

Chelmsford City Council

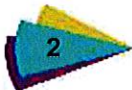
Chelmsford Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation Document

Sustainability Appraisal Report



November 2015

Amec Foster Wheeler Environment
& Infrastructure UK Limited



Report for

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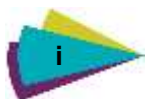
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Document revisions

No.	Details	Date
1	Draft SA Report	26.10.15
2	Final SA Report	28.10.15
3	Revised Final SA Report	09.11.15



Non-Technical Summary

Introduction

This Non-Technical Summary (NTS) provides an overview of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Chelmsford Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation Document (the Issues and Options Consultation Document). The SA is being carried out on behalf of Chelmsford City Council (the Council) by Amec Foster Wheeler Environment and Infrastructure UK Ltd (Amec Foster Wheeler) to help integrate sustainable development into the emerging Local Plan.

The following sections of this NTS:

- ▶ provide an overview of the new Chelmsford Local Plan and the Issues and Options Consultation Document;
- ▶ describe the approach to undertaking the SA of the Issues and Options Consultation Document;
- ▶ summarise the findings of the SA of the Issues and Options Consultation Document; and
- ▶ set out the next steps in the SA of the Local Plan.

What is the Chelmsford Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation Document?

The Chelmsford Local Plan will be a new single planning policy document. It will set out how much new development will be accommodated in Chelmsford City Council's Administrative Area out to 2036 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 new Local Plan. The Issues and Options Consultation Document sets out the planning issues that face Chelmsford over the next 15 years and options 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 (options relating to how many houses should be built up to 2036);
- ▶ Employment Target Projections (options relating to how many jobs should be supported up to 2036); and
- ▶ Spatial Options (options relating to where new development should go).

Further information about the preparation of the Local Plan and the Issues and Options Consultation Document is set out in Section 1.3 and Section 1.4 of the SA Report and is available via the Council's website: www.chelmsford.gov.uk/new-local-plan.

What is Sustainability Appraisal?

National planning policy¹ states that local plans are key to delivering sustainable development. Sustainable development is that which seeks to strike a balance between economic, environmental and social factors to

¹ See paragraph 150-151 of the National Planning Policy Framework (Department for Communities and Local Government, 2012).

enable people to meet their needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

It is very important that the Chelmsford Local Plan contributes to a sustainable future for the plan area. To support this objective, the Council is required to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Local Plan². SA is a means of ensuring that the likely social, economic and environmental effects of the Local Plan are identified, described and appraised and also incorporates a process set out under a European Directive³ and related UK regulations⁴ called Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). 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. SA will therefore be an integral part of the preparation of the Local Plan.

There are five key stages in the SA process which are shown in **Figure NTS.1**.

What Has Happened So Far?

The first stage (**Stage A**) of the SA process involved consultation on a SA Scoping Report. The Scoping Report set out the proposed approach to the appraisal of the Local Plan including a SA Framework and was subject to consultation that ran from 24th July to 11th September 2015.

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

At **Stage C**, a Submission draft SA 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**).

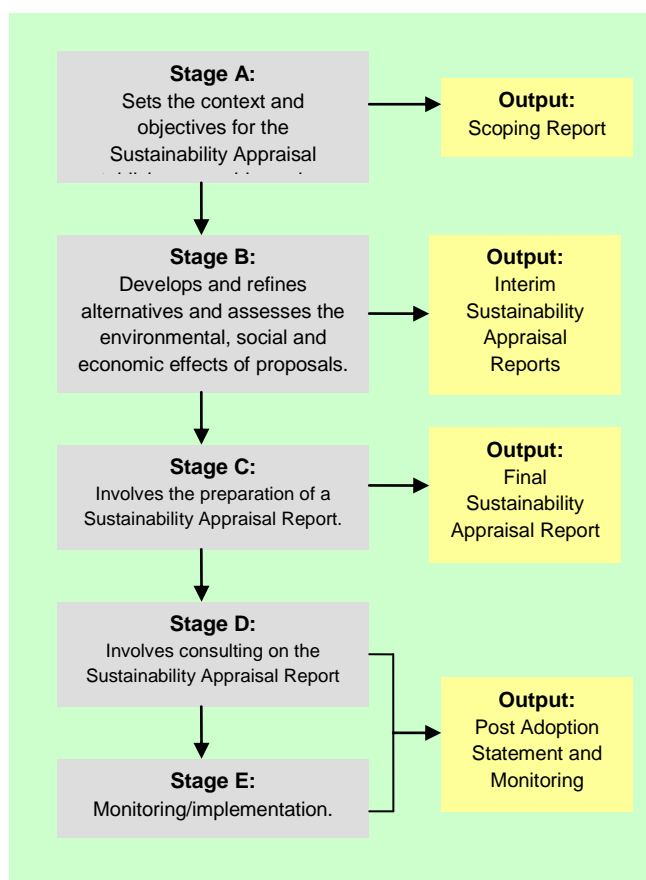


Figure NTS.1 The SA Process

Section 1.5 of the SA Report describes in further detail the requirement for SA of local plans and the SA process including its relationship with the preparation of the Chelmsford Local Plan.

² The requirement for SA of local plans is set out under section 19(5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

³ Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment.

⁴ Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (statutory instrument 2004 No. 1633).

How has the Issues and Options Consultation Document Been Appraised?

To support the appraisal of the Local Plan, a SA 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 SA objectives are shown in **Table NTS 1**.

Table NTS 1 SA Objectives Used to Appraise the Issues and Options Consultation Document

SA Objective
1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the 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 well being 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 and coastal erosion 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 SA objectives. The Housing Target Projections, Employment Projections and Spatial Options contained in the Issues and Options Consultation Document have been appraised using matrices to identify likely significant effects on the SA objectives. A qualitative scoring system has been adopted which is set out in **Table NTS 2**.

Table NTS 2 Scoring System Used in the Appraisal of the Issues and Options Consultation Document

Score	Description	Symbol
Significant Positive Effect	The option contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective.	++
Minor Positive Effect	The option contributes to the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	+
Neutral	The option does not have any effect on the achievement of the objective	0
Minor Negative Effect	The option detracts from the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	-
Significant Negative Effect	The option detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective.	--
No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the option and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.	~
Uncertain	The option 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 appraisal to be made.	?

NB: where more than one symbol/colour is presented in a box it indicates that the appraisal 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.

Section 4 of the SA Report provides further information in relation to the approach to the appraisal of the Issues and Options Consultation Document.

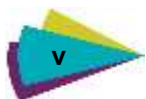
What Are the Findings of the Appraisal of the Issues and Options Consultation Document?

Spatial Principles

The Issues and Options Consultation Document sets out the following nine Spatial Principles that are intended to support and guide the spatial options for the Local Plan:

- ▶ Maximise the use of brownfield land for development;
- ▶ Continue the renewal of Chelmsford's City Centre and Urban Area;
- ▶ Protect the Green Belt;
- ▶ Locate development at well-connected sustainable locations;
- ▶ Protect the river valleys by defining Green Wedges;
- ▶ Respect the character of the existing settlement pattern including the potential designation of Green Buffers;
- ▶ Protect the character and value of important landscapes, heritage and biodiversity;
- ▶ Ensure new development is deliverable and can be built within the Plan period; and
- ▶ Ensure that new development is served by necessary infrastructure.

The Spatial Principles have been tested for their compatibility with the SA objectives. This compatibility assessment found the Spatial Principles to be broadly supportive of the SA objectives and in particular urban renaissance and sustainable living. This reflects their emphasis on supporting urban renewal and delivering development in accessible locations. Reflecting the desire to focus development towards urban areas, and



allied with the intent to protect the Green Belt, Green Wedges and landscape character, the Spatial Principles are also considered to be particularly supportive of those SA objectives relating to biodiversity, health and wellbeing, land use, cultural heritage and landscape.

The assessment has identified that in some instances, conflicts may exist between the Spatial Principles and the SA 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. However, 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 an insurmountable issue but one that may need to be considered in the development of policies that comprise the Local Plan.

The completed compatibility assessment is presented in Section 5.2 of the SA Report.

Housing Target Projections

A total of three housing target projections have been identified in the Issues and Options Consultation Document and appraised as part of the SA Report. The options are as follows:

- ▶ Option 1: National Household Projections - 657 dwellings per year (9,885 dwellings over the plan period).
- ▶ Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need - 775 dwellings per year (11,625 dwellings over the plan period).
- ▶ Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer - 930 dwellings per year (13,950 dwellings over the plan period, rounded to 14,000 dwellings in the Issues and Options Consultation Document).

Each housing requirement has been appraised against the SA objectives. The findings of the appraisal are summarised in **Table NTS 3**.

Table NTS 3 Housing Target Projections Appraisal

Option	1. Biodiversity	2. Housing	3. Economy	4. Urban Renaissance	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
Option 1: 657 dwellings per year	-/?	++/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	+/-	-	-/?	-/?	-/?	-	+/- /?	+/- /?
Option 2: 775 dwellings per year	-/?	++	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-/?	-/?	-/?	-	+/- /?	+/- /?
Option 3: 930 dwellings per year	-/?	++	++	+/-	+/-	+/- /?	+/-	-/?	-/?	-/?	-/?	-	+/- /?	+/- /?

The range and type of effects associated with all three housing target projections are similar with significant positive and positive effects identified in respect of housing and the economy in particular but negative effects expected in respect of biodiversity, air quality, water, flood risk, climate change and waste and resource use. Significant negative effects have been identified in respect of land use for all projections. This reflects the substantial area of greenfield land that is likely to be required to accommodate housing growth over the plan period.

The findings of the appraisal indicate that Option 2 (a housing target of 775 dwellings per year) and Option 3 (930 dwellings per year) are the best performing options when considered against the SA objectives. Both options would meet the City Area's objectively assessed need for housing although Option 3 would result in a housing target that exceeds this requirement and in consequence, it would be expected to deliver the greatest benefits in terms of housing delivery and economic growth of all three options. However, reflecting the scale of growth under this option, the magnitude of negative effects across a number of the environmental SA objectives may be increased relative to Options 1 and 2.

The level of housing delivery proposed under Option 1 (657 dwellings per annum) would fall short of the City Area's objectively assessed housing need. In consequence, this option is likely to result in the current and future housing needs of the City Area going unmet.

Detailed matrices containing the appraisal of the housing target projections are presented in Appendix F to the SA Report. The findings of these appraisals are summarised in Section 5.3 of the SA Report.

Employment Target Projections

Two employment target projections have been appraised as part of the SA Report:

- ▶ Option 1: 2012 Sub-National Population Projections based - 727 jobs per year.
- ▶ Option 2: Employed People - 887 jobs per year.

Each employment target projection has been appraised against the SA objectives. The findings of the appraisal are summarised in **Table NTS 4**.

Table NTS 4 Employment Target Projections Appraisal

Option	1. Biodiversity	2. Housing	3. Economy	4. Urban Renaissance	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
Option 1: 727 jobs per annum	-/?	0	++/ -	+	-	-	+/- /?	-	-/?	-	-	-	+/- /?	+/- /?
Option 2: 887 jobs per annum	-/?	0	++/ -	+	-	-	+/- /?	-	-/?	-	-	-	+/- /?	+/- /?

Overall, the range and type of effects associated with both employment target projections are similar. Significant positive effects have been identified in respect of the economy with more minor positive effects expected on urban renaissance. No significant negative effects were identified during the assessment although there is the potential for adverse effects across the majority of the other SA objectives used in the appraisal.

The findings of the appraisal highlight that Option 2 would deliver the greatest economic benefits of the two options appraised, commensurate with the greater number of jobs that would be delivered under this option. However, the magnitude of adverse effects could also be greater than Option 1, although this would be largely dependent on the exact location of future development which is currently unknown.

Detailed matrices containing the appraisal of the employment target projections are presented in Appendix G to the SA Report. The findings of these appraisals are summarised in Section 5.4 of the SA Report.

Spatial Options

The following three spatial options relating to the future distribution of development in the Chelmsford City Area are set out in the Issues and Options Consultation Document:

- ▶ **Option 1- Urban Focus:** This option seeks to concentrate new development at locations within and/or close to the existing urban areas that are within Chelmsford. These are the urban areas of Chelmsford, where the majority of new development would be planned, on land to the north of the town of South Woodham Ferrers and on land to the north and east of Great Leighs which is two miles south of Braintree and which would provide linkages to development planned in Braintree District.
- ▶ **Option 2- Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors:** This option also promotes development at locations within and/or close to the existing urban areas, but to a lesser extent than contained in Option 1. The remaining development would be planned at locations on the key transport corridors serving the district, notably the A130/A131 and A132 in order to maximise the locational opportunities of sites along those corridors and to enhance the ability to secure further transportation benefits.
- ▶ **Option 3 - Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages:** This option promotes a more dispersed approach to planning for new development within and/or close to the existing urban areas, but to a lesser scale than Options 1 and 2. The remaining development would be planned at the Service Settlements outside of the Green Belt that provide existing local services and facilities which includes Boreham, Danbury and Bicknacre and other locations where new development could provide new services and facilities, such as Howe Green.

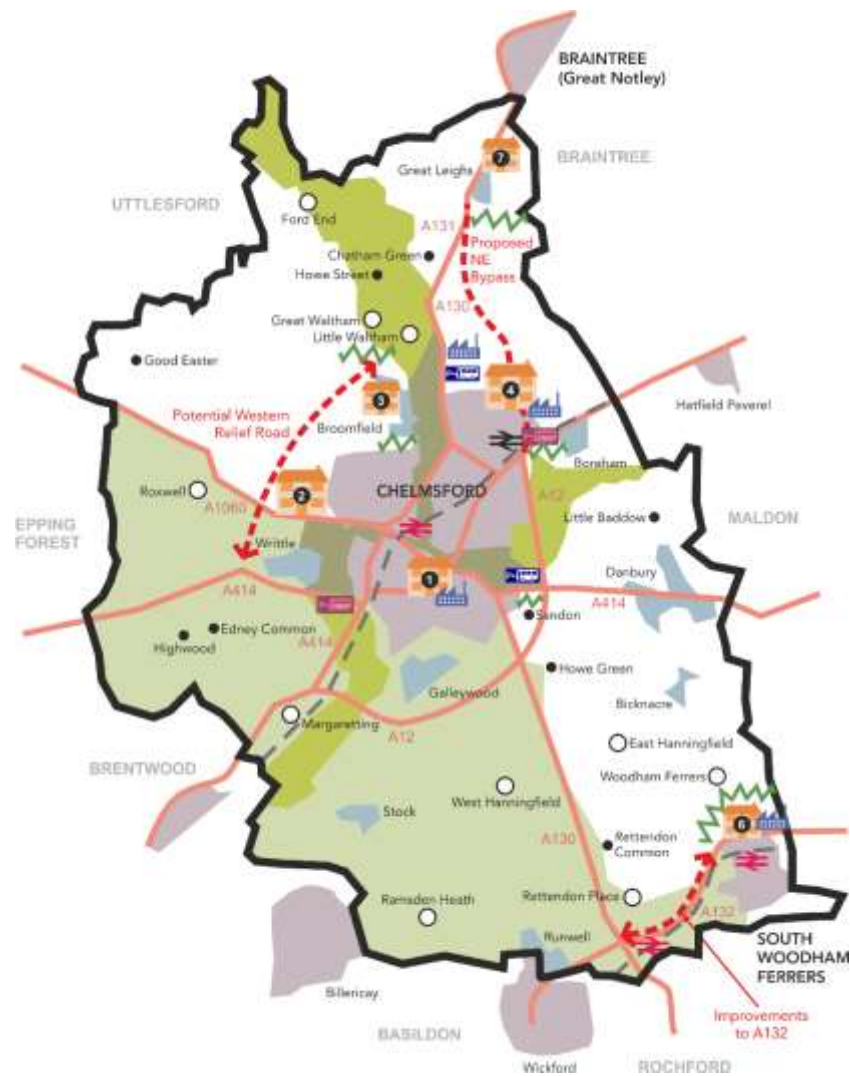
Figure NTS 2 provides an illustration of the above spatial options. Each spatial option has been appraised against the SA objectives. The findings of the appraisal are summarised in **Table NTS 5**.

Table NTS 5 Spatial Options Appraisal

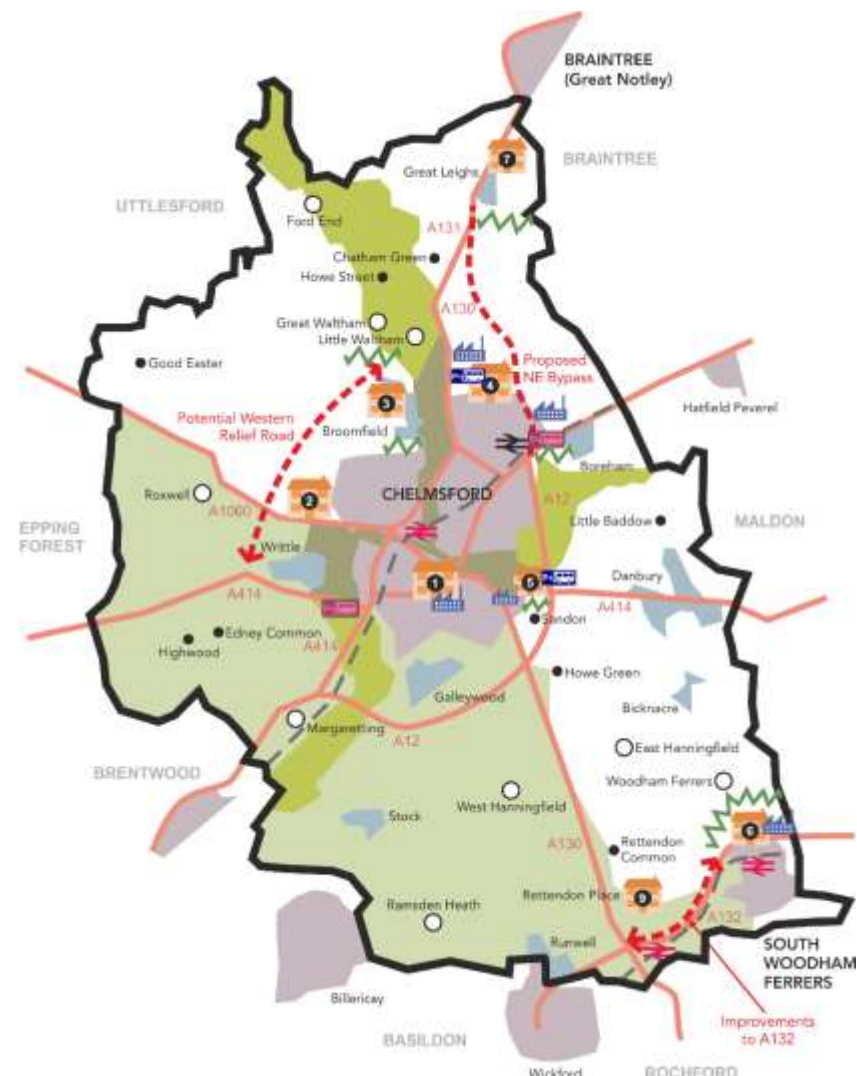
Option	1. Biodiversity	2. Housing	3. Economy	4. Urban Renaissance	5. Health and Wellbeing	6. Transport	7. Land Use	8. Water	9. Flood Risk	10. Air Quality	11. Climate Change	12. Waste and Natural Resources	13. Cultural Heritage	14. Landscape and Townscape
Option 1: Urban Focus	+/- /?	++	++	++/ -	++/ -	++/ -	+/-	-	+/-	+/-	+	~	+/- /?	+/- /?
Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	+/- /?	++	++	++	++/ -	++/ -	+/-	-	+/-	+/-	+	~	+/- /?	+/- /?
Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages	+/- /?	++	++/ -	++/ -	++/ -	+/-	+/-	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	~	+/- /?	+/- /?

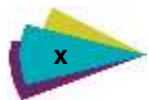
Figure NTS 2 Spatial Options

Option 1: Urban Focus

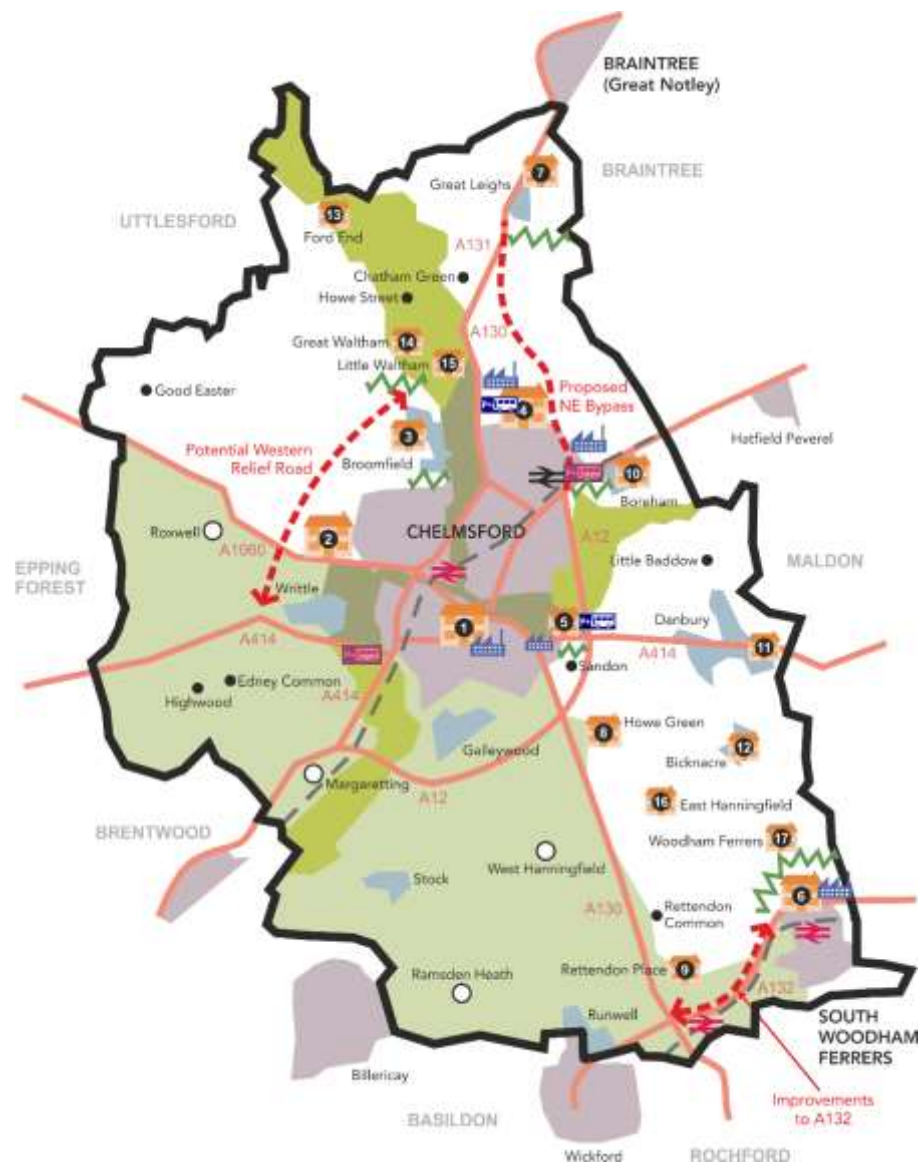


Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors





Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages



The performance of the three spatial options against the SA objectives used in the appraisal is very similar. This reflects the fact that under all three options, the majority of growth would be focused in locations adjoining the existing built-up areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers, a spatial approach which is considered likely to help ensure that new development is accessible, supports urban renaissance, and ensures that the City continues to be a major driver of economic growth within the Heart of Essex sub-region.

Under Options 1 and 2, these benefits would be maximised and as a result, they are considered to be the best performing spatial options when assessed against the SA objectives. The implementation of Option 3, meanwhile, would result in residential development being more dispersed throughout the City Area. Whilst this would support a wider distribution of growth and benefits associated with new development, it is expected that this spatial approach would reduce positive effects associated with focusing development within and adjacent to urban areas and would be likely to increase the need to travel (as development would be delivered to settlements that do not benefit from the same accessibility to community facilities and employment opportunities as the urban areas). This option may also increase the potential for significant negative effects on the character of settlements and landscape compared to Options 1 and 2 (although this is dependent on the exact location, scale, density and design of development which is currently unknown).

Detailed matrices containing the appraisal of the spatial options are presented in Appendix H to the SA Report. The findings of these appraisals are summarised in Section 5.5 of the SA Report.

Mitigation and Enhancement

The appraisal contained in the SA Report has identified a range of measures to help address potential negative effects and enhance positive effects associated with the implementation of the options contained in the Issues and Options Consultation Document. These measures are highlighted within the detailed appraisal matrices contained at **Appendix F**, **Appendix G** and **Appendix H** to the SA Report and will be considered by the Council in refining the options and developing the policies that will comprise the Local Plan.

Next Steps

This NTS and the SA Report are being issued for consultation alongside the Issues and Options Consultation Document. The consultation will run from **8.45am on 19th November 2015 to 4.45pm on 21st January 2016**.

The findings of the SA Report, together with consultation responses and further evidence base work, will be used to help refine and select the preferred options 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 Summer 2016. The Preferred Options Consultation Document will also be subject to further SA.

This Consultation: How to Give Us Your Views

We would welcome your views on any aspect of this NTS or the SA 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 4.45pm on 21 January 2016. The Council encourages people to submit comments via its consultation portal at: <http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal>.

Alternatively, comments can be sent to:

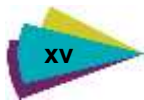
- By email – planning.policy@chelmsford.gov.uk
- By post - Planning Policy, Chelmsford City Council, PO Box 7544, Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford, CM1 1XP
- By hand – During normal opening hours to Chelmsford City Council Customer Service Centres (Duke Street, Chelmsford and Chandlers Road, South Woodham Ferrers)

A specially designed response form is available online at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/new-local-plan or on request by telephoning (01245) 606330.

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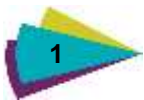


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1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 Chelmsford City Council (the Council) is currently preparing a new Local Plan for Chelmsford City Council's Administrative Area (the City Area). The new Local Plan will set out the vision, objectives, planning policies and site allocations that will guide development in the local authority area to 2036. Amec Foster Wheeler Environment and Infrastructure UK Ltd (Amec Foster Wheeler) has been commissioned by the Council to undertake a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the new Local Plan. The SA 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 options for the Local Plan concerning (in particular) the quantum, distribution and location of future development in Chelmsford. The SA process will also identify measures to avoid, minimise or mitigate any potential negative effects that may arise from the Plan's implementation as well as opportunities to improve the contribution of the Local Plan towards sustainability.
- 1.1.2 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)). This document sets out the planning issues that face Chelmsford over the next 15 years and options for the way they could be addressed. It is being published for consultation between **19th November 2015 and 4.45pm on 21st January 2016**.
- 1.1.3 This report presents the findings of the SA of the Issues and Options Consultation Document.

1.2 Purpose of this SA 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 Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (statutory instrument 2004 No. 1633).
- 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 At paragraphs 150-151, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012) sets out that local plans are key to delivering sustainable development and that they must be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. In this context, paragraph 165 reiterates the requirement for SA/SEA as it relates to local plan preparation:
- "A sustainability appraisal which meets the requirements of the European Directive on strategic environmental assessment should be an integral part of the plan preparation process, and should consider all the likely significant effects on the environment, economic and social factors."*
- 1.2.4 The Planning Practice Guidance (2014) also 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, SA will help to ensure that a local plan is "justified", a key test of

soundness that concerns the extent to which the plan is the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives and available and proportionate evidence.

- 1.2.5 SA will therefore be an integral part of the preparation of the Chelmsford Local Plan. SA 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 SA Report supports the development and refinement of the Local Plan by appraising the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of the options 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 options. More specifically, this SA Report sets out:
- ▶ an overview of the new Chelmsford Local Plan;
 - ▶ 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 appraisal of the Local Plan;
 - ▶ the approach to undertaking the appraisal of the Issues and Options Consultation Document;
 - ▶ the findings of the appraisal of the Issues and Options Consultation Document; and
 - ▶ conclusions and an overview of the next steps in the SA process.

1.3 The Chelmsford Local Plan – An Overview

Requirement to Prepare a Local Plan

- 1.3.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (March, 2012)⁵ sets out (at paragraphs 150-157) 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.

⁵ Department for Communities and Local Government (2012) *National Planning Policy Framework*. Available from https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf [Accessed June 2015].

- 1.3.2 Planning Practice Guidance (2014)⁶ 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".

Scope and Content of the Chelmsford Local Plan

- 1.3.3 In this context, the Council is currently preparing a new Local Plan for Chelmsford that will, once adopted, replace the suite of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) that together currently provide the Development Plan for Chelmsford for the period up to 2021 (see **Box 1**). The new Local Plan will guide growth and development in the Chelmsford City Area for the period up to 2036 and beyond. It will be a single document that will provide the Council's vision, objectives and spatial strategy. It will also contain strategic development policies, development management policies, site specific land use allocations and a Local Plan policies map. Alongside any Neighbourhood Plans that come forward, it will form the Development Plan for the local authority area.

Box 1: Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD)

- Core Strategy and Development Control Policies Development Plan Document (DPD) – Adopted February 2008;
- Chelmsford Town Centre Area Action Plan – Adopted August 2008;
- A Plan for South Woodham Ferrers SPD – Adopted June 2008;
- Making Places SPD (Urban Site Guidance) – Adopted June 2008;
- Sustainable Development SPD (Sustainable Design and Construction) - Adopted June 2008
- Planning Obligations SPD – Adopted June 2014;
- Public Realm Strategy – Adopted January 2011;
- North Chelmsford Area Action Plan – Adopted July 2011;
- Site Allocations Document – Adopted February 2012.

Preparation of the Local Plan

- 1.3.4 The Council's Local Development Scheme (LDS) was published in July 2015⁷. 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). 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)	November 2015-December 2016
Preferred Options Consultation (Regulation 18)	July-September 2016
Consultation on Draft Pre-Submission Local Plan (Regulation 19)	March-April 2017
Submission (Regulation 22)	August 2017
Examination in Public (Regulation 24)	August 2017-March 2018

⁶ Department for Communities and Local Government (2014) *Planning Practice Guidance*. Available from <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/> [Accessed June 2015].

⁷ Available from http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sites/chelmsford.gov.uk/files/files/committee_files/local%20development%20scheme%20appendix.pdf [Accessed July 2015].

Stage	Date
Adoption (Regulation 26)	May 2018

- 1.3.5 Adoption of the Local Plan is due to take place in May 2018. 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 socio-economic and environmental assessments and appraisal including SA. 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 new Local Plan.
- 1.3.6 Further information in respect of the preparation of the Local Plan is available via the Council's website: www.chelmsford.gov.uk/new-local-plan.

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 Chelmsford over the next 15 years and options for the way they could be addressed. The key elements of the document, and which are the subject of appraisal in this SA Report, include:
- ▶ Spatial Principles;
 - ▶ Housing Target Projections;
 - ▶ Employment Target Projections; and
 - ▶ Spatial Options.
- 1.4.2 These key elements of the Issues and Options Consultation Document are discussed in-turn below.

Spatial Principles

- 1.4.3 The Issues and Options Consultation Document sets out Spatial Principles that are intended to support and guide the spatial options for the Local Plan. A total of nine Spatial Principles are identified, as follows:
- ▶ Maximise the use of brownfield land for development;
 - ▶ Continue the renewal of Chelmsford's City Centre and Urban Area;
 - ▶ Protect the Green Belt;
 - ▶ Locate development at well-connected sustainable locations;
 - ▶ Protect the river valleys by defining Green Wedges;
 - ▶ Respect the character of the existing settlement pattern including the potential designation of Green Buffers;
 - ▶ Protect the character and value of important landscapes, heritage and biodiversity;
 - ▶ Ensure new development is deliverable and can be built within the Plan period; and
 - ▶ Ensure that new development is served by necessary infrastructure.

Housing Target Projections

- 1.4.4 The Issues and Options Consultation Document sets out three housing target projections relating to the quantum of new housing to be delivered in the Chelmsford City Area over the plan period. The options are as follows:
- ▶ **Option 1: National Household Projections** - 657 dwellings per annum (9,885 dwellings over the plan period).
 - ▶ **Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need** - 775 dwellings per annum (11,625 dwellings over the plan period).
 - ▶ **Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer** - 930 dwellings per annum (13,950 dwellings over the plan period, rounded to 14,000 dwellings in the Issues and Options Consultation Document).

Employment Target Projections

- 1.4.5 Two options concerning the number of jobs to be provided in the Chelmsford City Area over the plan period have been identified in the Issues and Options Consultation Document. These employment target projections are:
- ▶ **Option 1: 2012 Sub-National Population Projections based** - 727 jobs per year.
 - ▶ **Option 2: Employed People** – 887 jobs per year.

