have yet to be made and policies are not yet developed. A detailed appraisal of cumulative effects will therefore be undertaken at the preferred options stage.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inter-relationships between effects are considered where practicable.</li> </ul>	Inter-relationships between effects are identified in the assessment commentary, where appropriate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where relevant, the prediction and evaluation of effects makes use of accepted standards, regulations, and thresholds.</li> </ul>	These are identified in the commentary, where appropriate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Methods used to evaluate the effects are described.</li> </ul>	These are described in Section 5 and Appendix E.
Mitigation measures	

Quality Assurance Checklist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and offset any significant adverse effects of implementing the plan are indicated.</li> </ul>	These are identified within the appraisal matrices. Cross-cutting measures are also summarised in Section 6.4.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Issues to be taken into account in development consents are identified.</li> </ul>	These are identified within the appraisal matrices. Cross-cutting measures are also summarised in Section 6.4.
The SA Report	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is clear and concise in its layout and presentation.</li> </ul>	The Report is clear and concise.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses simple, clear language and avoids or explains technical terms. Uses maps and other illustrations where appropriate.</li> </ul>	Maps and tables have been used to present the baseline information in Section 4 and Appendix F and G where appropriate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explains the methodology used. Explains who was consulted and what methods of consultation were used.</li> </ul>	Section 5 presents the methodology used for assessment whilst consultation arrangements are discussed in Section 1.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifies sources of information, including expert judgement and matters of opinion.</li> </ul>	Information is referenced throughout the Report.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contains a non-technical summary</li> </ul>	Included.
Consultation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The SEA is consulted on as an integral part of the plan-making process.</li> </ul>	This Report is being consulted upon at the same time as the Issues and Options Consultation Document.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The consultation bodies, other consultees and the public are consulted in ways which give them an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinions on the draft plan and SA Report.</li> </ul>	This Report is being consulted upon at the same time as the Issues and Options Consultation Document.
Decision-making and information on the decision	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The SA Report and the opinions of those consulted are taken into account in finalising and adopting the plan.</li> </ul>	Responses received to this Report will inform the preparation of the Local Plan.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An explanation is given of how they have been taken into account.</li> </ul>	This information will be provided in subsequent Reports.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reasons are given for choices in the adopted plan, in the light of other reasonable options considered.</li> </ul>	This information will be provided as the Local Plan is developed. However, this Report does consider a range of alternatives relating to the quantum and distribution of future growth in the City Area.





# Appendix D Key Settlement Characteristics

## Overview

Chelmsford has two major centres; the principal settlement of Chelmsford City in the centre of the local authority area and the town of South Woodham Ferrers to the south east. Beyond these centres, the local authority area is characterised by a number of villages surrounded by open countryside. The adopted Chelmsford Local Plan identifies Chelmsford's other 'key service settlements' as including: Bicknacre; Boreham; Broomfield; Danbury; Galleywood; Great Leighs; Runwell; Stock; and Writtle. This appendix presents a summary of the key characteristics of these settlements. High level constraints mapping for each settlement is also available as a separate document. The City Council area also contains a wide range of smaller service and other settlements.

## Key Settlement Characteristics

Settlement	Key Baseline Characteristics
Chelmsford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The principal settlement within the Council's administrative area and more broadly within Essex with a population of 119,468 within the main urban area (as predicted in 2020<sup>161</sup>).</li> <li>Chelmsford houses the main administrative, retail and employment uses which include Broomfield Hospital. Chelmsford is also a key recreational and cultural centre being the home of Essex County Cricket Club, museums and other cultural facilities.</li> <li>Benefits from good access to the A12 which is the main trunk road between London and Colchester. Two other significant primary routes are the A130, which runs north-south across Essex, and the A414, which begins as a primary route in Chelmsford but its terminus is Maldon in Essex.</li> <li>Major bus routes concentrate upon the new bus station whilst the nearby train station provides frequent services north-east into East Anglia, and south west to London.</li> <li>Economically, Chelmsford has performed strongly in terms of job growth despite the implications of closures by some of the key employers of the preceding ten years such as Marconi. The City employs around 80,000 people. However, the ELR (2015) highlights that there is relatively limited availability of land supply in the City Centre of Chelmsford to accommodate future employment growth.</li> <li>There are two medium-sized shopping centres, High Chelmer and The Meadows and three retail parks, Riverside, Chelmer Village and the smaller Homelands Retail Park. The ELR (2015) highlights that the City Centre has a strong retail sector with some 125,000 m<sup>2</sup> of retail floorspace. It performs well against other towns and is attractive to new investors given its socio-economic and demographic composition. Retail vacancies are relatively low and the City is well placed to accommodate future growth through the development of the Bond Street (John Lewis) development.</li> </ul>

<sup>161</sup> City Population (2022) South Woodham Ferrers. Available at: City Population (2022) South Woodham Ferrers. Available at: [https://citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/essex/E34002729\\_south\\_woodham\\_ferrers/](https://citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/essex/E34002729_south_woodham_ferrers/), accessed 24.02.2022.

## Settlement

## Key Baseline Characteristics

- The 2020 Local Plan identifies a need for 11,500sqm of new business floorspace (Use Classes B1-B8), primarily in the City Centre, but with some allotment for new business floorspace to be created in the other Designated Centres within the wider Chelmsford Urban Area<sup>162</sup>.
- There are pockets of deprivation in the Chelmsford urban area including in the wards of Marconi, Patching Hall and St Andrews.
- Traffic congestion is an issue in parts of the urban area and has led to the designation of the Army and Navy AQMA.
- The character of the Chelmsford's urban area is defined by the river valleys, the Chelmer and Can which run through it and provide significant areas of greenspace which serve to sub-divide some of the main neighbourhoods. The Green Wedge plays an important role in protecting the character of the area and also have an important green infrastructure function.
- Green Belt borders the urban area to the south and west which may be a constraint to future growth.
- The rivers and the flood plan are a potentially significant constraint in parts of the urban area.
- There are eight conservation areas located within Chelmsford's main urban area together with a number listed buildings concentrated within them.
- The 2020 Local Plan focuses some of the area's growth to North East Chelmsford, East Chelmsford, West Chelmsford, Chelmsford urban area, Great Leighs, North of Broomfield and Boreham.<sup>163</sup>

## South Woodham Ferrers

- South Woodham Ferrers is the second largest settlement within the Council's administrative area and is located to the south east approximately 10-12 km south of Chelmsford. It has an estimated population of approximately 15,840 (as at 2020 predictions<sup>164</sup>).
- The town has 630 registered business enterprises (as at 2013).
- The town centre consists of around 100 business units. Approximately 45% are retail premises.
- The main secondary school in the town is William de Ferrers School. There are also five primary schools: Collingwood, Elmwood, St. Josephs RC, Trinity St. Mary's C of E and Woodville.
- South Woodham Ferrers has good road transport links. The A132 lies to the north of the town, which leads to the A130 (a road linking Chelmsford to Canvey Island) and then into Wickford and to the A127 and A13 in Basildon. The B1012 road connects the town with the Dengie peninsula, including the towns of Burnham and Maldon. The town is also served by South Woodham Ferrers railway station, a station on the single track Crouch Valley Line
- The town's southern boundary is defined by the River Crouch, and the town is surrounded by countryside on its other three sides. The Green Belt is adjacent to the western boundary.
- The Crouch Estuary is part of a large SSSI and SPA linking to sites in Maldon and Rochford Districts. These extend around three sides of the town. The area is also defined as a Marine Conservation Zone.

<sup>162</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2020) Chelmsford Local Plan 2013-2036. Available at: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-local-plan/adopted-local-plan/>, accessed 24.02.2022, page 47.

<sup>163</sup> Chelmsford City Council (2020) Chelmsford Local Plan 2013-2036. Available at: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-local-plan/adopted-local-plan/>, accessed 24.02.2022, page 133-134.

<sup>164</sup> City Population (2022) South Woodham Ferrers. Available at: [https://citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/essex/E34002729\\_south\\_woodham\\_ferrers/](https://citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/essex/E34002729_south_woodham_ferrers/), accessed 24.02.2022.

Settlement	Key Baseline Characteristics
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marsh Farm Country Park is an extensive rural area surrounding three sides of the town including the Washlands. It covers an area of 260 ha of which 180 ha is farmed (fenced-off) and is managed as a traditional grazing marsh. The rest is open to public access. It is a nature reserve as well as a working farm and offers recreation.</li> <li>The majority of the town lies within Flood Zone 1. However, land beyond its boundary to the east, south and west is within Flood Zones 2 and 3.</li> <li>Growth has been allocated in the Adopted Chelmsford Local Plan to land north of South Woodham Ferrers.</li> </ul>
Bicknacre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bicknacre is a village located approximately 2 km to south of Danbury and 5-6 km to the south east of Chelmsford's main urban area on the B1418 to the south of the A414. Bicknacre has an estimated population of approximately 2,246<sup>165</sup> (as at 2020 predictions).</li> <li>The village has a range of facilities including a primary school, post office, a doctor's surgery, a church, two public houses, sport facilities and other local services/shops focussing around The Monks Mead parade.</li> <li>Bicknacre Priory to the north of the village is a designated Scheduled Monument.</li> <li>A SSSI (Thrift Wood, Woodham Ferrers) is located to the south of the village which consists of a dense wooded area.</li> </ul>
Boreham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boreham is a village located 2-3 km to the north east of Chelmsford's main urban area to south of the A12 dual carriageway. It has an estimated population of 3,330<sup>166</sup> (as at 2020 predictions).</li> <li>Access to the village is taken off Boreham Interchange along the B1137.</li> <li>The village is bounded to the north by the A12 and the Bulls Lodge Quarry Mineral Extraction Area lies to the north beyond the carriageway.</li> <li>The village has a range of local facilities and amenities including a primary school, doctor's surgery, post office, four public houses, a church, a butcher's, a pharmacy and a recreational ground.</li> <li>The Abercorn House neighbourhood centre provides important local services to local residents. These services include a food store, newsagents with post office and hairdressers. There are five small single units as well as a sixth larger food store.</li> <li>There are two Conservation Areas within the village including a number of listed buildings. One is located at Martings Cottages and Six Bells to the north east of the village straddling the B1137. The second is located to the southern side of the village around Church Green.</li> <li>The 2020 Local Plan focuses some of the area's growth to North East Chelmsford, Great Leighs, North of Broomfield and Boreham. These locations will be home to 4,793 new homes and 45,000 sqm of new office/business floorspace<sup>167</sup>.</li> </ul>
Broomfield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Broomfield lies to the northwest of Chelmsford's main urban area and has an estimated population of 6,411<sup>168</sup> (as at 2020 predictions).</li> <li>The parish covers 747 hectares, the bulk of which is cultivated land, mostly for growing crops but also meadow.</li> <li>To the east, the parish stretches across the River Chelmer and its associated flood plain, beyond Essex Regiment Way towards Beaulieu Park and New Hall.</li> </ul>

<sup>165</sup> City Population (2022) Bicknacre. Available at: [https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/essex/E35000060\\_bicknacre/](https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/essex/E35000060_bicknacre/), accessed 24.02.2022.

<sup>166</sup> City Population (2022) Boreham. Available at: [https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/essex/E34001314\\_boreham/](https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/essex/E34001314_boreham/), accessed 24.02.2022.

<sup>167</sup> Ibid.

<sup>168</sup> City Population (2022) Broomfield. Available at: [https://citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/admin/chelmsford/E04003952\\_broomfield/](https://citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/admin/chelmsford/E04003952_broomfield/), accessed 24.02.2022.

Settlement	Key Baseline Characteristics
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The main settlement areas lie alongside Main Road (the B1008) which runs north/south through the Parish. The settlement covers 55 hectares and is bordered by a Green Wedge.</li> <li>There is one Conservation Area located within the village around Church Green</li> <li>Broomfield contains the Chelmsford's single biggest employer, Broomfield Hospital, as well as one of Chelmsford's largest secondary schools;</li> <li>The 2020 Review of the Adopted Local Plan focuses some of the area's growth to North East Chelmsford, Great Leighs, North of Broomfield and Boreham. These locations will be home to 4,793 new homes and 45,000 sqm of new office/business floorspace<sup>169</sup>.</li> </ul>
Danbury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Danbury is a village located 2-3 km to the east of Chelmsford's main urban area and on the A414. The village sprawls to the west, north and east of the A1414 and is centred on the junction of Maldon Road and Mayes Lane. As of 2020, the village is estimated to have a population of 6,767.</li> <li>The village has good links to the local transport network which run along the A414.</li> <li>The village has a range of local services fronting the A414, two primary schools, a medical centre, a surgery, four dentists, library, post office, five public houses, five sports facilities, five churches and an existing employment area within the settlement boundaries at the Royal British Legion Trading Estate.</li> <li>There is a local neighbourhood centre located at Eves Corner, Maldon Road and Little Baddow Road.</li> <li>The Danbury village neighbourhood centre is focused around the village green. The centre includes tea rooms, a pharmacy and a hairdresser. Along the busier main road there is a larger food store and convenience newsagents/off licence.</li> <li>There are dense wooded areas to the south and north of the village and a number of environmentally protected areas in close proximity to the village boundaries. In particular, there is a large SSSI to the south of village (Danbury Common) and two to the northern boundary (Woodham Walter Common and Blake's Wood and Lingwood Common).</li> <li>Danbury County Park to the west of the village is a Registered Park.</li> <li>The central and western areas of the village lie within a Conservation Area and there are two Scheduled Monuments included to the south of the A414, Danbury Camp Hill Fort and the Medieval Tile Kiln, north of Eves Corner.</li> </ul>
Galleywood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Galleywood, is located to the south of Chelmsford's main urban area and has an estimated population of 5,603<sup>170</sup> (as at 2020).</li> <li>It has good transport links, with easy access to the A12 and in turn to the M25. The major route through the village of Galleywood is the B1007 Stock Road from Chelmsford to the A12 and Billericay. Watchouse Road is an important link between Galleywood and Great Baddow and is the signed route for HGVs serving the Signals Lane industrial area.</li> <li>The main shopping facility at the junction of Watchouse Road and Skinners Lane comprises nine retail outlets, including a post office within the newsagent convenience store, a butcher, a greengrocer, an off-licence, a chemist, and a hair salon. Barnard Road hosts a range of mixed uses services and facilities. The Galleywood Medical Centre in Barnard Road closed in 2016.</li> <li>Beehive Lane accommodates a Chelmsford City Council's sports and recreation facility. It is home to Chelmsford Sports Club incorporating separate cricket and hockey clubs.</li> </ul>

<sup>169</sup> Ibid.

<sup>170</sup> City Population (2022) Galleywood. Available at: [https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/wards/chelmsford/E05004101\\_galleywood/](https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/wards/chelmsford/E05004101_galleywood/), accessed 24.02.2022.

Settlement	Key Baseline Characteristics
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are three schools in Galleywood. The Essex County Council Infants' School, and St. Michael's Church of England Junior School, are on adjacent sites in Barnard Road. Thriftwood School is on Beehive Lane.</li> <li>Galleywood is well served by regular bus services, terminating at the southern end of Barnard Road, to Chelmsford and through to Broomfield Hospital, running at 15 minute intervals during most of the day.</li> <li>Galleywood is entirely enclosed by the Metropolitan Green Belt, consisting mainly of intensively farmed arable land, interspersed with some orchards and a few small patches of woodland.</li> <li>The western side of the village is bounded by Galleywood Common, a mixture of woodland and open grassland that extends over farmland to the parish boundary. The Common is designated a Local Nature Reserve.</li> </ul>
Great Leighs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Great Leighs is a linear village which runs parallel to the A131 approximately 5-6 km north east of Chelmsford's main urban area. It has an estimated population of 2,847<sup>171</sup> (including Little Leighs, as at 2020).</li> <li>The village is serviced by two buses which provide public transport linkages to Chelmsford City Centre.</li> <li>The village includes some local services amenities such as a post office, two public houses, a church, a village hall and playing field. It also has one primary school</li> <li>The village contains two sites of cultural and environmental importance which are Gubbions Hall Scheduled Monument and a Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve located to the north east of the main settlement.</li> <li>The 2020 Local Plan focuses some of the area's growth to North East Chelmsford, Great Leighs, North of Broomfield and Boreham. These locations will be home to 4,793 new homes and 45,000 sqm of new office/business floorspace<sup>172</sup>.</li> </ul>
Runwell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Runwell is located adjacent to Wickford on the southern boundary of the Council's administrative area. The village lies 9-10 km south of Chelmsford and to the north of the A132 Runwell Road. As of 2020, the village had an estimated population of 3,627<sup>173</sup>.</li> <li>The village lies within/adjacent to the Metropolitan Green Belt.</li> <li>The village has a number of local facilities including an existing primary school, a dentist, public house, a church and recreational facilities and there are two authorised gypsy sites located to the north east of the village located off Meadow Lane</li> <li>A wider range of amenities is available within the town of Wickford approximately 0.5 km to the south, with a convenience store within the St Luke's Park development.</li> <li>The village has good access to public transport with Wickford train station and a range of bus services being available on the A132 all to the south of the village.</li> </ul>
Stock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stock lies 6-7 km south of Chelmsford and approximately 2-3 km to the north of Billericay in a rural area on the B1007 Stock Road. The settlement is centred round the junctions of High Street and Mill Road around The Square. As of 2020, the village had an estimated population of 1,591<sup>174</sup>.</li> <li>The village has a good range of local services and facilities including a post office, primary school, a surgery, four public houses, a library, a Common and four churches.</li> </ul>

<sup>171</sup> City Population (2022) Great Leighs. Available at: [https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/essex/E34004362\\_great\\_leighs/](https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/essex/E34004362_great_leighs/), accessed 24.02.2022.

<sup>172</sup> Ibid.

<sup>173</sup> City Population (2022) Runwell. Available at: [https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/admin/chelmsford/E04003969\\_runwell/](https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/admin/chelmsford/E04003969_runwell/), accessed 24.02.2022.

<sup>174</sup> City Population (2022) Runwell. Available at: [https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/admin/chelmsford/E04003969\\_stock/](https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/admin/chelmsford/E04003969_stock/), accessed 24.02.2022.

Settlement	Key Baseline Characteristics
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Stock neighbourhood centre is focused around The Square which is made up of a number of retail units including a post office/general store and restaurants.</li> <li>The village is enclosed by the Metropolitan Green Belt.</li> <li>The central area of the settlement to the north and south of the B1007 is a designated Conservation Area which includes a number of listed buildings such as the All Saints Church and Bear Inn and Farthings located around The Square.</li> </ul>
Writtle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writtle is a village located about 1 km from the edge of Chelmsford's main urban area and has an estimated population of 4,949<sup>175</sup> (as at 2020).</li> <li>Access to the village is obtained from the A414 Greenbury Way to the south and the A1060 to the north.</li> <li>Local services and facilities are catered for in the centre of the village and on the Rollestons Estate which includes a surgery, two schools, pharmacy, dentist, five public houses, library, five sports facilities, a post office, Writtle University College and a BT depot.</li> <li>There is an existing travelling show people site and an authorised gypsy and traveller site located to the west of the village.</li> <li>The village rises from the floodplain at the confluence of two rivers, the Can and the Wid. It is surrounded by a patchwork of fields with ancient and traditional hedgerows, interspersed with small groups of trees. Land to the north, south and west is designated as Metropolitan Green Belt. Land to the east, meanwhile, is a Green Wedge.</li> <li>The eastern side of the village forms part of a Conservation Area which includes The Green and the All Saints Church.</li> <li>Aubyns, on the approach to the church, is the only Grade I listed building within the village and there are a number of Grade 2 Listed Buildings within the Conservation Area.</li> <li>Within the Adopted Chelmsford Local Plan 2020, growth is allocated at West Chelmsford.</li> </ul>

<sup>175</sup> City Population (2022) Writtle. Available at: [https://citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/essex/E34001253\\_writtle/](https://citypopulation.de/en/uk/eastofengland/essex/E34001253_writtle/), accessed 24.02.2022.

## Appendix E Definitions of Significance

Assessment Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the multifunctional green infrastructure network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it conserve and enhance international and national designated nature conservation sites (Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Ramsars and Sites of Special Scientific Interest) both within and beyond the local authority area?</li> <li>Will it conserve and enhance Local Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites and Ancient Woodland?</li> <li>Will it avoid damage to, and protect, geologically important sites?</li> <li>Will it conserve and enhance priority species and habitats?</li> <li>Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or restoration and link existing habitats as part of the development process through Biodiversity Net Gain?</li> <li>Will it enhance ecological connectivity and maintain and improve the multifunctional green infrastructure network?</li> <li>Will it provide opportunities for people to access the natural environment?</li> <li>Will it contribute to Biodiversity Net Gain?</li> </ul>	++	Significant Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would have a positive effect on European or national designated sites, habitats or species (e.g. enhancing habitats, creating additional habitat or increasing protected species populations).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would create new habitat and link it with existing habitats or significantly improve existing habitats to support local biodiversity.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have major positive effects on protected geologically important sites.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would significantly enhance Chelmsford City Area's green infrastructure network.</p>
		+	Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would have a positive effect on sub-regional/local designated sites, habitats or species.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would improve existing habitats to support local biodiversity.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have positive effects on protected geologically important sites.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would enhance Chelmsford City Area's green infrastructure network.</p>
		0	Neutral	<p>The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.</p>
		-	Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would have negative effects on sub-regional or local designated sites, habitats or species (e.g. short term loss of habitats, loss of species and temporary effects on the functioning of ecosystems).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to short-term disturbance of existing habitat but would not have long-term effects on local biodiversity.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have minor negative effects on protected geologically important sites.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would adversely affect Chelmsford City Area's green infrastructure network.</p>



Assessment Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
		--	Significant Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would have negative effects on European or national designated sites, habitats and/or protected species (i.e. on the interest features and integrity of the site, by preventing any of the conservation objectives from being achieved or resulting in a long term decrease in the population of a priority species). These effects could not be reasonably mitigated.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in significant, long term negative effects on non-designated sites (e.g. through significant loss of habitat leading to a long term loss of ecosystem structure and function).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have significant negative effects on protected geologically important sites.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have a significant adverse effect on Chelmsford City Area's green infrastructure network.</p>
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
2. Housing: To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it provide a range of housing types to meet the current and emerging need for market and affordable housing?</li> <li>Will it reduce the level of homelessness?</li> <li>Will it help to ensure the provision of good quality, well designed homes which meet the needs of all groups in society?</li> <li>Will it deliver homes of high energy efficiency standards which contribute to the City Area's zero carbon targets?</li> <li>Will it deliver pitches required for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople?</li> <li>Will it deliver independent living housing for older people and people with disabilities?</li> </ul>	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would provide a significant increase to housing supply and would provide access to decent, affordable housing for residents with different needs (e.g. housing sites with capacity for 100 or more units).
		+	Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would provide an increase to housing supply and would provide access to decent, affordable housing for residents with different needs (e.g. housing sites of between 1 and 99 units).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would make use of/improve existing buildings or unfit, empty homes.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would promote high quality design.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would deliver sufficient pitches to meet requirements for Gypsies and Travellers and Showpeople.</p>
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.