Spatial Options

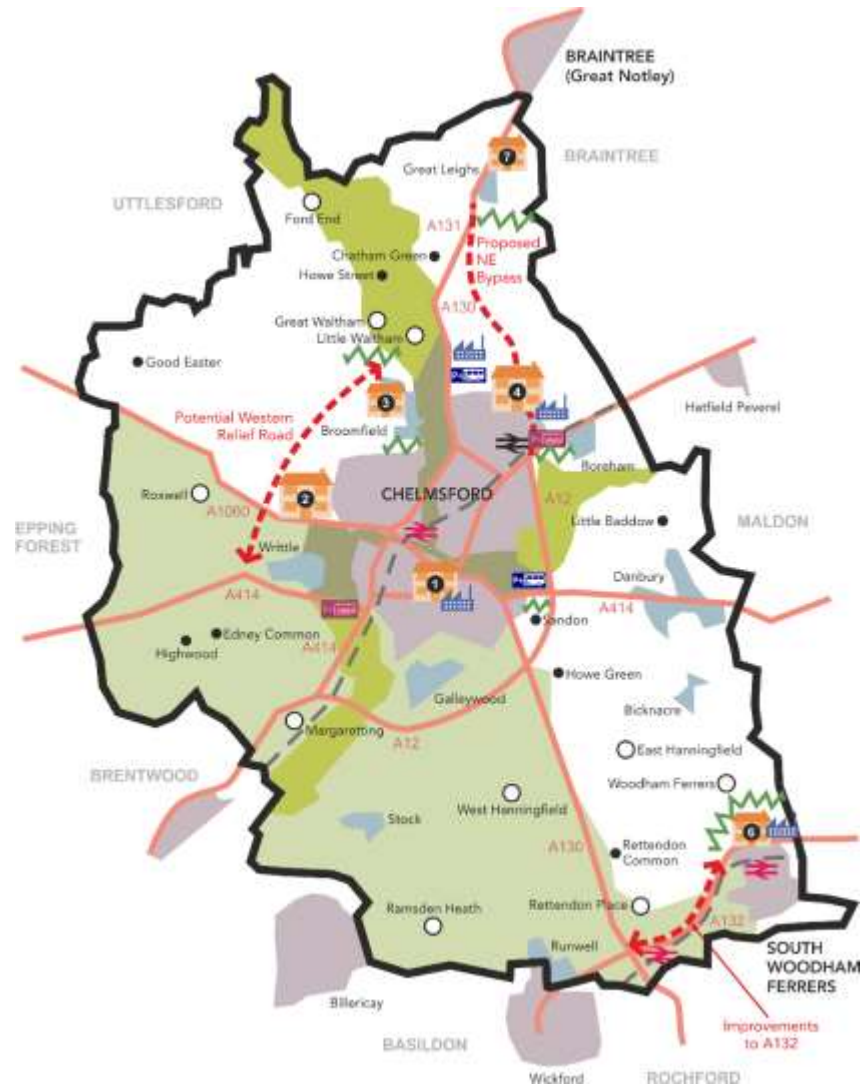
- 1.4.6 A total of three spatial options relating to the broad distribution of development to be accommodated in the Chelmsford City Area over the plan period have been identified. These options are as follows:
- ▶ **Option 1- Urban Focus:** This option seeks to concentrate new development at locations within and/or close to the existing urban areas that are within Chelmsford. These are the urban areas of Chelmsford, where the majority of new development would be planned, on land to the north of the town of South Woodham Ferrers and on land to the north and east of Great Leighs which is two miles south of Braintree and which would provide linkages to development planned in Braintree District.
 - ▶ **Option 2- Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors:** This option also promotes development at locations within and/or close to the existing urban areas, but to a lesser extent than contained in Option 1. The remaining development would be planned at locations on the key transport corridors serving the district, notably the A130/A131 and A132 in order to maximise the locational opportunities of sites along those corridors and to enhance the ability to secure further transportation benefits.
 - ▶ **Option 3 – Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages:** This option promotes a more dispersed approach to planning for new development within and/or close to the existing urban areas, but to a lesser scale than Options 1 and 2. The remaining development would be planned at the Service Settlements outside of the Green Belt that provide existing local services and facilities which includes Boreham, Danbury and Bicknacre and other locations where new development could provide new services and facilities, such as Howe Green.
- 1.4.7 For each option, information is provided in the Issues and Options Consultation Document relating to likely associated infrastructure requirements.
- 1.4.8 **Figure 1.1** provides an illustration of the above spatial options. Based on the provision of a total of 14,000 dwellings over the plan period (which is used solely for the purposes of testing the spatial options), **Table 1.1** provides an indication of the quantum of development that could be provided at each location in the City Area over the plan period under each spatial option.

Table 1.2 Indicative Distribution of Growth

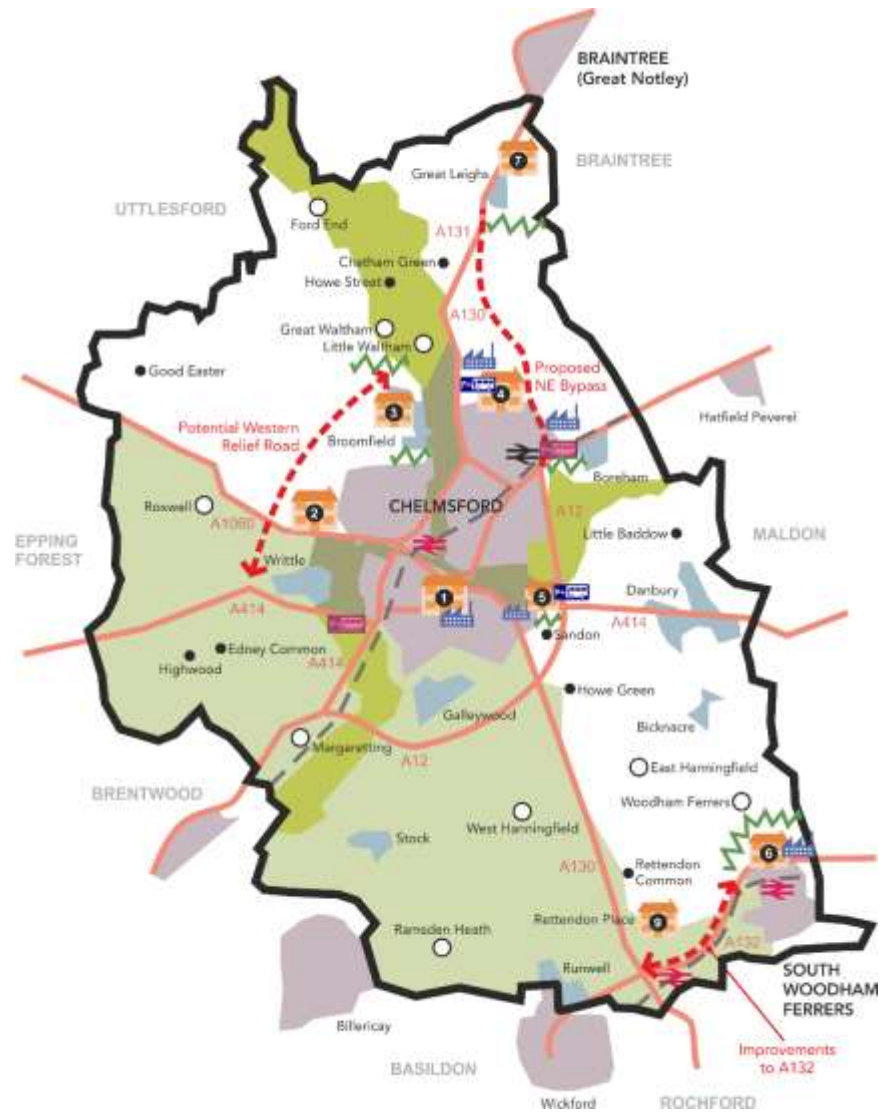
Locations	Option 1 Urban Focus		Option 2 Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors		Option 3 Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages	
	Housing (dwellings)	Employment (sqm)	Housing (dwellings)	Employment (sqm)	Housing (dwellings)	Employment (sqm)
Chelmsford Urban Area	2,500	Office: 4,000 Food Retail: 11,500	2,500	Office: 4,000 Food Retail: 11,500	2,500	Office: 4,000 Food Retail: 11,500
West Chelmsford	3,000		2,500		2,250	
North Chelmsford (Broomfield)	1,500		1,250		750	
North East Chelmsford	3,000	Office/High Tech Business Park: 45,000	2,500	Office/High Tech Business Park: 40,000	2,250	Office/High Tech Business Park: 40,000
East Chelmsford (East of Great Baddow)			750	Office/High Tech Business Park: 5,000	500	Office/High Tech Business Park: 5,000
North South Woodham Ferrers	2,000	Office: 1,000 Food Retail: 1,900	1,750	Office: 1,000 Food Retail: 1,900	1,250	Office: 1,000 Food Retail: 1,900
Great Leighs	2,000		1,500		1,000	
Howe Green			1,250		800	
Rettendon Place						
Boreham					800	
Dansbury					100	
Bicknacre					100	
Service Settlements – Distributed to Ford End, Great Waltham, Little Waltham, East Hanningfield, Woodham Ferrers and Rettendon Place					1,700	
Total	14,000	Office: 50,000 Food Retail: 13,400	14,000	Office: 50,000 Food Retail: 13,400	14,000	Office: 50,000 Food Retail: 13,400

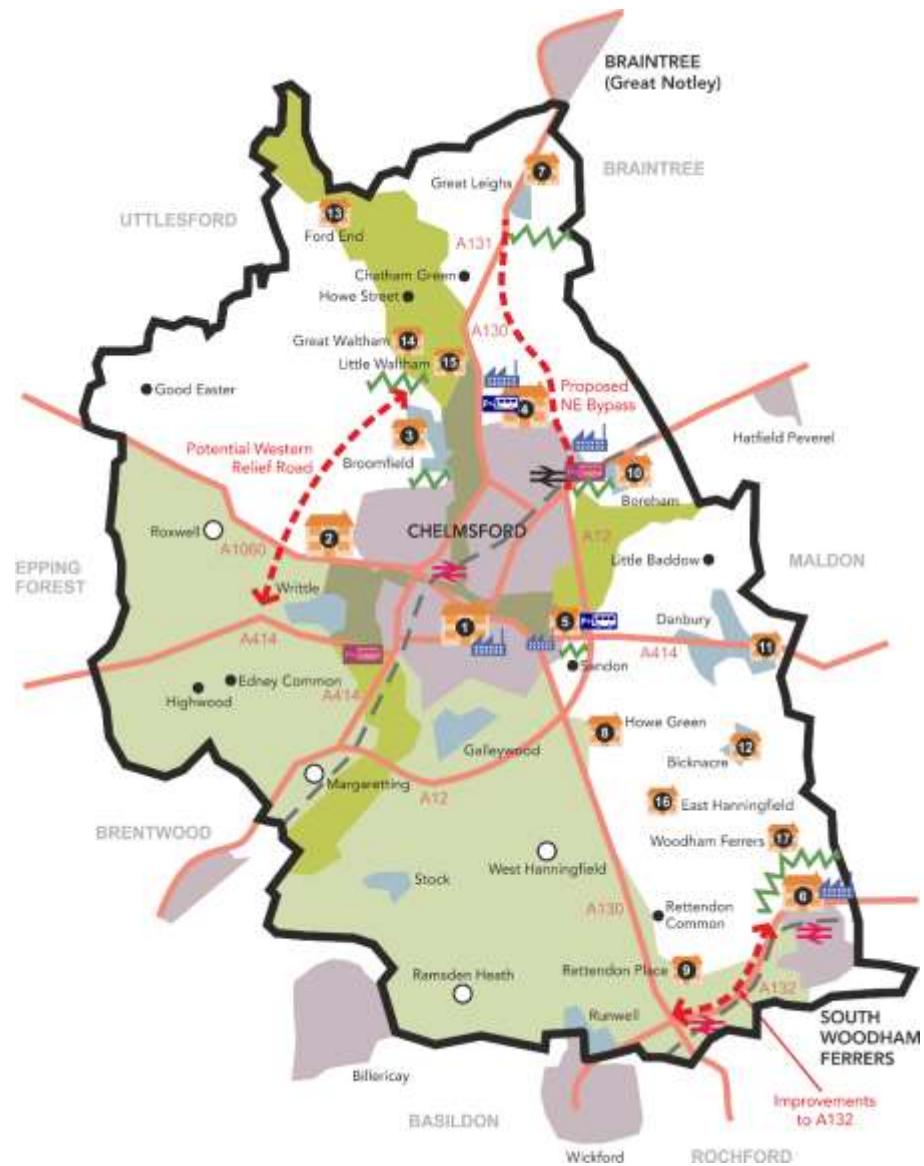
Figure 1.1 Spatial Options

Option 1: Urban Focus



Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors



Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages

Discounted Alternatives

- 1.4.9 As part of the SA/Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process, SA reports are required to present specific information concerning reasonable alternatives. Article 5 (1) of the SEA Directive 2001/42/EC requires that “*an environmental report shall be prepared in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated*”. Information to be provided includes “*an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with*” (Annex I (h)).
- 1.4.10 The European Commission guidance on the SEA Directive discusses possible interpretations of handling ‘reasonable alternatives’ as required by Article 5(1). It states that “*The alternatives chosen should be realistic. Part of the reason for studying alternatives is to find ways of reducing or avoiding the significant adverse effects of the proposed plan or programme*”. In this context, this SA Report considers reasonable alternatives in respect of the quantum and distribution of growth to be accommodated over the plan period (as set out above).
- 1.4.11 One additional alternative employment target projection, a high growth employment forecast, has been considered by the Council but discounted on the basis of it not being considered ‘reasonable’. A high growth employment target projection would reflect forecasts by Edge Analytics (1,013 jobs per annum, between the period 2013 to 2037), Experian (1,099 jobs per annum between 2011 and 2031) and the England East of England Economic Model (1,070 jobs per annum between 2012 and 2031)⁸. However, a high growth employment target projection has not been taken forward because the likely related housing requirement would substantially exceed the three housing target projections currently being tested.
- 1.4.12 **In consequence, it is considered that a higher employment target projection is not a reasonable alternative to be taken forward for consideration in the SA.**
- 1.4.13 A total of two additional alternatives relating to the distribution of growth in the City Area were considered by the Council during the preparation of the Issues and Options Consultation Document but have been discounted on the basis of not being considered ‘reasonable’. These discounted alternatives are:
- ▶ Development Growth in the Green Belt; and
 - ▶ Large New Settlement.
- 1.4.14 The reasons for discounting these options are set out in the Issues and Options Consultation Document and are reproduced below. If, however, circumstances change, such options could be reconsidered at a later stage in the Local Plan development process to determine whether the reasons for them to be discounted remain valid.

Development Growth in the Green Belt

- 1.4.15 The Green Belt is a national planning policy designation. The Government attaches great importance to its protection and permanence. Section 9 of the NPPF is dedicated to Green Belt. Paragraph 79 of the NPPF introduces it by stating “*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*”. Paragraph 83 of the NPPF goes on to state “*Once established Green Belt boundaries should only be altered in exceptional circumstances through the preparation or review of the Local Plan. At that time authorities should consider the Green Belt boundaries having regard to their intended permanence in the long term, so that they*

⁸ As reported in Peter Brett Associates (2015) *Braintree District Council, Chelmsford City Council, Colchester Borough Council, Tendring District Council Objectively Assessed Housing Need Study*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sites/chelmsford.gov.uk/files/files/documents/files/OAHN%20Final%20Report%20July%202015.pdf> [Accessed October 2015].

should be capable of enduring beyond the plan period." The Government has continued to re-affirm the protection of the Green Belt in recent Ministerial Statements.

- 1.4.16 The extent of the Green Belt is already established and the detailed Green Belt boundaries for Chelmsford were established through the Council's adopted Site Allocations Document in 2012 which is part of the current Local Plan (Local Development Framework). In accordance with the national planning policy outlined above, to vary the Green Belt boundaries would require exceptional circumstances which would need to be clearly evidenced. The Council need to establish whether a case can be made for any release of land within the approved Green Belt
- 1.4.17 There is more than sufficient land being promoted for development outside of the Green Belt through the Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA) 'call for sites' process to meet the identified development needs for the new Local Plan period. This is the case even using the higher 930 homes per year housing target projection (which is being used solely to test spatial options in the Issues and Options Consultation Document. Furthermore, even if a further uplift to housing numbers was ever required, it is still the case that areas outside of the Green Belt could accommodate significant levels of development growth beyond that proposed in this document.
- 1.4.18 For the reasons set out above, the Council strongly believes that currently there are no exceptional circumstances that means that an option for development growth in the Green Belt is neither, necessary, justified or reasonable at this time. Given the importance that national policy and guidance attaches to the protection and permanence of the Green Belt, there is no case for including locations for development which would undermine these longstanding principles.
- 1.4.19 However, the Council proposes to continue the existing designation of Special Policy Areas to allow the operational and functional requirements of facilities or institutions in the Green Belt such as Writtle College and Hanningfield Treatment Works, which are essential facilities located within the Green Belt.
- 1.4.20 **In consequence, it is considered that Development Growth in the Green Belt is not a reasonable alternative to be taken forward for consideration in the SA.**

Large New Settlement

- 1.4.21 Paragraph 52 of the NPPF states that the "*The supply of new homes can sometimes be best achieved through planning for larger scale development, such as new settlements or extensions to existing villages and towns that follow the principles of Garden Cities. Working with the support of their communities, local planning authorities should consider whether such opportunities provide the best way of achieving sustainable development. In doing so, they should consider whether it is appropriate to establish Green Belt around or adjoining any such new development*".
- 1.4.22 The Council has therefore carefully considered the development of a large new settlement. In order for a new settlement to successfully function as a place, it would need to be large enough to be self-supporting in terms of services and facilities. For example, it would need to have its own completely new transport links, roads, shops, schools, healthcare etc. This means that to support such a level of infrastructure to achieve sustainability, a new settlement needs to realistically contain over 5,000 new homes and is likely in the longer term to contain 10,000 new homes. For comparison, South Woodham Ferrers, which was built substantially as a new settlement, has around 6,500 homes in its current form and took 20 years to complete.
- 1.4.23 For all new locations, the deliverability of sites needs to be considered. This is particularly important for very large proposals as sites can only be built-out at a certain rate. Sites in excess of 3,000 new homes would be difficult to deliver in the period of the new Local Plan. The Council is required to ensure that it maintains a five-year rolling supply of housing measured against the housing requirement. New large settlements have very long lead-in times and require substantial infrastructure which could significantly impact on this.
- 1.4.24 At present, through the SLAA 'call for sites', the Council is aware of two developer-promoted sites that could be considered similar to new settlements. These are proposals at Bulls Lodge Quarry (Former Boreham Airfield/Park Farm) and Hammonds Farm (east of A12 Chelmsford By-pass between Sandon and Boreham).

- 1.4.25 The comprehensive development of Bulls Lodge Quarry (Former Boreham Airfield/Park Farm) as a large new settlement before 2036 would be problematic as it is an active minerals extraction site. The end of 2031 is the earliest projection of when all the sand and gravel could be extracted. Within this area, a portion of Park Farm has already been allocated for housing development in the Council's current adopted plan (the North Chelmsford Area Action Plan). This wider north east Chelmsford location is also identified for potential growth within the Council's spatial options. Because of the need to phase the extraction of minerals and the consequent uncertainty over the deliverability of the site, none of the Council's spatial options show a new large settlement in this location.
- 1.4.26 A large development is being promoted by landowners at a location east of A12 Chelmsford By-pass between Sandon and Boreham known as Hammonds Farm. This location is within the Lower Chelmer Valley which has a landscape character that has a high sensitivity to change with significant portions of land within the floodplain. A proportion of this area is identified by the existing Chelmer and Navigation Landscape Conservation Area designation. This location is severed by the A12 Chelmsford By-pass and therefore highway access into this area for a new large settlement would potentially require a new junction on the A12 which raises issue of deliverability. In addition, the proposal itself whilst identifying 5,000 units places 2,000 of them outside the period of the new Local Plan in any event.
- 1.4.27 For the reasons set out above, the Council believes that currently an option for a new settlement is not suitable, justified or reasonable.
- 1.4.28 **In consequence, it is considered that a Large New Settlement is not a reasonable alternative to be taken forward for consideration in the SA.**

1.5 Sustainability Appraisal

Stages in the Sustainability Appraisal Process

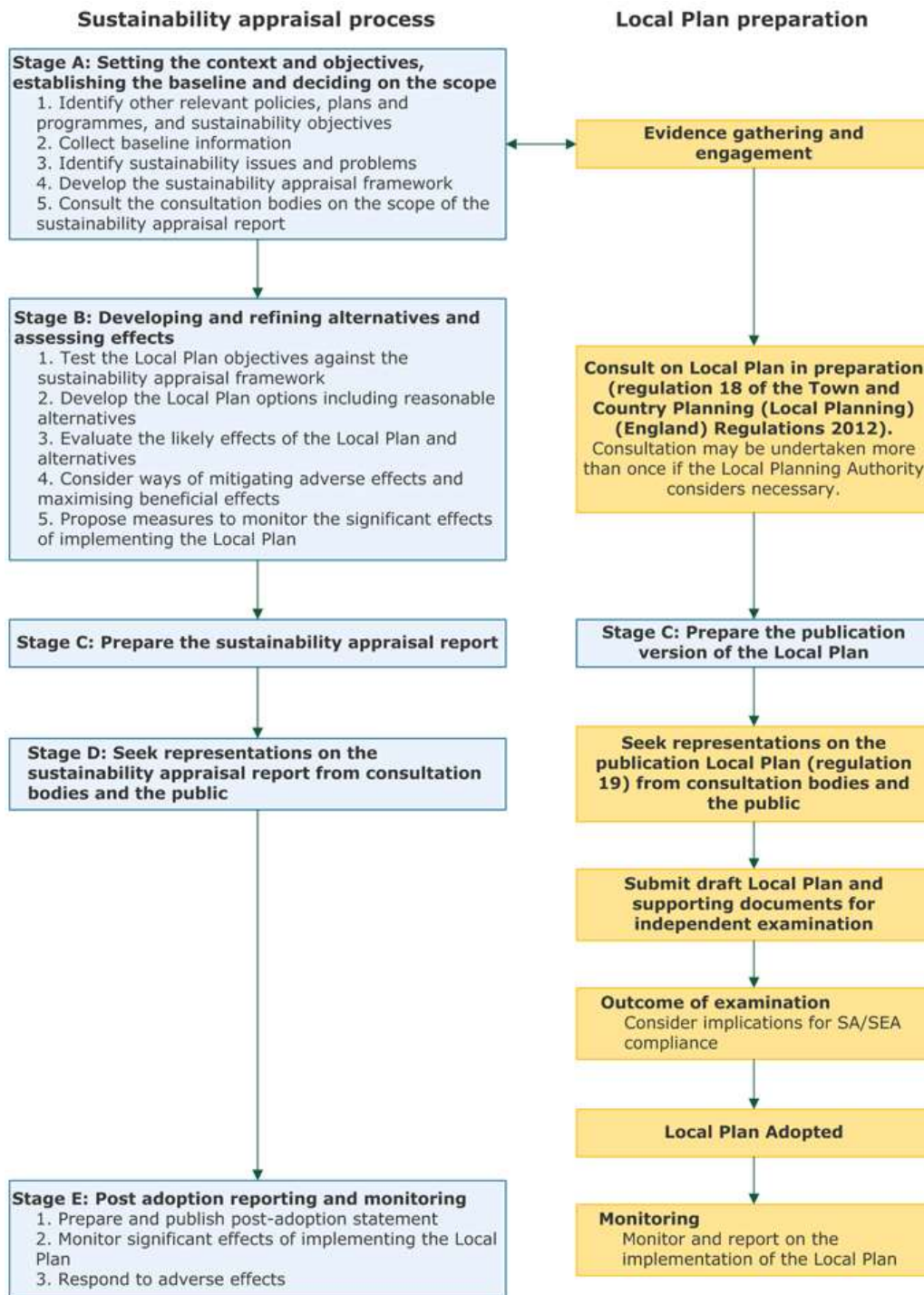
- 1.5.1 There are five key stages in the SA process and these are highlighted in **Figure 1.2** together with links to the development of the Local Plan.
- 1.5.2 The first stage (**Stage A**) led to the production of a SA Scoping Report⁹. Informed by a review of other relevant policies, plans and programmes 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 appraisal of the Local Plan (the SA Framework).
- 1.5.3 The Scoping Report was subject to consultation that ran from 24th July to 11th September 2015. A total of 45 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 SA 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 SA Report.
- 1.5.4 **Stage B** is an iterative process involving the appraisal and refinement of the Local Plan with the findings presented in a series of interim SA Reports and 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 SA Framework. This will help promote sustainable development through the

⁹ Amec Foster Wheeler (2015) *Chelmsford City Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal: Scoping Report*.

early integration of sustainability considerations into the preparation of the Local Plan. This SA Report has been issued for consultation alongside the Issues and Options Consultation Document.

- 1.5.5 At **Stage C**, a submission draft SA 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**).
- 1.5.6 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 SA process and the extent to which the findings of the SA 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**).

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



Source: Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) (2014) *Planning Practice Guidance*. N.B. for the purposes of this SA Report, 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 Local Plan and the Submission Draft Local Plan.

1.6 Habitats Regulations Assessment

- 1.6.1 Regulation 102 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) (the 'Habitats Regulations') requires that competent authorities assess the potential impacts of land use plans on the Natura 2000 network of European protected sites¹⁰ to determine whether there will be any 'likely significant effects' (LSE) on any European site as a result of the plan's implementation (either alone or 'in combination' with other plans or projects); and, if so, whether these effects will result in any adverse effects on that site's integrity with reference to the site's conservation objectives. The process by which the effects of a plan or programme on European sites are assessed is known as 'Habitats Regulations Assessment' (HRA)¹¹.
- 1.6.2 In accordance with the Habitats Regulations, what is commonly referred to as a HRA screening exercise will be undertaken to identify the likely impacts of the Local Plan upon European sites, either alone or 'in combination' with other projects or plans, and to consider whether these effects are likely to be significant. Where there are likely significant effects, a more detailed Appropriate Assessment will be required.
- 1.6.3 The HRA screening exercise will be reported separately from the SA of the Local Plan at a later stage but importantly will help inform the appraisal process, particularly in respect of the potential effects of proposals on biodiversity.

1.7 Structure of this SA Report

- 1.7.1 This SA Report is structured as follows:
- ▶ **Non-Technical Summary** - Provides a summary of the SA Report including the findings of the appraisal of plan options;
 - ▶ **Section 1: Introduction** - Includes a summary of the Local Plan and the Issues and Options Consultation Document, an overview of SA, 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 SA 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 SA Framework and appraisal;
 - ▶ **Section 4: SA Approach** - Outlines the approach to the SA of the Issues and Options Consultation Document including the SA Framework;

¹⁰ Strictly, 'European sites' are any Special Area of Conservation (SAC) from the point at which the European Commission and the UK Government agree the site as a 'Site of Community Importance' (SCI); any classified Special Protection Area (SPA); any candidate SAC (cSAC); and (exceptionally) any other site or area that the Commission believes should be considered as an SAC but which has not been identified by the Government. 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 Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) are applied a matter of Government policy when considering development proposals that may affect them (NPPF para 118). 'European site' is therefore used in this report in its broadest sense, as an umbrella term for all of the above designated sites

¹¹ 'Appropriate Assessment' has been historically used as an umbrella term to describe the process of assessment as a whole. The whole process is now more usually termed 'Habitats Regulations Assessment' (HRA), and 'Appropriate Assessment' is used to indicate a specific stage within the HRA.

- ▶ **Section 5: Appraisal of Effects** – Presents the findings of the appraisal of the Issues and Options Consultation Document;
- ▶ **Section 6: Conclusions and Next Steps** – Presents the conclusions of the SA of the Issues and Options Consultation Document and details the next steps in the appraisal process.

1.7.2 This SA 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 SA 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**.

1.8 How to Comment on this SA Report

1.8.1 This SA Report has been issued for consultation alongside the Issues and Options Consultation Document from **8.45am on 19th November 2015 to 4.45pm on 21st January 2016**. 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 this SA 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 4.45pm on 21 January 2016. The Council encourages people to submit comments via its consultation portal at: <http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal>.

Alternatively, comments can be sent to:

- By email – planning.policy@chelmsford.gov.uk
- By post - Planning Policy, Chelmsford City Council, PO Box 7544, Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford, CM1 1XP
- By hand – During normal opening hours to Chelmsford City Council Customer Service Centres (Duke Street, Chelmsford and Chandlers Road, South Woodham Ferrers)

A specially designed response form is available online at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/new-local-plan or on request by telephoning (01245) 606330.

2. Review of Plans and Programmes

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 One of the first steps in undertaking SA is to identify and review other relevant plans and programmes that could influence the Chelmsford 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 SA. 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 SA Scoping Report included a review of plans and programmes, consistent with the requirements of the SEA Directive, and which informed the development of the SA Framework. This review has been updated as part of the preparation of this SA Report to take into account consultation responses to the Scoping Report and relevant plans and programmes that have been recently published.

2.2 Review of Plans and Programmes

- 2.2.1 Over 100 international/European, national, regional/sub-regional and local level plans and programmes have been reviewed in preparing this SA 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 SA of the 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)
- European Landscape Convention 2000 (became binding March 2007)
- European Union (EU) (2006) 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

Plan/Programme

- 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 (2011) EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 – towards implementation
- The Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada Convention)
- The European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Valetta Convention)
- UNESCO World Heritage Convention (1972)
- UNFCCC (1997) The Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC
- 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 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
- Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) (2012) National Planning Policy Framework
- DCLG (2011) Planning for Schools Development
- DCLG (2012) Planning Policy for Traveller Sites
- DCLG (2014) Planning Practice Guidance
- DCLG (2014) National Planning Policy for Waste
- DCLG (2014) Witten Statement on Sustainable Drainage Systems
- Department for Education (2014) Home to School Travel and Transport Guidance
- 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 (Defra) (2007) The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- Defra (2007) Strategy for England's Trees, Woods and Forests
- Defra (2009) Safeguarding Our Soils: A Strategy for England
- Defra (2011) Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services
- Defra (2011) Natural Environment White Paper: The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature
- Defra (2012) UK post 2010 Biodiversity Framework
- Defra (2013) The National Adaptation Programme – Making the Country Resilient to a Changing Climate
- Defra (2013) Waste Management Plan for England
- Environment Agency (2013) Managing Water Extraction
- Forestry Commission (2005) Trees and Woodlands Nature's Health Service
- Historic England (2015) Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 1
- HM Government (1979) Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act
- HM Government (1981) 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 (2005) Securing the future - delivering UK sustainable development strategy
- HM Government (2006) The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006
- HM Government (2008) The Climate Change 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 (2011) Carbon Plan: Delivering our Low Carbon Future
- HM Government (2011) UK Marine Policy Statement
- HM Government (2011) Water for Life, White Paper
- HM Government (2013) The Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) Regulations 2013
- NHS England (2014) Five Year Forward View

Regional Plans and Programmes

- Essex and Suffolk Water (2014) Final Water Resources Management Plan
- Environment Agency (2009) Water for People and the Environment: Water Resource Strategy – Regional Action Plan for Anglian Region
- Environment Agency (2009) River Basin Management Plan Anglian River Basin District
- Environment Agency (2010) Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan 2
- Environment Agency (2014) Anglian River Basin District Consultation on the draft Flood Risk Management Plan

Plan/Programme

- Mayor of London (Greater London Authority) (2015) The London Plan: The Spatial Development Strategy for London Consolidated with Alterations since 2011
- Mayor of London (Greater London Authority) (2014) London Infrastructure Plan 2050 (consultation document)
- Mid Essex CCG (2014) Five Year Strategy 2014-2019
- Natural England (2015) Site Improvement Plan: Essex Estuaries
- 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 and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council (2001) Waste Local Plan
- Essex County Council (2005) The Essex Design Guide
- 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
- Essex County Council (2014) Commissioning School Places in Essex
- Essex County Council (2013) Essex Local Flood Management Strategy
- Essex County Council (2014) Essex Minerals Local Plan
- Essex County Council (2014) Economic Plan for Essex
- Essex County Council (2014) Sustainable Drainage Systems Design Guide
- Essex County Council (2015) Education Transport Policy
- Essex County Council (2015) Developer's Guide to Infrastructure Contributions 2015 Revision Consultation
- Essex Health and Wellbeing Board (2013) Joint Essex Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2018
- Essex Planning Officers Association (2008) Guidance note: Health Impact Assessments
- Essex Planning Officers Association (2008) Guidance note: Lifetime Homes Standard
- Essex Planning Officers Association (2009) Parking Standards - Design and Good Practice
- Essex Planning Officers Association (2010) Development and Public Rights of Way: Advice note for developers and development management officers
- Essex Police Authority and Essex Policy (2012) Strategy (2012-2015) and Plan (2012-2013)
- Essex Wildlife Trust (2013) Living Landscapes – A Vision for the Future of Essex
- Geo Essex (2013) Essex Local Geodiversity Action Plan
- 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)

- Basildon Council (emerging) 2031 - Local Plan Core Strategy
- 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 (emerging) New Local Plan
- Brentwood District Council (emerging) Local Plan
- 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) Chelmsford Town Centre Area Action Plan
- Chelmsford City Council (2008) Community Plan – Chelmsford Tomorrow Vision 2021
- Chelmsford City Council (2008) A Plan for South Woodham Ferrers Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
- Chelmsford City Council (2008) Making Places SPD (Urban Site Guidance)
- Chelmsford City Council (2008) Core Strategy and Development Control Policies Development Plan Document (DPD)
- Chelmsford City Council (2008) Chelmsford Surface Water Management Plan (2014)
- Chelmsford City Council (2010) Homelessness Review and Strategy
- Chelmsford City Council (2010) Private Sector Housing Strategy 2010-2015
- Chelmsford City Council (2011) North Chelmsford Area Action Plan
- Chelmsford City Council (2011) Chelmsford Town Centre Public Realm Strategy SPD
- Chelmsford City Council (2011) Local Investment Plan 2011 to 2016
- Chelmsford City Council (2012) Allotment Strategy
- Chelmsford City Council (2012) Be Moved - Chelmsford Sport & Arts Strategy 2012-16
- Chelmsford City Council (2012) Corporate Plan
- Chelmsford City Council (2012) Meeting the needs of Older People: A Strategy for Older People in Chelmsford
- Chelmsford City Council (2012) Policy for the Provision of Equipped Play Areas
- Chelmsford City Council (2012) Public Health Strategy
- Chelmsford City Council (2012) Site Allocations Plan
- Chelmsford City Council (2013) Biodiversity Action Plan 2013-17

Plan/Programme

- Chelmsford City Council (2013) Building for Tomorrow SPD
- Chelmsford City Council (2013) Core Strategy and Development Control Policies Focused Review 2013
- Chelmsford City Council (2014) Planning Obligations SPD
- Chelmsford City Council (2015) Housing Strategy Statement 2015/2016
- Chelmsford City Council (2015) Chelmsford Museums Forward Plan 2015-2017
- Chelmsford City Council (2015) Tree Management Policy
- Chelmsford Partnership (2009) Community Plan – Chelmsford Tomorrow Vision 2021
- Epping Forest District Council Local Plan (emerging)
- Maldon District Council (2014) Pre-Submission Local Development Plan 2014-2029
- Rochford District Council (2011) Core Strategy
- Rochford District Council (2014) Allocations Plan
- Safer Chelmsford Partnership (2012) The Safer Chelmsford Partnership Plan 2011-2014
- Uttlesford District Council Local Plan (emerging)
- Village Design Statements (various)

2.3 Objectives and Policies Relevant to the Local Plan and SA

2.3.1 The review of plans and programmes presented in **Appendix B** has identified a number of objectives and policies relevant to the Local Plan and the SA 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 objectives and policies are summarised in **Table 2.2** together with the key sources and implications for the SA 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 Objectives and Policies Arising from the Review of Plans and Programmes

Key Objectives and Policies	Key Source(s)	Implications for the SA Framework
Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and enhance biodiversity, including designated sites, species of principal importance, habitats and ecological networks. • Identify opportunities for green infrastructure provision. 	<p>Natural Environment White Paper: 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</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include a specific objective relating to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity including green infrastructure provision.</p>

Key Objectives and Policies	Key Source(s)	Implications for the SA Framework
Council Parks and Green Spaces Strategy.		
Population and Community		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address deprivation and reduce inequality through regeneration. Ensure social equality and prosperity for all. Provide high quality services, community facilities and social infrastructure that are accessible to all. Meet the full affordable and private market housing need for Chelmsford within the administrative boundary where possible. Meet unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development. Make appropriate provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. Ensure that there is an adequate supply of employment land to meet local needs and to attract inward investment. Encourage economic diversification including growth in high value, high growth, high knowledge economic sectors. Encourage rural diversification and support rural economic growth. Create local employment opportunities. Enhance skills in the workforce to reduce unemployment and deprivation. Improve educational attainment and ensure the appropriate supply of high quality educational facilities. Promote the vitality of the City Centre and support retail and leisure sectors. Promote the vitality of other centres. 	<p>NPPF; Planning Policy for Traveller Sites; The London Plan; Essex Strategy 2008-2018, Commissioning School Places for Essex, Essex County Council Economic Growth Strategy, Chelmsford City Council Employment Plan, Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD, North Chelmsford AAP, Chelmsford Town Centre AAP and Chelmsford's Community Plan and Strategy.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives and/or guide questions relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> addressing deprivation and promoting equality and inclusion; the provision of high quality community facilities and services; the provision of high quality housing; the enhancement of education and skills; delivery of employment land that supports economic diversification and the creation of high quality, local jobs; enhancing Chelmsford City Centre; enhancing the area's town and other centres.
Health and Wellbeing		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote improvements to health and wellbeing. Promote healthier lifestyles. Minimise noise pollution. Reduce crime including the fear of crime. Reduce anti-social behaviour. Ensure that there are appropriate facilities for the disabled and elderly. Deliver safe and secure networks of green infrastructure and open space. 	<p>NPPF; Essex Strategy 2008-2018, Joint Essex Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2018, Be Moved – Chelmsford's Sport and Art Strategy 2012-2016, Parks and Green Spaces Strategy and Public Health Strategy.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include a specific objective and/or guide questions relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the promotion of health and wellbeing; the delivery of health facilities and services; the provision of open space and recreational facilities; reducing crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.
Transport and Accessibility		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage sustainable transport and reduce the need to travel. Reduce traffic and congestion. Improve public transport provision. Encourage walking and cycling. 	<p>NPPF; Essex Transport Strategy-the Local Transport Plan for Essex.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives and/or guide questions relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing the need to travel, particularly by car;

Key Objectives and Policies	Key Source(s)	Implications for the SA Framework
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance accessibility to key community facilities, services and jobs for all. Ensure timely investment in transportation infrastructure to accommodate new development. Reduce road freight movements. Locate new housing development in sustainable locations or in locations that can be made sustainable. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the promotion of sustainable forms of transport; encouraging walking and cycling; maintaining and enhancing accessibility to key facilities, services and jobs; reducing congestion and enhancing road safety; investment in transportation infrastructure to meet future needs.
Land Use, Geology and Soils		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the use of previously developed (brownfield) land. Promote the re-use of derelict land and buildings. Reduce land contamination. Protect soil quality and minimise the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land. Promote high quality design. Avoid damage to, and protect, geologically important sites. Encourage mixed use development. 	Safeguarding Our Soils: A Strategy for England; Making Places SPD, Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives and/or guide questions relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> encouraging the use of previously developed land and buildings; reducing land contamination; avoiding the loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land; promoting high quality design including mixed use development; protecting and avoiding damage to geologically important sites.
Water		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect and enhance surface and groundwater quality. Improve water efficiency. Avoid development in areas of flood risk. Reduce the risk of flooding arising from new development. Ensure timely investment in water management infrastructure to accommodate new development. Promote the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems. 	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.	The SA Framework should include specific objectives relating to the protection and enhancement of water quality and quantity and minimising flood risk.
Air Quality		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that air quality is maintained or enhanced and that emissions of air pollutants are kept to a minimum. 	Air Quality Directive; Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; NPPF and Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area Action Plan.	The SA Framework should include a specific objective and/or guide question relating to air quality.
Climate Change		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise the effects of climate change. Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases that may cause climate change. Encourage the provision of renewable energy. Move towards a low carbon economy. Promote adaptation to the effects of climate change. 	Climate Change Act 2008; Carbon Plan: Delivering our Low Carbon Future; UK Renewable Energy Strategy; NPPF, Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD and Building for Tomorrow SPD.	The SA Framework should include a specific objective relating to climate change mitigation and adaptation.
Material Assets		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover). Ensure the adequate provision of local waste management facilities. 	Waste Framework Directive; Landfill Directive; Waste Management Plan for England; NPPF; National Planning Policy for Waste ; Joint Municipal Waste	<p>The SA Framework should include objectives and/or guide questions relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> promotion of the waste hierarchy;

Key Objectives and Policies	Key Source(s)	Implications for the SA Framework
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the efficient and sustainable use of mineral resources. Promote the use of local resources. Avoid the sterilisation of mineral reserves. Promote the use of substitute or secondary and recycled materials and minerals waste. Ensure the timely provision of infrastructure to support new development. Support the delivery of high quality communications infrastructure. 	Management Strategy for Essex, Essex Minerals Local Plan, Essex County Council and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council Waste Local Plan and Building for Tomorrow SPD.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the sustainable use of minerals; investment in infrastructure to meet future needs.
Cultural Heritage		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve and enhance cultural heritage assets and their settings. Maintain and enhance access to cultural heritage assets. Respect, maintain and strengthen local character and distinctiveness. Improve the quality of the built environment. 	NPPF; Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD, Historic Environment Characterisation Project and Making Places SPD.	The SA Framework should include a specific objective relating to the conservation and enhancement of cultural heritage.
Landscape and Townscape		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of natural landscapes and townscapes. Promote access to the countryside. Promote high quality design that respects and enhances local character. Avoid inappropriate development in the Green Belt. Ensure that the Green Belt endures beyond the plan period. Conserve and enhance the undeveloped coastline. 	NPPF; Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD, Public Realm Strategy, Village Design Statement, Making Places SPD, and Chelmsford, Maldon and Uttlesford Council's Landscape Character Assessments	The SA Framework should include a specific objective relating to the protection and enhancement of landscape and townscapes.

3. Baseline Analysis

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 An essential part of the SA 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 Directive 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 The SA Scoping Report included an analysis of the socio-economic and environmental baseline conditions for the Chelmsford City Area, along with how these are likely to change in the future. This informed the development of the SA Framework. In order to ensure that this baseline is sufficiently robust to support the appraisal of the Issues and Options Consultation Document, it has been updated where appropriate to reflect, in particular, consultation responses to the Scoping Report and recently published Local Plan evidence base studies.
- 3.1.3 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.
- 3.1.4 Additionally, this section also presents a high level overview of the Chelmsford City Area.
- 3.1.5 To inform the analysis, data has been drawn from a variety of sources, including: the 2011 Census; Nomis; Chelmsford City Council's Authority Monitoring Report 2013/2014; the emerging Local Plan evidence base; Environment Agency; Historic England; Essex County Council; Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015; Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC).
- 3.1.6 The key sustainability issues arising from the review of baseline conditions are summarised at the end of each topic.

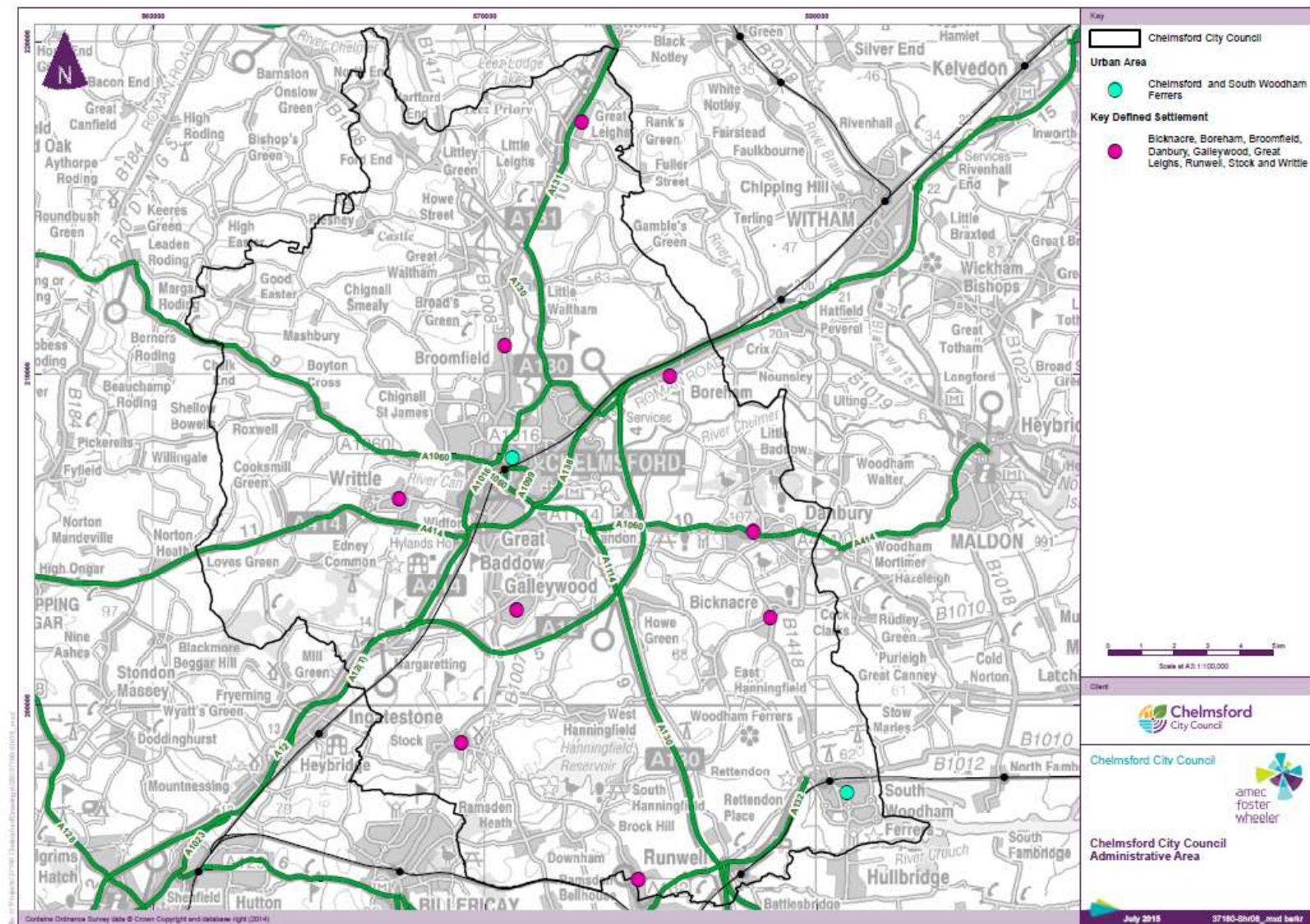
3.2 The Chelmsford City Area: An Overview

- 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 includes the only city 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. 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 Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD identifies Chelmsford's other 'key settlements' as including: Bicknare; 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**.
- 3.2.4 The Chelmsford City Area has a large number of key strengths, not least its good connectivity to London and offer of a high quality of life. 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 (inter alia) 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

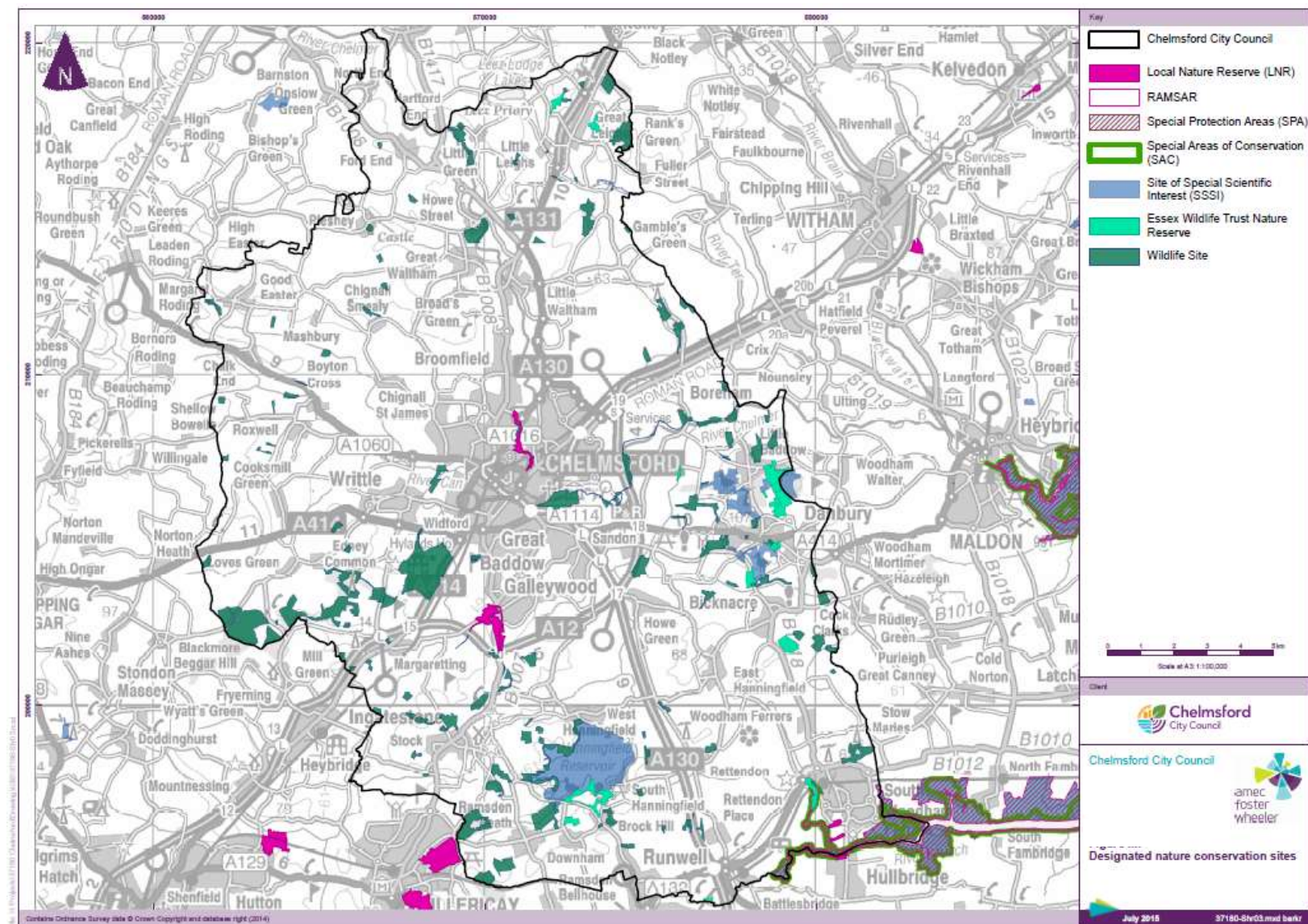


3.3 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure

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) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)) 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 form part of the 'Natura 2000' network of sites protected under the EC Habitats Directive (1992). 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 Estuaries¹² and 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 Within the Chelmsford City Area there are eight Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) covering an area of 2,412.77 hectares (ha) including:

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

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

¹² Available from <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5459956190937088> [Accessed October 2015].

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	0.082	100% favourable
Blake's Wood & Lingwood Common	87.33	100% favourable
Woodham Walter Common	79.65	100% favourable
Danbury Common	70.96	48.36% favourable; 51.74% unfavourable but recovering
Thrift Wood, Woodham Ferrers	19.45	100% favourable
Hanningfield Reservoir	402.91	100% favourable
Crouch and Roach Estuaries	1,745.98	22.87% favourable; 76.46% unfavourable but recovering; 0.67% unfavourable no change

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

- 3.3.10 In addition to the above European and nationally designated nature conservation sites, there are also three Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) (Chelmer Valley Riverside, Galleywood Common and Fenn Washland) and 150 Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) 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.
- 3.3.11 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 LWSs 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;
 - ▶ Green Wedges - Green Wedges in the vicinity of the Chelmsford urban area contain a number of LWSs as well as publicly owned land (see **Figure 3.10**).
- 3.3.12 The most recent comprehensive habitat survey for the Chelmsford City Area was undertaken on behalf of the Council by Essex Ecology Services Ltd. (EECOS) during 2004¹³ (a new habitat or Local Wildlife Sites survey has been commissioned although the findings of this are not yet available). The survey evaluated the existing network of important wildlife sites and identified a total area of semi-natural habitat equating to 9,272 ha, with the remaining 24,953 ha being arable or urban land (see **Table 3.2**). The proportion of non-arable / urban semi-habitat land accounted for 27.1% of the total land area in Chelmsford. In comparison, an earlier survey undertaken between 1990 and 1992 identified 8,320 ha of semi-natural habitat (24.31% of the total administrative area). The increase between 1992 and 2004 is considered to have been largely brought about by the agricultural set-

¹³ Reported in Chelmsford City Council (2014) *Authority Monitoring Report Covering the period 1st April 2013 - 31st March 2014*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/annual-monitoring-report> [Accessed June 2015].

aside scheme. The urban expansion that has taken place in Chelmsford over the last 10 years has generally been at the expense of arable land as opposed to semi-natural habitat.¹⁴

- 3.3.13 The increase in grassland between 1992 and 2004 (1,230 ha) appears a positive trend, but this does not take into account changes in the quality of the sward. There appears to be an increase in the proportion of improved grassland and a decrease in semi-improved/semi-natural grassland habitat.
- 3.3.14 The total amount of woodland in the Chelmsford City Area increased from 2,041.7 ha (5.97%) in 1992 to 2,060.1 ha (6.02%) in 2004. However, the national average is 8.4% coverage for England and 11.6% for the UK as a whole which indicates that woodland coverage in Chelmsford falls below national averages.

Table 3.2 Chelmsford City Area Habitat Survey

Habitat	Land Use	2004 Area (ha) (1992 area provided at totals in brackets)
Grassland	Unimproved Neutral	1.8
	Semi-improved Neutral	193.1
	Semi-improved Acid	3.5
	Acid Grassland/ Heath	2.6
	Poor Semi-improved	746.6
	Improved Grassland	4,132.5
	Amenity Grassland	729.7
	Marshy Grassland	8.6
Total Grassland		5,818.4 (4,588)
Woodland	Broadleaf Woodland	1,333.1
	Mixed Woodland	12.5
	Broadleaf/Coniferous Parkland	181.1
	Planted Broadleaf Woodland	392.7
	Planted Mixed Woodland	99.8
	Planted Coniferous Woodland	40.9
Total Woodland		2,060.1 (2,041.7)
	Scattered/Dense Scrub	165.7
	Tall Ruderal	98.3
	Short Perennial	92.7
	Orchard	82

¹⁴ Chelmsford City Council (2014) *Authority Monitoring Report Covering the period 1st April 2013 - 31st March 2014*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/annual-monitoring-report> [Accessed June 2015].

Habitat	Land Use	2004 Area (ha) (1992 area provided at totals in brackets)
	Allotment/Horticulture	47.1
	Lake/Reservoir	551.1
	Swamp	30.3
	Quarry	174.1
	Waste/Bare ground ^{8,320}	67.3
	Scattered Saltmarsh	17.1
	Saline Water Body	2
	Intertidal Mud	66
	Total	9,272.2 (8,320)
	Number of Ponds	796 (n/a)

Source: EECOS Review of Wildlife Sites in Essex 2004 in Chelmsford City Council (2014) *Authority Monitoring Report 1st April 2013 - 31st March 2014*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/annual-monitoring-report> [Accessed June 2015].

- 3.3.15 The Chelmsford Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) 2013-2017¹⁵ 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)¹⁶. 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

- 3.3.16 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.
- 3.3.17 Association for Public Service Excellence survey results from 2012 highlighted that the Chelmsford City Area had 692 ha of parks and green spaces managed and maintained, including 490 ha of parks, gardens and amenity areas, 93 ha of sports and playing fields and 78 ha of natural space.
- 3.3.18 The Council has been awarded 12 Green Flag awards for fifteen of its parks (see **Table 3.3**). Admirals Park, Tower Gardens and West Park, Brookend Gardens and Chancellor Park, Chelmer Park and Jubilee Park and Melbourne Park with Andrews Parks form combined award. Marconi Ponds Nature Reserve and Chelmer Valley LNR have each been awarded a Green Flag Community Award.
- 3.3.19 The Council also has Green Heritage Awards for Oaklands Park, Hylands Estate and Admirals Park, Tower Gardens and West Park.

¹⁵ Chelmsford Biodiversity Forum (2013) *Chelmsford Biodiversity Action Plan for the City of Chelmsford 2013-2017*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sites/chelmsford.gov.uk/files/files/documents/files/Chelmsford%20Biodiversity%20Action%20Plan%202013-18.pdf> [Accessed June 2015].

¹⁶ Essex Biodiversity Project (2012) *The Essex Biodiversity Action Plan 2010 – 2020*. Available from <http://www.essexbiodiversity.org.uk/biodiversity-action-plan> [Accessed June 2015].

Table 3.3 Chelmsford City Area Parks with Green Flag Awards

Parks with Green Flag Awards	Size (ha)
Oaklands Park, Moulsham Street, Chelmsford	4.8
Boleyn Gardens and Beaulieu Park, Chelmsford	3.3
Admirals Park, Tower Gardens and the adjoining West Park, Chelmsford	29.4
Chelmer Park and Jubilee Park	20.59
Hylands Estate	232
Coronation Park	5.72
Compass Gardens and Saltcoats Park	10.08
Melbourne Park and Andrews Park	26.37
Brook End Gardens and Chancellor Park	8.11
Central Park (including Bell Meadow and Sky Blue pasture)	14.87
Lionmede Recreation Ground	2.0
Chelmsford Cemetery & Crematorium	7.8
Total	368.04

Source: Chelmsford City Council Parks and Heritage Services, 2014

- 3.3.20 The existing Development Plan has defined Green Wedges in the valleys and flood plain of the Rivers Chelmer, Wid and Can (see **Section 3.13** for further information). 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 identify the Sandford Mill Special Policy Area.

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.3.21 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.

3.3.22 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. With specific regard to green infrastructure, the Council's Parks and Green Spaces Strategy¹⁷ sets out a collective vision for improved green spaces and which includes an objective to support the Chelmsford BAP.

3.3.23 It is reasonable to assume that without the Local Plan, existing trends would continue. National planning policy contained in the NPPF and existing Development Plan policy (such as Policy CP9 of the Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD) would help to ensure that new development protects and enhances biodiversity. However, a lack of up-to-date policy support (particularly beyond the current Development Plan period) may result in the inappropriate location and design of development which could have a negative effect on overall biodiversity across the Chelmsford City Area. Further, opportunities may be lost to plan at the strategic level for green infrastructure provision and which could provide biodiversity enhancements through, for example, habitat creation schemes.

Summary of Key Sustainability Issues

- ▶ The need to conserve and enhance biodiversity including sites designated for their nature conservation value.
- ▶ The need to maintain, restore and expand BAP habitats.
- ▶ The need to safeguard existing green infrastructure assets.
- ▶ The need to enhance the green infrastructure network, addressing deficiencies and gaps, improving accessibility for all users and encouraging multiple uses where appropriate.

3.4 Population and Community

Demographics

3.4.1 As at the 2011 Census, the Chelmsford City Area had a population of 168,300, an increase of 7.2% since the 2001 Census when the population stood at 157,072. Approximately half of Chelmsford's population resides in the Chelmsford urban area and South Woodham Ferrers. Office for National

¹⁷ Chelmsford City Council (2013) *Parks and Green Spaces Strategy 2004-2014*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/policy-documents/parks-and-open-spaces> [Accessed June 2015].

Statistics (ONS) mid-year population estimates indicate that the population of the local authority area had risen to 171,600 in 2014¹⁸.

- 3.4.2 Of the total resident population, 49.4% are male and 50.6% female. The age structure of the population is relatively similar to that of Essex and England as a whole (see **Table 3.4**) with the percentage of people aged 0 to 15 slightly lower than that for the County and England as a whole and the percentage of the population aged 65 and over lower compared to Essex but slightly higher compared to England.

Table 3.4 Population by Age Group

Age Group	Chelmsford (%)	Essex (%)	England (%)
0-15 years	18.5	19	18.9
16-24 years	10.8	10.8	11.9
25-44 years	27.2	26.4	27.5
45-64 years	26.8	26.2	25.4
65 and over	16.7	17.6	16.3

Source: ONS (2014) *Resident Population Estimates – All Persons by Broad Age Band – June 2014*. Available from <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/all-releases.html?definition=tcm:77-22371> [Accessed July 2015].

- 3.4.3 Using the ONS category descriptions, the largest ethnic group in the Chelmsford City Area is White British which accounts for 90.3% of the population. This compares with 90.8% in Essex and 79.8% in England. A total of 3% of the population is classified as 'Other White' whilst all other ethnic groups were represented by less than 1% of the total population.

Deprivation

- 3.4.4 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.
- 3.4.5 The 2015 IMD ranked the Chelmsford City Area 261st out of 326 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 nationally¹⁹. 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.
- 3.4.6 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.

Housing

- 3.4.7 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. According to the Authority Monitoring Report¹⁴, the Council averaged 531 dwelling completions per annum between 2001 and 2014. During the year

¹⁸ Available from NOMIS (2015) *Labour Market Profile – Chelmsford*. See <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157214/report.aspx> [Accessed July 2015].

¹⁹ Available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/english-indices-of-deprivation> [Accessed October 2015].

2013/2014, housing completion rates increased for Chelmsford for the fourth year in a row with development activity having increased significantly since 2013 related to commencements on the majority of the Council's strategic sites. As of April 2014, the Council approved a number of planning applications on key strategic sites that will provide over 4,500 new homes.

- 3.4.8 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% is privately rented and 1% is provided rent free. The 2011 Census shows 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.
- 3.4.9 The average house price in the Chelmsford City Area was £251,962 in 2013/14 with house prices staying fairly static for the years 2012/13 to 2013/14. The ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings is a measure of how affordable a property is to buy where the higher the ratio, the less affordable it is for households to get onto the property ladder. In 2013, Chelmsford's ratio was 8.71, higher than the County average of 7.87 and the national average of 6.45 which suggests that affordability is a significant issue.²⁰

Economy

- 3.4.10 The Council's Employment Land Review (ELR) (2015)²¹ 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.
- 3.4.11 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.
- 3.4.12 The Chelmsford City Area has the largest business base within the Heart of Essex and at 2014 was home to 6,770 enterprises supporting 82,600 jobs (more than any other district in Essex) across a mixed economy that has seen a shift to more service focused jobs (although the advanced manufacturing sector in Chelmsford is still relatively strong). As at 2013, a total of 73,400 jobs were in the service sector, representing 88.8% of all jobs in the local authority area. A total of 4,400 jobs, meanwhile, were in manufacturing (5.4%) and 3,900 jobs in construction (4.7%). This trend is similar to regional and national averages.²²
- 3.4.13 Statistics taken from the NOMIS Labour Market Profile for the Chelmsford City Area are outlined within **Table 3.5**. They reveal that Chelmsford has a 4% higher rate of economically active residents compared to the national average and a 1% higher rate than the East of England

²⁰ DCLG (2014) *Table 576 Ratio of lower quartile house price to lower quartile earnings by district, from 19971-7*. Available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-housing-market-and-house-prices> [Accessed June 2015].

²¹ Chelmsford City Council (2015) *Employment Land Review*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sites/chelmsford.gov.uk/files/files/documents/files/EMPLOYMENT%20LAND%20REVIEW%20PUBLISHED%20JAN%202015%20WEB.pdf> [Accessed June 2015].

²² Nomis (2015) *Labour Market Profile – Chelmsford*. Available from <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157214/report.aspx> [Accessed July 2015].

average. Unemployment rates, meanwhile, are below the regional and national averages (by 0.6% and 1.6% respectively).

Table 3.5 Economic Activity

	Chelmsford (numbers)	Chelmsford (%)	East of England (%)	Great Britain (%)
Economically Active	93,900	81.3	79.9	77.3
In employment (of working age population, 2011)	90,900	78.5	75.7	72.4
Unemployed (of working age population, 2011)	4,400	4.6	5.2	6.2

Source: NOMIS (2015) *Annual population survey Employment and unemployment (Jan 2014-Dec 2014)*.

- 3.4.14 The composition of resident occupations in the Chelmsford City Area is set out in **Table 3.6**. It illustrates a higher proportion of managerial and professional employment occupations within Chelmsford when compared to regional and national averages (by approximately 5%). Conversely, employment in process plant, machine operative and elementary occupations is lower than regional and national averages.

Table 3.6 Employment Breakdown by Occupation

	Chelmsford (Numbers)	Chelmsford (%)	East (%)	Great Britain (%)
Occupational Group				
Managers and Senior Officials/ Professional/ Associate Professional and Technical	45,900	50.5	44.5	44.3
Administrative and Secretarial/ Skilled Trades	17,300	19	22.1	21.5
Personal Services/ Sales and Customer Services	16,400	18.1	16.5	17.1
Process Plant and Machine Operatives/ Elementary Occupations	11,200	12.4	16.8	17.1

Source: NOMIS (2015) *Employment by Occupation (Jan 2014-Dec 2014)*

- 3.4.15 Average gross weekly pay for people working in the Chelmsford City Area in 2014 was £479.10. This was lower than the average for the East of England region (£505.80) and Great Britain (£520.20).
- 3.4.16 An analysis of planning application data over the past ten years contained in the ELR (2015) shows that over 160,000 m² 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 m², the largest stock anywhere in Essex.
- 3.4.17 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 m² of floorspace (222,000 m² of which is outside of the allocated employment sites in those areas).

Skills and Education

- 3.4.18 The resident population of the Chelmsford City Area is relatively well educated and highly skilled. Over a third of the working age population (34.9%) are 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 36.0% (see **Table 3.7**). Chelmsford also has a much lower percentage of people leaving education (6.9%) without any qualifications compared to regional and national averages figures (8.1% and 8.8% respectively).

Table 3.7 Level of Qualification Obtained

Level	Chelmsford (numbers)	Chelmsford (%)	East of England (%)	Great Britain (%)
NVQ 4 and above	38,200	34.9	33.1	36.0
NVQ 3 and above	58,700	53.6	54.1	56.7
NVQ 2 and above	83,800	76.5	72.1	73.3
NVQ 1 and above	95,300	87.0	86.0	85.0
Other qualifications	6,700	6.1	5.9	6.2
No qualifications	7,600	6.9	8.1	8.8

Source: Nomis (2015) *Qualifications January 2014 – December 2014*.

- 3.4.19 Chelmsford is home to Anglia Ruskin University, one of the largest and fastest growing universities in the UK. Chelmsford also hosts Writtle 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

- 3.4.20 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 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 include primary schools, shops, surgeries and green spaces. Other rural settlements have a more limited range of facilities and public transport services.
- 3.4.21 Chelmsford has a strong retail sector that supports over 10,000 jobs. With some 125,000 m² 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. 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. This will continue to be a strong sector in Chelmsford and important to the local economy.²¹

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.4.22 The latest projections²³ anticipate that the population of the Chelmsford City Area will increase to 195,900 by 2036 (an increase of 16.4% compared to the population at the 2011 Census) whilst the number of households is forecast to rise to 86,000 (an increase of 16,000 households or 23.9% compared to 2011)²⁴.
- 3.4.23 The Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD (Policy CP2) sets out that a minimum of 14,000 net new dwellings should be built in the period 2001-2021 which equates to an average annual delivery rate of 700 dwellings per annum. However, this delivery rate is no longer considered to be appropriate following the revocation of the East of England Plan and the requirement of the NPPF for local authorities to meet in full the objectively assessed need for market and affordable housing in the housing market area.
- 3.4.24 The Council's Objectively Assessed Housing Need Study (2015)²⁵ recommends a target of between 736 and 775 dwellings per annum over the period 2013 to 2037. The Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) (2014)²⁶ assesses the need for both market and affordable housing in the Chelmsford City Area. It indicates a range of need between 701 and 925 dwellings per annum. This is based on a need for 370 market dwellings per annum and either 331 or 555 affordable dwellings per annum depending on whether the shortfall of affordable housing need is made up in 5 or 20 years subject to deliverability constraints.²⁷ 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.
- 3.4.25 The East of England Forecast Modelling (2015) baseline forecast²⁸ shows employment growth (in terms of the number of employee jobs) in Chelmsford increasing from 81,900 jobs in 2013 to 99,400 jobs in 2031, a total growth of 17,500 jobs, or approximately 900 jobs per annum. This increase is shown across a variety of sectors, with the largest increases seen in the service sector, although some more modest increases in transport, construction, education, health and retail are anticipated. Manufacturing jobs are forecast to level out over the period.
- 3.4.26 The East of England Forecasting Model also indicates that GVA per capita (i.e. per head of the resident population) will increase from £21,200 to £30,200 between 2012 – 2031, one of the fastest economic growth rates in Essex.
- 3.4.27 Based on earlier (2013) forecasts (which indicated that GVA per capita would increase to 32,400 by 2031), the ELR (2015) identifies that, in the period 2013-2031, the Chelmsford City Area needs to have a potential land supply capable of accommodating 232,000 m² of additional employment floorspace (a second scenario contained in the ELR (based on high migration scenarios) indicates a potential land supply requirement of 266,200 m²). The ELR highlights that there is strong evidence to suggest that Chelmsford's ability to attract new investment is closely linked to the

²³ ONS (2014) *2012-based Subnational Population Projections*. Available from <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcn%3A77-335242> [Accessed June 2015].

²⁴ ONS (2014) *2012-based Household Projections*. Available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-household-projections> [Accessed June 2015].

²⁵ Peter Brett Associates (2015) *Braintree District Council, Chelmsford City Council, Colchester Borough Council, Tendring District Council Objectively Assessed Housing Need Study*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sites/chelmsford.gov.uk/files/files/files/documents/files/OAHN%20Final%20Report%20July%202015.pdf> [Accessed October 2015].

²⁶ DCA (2013) *Chelmsford City Council Strategic Housing Market Assessment*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sites/chelmsford.gov.uk/files/files/files/documents/files/Final%20SHMA%20Report.pdf> [Accessed June 2015].

²⁷ The findings of the SHMA do not represent the 'objectively assessed' need for housing.

²⁸ See <http://www.cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/EEFM> [Accessed June 2015].

availability of land and premises supply and that as the City continues to grow, it will be important that a flexible and adaptable supply of employment land is retained and brought forward. In this context, it states that there is limited capacity at allocated employment areas and that there would appear to be a significant mismatch (an undersupply) between future demand from businesses that are likely to require office accommodation and available supply. The position is less critical in relation to land for industrial/warehousing development. The baseline position to 2031 indicates that supply and demand is broadly in balance, although in the high growth scenario there is a slight undersupply of 13,000 m².

- 3.4.28 The Retail Capacity Study (2015)²⁹ 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 in Chelmsford City Centre and ensure that the neighbourhood and local centres continue to perform a strong convenience goods role which serves local needs.
- 3.4.29 With regard to community facilities and services, Essex County Council has identified³⁰ that there will be deficits in the number of primary and secondary school places in the period to 2019 with a significant deficit in reception places from the school year 2015/16 within the Baddow / Moulsham / Galleywood area.
- 3.4.30 The absence of the Local Plan would not halt the delivery of housing, employment and community facilities and services in the Chelmsford City Area. However, without up-to-date policy relating to (in particular) the quantum, type and location of new development and a sufficient supply of site allocations to meet future requirements, the extent to which new development and its location meets the needs of Chelmsford's communities and businesses would be more uncertain as (to a large extent) the key decisions over where development is located would be left solely to the market. This could (inter alia) undermine the potential for new development to help address shortfalls in affordable housing, deliver community facilities and services and support economic growth.