Assessment Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would reduce the amount of affordable, decent housing available (e.g. a net loss of between 1 and 99 dwellings).
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would significantly reduce the amount of affordable, decent housing available.(e.g. a net loss of 100+ dwellings).
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
3. Economy, Skills and Employment: To achieve a strong and stable economy which offers rewarding and well located employment opportunities to everyone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it provide a supply of high quality employment land to meet the needs of existing businesses and attract inward investment?</li> <li>Will it maintain and enhance economic competitiveness and promote the interests of local businesses?</li> <li>Will it help to diversify the local economy?</li> <li>Will it provide good quality, well paid, and accessible employment opportunities that meet the needs of local people and all groups in society?</li> <li>Will it improve the physical accessibility of training and employment opportunities, including childcare provision?</li> <li>Will it support rural diversification and economic development?</li> <li>Will it promote a low carbon economy?</li> <li>Will it reduce out-commuting?</li> <li>Will it contribute to opportunities for home-working?</li> <li>Will it improve access to training to raise employment potential?</li> <li>Will it promote investment in educational establishments?</li> </ul>	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly encourage investment in businesses, people and infrastructure which would lead to a more diversified economy, maximising viability of the local economy and reducing out-commuting (e.g.it would deliver over 1 ha of employment land). The policy/proposal would result in the creation of new educational institutions.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would encourage investment in businesses, people and infrastructure (e.g. delivering between 0.1 and 0.99 ha of employment land). The policy/proposal would provide accessible employment opportunities. The policy/proposal would support diversification of the rural economy.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would deliver residential development in close proximity to a major employment site (i.e. within 2,000m walking distance or 30mins travel time by public transport). The policy/proposal would support existing educational institutions. The policy/proposal would support economic growth in the low carbon sector.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would have negative effects on businesses, the local economy and local employment (e.g. it would result in the loss of between 01 and 0.99 ha of employment land).
				The policy/proposal would have significant negative effects on business, the local economy and local employment (e.g.

Assessment Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
				policy/proposal would lead to the closure or relocation of existing significant local businesses, loss of employment land of 1 ha or more, or would affect key sectors).
		~	No Relationship	The policy/proposal would result in the loss of existing educational establishments without replacement provision elsewhere within the Chelmsford City Area.
		?	Uncertain	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible. The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
4. Sustainable Living and Revitalisation: To promote urban renaissance and support the vitality of rural centres, tackle deprivation and promote sustainable living.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it support and enhance the City of Chelmsford by attracting new commercial investment and reinforcing the City's attractiveness?</li> <li>Will it promote principles of inclusive and age-friendly design?</li> <li>Will it encourage more people to live in urban areas?</li> <li>Will it enhance the public realm, including provision for pedestrians and cyclists?</li> <li>Will it enhance the viability and vitality of South Woodham Ferrers town centre and neighbourhood centres?</li> <li>Will it tackle deprivation in the most deprived areas and reduce inequalities in access to education, employment and services amongst all social groups?</li> <li>Will it maintain and enhance community facilities and services, through co-location, for example?</li> <li>Will it increase access to schools via safe and direct walking and cycling routes, early years and childcare and colleges?</li> <li>Will it enhance accessibility to key community facilities and services?</li> <li>Will it align investment in services, facilities and infrastructure with growth?</li> <li>Will it contribute to regeneration initiatives?</li> </ul>	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly enhance the attractiveness of the main urban area of Chelmsford as a place to invest, live, work and visit. The policy/proposal would create new, or significantly enhance existing, community facilities and services. The policy/proposal would significantly improve social and environmental conditions within deprived areas and support regeneration. The policy/proposal would ensure that new residential development is located in close proximity to a wide range of services and facilities (e.g. within 800 m of a wide range of services and/or the City Centre or South Woodham Ferrers town centre).
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly enhance the vitality and viability of South Woodham Ferrers town centre and/or villages. The policy/proposal would enhance the attractiveness of the main urban area of Chelmsford as a place to invest, live, work and visit. The policy/proposal would enhance existing community facilities and services. The policy/proposal would improve social and environmental conditions within deprived areas. The policy/proposal would ensure that new residential development is located in close proximity to some services and facilities (e.g. within 800 m of a key service). The policy/proposal would enhance the vitality and viability of South Woodham Ferrers town centre and/or villages.

Assessment Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it foster social cohesion and good community relations?</li> </ul>	<p><b>0</b></p> <p>Neutral</p> <p>The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.</p> <p><b>-</b></p> <p>Negative</p> <p>The policy/proposal would undermine the attractiveness of the main urban area of Chelmsford as a place to invest, live, work and visit. The policy/proposal would reduce the accessibility, availability and quality of existing community facilities and services. The policy/proposal would result in new residential development being located away from existing services and facilities (e.g. in excess of 2,000 m from a wide range of services). The policy/proposal would have an adverse effect on the vitality and viability of South Woodham Ferrers town centre and/or villages.</p> <p><b>--</b></p> <p>Significant Negative</p> <p>The policy/proposal would substantially undermine the attractiveness of the main urban area of Chelmsford as a place to invest, live, work and visit leading to an outflow of the population and disinvestment. The policy/proposal would result in the loss of existing community facilities and services without their replacement elsewhere within the Chelmsford City Area. The policy/proposal would have a significantly adverse effect on the vitality and viability of South Woodham Ferrers town centre and villages. The policy/proposal would result in new residential development being inaccessible to existing services and facilities.</p> <p><b>~</b></p> <p>No Relationship</p> <p>There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.</p> <p><b>?</b></p> <p>Uncertain</p> <p>The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.</p>		
5. Health and Wellbeing: To improve the health and well-being of those living and working in the Chelmsford City area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it avoid locating development where environmental circumstances could negatively impact on people's health?</li> <li>Will it maintain and improve access to multifunctional open space, leisure and recreational facilities for all residents?</li> <li>Will it provide for the management and maintenance of open spaces, such as through Stewardship Agreements?</li> </ul>	<p><b>++</b></p> <p>Significant Positive</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have strong and sustained impacts on healthy lifestyles and improve well-being through physical activity, recreational activity, improved environmental quality, etc. Different groups within the society are taken into consideration. The policy/proposal would ensure that new residential development is located in close proximity to a range of healthcare facilities (e.g. within 800 m of a GP surgery and open space). The policy/proposal would deliver new healthcare facilities and/or open space.</p>		

Assessment Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it promote healthier lifestyles amongst all residents?</li> <li>Will it meet the needs of an ageing population and support those with disabilities?</li> <li>Will it align investment in healthcare facilities and services with growth?</li> <li>Will it improve access to healthcare facilities and services?</li> <li>Will it promote community safety and reduce the fear of crime through safe and welcoming open and natural spaces?</li> <li>Will it reduce actual levels of crime and anti-social behaviour?</li> <li>Will it promote design that discourages crime?</li> <li>Will it promote a healthier community food environment such as through opportunities for food growing?</li> </ul>			The policy/proposal would significantly reduce the level of crime through design and other safety measures.
		+	Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would promote healthy lifestyles and improve well-being through physical activity, recreational activity, improved environmental quality, etc. Different groups within the society are taken into consideration.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would ensure that new residential development is located in close proximity to a healthcare facility (e.g. within 800 m of a GP surgery or open space).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would reduce crime through design and other safety measures.</p>
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would reduce access to healthcare facilities and open space.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would deliver residential development in excess of 800 m from a GP surgery and/or open space.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to an increase in reported crime and the fear of crime in the district.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have effects which could cause deterioration of health.</p>
		--	Significant Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would result in the loss of healthcare facilities and open space without their replacement elsewhere within the Chelmsford City Area.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to a significant increase in reported crime and the fear of crime.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have significant effects which would cause deterioration of health within the community (i.e. increase in pollution)</p>
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.

Assessment Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
6. Transport: To reduce the need to travel, promote more sustainable modes of transport and align investment in infrastructure with growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it reduce travel demand and the distance people travel for jobs, employment, leisure and services and facilities?</li> <li>Will it reduce out-commuting?</li> <li>Will it encourage a shift to more sustainable modes of transport?</li> <li>Will it encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport through the provision of connected, attractive and safe routes?</li> <li>Will it help to reduce traffic congestion and improve road safety?</li> <li>Will it allow for people with mobility problems or a disability to access buildings and places?</li> <li>Will it deliver investment in transportation infrastructure that supports growth in the Chelmsford City Area?</li> <li>Will it enhance Chelmsford's role as a key transport node?</li> <li>Will it reduce the level of freight movement by road?</li> </ul>	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly reduce need for travel, road traffic and congestion (e.g. new development is within 400 m walking distance of all services). The policy/proposal would create opportunities/incentives for the use of sustainable travel/transport of people/goods. The policy/proposal would significantly reduce out-commuting. The policy/proposal would support investment in transportation infrastructure and/or services.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would reduce need for travel (e.g. new development is within 400m of one or more services). The policy/proposal would encourage the use of sustainable travel/transport of people/goods.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would increase the need for travel by less sustainable forms of transport, increasing road traffic and congestion. The policy/proposal would deliver new development in excess of 400 m from public transport services/cycle routes.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would significantly increase the need for travel by less sustainable forms of transport, substantially increasing road traffic and congestion. The policy/proposal would result in the loss of transportation infrastructure and/or services.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
7. Land Use and Soils: To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it promote the use of previously developed (brownfield) land and minimise the loss of greenfield land?</li> <li>Will it avoid the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land?</li> </ul>	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would encourage significant development on brownfield land. The policy/proposal would result in existing land / soil contamination being removed. The policy/proposal would protect best and most versatile agricultural land.

Assessment Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?</li> <li>Will it encourage the reuse of existing buildings and infrastructure?</li> <li>Will it prevent land contamination and facilitate remediation of contaminated sites?</li> </ul>	<div>+</div> <div>0</div> <div>-</div> <div>--</div> <div>~</div> <div>?</div>	Positive Neutral Negative Significant Negative No Relationship Uncertain	<p>The policy/proposal would encourage development on brownfield.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in development on greenfield or would create conflicts in land-use.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in the loss of agricultural land.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in land contamination.</p> <p>There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.</p> <p>The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.</p>
8. Water: To conserve and enhance water quality and resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it reduce water pollution and improve ground and surface water quality?</li> <li>Will it address issues associated with nutrient loading?</li> <li>Will it reduce water consumption and encourage water efficiency?</li> <li>Will it ensure that new water/wastewater management infrastructure is delivered in a timely manner to support new development?</li> </ul>	<div>++</div> <div>+</div> <div>0</div> <div>-</div>	Significant Positive Positive Neutral Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would lead to a significant reduction of wastewater, surface water runoff and pollutant discharge so that the quality of groundwater and/or surface water would be significantly improved and all water targets (including those relevant to biological and chemical quality) would be met/exceeded.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to a significant reduction in the demand for water.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would support investment in water resources infrastructure.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to a reduction of wastewater, surface water runoff and/or pollutant discharge so that the quality of groundwater or surface water would be improved and some water targets (including those relevant to biological and chemical quality) would be met/exceeded.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to a reduction in the demand for water.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to an increase in the amount of waste water, surface water runoff and pollutant discharge so that the quality of groundwater or surface water would be reduced.</p>



Assessment Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
		--	Significant Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would lead to an increase in the demand for water.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to a significant increase in the amount of wastewater, surface water runoff and pollutant discharge so that the quality of groundwater or surface water would be decreased and water targets would not be met.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to deterioration of the current WFD classification.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to a significant increase in the demand for water placing the Essex Water Resources Zone in deficit over the lifetime of the Essex and Suffolk Water Water Resources Management Plan.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in the capacity of existing wastewater management infrastructure being exceeded without appropriate mitigation.</p>
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
9. Flood Risk: To reduce the risk of flooding to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it help to minimise the risk of flooding to existing and new developments/infrastructure?</li> <li>Will it manage effectively, and reduce the likelihood of, flash flooding, taking into account the capacity of sewerage systems?</li> <li>Will it discourage inappropriate development in areas at risk from flooding?</li> <li>Will it ensure that new development does not give rise to flood risk elsewhere?</li> <li>Will it deliver multifunctional sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDs) where possible and promote investment in flood defences that reduce vulnerability to flooding?</li> </ul>	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would significantly reduce flood risk to new or existing infrastructure or communities (currently located within the 1 in 100 year floodplain).
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would reduce flood risk to new or existing infrastructure or communities (currently located 1 in 1000 year floodplain).
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective. It is anticipated that the policy will neither cause nor exacerbate flooding in the catchment.
		-	Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would result in an increased flood risk within the 1 to 1000 year floodplain.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in development being located within Flood Zone 2.</p>
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in an increased flood risk within the 1 to 100 year floodplain.

Assessment Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
				The policy/proposal would result in development being located within Flood Zone 3.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
10. Air: To improve air quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it maintain and improve air quality?</li> <li>Will it address air quality issues in the Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and the Maldon Road Danbury AQMA and prevent new designations of AQMAs?</li> <li>Will it avoid locating development in areas of existing poor air quality?</li> <li>Will it minimise emissions to air from new development, such as through the preparation of a sustainable travel plan to reduce car use?</li> <li>Will it provide for electric charging points to support the adoption of electric vehicles?</li> <li>Will it affect air quality at designated sites that are sensitive to air pollution?</li> </ul>	<div>++</div> <div>+</div> <div>0</div> <div>-</div> <div>--</div> <div>~</div> <div>?</div>	<div>Significant Positive</div> <div>Positive</div> <div>Neutral</div> <div>Negative</div> <div>Significant Negative</div> <div>No Relationship</div> <div>Uncertain</div>	<p>The policy/proposal would significantly improve air quality and result in air quality targets being met/exceeded and the Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) being removed (or the area under the AQMA being reduced).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would improve air quality.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to a decrease in air quality.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in new development being located within 500 m of the Army and Navy AQMA.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to a decrease in air quality and would result in the area of the Army and Navy AQMA having to be extended or new AQMAs being declared.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in new development being located within the Army and Navy AQMA.</p> <p>There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.</p> <p>The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.</p>
11. Climate Change: To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it minimise energy use and reduce or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, assisting realisation of the City Area's emission targets?</li> <li>Will it plan or implement adaptation measures for the likely effects of climate change?</li> <li>Will it maximise the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy generation at site level and district</li> </ul>	<div>++</div> <div>+</div>	<div>Significant Positive</div> <div>Positive</div>	<p>The policy/proposal would significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the Chelmsford City Area.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would significantly reduce energy consumption or increase the amount of renewable energy being used/generated.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the Chelmsford City Area.</p>

Assessment Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>level and reduce dependency on non-renewable sources?</li> <li>Will it promote sustainable design that minimises greenhouse emissions and is adaptable to the effects of climate change?</li> <li>Will it deliver homes and other buildings of high energy efficiency standards which contribute to the City Area's zero carbon targets?</li> </ul>	<div></div> <div>0</div> <div>-</div> <div>--</div> <div>~</div> <div>?</div>	Neutral Negative Significant Negative No Relationship Uncertain	<p>The policy/proposal would increase resilience/decrease vulnerability to climate change effects.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would reduce energy consumption or increase the amount of renewable energy being used/generated.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would support/encourage sustainable design.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to an increase in greenhouse gas emissions from the Chelmsford City Area.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would not increase resilience/decrease vulnerability to climate change effects.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would lead to a significant increase in greenhouse gas emissions from the Chelmsford City Area.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would increase vulnerability to climate change effects.</p> <p>There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.</p> <p>The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.</p>
12. Waste and Natural Resources: To promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover) and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it minimise the demand for raw materials?</li> <li>Will it promote the use of local resources?</li> <li>Will it reduce minerals extracted and imported?</li> <li>Will it increase efficiency in the use of raw materials and promote recycling?</li> <li>Will it result in development within a Minerals Safeguarding Area?</li> <li>Will it reduce waste arisings?</li> <li>Will it increase the reuse and recycling of waste?</li> <li>Will it support investment in waste management facilities to meet local needs?</li> </ul>	<div>++</div> <div>+</div> <div>0</div> <div>-</div>	Significant Positive Positive Neutral Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would reduce the amount of waste generated through prevention, minimisation and re-use.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would significantly reduce the amount of waste going to landfill through recycling and energy recovery.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would support/encourage investment in waste management facilities.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would reduce the amount of waste going to landfill through recycling and energy recovery.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would encourage the use of sustainable materials.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in an increased amount of waste going to landfill.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would increase the demand for local resources.</p>

Assessment Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in a significantly increased amount of waste going to landfill. The policy/proposal would significantly increase the demand for local resources. The policy/proposal would result in inappropriate development within a Minerals Safeguarding Area.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
13. Cultural Heritage: To conserve and enhance the historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it help to conserve and enhance existing features of the historic built environment and their settings, including archaeological assets both above and below ground?</li> <li>Will it tackle heritage assets identified as being 'at risk'?</li> <li>Will it promote sustainable repair and reuse of heritage assets?</li> <li>Will it protect or enhance the significance of designated heritage assets?</li> <li>Will it protect or enhance the significance of non-designated heritage assets?</li> <li>Will it promote local cultural distinctiveness, recognising the diversity of Chelmsford's population?</li> <li>Will it help to conserve historic buildings, places and spaces that enhance local distinctiveness, character and appearance through sensitive adaptation and re-use?</li> <li>Will it improve and promote access to buildings and landscapes of historic/cultural value?</li> </ul>	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would protect and enhance the sites, areas and features of historic, cultural, archaeological and architectural interest with national designations (including their setting). The policy/proposal will make use of historic buildings, spaces and places through sensitive adaption and re-use allowing these distinctive assets to be accessed. The policy/proposal would result in an assets(s) being removed from the At Risk Register.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would protect and enhance the sites, areas and features of historic, cultural, archaeological and architectural interest with local designations (including their setting). The policy/proposal will increase access to historical/cultural/archaeological/architectural buildings/spaces/places.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would lead to deterioration of the sites, areas and features of historic, cultural, archaeological and architectural interest with local designations. The policy/proposal would temporarily restrict access to historical/cultural/archaeological/architectural buildings/spaces/places.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would lead to deterioration of the sites, areas and features of historic, cultural, archaeological and architectural

Assessment Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
				interest with national designation or result in the destruction of heritage assets (national or local). The policy/proposal would permanently restrict access to historical/cultural/archaeological/architectural buildings/spaces/places. The policy/proposal would result in an asset being placed on the At Risk Register.
		~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
		?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.
14. Landscape and Townscape: To conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Will it conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes?</li><li>Will it promote high quality design in context with its urban and rural landscape?</li><li>Will it avoid inappropriate development in the Green Belt and maintain its extent?</li><li>Will it help to conserve and enhance the Marine Conservation Zone?</li><li>Will it avoid inappropriate erosion of the Green Wedge?</li><li>Will it protect tranquil landscapes and areas?</li></ul>	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would offer potential to significantly enhance landscape/townscape character.
		+	Positive	The policy/proposal would ensure the long term protection of the Green Belt. The policy/proposal would offer potential to enhance landscape/townscape character.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would offer potential to enhance landscape/townscape character.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would have an adverse effect on landscape/townscape character.
				The policy/proposal would have a significant adverse effect on landscape/townscape character.
		~	No Relationship	The policy/proposal would result in inappropriate development in the Green Belt or affect the permanence of the Green Belt boundary.
		?	Uncertain	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.

NB: where more than one symbol/colour is presented in a box it indicates that the assessment has identified both positive and negative effects. Where a box is coloured but also contains a '?', this indicates uncertainty over whether the effect could be a minor or significant effect although a professional judgement is expressed in the colour used. A conclusion of uncertainty arises where there is insufficient evidence for expert judgement to conclude an effect.



# Appendix F Assessment of Housing and Employment Requirements

## Key to Assessment

Score	Description	Symbol
Significant Positive Effect	The approach contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective.	++
Minor Positive Effect	The approach contributes to the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	+
Neutral	The approach does not have any effect on the achievement of the objective	0
Minor Negative Effect	The approach detracts from the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	-
Significant Negative Effect	The approach detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective.	--
No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the approach and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.	~
Uncertain	The approach has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.	?

NB: where more than one symbol/colour is presented in a box it indicates that the assessment has identified both positive and negative effects. Where a box is coloured but also contains a '?', this indicates uncertainty over whether the effect could be a minor or significant effect although a professional judgement is expressed in the colour used. A conclusion of uncertainty arises where there is insufficient evidence for expert judgement to conclude an effect.