Key Sustainability Issues

- ▶ Overall, the need to create sustainable places where people want to live, work and relax.
- ▶ The need to enable housing growth, meeting objectively assessed housing needs 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.
- ▶ 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.

²⁹ GVA (2015) *Chelmsford Retail Capacity Study 2015*. Available from http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sites/chelmsford.gov.uk/files/files/committee_files/retailapp1.pdf [Accessed October 2015].

³⁰ Essex County Council (2015) *Commissioning School Places in Essex 2014-2019*. Available from https://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Delivering-Education-Essex/School-Organisation-Planning/Documents/Commissioning_School_Places_in_Essex_2014_19.pdf [Accessed June 2015].

- ▶ 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.
- ▶ 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.
- ▶ 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

- 3.5.1 The 2015 Health Profile for Chelmsford produced by Public Health England³¹ highlights that the health of Chelmsford's population is generally good with life expectancy for both men and women higher than the England average.
- 3.5.2 In Year 6, 16.2% of children were classified as obese, better than the average for England. The rate of alcohol specific hospital stays among those under 18 was 23.4 (rate per 100,000 population), better than the average for England. Levels of teenage pregnancy, GCSE attainment, breastfeeding and smoking at time of delivery are also better than the England average.
- 3.5.3 In 2012, 21.8% of adults were classified as obese. The rate of alcohol related harm hospital stays was 590 (rate per 100,000 population), better than the average for England. The rate of self-harm hospital stays, meanwhile, was 151.3 (rate per 100,000 population) and again was better than the average for England. The rate of smoking related deaths was 220 (rate per 100,000 population) and was also better than the average for England.
- 3.5.4 Despite an overall positive picture of health, the Health Profile highlights that inequalities in health exist within the Chelmsford City Area. For example, life expectancy is 6.1 years lower for men in the most deprived areas of Chelmsford than in the least deprived areas.
- 3.5.5 Healthcare provision in the Chelmsford City Area includes Broomfield Hospital and a range of private and NHS health care providers. There are also three private hospitals in Chelmsford and modern new healthcare facilities are proposed as part of the major new development to the north-

³¹ Public Health England (2015) *Chelmsford District Health Profile 2015*. Available from <http://www.apho.org.uk/resource/item.aspx?RID=171786> [Accessed June 2015].

east of the City Centre. GP-patient ratio data for the NHS Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group highlights that, as at 2014, ratios were 1654.29 patients per Full Time Equivalent (FTE) GP. This is above the UK average of 1,580 patients per FTE³².

Open Space

- 3.5.6 The provision of open space, sports and recreational facilities can play a significant role in the promotion of healthy lifestyles. As highlighted in **Section 3.3**, in 2012 the Chelmsford City Area had 692 ha of parks and green spaces managed and maintained, including 490 ha of parks, gardens and amenity areas, 93 ha of sports and playing fields and 78 ha of natural space. However, an Open Space Assessment undertaken in 2004³³ found deficiencies in open space provision and particularly in the urban area of Chelmsford for typologies including parks and gardens, natural and semi-natural, amenity green space and young people and children.
- 3.5.7 The Council is currently preparing a revised assessment of open space and recreational facilities in the Chelmsford City Area to inform the preparation of the Local Plan.

Crime

- 3.5.8 Crime statistics published by the ONS³⁴ highlight that crime rates in Essex were higher than the East of England average but lower than rates for England as a whole for the year to June 2014. Crime rates increased slightly compared to the year to June 2013.

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.5.9 The Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy for Essex (2012)³⁵ sets out a vision for Essex that: “by 2018 residents and local communities in Essex will have greater choice, control, and responsibility for health and wellbeing services. Life expectancy overall will have increased and the inequalities within and between our communities will have reduced. Every child and adult will be given more opportunities to enjoy better health and wellbeing.” A number of Chelmsford Community Plan (2008) key priorities also relate to improving health, including:
- ▶ Support work towards reducing levels of obesity, smoking and binge drinking in the working age population by promoting physical activity and sport as a vital component in good health.
 - ▶ Support the work to halt the increase in childhood obesity between reception year and year 6 of primary school.
 - ▶ Increase the involvement of older residents in a wide range of activities to improve their health and well being.
 - ▶ Reduce the barriers to participation in physical activity.
- 3.5.10 However, the Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy for Essex identifies a number of challenges for health including an ageing population (which may result in deficits in the provision of facilities such

³² See <http://www.gponline.com/exclusive-huge-variation-gp-patient-ratio-across-england-revealed/article/1327390> [Accessed July 2015].

³³ PMP (2004) *PPG 17 Open Space Assessment*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/files/EB56%20-%20A%20PPG17%20Open%20Spaces%20Assessment%20for%20Chelmsford%20Borough%20Council.pdf> [Accessed June 2015].

³⁴ ONS (2014) *Crime Statistics, Year Ending June 2014*. Available from <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcn%3A77-353718> [Accessed June 2015].

³⁵ Essex Health and Wellbeing Board (2012) *Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy for Essex*. Available from http://www.wecb.org.uk/sites/default/files/Essex_Health_Wellbeing_Strategy_new_format_v8%5B1%5D.pdf. [Accessed June 2015].

as supported housing units), rising obesity (placing pressure on health and social care services) and an existing shortfall in specialist housing units for adults with learning disabilities. Additionally, the projected increase in the local population may place significant pressure on existing health care facilities and services and which may require the expansion of (for example) existing, and creation of new, surgeries.

- 3.5.11 Whilst the NPPF and existing Development Plan policies will be expected to help protect health and promote healthy lifestyles, the 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.
- 3.5.12 The Safer Chelmsford Partnership Plan (2012)³⁶ has set out a number of actions to tackle crime in the Chelmsford City Area including:
- ▶ Reducing Violent Crime: with a clear emphasis on the night time economy and alcohol related disorder.
 - ▶ Protecting Vulnerable People: identifying repeat victims, educating both young and old people, supporting those at risk of re-offending and encouraging proactive reporting of hate crime and domestic abuse.
 - ▶ Tackling Anti Social Behaviour: identifying repeat victims, improving perceptions and facilitating local problem solving to address issues.
 - ▶ Reducing Re-offending: focusing on Integrated Offender Management
- 3.5.13 Policies contained in the existing Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD also support crime reduction through, for example, the promotion of high quality design that seeks to create safe and secure communities (see Policy DC42). This would be expected to continue in the absence of the Local Plan at least for the duration of the existing Development Plan period.

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.
- ▶ 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.

3.6 Transport and Accessibility

³⁶ Safer Chelmsford Partnership (2012) *The Safer Chelmsford Partnership Plan 2011-2014*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sites/chelmsford.gov.uk/files/files/documents/files/Partnership%20plan%202011-14-updated%20May%202012.pdf> [Accessed June 2015].

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 as a primary route in Chelmsford but its terminus is Maldon.
- 3.6.2 Chelmsford's two Park and Ride facilities (Chelmer Valley and Sandon) with frequent connections offer a convenient service in to the City Centre for commuters and shoppers
- 3.6.3 Chelmsford rail station is the busiest in the East of England, accommodating up to 7.5 million passenger trips per year. Regular services connect Chelmsford with London Liverpool Street (with up to ten trains per hour), Ipswich and Norwich. Greater Anglia are currently undertaking improvements to Chelmsford rail station as part of a National Stations Improvement Programme. This will include refurbishment, new access arrangements, and a Cycle Point facility, the second in England. Through the North Chelmsford Area Action Plan (AAP), a new North East Chelmsford railway station (Beaulieu Station) is currently scheduled to open in Autumn 2021. This will be a key element of the City's planning strategy for the area. 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.
- 3.6.4 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.

Movement

- 3.6.5 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 3.8** 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 (40.63%) with 9.18% of residents travelling by train.

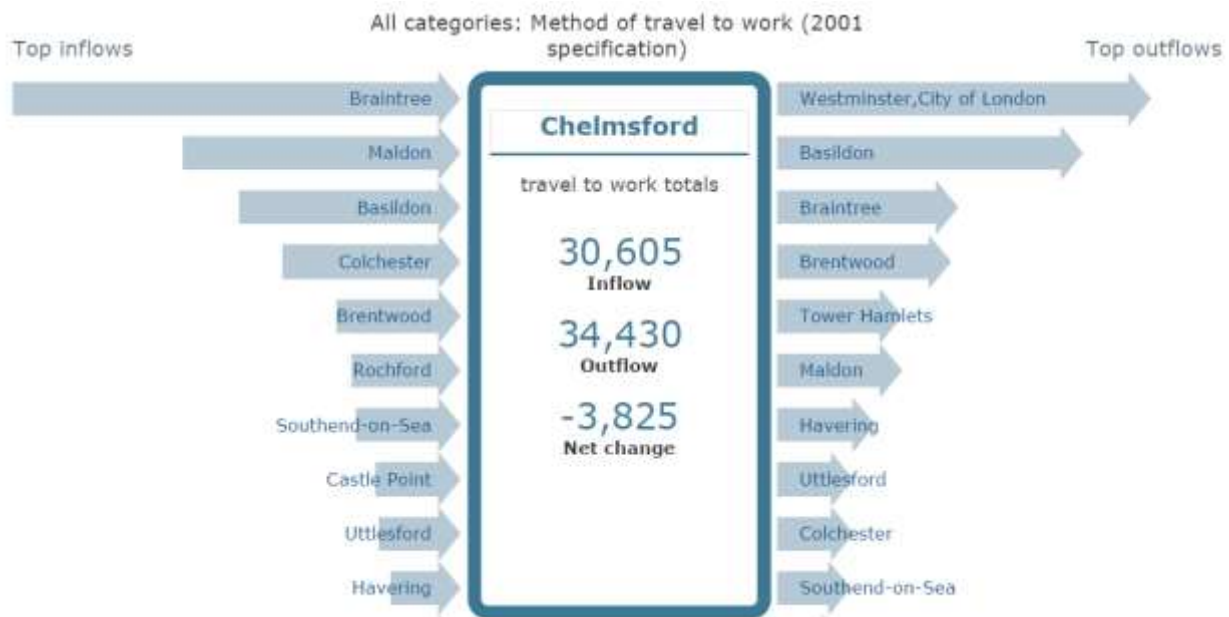
Table 3.8 Distance Travelled to Work

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*.

- 3.6.6 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.
- 3.6.7 **Figure 3.3** shows the workplace destinations of the Chelmsford City Area's workforce for 2011. It demonstrates that the majority of residents commuted to 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 3.3 Workplace Destinations



Source: NOMIS (2014) *Location of usual residence and place of work by method of travel to work*. Available from <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/WU03UK/chart/1132462182> [Accessed June 2015].

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.6.8 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 trunk 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.
- 3.6.9 Essex County Council's Local Transport Plan (2011)³⁷ sets out the framework for improvements to the County's transport infrastructure network focussing on (inter-alia):
- ▶ delivering transport improvements to support growth, including the North Chelmsford railway station;
 - ▶ providing for, and promoting, sustainable forms of travel;

³⁷ Essex County Council (2011) *Essex Transport Strategy: The Local Transport Plan for Essex*. Available from file:///C:/Users/alex.melling/Downloads/essex_ltp.pdf [Accessed June 2015].

- ▶ maintaining and improving public transport links;
- ▶ tackling congestion and improving journey-time reliability;
- ▶ improving access to railway stations and improving station facilities;
- ▶ extending and upgrading the Chelmsford cycle network and promoting its use;
- ▶ improving the attractiveness of streets and public spaces;
- ▶ improving journey time reliability on key routes including the A130; and
- ▶ developing long-term solutions to resolving gaps within the strategic network.

3.6.10 The existing Development Plan also includes a number of policies and proposals to enhance transport in the local authority area. Specific proposals include the Chelmsford North East By-pass 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 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 Local Plan.

3.6.11 However, without the Local Plan there would be a significant policy gap with regard to the location of future growth in the Chelmsford City Area. This gap could result in development being located in areas that are not well served by community facilities and services and jobs thereby leading to an increase in transport movements. Currently, the Chelmsford City Area experiences high levels of out-commuting (mainly to London) which could be reduced through the allocation, in the Local Plan, of accessible employment sites that deliver local employment opportunities. Allied to this, without Local Plan policy coverage, opportunities may be missed to adopt a strategic (and timely) approach to investment in transport infrastructure.

Key Sustainability Issues

- ▶ The need to ensure timely investment in transport infrastructure and services.
- ▶ The need to address congestion, particularly on and around the main A12, A130 and A414 transport corridors.
- ▶ The need to address existing junction capacity issues.
- ▶ The need to enhance the connectivity of more remote settlements, particularly to the north of the Council's administrative area.
- ▶ The need to encourage alternative modes of transport to the car, including 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.
- ▶ 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.

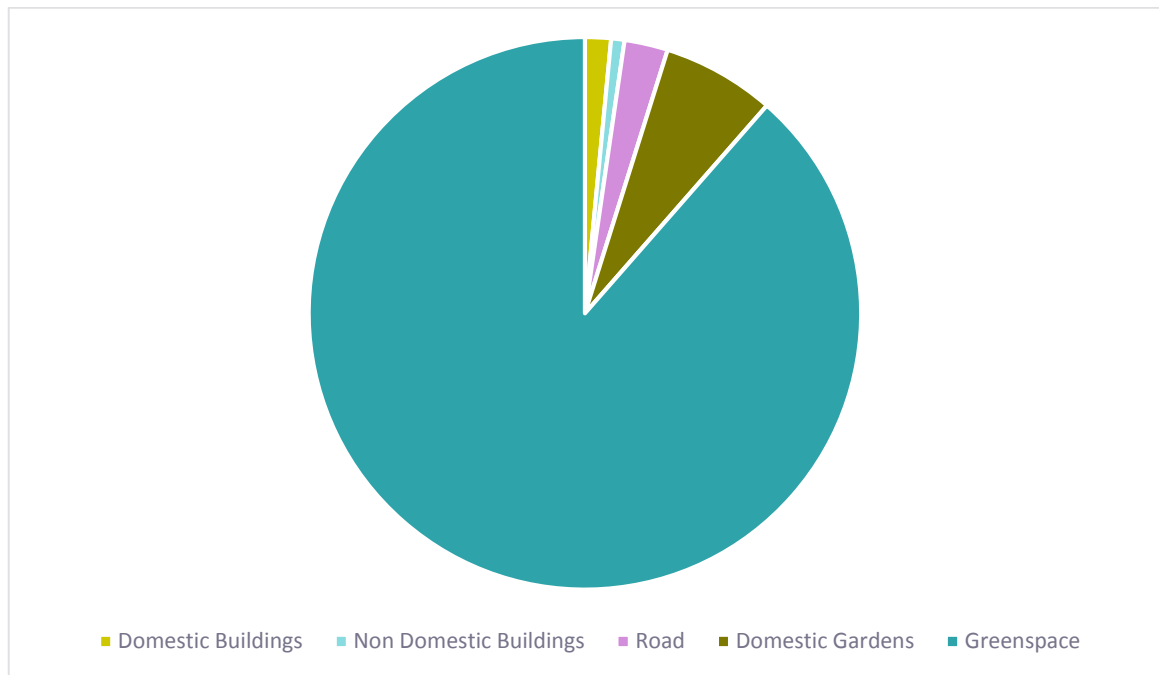
- The need to investigate more innovative and creative ways to tackle behaviour change, rather than simply the monitoring of travel patterns.

3.7 Land Use, Geology and Soils

Land Use

- 3.7.1 **Figure 3.4** 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 3.4 Land Uses



- 3.7.2 Government policy set out in the NPPF encourages the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed. The Authority Monitoring Report for the 2013/14 period¹⁴ highlights that 68% of net dwelling completions were built on previously developed (brownfield) land against a target of 60%. Past trend information highlights that this target has been exceeded every year since 2004/05. 100% of the completed employment floorspace in the Chelmsford City Area during 2013/14, meanwhile, was also on previously developed land.
- 3.7.3 In 2013/14, 56% of new residential developments in Chelmsford achieved a density of over 30 dwellings per hectare. The number of dwellings completed at a density of 100+ dwellings per hectare was 21%.

Geology

- 3.7.4 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).
- 3.7.5 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 deposit are the Head Deposits.

- 3.7.6 River Terrace Deposits and alluvium tend to be located around river channels.³⁸
- 3.7.7 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 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.³⁹ 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.⁴⁰

Soils

- 3.7.8 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.
- 3.7.9 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 Local Plan

- 3.7.10 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 Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD seeks to avoid the significant, irreversible or permanent loss of the best and most versatile agricultural land (see Policy DC56 for example) and promotes the use of previously developed land. However, where 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.
- 3.7.11 The Council has produced an assessment of the capacity of future development sites. This Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA) indicates that the future supply of brownfield sites is reducing and would accommodate no more than 3,000 new homes⁴¹.
- 3.7.12 Without the Local Plan, national planning policy set out in the NPPF and extant Development Plan policy would apply and may help to ensure that new development is focused on brownfield land. However, there is likely to be pressure to release greenfield sites for development to meet future

³⁸ Scott Wilson (2008) *Strategic Flood Risk Assessment*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sites/chelmsford.gov.uk/files/files/documents/files/EB47.1%20-%20Strategic%20Flood%20Risk%20Assessment%20Appendix%20B%20and%20Main%20Report%20-%20Chapters.pdf> [Accessed June 2015].

³⁹ For further information see <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteDetail.aspx?SiteCode=S2000058&SiteName=&countyCode=15&responsiblePerson=> [Accessed June 2015].

⁴⁰ For further information see <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteDetail.aspx?SiteCode=s1003975> [Accessed July 2015].

⁴¹ Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/development-policy-committee-02-sep-2015-700pm-0> [Accessed October 2015].

growth and which in turn may result in the loss of the best and most versatile agricultural land. Without clear and up-to-date local planning policy relating to the location of future development and the provision of sites to meet local needs, the Council would have less control over where development takes place.

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.
- ▶ 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 km² 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 Chelmsford City Area falls within the Anglian River Basin District (see **Figure 3.5**). The Anglian River Basin Management Plan (RBMP)⁴² reports that (as at 2009) only 18% of surface waters in the River Basin District were at good or better ecological status/potential although 33% of assessed surface waters were at good or better biological status now. For groundwater bodies,

⁴² Environment Agency (2009) *River Basin Management Plan Anglian River Basin District*. Available from https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/309814/River_Basin_Management_Plan.pdf [Accessed June 2015].

65% were at good quantitative status. A similar percentage were also at good chemical status. The RBMP highlights that the main reasons for not achieving good status or potential include:

- ▶ diffuse source agricultural;
- ▶ point source water industry sewage works;
- ▶ physical modification flood protection;
- ▶ physical modification land drainage;
- ▶ abstraction;
- ▶ diffuse source mixed urban run –off;
- ▶ point source trade industry – non water industry;
- ▶ physical modification barriers to fish migration;
- ▶ physical modification urbanisation; and
- ▶ physical modification water storage and supply (including for power generation).

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 Environment Agency has recently completed an exercise to refresh the Mitigation Measures Assessment (MMA) for all Artificial and Heavily Modified Water Bodies⁴³. The Chelmsford City Area falls within the Combined Essex Management Catchment and Chelmer Operational Catchment. The status of the majority of waterbodies in the Operational Catchment was moderate in 2013. The main factors affecting the status of waterbodies have been cited as physical modifications, negative effects of non-native species, pollution from towns and cities and pollution from rural areas.

⁴³ See <http://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/ManagementCatchment/10/Summary> [Accessed June 2015].

Figure 3.5 The Anglian River Basin District



Source: Environment Agency (2009) *River Basin Management Plan Anglian River Basin District*.

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 TWU's Lea Valley Reservoirs and the Ely and Ouse to Essex Transfer Scheme.⁴⁴

Flood Risk

- 3.8.7 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 3.6** shows the prevalence of Flood Zones 2 and 3 across the Chelmsford City Area. The 2008 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) for the Chelmsford City Area highlights that there are 502 properties at risk of flooding the River Chelmer Catchment⁴⁵.

Figure 3.6 Environment Agency Flood Zone Map Zones 2 and 3



Source: Environment Agency Flood Zone Map. Areas in light blue indicate Flood Zone 2. Areas in dark blue indicate Flood Zone 3.

⁴⁴ Essex and Suffolk Water (2014) *Final Water Resources Management Plan 2014*. Available from https://www.eswater.co.uk/assets/documents/ESW_Final_Published_PR14_WRMP_Report_-_V3_-_08OCT14.pdf [Accessed June 2015].

⁴⁵ Scott Wilson (2008) *Strategic Flood Risk Assessment*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/files/EB47.1%20-%20Strategic%20Flood%20Risk%20Assessment%20Appendix%20B%20and%20Main%20Report%20-%20%20Chapters.pdf> [Accessed July 2015].

- 3.8.8 A Water Cycle Study was prepared for the Chelmsford City Area in 2010⁴⁶ and which included an assessment of flood risk in respect of a number of the area's key settlements (see **Table 3.9**). The Water Cycle Study also highlighted that of the 38 opportunity sites identified in the Chelmsford Town Centre AAP, 20 are partly or entirely within Flood Zones 2 and 3.

Table 3.9 Flood Risk Assessments

Settlement	Flood Risk Assessment
Boreham, Broomfield, Danbury, Galleywood, Great Leighs, Stock	These settlements are outside of the flood zones and are unlikely to be affected by fluvial or coastal flooding.
Bicknacre	The flood maps show a narrow area in Flood Zone 2 along the watercourse through Bicknacre. This is unlikely to affect any identified development within Bicknacre.
Writtle	Parts of the east of Writtle are within Flood Zones 2, 3a and 3b, and at risk of flooding from the River Wid.
Runwell	Runwell is considered at risk from flooding from the River Crouch in the area between the A132 and the railway.
South Woodham Ferrers	Large parts of South Woodham Ferrers is at risk from coastal flooding to the east, south and west sides of the town and these areas would not be suitable for additional housing development. These areas are also areas of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Source: Halcrow Group Limited (2010)

- 3.8.9 Environment Agency flood maps also indicate that surface water flooding is a potential constraint in some parts of the Chelmsford City Area including within the main urban area of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers where some areas are identified as being at medium and high risk of flooding⁴⁷. The Chelmsford Surface Water Management Plan (2014)⁴⁸ identifies the following sources of flooding:
- ▶ Pluvial flooding;
 - ▶ Flooding from ordinary watercourses
 - ▶ Sewer flooding
 - ▶ Flooding from groundwater sources
- 3.8.10 The Plan highlights that the City of Chelmsford and a number of surrounding settlements are at the highest risk of surface water flooding.

⁴⁶ Halcrow Group Limited (2010) *Chelmsford Water Cycle Study – Phase 1*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sites/chelmsford.gov.uk/files/files/documents/files/EB48%20-%20Chelmsford%20Water%20Cycle%20Study%20%E2%80%93%20Phase%201%20Technical%20Report%20-%20Update.pdf> [Accessed June 2015].

⁴⁷ See <http://watermaps.environment-agency.gov.uk/wiyby/wiyby.aspx?lang=e&topic=ufmfsw&layer=0&x=570500&y=206500&scale=10&location=Chelmsford%2c+Essex#x=580616&y=196989&scale=9> [Accessed July 2015].

⁴⁸ Capita Symonds (2014) Chelmsford Surface Water Management. Final Draft.

- 3.8.11 The Water Cycle Study highlights that as much of the Chelmsford City Area is underlain by impermeable London Clay, infiltration techniques are likely to be inappropriate in many areas, and attenuation techniques may have to be used instead.

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.8.12 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 E&SW Water Resources Management Plan 2014 indicates that the Essex WRZ will be in surplus over the period of the Plan (to 2039/40).
- 3.8.13 The findings of the Water Cycle Study highlighted that (as at 2011) there was limited capacity both within the foul sewerage system and at existing wastewater treatment works to accommodate future growth. In particular, Chelmsford Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) was considered to be operating close to the limit of its treatment capacity. However, it is understood that there has been significant investment at the works and an updated Water Cycle Study is due to be commissioned by the Council that will inform the preparation of the Local Plan.
- 3.8.14 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 in the City Area.
- 3.8.15 Taking into account national planning policy set out in the NPPF and extant Development Plan policy, it is expected that flood risk would be managed without the 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. The Council is currently updating its SFRA, the findings from which will be used to inform the Local Plan in this regard.

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)⁴⁹. 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.

⁴⁹See <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:32008L0050> [Accessed June 2015].

- 3.9.2 The UK's National Air Quality Strategy⁵⁰ 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 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 There is one AQMA in the Chelmsford City Area namely, Army & Navy (see **Figure 3.7**). The AQMA 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 (NO₂).

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.9.6 The most recent Air Quality Progress Report for the Chelmsford City Area⁵¹ indicates that NO₂ concentrations are all below the objectives at relevant exposure with the exception of the existing AQMA. However, there are a further seven locations where monitoring identified concentrations at borderline concentrations, four of which are at locations sited outside of the AQMA and three are in a similar area (Springfield Road and Victoria Road) and are influenced by the same traffic conditions.
- 3.9.7 Improvements to air quality do not solely rely on planning policy. However, an increase in population and households in the Chelmsford City Area will in-turn generate additional transport movements and associated emissions to air. Without up-to-date local planning policy, new development may be located in areas that are not well served by community facilities and services and jobs thereby increasing traffic movements. Currently, Chelmsford experiences high levels of commuting which could be reduced through the allocation, in the Local Plan, of accessible employment sites that deliver local employment opportunities. Further, through the Local Plan, opportunities may be realised to help address existing issues of congestion.

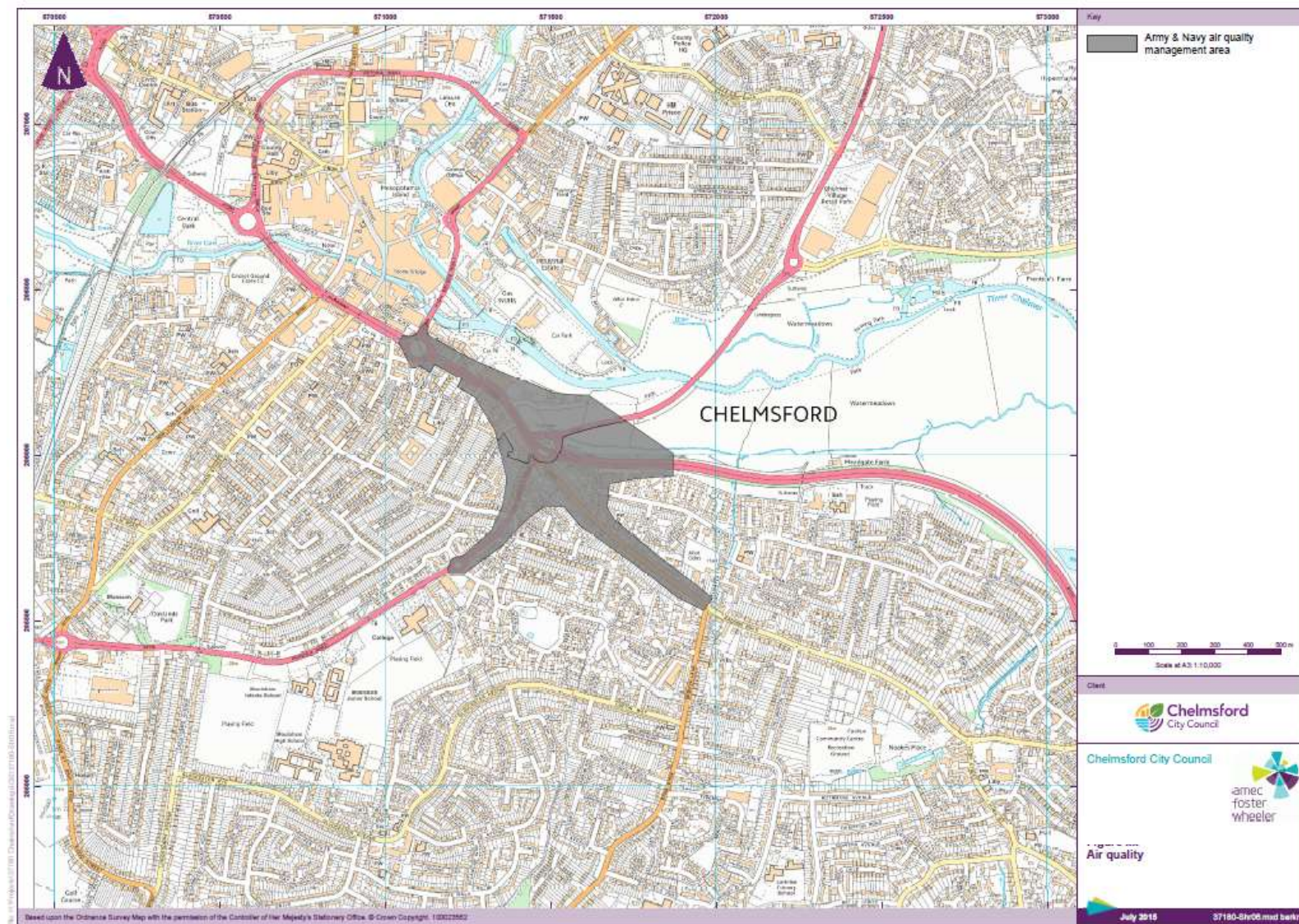
⁵⁰ *The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland*, Volume 1.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69336/pb12654-air-quality-strategy-vol1-070712.pdf [Accessed April 2015]

⁵¹ Chelmsford City Council (2014) *2014 Air Quality Progress Report*. Available from

http://www.essexair.org.uk/AQInEssex/LA/Chelmsford.aspx?View=reports&ReportType=Chelmsford&ReportID=Chelmsford_PR_2014&StartIndex=1&EndIndex=7 [Accessed June 2015].

Figure 3.7 Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area



Key Sustainability Issues

- ▶ The need to minimise the emissions of pollutants to air.
- ▶ The need to improve air quality, particularly in the Army & Navy 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 Change⁵² 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 Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is identified as being the most important of the greenhouse gases which are being produced by human activity and contributing to climate change. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), stabilising CO₂ concentrations at 450 parts per million (ppm) (that is 85 ppm above 2007 levels and 170 ppm above pre-industrial levels) in the long term would require the reduction of emissions worldwide to below 1990 levels within a few decades.
- 3.10.4 The policy and legislative context in relation to climate change has been established at the international level (Kyoto Agreement) and has been transposed into European, national and local legislation, strategies and policies. Reducing CO₂ emissions in the atmosphere is a national target to reduce climatic impact. This is driven by the Climate Change Act (2008), which sets a legally binding target of at least a 34% reduction in UK emissions by 2020 and at least an 80% reduction by 2050 against a 1990 baseline.
- 3.10.5 **Table 3.10** shows per capita CO₂ emissions for the period 2008 to 2012 for the Chelmsford City Area. Chelmsford's per capita emissions have generally fallen slowly over this period, although a slightly faster rate of decline was experienced between 2008-09 (reflecting in part the economic recession). Emissions have consistently been lower than national (UK) and regional levels and marginally lower than County averages. In 2012 (the latest reporting period), per capita emissions stood at 6.5 tonnes CO₂ per person compared to 7.1 tonnes nationally, 7.0 tonnes regionally and 6.5 tonnes at the County level. Total CO₂ emissions in 2012 were 1,101.6 kt CO₂ which

⁵² Calder, A. (2010) *Essex Local Climate Impact Profile*. Commissioned by Essex Partners Adapting to Climate Change. Available from https://www.essex.gov.uk/Environment%20Planning/Environmental-Issues/Strategic-Environment/Documents/Essex_Climate_Impacts_Profile.pdf [Accessed June 2015].

represented a slight increase compared to 2011 (of 4.2%) but an overall decline from 1,183.66 kt CO₂ in 2005.

Table 3.10 CO₂ Emissions Per Capita 2008-2012 (tonnes CO₂ per person)

	Chelmsford	Essex	East of England	UK
2008	7.0	7.1	7.7	8.1
2009	6.5	6.6	7.0	7.3
2010	6.7	6.8	7.3	7.5
2011	6.3	6.2	6.6	6.8
2012	6.5	6.5	7.0	7.1

Source: Department for Energy and Climate Change (2014) *UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics*.

- 3.10.6 As **Table 3.11** highlights, per capita emissions of CO₂ from industry, domestic and road transport within the Chelmsford City Area are similar indicating that there is no one dominant source of emissions. This broadly reflects trends at the regional and County level, although emissions from domestic sources are generally higher whilst emissions from industry and commercial sources are marginally lower.

Table 3.11 Per Capita CO₂ Emissions by Source 2008-2012 (tonnes CO₂ per person)

	Industry and Commercial	Domestic	Road Transport	Total
2008	2.3	2.4	2.3	7.0
2009	2.0	2.2	2.3	6.5
2010	2.1	2.3	2.2	6.7
2011	2.0	2.0	2.2	6.3
2012	2.1	2.3	2.2	6.5

Source: Department for Energy and Climate Change (2014) *UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics*.

- 3.10.7 The prudent use of fossil fuels and reducing levels of energy consumption will help to achieve lower CO₂ 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.
- 3.10.8 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. The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan 2009 sets out a number of key steps which need to be taken in order to reach the UK's low carbon objectives. These include an intention to produce 30% of the UK's electricity by renewable means by 2020.

- 3.10.9 As at 2013, the East of England region generated 9,318 GWh of electricity from renewable sources, higher than all other English regions for which the average was 3,602 GWh. This represents an increase in generation of 83.6% since 2003. The principal sources of electricity were wind and bioenergy which accounted for a combined 8,005 GWh of electricity generated.⁵³ The installed capacity of sites generating electricity from renewable sources in the East of England is also greater than the average for all English regions and in 2013 stood at 1,810 MWe (compared to an average of 674 MWe across all regions).

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.10.10 In June 2009, the findings of research on the probable effects of climate change in the UK was released by the UK Climate Change Projections team under Defra⁵⁴. This team provides 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.
- 3.10.11 According to the 2009 UK Climate Projections, the following climatic changes in Essex are likely to occur by 2080:
- ▶ Winter temperatures will increase by 2.6-3.7°C;
 - ▶ Summer temperatures will increase by 2.9-4.7°C;
 - ▶ Winter precipitation will increase by 12.9-21.3%;
 - ▶ Summer precipitation will decrease by 14.9-27.9%.
- 3.10.12 The 2010 LCLIP highlights that this climate change is likely to result in the following threats to Essex:
- ▶ 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.
- 3.10.13 Climate change is occurring and will continue regardless of local policy intervention. However, national policy on climate change, extant Development 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, without the 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.

⁵³ Department for Energy and Climate Change (2014) *Regional Statistics: Generation*. Available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics> [Accessed June 2015].

⁵⁴ See <http://ukclimateprojections.metoffice.gov.uk/21708?projections=23827> [Accessed June 2015].

Key Sustainability Issues

- ▶ The need to ensure that new development is adaptable 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 increased renewable energy provision.