**Note: Reflecting the review of the Adopted Local Plan, many of the mitigation measures recommended are already reflected in policy. As such, the recommendations act as a checklist against which the policies and proposals of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan can be assessed.**



## Assessment of Indicative Housing Requirement (22,800 homes)

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Commentary
<p>1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the multifunctional green infrastructure network.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it conserve and enhance international and national designated nature conservation sites (Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Ramsars and Sites of Special Scientific Interest) both within and beyond the local authority area?</li> <li>Will it conserve and enhance Local Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites and Ancient Woodland?</li> <li>Will it avoid damage to, and protect, geologically important sites?</li> <li>Will it conserve and enhance priority species and habitats?</li> <li>Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or restoration and link existing habitats as part of the development process through Biodiversity Net Gain?</li> <li>Will it enhance ecological connectivity and maintain and improve the multifunctional green infrastructure network?</li> <li>Will it provide opportunities for people to access the natural environment?</li> <li>Will it contribute to Biodiversity Net Gain?</li> </ul>	-1?	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>It is assumed that residential development would not directly affect designated wildlife sites although housing growth could have indirect negative effects on these assets due to, for example, disturbance arising from increased recreational activity and wild bird and mammal loss from cat predation. However, this would be dependent on the exact location of future development, the proximity of the development to the designated sites and the ease of access to the sites.</p> <p>Residential development requirements and the more limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the Chelmsford City Area will mean that greenfield land is required for development. The development of greenfield land could have a negative effect in relation to this objective (e.g. due to the direct loss of habitats or adverse impacts such as noise and emissions associated with the construction and occupation of new development). The magnitude of any negative effects in this regard will be dependent on the scale of greenfield land lost to development and the existing biodiversity value of the sites that would be affected. Notwithstanding the above, it should be noted that planning permission has already been granted for a proportion of the housing requirement and/or sites have been built out and it is assumed that impacts on biodiversity have been duly considered, including proximity to sensitive sites and species.</p> <p>Residential development may provide opportunities to enhance existing, or incorporate new, green infrastructure, such as through Biodiversity Net Gain obligations. This could potentially have a positive effect on this objective by improving the quality and extent of habitats and by increasing the accessibility of both existing and prospective residents to such assets.</p> <p>Overall, the indicative housing requirement has been assessed as having a negative effect (uncertain) on this objective arising from the use of greenfield land and potential for indirect, adverse effects on designated sites, although uncertainty remains with regard to the exact type, magnitude and duration of effects.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should seek to avoid negative effects on the City Area's (and wider) biodiversity assets and identify opportunities for enhancing their quality where appropriate, consistent with the NPPF and commitments under Biodiversity Net Gain obligations.</li> <li>Careful consideration should be given to the selection of site allocations in order to avoid significant adverse effects on European sites, or significant harm to nationally and locally designated sites. Appropriate mitigation should be identified where necessary.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets, closely linked with existing and new development.</li> </ul>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Commentary
			<b>Assumptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For the Local Plan to be found sound it will need to demonstrate that it will not have a significant adverse effect on the integrity of a European site, or if it does and the Plan proceeds it will need to be demonstrated that there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest.</li> </ul> <b>Uncertainties</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The magnitude of negative effects will be dependent on the scale of greenfield land lost to development and the existing biodiversity value of the sites that would be affected, along with potential for biodiversity enhancement through Biodiversity Net Gain obligations.</li> </ul>
2. Housing: To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it provide a range of housing types to meet current and emerging need for market and affordable housing?</li> <li>Will it reduce the level of homelessness?</li> <li>Will it help to ensure the provision of good quality, well designed homes which meet the needs of all groups in society?</li> <li>Will it deliver homes of high energy efficiency standards which contribute to the City's zero carbon targets?</li> <li>Will it deliver pitches required for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople?</li> <li>Will it deliver independent living housing for older people and people with disabilities.</li> </ul>	++	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> <p>The indicative housing requirement makes provision for a minimum of 19,000 net new homes over the plan period at an average annual rate of 1,000 net new homes per-year. This is in accordance with the national standard method for assessing local housing need. The standard method uses a formula to identify the minimum number of homes expected to be planned for, using projected household growth and historic under-supply. It identifies a minimum annual housing need figure, but not a housing requirement figure for the Local Plan which will be determined through a strategic housing need assessment. The indicative housing requirement also includes a further 20% uplift which equates to a total requirement of 1,200 dwellings per annum or 22,800 net new homes over the period 2022-2041. The inclusion of a 20% buffer reflects the recommendations of the OAHN Study which states that an uplift is needed to respond to issues related to the past provision of homes and to address 'market signals' including London-related migration needs. This is expected to help provide a degree of flexibility by ensuring choice and competition in the market for land and is consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).</p> <p>The Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment covers the period 2016 to 2033 would be rolled forward to 2041, with the proposed housing requirement considered to meet demand.</p> <p>Overall, the indicative housing requirement has been assessed as having a significant positive and effect on this objective.</p> <b>Mitigation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Local Plan should promote the voluntary use of the Lifetime Homes Standard and the Home Quality Mark to encourage the provision of high quality housing.</li> <li>The ongoing issue of affordability should be recognised within policy and appropriate measures taken, such as reviewing the proportion of affordable homes within new developments, along with tenure mixes.</li> <li>The Local Plan should ensure that a proportion of housing reflects the needs of an ageing population and also the specific needs of the disabled by requiring a proportion of dwellings</li> </ul>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Commentary
			<p>to be wheelchair accessible and for a proportion of dwellings to achieve requirement M4(2) of the Building Regulations 2015, which relates to accessible and adaptable dwellings.</p> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent to which new housing development meets local needs will be dependent on the mix of housing delivered (in terms of size, type and tenure).</li> </ul>
<p>3. Economy, Skills and Employment: To achieve a strong and stable economy which offers rewarding and well located employment opportunities to everyone.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it provide a supply of high quality employment land to meet the needs of existing businesses and attract inward investment?</li> <li>Will it maintain and enhance economic competitiveness and promote the interests of local businesses?</li> <li>Will it help to diversify the local economy?</li> <li>Will it provide good quality, well paid, and accessible employment opportunities that meet the needs of local people and all groups in society?</li> <li>Will it improve the physical accessibility of training and employment opportunities, including childcare provision?</li> <li>Will it support rural diversification and economic development?</li> <li>Will it promote a low carbon economy?</li> <li>Will it reduce out-commuting?</li> <li>Will it contribute to opportunities for home-working?</li> <li>Will it improve access to training to raise employment potential?</li> <li>Will it promote investment in educational establishments?</li> </ul>	++	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The construction of new dwellings would support the construction sector both within and outside the City Area and has the potential to create employment opportunities as well as increased economic activity in the local and wider supply chain. However, the extent to which the jobs created benefit the City Area's residents will depend on the number jobs created and the recruitment policies of prospective employers. In the longer term (once development is complete), the increase in local population could boost the local labour market and increase economic activity in the local community, in turn helping to reduce in- and out-commuting. New building activity offers the opportunity to enhance the skills of the local population in building and allied trades, in turn benefitting the further education sector. Overall, the proposed housing requirement has been assessed as having a significant positive effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Local Plan could encourage local recruitment/training associated with the construction and operational phases of development.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent to which job creation is locally significant will depend on the type of jobs created (in the context of the local labour market) and the recruitment policies of prospective employers.</li> </ul>
<p>4. Sustainable Living and Revitalisation: To promote urban</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it support and enhance the City of Chelmsford by attracting new</li> </ul>	+/-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Commentary
renaissance and support the vitality of rural centres, tackle deprivation and promote sustainable living.	<p>commercial investment and reinforcing the City's attractiveness?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it promote principles of inclusive and age-friendly design?</li> <li>• Will it encourage more people to live in urban areas?</li> <li>• Will it enhance the public realm, including provision for pedestrians and cyclists?</li> <li>• Will it enhance the viability and vitality of South Woodham Ferrers town centre and neighbourhood centres?</li> <li>• Will it tackle deprivation in the most deprived areas and reduce inequalities in access to education, employment and services amongst all social groups?</li> <li>• Will it maintain and enhance community facilities and services, through co-location, for example?</li> <li>• Will it increase access to schools via safe and direct walking and cycling routes, early years and childcare and colleges?</li> <li>• Will it enhance accessibility to key community facilities and services?</li> <li>• Will it align investment in services, facilities and infrastructure with growth?</li> <li>• Will it contribute to regeneration initiatives?</li> <li>• Will it foster social cohesion and good community relations?</li> </ul>		<p>Residential development has the potential to improve the viability and vitality of existing shops, services and facilities in the City Centre, South Woodham Ferrers and principal and local neighbourhood centres. New development may also encourage and support investment in existing, and the provision of new, services and facilities in the City Area through, for example, developer contributions and on-site provision. This could help enhance the accessibility of existing and prospective residents to key services and facilities, although this would be dependent on the exact location of new development and the level of investment generated.</p> <p>Larger services such as schools and health facilities as well as employment opportunities are predominantly focused within the two main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers. Should future residential development be focused in these areas, then prospective residents are likely to benefit from high levels of accessibility.</p> <p>Depending on where new development is located, there is the potential for growth to increase pressure on existing community facilities and services generating a negative effect on this Objective. This is likely to be particularly acute amongst health and education services, where the County Council has a statutory duty to ensure that the supply of school places meets demand, they also have to promote parental choice, diversity and fair access.</p> <p>Whilst Chelmsford is in the top 20% least deprived local authority areas nationally, there are nevertheless pockets of deprivation across the Chelmsford City Area with some lower super output areas (LSOAs), such as those within the wards of Marconi, Patching Hall and St Andrews, all within the City of Chelmsford, being within the most deprived in the country. Development within or near to the deprived LSOAs could have a positive effect upon these areas as housing and associated key services and community facilities may become more accessible.</p> <p>Overall, the proposed housing requirement has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective, the latter reflecting potential pressures on essential services caused by population growth.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Plan policies should ensure that new development supports specific regeneration opportunities where possible.</li> <li>• New residential development should be located in close proximity to services and facilities and/or incorporate new facilities.</li> <li>• Developer contributions towards key services and facilities should be sought where appropriate.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Commentary
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Education Act 2011 requires that, where the need for a new school is identified, the Local Education Authority (LEA) invites proposals to establish an academy or free school, with the decision over whether to go ahead ultimately taken by the Department for Education. Once established LEAs cannot require academies or free schools to expand. Consequently, there are uncertainties as to how future needs for school places will be met which are outside of the control of the Local Plan.</li> </ul>
5. Health and Wellbeing: To improve the health and wellbeing of those living and working in the Chelmsford City area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it avoid locating development where environmental circumstances could negatively impact on people's health?</li> <li>Will it maintain and improve access to multifunctional open space, leisure and recreational facilities for all residents?</li> <li>Will it provide for the management and maintenance of open spaces, such as through Stewardship Agreements?</li> <li>Will it promote healthier lifestyles amongst all residents?</li> <li>Will it meet the needs of an ageing population and support those with disabilities?</li> <li>Will it align investment in healthcare facilities and services with growth?</li> <li>Will it improve access to healthcare facilities and services?</li> <li>Will it promote community safety and reduce the fear of crime through safe and welcoming open and natural spaces?</li> <li>Will it reduce actual levels of crime and anti-social behaviour?</li> <li>Will it promote design that discourages crime?</li> <li>Will it promote a healthier community food environment such as through opportunities for food growing?</li> </ul>	+	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The construction of new housing may have a localised negative effect on the health and wellbeing of residents, particularly those with poor respiration, who are in close proximity to development sites and along transport routes within the City Area. Effects may include, for example, respiratory problems associated with construction traffic and dust. These issues will be more pertinent within sensitive areas such as the Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and those locations with pre-existing health issues. However, these effects are expected to be temporary and not significant.</p> <p>Once dwellings are occupied, there may be further adverse effects on health arising from, in particular, emissions to air associated with increased traffic movements. In this context, the principal source of air pollution in Chelmsford is road traffic emissions from major roads.</p> <p>Whilst the City Area is generally well provided with open spaces and formal recreational opportunities, the Chelmsford Open Space Study (2016) has found deficiencies in open space provision including amenity greenspace, parks and recreation grounds and play space. New development could be expected to provide an opportunity to facilitate further the promotion of healthy lifestyles through addressing these deficiencies, both for new residents and for the City Area as a whole.</p> <p>The extent to which new development promotes healthy lifestyles through, for example, walking and cycling will be dependent, in part, on its location in relation to the accessibility of services, facilities, jobs and open space. Should future residential development be focused in the two main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers in particular, then prospective residents are likely to benefit from high levels of accessibility which may promote walking and cycling (and also, potentially, reduce emissions to air associated with car use). Equally, new development will offer opportunities for self-containment through good design, encouraging walking and cycling through bespoke infrastructure provision.</p> <p>Additional housing development within the City Area could increase investment in health care facilities. However, without appropriate levels of investment, there is a risk that increased demand from new residents may affect the quality of existing facilities and services.</p> <p>Overall, the proposed housing requirement has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Commentary
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that open space and/or health facilities are provided on site/contributions are sought to provision off site.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that development is not located in close proximity to unsuitable neighbouring uses.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should consider if/how accessibility to the countryside can be promoted as part of new development.</li> <li>New development should be located in reasonable proximity to health care facilities.</li> <li>Careful consideration should be given to the distribution of new development in respect of healthcare capacity/availability.</li> <li>Existing open space and recreational facilities should be protected and enhanced.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that new development (in isolation or cumulatively) does not significantly impact on air quality.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified</li> </ul>
6. Transport: To reduce the need to travel, promote more sustainable modes of transport and align investment in infrastructure with growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it reduce travel demand and the distance people travel for jobs, employment, leisure and services and facilities?</li> <li>Will it reduce out-commuting?</li> <li>Will it encourage a shift to more sustainable modes of transport?</li> <li>Will it encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport through the provision of connected, attractive and safe routes?</li> <li>Will it help to reduce traffic congestion and improve road safety?</li> <li>Will it allow for people with mobility problems or a disability to access buildings and places?</li> <li>Will it deliver investment in transportation infrastructure that supports growth in the Chelmsford City area?</li> </ul>	+/-/?	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The indicative quantum of development would increase traffic both during construction and once development is complete. This could result in localised traffic congestion with associated negative effects including driver delay and an increase in localised air pollution. Development could result in increased pressure on the local road network and public transport infrastructure with congestion on key trunk roads including the A12, A130 and A414 east and west of Chelmsford (a number of junctions on the strategic highway network have capacity constraints and pinch points). However, development may support investment in highways improvements which could help to mitigate adverse effects in this regard.</p> <p>The indicative housing requirement would meet (as a minimum) Chelmsford's objectively assessed housing need, helping to ensure that there is sufficient housing to meet the needs of workers in the City Area and providing opportunities for those who currently commute into the City Area to live in the area instead. However, based on current trends, it would be expected that an increased local population would result in higher levels of out-commuting overall.</p> <p>The delivery 22,800 dwellings in the City Area could help to maintain and, potentially, stimulate investment in public transport provision due to greater demand linked with population growth and developer contributions. Should future residential development be focused in the two main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers in particular, then prospective residents are also likely to benefit from high levels of accessibility which may promote walking and cycling (and also, potentially, reduce car use).</p>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Commentary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it enhance Chelmsford's role as a key transport node?</li> <li>Will it reduce the level of freight movement by road?</li> </ul>		<p>Overall, the proposed housing requirement has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective, although some uncertainty remains.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should positively promote walking and cycling as part of new developments.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should seek to address the pressure on the current transport network, aligning with, and supporting, proposals contained in the existing Local Plan and Local Transport Plan.</li> <li>Careful consideration should be given to the distribution/location of new development to ensure accessibility to key services, facilities and employment opportunities.</li> <li>Opportunities should be sought to secure investment in public transport provision.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the preparation of green travel plans as part of new development proposals.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The impact of housing growth on levels of commuting is uncertain.</li> </ul>
7. Land Use and Soils: To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it promote the use of previously developed (brownfield) land and minimise the loss of greenfield land?</li> <li>Will it avoid the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land?</li> <li>Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?</li> <li>Will it encourage the reuse of existing buildings and infrastructure?</li> <li>Will it prevent land contamination and facilitate remediation of contaminated sites?</li> </ul>	--/+	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Housing growth is expected to encourage the reuse of brownfield land, both existing and as 'windfall sites'. However, the limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the Chelmsford City Area will mean that a potentially substantial area of greenfield land will be required.</p> <p>The best and most versatile agricultural land in the City Area generally lies to the north/north west of the Chelmsford Urban Area and is characterised as Grade 2 ('Very Good'). Land to the south of the urban area, meanwhile, is predominantly Grade 3 ('Good') agricultural land. Should development result in the loss of this land, then there would be further negative effects on this objective and which could be significant.</p> <p>Overall, the proposed housing requirement has been assessed as having a significant negative and minor positive effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed (brownfield land). Local Plan policies and proposals should prioritise the development of brownfield over greenfield land where possible.</li> </ul>



Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Commentary
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should seek to use areas of suitable poorer quality agricultural land in preference to that of a higher quality.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should resist the development of best and most versatile agricultural land.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should promote the management of soils on development sites.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>
8. Water: To conserve and enhance water quality and resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it reduce water pollution and improve ground and surface water quality?</li> <li>Will it address issues associated with nutrient loading?</li> <li>Will it reduce water consumption and encourage water efficiency?</li> <li>Will it ensure that new water/wastewater management infrastructure is delivered in a timely manner to support new development?</li> </ul>	0/?	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The construction of new development and the growth in resident population associated with the delivery of housing can be expected to increase demand on water resources, with the potential to affect water availability. Notwithstanding water supply issues across East Anglia, appropriate demand management measures accompanying new development, as well as strategic water resource options and wastewater solutions being developed in advance of development coming forward means that effects on water resource availability are not expected to be significant. Close monitoring of water resource issues would be required to accommodate uncertainties such as climate change.</p> <p>Depending on the location of new development, the proximity to waterbodies and the prevailing quality of the waterbody, there is potential for adverse effects on water quality. However, it is assumed that the design of new development will include (where appropriate) sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) to ensure that all subsequent rainfall will infiltrate surfaces rather than exacerbate any downstream flood risks (which also have temporary effects on water quality).</p> <p>Overall, the proposed housing requirement has been assessed as having a neutral effect, though uncertain, on this objective. The Council plans to commission an update to the Water Cycle Study to support plan preparation.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council should consider the potential for Local Plan policies to support water company water efficiency activities, including the requirement for new homes to include the optional requirement in the Building Regulations for 110 litres maximum daily allowable usage per person.</li> <li>It is recommended that the Local Plan includes policies that promote water attenuation systems due to the underlying geology of the area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Commentary
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that the Council will liaise with Essex and Suffolk Water with regard to infrastructure requirements for future development.</li> <li>Measures contained in the Essex and Suffolk Water Water Resources Management Plan would be expected to help ensure that future water resource demands are met.</li> <li>There will be no development that will require diversion or modification of existing watercourses. However, if such measures are required, this could affect local water quality.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change effects requiring on-going monitoring of water resource availability.</li> </ul>
9. Flood Risk: To reduce the risk of flooding to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it help to minimise the risk of flooding to existing and new developments/infrastructure?</li> <li>Will it manage effectively, and reduce the likelihood of, flash flooding, taking into account the capacity of sewerage systems?</li> <li>Will it discourage inappropriate development in areas at risk from flooding?</li> <li>Will it ensure that new development does not give rise to flood risk elsewhere?</li> <li>Will it deliver multifunctional sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDs) where possible and promote investment in flood defences that reduce vulnerability to flooding?</li> </ul>	-1?	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Flood risk is a potentially significant constraint to future development in the Chelmsford City Area with large parts of the Chelmsford Urban Area in particular being at risk of fluvial flooding and South Woodham Ferrers being at risk of coastal flooding. However, given requirements for proposals to be accompanied by a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) where appropriate, it is considered unlikely that new development would be at significant risk of flooding, although this is dependent on the exact location of development. In this context, the loss of greenfield land to support housing development could lead to an increased risk of flooding off site (as a result of the increase in impermeable surfaces). However, it can be reasonably assumed that new development proposals which may result in an increase in flood risk will be accompanied by an FRA and incorporate suitable flood alleviation measures (thereby minimising the risk of flooding).</p> <p>There may be opportunities as part of new development proposals to enhance existing, or incorporate new, green infrastructure which could potentially have a positive effect on this objective by providing space for flood waters to flow through and additional areas for future flood storage. However, this is dependent on policies contained within the Review of the Adopted Local Plan, the competing priorities for developer contributions and details of site specific proposals.</p> <p>Overall, the proposed housing requirement has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective, although it is recognised that the type and magnitude of effect will be largely dependent on the future location and character of development.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should avoid development in areas of flood risk (e.g. Flood Zones 2 and 3).</li> <li>Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets to provide opportunities for flood storage where appropriate.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should seek to promote as close to greenfield runoff rates as possible.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Commentary
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that, where appropriate, development proposals would be accompanied by a FRA and that suitable flood alleviation measures would be incorporated into the design of new development through SuDS where necessary to minimise flood risk.</li> <li>The Local Planning Authority will apply a sequential risk-based approach, including the application of the 'exception test,' consistent with the NPPF.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>
10. Air: To improve air quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it maintain and improve air quality?</li> <li>Will it address air quality issues in the Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area and the Maldon Road Danbury AQMA and prevent new designations of Air Quality Management Areas?</li> <li>Will it avoid locating development in areas of existing poor air quality?</li> <li>Will it minimise emissions to air from new development, such as through the preparation of a sustainable travel plan to reduce car use?</li> <li>Will it provide for electric charging points to support the adoption of electric vehicles?</li> <li>Will it affect air quality at designated sites that are sensitive to air pollution?</li> </ul>	-/?	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The construction of new residential development is likely to have a negative effect on air quality due to, for example, emissions generated from plant and HGV movements during construction. Once dwellings are occupied, the increase in population in the City Area will in-turn generate additional transport movements and associated emissions to air. In this regard, the baseline analysis presented in Section 3 indicates that the main source of air pollution in Chelmsford is road traffic emissions from major roads, notably the A12, A414, A138, A130 and B1016. Effects on this objective may be more pronounced if development is located near to, or within, the Army and Navy and Maldon Road Danbury AQMAs (which have been designated due to exceedances in Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>)) and health deprived areas of the City Area.</p> <p>The indicative housing requirement would meet (as a minimum) Chelmsford's objectively assessed housing need, helping to ensure that there is sufficient housing to meet the needs of workers in the City Area and providing opportunities for those who currently commute into the City Area to live in the area thereby reducing in-commuting and associated pollution from vehicles. However, based on current trends, it would be expected that an increased local population would result in higher levels of out-commuting overall.</p> <p>The delivery of 22,800 dwellings in the City Area could help to maintain and, potentially, stimulate investment in public transport provision reducing emissions to air associated with car use and congestion. Should future residential development be focused in the two main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers in particular, then prospective residents are also likely to benefit from relatively high levels of accessibility which may reduce car use and associated emissions to air.</p> <p>Overall, the indicative housing requirement has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective, although some uncertainty remains.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to reduce congestion.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that development is consistent with the objectives of the AQMAs.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that new development (in isolation or cumulatively) does not significantly impact on air quality.</li> </ul>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Commentary
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Careful consideration should be given to the distribution/location of new development to ensure accessibility to key services, facilities and employment opportunities.</li> <li>Opportunities should be sought to secure investment in public transport provision.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The impact of housing growth on levels of commuting is to some extent uncertain.</li> </ul>
11. Climate Change: To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it minimise energy use and reduce or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, assisting realisation of the City's emission targets?</li> <li>Will it plan or implement adaptation measures for the likely effects of climate change?</li> <li>Will it maximise the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy generation at site level and district level and reduce dependency on non-renewable sources?</li> <li>Will it promote sustainable design that minimises greenhouse emissions and is adaptable to the effects of climate change?</li> <li>Will it deliver homes and other buildings of high energy efficiency standards which contribute to the City's zero carbon targets?</li> </ul>	-1?	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Residential development would be expected to increase energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions within the City Area. Sources of emissions will include the use of plant, HGV movements and the embodied carbon in materials during construction and domestic energy consumption and vehicle movements once dwellings are occupied.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the anticipated increase in emissions identified above, residential development could present opportunities for new homes to include low carbon technologies within their design and to use low carbon materials within their construction.</p> <p>The indicative housing requirement would meet (as a minimum) Chelmsford's objectively assessed housing need, helping to ensure that there is sufficient housing to meet the needs of workers in the City Area and providing opportunities for those who currently commute into the City Area to live in the area thereby reducing in-commuting and associated greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles. However, based on current trends, it would be expected that an increased local population would result in higher levels of out-commuting overall.</p> <p>The delivery of 22,800 dwellings in the City Area could help to maintain and, potentially, stimulate investment in public transport provision reducing emissions associated with car use and congestion. Should future residential development be focused in the two main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers in particular, then prospective residents are also likely to benefit from high levels of accessibility which may reduce car use and associated emissions.</p> <p>Overall, the indicative housing requirement has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective, although some uncertainty remains.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should continue to promote high standards of low carbon and energy efficient design including, where appropriate, renewable energy provision in non-residential buildings. It is acknowledged that policy at the national level limits the ability of local planning authorities to do this as the Code for Sustainable Homes has been discontinued, with some requirements secured through the Building Regulations.</li> <li>The Local Plan could promote the voluntary use of the Home Quality Mark.</li> </ul>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Commentary
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Careful consideration should be given to the distribution/location of new development to ensure accessibility to key services, facilities and employment opportunities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exact scale of greenhouse gas emissions will be dependent on a number of factors including: the location and accessibility of new development; the design of new development (including in the context of the requirements of Local Plan policies and building regulations); future travel patterns and trends; individual energy consumption behaviour; and the extent to which energy supply has been decarbonised over the plan period.</li> </ul>
<p>12. Waste and Natural Resources: To promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover) and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it minimise the demand for raw materials?</li> <li>Will it promote the use of local resources?</li> <li>Will it reduce minerals extracted and imported?</li> <li>Will it increase efficiency in the use of raw materials and promote recycling?</li> <li>Will it result in development within a Minerals Safeguarding Area?</li> <li>Will it reduce waste arisings?</li> <li>Will it increase the reuse and recycling of waste?</li> <li>Will it support investment in waste management facilities to meet local needs?</li> </ul>	-1?	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The construction of new dwellings will require raw materials (such as aggregates, steel and timber). This may place pressure on local mineral assets to support construction. However, the volume of materials required is not expected to be significant (in a regional or national context). Further, it is anticipated that there would be opportunities to utilise recycled and sustainably sourced construction materials as part of new developments.</p> <p>Some parts of the City Area have been designated as Mineral Safeguarding Areas. However, residential development within these areas is unlikely as the principle of extraction has been accepted and the need for release of minerals proven within the Minerals Local Plan. If there are any instances where development sites overlay a Mineral Safeguarding Area it may be feasible to work minerals prior to development taking place.</p> <p>Residential development will generate waste through construction, although it is anticipated that a proportion of this waste would be reused or recycled. Once dwellings are occupied, there would also be an increase in municipal waste arisings which could place pressure on existing waste management facilities. However, it is again anticipated that a proportion of this waste would be reused or recycled.</p> <p>Overall, the proposed housing requirement has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council should consider the potential for Local Plan policies to encourage the use of recycled and secondary materials in new developments.</li> <li>The provision of recycling facilities within new developments should be a component of Local Plan design and/or waste management policies.</li> <li>The reuse of construction and demolition wastes on site should be promoted.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Commentary
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that the emerging replacement Essex Waste Local Plan will make provision to accommodate additional waste associated with growth in the City Area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exact scale of waste will be dependent on a number of factors including: the design of new development; waste collection and disposal regimes; and individual behaviour with regard to recycling and reuse.</li> </ul>
13. Cultural Heritage: To conserve and enhance the historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it help to conserve and enhance existing features of the historic built environment and their settings, including archaeological assets?</li> <li>Will it tackle heritage assets identified as being 'at risk'?</li> <li>Will it promote sustainable repair and reuse of heritage assets?</li> <li>Will it protect or enhance the significance of designated heritage assets?</li> <li>Will it protect or enhance the significance of non-designated heritage assets?</li> <li>Will it promote local cultural distinctiveness, recognising the diversity of Chelmsford's population?</li> <li>Will it help to conserve historic buildings, places and spaces that enhance local distinctiveness, character and appearance through sensitive adaptation and re-use?</li> <li>Will it improve and promote access to buildings and landscapes of historic/cultural value?</li> </ul>	+/-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Cultural heritage is a key feature of the City Area, and residential development has the potential to adversely affect these assets (directly and indirectly) as well as other non-designated assets that contribute to the character of the City Area.</p> <p>Adverse effects on these historic and cultural assets may occur during construction and also in the longer term once development has been completed. Effects may be direct (where development involves the loss of, or alteration to, assets) or indirect (where elements which contribute to the significance of assets are harmed). However, the likelihood of these effects occurring and their magnitude will be dependent on the type, location and design of new development which is currently uncertain.</p> <p>New residential development could have a positive effect on this objective where it increases the accessibility of residents to cultural heritage assets. There may also be scope for heritage-led development to positively impact and enhance the setting of assets.</p> <p>Overall, the proposed housing requirement has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies and proposals contained within the Local Plan should seek to conserve and, where possible, enhance cultural heritage assets including by promoting heritage-led development.</li> <li>Policies within the Local Plan should promote high standards of architecture and urban design.</li> <li>The Local Plan should set out a strategic framework to preserve and enhance historic areas and promote high standards of new development.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The form and function of any development will have the potential to enhance or detract from designated heritage and cultural assets and/or their settings.</li> </ul>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Commentary
14. Landscape and Townscape: To conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes?</li> <li>Will it promote high quality design in context with its urban and rural landscape?</li> <li>Will it avoid inappropriate development in the Green Belt and maintain its extent?</li> <li>Will it help to conserve and enhance the Marine Conservation Zone?</li> <li>Will it avoid inappropriate erosion of the Green Wedge?</li> <li>Will it protect tranquil landscapes and areas?</li> </ul>	+/-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>There are no national landscape designations within the Chelmsford City Area. However, the delivery of 22,800 dwellings is likely to result in adverse effects on landscape character. Effects may occur during construction and once development is complete, although the likelihood of adverse effects occurring and their magnitude will be dependent on the scale, density and location of new development in the context of the landscape sensitivity of the receiving environment. In particular, the level of growth proposed is likely to increase the potential pressure on greenfield land for development and could lead to higher density (and taller) residential development. In addition, the scale of new development will create significant new areas of housing and will require high quality design to help create a sense of place for developments.</p> <p>Residential development within established built areas has the potential to adversely affect the townscape character during construction although once development is complete, the quality of the built environment and enhancement of townscapes can be secured.</p> <p>Overall, the proposed housing requirement has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective, although the magnitude of effect will be dependent in part on the location and design of new development.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed (brownfield land). Local Plan policies should prioritise the development of brownfield land where possible.</li> <li>Detailed policies on high quality design should be contained within the Local Plan.</li> <li>Policies within the Local Plan and proposals should seek to conserve and enhance the character and quality of the City Area's landscapes and townscapes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exact location of future development, the quality of the receiving landscapes and the proximity of sensitive receptors is unknown at this stage.</li> </ul>