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 A total of 76,394 tonnes of waste was collected by the Council in the period April 2013 to March 2014, the majority of which was household waste (71,585 tonnes). The volume of waste collected is higher than that for the previous financial year (75,060 tonnes) and the previous four reporting periods, although waste volumes have fluctuated.⁵⁵
- 3.11.3 Of the total local authority waste collected in the period April 2013 to March 2014, 32,839 tonnes was recycled, composted or reused representing 43.0% of all waste collected. This is similar to the previous financial year when the rate was 43.3% and is higher than rates in 2010-11 and 2009-10.⁵⁵
- 3.11.4 According to the Minerals and Waste Annual Monitoring Report for the period April 2013 to March 2014 produced by Essex County Council⁵⁶, within Essex and Southend there were 255 waste management facilities as at 2012. A total of 14 new waste management facilities were approved between 1st April 2013 and 31st March 2014. In the Chelmsford City Area, waste management facilities include a number of transfer stations and materials recovery facilities as well as four landfill sites.

Minerals

- 3.11.5 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.
- 3.11.6 A summary of Essex's minerals profile is provided within Essex Minerals Local Plan (2014)⁵⁷. It highlights that:
- ▶ Essex has extensive deposits of sand and gravel;
 - ▶ there are more localised deposits of silica sand, chalk, brickearth and brick clay;

⁵⁵ Defra (2014) *Local Authority Collected Waste Statistics*, available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/env18-local-authority-collected-waste-annual-results-tables> [Accessed June 2015]

⁵⁶ Available from <https://www.essex.gov.uk/Environment%20Planning/Planning/Minerals-Waste-Planning-Team/Planning-Policy/Documents/Full%20Document%20-%20AMR.pdf> [Accessed June 2015].

⁵⁷ 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> [Accessed June 2015].

- ▶ 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 aggregate;
- ▶ 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).

3.11.7 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.

Likely Evolution of the Baseline Without the Local Plan

- 3.11.8 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. In this regard, the Council's strategy and improvement plan for recycling and waste collection services⁵⁸ seeks to deliver a significant reduction in the amount of energy and natural resources consumed and a corresponding reduction in the level of damaging 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 Essex⁵⁹, meanwhile, seeks to achieve high levels of recycling, with an aspiration to achieve collectively 60% recycling of household waste by 2020.
- 3.11.9 The emerging replacement Essex Waste Local Plan⁶⁰ 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:
- ▶ there is likely to be a deficit of between 242 and 309 thousand tonnes per annum for biological treatment by 2031/32;

⁵⁸ 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 from http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/files/Managing_waste_in_Chelmsford..._today_and_tomorrow_-_Executive_Sum_2.pdf [Accessed June 2015].

⁵⁹ Essex County Council (2008) *Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Essex (2007 to 2032)*. Available from 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 [Accessed June 2015].

⁶⁰ Essex County Council and Southend on Sea Borough Council (2015) *Replacement Waste Local Plan Revised Preferred Approach*. Available from <https://www.essex.gov.uk/Environment%20Planning/Planning/Minerals-Waste-Planning-Team/Planning-Policy/Documents/RPA%20Main%20Doc%20with%20web%20covers.pdf> [Accessed July 2015].

- ▶ there is a need for further energy recovery capacity;
- ▶ there is likely to be a requirement for an additional 1.27 million tonnes per annum of Construction, Demolition and Excavation waste recovery capacity by 2031/32; and
- ▶ a total of 64 million cubic metres of inert (CD&E) landfill capacity will be required between 2013 and 2032.

- 3.11.10 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. 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.
- 3.11.11 Overall, planning for waste and minerals is a County function and in consequence, the baseline would not be expected to change significantly without the Local Plan. However, policies in the 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.

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 Mineral's Local Plan.

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:
- ▶ 1,006 listed building entries (comprising 21 Grade I, 44 Grade II* and 941 Grade II listed buildings);
 - ▶ 19 scheduled monuments; and
 - ▶ 6 registered parks and gardens.⁶¹
- 3.12.2 Designated historic assets in the Chelmsford City Area are shown in **Figure 3.8**.
- 3.12.3 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 Johns Hospital.
- 3.12.4 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 register⁶².

⁶¹ Historic England (2015) *National Heritage List for England*. Available from <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/> [Accessed June 2015].

⁶² Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/buildings-local-value> [Accessed June 2015].

- 3.12.5 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 archaeological importance, many of which have archaeological potential but have no statutory protection.
- 3.12.6 Within the Chelmsford City Area, there are currently three conservation areas, one listed building and two scheduled monuments on the Historic England 'At Risk' register⁶³. These are as follows:
- ▶ Baddow Road Conservation Area;
 - ▶ Moulsham Street Conservation Area;
 - ▶ West End Conservation Area;
 - ▶ Church of St Michael, The Street, Roxwell Grade II* Listed Building;
 - ▶ Settlement site at Ash Tree Corner, Little Waltham Scheduled Monument; and
 - ▶ Roman villa 450m west of Bury Farm, Pleshey.

Likely Evolution of the Baseline without the Local Plan

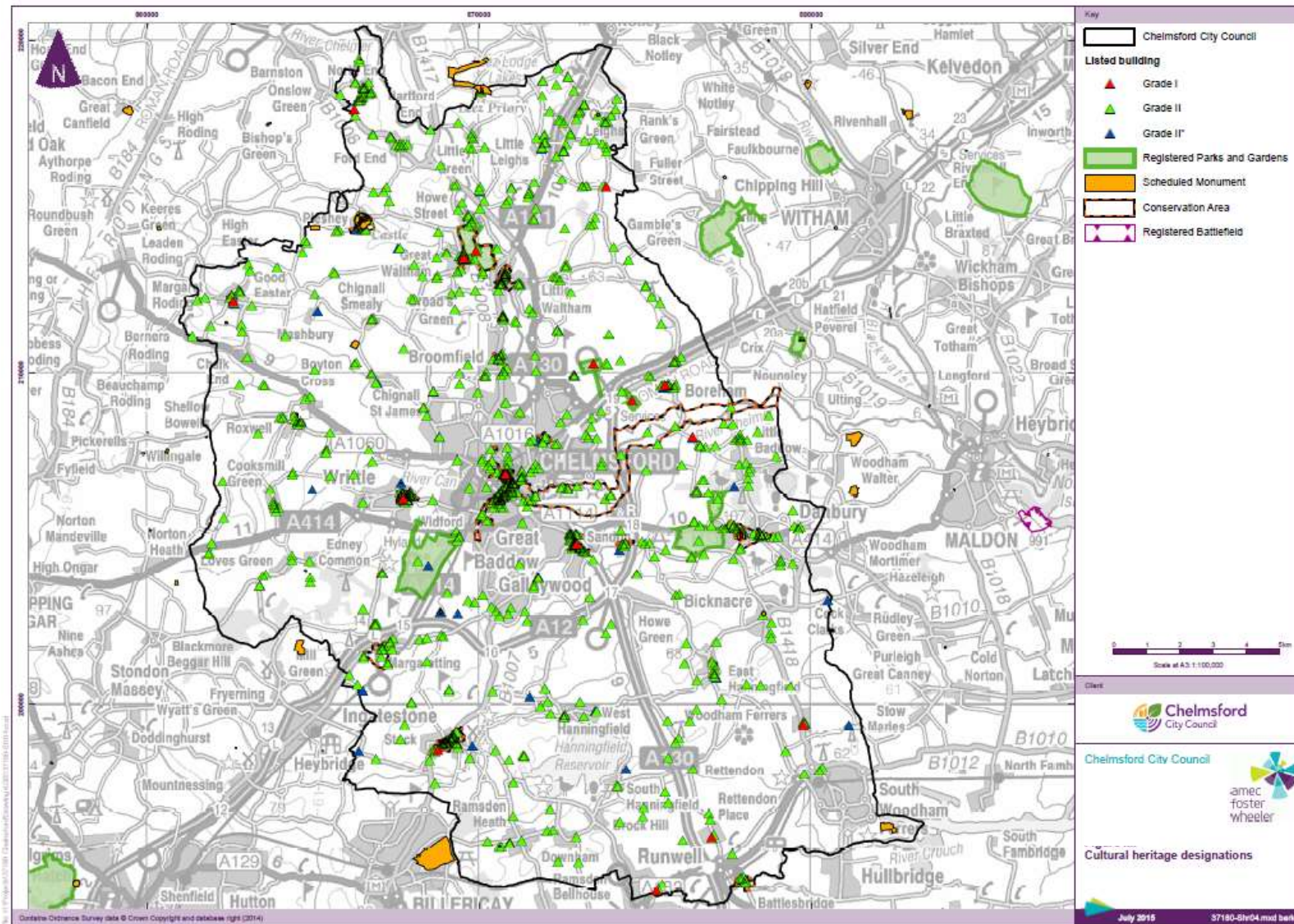
- 3.12.7 It is reasonable to assume that the majority of Chelmsford City Area's designated heritage assets would be protected without the Local Plan (since works to them invariably require consent). However, elements which contribute to their significance could be harmed through inappropriate development 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, it is recognised that national planning policy set out in the NPPF and extant Development 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.
- ▶ The need to recognise the value of non-designated heritage assets and protect these where possible.
- ▶ The need to tackle heritage at risk.
- ▶ The need to recognise the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of landscapes and townscapes.

⁶³ Available from <http://risk.historicengland.org.uk/register.aspx?id=17690&rt=0&pn=1&st=a&di=Chelmsford&ctype=all&crit=> [Accessed July 2015].

Figure 3.8 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)⁶⁴, 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 20th 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 area⁶⁵ 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
 - ▶ 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;

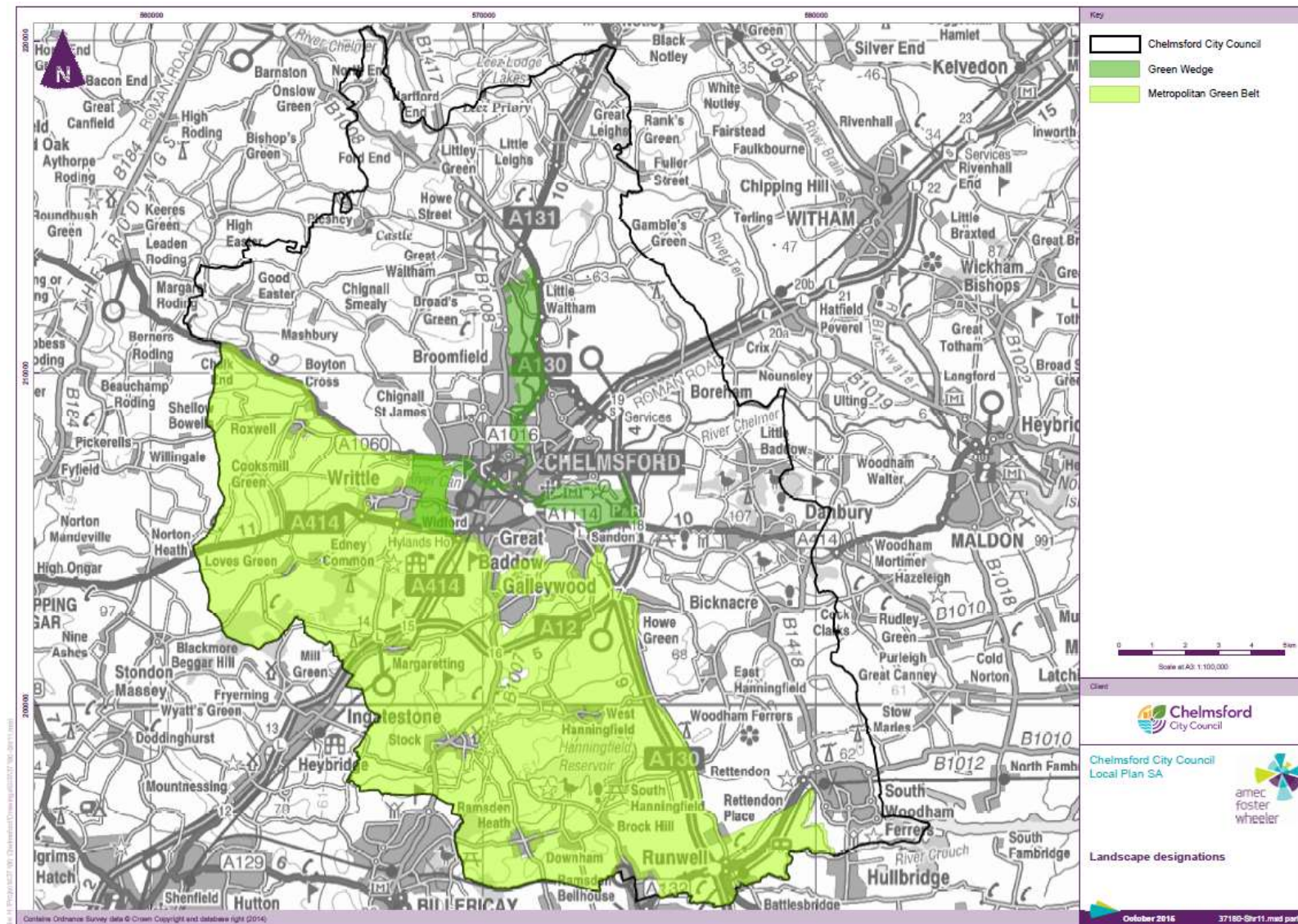
⁶⁴ Natural England has divided England into 159 distinct natural areas. These can be viewed at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making/national-character-area-profiles> [Accessed June 2015].

⁶⁵ Chris Blandford Associates (2006) *Braintree, Brentwood, Chelmsford, Maldon and Uttlesford Landscape Character Assessments*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sites/chelmsford.gov.uk/files/files/documents/files/EB46%20-%20Landscape%20Character%20Assessment.pdf> [Accessed June 2015].

- ▶ 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 (12,888 ha or 37.57% of the total area). Green Wedges are also defined in the existing Development Plan along the river valleys within Chelmsford and its suburbs, recognising the important visual and landscape function that they have for the City. These designations are shown in **Figure 3.9**.

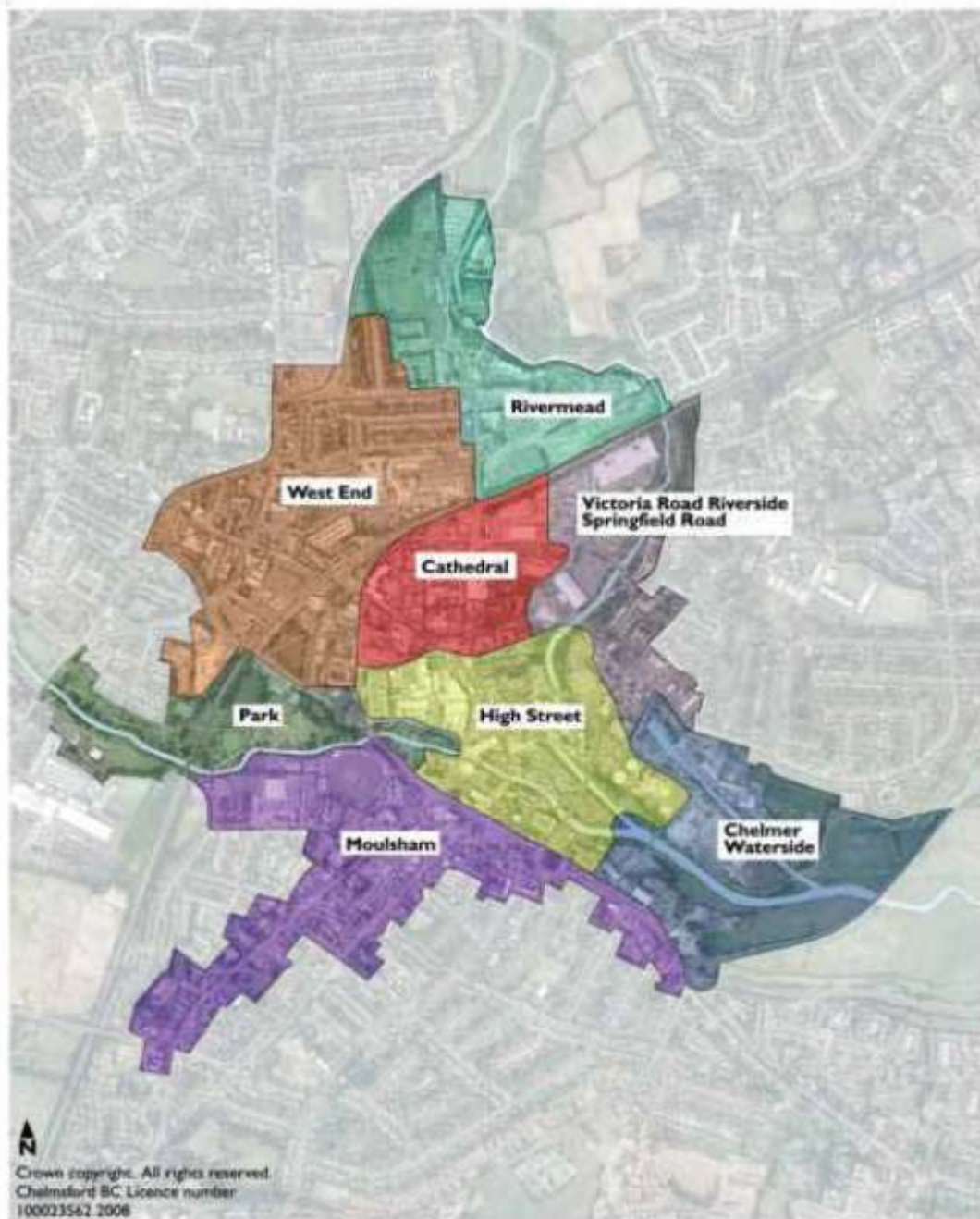
Figure 3.9 Landscape Designations



Townscape

- 3.13.6 The Chelmsford Town Centre AAP (2008) sets out that the built form and scale of the City Centre is a product of historic evolution but is disrupted by the railway, Parkway, High Bridge Road and High Chelmer. The City Centre has areas of distinct built character based on history, townscape and use, all requiring the reinforcement of their sense of place. The AAP identifies eight character areas where existing differences in land use, townscape and activity will be developed to create a distinctive sense of place. These are shown in **Figure 3.10**.

Figure 3.10 Chelmsford City Centre Character Areas



- 3.13.7 The South Woodham Ferrers SPD (2008) highlights the unique character of the town which became the first large-scale application of the urban design principles promoted by the Essex Design Guide. The 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 Local Plan

- 3.13.8 New development is likely to place pressure on the landscape of the Chelmsford City Area including the Green Belt. Whilst national planning policy set out in the NPPF, existing Development 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 and Green Wedges.
- ▶ 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 3.12**

Table 3.12 Key Sustainability Issues

Topic	Key Sustainability Issues
Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to conserve and enhance biodiversity including sites designated for their nature conservation value. • The need to maintain, restore and expand BAP habitats. • The need to safeguard existing green infrastructure assets. • The need to enhance the green infrastructure network, addressing deficiencies and gaps, improving accessibility for all users and encouraging multiple uses where appropriate.
Population and Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to create sustainable places where people want to live, work and relax. • The need to enable housing growth, meeting objectively assessed housing needs 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. • 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. • The need to maintain and raise educational attainment and skills in the local labour force.

Topic	Key Sustainability Issues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • 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.
Health and Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • 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.
Transport and Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to ensure timely investment in transport infrastructure and services. • The need to address congestion, particularly on and around the main A12, A130 and A414 transport corridors. • The need to address existing junction capacity issues. • The need to enhance the connectivity of more remote settlements, particularly to the north of the Council's administrative area. • The need to encourage alternative modes of transport to the car, including 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. • 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.
Land Use, Geology and Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • The need to protect and enhance sites designated for their geological interest.
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to minimise the emissions of pollutants to air. • The need to improve air quality, particularly in the Army & Navy AQMA.
Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to ensure that new development is adaptable 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 increased renewable energy provision.

Topic	Key Sustainability Issues
Material Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 Mineral's Local Plan.
Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.• The need to recognise the value of non-designated heritage assets and protect these where possible.• The need to tackle heritage at risk.• The need to recognise the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of landscapes and townscapes.
Landscape and Townscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 and Green Wedges.• 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. SA Approach

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 This section describes the approach to the SA. In particular, it sets out the appraisal framework (the SA 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 appraisal process including key uncertainties and assumptions.

4.2 SA Framework

- 4.2.1 The SA Framework comprises sustainability objectives and guide questions to inform the appraisal. Establishing appropriate SA objectives and guide questions is central to appraising the sustainability effects of the Local Plan. Broadly, the SA objectives define the long term aspirations for the Chelmsford City Area with regard to social, economic and environmental considerations and it is against these objectives that the performance of the Issues and Options Consultation Document has been appraised.
- 4.2.2 **Table 4.1** presents the SA Framework including SA objectives and associated guide questions. The SA 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 SA objectives relates is included in the third column.

Table 4.1 SA Framework

SA Objective	Guide Questions	SEA Directive Topic(s)
1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the green infrastructure network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it conserve and enhance international designated nature conservation sites (Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and Ramsars)? Will it conserve and enhance nationally designated nature conservation sites such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest? Will it conserve and enhance Local Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites and Ancient Woodland? Will it avoid damage to, and protect, geologically important sites? Will it conserve and enhance species diversity, and in particular avoid harm to indigenous species of principal importance, or priority species and habitats? Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or restoration and link existing habitats as part of the development process? Will it enhance ecological connectivity and maintain and improve the green infrastructure network, providing green spaces that are well connected and biodiversity rich? Will it provide opportunities for people to access the natural environment including green and blue infrastructure? 	Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora Human Health
2. Housing: To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it meet the City's objectively assessed housing need, providing a range of housing types to meet current and emerging need for market and affordable housing? Will it reduce the level of homelessness? Will it help to ensure the provision of good quality, well designed homes? Will it deliver pitches required for Gypsies and Travellers and Showpeople? 	Population

SA Objective	Guide Questions	SEA Directive Topic(s)
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"> Will it provide a flexible supply of high quality employment land to meet the needs of existing businesses and attract inward investment? Will it maintain and enhance economic competitiveness? Will it 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? Will it support the growth of new sectors including those linked to the Anglia Ruskin University? Will it help to diversify the local economy? Will it provide good quality, well paid employment opportunities that meet the needs of local people? Will it improve the physical accessibility of jobs? Will it support rural diversification and economic development? Will it promote a low carbon economy? Will it reduce out-commuting? Will it improve access to training to raise employment potential? Will it promote investment in educational establishments? 	Population
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"> Will it support and enhance the City of Chelmsford by attracting new commercial investment and reinforcing the City's attractiveness? Will it encourage more people to live in urban areas? Will it enhance the public realm? Will it enhance the viability and vitality of South Woodham Ferrers town centre and secondary local centres? Will it tackle deprivation in the most deprived areas, promote social inclusion and mobility and reduce inequalities in access to education, employment and services? Will it support rural areas by providing jobs, facilities and housing to meet needs? Will it maintain and enhance community facilities and services? Will it increase access to schools and colleges? Will it enhance accessibility to key community facilities and services? Will it align investment in services, facilities and infrastructure with growth? Will it contribution to regeneration initiatives? Will it foster social cohesion? 	Population Human Health
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"> Will it avoid locating development where environmental circumstances could negatively impact on people's health? Will it maintain and improve access to green infrastructure, open space, leisure and recreational facilities? Will it maintain and enhance Public Rights of Way and Bridleways? Will it promote healthier lifestyles? Will it meet the needs of an ageing population? Will it support those with disabilities? Will it support the needs of young people? Will it maintain and enhance healthcare facilities and services? Will it align investment in healthcare facilities and services with growth to ensure that there is capacity to meet local needs? Will it encourage sustainable food production to reduce food miles, such as community gardens or allotments? Will it improve access to healthcare facilities and services? Will it promote community safety? Will it reduce actual levels of crime and anti-social behaviour? Will it reduce the fear of crime? Will it promote design that discourages crime? 	Population Human Health

SA Objective	Guide Questions	SEA Directive Topic(s)
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"> Will it reduce travel demand and the distance people travel for jobs, employment, leisure and services and facilities? Will it reduce out-commuting? Will it encourage a shift to more sustainable modes of transport? Will it encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport? Will it help to reduce traffic congestion and improve road safety? Will it deliver investment in transportation infrastructure that supports growth in the Chelmsford City Area? Will it locate new development in locations that support and make best use of committed investment in strategic infrastructure? Will it support the expansion, or provision of additional, park and ride facilities? Will it enhance Chelmsford's role as a key transport node? Will it reduce the level of freight movement by road? 	Population Human Health Air Climatic Factors
7. Land Use and Soils: To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it promote the use of previously developed (brownfield) land and minimise the loss of greenfield land? Will it avoid the loss of agricultural land including best and most versatile land? Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land? Will it encourage the reuse of existing buildings and infrastructure? Will it prevent land contamination and facilitate remediation of contaminated sites? 	Material Assets Soil
8. Water: To conserve and enhance water quality and resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it result in a reduction of run-off of pollutants to nearby water courses that lead to a deterioration existing status and/or failure to achieve the objective of good status under the Water Framework Directive? Will it improve ground and surface water quality? Will it reduce water consumption and encourage water efficiency? Will it ensure that new water/wastewater management infrastructure is delivered in a timely manner to support new development? 	Water
9. Flood Risk and Coastal Erosion: To reduce the risk of flooding and coastal erosion to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it help to minimise the risk of flooding to existing and new developments/infrastructure? Will it manage effectively, and reduce the likelihood of, flash flooding, taking into account the capacity of sewerage systems? Will it discourage inappropriate development in areas at risk from flooding and promote the sequential test? Will it ensure that new development does not give rise to flood risk elsewhere? Will it deliver Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDs) and promote investment in flood defences that reduce vulnerability to flooding? Will it encourage the use of multifunctional areas and landscape design for drainage? Will it help to discourage inappropriate development in areas at risk from coastal erosion? Will it help to manage and reduce the risks associated with coastal erosion and support the implementation of the Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan? 	Climatic Factors Water
10. Air: To improve air quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it maintain and improve air quality? Will it address air quality issues in the Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area and prevent new designations of Air Quality Management Areas? Will it avoid locating development in areas of existing poor air quality? Will it minimise emissions to air from new development? 	Air Human Health Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora

SA Objective	Guide Questions	SEA Directive Topic(s)
11. Climate Change: To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it minimise energy use and reduce or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions? Will it plan or implement adaptation measures for the likely effects of climate change? Will it support the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy and reduce dependency on non-renewable sources? Will it promote sustainable design that minimises greenhouse emissions and is adaptable to the effects of climate change? 	Climatic Factors
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"> Will it minimise the demand for raw materials? Will it promote the use of local resources? Will it reduce minerals extracted and imported? Will it increase efficiency in the use of raw materials and promote recycling? Will it avoid sterilising minerals extraction sites identified by the Essex Minerals Local Plan? Will it reduce waste arisings? Will it increase the reuse and recycling of waste? Will it support investment in waste management facilities to meet local needs? Will it support the objectives and proposals of the Essex Minerals Local Plan?" 	Material Assets
13. Cultural Heritage: To conserve and enhance the historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it help to conserve and enhance existing features of the historic environment and their settings, including archaeological assets? Will it tackle heritage assets identified as being 'at risk'? Will it promote sustainable repair and reuse of heritage assets? Will it protect or enhance the significance of designated heritage assets? Will it protect or enhance the significance of non-designated heritage assets? Will it promote local cultural distinctiveness? Will it help to conserve historic buildings, places and spaces that enhance local distinctiveness, character and appearance through sensitive adaptation and re-use? Will it improve and promote access to buildings and landscapes of historic/cultural value? Will it recognise, conserve and enhance the inter-relationship between the historic and natural environment? 	Cultural Heritage Landscape
14. Landscape and Townscape: To conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes? Will it promote high quality design in context with its urban and rural landscape? Will it avoid inappropriate development in the Green Belt and ensure the Green Belt endures? Will it help to conserve and enhance the character of the undeveloped coastline? Will it avoid inappropriate erosion to the Green Wedges? 	Landscape Cultural Heritage

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

Table 4.2 Coverage of the SEA Directive Topics by the SA Objectives

SEA Directive Topic	SA Objective(s)
Biodiversity	1, 10
Population *	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Human Health	1, 4, 5, 6, 10
Fauna	1
Flora	1
Soil	7
Water	8, 9
Air	6, 10
Climatic Factors	6, 9, 11
Material Assets *	7, 12
Cultural Heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage	13, 14
Landscape	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 SA Framework has been used to appraise the following key components of the document:

- ▶ Spatial Principles;
- ▶ Housing and Employment Target Projections; and
- ▶ Spatial Options.

4.3.2 The approach to the appraisal 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 options for the Local Plan. It is therefore important that the Spatial Principles are aligned with the SA 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 SA 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 appraisal, as shown in **Table 4.3**.

Table 4.3 Compatibility Matrix

SA Objective	Spatial Principle			
	Vision	Spatial Principle 1	Spatial Principle 2	Spatial Principle 3...etc
1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the green infrastructure network.	+	0	+	?
2. Housing: To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes.	+	-	+	+
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 appraisal has identified both compatibilities and incompatibilities between the Spatial Principles and the SA 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 SA 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 SA 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 SA objectives that comprise the SA Framework using an appraisal matrix that enables a comparison of their sustainability performance. The matrix includes:

- ▶ the SA objectives;
- ▶ a score indicating the nature of the effect for each option on each SA objective;
- ▶ 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 appraisal is shown in **Table 4.4**. A qualitative scoring system has been adopted which is set out in **Table 4.5** and to guide the appraisal, specific definitions have been developed for what constitutes a significant effect, a minor effect or a neutral effect for each of the 14 SA objectives; these can be found in **Appendix E**.

Table 4.4 Appraisal Matrix – Housing and Employment Target Projections

SA Objective	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the green infrastructure network.	Likely Significant Effects A description of the likely effects of each option on the SA Objective has been provided here. <div>-</div> Mitigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigation and enhancement measures are outlined here. Assumptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any assumptions made in undertaking the appraisal are listed here. Uncertainties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any uncertainties encountered during the appraisal are listed here. 	Likely Significant Effects Etc.. <div>+</div> Mitigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Etc.. Assumptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Etc.. Uncertainties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Etc.. 	Likely Significant Effects Etc.. <div>--</div> Mitigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Etc.. Assumptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Etc.. Uncertainties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Etc..

Table 4.5 Scoring System

Score	Description	Symbol
Significant Positive Effect	The option contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective.	++
Minor Positive Effect	The option contributes to the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	+
Neutral	The option does not have any effect on the achievement of the objective	0
Minor Negative Effect	The option detracts from the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	-
Significant Negative Effect	The option detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective.	--
No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the option and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.	~
Uncertain	The option 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 appraisal to be made.	?

NB: where more than one symbol/colour is presented in a box it indicates that the appraisal 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 appraisal matrices are presented at **Appendix F** and **Appendix G**. Summaries of the results of the appraisals are provided in **Section 5.3** and **Section 5.4** of this report.

Spatial Options

- 4.3.8 The three spatial options set out in the Issues and Options Consultation Document have also been appraised using the SA Framework and definitions of significance with the findings presented in a matrix similar to that shown in **Table 4.4**.
- 4.3.9 The completed appraisal matrices are contained at **Appendix H**. The findings of the appraisal of the spatial options 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 appraisal of cumulative effects will therefore be undertaken at the Preferred Options consultation stage.

4.4 When the SA was Undertaken and by Whom

- 4.4.1 This SA of the Issues and Options Consultation Document was undertaken by Amec Foster Wheeler in Autumn 2015.

4.5 Difficulties Encountered in Undertaking the Appraisal

- 4.5.1 The SEA Directive requires the identification of any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of knowledge) encountered during the appraisal process. These uncertainties and assumptions are detailed in the appraisal matrices. Those uncertainties and assumptions common across the appraisal 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 options will be dependent on a number of factors including: the exact design of new development; future travel patterns and trends; individual energy consumption behaviour; and the extent to which energy supply has been decarbonised over the plan period.

- ▶ The exact scale of waste associated with the Local Plan options 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.

Assumptions

- ▶ It is assumed that greenfield land will be required to accommodate 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 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 emerging replacement Essex Waste Local Plan will make provision to accommodate additional waste associated with growth in the Chelmsford City Area.

5. Appraisal of Effects

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 This section presents the findings of the appraisal of effects of the Issues and Options Consultation Document against the SA objectives. It assesses the compatibility of the Local Plan Spatial Principles with the SA objectives (**Section 5.2**) before presenting a summary of the appraisals of the housing target projections (**Section 5.3**), employment target projections (**Section 5.4**) and spatial options (**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 Spatial Principles

- 5.2.1 The Issues and Options Consultation Document sets out Spatial Principles that are intended to support and guide the spatial options for the Local Plan. A total of nine Spatial Principles are identified, as follows:
- ▶ Maximise the use of brownfield land for development;
 - ▶ Continue the renewal of Chelmsford's City Centre and Urban Area;
 - ▶ Protect the Green Belt;
 - ▶ Locate development at well-connected sustainable locations;
 - ▶ Protect the river valleys by defining Green Wedges;
 - ▶ Respect the character of the existing settlement pattern including the potential designation of Green Buffers;
 - ▶ Protect the character and value of important landscapes, heritage and biodiversity;
 - ▶ Ensure new development is deliverable and can be built within the Plan period; and
 - ▶ Ensure that new development is served by necessary infrastructure.
- 5.2.2 A matrix has been completed to assess the compatibility of the Spatial Principles contained in the Issues and Options Consultation Document against the SA objectives. **Table 5.1** presents the results of this compatibility assessment.

Spatial Principles

- 5.2.3 The Local Plan Spatial Principles contained in the Issues and Options Consultation Document are broadly supportive of the SA objectives with very few incompatibilities identified. All of the SA 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 SA objectives.
- 5.2.4 SA Objective 4 (Urban Renaissance and Sustainable Living) 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 SA objectives relating to housing (SA Objective 2), the economy (SA Objective 3) and transport (SA Objective 6). Reflecting the desire to focus development towards urban areas, and allied with the intent to protect the Green Belt, Green Wedges and landscape character, the Spatial Principles are also considered to be particularly supportive of those SA objectives relating to biodiversity (SA Objective 1), health and wellbeing (SA Objective 5), land use (SA Objective 7), cultural heritage (SA Objective 13) and landscape (SA Objective 14).

- 5.2.5 The assessment presented in **Table 5.1** serves to highlight that in some instances, conflicts may exist between the Spatial Principles and the SA 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 (SA Objective 2) and the economy (SA Objective 3) in particular.
- 5.2.6 Collectively, the Local Plan Spatial Principles are considered to be broadly supportive of the SA objectives. 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

SA Objective	Spatial Principles								
	Maximise the use of brownfield land for development	Continue the renewal of Chelmsford's City Centre and Urban Area	Protect the Green Belt	Locate development at well-connected sustainable locations	Protect the river valleys by defining Green Wedges	Respect the character of the existing settlement pattern including the potential designation of Green Buffers	Protect the character and value of important landscapes, heritage and biodiversity	Ensure new development is deliverable and can be built within the Plan period	Ensure that new development is served by necessary infrastructure
1. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the green infrastructure network.	+	?	+	?	+	?	+	0	?
2. To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes.	0	+	?	0	?	?	-	+	+
3. To achieve a strong and stable economy which offers rewarding and well located employment opportunities to everyone.	0	+	?	+	?	?	-	+	+
4. To promote urban renaissance and support the vitality of rural centres, tackle deprivation and promote sustainable living.	+	+	+/-	+	+	+	0	0	+
5. To improve the health and wellbeing of those living and working in the Chelmsford City Area.	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+
6. To reduce the need to travel, promote more sustainable modes of transport and align investment in infrastructure with growth.	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	+
7. To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.	+	?	+	?	+	?	+	0	?

SA Objective	Spatial Principles								
	Maximise the use of brownfield land for development	Continue the renewal of Chelmsford's City Centre and Urban Area	Protect the Green Belt	Locate development at well-connected sustainable locations	Protect the river valleys by defining Green Wedges	Respect the character of the existing settlement pattern including the potential designation of Green Buffers	Protect the character and value of important landscapes, heritage and biodiversity	Ensure new development is deliverable and can be built within the Plan period	Ensure that new development is served by necessary infrastructure
8. To conserve and enhance water quality and resources.	0	-	0	0	+	0	+	0	+/-
9. To reduce the risk of flooding and coastal erosion to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.	0	?	+	?	+	?	?	0	+/?
10. To improve air quality.	0	+/-	0	+	0	0	0	0	+/?
11. To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change.	0	+/-	0	+	0	0	0	0	+/?
12. To promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover) and ensure the sustainable use of resources.	+	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	+/-
13. To conserve and enhance the historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.	0	?	+	?	+	+	+	0	?
14. To conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes.	+	?	+	?	+	+	+	0	?

Key

+	Compatible	?	Uncertain
0	Neutral	-	Incompatible

NB: where more than one symbol/colour is presented in a box it indicates that the appraisal has identified both compatibilities and incompatibilities between the Spatial Principles and the SA 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 SA objectives although a professional judgement is expressed in the colour used.

5.3 Housing Target Projections

5.3.1 The Issues and Options Consultation Document identifies three housing target projections, as follows:

- ▶ **Option 1: National Household Projections** - 657 dwellings per annum (9,885 dwellings over the plan period).
- ▶ **Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need** - 775 dwellings per annum (11,625 dwellings over the plan period).
- ▶ **Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer** - 930 dwellings per annum (13,950 dwellings over the plan period, rounded to 14,000 dwellings in the Issues and Options Consultation Document).

5.3.2 Each option has been appraised against the SA objectives and in accordance with the approach detailed in **Section 4.3**. The findings of the appraisal are presented in **Table 5.2** and summarised below. The detailed appraisal matrices are contained in **Appendix F**.

Table 5.2 Housing Target Projections Appraisal

Option	1. Biodiversity	2. Housing	3. Economy	4. Urban Renaissance	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
Option 1: 657 dwellings per annum	-/?	++/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	+/-	-	-/?	-/?	-/?	-	+/- /?	+/- /?
Option 2: 775 dwellings per annum	-/?	++	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-/?	-/?	-/?	-	+/- /?	+/- /?
Option 3: 930 dwellings per annum	-/?	++	++	+/-	+/-	+/- /?	+/-	-/?	-/?	-/?	-/?	-	+/- /?	+/- /?

5.3.3 All three housing target projections have been assessed as having a significant positive effect on housing (SA Objective 2), reflecting the volume of housing that would be delivered in the Chelmsford City Area over the plan period. However, under Option 1 effects on this objective are considered to be more mixed.

5.3.4 The level of housing delivery proposed under Option 1 (657 dwellings per annum) would fall short of the City Area's objectively assessed housing need of between 736 and 775 dwellings per annum, as identified in the Objectively Assessed Housing Need Study (2015). In consequence, the proposed level of growth under this option is likely to result in the current and future housing needs of the City Area going unmet. Options 2 and 3, meanwhile, would meet the City Area's objectively assessed housing need, delivering 775 dwellings and 930 dwellings per annum respectively. The inclusion of a 20% buffer under Option 3 would result in a housing target that exceeds objectively

assessed housing need and in this respect, the option would accord with the NPPF's (2012) direction that local planning authorities should seek to boost significantly the supply of housing. This option would be expected to provide a degree of flexibility by ensuring choice and competition in the market for land, helping to ensure that local housing needs are met.

- 5.3.5 Option 3 has been assessed as having a significant positive effect on the economy (SA Objective 3). This reflects the anticipated scale of economic benefits associated with the construction of housing (including job creation and supply chain benefits) and the potential for new residential development and increase in local population to improve the viability and vitality of existing, and support investment in new, shops, services and facilities in the areas where growth is located. Commensurate with lower levels of housing provision, positive effects on this objective are not expected to be significant under Option 2 whilst effects under Option 1 are likely to be more mixed.
- 5.3.6 No further significant positive effects were identified during the appraisal of the housing target projections.
- 5.3.7 Whilst the development of brownfield land is expected to be encouraged under all three housing target projections, 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. In consequence, Options 1, 2 and 3 have been assessed as having a mixed positive and significant negative effect on land use (SA Objective 7). The level of growth proposed under Option 3 (which is 40% greater than Option 1) is likely to increase significantly the pressure on greenfield land for development relative to Options 1 and 2 and would present a greater probability for potential adverse impacts on the supply of best and most versatile agricultural land in the Chelmsford City Area.
- 5.3.8 The delivery of housing is likely to result in adverse effects on landscape and townscape character (SA Objective 14). Effects may be felt during construction and once development is complete, although the likelihood of adverse effects occurring and their magnitude will be in part dependent on the scale, density and location of new development in the context of the sensitivity of the receiving environment (there may also be the potential for new development to enhance the quality of the built environment and to improve townscapes). The likelihood of adverse effects on landscape and townscape occurring and the magnitude of effect may be increased under Option 3 and could be significant. As noted above, the level of growth proposed under this option (13,950 dwellings over the plan period) is likely to increase the potential pressure on greenfield land for development and, therefore, the likely magnitude of effects on landscape character.
- 5.3.9 No further significant negative effects were identified during the appraisal of the housing target projections.
- 5.3.10 All three housing target projections have been assessed as having a negative effect on biodiversity (SA Objective 1) due in particular to potential impacts on biodiversity associated with the development of greenfield land. 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.
- 5.3.11 Negative effects have also been identified in respect of water (SA Objective 8), air quality (SA Objective 10), climate change (SA Objective 11) and resource use and waste (SA Objective 12) due to the increased emissions to air, energy use and resource use and waste generation associated with new development. The magnitude of effects on these objectives will be broadly commensurate with the scale of provision under each option, although effects are not expected to be significant.
- 5.3.12 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 planning applications to be accompanied by a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) where appropriate, it is considered unlikely that new housing development would be at significant risk of flooding, although this is dependent on the exact location of development.

- 5.3.13 Effects on the remaining SA objectives have been assessed as being broadly mixed. This reflects the potential for new development to generate both adverse social and environmental impacts (for example, increased pressure on services and facilities and impacts on the setting of cultural heritage assets) and also positive effects (such as investment in services and facilities and opportunities to enhance the setting of heritage assets and access to the historic environment).

5.4 Employment Target Projections

- 5.4.1 Two options concerning the number of jobs to be provided in the Chelmsford City Area over the plan period have been identified in the Issues and Options Consultation Document. These employment target projections are:
- **Option 1: 2012 Sub-National Population Projections based** - 727 jobs per year.
 - **Option 2: Employed People** – 887 jobs per year.
- 5.4.2 Each option has been appraised against the SA objectives and in accordance with the approach detailed in **Section 4.3**. The findings of the appraisal are presented in **Table 5.3** and summarised below. The detailed appraisal matrices are contained in **Appendix G**.

Table 5.3 Employment Target Projections Appraisal

Option	1. Biodiversity	2. Housing	3. Economy	4. Urban Renaissance	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
Option 1: 727 jobs per annum	-/?	0	++/-	+	-	-	+/-	-	-/?	-	-	-	+/-	+/-
Option 2: 887 jobs per annum	-/?	0	++/-	+	-	-	+/-	-	-/?	-	-	-	+/-	+/-

- 5.4.3 The Employment Land Review (ELR) (2015) highlights that Chelmsford has been a major driver of growth within the Heart of Essex sub-region and that central to Chelmsford's ability to attract new investment has been the availability of land and premises. However, the ELR has found that Chelmsford has a relatively limited supply of land to accommodate future growth, particularly in respect of office uses. In this context, the provision of employment land to accommodate jobs growth under Option 1 (727 jobs per annum) and Option 2 (887 jobs per annum) would be expected to help maintain and enhance Chelmsford's strategic economic role in the Heart of Essex sub-region, supporting existing businesses, attracting inward investment and delivering local employment opportunities. Both Options 1 and 2 have therefore been assessed as having a significant positive effect on the economy (SA Objective 3), although these effects would be greater under Option 2, commensurate with the greater number of jobs that would be delivered under this option.

- 5.4.4 Despite the benefits outlined above, the level of jobs growth proposed by both options would be below forecasts by Edge Analytics (1,013 jobs per annum, between the period 2013 to 2037), Experian (1,099 jobs per annum between 2011 and 2031) and the England East of England Economic Model (1,070 jobs per annum between 2012 and 2031)⁶⁶. As a result, both options have also been assessed as having a minor negative effect on SA Objective 3, although Option 2 would be in line with the City Area's objectively assessed housing need.
- 5.4.5 No further significant positive effects were identified during the appraisal of the employment target projections.
- 5.4.6 The employment target projections have been assessed as having a positive effect on urban renaissance (SA Objective 4) given the expectation that jobs growth and the associated provision of employment land would help to attract investment to the City of Chelmsford, South Woodham Ferrers and (depending on the spatial option taken forward) other secondary centres. Jobs growth would also generate 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, and could create employment opportunities that are accessible to residents in deprived areas.
- 5.4.7 No significant negative effects were identified during the appraisal of the employment target projections.
- 5.4.8 Similar to the housing target projections, both employment target projections are likely to have a negative effect on biodiversity (SA Objective 1), health and wellbeing (SA Objective 5), transport (SA Objective 6), water (SA Objective 8), flood risk (SA Objective 9), air quality (SA Objective 10), climate change (SA Objective 11) and waste and resource use (SA Objective 12) due to impacts associated with the construction and operation of new development. Commensurate with the increased scale of jobs growth, the magnitude of these effects could be greater under Option 2. Nonetheless, in most cases this would be dependent on the exact location of future development which is currently unknown.
- 5.4.9 Both employment target projections have been assessed as having mixed positive and negative effects on land use (SA Objective 7) and landscape and townscape (SA Objective 14). This principally reflects the anticipated loss of greenfield land and related adverse impacts on landscape character and visual amenity but also the potential for the redevelopment of brownfield sites to enhance the quality of the built environment and improve townscapes. Options 1 and 2 have also been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on cultural heritage (SA Objective 13) due to the potential for development to have both direct and indirect impacts on the historic environment but also the opportunities that employment development may present to enhance the setting of assets and/or promote heritage led development. The magnitude of effects on SA Objectives 13 and 14 would be dependent on the exact location of development which is currently unknown.

5.5 Spatial Options

- 5.5.1 This section presents a summary of the appraisal of the following three spatial options set out in the Issues and Options Consultation Document:

- **Option 1- Urban Focus:** This option seeks to concentrate new development at locations within and/or close to the existing urban areas that are within Chelmsford. These are the urban areas of Chelmsford, where the majority of new development would be planned, on land to the north of the town of South Woodham Ferrers and on land to the north and east of

⁶⁶ As reported in Peter Brett Associates (2015) *Braintree District Council, Chelmsford City Council, Colchester Borough Council, Tendring District Council Objectively Assessed Housing Need Study*. Available from <http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/sites/chelmsford.gov.uk/files/files/documents/files/OAHN%20Final%20Report%20July%202015.pdf> [Accessed October 2015].

Great Leighs which is two miles south of Braintree and which would provide linkages to development planned in Braintree District.

- **Option 2- Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors:** This option also promotes development at locations within and/or close to the existing urban areas, but to a lesser extent than contained in Option 1. The remaining development would be planned at locations on the key transport corridors serving the district, notably the A130/A131 and A132 in order to maximise the locational opportunities of sites along those corridors and to enhance the ability to secure further transportation benefits.
- **Option 3 - Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages:** This option promotes a more dispersed approach to planning for new development within and/or close to the existing urban areas, but to a lesser scale than Options 1 and 2. The remaining development would be planned at the Service Settlements outside of the Green Belt that provide existing local services and facilities which includes Boreham, Danbury and Bicknacre and other locations where new development could provide new services and facilities, such as Howe Green.

5.5.2 Each option has been appraised against the SA objectives and in accordance with the approach detailed in **Section 4.3**. The findings of the appraisal are presented in **Table 5.4** and summarised below. Detailed appraisal matrices are contained in **Appendix H**.

Table 5.4 Spatial Options Appraisal

Option	1. Biodiversity	2. Housing	3. Economy	4. Urban Renaissance	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
Option 1: Urban Focus	+/- /?	++	++	++/ -	++/ -	++/ -	+/-	-	+/-	+/-	+	~	+/- /?	+/- /?
Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	+/- /?	++	++	++	++/ -	++/ -	+/-	-	+/-	+/-	+	~	+/- /?	+/- /?
Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages	+/- /?	++	++/ -	++/ -	++/ -	+/-	+/-	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	~	+/- /?	+/- /?

Option 1: Urban Focus

5.5.3 Option 1 would deliver the majority of Chelmsford City Area's new housing in and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area (around 10,000 dwellings, subject to which housing target projection is taken forward) with smaller scale provision adjacent to South Woodham Ferrers (2,000 dwellings) and Great Leighs (2,000 dwellings). This would help to meet housing needs in these settlements and across the wider City Area and has therefore been assessed as having a significant positive effect on housing (SA Objective 2).

5.5.4 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, Option 1 has also been assessed as having a significant positive effect on the economy (SA Objective 3).

- 5.5.5 A spatial approach that seeks to concentrate development in and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area and to the north of South Woodham Ferrers 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 (SA Objective 4) and health and wellbeing (SA Objective 5). However, this option may result in a lack of investment in other settlements in the City Area including secondary local centres and service villages.
- 5.5.6 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 option has been assessed as having a significant positive effect on transport (SA Objective 6) and a positive effect on air quality (SA Objective 10) and climate change (SA 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. In this regard, this option could deliver a number of highways improvements including at Army and Navy junction and to the A132. Additionally, growth under this option could facilitate the delivery of a western relief road and a north east Chelmsford by-pass, helping to enhance connectivity to the strategic road network and alleviate congestion.
- 5.5.7 No further significant positive effects were identified during the appraisal of Option 1.
- 5.5.8 Under this option, it is anticipated that up to 2,500 new homes could be built on brownfield sites which is likely to have a positive effect on land use (SA 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 of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers and at Great Leighs will be required to accommodate growth. Allied with the potential construction of a western relief road and a north east bypass (as well as other infrastructure), the area of greenfield land required is expected to be substantial. In consequence, Option 1 has also been assessed as having a significant negative effect on SA Objective 7.
- 5.5.9 No further significant negative effects were identified during the appraisal of Option 1.
- 5.5.10 Negative effects have been identified in respect of water (SA Objective 8). This reflects the potential for new development to place pressure on water supplies and wastewater infrastructure. New development under this option is also likely to have a negative effect on biodiversity (SA Objective 1) due to the potential for indirect adverse effects on designated nature conservation sites in close proximity to the Chelmsford Urban Area and South Woodham Ferrers and indirect impacts 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 proposed extension of green wedges within the City Area and creation of green buffers.
- 5.5.11 The assessment has found that the construction and operation of development under this option could have both positive and negative effects on the historic environment (SA 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 (SA Objective 14), the redevelopment of brownfield sites, extension of green wedges and creation of green buffers 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.

- 5.5.12 Environment Agency flood maps indicate that surface water flooding is a potential constraint within the main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers. Some land adjacent to the main urban areas and around Great Leighs are also at risk of surface water flooding. In this context, the loss of greenfield land under this option 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). Further, under current proposal the extension of the green wedges would follow the valleys and adjacent flood plains of the Rivers Chelmer, Wid and Can which could help to ensure that development is not located near to flood zones. Green wedges may also provide space for flood waters to flow through and additional areas for future flood storage. Overall, Option 1 has therefore been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on flood risk (SA Objective 9).

Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors

- 5.5.13 Option 2 would also deliver the majority of Chelmsford City Area's additional housing (and employment land) in and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area (9,500 additional dwellings, subject to the housing target projection taken forward) with a smaller scale of provision adjacent to South Woodham Ferrers (1,750 dwellings) and Great Leighs (1,500 dwellings). In consequence, the range, type and magnitude of effects on the SA objectives associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1 above with significant positive effects on housing (SA Objective 2), the economy (SA Objective 3) and health and wellbeing (SA Objective 5).
- 5.5.14 In directing some development to Rettendon Place (approximately 1,250 dwellings), circa 500 fewer dwellings would be delivered in or adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area and around 250 less dwellings to the north of South Woodham Ferrers. Relative to Option 1, benefits associated with focusing development within and adjacent to these urban areas may therefore be slightly reduced, although rural vitality may be promoted. On balance, this has been assessed as having a significant positive effect on SA Objective 4.
- 5.5.15 The delivery of housing at key locations on the main north-south transport corridor (the A131/A130) including north east of Great Baddow/Sandon and Rettendon Place could fund road improvements including along the A132. This may help to further enhance network capacity and connectivity relative to Option 1. However, enhanced connectivity may also encourage car use. Overall, Option 2 has therefore been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on transport (SA Objective 6) and a positive effect on climate change (SA Objective 11).
- 5.5.16 No further significant positive effects were identified during the appraisal of Option 2.
- 5.5.17 Like Option 1, this option would be expected to support the delivery of up to 2,500 new homes on brownfield sites but will still require a substantial area of greenfield land. Option 2 has therefore been assessed as having a mixed positive and significant negative effect on land use (SA Objective 7).
- 5.5.18 No further significant negative effects were identified during the appraisal of Option 2.
- 5.5.19 As per Option 1, this option has been assessed as having a negative effect on water (SA Objective 8) with mixed positive and negative effects expected in respect of biodiversity (SA Objective 1), flood risk (SA Objective 9), air quality (SA Objective 10), cultural heritage (SA Objective 13) and landscape and townscape (SA Objective 14).

Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages

- 5.5.20 Under Option 3, 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 option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Options 1 and 2 above with significant positive effects anticipated on housing (SA Objective 2), the economy (SA Objective 3), urban renaissance (SA Objective 4) and health and wellbeing (SA Objective 5).
- 5.5.21 Residential development would be more dispersed throughout the City Area under this option 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 Options 1 and 2) and mixed significant positive and negative effects have therefore been identified in respect of the economy (SA Objective 3).
- 5.5.22 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 Options 1 and 2. However, this option would support a wider distribution of investment across the City Area and which could support those aspects of SA Objective 4 that relate to the vitality of rural centres. Overall, this option has been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on urban renaissance (SA Objective 4).
- 5.5.23 No further significant positive effects were identified during the appraisal of Option 3.
- 5.5.24 As per Options 1 and 2, this option has been assessed as having a mixed positive and significant negative effect on land use (SA Objective 7). No further significant negative effects were identified during the appraisal of Option 3.
- 5.5.25 Like Options 1 and 2, this option has been assessed as having a negative effect on water (SA Objective 8) with mixed positive and negative effects expected in respect of biodiversity (SA Objective 1), flood risk (SA Objective 9) and cultural heritage (SA Objective 13). Mixed positive and negative effects have also been identified in respect of landscape and townscape (SA 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 compared to Options 1 and 2 (although this is dependent on the exact location, scale, density and design of development which is currently unknown).
- 5.5.26 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 (relative to Options 1 and 2). 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 compared to Options 1 and 2. In consequence, this option has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on transport (SA Objective 6) and climate change (SA Objective 11).

5.6 Mitigation and Enhancement

- 5.6.1 The appraisal has identified a range of measures to help address potential negative effects and enhance positive effects associated with the implementation of the options contained in the Issues and Options Consultation Document. These measures are highlighted within the detailed appraisal matrices contained at **Appendix F**, **Appendix G** and **Appendix H** and will be considered by the Council in refining the options and developing the policies that will comprise the Local Plan.
- 5.6.2 A number of these mitigation and enhancement measures cut-across all of the options and have been summarised in **Table 5.5** below against the respective SA objective.

Table 5.5 Cross-cutting Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

SA Objective	Measure
SA Objective 1 (Biodiversity)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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. 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. 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.
SA Objective 4 (Urban Renaissance)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should ensure that new development supports specific regeneration opportunities where possible. Developer contributions towards key services and facilities should be sought where appropriate.
SA Objective 5 (Health and Wellbeing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should ensure that open space and/or health facilities are provided on site/contributions are sought to provision off site. Local Plan policies should ensure that development is not located in close proximity to unsuitable neighbouring uses.
SA Objective 6 (Transport)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should encourage the preparation of green travel plans as part of new development proposals. Local Plan policies should positively promote walking and cycling as part of new developments.
SA Objective 7 (Land Use)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Local Plan policies should resist the development of best and most versatile agricultural land.
SA Objective 8 (Water)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is recommended that the Local Plan includes policies that promote water attenuation systems due to the underlying geology of the area.
SA Objective 9 (Flood Risk)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should avoid development in areas of flood risk (i.e. Flood Zones 2 and 3). Local Plan policies should ensure that any new development avoids increasing the flood risk of existing development. Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets to provide opportunities for flood storage where appropriate. Local Plan policies should seek to promote as close to greenfield runoff rates as possible.
SA Objective 10 (Air Quality)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to reduce congestion. Local Plan policies should ensure that development within the Army and Navy AQMA is consistent with the objectives of the AQMA.
SA Objective 11 (Climate Change)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should promote high standards of energy efficient design including, where appropriate, renewable energy provision. Opportunities to promote district scale heating networks should be sought as part of the delivery of sustainable urban extensions.
SA Objective 12 (Resource Use and Waste)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council should consider the potential for Local Plan policies to encourage the use of recycled and secondary materials in new developments. The provision of recycling facilities within new developments should be a component of Local Plan design and/or waste management policies. The reuse of construction and demolition wastes on site should be promoted.
SA Objective 13 (Cultural Heritage)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to conserve and, where possible, enhance cultural heritage assets including by promoting heritage-led development.

SA Objective	Measure
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policies within the Local Plan should promote high standards of architectural and urban design.• The Local Plan should set out a strategic framework to preserve and enhance historic areas and promote high standards of new development.
SA Objective 15 (Landscape and Townscape)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.• Detailed policies on high quality design should be contained within the Local Plan.• 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.

6. Conclusions and Next Steps

6.1 Conclusions

- 6.1.1 This SA Report has presented the findings of the appraisal of the Chelmsford Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation Document. Specifically, the SA has considered the Local Plan Spatial Principles, housing target projections, employment target projections and spatial options that together concern the quantum and distribution of future development in the Chelmsford City Area. The principal conclusions of the appraisal are presented below.

Spatial Principles

- 6.1.2 The Issues and Options Consultation Document sets out Spatial Principles that are intended to support and guide the spatial options for the Local Plan. A total of nine Spatial Principles are identified, as follows:
- ▶ Maximise the use of brownfield land for development;
 - ▶ Continue the renewal of Chelmsford's City Centre and Urban Area;
 - ▶ Protect the Green Belt;
 - ▶ Locate development at well-connected sustainable locations;
 - ▶ Protect the river valleys by defining Green Wedges;
 - ▶ Respect the character of the existing settlement pattern including the potential designation of Green Buffers;
 - ▶ Protect the character and value of important landscapes, heritage and biodiversity;
 - ▶ Ensure new development is deliverable and can be built within the Plan period; and
 - ▶ Ensure that new development is served by necessary infrastructure.
- 6.1.3 The appraisal has found the Local Plan Spatial Principles to be broadly supportive of the SA objectives. 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 an insurmountable issue but one that may need to be considered in the development of policies that comprise the Local Plan.

Housing Target Projections

- 6.1.4 A total of three housing target projections have been identified in the Issues and Options Consultation Document and appraised as part of this SA Report. These are as follows:
- ▶ **Option 1: National Household Projections** - 657 dwellings per annum (9,885 dwellings over the plan period).
 - ▶ **Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need** - 775 dwellings per annum (11,625 dwellings over the plan period).
 - ▶ **Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer** - 930 dwellings per annum (13,950 dwellings over the plan period).
- 6.1.5 The range and type of effects associated with all three housing target projections are similar with significant positive and positive effects identified in respect of housing and the economy in particular but negative effects expected in respect of biodiversity, air quality, water, flood risk, climate change and waste and resource use. Significant negative effects have been identified in

respect of land use for all projections. This reflects the substantial area of greenfield land that is likely to be required to accommodate housing growth over the plan period.

- 6.1.6 The findings of the appraisal indicate that Option 2 (a housing target of 775 dwellings per year) and Option 3 (930 dwellings per year) are the best performing options when considered against the SA objectives. Both options would meet the City Area's objectively assessed need for housing although Option 3 would result in a housing target that exceeds this requirement and in consequence, it would be expected to deliver the greatest benefits in terms of housing delivery and economic growth of all three options. However, reflecting the scale of growth under this option, the magnitude of negative effects across a number of the environmental SA objectives may be increased relative to Options 1 and 2.
- 6.1.7 The level of housing delivery proposed under Option 1 (657 dwellings per annum) would fall short of the City Area's objectively assessed housing need. In consequence, this option is likely to result in the current and future housing needs of the City Area going unmet.

Employment Target Projections

- 6.1.8 Two employment target projections have been appraised as part of this SA Report:
- ▶ **Option 1: 2012 Sub-National Population Projections based** - 727 jobs per year.
 - ▶ **Option 2: Employed People** - 887 jobs per year.
- 6.1.9 Overall, the range and type of effects associated with both employment target projections are similar. Significant positive effects have been identified in respect of the economy with more minor positive effects expected on urban renaissance. No significant negative effects were identified during the assessment although there is the potential for adverse effects across the majority of the other SA objectives used in the appraisal.
- 6.1.10 The findings of the appraisal highlight that Option 2 would deliver the greatest economic benefits of the two options appraised, commensurate with the greater number of jobs that would be delivered under this option. However, the magnitude of adverse effects could also be greater than Option 1, although this would be largely dependent on the exact location of future development which is currently unknown.

Spatial Options

- 6.1.11 The following three spatial options relating to the future distribution of development in the Chelmsford City Area are set out in the Issues and Options Consultation Document:
- ▶ **Option 1- Urban Focus.**
 - ▶ **Option 2- Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors.**
 - ▶ **Option 3 - Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages.**
- 6.1.12 The performance of the three spatial options against the SA objectives used in the appraisal is very similar. This reflects the fact that under all three options, the majority of growth would be focused in locations adjoining the existing built-up areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers, a spatial approach which is considered likely to help ensure that new development is accessible, supports urban renaissance, and ensures that the City continues to be a major driver of economic growth within the Heart of Essex sub-region.
- 6.1.13 Under Options 1 and 2, these benefits would be maximised and as a result, they are considered to be the best performing spatial options when assessed against the SA objectives. The implementation of Option 3, meanwhile, would result in residential development being more dispersed throughout the City Area. Whilst this would support a wider distribution of growth and benefits associated with new development, it is expected that this spatial approach would reduce positive effects associated with focusing development within and adjacent to urban areas and would be likely to increase the need to travel (as development would be delivered to settlements

that do not benefit from the same accessibility to community facilities and employment opportunities as the urban areas). This option may also increase the potential for significant negative effects on the character of settlements and landscape compared to Options 1 and 2 (although this is dependent on the exact location, scale, density and design of development which is currently unknown).

Towards a Preferred Spatial Strategy

- 6.1.14 In taking forward the 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 5.5**, ensure that any adverse effects are minimised or reduced to an acceptable level.

6.2 Monitoring

- 6.2.1 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 SA's predictions of sustainability effects accurate?
- ▶ Is the Local Plan contributing to the achievement of desired SA objectives?
- ▶ Are mitigation measures performing as well as expected?
- ▶ Are there any adverse effects? Are these within acceptable limits, or is remedial action desirable?

- 6.2.2 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 SA 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.

- 6.2.3 At this early stage in the development of the Local Plan and SA it is considered premature to identify proposed monitoring indicators as the preferred Local Plan options 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 SA. The monitoring framework will be finalised in the Post Adoption Statement.

6.3 Consulting on this SA Report

- 6.3.1 This SA Report is being issued for consultation. We would welcome your views on any aspect of this SA 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.

- 6.3.2 The consultation will run from **19th November 2015 to 21st January 2016**. The Council encourages people to submit comments via its consultation portal at:

<http://consult.chelmsford.gov.uk/portal>. Alternatively, comments can be sent to:

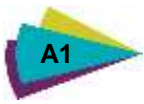
- ▶ By email – planning.policy@chelmsford.gov.uk, or

- ▶ By post - Planning Policy, Chelmsford City Council, PO Box 7544, Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford, CM1 1XP
- ▶ By hand – During normal opening hours to Chelmsford City Council Customer Service Centres (Duke Street, Chelmsford and Chandlers Road, South Woodham Ferrers).

6.3.3 A specially designed response form is available online at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/new-local-plan or on request by telephoning (01245) 606330.

6.4 Next Steps

6.4.1 The findings of this SA Report, together with consultation responses and further evidence base work, will be used to help refine and select the preferred options 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 Summer 2016. The Preferred Options Consultation Document will also be subject to further SA.



Appendix A

Schedule of Consultation Responses

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
1	Anglia Ruskin University	1 (Plans and Programme)	<p>Suggests sources of information that could be relevant to the role that Anglia Ruskin University and Writtle College can play in the development of the City and the wider region, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Witty Review; • The Dowling Review; • The Wilson Review; • The Economic Impact of Higher Education Institutions in England; and • The Contribution of University Research to Economic Growth. 	Comment noted. The documents identified in this response are not considered to be plans and programmes in the context of the SEA Directive. However, the baseline information presented in Section 3 of this SA Report has been updated to highlight the important role of the University to economic development.
		1 (Baseline)	The consultee adds that the campus provides a City amenity which contains a thriving Business Incubation Centre and provides a large number of students who come to the City to live and study. The economic benefits that higher education brings, including transport and accommodation, are not mentioned within the Scoping Report.	Agreed. The baseline information presented in Section 3 of the SA Report has been updated to highlight the important role of the University to economic development.
		1 (Baseline)	The section on Writtle in Key Settlement Characteristics makes no mention of Writtle College, an institution that is considered a major part of the area.	<p>Disagree. Writtle College is referred to within the key settlement baseline characteristics presented at Appendix C to the Scoping Report.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Baseline)	The City cathedral is not mentioned within the Scoping Report and the sections on Culture and Heritage seem thin.	Comment noted. The baseline information presented in respect of cultural heritage both at the City Area level and the settlement level is considered to be sufficient and proportionate for the purpose of providing the basis for the SA of Local Plan. However, it is agreed that the reference to the Cathedral should be included within the key settlement baseline characteristics.
		1 (Baseline)	Considers that Chelmsford is likely to become part of the move outward from London, if it hasn't been already, of people who cannot afford to live in London. No mention of this is made within the Scoping Report.	Comment noted. Consideration has been given to inward migration into the City Area in determining potential future housing requirements as part of the

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
				Objectively Assessed Housing Needs Study which is referred to in Section 3.4 of this SA Report.
				No change.
		2 (Key Issues)	Raises concerns relating to insufficient information within the Scoping Report regarding Anglia Ruskin University. It is considered that the University is a major presence within the City and the consideration of matters associated with a local university should be noted in the local plan. Such matters include transport, student housing, implications of a transient student population, sports facilities, culture and business development amongst others.	Agreed. The following additional key sustainability issue has been identified in Table 3.12 of the SA Report: <i>"The need to support the City Area's educational establishments including Anglia Ruskin University."</i>
		3 (SA Framework)	Agrees with the approach. States that the text needs to outline needs of Chelmsford in greater depth, the authors have not captured the issues facing the City in the future in any detail and much has been omitted. It is currently far too generic.	Disagree. Section 3 of the Scoping Report provides a detailed overview of the key characteristics of the City Area and which has informed the selection of objectives and guide questions that comprise the SA Framework to be used in the appraisal of the Local Plan. No change.
2	Barton Willmore (on behalf of Redrow Homes)	General	States that extensive consultation with stakeholders will be needed to develop a meaningful local plan.	Agreed. Both the Local Plan and the SA will be subject to consultation during the plan preparation process. No change.
		1 (Baseline)	Suggests that the Council's Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) (2014) should not be used as the basis for the Local Plan and SA as it does not represent the objectively assessed need for housing. This comment is made in the context that the Council, together with Braintree, Colchester and Tendring Councils, have commissioned an Objectively Assessed Housing Needs (OAHN) study to provide the OAHN for the Housing Market Area.	Comment noted. The Scoping Report has drawn upon the most up-to-date evidence base available at the time of writing. It is acknowledged that the baseline information used in preparing the Scoping Report including the Local Plan evidence base will evolve as the SA process progresses. In this context, the findings of the Objectively Assessed Housing Needs Study are referred to in Section 3.4 of this SA Report. No change.