## Assessment of Indicative Employment Requirement (roll forward current projection to 2041)



Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Assessment
<p>1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the multifunctional green infrastructure network.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it conserve and enhance international and national designated nature conservation sites (Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Ramsars and Sites of Special Scientific Interest) both within and beyond the local authority area?</li> <li>Will it conserve and enhance Local Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites and Ancient Woodland?</li> <li>Will it avoid damage to, and protect, geologically important sites?</li> <li>Will it conserve and enhance priority species and habitats?</li> <li>Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or restoration and link existing habitats as part of the development process through Biodiversity Net Gain?</li> <li>Will it enhance ecological connectivity and maintain and improve the multifunctional green infrastructure network?</li> <li>Will it provide opportunities for people to access the natural environment?</li> <li>Will it contribute to Biodiversity Net Gain?</li> </ul>	-1?	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>It is assumed that employment development would not directly affect designated sites although the construction and operation of employment uses could have indirect negative effects on these assets due to, for example, emissions to air and noise. However, this would be dependent on the exact location and type of future development and the proximity of the development to the designated sites, which is currently unknown.</p> <p>There are a limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the Chelmsford City Area. In consequence, it is expected that a large proportion of new employment development would be situated on greenfield land, which could have a negative effect in relation to this objective (e.g. due to the direct loss of habitats or adverse impacts such as noise and emissions associated with the construction and operation of new development). The magnitude of any negative effects in this regard will be dependent on the scale of greenfield land lost to development and the existing biodiversity value of the sites that would be affected, which is currently uncertain.</p> <p>Overall, the approach is assessed as having a negative effect on this objective, however the magnitude of the effect is uncertain.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should seek to avoid negative effects on the City Area's biodiversity assets and identify opportunities for enhancing their quality where appropriate.</li> <li>Careful consideration should be given to the selection of site allocations in order to avoid adverse effects on European, nationally and locally designated sites. Appropriate mitigation should be identified where necessary.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets, closely linked with existing and new development.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that greenfield land will be required to accommodate growth.</li> <li>It is assumed that new development would not be located on land designated for nature conservation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The distribution and exact location of future development is unknown at this stage.</li> <li>The scale of employment land required to accommodate jobs growth is uncertain at this stage and will be dependent on a number of factors including the density of development and type of employment use.</li> </ul>
<p>2. Housing: To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it provide a range of housing types to meet current and emerging</li> </ul>	0	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The City Area's objectively assessed housing need has been aligned to accommodate jobs growth in the City Area. In consequence, this approach would not be expected to have an effect</p>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Assessment
	<p>need for market and affordable housing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it reduce the level of homelessness?</li> <li>Will it help to ensure the provision of good quality, well designed homes which meet the needs of all groups in society?</li> <li>Will it deliver homes of high energy efficiency standards which contribute to the City's zero carbon targets?</li> <li>Will it deliver pitches required for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople?</li> <li>Will it deliver independent living housing for older people and people with disabilities.</li> </ul>		<p>on this objective. Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a neutral effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>
3. Economy, Skills and Employment: To achieve a strong and stable economy which offers rewarding and well located employment opportunities to everyone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it provide a supply of high quality employment land to meet the needs of existing businesses and attract inward investment?</li> <li>Will it maintain and enhance economic competitiveness and promote the interests of local businesses?</li> <li>Will it help to diversify the local economy?</li> <li>Will it provide good quality, well paid, and accessible employment opportunities that meet the needs of local people and all groups in society?</li> <li>Will it improve the physical accessibility of training and employment opportunities, including childcare provision?</li> <li>Will it support rural diversification and economic development?</li> <li>Will it promote a low carbon economy?</li> </ul>	++/-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The construction of new employment space would support the construction sector and has the potential to create spend in the local supply chain. However, effects in this regard will be temporary and the extent to which the jobs that may be created benefit the City Area's residents will depend on the number of jobs created and the recruitment policies of prospective employers.</p> <p>The provision of employment land would be expected to help maintain and enhance Chelmsford's strategic economic role in the Heart of Essex sub-region, supporting existing businesses and attracting inward investment. Jobs growth would, in-turn, increase the amount of money spent in the local economy and there may also be supply chain benefits associated with new businesses.</p> <p>The provision of local employment opportunities may help to tackle unemployment, particularly in the more deprived parts of the City Area. However, the extent to which job creation is locally significant will depend on the type of jobs created (in the context of the local labour market), their location/accessibility and the recruitment policies of prospective employers.</p> <p>There could be insufficient employment land available to accommodate future jobs growth, serving to undermine growth, jobs creation and the economic potential of the City Area. Further, there is the potential that not fulfilling jobs growth forecasts could result in higher levels of out-commuting from the City Area.</p> <p>Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Assessment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it reduce out-commuting?</li> <li>Will it contribute to opportunities for home-working?</li> <li>Will it improve access to training to raise employment potential?</li> <li>Will it promote investment in educational establishments?</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent to which job creation is locally significant will depend on the type of jobs created (in the context of the local labour market) and the recruitment policies of prospective employers.</li> </ul>
4. Sustainable Living and Revitalisation: To promote urban renaissance and support the vitality of rural centres, tackle deprivation and promote sustainable living.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it support and enhance the City of Chelmsford by attracting new commercial investment and reinforcing the City's attractiveness?</li> <li>Will it promote principles of inclusive and age-friendly design?</li> <li>Will it encourage more people to live in urban areas?</li> <li>Will it enhance the public realm, including provision for pedestrians and cyclists?</li> <li>Will it enhance the viability and vitality of South Woodham Ferrers town centre and neighbourhood centres?</li> <li>Will it tackle deprivation in the most deprived areas and reduce inequalities in access to education, employment and services amongst all social groups?</li> <li>Will it maintain and enhance community facilities and services, through co-location, for example?</li> <li>Will it increase access to schools via safe and direct walking and cycling routes, early years and childcare and colleges?</li> <li>Will it enhance accessibility to key community facilities and services?</li> <li>Will it align investment in services, facilities and infrastructure with growth?</li> </ul>	+	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Jobs growth and the associated provision of employment land would help to attract investment to the City of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers, promoting urban renaissance. However, there could be insufficient employment land available to accommodate future jobs growth, serving to undermine growth, jobs creation and the economic potential of the City Area.</p> <p>Jobs growth would increase spend in the local economy, helping to improve the viability and vitality of existing shops, services and facilities in the areas where development is allocated.</p> <p>The Scoping Report highlights that there are pockets of deprivation across the City Area with some lower super output areas (LSOAs), such as those within the wards of Marconi, Patching Hall and St Andrews, being within the most deprived in the country. Jobs growth under this approach should help to create additional employment opportunities that are accessible to the City Area's residents, including those in these deprived areas. However, the extent to which job creation is locally significant will depend on the type of jobs created (in the context of the local labour market), their location/accessibility and the recruitment policies of prospective employers.</p> <p>Whilst jobs growth would be unlikely to have a direct effect on education, training and apprenticeship opportunities may be provided by businesses who occupy new premises once sites have been developed. This could help to raise skill levels amongst workers and residents in the City Area. Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a positive effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that new development supports specific regeneration opportunities where possible.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The type and location of additional employment land required under this approach is unknown at this stage</li> </ul>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Assessment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it contribute to regeneration initiatives?</li> <li>Will it foster social cohesion and good community relations?</li> </ul>		
5. Health and Wellbeing: To improve the health and wellbeing of those living and working in the Chelmsford City area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it avoid locating development where environmental circumstances could negatively impact on people's health?</li> <li>Will it maintain and improve access to multifunctional open space, leisure and recreational facilities for all residents?</li> <li>Will it provide for the management and maintenance of open spaces, such as through Stewardship Agreements?</li> <li>Will it promote healthier lifestyles amongst all residents?</li> <li>Will it meet the needs of an ageing population and support those with disabilities?</li> <li>Will it align investment in healthcare facilities and services with growth?</li> <li>Will it improve access to healthcare facilities and services?</li> <li>Will it promote community safety and reduce the fear of crime through safe and welcoming open and natural spaces?</li> <li>Will it reduce actual levels of crime and anti-social behaviour?</li> <li>Will it promote design that discourages crime?</li> <li>Will it promote a healthier community food environment such as through opportunities for food growing?</li> </ul>	-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The construction of employment sites has the potential to have a localised and short term negative effect on the health and wellbeing of residents who are in close proximity to development sites and/or along transport routes within the City Area. Effects may include, for example, respiratory problems associated with construction traffic and dust. These issues will be more pertinent within sensitive areas such as the Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area (AQMA), those locations with pre-existing health issues and other deprived areas within the City Area. However, these effects are expected to be temporary and not significant.</p> <p>Once premises are occupied, there may be further adverse effects on health arising from, in particular, emissions to air associated with the movement of workers to/from sites and operational traffic (including HGVs). In this context, the Scoping Report highlights that the main source of air pollution in Chelmsford is road traffic emissions from major roads.</p> <p>Whilst the creation of local employment opportunities associated with this approach could reduce out-commuting from the City Area and associated emissions to air, as noted under Objective 3, there is the potential that not fulfilling jobs growth forecasts could result in higher levels of out-commuting.</p> <p>The extent to which new employment development promotes healthy lifestyles through, for example, walking and cycling will be dependent on its accessibility which is at present uncertain. Should future development be focused in the two main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers in particular, then opportunities would be physically accessible to a relatively large labour pool which may promote walking and cycling (and also, potentially, reduce emissions to air associated with car use).</p> <p>Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The type and location of additional employment land required under this approach is unknown at this stage.</li> </ul>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Assessment
6. Transport: To reduce the need to travel, promote more sustainable modes of transport and align investment in infrastructure with growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it reduce travel demand and the distance people travel for jobs, employment, leisure and services and facilities?</li> <li>Will it reduce out-commuting?</li> <li>Will it encourage a shift to more sustainable modes of transport?</li> <li>Will it encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport through the provision of connected, attractive and safe routes?</li> <li>Will it help to reduce traffic congestion and improve road safety?</li> <li>Will it allow for people with mobility problems or a disability to access buildings and places?</li> <li>Will it deliver investment in transportation infrastructure that supports growth in the Chelmsford City area?</li> <li>Will it enhance Chelmsford's role as a key transport node?</li> <li>Will it reduce the level of freight movement by road?</li> </ul>	-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The provision of employment proposed by this approach could be expected to increase levels of traffic during both the construction of premises and once development is complete. This may result in congestion with associated negative effects including driver delay and a deterioration in air quality. In this regard, the Scoping Report notes that future development in the City Area could result in increased pressure on the local road network and public transport infrastructure with congestion on key trunk roads including the A12, A130 and A414 east and west of Chelmsford (a number of junctions on the strategic highway network have capacity constraints and pinch points). However, development may support investment in highways improvements which could help to mitigate adverse effects in this regard.</p> <p>Whilst the creation of local employment opportunities associated with this approach could reduce out-commuting from the City Area, as noted under SA Objective 3, there is the potential that not fulfilling jobs growth forecasts could result in higher levels of out-commuting.</p> <p>The extent to which new employment development affects car use will be dependent on its accessibility which is at present uncertain. Should future development be focused in the two main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers in particular, then opportunities would be physically accessible to a relatively large labour pool which may promote walking and cycling and public transport use.</p> <p>Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Careful consideration should be given to the distribution/location of new development to ensure accessibility by transport modes other than the car.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the preparation of green travel plans as part of new development proposals.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should positively promote walking and cycling as part of new developments.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should seek to address the pressure on the current transport network, aligning with, and supporting, proposals contained in the existing Local Plan and Local Transport Plan.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exact location of future development is unknown at this stage.</li> </ul>
7. Land Use and Soils: To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it promote the use of previously developed (brownfield) land and</li> </ul>	+/-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Assessment
	<p>minimise the loss of greenfield land?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it avoid the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land?</li> <li>Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?</li> <li>Will it encourage the reuse of existing buildings and infrastructure?</li> <li>Will it prevent land contamination and facilitate remediation of contaminated sites?</li> </ul>		<p>Whilst the development of brownfield land is expected to be encouraged, the limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the Chelmsford City Area will mean that greenfield land will be required to support jobs growth.</p> <p>The best and most versatile agricultural land in the City Area generally lies to the north/north west of the Chelmsford Urban Area and is characterised as Grade 2 ('Very Good'). Land to the south of the urban area, meanwhile, is predominantly Grade 3 ('Good') agricultural land. Should employment development result in the loss of this land, then there would be further negative effects on this objective and which could be significant. However, until the exact location of new development is known, effects in this regard are uncertain.</p> <p>Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed (brownfield land). Local Plan policies and proposals should prioritise the development of brownfield over greenfield land where possible.</li> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should seek to use areas of poorer quality land in preference to that of a higher quality.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should resist the development of best and most versatile agricultural land.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exact location of future development is unknown at this stage.</li> <li>The scale of employment land required to accommodate jobs growth under this approach is uncertain at this stage and will be dependent on a number of factors including the density of development and type of employment use.</li> </ul>
8. Water: To conserve and enhance water quality and resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it reduce water pollution and improve ground and surface water quality?</li> <li>Will it address issues associated with nutrient loading?</li> <li>Will it reduce water consumption and encourage water efficiency?</li> <li>Will it ensure that new water/wastewater management infrastructure is delivered in a</li> </ul>	-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The construction of new employment development will increase demand on water resources, with the potential to affect water availability. It is assumed that the design of development will include sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) to ensure that all subsequent rainfall will infiltrate surfaces rather than exacerbate any downstream flood risks (which also have temporary effects on water quality).</p> <p>Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Assessment
	timely manner to support new development?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council should consider the potential for Local Plan to support water company water efficiency activities for existing businesses.</li> <li>It is recommended that the Local Plan includes policies that promote water attenuation systems due to the underlying geology of the area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that the Council will liaise with Essex and Suffolk Water with regard to infrastructure requirements for future development.</li> <li>Measures contained in the Essex and Suffolk Water's Water Resources Management Plan would be expected to help ensure that future water resource demands are met.</li> <li>There will be no development that will require diversion or modification of existing watercourses. However, if such measures are required, this could affect local water quality.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exact location of developments and the potential impact on waterbodies is uncertain at this stage.</li> <li>It is understood that the Council is due to commission an updated Water Cycle Study.</li> </ul>
9. Flood Risk: To reduce the risk of flooding to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it help to minimise the risk of flooding to existing and new developments/infrastructure?</li> <li>Will it manage effectively, and reduce the likelihood of, flash flooding, taking into account the capacity of sewerage systems?</li> <li>Will it discourage inappropriate development in areas at risk from flooding?</li> <li>Will it ensure that new development does not give rise to flood risk elsewhere?</li> <li>Will it deliver multifunctional sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDs) where possible and promote investment in flood defences that reduce vulnerability to flooding?</li> </ul>	-1?	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The Scoping Report highlights that flood risk is a potentially significant constraint to future development in the Chelmsford City Area with large parts of the Chelmsford Urban Area in particular being at risk of fluvial flooding and South Woodham Ferrers being at risk of coastal flooding. However, given requirements for proposals to be accompanied by a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) where appropriate, it is considered unlikely that new employment development would be at significant risk of flooding, although this is dependent on the exact location of development.</p> <p>The loss of greenfield land under this approach could lead to an increased risk of flooding off site (as a result of the increase in impermeable surfaces). However, it can be reasonably assumed that new development proposals which may result in an increase in flood risk will be accompanied by an FRA and incorporate suitable flood alleviation measures (thereby minimising the risk of flooding).</p> <p>Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective, although it is recognised that the type and magnitude of effect will be largely dependent on the future location of development which is unknown.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should avoid development in areas of flood risk (e.g. Flood Zones 2 and 3).</li> <li>Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets to provide opportunities for flood storage where appropriate.</li> </ul>



Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Assessment
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should seek to promote as close to greenfield runoff rates as possible.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that, where appropriate, development proposals would be accompanied by a FRA and that suitable flood alleviation measures would be incorporated into the design of new development where necessary to minimise flood risk.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exact location of development is uncertain at this stage.</li> </ul>
10. Air: To improve air quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it maintain and improve air quality?</li> <li>Will it address air quality issues in the Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area and the Maldon Road Danbury AQMA and prevent new designations of Air Quality Management Areas?</li> <li>Will it avoid locating development in areas of existing poor air quality?</li> <li>Will it minimise emissions to air from new development, such as through the preparation of a sustainable travel plan to reduce car use?</li> <li>Will it provide for electric charging points to support the adoption of electric vehicles?</li> <li>Will it affect air quality at designated sites that are sensitive to air pollution?</li> </ul>	-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>There is the potential for the construction and occupation of new employment uses to have negative effects on air quality due to, for example, emissions generated from plant and HGV movements during construction and increased vehicle movements once construction is complete. Effects on this objective may be more pronounced if development is located near to, or within, the Army and Navy and Maldon Road Danbury AQMAs (which have been designated due to exceedances in Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>)) and health deprived areas of the City Area. However, until the location of new development has been determined, the likelihood of adverse effects occurring and their magnitude is uncertain.</p> <p>Whilst the creation of local employment opportunities associated with this approach could reduce out-commuting from the City Area and associated emissions to air, as noted under SA Objective 3, there is the potential that not fulfilling jobs growth forecasts could result in higher levels of out-commuting.</p> <p>The extent to which new employment development affects car use and related emissions will be dependent on its accessibility which is at present uncertain. Should future development be focused in the two main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers in particular, then opportunities would be physically accessible to a relatively large labour pool which may promote walking and cycling and public transport use, reducing emissions to air associated with travel by car.</p> <p>Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to reduce congestion.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that development is consistent with the objectives of the AQMAs.</li> <li>Careful consideration should be given to the distribution/location of new employment development to ensure accessibility by transport modes other than the car.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Assessment
			<b>Uncertainties</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exact location of future development is uncertain at this stage.</li> </ul>
11. Climate Change: To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it minimise energy use and reduce or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, assisting realisation of the City's emission targets?</li> <li>Will it plan or implement adaptation measures for the likely effects of climate change?</li> <li>Will it maximise the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy generation at site level and district level and reduce dependency on non-renewable sources?</li> <li>Will it promote sustainable design that minimises greenhouse emissions and is adaptable to the effects of climate change?</li> <li>Will it deliver homes and other buildings of high energy efficiency standards which contribute to the City's zero carbon targets?</li> </ul>	-	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> <p>Employment development would increase energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions within the City Area. Sources of emissions would include the use of plant, HGV movements and the embodied carbon in materials during construction and energy consumption and vehicle movements once premises are occupied</p> <p>As highlighted in the assessment of this approach against SA Objective 6, whilst the creation of local employment opportunities associated with this approach could reduce out-commuting from the City Area and associated greenhouse gas emissions, there is the potential that not fulfilling jobs growth forecasts could result in higher levels of out-commuting.</p> <p>The extent to which new employment development affects car use and related greenhouse gas emissions will be dependent on its accessibility which is at present uncertain. Should future development be focused in the two main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers in particular, then opportunities would be physically accessible to a relatively large labour pool which may promote walking and cycling and public transport use, reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with travel by car.</p> <p>Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <b>Mitigation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should promote high standards of energy efficient design including, where appropriate, renewable energy provision.</li> <li>High quality, sustainable design and onsite renewable and low carbon energy provision should be promoted.</li> </ul> <b>Assumptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Uncertainties</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exact scale of greenhouse gas emissions associated with this approach will be dependent on a number of factors including: the location and accessibility of new development; the design of new development (including in the context of the requirements of Local Plan policies and building regulations); future travel patterns and trends; individual energy consumption behaviour; and the extent to which energy supply has been decarbonised over the plan period.</li> </ul>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Assessment
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The location of additional employment required under this approach is unknown at this stage.</li> </ul>
<p>12. Waste and Natural Resources: To promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover) and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it minimise the demand for raw materials?</li> <li>Will it promote the use of local resources?</li> <li>Will it reduce minerals extracted and imported?</li> <li>Will it increase efficiency in the use of raw materials and promote recycling?</li> <li>Will it result in development within a Minerals Safeguarding Area?</li> <li>Will it reduce waste arisings?</li> <li>Will it increase the reuse and recycling of waste?</li> <li>Will it support investment in waste management facilities to meet local needs?</li> </ul>	-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The construction of employment premises will require raw materials (such as aggregates, steels and timber), although the volume of materials required is not expected to be significant (in a regional or national context). Further, it is anticipated that there would be opportunities to utilise recycled and sustainably sourced construction materials as part of new developments.</p> <p>Depending on the nature of the employment use, raw materials may also be required during the operational phase, although the volume and type of resources required would be dependent on the type and scale of use.</p> <p>Commercial development will generate construction waste, although it is anticipated that a proportion of this waste would be reused/recycled. Once premises are occupied, there would also be an increase in commercial waste arisings although again, it is anticipated that a proportion of this waste would be reused or recycled.</p> <p>Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a negative effect upon this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council should consider the potential for Local Plan policies to encourage the use of recycled and secondary materials in new developments.</li> <li>The provision of recycling facilities within new developments should be a component of Local Plan design and/or waste management policies.</li> <li>The reuse of construction and demolition wastes on site should be promoted.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that the Essex Waste Local Plan will make provision to accommodate additional waste associated with growth in the City Area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exact scale of waste associated with this approach will be dependent on a number of factors including: the design of new development; waste collection and disposal regimes; and individual behaviour with regard to recycling and reuse.</li> <li>The exact scale of resource use associated with this approach will be dependent on the final scale and type of uses that come forward.</li> </ul>
<p>13. Cultural Heritage: To conserve and enhance the historic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it help to conserve and enhance existing features of the historic built environment and their</li> </ul>	+/-/?	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Assessment
environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.	<p>settings, including archaeological assets?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it tackle heritage assets identified as being 'at risk'?</li> <li>Will it promote sustainable repair and reuse of heritage assets?</li> <li>Will it protect or enhance the significance of designated heritage assets?</li> <li>Will it protect or enhance the significance of non-designated heritage assets?</li> <li>Will it promote local cultural distinctiveness, recognising the diversity of Chelmsford's population?</li> <li>Will it help to conserve historic buildings, places and spaces that enhance local distinctiveness, character and appearance through sensitive adaptation and re-use?</li> <li>Will it improve and promote access to buildings and landscapes of historic/cultural value?</li> </ul>		<p>Adverse effects on historic and cultural assets may occur during construction and also in the longer term once development has been completed. Effects may be direct (where development involves the loss of, or alteration to, assets) or indirect (where elements which contribute to the significance of assets are harmed). However, the likelihood of these effects occurring and their magnitude will be dependent on the type, location and design of new development which is currently uncertain.</p> <p>New employment development could have a positive effect on this objective for example, where it supports heritage-led development.</p> <p>Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective, although the magnitude of effect will be dependent in part on the location of new development.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies and proposals contained within the Local Plan should seek to conserve and, where possible, enhance cultural heritage assets including by promoting heritage-led development.</li> <li>Policies within the Local Plan should promote high standards of architecture and urban design.</li> <li>The Local Plan should set out a strategic framework to preserve and enhance historic areas and promote high standards of new development.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exact location of new development is uncertain at this stage.</li> <li>The form and function of any development will have the potential to enhance or detract from designated heritage and cultural assets and/or their settings.</li> </ul>
14. Landscape and Townscape: To conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes?</li> <li>Will it promote high quality design in context with its urban and rural landscape?</li> <li>Will it avoid inappropriate development in the Green Belt and maintain its extent?</li> <li>Will it help to conserve and enhance the Marine Conservation Zone?</li> </ul>	+/-/?	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Whilst there are no national landscape designations within the Chelmsford City Area, employment development under this approach is likely to result in adverse effects on landscape character. Effects may occur during construction and once development is complete, although the likelihood of adverse effects occurring and their magnitude will be dependent on the scale, density and location of new development in the context of the landscape sensitivity of the receiving environment.</p> <p>There may be potential for new development to enhance the quality of the built environment and to improve townscapes, particularly where brownfield sites are redeveloped (although as noted previously, there are only a limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the City Area).</p>

Objective	Guide Questions	Score	Assessment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will it avoid inappropriate erosion of the Green Wedge?</li> <li>Will it protect tranquil landscapes and areas?</li> </ul>		<p>Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective, although the magnitude of effect will be dependent in part on the location and design of new development.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed (brownfield land). Local Plan policies should prioritise the development of brownfield land where possible.</li> <li>Detailed policies on high quality design should be contained within the Local Plan.</li> <li>Policies within the Local Plan and proposals should seek to conserve and enhance the character and quality of the City Area's landscapes and townscapes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exact location of future development, the quality of the receiving landscapes and the proximity of sensitive receptors is unknown at this stage.</li> <li>The scale of employment land required to accommodate jobs growth under this approach is uncertain at this stage and will be dependent on a number of factors including the density of development and type of employment use.</li> </ul>



# Appendix G Assessment of Spatial Approaches

## Key to Assessment

Score	Description	Symbol
Significant Positive Effect	The approach contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective.	++
Minor Positive Effect	The approach contributes to the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	+
Neutral	The approach does not have any effect on the achievement of the objective	0
Minor Negative Effect	The approach detracts from the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	-
Significant Negative Effect	The approach detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective.	--
No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the approach and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.	~
Uncertain	The approach has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.	?

NB: where more than one symbol/colour is presented in a box it indicates that the assessment has identified both positive and negative effects. Where a box is coloured but also contains a '?', this indicates uncertainty over whether the effect could be a minor or significant effect although a professional judgement is expressed in the colour used. A conclusion of uncertainty arises where there is insufficient evidence for expert judgement to conclude an effect.

**Note: Reflecting the review of the Adopted Local Plan, many of the mitigation measures recommended are already reflected in policy. As such, the recommendations act as a checklist against which the policies and proposals of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan can be assessed.**



Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy		Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas		Approach C: Wider Strategy		Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors		Approach E: New Settlement	
1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the multifunctional green infrastructure network.	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> The Crouch and Roach Estuaries (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 3) Special Protection Area (SPA), Ramsar and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and the Essex Estuaries Special Area of Conservation (SAC) extend around three sides of South Woodham Ferrers. There are also a number of SSSIs to the east and west of the Chelmsford Urban Area (including Newney Green Pit to the west and Blake's Wood & Lingwood Common, Woodham Walter Common and Danbury Common to the east) and to the south of Great Leighs (the River Ter SSSI). In addition to these European and nationally designated sites, there are a number of Local Nature Reserves (LNRs), Essex Wildlife Trust Nature Reserves and Wildlife Sites within and adjacent to the settlements including a Wildlife Site to the north of South Woodham Ferrers. Whilst it is assumed that new development would not be located on land designated for nature conservation, there is the potential for indirect adverse effects on these sites (for example, due to disturbance arising from increased recreational activity and wild bird and mammal loss from cat predation).	<b>+/-/?</b>	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> The Crouch and Roach Estuaries (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 3) Special Protection Area (SPA), Ramsar and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and the Essex Estuaries Special Area of Conservation (SAC) extend around three sides of South Woodham Ferrers. There are also a number of SSSIs to the east and west of the Chelmsford Urban Area (including Newney Green Pit to the west and Blake's Wood & Lingwood Common, Woodham Walter Common and Danbury Common to the east). In addition to these European and nationally designated sites, there are a number of Local Nature Reserves (LNRs), Essex Wildlife Trust Nature Reserves and Wildlife Sites within and adjacent to the settlements including a Wildlife Site to the north of South Woodham Ferrers. Whilst it is assumed that new development would not be located on land designated for nature conservation, there is the potential for indirect adverse effects on these sites (for example, due to disturbance arising from increased recreational activity and wild bird and mammal loss from cat predation).  The approach would support the redevelopment of brownfield sites in the Chelmsford Urban Area. Whilst brownfield land can have	<b>+/-/?</b>	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> Approach C would result in reduced growth at locations adjacent or close to the Chelmsford Urban Area and the towns of South Woodham Ferrers and Braintree (Great Leighs) with the remaining development being directed to the key villages. There would be the potential for indirect effects on European and nationally designated conservation sites. By directing additional development across a wider area, this approach could place additional pressure on wildlife sites such as Danbury Common, Blake's Wood & Lingwood Common, Woodham Walter Common and Danbury Common SSSIs. However, this would be dependent on the exact location of future development, the proximity of the development to the designated sites and the ease of access to the sites, which is currently unknown.  This approach would also support brownfield development in the urban area. However, a substantial area of greenfield land would still be required to accommodate growth. Allied with infrastructure development, this will have a negative effect in relation to this objective (e.g. due to the direct loss of habitat or adverse impacts such as noise and emissions associated with the construction and occupation of new development). Whilst there is	<b>+/-/?</b>	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> Under this approach there would be the potential for development to result in indirect adverse effects on designated nature conservation sites. Additionally, directing growth along transport corridors (such as at Rettendon) may place further pressure on the Crouch and Roach Estuaries (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 3) SPA, Ramsar and SSSI and the Essex Estuaries Special Area of Conservation (SAC). However, this would be dependent on the exact location of future development, the proximity of the development to the designated sites and the ease of access to the sites, which is currently unknown.  This approach would also support brownfield development in the urban area. However, a substantial area of greenfield land would still be required to accommodate growth. Allied with infrastructure development, this will have a negative effect in relation to this objective (e.g. due to the direct loss of habitat or adverse impacts such as noise and emissions associated with the construction and occupation of new development). Whilst there is the potential for adverse effects in this regard to be increased (given the more rural location of likely development sites), the magnitude of any negative effects will be	<b>+/-/?</b>	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> There are a number of SSSIs to the east and west of the Chelmsford Urban Area (including Newney Green Pit to the west and Blake's Wood & Lingwood Common, Woodham Walter Common and Danbury Common to the east). In addition to these European and nationally designated sites, there are a number of Local Nature Reserves (LNRs), Essex Wildlife Trust Nature Reserves and Wildlife Sites within and adjacent to the settlements Blake's Wood and Lingwood Common SSSI which lies to the east of Hammonds Farm. Whilst it is assumed that new development would not be located on land designated for nature conservation, there is the potential for indirect adverse effects on these sites (for example, due to disturbance arising from increased recreational activity and wild bird and mammal loss from cat predation).  The approach would support the redevelopment of brownfield sites in the Chelmsford Urban Area. Whilst brownfield land can have significant biodiversity value although it is considered that, on balance, development of brownfield sites will help minimise the risk of both direct (e.g. the loss of habitat) and indirect (e.g. noise and emissions) impacts on	<b>+/-/?</b>

Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	Approach C: Wider Strategy	Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	Approach E: New Settlement
	<p>The approach would support the redevelopment of brownfield sites in the Chelmsford Urban Area. Whilst brownfield land can have significant biodiversity value, it is considered that, on balance, development of brownfield sites will help minimise the risk of both direct (e.g. the loss of habitat) and indirect (e.g. noise and emissions) impacts on habitats and species. Notwithstanding the above, development requirements and the limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the Chelmsford City Area means that greenfield land adjacent to the urban areas of Chelmsford will be required (it is also noted that new development in other locations to meet local needs and Plan-wide needs. Associated infrastructure development will have a negative effect in relation to this objective (e.g. due to the direct loss of habitat or adverse impacts such as noise and emissions associated with the construction and operation of new development). The magnitude of any negative effects in this regard will be dependent on the existing biodiversity value of sites.</p> <p>The maintenance of existing Green Wedges within the City Area along with well-designed new developments will help to minimise adverse effects on biodiversity associated with new development and deliver enhancements by extending the</p>	<p>significant biodiversity value although it is considered that, on balance, development of brownfield sites will help minimise the risk of both direct (e.g. the loss of habitat) and indirect (e.g. noise and emissions) impacts on habitats and species. Notwithstanding the above, development requirements and the limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the Chelmsford City Area means that greenfield land adjacent to the urban areas of Chelmsford will be required (it is also noted that new development in other locations to meet local needs and Plan-wide needs. Associated infrastructure development will have a negative effect in relation to this objective (e.g. due to the direct loss of habitat or adverse impacts such as noise and emissions associated with the construction and operation of new development). The magnitude of any negative effects in this regard will be dependent on the existing biodiversity value of sites.</p> <p>The maintenance of existing Green Wedges within the City Area along with well-designed new developments will help to minimise adverse effects on biodiversity associated with new development and deliver enhancements by extending the City Area's green infrastructure network.</p>	<p>the potential for adverse effects in this regard to be increased (given the more rural location of likely development sites), the magnitude of any negative effects will be dependent on the scale of greenfield land lost to development and the existing biodiversity value of sites.</p> <p>The Green Wedges within the City Area and the potential for new green buffers could help to both minimise adverse effects on biodiversity associated with new development and deliver enhancements by extending the City Area's green infrastructure network.</p> <p>Overall, Approach C has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective. However, due to the potential for adverse effects on designated sites and expected scale of greenfield land required to support growth, the magnitude of negative effect on this objective is uncertain at this stage.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should continue to prompt good design principles as a fundamental part of new development.</li> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should seek to avoid negative effects on the City Area's biodiversity assets and identify opportunities for enhancing their quality where appropriate.</li> </ul>	<p>dependent on the scale of greenfield land lost to development and the existing biodiversity value of sites.</p> <p>Overall, Approach D has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective. However, due to the potential for adverse effects on designated sites and the expected scale of greenfield land required to support growth, the magnitude of negative effect on this objective is uncertain at this stage.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should continue to prompt good design principles as a fundamental part of new development.</li> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should seek to avoid negative effects on the City Area's biodiversity assets and identify opportunities for enhancing their quality where appropriate.</li> <li>Careful consideration should be given to appropriate mitigation to avoid adverse impacts on designated sites.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should continue to promote a network of green infrastructure assets, closely linked with existing and new development.</li> </ul>	<p>habitats and species. Notwithstanding the above, development requirements and the limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the Chelmsford City Area means that greenfield land adjacent to the urban areas of Chelmsford will be required (it is also noted that new development in other locations to meet local needs and Plan-wide needs. Associated infrastructure development will have a negative effect in relation to this objective (e.g. due to the direct loss of habitat or adverse impacts such as noise and emissions associated with the construction and operation of new development). The magnitude of any negative effects in this regard will be dependent on the existing biodiversity value of sites.</p> <p>The maintenance of existing Green Wedges within the City Area along with well-designed new developments will help to minimise adverse effects on biodiversity associated with new development and deliver enhancements by extending the City Area's green infrastructure network.</p> <p>Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective. However, due to the potential for adverse effects on designated sites and the expected scale of greenfield land</p>

Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	Approach C: Wider Strategy	Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	Approach E: New Settlement
	<p>City Area's green infrastructure network.</p> <p>Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective. However, due to the potential for adverse effects on designated sites and the expected scale of greenfield land required to support growth, the magnitude of negative effect on this objective is uncertain.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should continue to prompt good design principles as a fundamental part of new development.</li> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should seek to avoid negative effects on the City Area's biodiversity assets and identify opportunities for enhancing their quality where appropriate.</li> <li>Careful consideration should be given to appropriate mitigation to avoid adverse impacts on designated sites.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should continue to promote a network of green infrastructure assets, closely linked with existing and new development.</li> <li>Mitigation initiatives such as the Essex Coast RAMS should be supported.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p>	<p>Overall, the approach has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective. However, due to the potential for adverse effects on designated sites and the expected scale of greenfield land required to support growth, the magnitude of negative effect on this objective is uncertain.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should continue to prompt good design principles as a fundamental part of new development.</li> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should seek to avoid negative effects on the City Area's biodiversity assets and identify opportunities for enhancing their quality where appropriate.</li> <li>Careful consideration should be given to appropriate mitigation to avoid adverse impacts on designated sites.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should continue to promote a network of green infrastructure assets, closely linked with existing and new development.</li> <li>Mitigation initiatives such as the Essex Coast RAMS should be supported.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that new development would not be</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Careful consideration should be given to appropriate mitigation to avoid adverse impacts on designated sites.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should continue to promote a network of green infrastructure assets, closely linked with existing and new development.</li> <li>Mitigation initiatives such as the Essex Coast RAMS should be supported.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that new development would not be located on land designated for nature conservation.</li> <li>It is assumed that, on balance, the biodiversity value of brownfield sites is less than that of greenfield land.</li> <li>It is assumed that strategic developments will be based on accepted principles of good design.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exact location of future development at each settlement is unknown at this stage.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mitigation initiatives such as the Essex Coast RAMS should be supported.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that new development would not be located on land designated for nature conservation.</li> <li>It is assumed that, on balance, the biodiversity value of brownfield sites is less than that of greenfield land.</li> <li>It is assumed that strategic developments will be based on accepted principles of good design.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The exact location of future development at each settlement is unknown at this stage.</li> </ul>	<p>required to support growth, the magnitude of negative effect on this objective is uncertain.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should continue to prompt good design principles as a fundamental part of new development.</li> <li>Local Plan policies and proposals should seek to avoid negative effects on the City Area's biodiversity assets and identify opportunities for enhancing their quality where appropriate.</li> <li>Careful consideration should be given to appropriate mitigation to avoid adverse impacts on designated sites.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should continue to promote a network of green infrastructure assets, closely linked with existing and new development.</li> <li>Mitigation initiatives such as the Essex Coast RAMS should be supported.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that new development would not be located on land designated for nature conservation.</li> <li>It is assumed that, on balance, the biodiversity value of brownfield sites is less than that of greenfield land.</li> </ul>

Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	Approach C: Wider Strategy	Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	Approach E: New Settlement
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>It is assumed that new development would not be located on land designated for nature conservation.</li><li>It is assumed that, on balance, the biodiversity value of brownfield sites is less than that of greenfield land.</li><li>It is assumed that strategic developments will be based on accepted principles of good design.</li></ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>The exact location of future development at each settlement is unknown at this stage.</p>	<p>located on land designated for nature conservation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>It is assumed that, on balance, the biodiversity value of brownfield sites is less than that of greenfield land.</li><li>It is assumed that strategic developments will be based on accepted principles of good design.</li></ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>The exact location of future development at each settlement is unknown at this stage.</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>It is assumed that strategic developments will be based on accepted principles of good design.</li></ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>The exact location of future development at each settlement is unknown at this stage.</p>
2. Housing: To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes.	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>This approach is capable of delivering the identified housing requirement through its spatial approach, including a range of strategic and locally-focused sites.</p> <p>Overall, this approach has been assessed as having a significant positive effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>This approach is capable of delivering the identified housing requirement through its spatial approach, although directing development to urban areas could inhibit growth in smaller settlements across the City Area.</p> <p>Focusing development in urban areas may mean housing needs in some larger settlements are not met.</p> <p>Overall, this approach has been assessed as having a significant, uncertain positive effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>This approach is capable of delivering the identified housing requirement through its spatial approach.</p> <p>Local development can be allocated through relevant Neighbourhood Plans where appropriate and justified.</p> <p>Opportunities for small-scale rural exception sites providing affordable homes to meet identified local needs will also be supported.</p> <p>Overall, this approach has been assessed as having a significant positive effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>This approach is capable of delivering the identified housing requirement through its spatial approach, although directing development to transport corridor settlements could inhibit growth in smaller settlements across the City Area</p> <p>Overall, this approach has been assessed as having a significant, uncertain positive effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>This approach is capable of delivering the identified housing requirement through its spatial approach. However, the concentration of development in large developments could inhibit growth in smaller settlements across the City Area</p> <p>Overall, this approach has been assessed as having a significant, uncertain positive effect on this objective.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p>

Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	Approach C: Wider Strategy	Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	Approach E: New Settlement
		<b>Assumptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Uncertainties</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent to which local needs in settlements across the City Area will be met.</li> </ul>	<b>Assumptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Uncertainties</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent to which local needs in settlements across the City Area will be met.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent to which local needs in settlements across the City Area will be met.</li> </ul>
3. Economy, Skills and Employment: To achieve a strong and stable economy which offers rewarding and well located employment opportunities to everyone.	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> Focusing employment growth within and on the edge of/in close proximity to the Chelmsford Urban Area and South Woodham Ferrers is expected to help ensure that the new employment opportunities created by employment development, as well as existing opportunities in the City Centre, town and London, are physically accessible to existing and prospective residents (although the extent to which job creation is locally significant will depend on the type of jobs created in the context of the local labour market and the recruitment policies of prospective employers). This reflects the existing transport links in these settlements and the size of the resident populations. Employment land provision (including for high tech uses), residential development and the delivery of supporting infrastructure within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area should ensure that the City continues to be a major driver of	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> This approach would focus employment growth (including retail provision) within the Chelmsford Urban Area as well as at strategic employment sites adjacent to the north eastern boundary of the Urban Area and to the north of South Woodham Ferrers. Focusing employment growth within and on the edge of the Chelmsford Urban Area and South Woodham Ferrers is expected to help ensure that the new employment opportunities created by employment development, as well as existing opportunities in the City Centre and town and London, are physically accessible to existing and prospective residents (although the extent to which job creation is locally significant will depend on the type of jobs created (in the context of the local labour market and the recruitment policies of prospective employers). This reflects the existing transport links in these settlements and the size of the resident populations.	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> Under this approach residential development would be more dispersed throughout the City Area and including at settlements without major employers and which are less accessible to the City Centre. In consequence, prospective residents in these settlements would be likely to have poorer accessibility to employment opportunities. <b>Mitigation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Assumptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Uncertainties</b> <p>The extent to which job creation is locally significant will depend on the type of jobs created (in the context of the local labour market) and the recruitment policies of prospective employers.</p>	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> Additional opportunities for employment-related development at along transport corridors and at key junctions is likely to result in enhanced business and employment opportunities, benefitting the economic strength of the City as a whole. <b>Mitigation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Assumptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Uncertainties</b> <p>The extent to which job creation is locally significant will depend on the type of jobs created (in the context of the local labour market) and the recruitment policies of prospective employers.</p>	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> Employment land provision (including for high tech uses), residential development and the delivery of supporting infrastructure within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area should ensure that the City continues to be a major driver of growth within the Heart of Essex sub-region. Additional provision of employment opportunities at a new settlement would provide mixed use development resulting in benefits such as employment opportunities beyond the settlement itself. However, accessibility to employment opportunities may be restricted, reflecting the detached physical nature of a new settlement. <b>Mitigation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Assumptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <b>Uncertainties</b> <p>The extent to which job creation is locally significant will depend on</p>



Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy		Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas		Approach C: Wider Strategy		Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors		Approach E: New Settlement	
	<p>growth within the Heart of Essex sub-region.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>The extent to which job creation is locally significant will depend on the type of jobs created (in the context of the local labour market) and the recruitment policies of prospective employers.</p>		<p>Employment land provision (including for high tech uses), residential development and the delivery of supporting infrastructure within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area should ensure that the City continues to be a major driver of growth within the Heart of Essex sub-region.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>The extent to which job creation is locally significant will depend on the type of jobs created (in the context of the local labour market) and the recruitment policies of prospective employers.</p>						<p>the type of jobs created (in the context of the local labour market) and the recruitment policies of prospective employers.</p>	
4. Sustainable Living and Revitalisation: To promote urban renaissance and support the vitality of rural centres, tackle deprivation and promote sustainable living.	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Focusing the majority of new residential and employment development in and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area, to the north of South Woodham Ferraers and at key service settlements should ensure that prospective residents and workers have good access to key services and facilities by virtue of the wide range of services and facilities these settlements provide and their good transport links. There is a risk that growth could place</p>	++/-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Focusing the majority of new residential and employment development in and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area and to the north of South Woodham Ferraers should ensure that prospective residents and workers have good access to key services and facilities by virtue of the wide range of services and facilities these settlements provide and their good transport links.</p> <p>There is a risk that growth could place pressure on existing community facilities and services,</p>	++/-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>A more dispersed approach, where the quantum of new development delivered within and adjacent to urban areas would be reduced, would lessen the potential benefits of growth to communities in urban areas. However, this approach would support a wider distribution of investment across the City Area and which would support those aspects of the objective that relate to the vitality of rural centres.</p> <p>Whilst growth would be distributed to the City Area's larger villages which offer existing services and</p>	++/-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>New residential and employment development in and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area, to the north of South Woodham Ferraers should ensure that prospective residents and workers have good access to key services and facilities by virtue of the wide range of services and facilities these settlements provide and their good transport links. However, this approach would direct some development to transport corridors, potentially reducing the benefits associated</p>	+/-/?	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>New residential and employment development in and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area and at key service settlements should ensure that prospective residents and workers have good access to key services and facilities by virtue of the wide range of services and facilities these settlements provide and their good transport links. A new settlement at Hammonds Farm could, however, mean that benefits in this regard are reduced as a large proportion of new</p>	+/-

Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	Approach C: Wider Strategy	Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	Approach E: New Settlement
	<p>pressure on existing community facilities and services.</p> <p>There are pockets of deprivation across the Chelmsford City Area, predominantly focused within the Chelmsford Urban Area. By focusing development within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area the regeneration of brownfield sites and promotion of an urban renaissance, although this will be dependent on the exact location of development and the extent to which it supports wider regeneration initiatives and meets local needs.</p> <p>More broadly, it is anticipated that, in directing growth and investment towards/adjacent to urban areas, the approach will enhance the City Centre (including the public realm) and the vitality and viability of South Woodham Ferrers town centre. However, there is the potential for the approach to result in a lack of investment in other settlements including service settlements.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that new development supports specific regeneration opportunities where possible.</li> <li>Developer contributions towards key services and facilities should be sought where appropriate.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will</li> </ul>	<p>However, the viability of existing shops, services and facilities could increase, commensurate with an increased local population. There are pockets of deprivation across the Chelmsford City Area, predominantly focused within the Chelmsford Urban Area. By focusing development within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area the regeneration of brownfield sites and promotion of an urban renaissance, although this will be dependent on the exact location of development and the extent to which it supports wider regeneration initiatives and meets local needs.</p> <p>More broadly, it is anticipated that, in directing growth and investment towards/adjacent to urban areas, this approach will enhance the City Centre (including the public realm) and the vitality and viability of South Woodham Ferrers town centre. However, this approach may result in a lack of investment in other settlements including secondary local centres and service villages and so in particular would not be consistent with those aspects of the objective that seek to support rural vitality.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that new development supports specific regeneration opportunities where possible.</li> <li>Developer contributions towards key services and</li> </ul>	<p>facilities, the accessibility of prospective residents to services and facilities is expected to be less under this approach with additional pressure on existing services and facilities. However, supporting infrastructure would be delivered including schools and healthcare facilities. This would be expected to help address increased demand arising from new development and could also benefit existing residents.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that new development supports specific regeneration opportunities where possible.</li> <li>Developer contributions towards key services and facilities should be sought where appropriate.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None at this stage.</li> </ul>	<p>with focusing development within and adjacent to urban areas along with uncertainties over whether there can be adequate service provision in transport corridor-related development.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that new development supports specific regeneration opportunities where possible.</li> <li>Developer contributions towards key services and facilities should be sought where appropriate.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The effects of diverting investment away from areas needing, and would indirectly benefit from, regeneration.</li> </ul>	<p>development would be at greater distance from key services and facilities. However, a new settlement presents an opportunity to deliver a new sustainable neighbourhood with associated services and facilities.</p> <p>By focusing some development within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area, this approach will help to promote the regeneration of brownfield sites, and address deprivation in these wards, although this will be dependent on the exact location of development and the extent to which it supports wider regeneration initiatives.</p> <p>There is the potential for this approach to result in a lack of investment in other settlements including service settlements,. Further, the delivery of a new settlement could provide a new hub for rural areas, serving villages to the south east of Chelmsford and reducing reliance on services and facilities in the Chelmsford Urban Area, in turn reducing the effectiveness of regeneration initiatives.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that new development supports specific regeneration opportunities where possible.</li> <li>Developer contributions towards key services and facilities should be sought where appropriate.</li> </ul>



Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	Approach C: Wider Strategy	Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	Approach E: New Settlement
	<p>take place in with good design principles.</p> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring the scale, type and continuity of service provision, particularly for new communities.</li> </ul>	<p>facilities should be sought where appropriate.</p> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None at this stage.</li> </ul>			<p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None at this stage.</li> </ul>
5. Health and Wellbeing: To improve the health and well-being of those living and working in the Chelmsford City area.	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Provision of new housing will meet help to meet housing requirements across all sections of society, meeting City-wide and settlement-specific demand, thereby contributing to health and well-being.</p> <p>Focusing the majority of new residential and employment development in and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area and to the north of South Woodham Ferrers, promoting mixed used schemes and the adoption of good design principles are together likely to reduce the need to travel by car and encourage walking/cycling as services and employment opportunities would be more physically accessible. This is expected to generate a positive effect in relation to the promotion of healthy lifestyles and could help to reduce emissions to air associated with car use.</p> <p>New open space and recreational facilities would be delivered alongside residential development as part of the proposed urban extensions. Together with the</p> <p><b>++/-</b></p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Provision of new housing will meet help to meet housing requirements across all sections of society, meeting City-wide and settlement-specific demand, thereby contributing to health and well-being.</p> <p>Focusing the majority of new residential and employment development in and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area and to the north of South Woodham Ferrers, and promoting mixed used schemes, are together likely to reduce the need to travel by car and encourage walking/cycling as services and employment opportunities would be more physically accessible. This is expected to generate a positive effect in relation to the promotion of healthy lifestyles and could help to reduce emissions to air associated with car use.</p> <p>New open space and recreational facilities would be delivered alongside residential development as part of the proposed urban extensions. Together with the extension of green wedges, this</p> <p><b>++/-</b></p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Provision of new housing will meet help to meet housing requirements across all sections of society, meeting City-wide and settlement-specific demand, thereby contributing to health and well-being.</p> <p>There may be adverse effects on health arising from, in particular, emissions to air associated with increased traffic movements. This is likely to be exacerbated through a strategy which includes more dispersed development.</p> <p>New open space and recreational facilities would be delivered alongside residential development as part of the proposed urban extensions. Together with the protection of existing Green Wedges, this could help to address these deficiencies and provide new opportunities, supporting the health and wellbeing of existing and prospective residents.</p> <p>A more dispersed strategy could result in poorer accessibility to key services such as healthcare.</p> <p><b>+/-</b></p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Provision of new housing will meet help to meet housing requirements across all sections of society, meeting City-wide and settlement-specific demand, thereby contributing to health and well-being.</p> <p>There may be adverse effects on health arising from, in particular, emissions to air associated with increased traffic movements. This is likely to be exacerbated through a strategy which includes more dispersed development.</p> <p>New open space and recreational facilities would be delivered alongside residential development as part of the proposed urban extensions. Together with the protection of existing Green Wedges, this could help to address these deficiencies and provide new opportunities, supporting the health and wellbeing of existing and prospective residents.</p> <p>There is a risk that demand arising from new residents may undermine the quality of existing services and facilities, although</p> <p><b>++/-</b></p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Provision of new housing will meet help to meet housing requirements across all sections of society, meeting City-wide and settlement-specific demand, thereby contributing to health and well-being.</p> <p>The promotion of mixed use schemes, are together likely to reduce the need to travel by car and encourage walking/cycling as services and employment opportunities would be more physically accessible. Allied with proposed improvements to highway circulation, public transport and walking and cycling is expected to generate a positive effect in relation to the promotion of healthy lifestyles and could help to reduce emissions to air associated with car use.</p> <p>Whilst investment in service provision would be expected as part of new development, there is a risk that demand arising from new residents may not be met within a new settlement, in turn generating additional traffic movements.</p> <p><b>++/-</b></p>

Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	Approach C: Wider Strategy	Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	Approach E: New Settlement
	<p>protection of existing Green Wedges, this could help to address these deficiencies and provide new opportunities, supporting the health and wellbeing of existing and prospective residents.</p> <p>The concentration of residential development within and adjacent to urban areas should help to ensure that prospective residents have easy access to health care facilities (by virtue of the close proximity of new development to these facilities or through public transport connections). There is a risk that demand arising from new residents may undermine the quality of existing services and facilities. Additional investment in primary healthcare facilities including the provision of new facilities as part of the proposed larger urban extensions would be required.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that open space and/or health facilities are provided on and off-site to ensure quality and equality of access.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should consider if/how accessibility to the countryside can be promoted as part of new development.</li> <li>New development should be located in reasonable proximity to health care facilities.</li> </ul>	<p>could help to address these deficiencies and provide new opportunities, supporting the health and wellbeing of existing and prospective residents.</p> <p>The concentration of residential development within and adjacent to urban areas should help to ensure that prospective residents have easy access to health care facilities (by virtue of the close proximity of new development to these facilities or through public transport connections). There is a risk that demand arising from new residents may undermine the quality of existing services and facilities. Additional investment in primary healthcare facilities including the provision of new facilities as part of the proposed larger urban extensions would be required.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that open space and/or health facilities are provided on and off-site to ensure quality and equality of access.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should consider if/how accessibility to the countryside can be promoted as part of new development.</li> <li>New development should be located in reasonable proximity to health care facilities.</li> <li>Existing open space and recreational facilities should</li> </ul>	<p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that open space and/or health facilities are provided on and off-site to ensure quality and equality of access.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should consider if/how accessibility to the countryside can be promoted as part of new development.</li> <li>New development should be located in reasonable proximity to health care facilities.</li> <li>Existing open space and recreational facilities should be protected and new provision sought.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>None at this stage.</p>	<p>investment in service provision would be expected as part of development.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that open space and/or health facilities are provided on and off-site to ensure quality and equality of access.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should consider if/how accessibility to the countryside can be promoted as part of new development.</li> <li>New development should be located in reasonable proximity to health care facilities.</li> <li>Existing open space and recreational facilities should be protected and new provision sought.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None at this stage.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that open space and/or health facilities are provided on and off-site to ensure quality and equality of access.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should consider if/how accessibility to the countryside can be promoted as part of new development.</li> <li>New development should be located in reasonable proximity to health care facilities.</li> <li>Existing open space and recreational facilities should be protected and new provision sought.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>None at this stage.</p>

Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	Approach C: Wider Strategy	Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	Approach E: New Settlement
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing open space and recreational facilities should be protected and new provision sought.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>None at this stage.</p>	<p>be protected and new provision sought.</p> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>None at this stage.</p>			
6. Transport: To reduce the need to travel, promote more sustainable modes of transport and align investment in infrastructure with growth.	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The concentration of new residential and employment development in and adjacent to urban areas, the promotion of mixed use urban extensions and the delivery of strategic improvements to the walking/ cycling network are all likely to reduce the need to travel by car and encourage walking/cycling (as services and employment opportunities would be physically accessible). The promotion of mixed use sustainable urban extensions is likely to maintain existing, and stimulate investment in, new public transport provision.</p> <p>Directing a proportion of the City Area's housing requirement to the key service settlements of Great Leighs, Broomfield, Bicknacre, Boreham and Danbury. could result in increased car use given the existing size of the settlements and the more limited range of</p> <p><b>+/-</b></p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The concentration of new residential and employment development in and adjacent to urban areas, the promotion of mixed use urban extensions and the delivery of strategic improvements to the walking/ cycling network are all likely to reduce the need to travel by car and encourage walking/cycling (as services and employment opportunities would be physically accessible). New development should also be well connected to the existing public transport network.</p> <p>An increase in population and households within the Chelmsford Urban Area could result in increased pressure on the road network.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the preparation of</li> </ul> <p><b>++/-</b></p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Distributing a proportion of new development to the City Area's smaller settlements could help to reduce associated traffic volumes and congestion within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area. However, whilst these settlements do offer community facilities and services, the range is more limited (although investment supported by new development could help to enhance their sustainability and self-sufficiency). Noting the nature of the proposed additional infrastructure proposed and the more limited local employment opportunities in these smaller settlements, on balance, it is considered that a more dispersed approach to development is likely to increase the need to travel. This could increase in-commuting to the City Centre with related congestion on the strategic and local road network. The promotion of mixed use sustainable urban</p> <p><b>+/-</b></p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The concentration of new residential and employment development in and adjacent to urban areas, the promotion of mixed use urban extensions and developments is likely to both reduce the need to travel and promote investment in transport infrastructure.</p> <p>Development along and around the strategic road network is likely to generate more transport movements. Based on current trends, these movements are expected to be by car. This could result in increased pressure on the road network.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the preparation of green travel plans as part of new development proposals.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should positively promote walking</li> </ul> <p><b>+/-</b></p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>New residential and employment development in and adjacent to urban areas, the promotion of mixed use sustainable urban extensions and a new settlement is likely to maintain existing, and stimulate investment in, new public transport provision.</p> <p>A stand-alone settlement could result in increased movements/car use as accessibility to key services and facilities as well as employment opportunities in the City/at the settlement itself may be reduced, although there is an opportunity to deliver a new sustainable neighbourhood with associated services and facilities and employment opportunities which could help support the creation of a relatively self-contained neighbourhood.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <p><b>+/-/?</b></p>

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	<p>services and jobs they provide. However, new development does present an opportunity to enhance the sustainability of these settlements by supporting investment in community facilities and services.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the preparation of green travel plans as part of new development proposals.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should positively promote walking and cycling as part of new developments.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that large strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>None at this stage.</p>		<p>green travel plans as part of new development proposals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should positively promote walking and cycling as part of new developments.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that large strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None at this stage.</li> </ul>		<p>extensions is likely to maintain existing, and stimulate investment in, new public transport provision.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the preparation of green travel plans as part of new development proposals.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should positively promote walking and cycling as part of new developments.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that large strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None at this stage.</li> </ul>		<p>and cycling as part of new developments.</p> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that large strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None at this stage.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the preparation of green travel plans as part of new development proposals.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should positively promote walking and cycling as part of new developments.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that large strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>The deliverability of transport improvements to support a new settlement.</p>	
7. Land Use and Soils: To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the City Area mean that greenfield land adjacent to the urban areas of Chelmsford would be required, which over the plan period is expected to be significant.</p> <p>The quality of agricultural land around the settlements is mixed. Outside of the urban area of</p>	+/--	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the City Area mean that greenfield land adjacent to the urban areas of Chelmsford would be required, which over the plan period is expected to be significant.</p> <p>The quality of agricultural land around the settlements is mixed. Outside of the urban area of</p>	+/--	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the City Area mean that greenfield land adjacent to the urban areas of Chelmsford would be required, which over the plan period is expected to be significant.</p> <p>The quality of agricultural land around the settlements is mixed. Outside of the urban area of</p>	+/--	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the City Area mean that greenfield land adjacent to the urban areas of Chelmsford would be required, which over the plan period is expected to be significant.</p> <p>The quality of agricultural land around the settlements is mixed. Outside of the urban area of</p>	+/--	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the City Area mean that greenfield land adjacent to the urban areas of Chelmsford would be required, which over the plan period is expected to be significant.</p> <p>The quality of agricultural land around the settlements is mixed. Outside of the urban area of</p>	+/--

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	<p>Chelmsford, the north west is classified as Grade 2 ('Very Good') agricultural land whilst land adjacent to the River Chelmer that runs east from Chelmsford is classified as being of Grade 4 ('Poor') quality. The remainder of the land around Chelmsford is predominantly Grade 3 ('Good/Moderate'). The land around South Woodham Ferrers is also classified as being of predominantly Grade 3 quality whilst Great Leighs is a mix of Grade 2 and Grade 3 land. Development under the Spatial Approach therefore has the potential to result in the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed (brownfield land). Local Plan policies should prioritise the development of brownfield over greenfield land where possible.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should resist the development of best and most versatile agricultural land.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the management of soils on development sites.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p>	<p>Chelmsford, the north west is classified as Grade 2 ('Very Good') agricultural land whilst land adjacent to the River Chelmer that runs east from Chelmsford is classified as being of Grade 4 ('Poor') quality. The remainder of the land around Chelmsford is predominantly Grade 3 ('Good/Moderate'). The land around South Woodham Ferrers is also classified as being of predominantly Grade 3 quality whilst Great Leighs is a mix of Grade 2 and Grade 3 land. 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	None identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>	None identified.		
8. Water: To conserve and enhance water quality and resources.	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The Water Cycle Study Update (2018) concludes that overall there are no constraints with respect to water service infrastructure and the water environment to deliver development, on the basis that strategic water resource options and wastewater solutions are developed in advance of development coming forward. (note: the Water Cycle Study will be updated for the Review of the Adopted Local Plan.)</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is recommended that the Local Plan includes policies that promote water attenuation systems due to the underlying geology of the area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New development will increase water resource use within the City Area in both the short term during construction and in the longer term once development is complete.</li> <li>It is assumed that the Council will liaise with Essex and Suffolk Water with regard to infrastructure requirements for future development.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The Water Cycle Study Update (2018) concludes that overall there are no constraints with respect to water service infrastructure and the water environment to deliver development, on the basis that strategic water resource options and wastewater solutions are developed in advance of development coming forward. 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures contained in the Essex and Suffolk Water Water Resources Management Plan would be expected to help ensure that future water resource demands are met.</li> <li>There will be no development that will require diversion or modification of existing watercourses. However, if such measures are required, this could affect local water quality.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b> None identified.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures contained in the Essex and Suffolk Water Water Resources Management Plan would be expected to help ensure that future water resource demands are met.</li> <li>There will be no development that will require diversion or modification of existing watercourses. However, if such measures are required, this could affect local water quality.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b> None identified.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures contained in the Essex and Suffolk Water Water Resources Management Plan would be expected to help ensure that future water resource demands are met.</li> <li>There will be no development that will require diversion or modification of existing watercourses. However, if such measures are required, this could affect local water quality.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b> None identified.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures contained in the Essex and Suffolk Water Water Resources Management Plan would be expected to help ensure that future water resource demands are met.</li> <li>There will be no development that will require diversion or modification of existing watercourses. However, if such measures are required, this could affect local water quality.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b> None identified.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures contained in the Essex and Suffolk Water Water Resources Management Plan would be expected to help ensure that future water resource demands are met.</li> <li>There will be no development that will require diversion or modification of existing watercourses. However, if such measures are required, this could affect local water quality.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b> None identified.</p>	
9. Flood Risk: To reduce the risk of flooding to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Flood risk is a potentially significant constraint to future development in the City Area with large parts of the Chelmsford Urban Area in particular being at risk of fluvial flooding. However, given requirements for proposals to be accompanied by a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) where appropriate, it is considered unlikely that new development would be at significant risk of flooding, although this is dependent on the exact location of development.</p> <p>Environment Agency flood maps indicate that surface water flooding is a potential constraint within the main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers. However, it can be</p>	+/-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Flood risk is a potentially significant constraint to future development in the City Area with large parts of the Chelmsford Urban Area in particular being at risk of fluvial flooding. However, given requirements for proposals to be accompanied by a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) where appropriate, it is considered unlikely that new development would be at significant risk of flooding, although this is dependent on the exact location of development.</p> <p>Environment Agency flood maps indicate that surface water flooding is a potential constraint within the main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers. However, it can be</p>	+/-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Flood risk is a potentially significant constraint to future development in the City Area with large parts of the Chelmsford Urban Area in particular being at risk of fluvial flooding. However, given requirements for proposals to be accompanied by a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) where appropriate, it is considered unlikely that new development would be at significant risk of flooding, although this is dependent on the exact location of development.</p> <p>Environment Agency flood maps indicate that surface water flooding is a potential constraint within the main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers. However, it can be</p>	+/-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Flood risk is a potentially significant constraint to future development in the City Area with large parts of the Chelmsford Urban Area in particular being at risk of fluvial flooding. However, given requirements for proposals to be accompanied by a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) where appropriate, it is considered unlikely that new development would be at significant risk of flooding, although this is dependent on the exact location of development.</p> <p>Environment Agency flood maps indicate that surface water flooding is a potential constraint within the main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers. However, it can be</p>	+/-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Flood risk is a potentially significant constraint to future development in the City Area with large parts of the Chelmsford Urban Area in particular being at risk of fluvial flooding. However, given requirements for proposals to be accompanied by a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) where appropriate, it is considered unlikely that new development would be at significant risk of flooding, although this is dependent on the exact location of development.</p> <p>Environment Agency flood maps indicate that surface water flooding is a potential constraint within the main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers. However, it can be</p>	+/-



Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	Approach C: Wider Strategy	Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	Approach E: New Settlement
	<p>reasonably assumed that new development proposals which may result in an increase in flood risk will be accompanied by an FRA and incorporate suitable flood alleviation measures (thereby minimising the risk of flooding).</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should avoid development in areas of flood risk (i.e. Flood Zones 2 and 3).</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that any new development avoids increasing the risk of existing development flooding.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets to provide opportunities for flood storage where appropriate.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should seek to promote as close to greenfield runoff rates as possible.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that, where appropriate, development proposals would be accompanied by a FRA and that suitable flood alleviation measures would be incorporated into the design of new development where necessary to minimise flood risk.</li> <li>The Local Planning Authority will apply a sequential risk-</li> </ul>	<p>reasonably assumed that new development proposals which may result in an increase in flood risk will be accompanied by an FRA and incorporate suitable flood alleviation measures (thereby minimising the risk of flooding).</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should avoid development in areas of flood risk (i.e. Flood Zones 2 and 3).</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that any new development avoids increasing the risk of existing development flooding.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets to provide opportunities for flood storage where appropriate.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should seek to promote as close to greenfield runoff rates as possible.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that, where appropriate, development proposals would be accompanied by a FRA and that suitable flood alleviation measures would be incorporated into the design of new development where necessary to minimise flood risk.</li> <li>The Local Planning Authority will apply a sequential risk-</li> </ul>	<p>reasonably assumed that new development proposals which may result in an increase in flood risk will be accompanied by an FRA and incorporate suitable flood alleviation measures (thereby minimising the risk of flooding).</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should avoid development in areas of flood risk (i.e. Flood Zones 2 and 3).</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that any new development avoids increasing the risk of existing development flooding.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets to provide opportunities for flood storage where appropriate.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should seek to promote as close to greenfield runoff rates as possible.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that, where appropriate, development proposals would be accompanied by a FRA and that suitable flood alleviation measures would be incorporated into the design of new development where necessary to minimise flood risk.</li> <li>The Local Planning Authority will apply a sequential risk-</li> </ul>	<p>reasonably assumed that new development proposals which may result in an increase in flood risk will be accompanied by an FRA and incorporate suitable flood alleviation measures (thereby minimising the risk of flooding).</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should avoid development in areas of flood risk (i.e. Flood Zones 2 and 3).</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that any new development avoids increasing the risk of existing development flooding.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets to provide opportunities for flood storage where appropriate.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should seek to promote as close to greenfield runoff rates as possible.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that, where appropriate, development proposals would be accompanied by a FRA and that suitable flood alleviation measures would be incorporated into the design of new development where necessary to minimise flood risk.</li> <li>The Local Planning Authority will apply a sequential risk-</li> </ul>	<p>reasonably assumed that new development proposals which may result in an increase in flood risk will be accompanied by an FRA and incorporate suitable flood alleviation measures (thereby minimising the risk of flooding).</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should avoid development in areas of flood risk (i.e. Flood Zones 2 and 3).</li> <li>Local Plan policies should ensure that any new development avoids increasing the risk of existing development flooding.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets to provide opportunities for flood storage where appropriate.</li> <li>Local Plan policies should seek to promote as close to greenfield runoff rates as possible.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that, where appropriate, development proposals would be accompanied by a FRA and that suitable flood alleviation measures would be incorporated into the design of new development where necessary to minimise flood risk.</li> <li>The Local Planning Authority will apply a sequential risk-</li> </ul>

Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	Approach C: Wider Strategy	Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	Approach E: New Settlement
	<p>based approach, including the application of the 'exception test,' consistent with the NPPF.</p> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>None identified.</p>	<p>based approach, including the application of the 'exception test,' consistent with the NPPF.</p> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>None identified.</p>	<p>based approach, including the application of the 'exception test,' consistent with the NPPF.</p> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>	<p>based approach, including the application of the 'exception test,' consistent with the NPPF.</p> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>None identified.</p>	<p>based approach, including the application of the 'exception test,' consistent with the NPPF.</p> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>None identified.</p>
10. Air: To improve air quality.	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>There is the potential for the construction and operation of new development to have negative effects on air quality due to emissions generated from plant and HGV movements during construction. In the longer term, once development is complete, the increase in population will in-turn generate additional transport movements and associated emissions to air, mitigated to a degree through the introduction of sustainable transport infrastructure.</p> <p>Directing a proportion of the City Area's housing requirement to the key service settlements could result in increased car use given the existing size of the settlements and the more limited range of services and jobs they provide. However, new development does present an opportunity to enhance the sustainability (self-containment) of these settlements by supporting investment in community facilities and services.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>There is the potential for the construction and operation of new development to have negative effects on air quality due to emissions generated from plant and HGV movements during construction. In the longer term, once development is complete, the increase in population will in-turn generate additional transport movements and associated emissions to air, mitigated to a degree through the introduction of sustainable transport infrastructure.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to promote sustainable transport.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>None identified.</p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>There is the potential for the construction and operation of new development to have negative effects on air quality due to emissions generated from plant and HGV movements during construction. In the longer term, once development is complete, the increase in population will in-turn generate additional transport movements and associated emissions to air, mitigated to a degree through the introduction of sustainable transport infrastructure.</p> <p>Directing a proportion of the City Area's housing requirement across a wider area could result in increased car use given the existing size of the settlements and the more limited range of services and jobs they provide. However, new development does present an opportunity to enhance the sustainability (self-containment) of these settlements by supporting investment in community facilities and services.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>There is the potential for the construction and operation of new development to have negative effects on air quality due to emissions generated from plant and HGV movements during construction. In the longer term, once development is complete, the increase in population will in-turn generate additional transport movements and associated emissions to air, mitigated to a degree through the introduction of sustainable transport infrastructure.</p> <p>Directing a proportion of the City Area's housing requirement to transport corridors could result in increased car use and/or prompt investment in sustainable transport infrastructure using the existing road network. The net effect in respect of air quality are uncertain.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to promote sustainable transport.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>There is the potential for the construction and operation of new development to have negative effects on air quality due to emissions generated from plant and HGV movements during construction. In the longer term, once development is complete, the increase in population will in-turn generate additional transport movements and associated emissions to air, which could be mitigated to a degree through the introduction of sustainable transport infrastructure.</p> <p>Directing a proportion of the City Area's housing requirement to a new settlement could help to support the creation of a relatively self-contained neighbourhood, although this is untested.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to promote sustainable transport.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p>

Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy		Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas		Approach C: Wider Strategy		Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors		Approach E: New Settlement	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to promote sustainable transport.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>None identified.</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to promote sustainable transport.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>None identified.</p>		<p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>The extent to which air quality will be compromised by development directly associated with transport corridors.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>None identified.</p>	
11. Climate Change: To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change.	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The volume of greenhouse gas emissions associated with Approach A are primarily influenced by the quantum of development to be accommodated.</p> <p>The promotion of mixed use sustainable urban extensions that reflect good design principles and the delivery of strategic improvements to the walking/cycling network are all likely to reduce the need to travel by car and associated emissions to air including greenhouse gases. New development should also be well connected to the existing public transport network. Development may also help to maintain existing, and stimulate investment in, new public transport provision.</p> <p>The delivery of urban extensions may present an opportunity to deliver district scale heating</p>	+/-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The volume of greenhouse gas emissions associated with Approach B are primarily influenced by the quantum of development to be accommodated.</p> <p>The concentration of new residential and employment development in and adjacent to urban areas, could be associated with the potential to deliver strategic improvements to the walking/cycling network are all likely to reduce the need to travel by car and associated emissions to air including greenhouse gases. New development should also be well connected to the existing public transport network. Development may also help to maintain existing, and stimulate investment in, new public transport provision.</p> <p>The delivery of urban extensions may present an opportunity to</p>	+/?	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The volume of greenhouse gas emissions associated with Approach C are primarily influenced by the quantum of development to be accommodated.</p> <p>the promotion of mixed use sustainable urban extensions that reflect good design principles and the delivery of strategic improvements to the walking/cycling network are all likely to reduce the need to travel by car and associated emissions to air including greenhouse gases. New development should also be well connected to the existing public transport network. Development may also help to maintain existing, and stimulate investment in, new public transport provision. .</p> <p>The delivery of urban extensions may present an opportunity to deliver district scale heating</p>	+/-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The volume of greenhouse gas emissions associated with Approach D are primarily influenced by the quantum of development to be accommodated.</p> <p>The concentration of new residential and employment development in and adjacent to urban areas, the promotion of mixed use sustainable urban extensions that reflect good design principles and the delivery of strategic improvements to the walking/cycling network are all likely to reduce the need to travel by car and associated emissions to air including greenhouse gases. New development should also be well connected to the existing public transport network.</p> <p>However, focusing additional development on transport corridors could undermine efforts</p>	+/-	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>The volume of greenhouse gas emissions associated with Approach E are primarily influenced by the quantum of development to be accommodated.</p> <p>The concentration of new residential and employment development in and adjacent to urban areas, the promotion of mixed use sustainable urban extensions that reflect good design principles and the delivery of strategic improvements to the walking/cycling network are all likely to reduce the need to travel by car and associated emissions to air including greenhouse gases. New development should also be well connected to the existing public transport network. Development may also help to maintain existing, and stimulate investment in, new public transport provision.</p>	+/-

Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	Approach C: Wider Strategy	Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	Approach E: New Settlement
	<p>systems and which could promote renewable energy generation in the City Area. However, this will be dependent on site specific proposals.</p> <p>Detailed Local Plan policies covering sustainable design as well as the scale of developments brought forward and competing priorities for developer contributions (relating to the viability of incorporating sustainable design techniques) will influence the scale of emissions.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should promote high standards of energy efficient design including, where appropriate, renewable energy provision.</li> <li>Opportunities to promote district scale heating networks should be sought as part of the delivery of sustainable urban extensions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles,</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul>	<p>deliver district scale heating systems. However, this will be dependent on site specific proposals and could be limited under this approach if there is incremental development to the urban area.</p> <p>Detailed Local Plan policies covering sustainable design as well as the scale of developments brought forward and competing priorities for developer contributions (relating to the viability of incorporating sustainable design techniques) will influence the scale of emissions.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should promote high standards of energy efficient design including, where appropriate, renewable energy provision.</li> <li>Opportunities to promote district scale heating networks should be sought as part of the delivery of sustainable urban extensions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles,</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of measures such as district heating networks.</li> </ul>	<p>systems and which could promote renewable energy generation in the City Area. However, this will be dependent on site specific proposals.</p> <p>Detailed Local Plan policies covering sustainable design as well as the scale of developments brought forward and competing priorities for developer contributions (relating to the viability of incorporating sustainable design techniques) will influence the scale of emissions.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should promote high standards of energy efficient design including, where appropriate, renewable energy provision.</li> <li>Opportunities to promote district scale heating networks should be sought as part of the delivery of sustainable urban extensions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles,</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <p>None identified.</p>	<p>at self-containment and encourage car use.</p> <p>Detailed Local Plan policies covering sustainable design as well as the scale of developments brought forward and competing priorities for developer contributions (relating to the viability of incorporating sustainable design techniques) will influence the scale of emissions.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should promote high standards of energy efficient design including, where appropriate, renewable energy provision.</li> <li>Opportunities to promote district scale heating networks should be sought as part of the delivery of sustainable urban extensions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles,</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether sustainable transport solutions can be implemented along growth corridors.</li> </ul>	<p>The degree of self-containment of a relatively small new settlement is untested in respect of travel reduction and the potential for measures such as district heating schemes .</p> <p>Detailed Local Plan policies covering sustainable design as well as the scale of developments brought forward and competing priorities for developer contributions (relating to the viability of incorporating sustainable design techniques) will influence the scale of emissions.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should promote high standards of energy efficient design including, where appropriate, renewable energy provision.</li> <li>Opportunities to promote district scale heating networks should be sought as part of the delivery of sustainable urban extensions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles,</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Viability of district heating networks.</li> </ul>

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12. Waste and Natural Resources: To promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover) and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> New development will result in increased resource use and the generation of waste in both the short term during construction and in the longer term once development is complete. This will be considered as part of the appraisal of development requirements. <b>Mitigation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <b>Assumptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <b>Uncertainties</b> None identified.	~	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> New development will result in increased resource use and the generation of waste in both the short term during construction and in the longer term once development is complete. This will be considered as part of the appraisal of development requirements. <b>Mitigation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <b>Assumptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <b>Uncertainties</b> None identified.	~	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> New development will result in increased resource use and the generation of waste in both the short term during construction and in the longer term once development is complete. This will be considered as part of the appraisal of development requirements. <b>Mitigation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <b>Assumptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <b>Uncertainties</b> None identified.	~	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> New development will result in increased resource use and the generation of waste in both the short term during construction and in the longer term once development is complete. This will be considered as part of the appraisal of development requirements. <b>Mitigation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <b>Assumptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <b>Uncertainties</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul>	~	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> New development will result in increased resource use and the generation of waste in both the short term during construction and in the longer term once development is complete. This will be considered as part of the appraisal of development requirements. <b>Mitigation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <b>Assumptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None identified.</li></ul> <b>Uncertainties</b> None identified.	~
13. Cultural Heritage: To conserve and enhance the historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> There are a number of designated cultural heritage assets within and in close proximity to the Chelmsford Urban Area, South Woodham Ferrers and Great Leighs. These assets include scheduled monuments (such as Moulsham Bridge in the City of Chelmsford, a Medieval saltern adjacent to Hawbush Creek in South Woodham Ferrers and Gubbion's Hall moated site in Great Leighs), eight conservation areas within the Chelmsford Urban Area (three of which are on Historic England's Heritage at Risk register), a	+/-/?	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> There are a number of designated cultural heritage assets within and in close proximity to the Chelmsford Urban Area, South Woodham Ferrers and Great Leighs. These assets include scheduled monuments (such as Moulsham Bridge in the City of Chelmsford, a Medieval saltern adjacent to Hawbush Creek in South Woodham Ferrers and Gubbion's Hall moated site in Great Leighs), eight conservation areas within the Chelmsford Urban Area (three of which are on Historic England's Heritage at Risk register), a	+/-/?	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> Locating some development to the villages and service settlements of the City Area has the potential to affect a number of other designated cultural assets. These assets include scheduled monuments such as Bicknacre Priory Scheduled Monument in Bicknacre, three scheduled monuments in Danbury (including the Icehouse in Danbury Country Park, Danbury Camp Hill Fort and a Medieval tile kiln) and, in Little Waltham, the Settlement site at Ash Tree Corner. In addition to the scheduled monuments noted	+/-/?	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> There is the potential for the various cultural heritage assets, as well as other non-designated assets that contribute to the character of the settlements and the City Area as a whole, to be adversely affected by new development. Adverse effects may be encountered during construction and also in the longer term once development has been completed. Effects may be direct (where development involves the loss of, or alteration to, assets) or indirect (where elements which contribute to the significance of	+/-/?	<b>Likely Significant Effects</b> There is the potential for the various cultural heritage assets, as well as other non-designated assets that contribute to the character of the settlements and the City Area as a whole, to be adversely affected by new development. Adverse effects may be encountered during construction and also in the longer term once development has been completed. Effects may be direct (where development involves the loss of, or alteration to, assets) or indirect (where elements which contribute to the significance of	+/-/?

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	<p>number of listed buildings and registered parks and gardens to the north east and south west of the Chelmsford Urban Area such as (New Hall Grade I Listed Building). There is the potential for these assets, as well as other non-designated assets that contribute to the character of the settlements and buried assets, to be adversely affected by new development.</p> <p>Adverse effects may be encountered during construction and also in the longer term once development has been completed. Effects may be direct (where development involves the loss of, or alteration to, assets) or indirect (where elements which contribute to the significance of assets are harmed). However, the likelihood of these effects occurring and their magnitude will be dependent on the type, location and design of new development.</p> <p>Locating new development in close proximity to heritage assets may increase the accessibility of prospective residents to them, generating a positive effect on this objective. There may also be opportunities for heritage-led development which could serve to protect and enhance areas or buildings of historical, archaeological and cultural value and potentially enhance the setting of assets (for example, through the sensitive redevelopment of brownfield sites.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p>	<p>number of listed buildings and registered parks and gardens to the north east and south west of the Chelmsford Urban Area such as (New Hall Grade I Listed Building). There is the potential for these assets, as well as other non-designated assets that contribute to the character of the settlements and buried assets, to be adversely affected by new development.</p> <p>Adverse effects may be encountered during construction and also in the longer term once development has been completed. Effects may be direct (where development involves the loss of, or alteration to, assets) or indirect (where elements which contribute to the significance of assets are harmed). However, the likelihood of these effects occurring and their magnitude will be dependent on the type, location and design of new development.</p> <p>Locating new development in close proximity to heritage assets may increase the accessibility of prospective residents to them, generating a positive effect on this objective. There may also be opportunities for heritage-led development which could serve to protect and enhance areas or buildings of historical, archaeological and cultural value and potentially enhance the setting of assets (for example, through the sensitive redevelopment of brownfield sites.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p>	<p>above, there are a number of listed buildings within and adjacent to the villages and services settlements that may also be affected by new development as well as conservation areas within the villages of Boreham, Broomfield, East Hanningfield, Great Waltham, Little Waltham and Danbury. There are also two registered parks and gardens to the west of Danbury and one registered park in Great Waltham.</p> <p>Locating new development in close proximity to heritage assets may increase the accessibility of prospective residents to them, generating a positive effect on this objective. There may also be opportunities for heritage-led development which could serve to protect and enhance areas or buildings of historical, archaeological and cultural value and potentially enhance the setting of assets (for example, through the sensitive redevelopment of brownfield sites.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to conserve and, where possible, enhance cultural heritage assets including by promoting heritage-led development.</li> <li>• Policies within the Local Plan should promote high standards of architectural and urban design.</li> <li>• The Local Plan should set out a strategic framework to</li> </ul>	<p>assets are harmed). However, the likelihood of these effects occurring and their magnitude will be dependent on the type, location and design of new development.</p> <p>Locating new development in close proximity to heritage assets may increase the accessibility of prospective residents to them, generating a positive effect on this objective. There may also be opportunities for heritage-led development which could serve to protect and enhance areas or buildings of historical, archaeological and cultural value and potentially enhance the setting of assets (for example, through the sensitive redevelopment of brownfield sites.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to conserve and, where possible, enhance cultural heritage assets including by promoting heritage-led development.</li> <li>• Policies within the Local Plan should promote high standards of architectural and urban design.</li> <li>• The Local Plan should set out a strategic framework to preserve and enhance historic areas and promote high standards of new development.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul>	<p>assets are harmed). However, the likelihood of these effects occurring and their magnitude will be dependent on the type, location and design of new development.</p> <p>Locating new development in close proximity to heritage assets may increase the accessibility of prospective residents to them, generating a positive effect on this objective. There may also be opportunities for heritage-led development which could serve to protect and enhance areas or buildings of historical, archaeological and cultural value and potentially enhance the setting of assets (for example, through the sensitive redevelopment of brownfield sites.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to conserve and, where possible, enhance cultural heritage assets including by promoting heritage-led development.</li> <li>• Policies within the Local Plan should promote high standards of architectural and urban design.</li> <li>• The Local Plan should set out a strategic framework to preserve and enhance historic areas and promote high standards of new development.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None identified.</li> </ul>

Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	Approach C: Wider Strategy	Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	Approach E: New Settlement
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to conserve and, where possible, enhance cultural heritage assets including by promoting heritage-led development.</li> <li>Policies within the Local Plan should promote high standards of architectural and urban design.</li> <li>The Local Plan should set out a strategic framework to preserve and enhance historic areas and promote high standards of new development.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The form and function of any development will have the potential to enhance or detract from designated heritage and cultural assets and/or their settings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to conserve and, where possible, enhance cultural heritage assets including by promoting heritage-led development.</li> <li>Policies within the Local Plan should promote high standards of architectural and urban design.</li> <li>The Local Plan should set out a strategic framework to preserve and enhance historic areas and promote high standards of new development.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The form and function of any development will have the potential to enhance or detract from designated heritage and cultural assets and/or their settings.</li> </ul>	<p>preserve and enhance historic areas and promote high standards of new development.</p> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None identified.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The form and function of any development will have the potential to enhance or detract from designated heritage and cultural assets and/or their settings.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The form and function of any development will have the potential to enhance or detract from designated heritage and cultural assets and/or their settings.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The form and function of any development will have the potential to enhance or detract from designated heritage and cultural assets and/or their settings.</li> </ul>
14. Landscape and Townscape: To conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes.	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Development within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area could have negative effects although this would be dependent on the scale, height and design of new development. The redevelopment of brownfield sites presents an opportunity to enhance the quality of the built environment and to improve townscapes.</p> <p><b>+/-/?</b></p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Development within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area could have negative effects although this would be dependent on the scale, height and design of new development. The redevelopment of brownfield sites presents an opportunity to enhance the quality of the built environment and to improve townscapes.</p> <p><b>+/-/?</b></p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Development within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area could have negative effects although this would be dependent on the scale, height and design of new development. The redevelopment of brownfield sites presents an opportunity to enhance the quality of the built environment and to improve townscapes.</p> <p><b>+/-/?</b></p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Development within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area could have negative effects although this would be dependent on the scale, height and design of new development. The redevelopment of brownfield sites presents an opportunity to enhance the quality of the built environment and to improve townscapes.</p> <p><b>+/-/?</b></p>	<p><b>Likely Significant Effects</b></p> <p>Development within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area could have negative effects although this would be dependent on the scale, height and design of new development. The redevelopment of brownfield sites presents an opportunity to enhance the quality of the built environment and to improve townscapes.</p> <p><b>+/-/?</b></p>



Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	Approach C: Wider Strategy	Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	Approach E: New Settlement
	<p>Development requirements and the limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the Chelmsford City Area means that greenfield land will be brought forward for development. The area of greenfield land required over the plan period is expected to be substantial. In consequence, there is the potential for significant negative effects on landscape character and visual amenity. However, the magnitude of adverse effects will be dependent on the exact location, density and design of new development in the context of the landscape sensitivity of the receiving environment.</p> <p>Maintaining the extent of Green Wedges together with the adoption of good design principles to proposed urban extensions would help mitigate adverse effects on landscape character arising from new development and maintain separation between built-up areas.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed (brownfield land). Local Plan policies should prioritise the development of brownfield land where possible.</li> <li>Detailed policies on high quality design should be</li> </ul>	<p>Development requirements and the limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the Chelmsford City Area means that greenfield land will be brought forward for development. The area of greenfield land required over the plan period is expected to be substantial. In consequence, there is the potential for significant negative effects on landscape character and visual amenity. However, the magnitude of adverse effects will be dependent on the exact location, density and design of new development in the context of the landscape sensitivity of the receiving environment.</p> <p>Maintaining the extent of Green Wedges together with the adoption of good design principles to proposed urban extensions would help mitigate adverse effects on landscape character arising from new development and maintain separation between built-up areas.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed (brownfield land). 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The character of smaller settlements could be adversely affected under this approach, although this will be dependent upon the size and sensitivity of these settlements.</p> <p>Maintaining the extent of Green Wedges together with the adoption of good design principles to proposed urban extensions would help mitigate adverse effects on landscape character arising from new development and maintain separation between built-up areas.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed (brownfield land). Local Plan policies should prioritise the development of</li> </ul>	<p>Development requirements and the limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the Chelmsford City Area means that greenfield land will be brought forward for development. 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Local Plan policies should prioritise the development of brownfield land where possible.</li> <li>Detailed policies on high quality design should be</li> </ul>	<p>Development requirements and the limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the Chelmsford City Area means that greenfield land will be brought forward for development. The area of greenfield land required over the plan period is expected to be substantial. In consequence, there is the potential for significant negative effects on landscape character and visual amenity. However, the magnitude of adverse effects will be dependent on the exact location, density and design of new development in the context of the landscape sensitivity of the receiving environment.</p> <p>Maintaining the extent of Green Wedges together with the adoption of good design principles to proposed urban extensions would help mitigate adverse effects on landscape character arising from new development and maintain separation between built-up areas.</p> <p>It is noted that Hammonds Farm is located within the Lower Chelmer Valley which has a landscape character that has a high sensitivity to change (as per the 2006 Landscape Character Assessment). The 2017 Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment also confirms that the site has a high landscape sensitivity and that it has only low to medium capacity to accommodate new development. Development of a</p>

Assessment Objective	Approach A: Growing Existing Strategy	Approach B: Growth in Urban Areas	Approach C: Wider Strategy	Approach D: Growth Along Transport Corridors	Approach E: New Settlement
	<p>contained within the Local Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies within the Local Plan and proposals should seek to conserve and enhance the character and quality of the City Area's landscapes and townscapes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent of landscape/ townscape impacts of specific developments, particularly where these are of a significant scale.</li> </ul>	<p>contained within the Local Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies within the Local Plan and proposals should seek to conserve and enhance the character and quality of the City Area's landscapes and townscapes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent of landscape/ townscape impacts of specific developments, particularly where these are of a significant scale.</li> </ul>	<p>brownfield land where possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed policies on high quality design should be contained within the Local Plan.</li> <li>Policies within the Local Plan and proposals should seek to conserve and enhance the character and quality of the City Area's landscapes and townscapes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent of landscape/ townscape impacts of specific developments, particularly where these are of a significant scale.</li> <li>The effects on the character of smaller settlements which might be identified for growth.</li> </ul>	<p>contained within the Local Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies within the Local Plan and proposals should seek to conserve and enhance the character and quality of the City Area's landscapes and townscapes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent of landscape/ townscape impacts of specific developments, particularly where these are of a significant scale.</li> </ul>	<p>new settlement in this location would represent substantial development/encroachment into the open countryside beyond the A12. The creation of a new settlement in this location therefore has the potential to generate significant negative effects on landscape.</p> <p><b>Mitigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan policies should encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed (brownfield land). Local Plan policies should prioritise the development of brownfield land where possible.</li> <li>Detailed policies on high quality design should be contained within the Local Plan.</li> <li>Policies within the Local Plan and proposals should seek to conserve and enhance the character and quality of the City Area's landscapes and townscapes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assumptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that larger strategic developments will take place in accordance with good design principles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Uncertainties</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent of landscape/ townscape impacts of specific developments, particularly where these are of a significant scale.</li> </ul>

# Appendix H Initial Equalities Impact Assessment

## Introduction

Chelmsford City Council is undertaking an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan. The IIA is being carried out to ensure that the Review maximises its ability to result in improvements to the Adopted Local Plan. The Review is currently at the Issues and Options stage and with policies and proposals at an early stage of development.

In undertaking the IIA, the Council is applying a process that incorporates Sustainability Appraisal (SA), Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA), Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA).

## Equalities Impact Assessment

This Appendix details the EqIA that has been carried out for Chelmsford City Council's Review of the Adopted Local Plan. An EqIA is a legal requirement as established by The Equalities Act 2010<sup>176</sup>.

The Equality Act 2010 places a duty on local planning authorities to engage with the local community and other interested parties when developing plan policies and consider representations made to it when determining a planning application. This EqIA is therefore iterative and local/professional knowledge can be crucial for it to best identify and quantify the equality issues facing Chelmsford and how the Review of the Adopted Local Plan can best propose ways to address such inequalities.

An EqIA is a process designed to ensure that a policy, project or scheme does not discriminate against any particular group on the basis of certain characteristics, which are defined as:

- Age
- Disability
- Ethnicity/Race
- Gender/Sex
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and Civil Partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Religion or beliefs and;
- Sexual orientation

In order to assess the potential effects of the Issues and Options stage of the plan review process on the above elements, the following list of affected groups will be considered, which incorporates

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<sup>176</sup> HM Government 2010 (2010, latest update 2022) 'The Equality Act 2010'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15>, accessed 19.07.2022.

these elements. The list of Affected Groups is future-facing and is designed to assess the policies that emerge from the plan review process and that might not be available at the Issues and Options stage.

### **Affected groups:**

1. People of different genders (*Men/women/identifying gender*)
2. People of different races or ethnic groups (*Black, White, Asian, Mixed / Dual Heritage, Gypsy/Traveller etc.*)
3. People with a form of mental or physical disability (both visible and invisible): *e.g. hearing impairments, visual impairments, speech difficulties, learning difficulties, mobility difficulties, mental health problems, long-term ill health etc.*
4. People of different age groups *e.g. children, teenagers, young adults, middle-aged, or older people.*
5. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual or heterosexual people.
6. People from different religious or belief groups *e.g. Christian, Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Non-religious, or other beliefs, e.g. philosophical beliefs like humanists.*
7. People who have changed their gender or are in the process of doing so (i.e. transgender).
8. Pregnant women or people who have just had a baby (Maternity/paternity can be defined as 26 weeks after giving birth, and includes consideration about breastfeeding.) Only relevant to the requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination.
9. Other groups who could find it difficult to access or make use of the policy / function. *For example: low income / people living in rural areas / single parents / carers and the cared for / past offenders / long-term unemployed / housebound / history of domestic abuse / people who don't speak English as a first language / people without computer access etc.*

The Equality Act 2010 charges local authorities to consider how their policies, decisions, processes and operation can potentially impact disadvantaged and minority groups and should ensure that such impacts are minimised and removed.

The Equality Act 2010 places a 'General Duty' on all public bodies to have 'due regard' to:

- Eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advancing equality of opportunity between those with 'protected characteristics' and those without them
- Fostering good relations between those with 'protected characteristics' and those without them

The Equalities Act is supported by other equality focused legislation as identified below:

- The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000<sup>177</sup> – Extended the provisions of the Race Relations Act 1976 to local authorities and the police and therefore requires local authorities consider their potential effects on minority groups due to their race and ensure they are not unfairly disadvantaged.
- Disability Discrimination Act 2005<sup>178</sup> – Requires local authorities to consider their potential effects on those with a disability and especially individuals that have long-term severe physical and/or mental disabilities.
- Equality Act, 2006 (Gender Equality)<sup>179</sup> – This Act affords protection to people's religion/beliefs, sexual orientation and gender/sex.

The outcomes of the Review of the Adopted Plan should facilitate the creation of a fairer and equal society. The use of equality impact assessment can help identify disadvantaged or vulnerable groups for the purposes of the Health Impact Assessment and seek to address health inequalities and prejudice. EqIA's are fundamental to ensure a local authority does not enact policies and processes that cause/support systemic inequality, as such inequality only becomes harder to change with time and can be difficult to identify once embedded in an organisation.

An EqIA was undertaken for the adopted Local Plan. Reflecting the current stage of the Review of the Local Plan, this EqIA is a "high level" assessment of the potential equality issues that could occur as a consequence of the review. As previously stated, the EqIA is an iterative process that will be reviewed at each stage of the plan review process and updated accordingly. The process which will be repeated for each stage is set out below (Table H1), namely:

Stage 1: Screening

Stage 2: Scoping

Stage 3: Consideration of Data and Information

Stage 4: Assessing Likely Effects

Stage 5: Reviewing the Likely Effects

**Table H1 The Equality Impact Assessment Process**

Stage	Explanation
<b>Stage 1: Screening</b>	Stage 1 requires the consideration of if an EqIA is required. The IIA is being carried out by a local authority (Chelmsford City Council), who are conducting a Review of their Adopted Local Plan. This review will result in updated policies and other amendments to the Adopted Local Plan that would then form the "revised" Local Plan. An EqIA is required to ensure the plan review process and any changes resulting from the Review of the Adopted Local Plan do not aid in the creation of

<sup>177</sup> HM Government (2000) 'Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/34>, accessed 19.07.2022.

<sup>178</sup> HM Government (2005) 'Disability Discrimination Act 2005'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2005/13>, accessed 19.07.2022.

<sup>179</sup> HM Government (2006) 'Equality Act 2006'. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/3>, accessed 19.07.2022.

	<p>inequality. Of key importance is the need for the EqIA to assess the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the policy tackle discrimination, harassment or victimisation?</li> <li>• Does the policy promote equal opportunity?</li> <li>• Does the policy encourage good community relations?</li> </ul>
<b>Stage 2: Scoping the Assessment</b>	The assessment encompasses the potential effects that could result from the Review of the Adopted Local Plan. As the Review is at the Issues and Options stage, there are no policies to assess. Therefore, the assessment is confined to a "high level" review against specific topics and a discussion regarding how Local Plans can address inequality.
<b>Stage 3: Consideration of data and information</b>	The baseline underpinning the IIA provides a comprehensive data source to draw from. This baseline, like the EqIA is iterative and will evolve throughout the plan review process to keep it relevant and ensure it draws from a wide range of data sources.
<b>Stage 4: Assessment</b>	The actual assessment of the potential "high level" equality related effects the Review of the Adopted Local Plan could cause and potential mitigation.
<b>Stage 5: Reviewing and scrutinising the likely effects</b>	Establish a timetable for reviewing the EqIA and ensuring it is updated to reflect the changes that occur throughout the plan review process.

Tables H2, H3, H4, H5 and H6 present the results of the five stages identified above, the commentary reflecting the early stage of the plan review process and the consequent potential "high level" effects that the updating of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan could have.

**Table H2 Step 1: Screening**

<b>Key Questions</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>What are you looking to achieve in this activity?</b>	The current Chelmsford Local Plan 2013-2036 was adopted in May 2020. Chelmsford City Council has a duty to review its Local Plan every five years to ensure it is up to date and is in the process of carrying out such a review. The Review of the Adopted Local Plan will consult with the public and statutory consultees at every stage to ensure it reflects and incorporates all relevant information. The Review of the Adopted Local Plan will result in the creation of an updated Local Plan that will form the planning policies and direct development within Chelmsford.
<b>Who in the main will be affected?</b>	The Review of the Adopted Local Plan would affect all people living, working, visiting, passing through or engaging in business in Chelmsford and on such people in surrounding local authorities.
<b>Does the activity have the potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community?</b>	The Issues and Options stage of the plan review process is unlikely to have any direct or specific effects on any particular group of people or individuals. It is likely such effects would be broad or very "high level" due to the Issues and Options stage not requiring the creation and publishing of any policies. However, as part of the future stages of the plan review process, it will be easier to identify effects as planning policies emerge.
<b>Does the activity have potential to make a positive contribution to equalities?</b>	Chelmsford City Council is required to review its Local Plan taking account of national policies in order to shape the built environment for the Chelmsford City area. The creation of an updated Local Plan would have an affect on all peoples in and close to Chelmsford.

**Table H3 Step 2: Scoping the Assessment**

Key Questions	Commentary
<b>What is the overall aim, or purpose, of the function/policy/service?</b>	The aim of the report is to produce an updated Local Plan that will guide the evolution of built and natural environment of the Chelmsford City Area
<b>What outcomes do you want to achieve with this function/policy/service and for whom?</b>	<p>To develop an updated Local Plan document that will shape the built environment of the Chelmsford City area and that is better able to address current social, economic and environmental issues.</p> <p>The Issues and Options stage seeks to acquire information on what issues Chelmsford faces and what options exist to rectify them, based on the Council's and public's opinion.</p>
<b>Who in the main will be affected?</b>	All people living, working, visiting, or carrying out business, within the Local Plan area.
<b>Who defines or defined the function/policy/service?</b>	Chelmsford City Council is required to review its Local Plan to ensure it is up to date. A Government appointed Planning Inspector would determine if the updated Local Plan produced is legally compliant.
<b>Who implements the function/service/policy?</b>	Chelmsford City Council through the plan review process.
<b>What factors could contribute or detract from the outcomes identified earlier?</b>	Changes to national planning legislation/policy; updated Council priorities

**Table H4 Step 3: Consideration of data and information**

Key Questions	Commentary
<b>What do you already know about who uses the function/service/policy?</b>	The Local Plan is used by anyone seeking to develop within Chelmsford and affects all of its residents. The baseline provided within the Scoping IIA Report and the Issues and Options IIA Report uses a wide range of data sources to identify the characteristics of the Chelmsford City area.
<b>What consultation with service users has taken place on the function/ service/ policy and what were they key findings?</b>	Consultation will be carried out throughout the Local Plan consultation process. The Issues and Options stage (current stage) seeks to acquire as much information from consultees as possible to assist the review of the adopted planning policies, and introduction of new approaches to meet the Council's current priorities.
<b>What, if any, additional information is needed to assess the impact of the function/service/policy?</b>	Further consultation will be carried out at each step of the IIA process.



**How do you propose to gather the additional information?**

Consultation will be carried out in line with the Council's published Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and Corporate Consultation and Engagement Strategy. This will include information available on Chelmsford City Council's website, ability to comment online and via e-mail or in writing, copies of the current stage of the Review of the Adopted Local Plan made available at key locations.

**Table H4 Step 4: Assessing the Likely Effects**

Potential Inequality Area	Likely Effects
<b>1. People of different genders (<i>Men/women/identifying gender</i>)</b>	An updated Local Plan would not be discriminatory to this group. There is minimal capacity for the built environment to address gender inequalities. As the plan review process progresses, it will likely contain policies that aid in creating economic/employment opportunities and access to facilities such as housing, schools and shops that can be accessed fairly by all people.
<b>2. People of different races or ethnic groups (<i>Black, White, Asian, Mixed / Dual Heritage, Gypsy/Traveller etc.</i>)</b>	There is minimal capacity for the built environment to address racial/ethnic inequalities. As the plan review process progresses, it will likely contain policies that aid in creating economic/employment opportunities and access to facilities such as housing, schools and shops that can be accessed fairly by all people. It would also likely contain policies that aid in the creation of sustainable communities. CCC seeks to work with organisations that represent the interests of different groups; to ensure that consultation events are held at convenient times and in accessible locations; and to make the most of innovative techniques and technology. All CCC documents can be made available in paper format, large print and other languages (where possible). Local Plan documentation is also available for inspection at the Customer Service Centre (CSC) and information can be sent in the post on request.
<b>3. People with a form of mental or physical disability (both visible and invisible): <i>e.g. hearing impairments, visual impairments, speech difficulties, learning difficulties, mobility difficulties, mental health problems, long-term ill health etc.</i></b>	The built environment can have a powerful effect on people with mental and physical disabilities. As the plan review process progresses, its policies should be developed that ensure places are accessible for all people and helps to create accessible communities. It would also likely result in the creation of employment and housing opportunities and access to facilities such as schools and shops closer to differently-abled people's homes. CCC seeks to work with organisations that represent the interests of different groups; to ensure that consultation events are held at convenient times and in accessible locations; and to make the most of innovative techniques and technology. All CCC documents can be made available in paper format, large print and other languages (where possible). Local Plan documentation is also available for inspection at the CSC and information can be sent in the post on request.
<b>4. People of different age groups <i>e.g. children, teenagers, young adults, middle-aged, or older people.</i></b>	There is some capacity for the built environment to address age related inequalities. The future policies of the Local Plan would be better able to provide age appropriate housing (primarily for older persons) in order to meet their needs. The creation of new housing and economic development could also aid younger people in finding a job and acquiring a home. Consultation and engagement will be open, inclusive, accessible and effective to all groups as required through the Adopted SCI and the Corporate Consultation and Engagement Strategy.
<b>5. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual or heterosexual people.</b>	An updated Local Plan would not be discriminatory to this group. There is minimal capacity for the built environment to address sexual orientation inequalities.

<p><b>6. People from different religious or belief groups</b>  <i>e.g. Christian, Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Non-religious, or other beliefs, e.g. philosophical beliefs like humanists.</i></p>	<p>There is minimal capacity for the built environment to address belief based inequalities.</p> <p>CCC seeks to work with organisations that represent the interests of different groups; to ensure that consultation events are held at convenient times and in accessible locations; and to make the most of innovative techniques and technology. All CCC documents can be made available in paper format, large print and other languages (where possible). Local Plan documentation is also available for inspection at the CSC and information can be sent in the post on request.</p>
<p><b>7. People who have changed their gender or are in the process of doing so (i.e. transgender)</b></p>	<p>An updated Local Plan would not be discriminatory to this group. There is minimal capacity for the built environment to address transgender and transitioning inequalities.</p>
<p><b>8. Pregnant women or people who have just had a baby (Maternity/paternity can be defined as 26 weeks after giving birth, and includes consideration about breastfeeding). Only relevant to the requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination)</b></p>	<p>There is minimal capacity for the built environment to address pregnancy based inequalities. It can aid in the creation of policies that see the creation of more health facilities and general accessibility improvements that could make the lives of pregnant people/early childcare easier (i.e. ramps that help pushchairs whilst also aiding those in a wheelchair).</p>
<p><b>9. Are there any other groups who could find it difficult to access or make use of the policy / function?</b>  <i>For example: low income / people living in rural areas / single parents / carers and the cared for / past offenders / long-term unemployed / housebound / history of domestic abuse / people who don't speak English as a first language / people without computer access etc.</i></p>	<p>Those in full-time employment, on low incomes or in rural areas may find it hard to attend in-person events and potentially to view documents online. People who do not have strong English comprehension or a learning disability could also find it difficult to understand the often complex and lengthy Local Plan documents.</p> <p>CCC seeks to work with organisations that represent the interests of different groups; to ensure that consultation events are held at convenient times and in accessible locations; and to make the most of innovative techniques and technology. All CCC documents can be made available in paper format, large print and other languages (where possible). Local Plan documentation is also available for inspection at the CSC and information can be sent in the post on request.</p>
<p><b>10. Could this policy discriminate on the grounds of marriage or civil partnership?</b></p>	<p>An updated Local Plan would not be discriminatory in this manner.</p>
<p><b>11. Is there any potential negative impact which cannot be minimised or removed? If so, can it be justified? E.g. on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for another protected group.</b></p>	<p>None identified at this stage.</p>

**Table H6 Step 5: Reviewing and scrutinising the impact**

Key Question	Commentary
<b>What conclusions can you draw about any differential impact and how people are adversely or positively affected?</b>	The Review of the Adopted Local Plan is in its early development and impacts identified are general and “high level”. However, it is anticipated that the final Local Plan will result in a City Area that will reflect, or be advancing towards, principles of sustainable development.
<b>What actions can you take to address any impacts identified?</b>	Ensure the public are adequately consulted throughout the plan review process.
<b>If no changes can be made, what reasons are there to justify this?</b>	N/A
<b>How might any of the changes, in relation to the adverse impact, have a further adverse effect on any other group?</b>	N/A
<b>Which decision-making process do these changes need to go through i.e. do they need to be approved by a Committee/Council?</b>	The Local Plan preparation and IIA stages are subject to Chelmsford Policy Board, Cabinet and Council scrutiny and approval as appropriate to the stage of the Plan.
<b>How will you continue to monitor the impact of the function/service/policy on diverse groups?</b>	Through continued consultation throughout the plan review process. The IIA process will ensure any updated Local Plan would have had its potential economic, social and environmental effects considered and refined to ensure it would only have sustainable effects.
<b>When will you review this equality impact assessment?</b>	At the next stage of the plan review process.



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