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
		3 (SA Framework)	Considers that SA Objective 6 should be updated to account for the significant positive contribution that park and ride services can make to meet this objective. Considered that park and ride services should be added to the list of services and that a 'significant positive' score be available to sites within 400m of any three or more services.	Agreed. The site appraisal criteria will be revised to include reference to park and ride facilities.
3	Basildon Council	General	No comments to make on this occasion.	Comment noted. No change.
4	Boreham Conservation Society	1 (Plans and Programme)	General concern that the key objectives and policy messages are aspirational and would question whether Local Government has the ability to deliver without significant commitment from other bodies, in particular HM Government.	The key policy messages and objectives identified in the Scoping Report reflect the findings of the review of plans and programmes and have helped to inform the SA Framework. It is considered that local planning policy has the scope to support (in combination with other mechanisms) many of these objectives. No change.
		2 (Key Issues)	Principal concern that the document seems to assume that housing growth is to be encouraged. It is appreciated that housing growth is inevitable but it seems that there are decisions to be taken about the amount of such growth and that the local population should be consulted about the issue. It appears as though there is no such opportunity for consultation and it is feared that the findings of the Objectively Assessed Housing Needs Study will be accepted without further question. Considered that there is not any right answer to the quantum of growth but that this is a matter for the City Council to decide after appropriate consultation with the public.	Comment noted. Options relating to the quantum of housing to be delivered in the City Area over the plan period have been appraised as part of this SA Report and presented for consultation alongside the Issues and Options Consultation Document. Comments received during consultation and the findings of the appraisal, alongside the evidence base, will inform the selection of the preferred growth option that will in-turn be subject to further consultation and, if appropriate, appraisal. No change.
		2 (Key Issues)	In addition to safeguarding existing community facilities, suggested that words are included so to safeguard the identity of existing communities also.	Agreed. The following additional key sustainability issue has been identified in Table 3.12 of this SA Report: <i>"The need to safeguard the identity of existing communities."</i>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
		2 (Key Issues)	With regards to the identification of the need to create sustainable places for people to live and work, there are a number of smaller communities which have become unsustainable with the closure of schools and other facilities. This should be addressed as part of the review and development encouraged which will support the concept of sustainable places.	Comment noted. No change.
		2 (Key Issues)	Suggests that through this process, Chelmsford should review the Metropolitan Green Belt to avoid further distortion of Chelmsford through the continued growth to the North and East of the City. Suggests that further green safeguarded zones around the City to compensate intervention into the Green Belt are created.	Comment noted. The need for a Green Belt review and safeguarded zones is a wider plan making consideration and is not considered to be a key sustainability issue. No change.
		2 (Key Issues)	Considers that the development of the station and Boreham interchange will bring development much closer to Boreham, creating large scale development separated only by the A12 and rail tracks. Suggests that the people of Boreham would be very much against further development to the northeast which may have a detrimental impact upon the village (also noted that this area of gravel extraction is due to be reinstated as a country park as agreed when permission was originally given).	Comment noted. The potential effects of Local Plan proposals will be considered as the SA process progresses. No change.
		2 (Key Issues)	Suggests that commitment to major transport / highways infrastructure is essential for any major increases in housing and employment and to this end Central Government must be engaged and committed to supporting the development of the new Local Plan.	Comment noted. The requirements for investment in transport infrastructure will be considered by the Council as part of the preparation of the Local Plan. No change.
		1 (Baseline)	Considers that the section which refers to Key Settlement Characteristics is limited in its range. Requested that further communities are identified on this list, for example there are the communities of Margaretting, Howe Green and the Hanningfields, all of which would benefit by becoming more sustainable communities.	Comment noted. The settlements identified in Section 3.2 of the Scoping Report represent those identified as 'key settlements' within the Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD only. The exclusion of settlements in this regard does not mean that they will not be subject to Local Plan policies and proposals. No change.
		2 (Key Issues)	Suggests some changes in the wording under 'Population and Community' as follows:	Disagree. The proposed amendments to the key issues identified in Table 3.12 of

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to <i>provide sufficient housing for Chelmsford's needs as assessed by the City Council</i> and plan for a mix of accommodation to suit all household types; The need to <i>provide sufficient</i> employment sites to support economic growth; and In the last bullet point under this heading, insert the word “any” before “new development.” 	<p>the Scoping Report do not alter their emphasis.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		2 (Key Issues)	Under 'Landscape and Townscape' it is suggested that words to the effect “ <i>and agricultural land surrounding Chelmsford and its villages</i> ” are added.	<p>Agreed. The key issue has been amended to read:</p> <p><i>“The need to conserve and enhance Chelmsford City Area's landscape character including the character of its villages and surrounding countryside.”</i></p>
		General	<p>Outside of the immediate impacts of the sustainable development, requested that the following impacts are also considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crossrail and any further expansion – considered that this will put pressure for development on the parts of Chelmsford that are within easy commuting range of Shenfield and, in turn, increase pressure on the A12 / Chelmsford – Liverpool railway; Stansted development / increase in passenger numbers. Noted that Stansted is licensed for 5 million more passengers that currently use it. This supports the need to improve the road link between the airport and Chelmsford; and With regards to immigration and population growth, it is considered that more data as to assumptions concerning whom and where from could be included within the Scoping Report. 	<p>Comment noted. These issues will be considered as part of the development of the Local Plan and SA as appropriate.</p> <p>No change.</p>
5	Broomfield Parish Council	2 (Key Issues)	<p>Suggests changes to the text included within Key Issues as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population and Community - Suggest replacing bullet point 8 with “The need to encourage business investment and set up where this is likely to reduce out-commuting to London.” 	<p>Disagree. The proposed amendment to the key issue identified in Table 3.12 of the Scoping Report does not alter its emphasis.</p> <p>No change.</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport and Accessibility - Suggest replacing bullet point 6 with “The need to ensure that new development is accessible to a <i>combination of</i> community facilities and services and jobs so as to reduce the need to travel.” 	<p>Agreed. The key issue referred to in this response has been amended to read:</p> <p><i>“The need to ensure that new development is accessible to a range of</i></p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
				<i>community facilities and services and jobs so as to reduce the need to travel."</i>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water - Suggest replacing bullet point 2 with "The need to promote the efficient use of water resources, <i>including drainage and sewerage capacity</i>". 	<p>Disagree. Drainage and sewerage capacity are captured under the key issue "The need to ensure the timely provision of new water services infrastructure to meet demand arising from new development."</p> <p>No change.</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscape and Townscape - Suggest adding after bullet point 2 "<i>The need to protect landscapes of value to the local economy where these have been specifically identified in landscape character statements</i>". 	<p>Agreed. The following additional key issue has been identified in Table 3.12:</p> <p><i>"The need to protect landscapes of value to the local economy where these have been specifically identified in landscape character statements"</i>.</p>
	3 (SA Framework)	Clarification and suggested changes to the text included within Guide Questions are proposed as follows:		
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Living and Revitalisation - Clarification required relating to bullet point 7 and the text "Will it increase access to schools and colleges?" Considered that this is unclear and confusion about whether it relates to location or the promotion of continued learning. 	<p>Comment noted. This guide question relates to the access of new development to schools and colleges and investment in these services and facilities.</p> <p>No change.</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water - Suggested addition of a new bullet point after bullet point 2 as follows: "Will it make efficient use of existing / already planned water resource infrastructure, including drainage and sewerage capacity, and minimise the need for new infrastructure?". 	<p>Disagree. It is considered that the existing SA objectives and guide questions are sufficient to ensure that effects on water infrastructure are considered during the appraisal.</p> <p>No change.</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscape and Townscape – Suggested addition of a new bullet point after bullet point 1 as follows: "Will it conserve and protect landscapes of the highest value to the local community, where these have been specifically identified in landscape character statements?" 	<p>Disagree. It is considered that the existing SA objectives and guide questions are sufficient to ensure that effects on landscapes are considered during the appraisal.</p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
				No change.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscape and Townscape – Suggest replacing bullet point 3 with “Will it avoid unsustainable development in the Green Belt?” 	<p>Disagree. The wording of this guide question is consistent with national planning policy set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).</p> <p>No change.</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscape and Townscape – Suggest replacing bullet point 5 with “Will it harm the sustainability objectives that underlie the current Green Wedge policy?” 	<p>Disagree. It is considered that the existing SA objectives and guide questions are sufficient to ensure that effects on green wedges are considered during the appraisal.</p> <p>No change.</p>
6	Castle Point Borough Council	General	There are no objections to the framework chosen to carry out a SA of the Local plan. Furthermore, all of the relevant issues have been identified and the objectives and questions address the key issues.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
7	Rettendon Parish Council	General	Considers that previous communication from Chelmsford City Council on this topic as not always satisfactory and asks that they improve their communication with parish councils.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
8	Ken Wilkinson	General	<p>In light of the interest in the proposed amendments to the existing leisure facilities, requested that Chelmsford City Council undertake any proposals in light of the following contexts taken from the SA Scoping Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote healthy lifestyles and levels of physical activity Enhance the public realm Maintain and enhance community services Align investment in services, facilities and infrastructure with growth Maintain and improve leisure and recreational facilities 	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		General	Suggests that the Plan does not seem to look at the impact on the local environment. For example, the siting of a leisure centre adjacent to a park and ride facility would reduce conflicting traffic movements from the City centre and reduce quantum of car parking required in the city centre. It would also support the use of public transport to the facility and allow easier access from nearby residents. The location would also allow the Council to provide more housing within the City on a brownfield site.	<p>Comment noted. At this stage, it is not within the scope of this consultation, nor the Scoping Report, to consider site specific issues.</p> <p>No change.</p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
9	Anglian Water	1 (Baseline)	Recommends the Water Cycle Study (May 2011) is reviewed and should be included as it is a significant document for the key objectives and policy messages for both 'Water' and 'Climate change'.	Comment noted. It is understood that the Council intends to update the Water Cycle Study to inform the development of the Local Plan. No change.
10	Office of Rail and Road	General	No comments to make on this particular document.	Comment noted. No change.
11	Dr Peter Foreman	1 (Baseline).	Considers that the Scoping Report covers all the issues required.	Comment noted. No change.
		2 (Key Issues)	Agrees that the main economic, social and environmental issues identified are relevant to the SA of the Local Plan	Comment noted. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	States that the proposed approach to the SA of the Local Plan is appropriate	Comment noted. No change.
12	Essex County Council	1 (Review of Plans and Programmes)	States that the following documents should also be considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Plan for Essex (April 2014); • Commissioning School Places in Essex 2014-19; • Education Transport Policy (February 2015); • Department for Education (2014) Home to school travel and transport guidance – statutory guidance for local authorities; • Sustainable Drainage Systems Design Guide (December 2014); • Chelmsford Surface Water Management Plan (2008); • Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER); • ECC Developer's Guide to Infrastructure Contributions 2015 Revision Consultation; • Essex County Council and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council (2001) Waste Local Plan; • Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan 2 (October 2010); and • Chelmsford City Council Emerging Evidence Base. 	Comment noted. The plans and programmes identified in this response have been included in the review of plans and programmes with the exception of the Local Plan evidence base. This is not considered to be a plan or programme in the context of the SEA Directive but has been used to inform the baseline analysis in Section 3 of the Scoping Report where appropriate.
		1 (Key Issues)	With regards to Table NTS.2 of the Non-Technical Summary, namely bullet point 12 of 'Population and community', it is considered that reference should be made to addressing potential deficits in early years and childcare provision (It should be noted that ECC does not have the	Agreed. The following key sustainability issue has been updated in this SA Report:

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			capital to fund new schools / early years facilities and expects a developer to contribute to the pupil / childcare places likely to be generated from new development).	<i>“The need to address forecast deficits in, in particular, school places and early years and childcare provision”</i>
	2 (Key Issues)	With regards to Table NTS.2 of the Non-Technical Summary, namely bullet point 4 of ‘Population and community’, it is thought that this issue could be broadened to refer to the delivery of ‘a range’ employment sites, as indicated in the Employment Land Review (January 2015) which concluded that as the City continues to grow it will be important that a flexible and adaptable supply of employment land is retained and brought forward.	Agreed. The key sustainability issue has been updated in this SA Report, as follows: <i>“The need to deliver a range of employment sites to support economic growth”</i>	
	2 (Key Issues)	With regards to Table NTS.2 of the Non-Technical Summary, namely bullet point 3 of ‘Health and wellbeing’, it is considered that reference should be made to the ECC Independent Living Programme (at present a gap exists in the provision of Independent Living housing across Essex).	Comment noted. The following additional key sustainability issue has been identified: <i>“The need to support the delivery of independent living housing.”</i>	
	2 (Key Issues)	Considers that the Scoping Report identifies a number of key issues regarding sustainable transport but could also include reference to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The need to encourage more 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; and• The need to investigate more innovative and creative ways to tackle behaviour change, rather than simply the monitoring of travel patterns.	Agreed. The following additional key sustainability issues have been identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>“The need to encourage the use of public transport, and in particular key transport interchanges between different modes, namely bus and rail;</i>• <i>The need to encourage car sharing, especially along heavily congested transport corridors;</i>• <i>The need to address congestion in and around the City Centre; and</i>• <i>The need to investigate more innovative and creative ways to tackle behaviour change, rather than simply the monitoring of travel patterns.”</i>	
	2 (Key Issues)	With regards to Table NTS.2 of the Non-Technical Summary, namely bullet point 2 of ‘Transport and Accessibility’, it is considered that the Local Plan will need to consider on-going projects regarding the strategic and local highway network, including the A131.	Comment noted. No change.	
	2 (Key Issues)	With regards to Table NTS.2 of the Non-Technical Summary, namely bullet point 5 of ‘Transport and accessibility’, with regards to SA	Comment noted. However, this is a future policy decision which may be considered	

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			objective 'Transport and Accessibility', it is considered that the Scoping Report should make reference to the potential expansion, or provision of additional park and ride facilities in Chelmsford through a review of the existing Park and Ride Strategy.	as part of the development and appraisal of the Local Plan. No change.
		2 (SA Framework)	With regards to Table NTS.2 of the Non-Technical Summary, namely bullet point 3 of 'Material Assets', this issues is supported. However, it is considered that the SA 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.	Agreed. The following additional guide question has been included in the SA Framework: <i>"Will it support the objectives and proposals of the Essex Minerals Local Plan?"</i>
		2 (Key Issues)	With regards to Coastal Protection Zone, it is considered that this policy is not included in the emerging Local Plan given the lack of available evidence to support its boundaries and purpose (it was a part of the East of England Plan (RSS) which was revoked in January 2013). Suggested that a more appropriate approach may be to use other evidence, including Essex Shoreline Management Plan; international designations (e.g. RAMSAR); landscape character assessment etc.	Agreed. References to the Coastal Protection Zone have been removed from this SA Report.
		3 (SA Framework)	Considers that the proposed approach to the SA, including the matrices and scoring system, is generally supported. However, suggests that some consideration regarding the methodology used to assess sites that will have cross border impacts in emerging neighbouring Local Plans will be required depending on the preferred spatial strategy and consideration of reasonable alternatives.	Comment noted. The cumulative effects of the Local Plan in combination with other plans and programmes such as neighbouring local authority plans will be assessed as part of the SA process. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	With regards to SA objective 9 'Flood risk and coastal erosion', bullet point 5 should be amended to read 'Will it deliver Sustainable Drainage Systems...'	Agreed. The guide question has been amended to read: <i>"Will it deliver Sustainable Drainage Systems and promote investment in flood defences that reduce vulnerability to flooding?"</i>
		3 (SA Framework)	Suggests that the objectives regarding flood risk should be reviewed to ensure that any constraints / issues identified in the Chelmsford Surface Water Management Plan are covered by the SA framework.	Agreed. The Surface Water Management Plan has been reviewed as part of this SA Report. The findings of the Plan have also informed the baseline analysis contained in Section 3. The potential for effects on surface water flooding will be considered under the appraisal of Local

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
				Plan policies and proposals against SA Objective 12 (flood risk).
		3 (SA Framework)	With regard to SA objective 'Biodiversity and Geodiversity', suggests that an additional guide question is added as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Will it encourage the use of multifunctional areas and landscape design for drainage?" 	Comment noted. It is considered that the guide question proposed would be more appropriate under the SA objective relating to flood risk. The following additional guide question has therefore been included under SA Objective 9: <p><i>"Will it encourage the use of multifunctional areas and landscape design for drainage?"</i></p>
		3 (SA Framework)	With regard to SA objective 5 'Health and Wellbeing', it is suggested that the second bullet point should refer to "improve access to <i>green</i> open space..."	Agreed. The guide question has been revised as follows: <p><i>"Will it maintain and improve access to green infrastructure, open space, leisure and recreational facilities?"</i></p>
13	Environment Agency	1 (Plans and Programmes)	Considers that the SA Scoping Report is comprehensive. States that the relevant plans and programmes should also include the latest Anglian River Basin Management plan and Anglian Flood Risk Management Plan.	Agreed. The plans and programmes highlighted in this responses have been reviewed as part of the preparation of this SA Report.
		2 (Key Issues)	Is in broad agreement with the main issues identified in the SA Scoping Report. Consultee understands that there is an intention to update the Chelmsford Water Cycle Study so to ensure that the latest information is reflected in the Council's evidence base.	Comment noted. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	Suggests that with regard to the 'Water' objective, the Water Framework Directive (WFD) objectives should be taken into account in terms of the impact of development growth on the status of water bodies. Considered that when assessing the impact of development growth on the status of water bodies, particular regard should be given to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preventing the deterioration of their existing status; or Failure to achieve the objective of 'good status'. 	Comment noted. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	Suggested that the following question is included under SA Objective 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it conserve and enhance species diversity, and in particular avoid harm to indigenous BAP priority species? 	Agreed. The following guide question has been included in the SA Framework (and amendments made as appropriate to the existing guide questions):

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
				<i>"Will it conserve and enhance species diversity, and in particular avoid harm to indigenous Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats and species and protected species?"</i>
		3 (SA Framework)	<p>With regard to 'Water', it is considered that WFD objectives should be applied to the assessment of potential impacts of development growth on water bodies across the district. Suggests that the first guide question could be amended to read as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it result in a reduction of run-off of pollutants to nearby water courses that lead to a deterioration in its existing status and/or fail to achieve the objective of good status under the Water Framework Directive and improve ground and surface water quality? 	<p>Agreed. The guide question has been amended to read:</p> <p><i>"Will it result in a reduction of run-off of pollutants to nearby water courses that lead to a deterioration existing status and/or failure to achieve the objective of good status under the Water Framework Directive?"</i></p> <p>The following additional guide question has also been included:</p> <p><i>"Will it improve ground and surface water quality?"</i></p>
		3 (SA Framework)	<p>With regard to SA objective 9, 'Flood Risk', in Table 4.1, suggested that there could be a question on the sequential test being used on decisions on development proposals, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the sequential test being used to reach decisions on development proposals? 	<p>Comment noted. The existing guide question at bullet point 3 has been amended to read:</p> <p><i>"Will it discourage inappropriate development in areas at risk from flooding and promote the sequential test?"</i></p>
		3 (SA Framework)	<p>With regards to site appraisal criteria, it is considered that SA objective 1 could include an appraisal criterion applicable to Biodiversity Action plan (BAP) Habitats and Species. Suggested that the threshold could be development sites within 100m of BAP Habitats and Species designations.</p>	<p>Agreed. The site appraisal criteria has been revised to reflect this response.</p>
		3 (SA Framework)	<p>With regard to the site appraisal criteria, it is suggested that WFD river quality data could be used against SA objective 8 as a criterion for the purpose of determining whether there is a potential impact on the water environment.</p>	<p>Comment noted. However, it is unclear how WFD water quality data would influence the scoring of sites. The appraisal in this context concerns whether proposals would affect the existing status of waterbodies, regardless of their condition.</p> <p>No change.</p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
		3 (SA Framework)	Welcomes the Definitions of Significance set out under Appendix D.	Comment noted. No change.
14	Essex Bridleways Association	1 (Review of Plans and Programmes)	Suggests that the Essex County Council Rights of Way Improvement Plan is included.	Agreed. This plan has been reviewed as part of the preparation of this SA Report.
		2 (Review of Plans and Programmes)	Considers that an objective relating to the improvement and enhancement of Rights of Way provision is included in Table 2.2.	Agreed. Additionally, the following guide question has been included under SA Objective 5: <i>"Will it maintain and enhance Public Rights of Way and Bridleways?"</i>
		2 (Review of Plans and Programmes)	With regard to 'Landscape and Townscape', suggests that there should be reference to enhanced rights of way network with the creation of Bridleways wherever possible in keeping with the promotion of access to the countryside.	Comment noted. The following guide question has been included under SA Objective 5: <i>"Will it maintain and enhance Public Rights of Way and Bridleways?"</i>
		3 (Key Issues)	Agrees with the "need to enhance the green infrastructure network, addressing deficiencies and gaps, improving accessibility and encouraging multiple uses where appropriate". Suggested that these could include an objective to include all users where possible, including equestrians.	Agreed. This issue has been amended to refer to all users, as follows: <i>"The need to enhance the green infrastructure network, addressing deficiencies and gaps, improving accessibility for all users and encouraging multiple uses where appropriate"</i>
15	Paul Holt	General	Considers that agricultural land is a valuable resource and that development needs to be concentrated on brownfield sites rather than greenfield, with speculative greenfield development to be particularly resisted.	Comment noted. No change.
		General	Suggests that building on flood plains should be resisted.	Comment noted. No change.
16	Gladman Developments	General	Considers that this was an appropriate opportunity to remind the authority of a number of key issues that must be addressed when undertaking a robust Sustainability Appraisal, including that:	Comment noted. The SA process will consider reasonable alternatives as appropriate and will document the reasons

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council must take account of all reasonable alternatives when assessing and selecting their preferred policy choice; The Council should not seek to progress a pre-determined strategy that unjustifiably influences the assessment process; The Council should ensure that the results of the SA process clearly justify its policy choices; and The Council's decision making and scoring should be robust, justified and transparent. 	<p>for the selection of preferred options and rejection of alternatives.</p> <p>No change.</p>
17	Highways England	2 (Key Issues)	Suggests that the order of transport issues is altered, i.e. reducing the need for travel and sustainable means should be ranked above improvements to the network.	<p>Comment noted. However, the issues identified in the Scoping Report are not ranked.</p> <p>No change.</p>
18	Historic England	1 (Plans and Programmes)	<p>Suggests the inclusion of the following documents within the review of plans and programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNESCO World Heritage Convention (1972) The Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada Convention) The European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Valetta Convention) Historic England has produced a series of Good Practice Advice notes for planning, including one relating to Local Plans: www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa1-historicenvironment-local-plans/ Conservation Area Character Appraisals and Management Plans Relevant SPDs 	Agreed. The plans and programmes highlighted in this responses have been reviewed as part of the preparation of this SA Report.
		2 (Key Issues)	Agrees with the key sustainability issues surrounding heritage which arise from the preliminary baseline discussions.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		2 (Key Issues)	It is considered that the SA should highlight the many opportunities for the enhancement of the historic environment which comes from sustainable development proposals. Suggested that opportunities could form an additional column to Table 3.12.	<p>Comment noted. However, the enhancement of the historic environment is identified as a key sustainability issue in Table 3.12.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		3 (SA Framework)	Welcomes the inclusion of Sustainability Objective 13 which covers heritage and the guide questions. Considers that the first guide question relating to SA Objective 13, which covers heritage, should use	Agreed. The guide question has been updated as follows:

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			the phrase "historic environment" rather than "historic built environment", as the latter excludes non-built elements of the historic environment.	<i>"Will it help to conserve and enhance existing features of the historic environment and their settings, including archaeological assets?"</i>
		3 (SA Framework)	States that they are generally content with the proposed assessment process relating to the historic environment, and consider the methodology set out in Section 4 and Appendices D and E to be appropriate. Particularly welcomes the avoidance in Appendix E of simply using distance to judge the impact of a site allocation on heritage assets. This is consistent with our emerging advice on site allocations, which is due to be published in the autumn.	Comment noted. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	States that Appendix E only refers to 'effects on designated heritage assets' in the appraisal criteria column, which implies that non-designated heritage assets (as recognised by the NPPF) are not included. The terms 'nationally' and 'locally' designated heritage assets are used in the threshold column, which is misleading and not consistent with the NPPF (i.e. conservation areas are designated locally, but are recognised as designated heritage assets in the NPPF in the same way as listed buildings etc.). Recommends that the word 'nationally' is dropped from the threshold column, while the phrase 'locally designated' is replaced with 'non-designated' (to reflect the NPPF). Also recommends that the threshold column refers explicitly to adverse effects on non-designated heritage assets. The appraisal column should simply refer to 'effects on heritage assets'	Agreed. The Site Appraisal Criteria has been revised as per this response.
19	JB Planning Associates (on behalf of the Thorogood Family)	General	Welcome the commitment to the findings of the Sustainability Appraisal process being published in a series of interim SA Reports to accompany the publication and consultation of the various iterations of the draft Local Plan. However, states their content must be entirely clear and transparent.	Comment noted. No change.
		General	The Sustainability Appraisal process will need to ensure that given Chelmsford's size, geographical location and importance, the wider unmet needs of the Housing Market Area within which it sits are properly addressed, and that Chelmsford's needs are not considered in total isolation. This of course is a legal requirement under the Duty to Co-operate.	Comment noted. The SA process will consider the cumulative effects of the Local Plan in combination with other plans and programmes including the local plans of neighbouring authorities. No change.

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
		General	It is considered vital that the Sustainability Appraisal process fully and accurately reflects the actual population of the local area in light of recent concerns regarding the robustness of key national household projections and the accuracy of ONS population estimates.	<p>Comment noted. The Scoping Report has drawn upon the most up-to-date evidence base available at the time of writing. It is acknowledged that the baseline information used in preparing the Scoping Report including the Local Plan evidence base will evolve as the SA process progresses.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		General	Considers that there is an urgent demand to boost significantly the amount of new housing being provided in Chelmsford in order to address affordability concerns (with reference to the relatively high ratio of lower quartile earnings to lower quartile house prices within the Chelmsford City Area).	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		3 (SA Framework)	Emphasises the importance of ensuring the Sustainability Appraisal process properly addresses the economic needs of the area, and not just the social and environmental impacts.	<p>Comment noted. The SA Framework comprises a range of socio-economic and environmental SA objectives and associated guide questions. This will help to ensure that the socio-economic and environmental effects of the Local Plan are fully considered.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		General	Considers that the new Local Plan identifies a range of housing sites that are viable and deliverable within the Plan period in order to begin to redress the backlog in required housing delivery.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		3 (SA Framework)	Suggests that when undertaking individual site assessments, as part of the SA process, it will be important to ensure that the scoring system relates to what is actually being proposed by developers and landowners	<p>Comment noted. The criteria used to appraise sites does not take into account mitigation or developer proposals in the first instance. Information provided by developers and the potential for the implementation of mitigation measures will, however, be reflected qualitatively in the associated appraisal commentary. However, due to the lack of certainty with respect to the final composition and design of schemes, and whether mitigation will be implemented, this will not be reflected in the scoring of sites.</p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
				No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	Welcomes the fact that SA Objective 1 (Biodiversity and Geodiversity) awards a ++ score to development that would deliver significant green infrastructure.	Comment noted. No change.
		General	Highlights that due to Chelmsford's proximity and good links to London (particularly by rail), it is likely to be required (amongst other South East local authorities) to meet a significant proportion of London's unmet housing needs.	Comment noted. No change.
20	Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group	1 (Plans and Programmes)	Suggests the inclusion of the following documents within the review of plans and programmes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS England Five Year Forward View Mid Essex CCG four year plan 2014-18 NHS England and Mid Essex Primary Care Strategies 	Agreed. The plans and programmes highlighted in this responses have been reviewed as part of the preparation of this SA Report. Note that the Four Year Plan could not be accessed for review.
		2 (Key Issues)	Agrees with the Key Sustainability Issues as they relate to health.	Comment noted. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	Agrees with the guide questions, however the illustrative guidance on the definitions of significance are not representative of the issues. The proximity of a new development to a healthcare facility is not relevant if the facility does not have capacity to meet the needs of the new development.	Comment noted. The potential for the site appraisal criteria to be revised to reflect the capacity of facilities will be reviewed to ascertain if there is information available to support such an assessment. No change at this stage.
21	Marine Management Organisation	1 (Plans and Programmes)	Agrees but suggests the inclusion of Marine Policy Statement.	Agreed. The Marine Policy Statement has been reviewed as part of the preparation of this SA Report.
		2 (Key Issues)	Yes and welcome references to Coastal Protection Zone on climate change and environmental protection.	Comment noted. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	Agrees with the proposed approach to the SA.	Comment noted. No change.

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
		1 (Baseline)	Noted that currently there is no reference to marine planning with the SA Scoping Report.	Comment noted. The Marine Policy Statement has been included within the review of plans and programmes.
22	Edward Baldock	General	Considers that the main point of deficiency is that there is no relative evaluation of the significance of the items across the list of evaluations that are proposed.	Disagree. It is not considered appropriate, nor is it best practice, to rank sustainability issues or objectives, which have been identified following a review of relevant plans and programmes and baseline information. The purpose of the SA process is (principally) to identify likely significant effects across all identified topics, enabling informed decisions to be made in respect of the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of policies and proposals. No change.
		General	States that the second point of deficiency is that the five tasks identified within the Non-Technical Summary do not address the issue of whether the likely (external) drivers for any change are clearly identified. Suggests that a sixth task is introduced with the objective of evaluating whether all the likely and anticipatable reasons for undertaking development have been identified and correctly evaluated. Considers at present that these issues are hidden within the list of evaluations.	Disagree. The five scoping tasks reflect those identified in Government guidance on SEA. No change.
		General	Considers that "Population" be promoted to first position in the list of evaluations.	Disagree. It is not considered appropriate, nor is it best practice, to rank sustainability issues or objectives, which have been identified following a review of relevant plans and programmes and baseline information. The purpose of the SA process is (principally) to identify likely significant effects across all identified topics, enabling informed decisions to be made in respect of the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of policies and proposals. No change.
		General	Suggests re-ordering of the topics within the Scoping Report to reflect their relative importance, including moving Biodiversity to fifth, Transport to second.	Disagree. It is not considered appropriate, nor is it best practice, to rank sustainability issues or objectives, which have been

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
				<p>identified following a review of relevant plans and programmes and baseline information. The purpose of the SA process is (principally) to identify likely significant effects across all identified topics, enabling informed decisions to be made in respect of the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of policies and proposals.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		General	Suggests removal of Climate Change as a standalone topic within the Scoping Report and states that it should be incorporated as a sub-issue within the other topics and suggested methodology to evaluate Climate Change as per the second point of deficiency noted previously.	<p>Comment noted. Whilst it is agreed that climate change is an issues that cuts across many of the SA topics, the SEA Directive identifies climatic factors as a specific topic and in this context, it is considered that the effects of the Local Plan on climate change should be considered through a specific topic. However, where climate change effects are identified that relate to other topics, then linkages will be identified in the appraisal as appropriate.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Baseline)	Within the "Population" topic, it is suggested that there is inadequate assessment and differentiation between housing needs from the perceived historical failure of housing delivery and the needs stemming from the expectations for population (and household) growth in the future.	<p>Comment noted. The baseline information presented in this SA Report draws on the Objectively Assessed Housing Needs Study which identifies housing requirements over the plan period.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Baseline)	Considers that little regard has been given to the impact of the internet on working patterns and areas of work and / or shopping. States that there will be a likely reduction in these needs in terms of their ratio to the population and, as such, these areas could be used for other purposes e.g. housing. Proposed that this could release large industrial areas for development which could see a surfeit of such industrial space.	<p>Comment noted. There is not considered to be sufficiently robust evidence to support the argument that the internet will make available industrial areas for redevelopment in the period of the Local Plan.</p> <p>No change.</p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
		1 (Baseline)	Considers that within the Transport objective there is inadequate consideration of the likely effects of driverless vehicles.	<p>Comment noted. There is not considered to be sufficiently robust evidence to inform any discussion on the possible impact of driverless vehicles. It is also unknown whether such vehicles will be widely available in the period of the Local Plan.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Baseline)	Within the Transport objective there is no consideration of the possible impact of the delivery of physical items by helicopter drones.	<p>Comment noted. There is not considered to be sufficiently robust evidence to inform any discussion on the possible impact of drones. It is also unknown whether such drones will be widely used in the period of the Local Plan.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Baseline)	Within the Water objective the assumption that any area subject to a flood risk is not suitable for housing is questioned. Suggests that alternative building methods could address flooding in these areas.	<p>Comment noted. National planning policy set out in the NPPF states that inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided by directing development away from areas at highest risk. This has been reflected in the Scoping Report.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Baseline)	With regards to the Water objective, it is considered that the plan should be looking further ahead than 2036 on the basis that we have a reasonable expectation of what the future will be like (this is given context with regards to global warming and rising sea levels and the possible inappropriate location of development in areas susceptible to flooding).	<p>Disagree. The plan period is considered to be appropriate and consistent with national planning policy and guidance.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Baseline)	The assumption that traffic will continue to produce the same level of pollution during the plan period is questioned. Suggests that the introduction of electric cars will remove emissions with regards to the Air topic of the Scoping Report.	<p>Comment noted. The potential take-up of electric cars over the plan period is unknown although it is considered unlikely that all traffic emissions will be cut by the end of the plan period.</p> <p>No change.</p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
23	Norman Bartlett	1 (Plans and Programmes)	Suggests that plans from neighbouring authorities have been omitted.	Disagree. The plans of neighbouring local authorities have been reviewed as part of the review of plans and programmes. No change.
		1 (Baseline)	Considers that there is no consideration of the rail network. Whilst the Scoping Report identifies aims of reducing emissions and road travel, it does not set out any alternatives.	Disagree. Paragraph 3.6.3 of the Scoping Report provides information on Chelmsford rail station and rail services and facilities. Similarly, paragraph 3.6.9 comments on Essex County Council's Local Transport Plan and the focus on the delivery of transport improvements to support growth, including the North Chelmsford railway station. No change.
		1 (Baseline)	Suggests that immigration and population growth need to be objectively considered and forecast.	Comment noted. Information on population growth has been provided in the baseline analysis contained in Section 3.4 of the Scoping Report. No change.
		2 (Key Issues)	Considers that the references to climate change and its effects do not set out what the changes are likely to be.	Disagree. Section 3.10 of the Scoping Report highlights the potential implications of climate change based on 2009 UK Climate Projections. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	Considers that some of the objectives and guide questions mitigate against one another when considered together. For example "Will it provide a supply of high quality employment land to meet the needs of existing businesses and attract inward investment?" is set against "Will it avoid the loss of agricultural land including best and most versatile land?" Suggests that the terminology could be changed to avoid confusion.	Disagree. The guide questions are designed to enable the identification of the full range of potential significant socio-economic and environmental effects of the Local Plan. No change.
24	Graham Bell	2 (Key Issues)	Agrees that the main economic, social and environmental issues identified in the Scoping Report are relevant to the SA of the Local Plan.	Comment noted. No change.

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
25	Alan Cullen	1 (Baseline)	Considers that whilst the Scoping Report recognises the current situation it does not consider the future to an appropriate extent, citing the increasing and ageing population and the problems this may bring. This should be identified with regard to a number of aspects including education, health, water supply and sewage, energy, transport, food, emergency services and others.	Disagree. Throughout Section 3 the Scoping Report highlights the challenges associated with increasing and ageing populations. No change.
		1 (Baseline)	Considers that the Scoping Report recognises traffic problems on the A12 but not in the City Centre.	Disagree. The Key Settlement Characteristics identified in Appendix C of the Scoping Report highlight that traffic congestion is an issue in parts of the urban areas of Chelmsford. No change.
26	Mr N Heath	General	Considers that the expansion of Chelmsford has not been matched by an expansion in its infrastructure, with specific regard to transport. Suggests that bus services could be upgraded so to provide a suitable mode of transport that could help reduce congestion in the City centre.	Comment noted. The provision of transportation infrastructure will be considered by the Council as part of the preparation of the Local Plan and as part of the SA process. No change.
27	John Riches	1 (Baseline)	Suggests that the population by age grouping should identify the 55-65 age range number in Table 3.4. Considered that to make the best use of housing stock and to meet current and emerging needs, it is desirable to know and to possibly enable a proportion of the large population within the 65 and over age range and the number within the 55-65 range to move to single storey homes where available with the intention of releasing larger housing to the purchasing and rental market.	Comment noted. The age groupings in Table 3.4 are based on statistics provided by the Office for National Statistics. The Council will consider the range, mix and type of housing to be provided over the plan period as part of the preparation of the Local Plan. No change.
		2 (Key Issues)	Although the issues identified are agreed with, it is considered that the main motivation for wellbeing within the community will be the range and growth of employment. Considers that business and well paid jobs in the immediate locality are encouraged.	Comment noted. No change. .
		2 (Key Issues)	Suggests that to optimise the SA there should be direct linkages between the education and training systems provided and the needs of the local economy.	Comment noted. Linkages between education and training and the local economy will be considered as appropriate through the SA of the Local Plan.

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
				No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	Agrees with the proposed approach to the appraisal.	Comment noted.
				No change.
28	Carol Mahoney	3 (SA Framework)	The following comments are made with respect to the site appraisal criteria:	
			Clarification is required on how the scoring will be weighted, if it is weighted at all.	Comment noted. The scoring of sites against each SA objective will not be weighted.
				No change.
			There does not appear to be any criteria to assess to what extent a site will contribute to a mix of accommodation to meet the diverse needs of the area. Clarification is required on how this will be assessed.	Comment noted. The range and type of housing to be provided on specific sites will be determined at the planning application stage and taking into account a number of factors including Local Plan policies and viability. In consequence, it is not considered appropriate to consider housing mix as part of the SA sites.
				No change.
			The distances used in objective 4, 'Sustainable Living and Revitalisation', are considered to be unnecessarily restrictive and inconsistent with the stated aim to support economic development in the rural areas. Suggests that an optional criteria could be included for access to services that are within 15 minutes travel time by public transport.	Comment noted. In view of this response, the site appraisal criteria under SA Objective 4 has been revised to include reference to the accessibility of public transport.
			It is suggested that the criteria for greenfield land on objective 7, 'Land Use and Soils', does not take into account the size of the site or its current use.	Comment noted. Where strategic sites are proposed that would involve the substantial development of greenfield land then the scale of greenfield land lost, as well as its agricultural land quality, will be duly considered.
				No change.

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			With regards to the definitions of significance, objective 14, 'Landscapes and Townscape', one of the objectives is 'Will it promote high quality design in context with its urban and rural landscape?' The scoring criteria does not reflect this objective, so clarification is sought on how will this be assessed?	Comment noted. The Definitions of Significance presented in Appendix D to the Scoping Report are illustrative only. The design of development in the context of specific sites will be determined at the planning application stage and taking into account a number of factors including Local Plan policies and building regulations. In consequence, it is not considered appropriate to consider design as part of the SA sites.
			With regard to landscape, states that it is difficult to envisage any development not having some affect. The '-' and '--' scores seem to conflate adverse effects and effects on green wedge/costal protection/greenbelt without providing sufficient differentiation for the significant number of sites that fall outside of those protected areas. The '0' score might therefore be more usefully applied to 'Development is unlikely to have an effect, or on balance any significant effect'. This would leave the two negatives scores to deal more appropriately with significant adverse effects and those protected areas. It might also be helpful to state how 'affect' will be assessed as this can be a very subjective criteria.	Disagree. The Site Appraisal Criteria is considered to be appropriate for appraising the effects of proposed sites on landscape. No change.
29	Nigel Brown and Vivienne Flack	1 (Baseline)	States that the SA should very clearly recognise that the historic environment is a finite non-renewable resource and that the SA should clearly identify the need for the Local Plan to set out a positive strategy	Comment noted. It is considered that the Scoping Report appropriately highlights the need to protect and enhance the City Area's cultural heritage assets both in the identification of key sustainability issues and in the SA Framework. No change.
		1 (Plans and Programmes)	Suggests the inclusion of the Valetta Convention (1992).	Agreed. The Valetta Convention (1992) has been included in the review of plans and programmes in this SA Report.
		1 (Plans and Programmes)	With regard to Appendix B in dealing with the NPPF, considers the statement; 'SA Framework should include objectives which seek to maintain vulnerable assets including built and historic.' as a little unclear. Maintain is perhaps not quite the right word, neither is it clear what the distinction between built and historic might be and it isn't just vulnerable assets that need to be covered. Something along the lines of	Agreed. The wording in Appendix B has been revised as per this response.

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			'SA Framework should include objectives which seek to conserve and enhance historic environment assets' would be a better wording.	
		2 (Key Issues)	States that the following key sustainability issue should be identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to recognise, conserve and enhance the interrelationship between the historic and natural environment. 	Disagree. This issue is considered to be captured by the following key sustainability issue: <p>"The need to recognise the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of landscapes and townscapes."</p>
		3 (SA Framework)	Similarly, an additional question should be added to Table NTS.3 as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it recognise, conserve and enhance the inter-relationship between the historic and natural environment? 	Agreed. The following guide question has been included in the SA Framework under SA Objective 13: <p><i>"Will it recognise, conserve and enhance the inter-relationship between the historic and natural environment?"</i></p>
		1 (Baseline)	Considers that the section on Boreham in Appendix C omits its perceived most significant characteristic, which is its rural setting. The importance of its rural location is set out in the Boreham Village Design Statement. Suggests that it may be appropriate to include village design statements in the evidence base. Suggests that Appendix C should be updated to identify the rural setting as a key characteristic of Boreham.	Agreed. The key baseline characteristics of Boreham have been updated to reflect the importance of its rural setting. Village Design Statements have been referred to in the review of plans and programmes contained in the Scoping Report.
		1 (Baseline)	Highlights that parts of Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation Conservation Area runs through the south of the parish and that the Chelmer valley is an important part of the rural setting of Boreham.	Agreed. The key baseline characteristics of Boreham have been updated to include reference to the Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation Conservation Area and Chelmer valley.
30	NHS England Midlands and East (East)	General	States that the SA must consider what healthcare facilities and services are available, and what capacity exists in the healthcare system at present to support growth. Proposes that a more detailed and focused study of existing healthcare facilities is undertaken so as to identify the extent of impacts on healthcare from the next Local Plan growth proposals.	Comment noted. It is not within the scope of the SA to undertake a detailed assessment of healthcare provision in the City Area. However, the SA will draw on available evidence to inform the appraisal process. <p>No change.</p>
31	Nathaniel Lichfield & Partners (on behalf of Bloor Homes Eastern)	General	Suggests that it should be made clear as part of the Scoping Report that options to review the Green Belt to meet identified needs will be considered.	Comment noted. The identification of options relating to review of the Green Belt is a wider plan making consideration.

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
				<p>It is not the role of the SA process to identify the options for appraisal but to assess the reasonable alternatives put forward by the Council</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Baseline)	Notes that Chelmsford's ratio of house prices to earnings is higher than both the national and Essex county average which suggests that affordability is a significant issue in Chelmsford. Suggests that this reinforces the need to boost significantly the supply of new homes in Chelmsford.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Baseline)	With regard to the evolution of the baseline without a Local Plan and the relating consequences, it is considered that the figures provided must also take account of market signals and whether housing supply in Chelmsford has kept pace with demand, affordability and the wider need to boost significantly the supply of new homes.	<p>Comment noted. The Scoping Report has drawn upon the most up-to-date evidence base available at the time of writing. It is acknowledged that the baseline information used in preparing the Scoping Report including the Local Plan evidence base will evolve as the SA process progresses.</p> <p>In this context, the findings of the Objectively Assessed Housing Needs Study are referred to in Section 3.4 of this SA Report.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Baseline)	Considers that the economic potential of Chelmsford needs to be aligned with the housing growth levels. Noted that the 2014/15 shortfall in housing delivery by 304 dwellings is an important issue that needs to be addressed through the Local Plan by ensuring viable development proposals are brought forward which can be delivered on the ground and so meet the housing needs of Chelmsford.	<p>Comment noted. This is a wider plan making issue that will be considered by the Council in the development of the Local Plan.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Baseline)	Suggests that the identified deficit in primary and secondary school places in the period to 2019 will need to be addressed as part of the Local Plan to 2036. Suggests that development which offers a deliverable opportunity to meet this need locally by providing space for a future school expansion or playing field expansion as part of wider residential-led development should be considered.	<p>Comment noted. This is a wider plan making issue that will be considered by the Council in the development of the Local Plan.</p> <p>No change</p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
		General	Considers that the Council should have due regard to the fact that, as detailed in Appendix 2 of the SA, "when considering housing provisions/targets the 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". It is considered that this will increase the objectively assessed housing need in Chelmsford.	<p>Comment noted. This is a wider plan making issue that will be considered by the Council in the development of the Local Plan.</p> <p>No change</p>
32	ASP Planning and Development Consultancy (on behalf of Bolton Farms)	General	With specific regard to employment, there are a number of principles set out in the Scoping Report which are supported but which fail to recognise the need to supply greenfield business park floorspace in light of the findings of the Employment Land Review (ELR).	<p>Comment noted. The quantum and location of employment land provision are wider plan making issues and the findings of the ELR will be considered by the Council in the preparation of the Local Plan.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		3 (SA Framework)	Considers that new employment sites should be located near to key infrastructure networks such as roads and rail in order to facilitate business travel and to attract businesses to the area. Suggests that an objective in this regard should be included within the SA as it will support the principles to 'build a strong, competitive economy' and 'promoting sustainable transport' as set out in the NPPF.	<p>Comment noted. However, transport considerations are already captured under SA Objective 6.</p> <p>No change.</p>
33	ASP Planning and Development Consultancy (on behalf of Knight Developments Ltd)	General	States that the Council should undertake a review of the Green Belt to seek to make the new Local Plan 'as sustainable as possible' in line with the principles of the SA process.	<p>Comment noted. The identification of options relating to review of the Green Belt is a wider plan making consideration. It is not the role of the SA process to identify the options for appraisal but to assess the reasonable alternatives put forward by the Council</p> <p>No change.</p>
		3 (SA Framework)	Considers that the approach to the Green Belt set out in the SA Scoping Report places far too negative an emphasis of development within it and appears to suggest that the current boundaries will not be reviewed as part of the Local Plan nor the potential for the Green Belt to accommodate growth. States that it is too early in the preparation of the Local Plan for such a stance to be taken towards the Green Belt in the light of the emerging challenges regarding housing need.	<p>Disagree. SA Objective 14 includes the guide question "Will it avoid inappropriate development in the Green Belt and ensure the Green Belt endures?". The wording of this guide question reflects national planning policy set out in the NPPF and in this context, it is not considered to be negative nor imply that current boundaries will not be reviewed.</p> <p>No change.</p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
		General	<p>Considers that the Green Belt, as well as other current planning controls, should be reviewed as part of both the SA process and new Local Plan and that this have regard to the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The intended objective and purpose of such controls – why were they introduced in the first place and does such a control retain importance or significance; and b) Could such areas accommodate growth in sustainable locations and is growth and meeting development needs going to be situated in the most sustainable of locations. 	<p>Comment noted. The identification of options relating to review of the Green Belt is a wider plan making consideration. It is not the role of the SA process to identify the options for appraisal but to assess the reasonable alternatives put forward by the Council</p> <p>No change.</p>
34	Transport for London	General	No specific comments on the Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report; with regards to transport, the identified issues and approach seem appropriate.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
35	Runwell Parish Council	General	The Scoping Report makes no mention of the Government Directive to relax planning restrictions in the Metropolitan Green Belt. Considered that this could have a major impact on future development in the Chelmsford area.	<p>Comment noted. However, it is unclear what directive is being referred to in this instance.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Baseline)	Agrees that sufficient information has been provided to establish the context for the SA of the Local Plan.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		2 (Key Issues)	Agrees that the main economic, social and environmental issues have been identified and are relevant to the SA of the Local Plan.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		3 (SA Framework)	Agrees with the proposed approach to the SA of the Local Plan and the objectives and guide questions cover a sufficient range of environmental, social and economic topics.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Baseline)	Considers that a more detailed strategy and information is required to ensure that the A132 is kept open / clear at all times with regards to flooding from Runwell Brook and the river Crouch. Suggests that localised strategies are put in place rather than general strategies.	<p>Comment noted. This is a wider plan making issue and will be considered by the Council in the development of the Local Plan.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Plans and Programmes)	States that regard should be given to Basildon Borough Council's Local Plan given the location of Runwell in the south of the Chelmsford area and its proximity to Basildon.	Comment noted. The emerging Basildon Local Plan was reviewed as part of the Scoping Report. The cumulative effects of the Local Plan in combination with other plans and programmes such as the local

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
				plans of neighbouring authorities will be considered as part of the SA process. No change.
		1 (Baseline)	The Scoping Report does not mention St. Lukes Park (Runwell Hospital re-development) which will be open by the time the Local Plan is adopted. This will be a major part of the community and should be mentioned.	Agreed. Reference to St. Lukes Park has been included in this SA Report.
		1 (Baseline)	<p>The following comments are made in respect of Runwell's baseline characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The River Crouch is south of our boundary. Rather than just recreational facilities, we have a Village Hall, Playing Fields, Allotments and Recreational facilities run by Runwell Sports and Social Club and further sports facilities. We also have a Cafe and small businesses such as a Veterinary Practise, Printers, Livery Yards No mention of Brockfield House Mental Health Services Unit. The church is St. Mary's, the most notable landmark in Runwell situated adjacent to the A132 at the junction with Church End Lane. 	Comment noted. The key characteristics of Runwell have been revised to reflect this response.
36	Sellwood Planning (on behalf of Crest Strategic)	2 (Key Issues)	<p>The following comments are made in respect of the key sustainability issues:</p> <p>Population and Community</p> <p>Should the 'need to enable housing growth' cross refer to the aim to meet 'objectively assessed housing needs'?</p>	<p>Agreed. The key sustainability issue has been amended to read:</p> <p><i>"The need to enable housing growth, meeting objectively assessed housing needs and planning for a mix of accommodation to suit all household types."</i></p>
			As a general point, it is considered that many of the issues are phrased as "addressing" an issue. It would be clearer if the issue was expressed in a manner which articulated the concern more clearly.	<p>Disagree. The key sustainability issues reflect, and are a summary of, the detailed analysis of the baseline presented in Section 3 of the Scoping Report.</p> <p>No change.</p>
			Clarification is required with regards to the statement 'the need to raise incomes'. Does this relate to every one of just the lowest quartile?	Agreed. The key sustainability issue has been amended to read:

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
				<p><i>"The need to raise incomes and especially for those whose incomes are in the lowest quartile."</i></p>
			<p>Considers that the following objective is badly phrased: 'The need to address forecast deficits, in particular, school places'</p>	<p>Agreed. The key sustainability issue has been amended to read:</p> <p><i>"The need to address forecast deficits in, in particular, school places and early years and childcare provision"</i></p>
			<p>Health and Wellbeing</p> <p>With regard to the second bullet point, it is considered that rather than 'address obesity and levels of physical activity', the issue should be to 'reduce obesity and increase levels of physical activity'.</p>	<p>Agreed. The key sustainability issue has been amended to read:</p> <p><i>"The need to promote healthy lifestyles and in particular reduce obesity and increase levels of physical activity."</i></p>
			<p>Transport and Accessibility</p> <p>With regard to the fifth bullet point in the 'Transport and Accessibility' topic, it is suggested that it is amended to read 'the need to encourage alternative modes of transport to the car, including park and ride sites'.</p>	<p>Agreed. The key sustainability issue has been amended to read:</p> <p><i>"The need to encourage alternative modes of transport to the car, including park and ride sites."</i></p>
			<p>Landscape and Townscape</p> <p>With regards to the second bullet point in the 'Landscape and Townscape' topic, it is suggested that whilst Green Belt is an important issue, is it right to put it under the heading of 'Landscape and Townscape'?</p>	<p>Comment noted. It is considered that Green Belt is fundamentally a landscape/townscape issue, reflecting the overall aim of Green Belt identified in the NPPF which is to keep land permanently open.</p> <p>No change.</p>
	3 (SA Framework)		<p>The following comments are made in respect of the SA Framework:</p> <p>Biodiversity and Geodiversity</p> <p>With regard to the fourth bullet point, it is suggested that this question should be split into three. One dealing with European levels of protection, one UK wide (e.g. SSSI) and one for sub national designations (e.g. LNR).</p>	<p>Agreed. The guide questions have been revised as per this response.</p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			Housing Considers that the first bullet point of the Housing objective should cross refer to the aim to meet Objectively Assessed Housing Needs.	Agreed. The guide question has been amended to read: <i>"Will it meet the City's objectively assessed housing need, providing a range of housing types to meet current and emerging need for market and affordable housing?"</i>
			Sustainable Living and Revitalisation Suggests that there should be a question on whether the site can create a good residential environment (e.g. no adverse effects of noise, pollution etc.).	Disagree. It is considered that this issue will be captured under the SA objectives relating to health and wellbeing and air. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	Considers that the Scoping Report notes the importance of delivery to the soundness of the plan, but the Appraisal Criteria in Appendix E do not address this issue. Suggested that there should be questions relating to land control and viability.	Disagree. The SA is one element of the wider site appraisal process and which will include the consideration of land control and viability. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	Notes that many of the site appraisal questions score a site in terms of proximity to facilities. However, in many cases a strategic site will be remote from existing facilities but will be large enough to provide these functions on-site. Suggests that the appraisal should recognise this and where a developer has indicated that a particular facility is to be provided on-site, the appraisal should reflect this with a positive score. At present, this is reflected for some facilities, but not all.	Comment noted. The Site Appraisal Criteria includes criterion relating to the provision of services and facilities. Further, it is fully anticipated that the detailed appraisal of strategic sites will consider the onsite provision of facilities. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	Suggests that the Transport objective should include reference to being within walking distance to an existing, or proposed, park and ride site	Agreed. The Site Appraisal Criteria has been revised to include reference to park and ride facilities.
		3 (SA Framework)	Clarity is requested with regards to 'Water', as to how would a site be scored if the site bordered a waterbody but did not propose any development within 50 metres of it?	Comment noted. Based on the current appraisal criteria and thresholds, the site would be scored negatively as it would be within 10-50m of a waterbody. For strategic sites, where further information is available, then the commentary may reflect developer proposals and potential mitigation measures.

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
				No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	With regards to Flood Risk and Coastal Erosion, strategic sites often include areas outside Flood Zone 1, but these areas are not proposed for development. How would they be scored?	Comment noted. Based on the current criteria, sites would be appraised as having a negative effect on flood risk where all or part of the site is in Flood Zone 2/3. For strategic sites, where further information is available, then the commentary may reflect developer proposals and potential mitigation measures.
				No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	It is noted that 'Waste and Natural Resources' states that a site would be scored negatively if it is within a minerals safeguarding area. Suggests that the wording of this question is amended so to reflect sites whereby 'no objection' has been raised on safeguarding grounds.	Comment noted. For strategic sites, where further information is available, then the commentary may reflect this information.
				No change.
37	Strutt & Parker (on behalf of Hopkins Homes)	1 (Plans and Programmes)	Considers that it is important that the NPPF's requirement for Local Plans to meet the unmet development and infrastructure requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development is recognised.	Agreed. Meeting unmet need has been included in Table 2.2 of this SA Report.
		1 (Plans and Programmes)	Considers it important that the Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2014 (SHMA) and the Objectively Assessed Housing Needs Study July 2015 (OAHNS) are included.	Disagree. The SHMA and OAHNS are not considered to be plans and programmes in the context of the SEA Directive. However, they have informed the baseline information presented in Section 3 this SA Report.
				No change.
		1 (Plans and Programmes)	Suggests the inclusion of the Chelmsford Museums Forward Plan 2015-2017.	Agreed. The Chelmsford Museums Forward Plan 2015-2017 has been reviewed as part of this SA Report.
		1 (Baseline)	Noted that the Green Wedge allocations included within the current adopted Chelmsford Site Allocations Plan are discussed within the Landscape and Townscape section of the Baseline Analysis. The Green Wedges are a current policy designation, rather than a physical	Disagree. Green wedges are an important extant local policy designation and play a key landscape function. Green wedges

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			description of the character of the landscape per se. The SA SCOPING REPORT, including the Key Sustainability Issues identified in Table 3.12, should be amended to reflect this.	are therefore reflected in the Scoping Report. No change.
		1 (Baseline)	Having regard to the above we strongly urge the Council to reconsider how policies designations such as Green Wedges are addressed within the SA Scoping Report.	Disagree. Green wedges are an important extant local policy designation and play a key landscape function. Green wedges are therefore reflected in the Scoping Report. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	In general, it is suggested that the SA Scoping Report and the SA Framework should recognise the importance of housing provision to help realise economic growth potential for Chelmsford City, both in terms of the intrinsic local economic benefits of housing development; plus the need to ensure sufficient and appropriate housing is provided to sustain a local labour force to support employment opportunities.	Comment noted. The economic benefits of housing provision would be considered under the appraisal of policies and proposals against SA Objective 3. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	The following comments are made in respect of the SA objectives and guide questions: Housing Suggests that the current wording of SA Objective 2 does not appropriately address the requirements of the NPPF for Local Plans to meet unmet development requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development is recognised. Suggests the following: "To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area, and those of neighbouring areas where it is sustainable to do so; and deliver decent homes"	Comment noted. Whether the Local Plan meets unmet needs arising from neighbouring authorities including London is a wider policy decision and not suitable for inclusion in the SA Framework. No change.
			Suggests that the following additional guide question is added to SA Objective 2: "Will it meet the unmet housing needs of neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development?"	Comment noted. Whether the Local Plan meets unmet needs arising from neighbouring authorities including London is a wider policy decision and not suitable for inclusion in the SA Framework. No change.

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			Sustainable Living and Revitalisation Suggests that the following guide question is added: "Will it meet the unmet development and infrastructure needs of neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development?"	Comment noted. Whether the Local Plan meets unmet needs arising from neighbouring authorities including London is a wider policy decision and not suitable for inclusion in the SA Framework. No change.
			Landscape and Townscape Suggests that the following guide question is inappropriate and should be removed: "Will it avoid inappropriate erosion to the Green Wedges?"	Disagree. Green Wedges are an important extant local policy designation which contribute to the character of the area (as highlighted in the baseline analysis contained in the Section 3 of the Scoping Report) and are therefore reflected in the SA Framework. No change.
		1 (Baseline)	Suggests additional text be added to the Key Settlement Characteristics of Chelmsford, emphasising its range of facilities and services; and its potential to accommodate additional sustainable development.	Disagree. The potential of Chelmsford to accommodate additional development is a matter for the appraisal of policies and proposals. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	With regard to the site appraisal criteria, notes that options that entail development in Green Wedge are proposed to automatically score a negative. Such an approach is considered to be wholly inappropriate. Suggests that development within land allocated as Green Wedge has the potential to result in landscape enhancements.	Disagree. Green Wedges are an important extant local policy designation which contribute to the character of the area (as highlighted in the baseline analysis contained in the Section 3 of the Scoping Report) and are therefore reflected in the SA Framework. No change.
38	Strutt & Parker (on behalf of Ptarmigan Group and Chelmsford Land Ltd)	1 (Plans and Programmes)	Considers that it is important that the NPPF's requirement for Local Plans to meet the unmet development and infrastructure requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development is recognised.	Agreed. Meeting unmet need has been included in Table 2.2 of this SA Report.
		1 (Plans and Programmes)	Considers it important that the Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2014 (SHMA) and the Objectively Assessed Housing Needs Study July 2015 (OAHNS) are included.	Disagree. The SHMA and OAHNS are not considered to be plans and programmes in the context of the SEA Directive. However, they have informed

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
				the baseline information presented in this SA Report and the SA Framework. No change.
		1 (Plans and Programmes)	Suggests that the SA Scoping Report is updated to reflect the new Retail Leisure Study (RLS).	Agreed. Whilst the Retail Study is not considered to be a plan or programmes in the context of the SEA Directive, it has informed the baseline information presented in this SA Report.
		1 (Baseline)	Recommends that the further conclusions of the Employment Land Review (ELR) are included in the baseline.	Agreed. Further reference to the findings of the ELR has been included in the Section 3 of this SA Report.
		2 (Key Issues)	It is recommend that the following is added to the list of Key Sustainability Issues in respect of the Population and Community objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to ensure a flexible supply of land for employment development. The need to support the growth of new sectors linked to the growth of the University, such as medical technologies. 	Agreed. The following additional key sustainability issues have been identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>"The need to ensure a flexible supply of land for employment development."</i> <i>"The need to support the growth of new sectors linked to the growth of the University, such as medical technologies."</i>
		3 (SA Framework)	In general, it is suggested that the SA Scoping Report and the SA Framework should recognise the importance of housing provision to help realise economic growth potential for Chelmsford City, both in terms of the intrinsic local economic benefits of housing development; plus the need to ensure sufficient and appropriate housing is provided to sustain a local labour force to support employment opportunities.	Comment noted. The economic benefits of housing provision would be considered under the appraisal of policies and proposals against SA Objective 3. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	In relation to SA Objective 3, 'Economy Skills and Well-Being', the SA Framework should be added to in order to reflect the findings of the ELS, i.e. additional guide questions and / or amendments to existing questions should be made to reflect the need to ensure a flexible supply of land for employment development; and the need to support the growth of new sectors linked to the Growth of the University.	Agreed. The guide questions have been revised to include: <p><i>"Will it support the growth of new sectors including those linked to the Anglia Ruskin University?"</i></p> <p><i>"Will it provide a flexible supply of high quality employment land to meet the needs of existing businesses and attract inward investment?"</i></p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
		3 (SA Framework)	<p>In relation to SA Objective 4, Sustainable Living and Revitalisation it is suggested that the following guide question is added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it meet the unmet development and infrastructure needs of neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development? 	<p>Comment noted. Whether the Local Plan meets unmet needs arising from neighbouring authorities including London is a wider policy decision and not suitable for inclusion in the SA Framework.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Baseline)	Suggests that the commentary in relation to Chelmsford be added to in order reflect its aspirations as a University City. In particular, in relation to it having the potential to accommodate the growth of new, high-value employment sectors.	Agreed. The baseline information presented in Section 3 of the SA Report has been updated to highlight the important role of the University to economic development.
		2 (Baseline)	States that the Key Settlement Characteristics identified for Chelmsford should reflect the findings of the ELR. Specifically, suggests that Chelmsford's role as the major driver of economic growth within the Heart of Essex sub-region is highlighted.	Comment noted. However, the role of Chelmsford in this regard has been highlighted in Section 3.4 of the Scoping Report.
39	South Woodham Ferrers Town Council	General	Agrees with the information provided, issues identified and the proposed approach taken to the SA of the Local Plan.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
40	Terence O Rourke (on behalf of Hammonds Estates LLP)	1 (Baseline)	States that the SA Scoping Report sets out sufficient information to establish the context for the SA of the Local Plan in terms of the review of plans and programmes and baseline evidence and analysis.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Plans and Programmes)	<p>Suggests the inclusion of the following documents within the review of plans and programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DCLG – Policy statement - Planning for Schools Development House of Commons: Written statement DCLG Dec 2014 Sustainable Drainage Systems Chelmsford OAN Report July 2015 Chelmsford SLAA sites August 2015 	Agreed. The local documents identified are not considered to be plans and programmes in the context of the SEA Directive. However, they have informed the baseline analysis presented in Section 3 of this SA Report.
		2 (Key Issues)	Agrees that the main economic, social and environmental issues identified are relevant to the SA of the Local Plan.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		3 (SA Framework)	Suggests the following amendments to the SA objectives/guide questions:	

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			Biodiversity and Geodiversity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or restoration and link existing habitats as part of the development process and improve public access to these open and green spaces? 	<p>Comment noted. The following amendment to the guide question under this objective has been made:</p> <p><i>“Will it provide opportunities for people to access the natural environment including green and blue infrastructure?”</i></p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it protect green wedges and other important green spaces? 	<p>Comment noted. This guide question is already reflected under SA Objective 5 and the guide question <i>“Will it maintain and improve access to open space, leisure and recreational facilities?”</i> However, this question has been amended to refer to green infrastructure.</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it enhance ecological connectivity and maintain and improve the green infrastructure network? <i>Providing green spaces that are well connected and biodiversity rich?</i> 	<p>Agreed. The guide question has been amended to read:</p> <p><i>“Will it enhance ecological connectivity and maintain and improve the green infrastructure network, providing green spaces that are well connected and biodiversity rich?”</i></p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it provide opportunities for people to access the natural environment, including watercourses? 	<p>Agreed. The guide question has been amended to read:</p> <p><i>“Will it provide opportunities for people to access the natural environment including green and blue infrastructure?”</i></p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it recognise that green infrastructure can have a huge benefit on society as part of the process of improving health, well-being and the economy? 	<p>Comment noted. This guide question is already reflected under SA Objective 5 and the guide question <i>“Will it maintain and improve access to open space, leisure and recreational facilities?”</i> However, this question has been amended to refer to green infrastructure.</p>
			Housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it contribute to meeting London’s housing needs, if required to do so? 	<p>Comment noted. Whether the Local Plan meets unmet needs arising from neighbouring authorities including London is a wider policy decision and not suitable for inclusion in the SA Framework.</p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
				No change.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it harness growth opportunities?</i> 	<p>Comment noted. The SA objective and guide questions as currently worded concern housing growth and therefore no further additional guide questions in this regard are considered necessary.</p> <p>No change.</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it provide enough new homes to meet the needs of Chelmsford and the wider housing market area (if required)?</i> 	<p>Comment noted. Whether the Local Plan meets unmet needs arising from neighbouring authorities including London is a wider policy decision and not suitable for inclusion in the SA Framework.</p> <p>No change.</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it help to create distinctive residential communities that will contribute to the sustainability of adjacent communities through the provision of additional services and facilities?</i> 	<p>Comment noted. The provision of community facilities and services is already captured under SA Objective 4.</p> <p>No change.</p>
			<p>Economy, Skills and Employment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it contribute to enhancing opportunities for social inclusion and social mobility?</i> 	<p>Agreed. However, it is considered that this guide question would be more appropriate under SA Objective 4. The following amendment has therefore been made:</p> <p><i>“Will it tackle deprivation in the most deprived areas, promote social inclusion and mobility and reduce inequalities in access to education, employment and services?”</i></p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it provide enough new jobs?</i> 	<p>Comment noted. The provision of jobs is already captured within the guide questions under this SA objective.</p> <p>No change.</p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it provide enough new good schools to improve education opportunities and social mobility?</i> 	<p>Comment noted. Increasing access to schools and colleges and the provision of community facilities and services is already captured under SA Objective 4.</p> <p>No change.</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it aim to reduce social exclusion and unemployment, and focus on the need to maximize social inclusion and contribute to local economic stability?</i> 	<p>Agreed. However, it is considered that this guide question would be more appropriate under SA Objective 4. The following amendment has therefore been made:</p> <p><i>"Will it tackle deprivation in the most deprived areas, promote social inclusion and mobility and reduce inequalities in access to education, employment and services?"</i></p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it promote learning opportunities and opportunities for social mobility?</i> 	<p>Agreed. However, it is considered that this guide question would be more appropriate under SA Objective 4. The following amendment has therefore been made:</p> <p><i>"Will it tackle deprivation in the most deprived areas, promote social inclusion and mobility and reduce inequalities in access to education, employment and services?"</i></p>
			<p>Health and Wellbeing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it promote the need for a holistic approach to help shape, support and fund physical, economic and social environment of new developments?</i> 	<p>Comment noted. This guide question is considered to be too broad for inclusion in the SA Framework.</p> <p>No change.</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it encourage greater social mobility and social inclusion opportunities to improve well-being, healthy lifestyles and the quality of life for communities?</i> 	<p>Agreed. However, it is considered that this guide question would be more appropriate under SA Objective 4. The following amendment has therefore been made:</p> <p><i>"Will it tackle deprivation in the most deprived areas, promote social inclusion and mobility and reduce inequalities in</i></p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
				<i>access to education, employment and services?"</i>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it encourage sustainable food production to reduce food miles, such as community gardens or allotments?</i> 	<p>Agreed. The following additional guide question has been included:</p> <p><i>"Will it encourage sustainable food production to reduce food miles, such as community gardens or allotments?"</i></p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it support the needs of young children and the youth?</i> 	<p>Agreed. The following additional guide question has been included:</p> <p><i>"Will it support the needs of young people?"</i></p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it support those that are socially excluded?</i> 	<p>Agreed. However, it is considered that this guide question would be more appropriate under SA Objective 4. The following amendment has therefore been made:</p> <p><i>"Will it tackle deprivation in the most deprived areas, promote social inclusion and mobility and reduce inequalities in access to education, employment and services?"</i></p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it secure the economic and social well-being of vulnerable people?</i> 	<p>Agreed. However, it is considered that this guide question would be more appropriate under SA Objective 4. The following amendment has therefore been made:</p> <p><i>"Will it tackle deprivation in the most deprived areas, promote social inclusion and mobility and reduce inequalities in access to education, employment and services?"</i></p>
			Transport	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it locate new developments in locations that support and make best use of committed investment in strategic infrastructure for</i> 	<p>Agreed. The following additional guide question has been included:</p> <p><i>"Will it locate new development in locations that support and make best use</i></p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			<i>example railway stations and the strategic road network (e.g. A12/Beaulieu Park Station)?</i>	<i>of committed investment in strategic infrastructure?"</i>
			Land Use and Soils <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Will it avoid the loss of the best and most versatile land agricultural land?</i> 	<p>Disagree. The existing wording of this guide question is considered to be appropriate.</p> <p>No change.</p>
41	The Theatres Trust	2 (Key Issues)	Recommends that safeguarding and access to cultural and community facilities which benefit and support sustainable communities should also be recognised in the 'Health and Well-being' objective.	<p>Agreed. The following additional key sustainability issue has been identified:</p> <p><i>"The need to safeguard and maintain and enhance access to cultural and community facilities which benefit and support sustainable communities."</i></p>
42	Turley (on behalf of Richborough Estates and Sworders)	1 (Plans and Programmes)	Considers that the Scoping Report has reviewed all of the necessary plans and programmes to inform the development of the SA baseline and Framework.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
		1 (Plans and Programmes)	<p>States that Table 2.2 should be amended as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 'Population and Community' key objectives and policy issues should be amended so to meet the full affordable and private market housing need for Chelmsford within its administrative boundary where possible. This is a key requirement of Paragraph 47 of the NPPF along with a housing density to reflect local circumstance. The 'Transport and Accessibility' key objectives and policy issues should be amended to locate new housing development in sustainable locations or in locations that can be made sustainable, as this is one of the core planning principles of the NPPF. 	Agreed. Table 2.2 has been amended as per this response.
		1 (Baseline)	It is not clear from the relevant sections of the SA whether the Objectively Assessed Housing Need (OAHN) Study and the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA) have been considered within the baseline.	Comment noted. The OAHN Study and SLAA have been considered in the baseline analysis presented in this SA Report.
		1 (Baseline)	With regards to the baseline evidence for housing provision, we note paragraph 3.4.24 of the SA Scoping Report that confirms the under delivery of housing for Chelmsford and therefore the application of a	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>

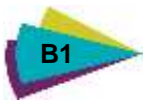
Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			20% buffer to the annual housing delivery target. Requested that this significant social sustainability issue is given due weight within the SA process.	
	2 (Key Issues)	<p>The following comments have been made in respect of the key sustainability issues:</p> <p>Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure</p> <p>It is recommended that the third bullet point be amended as follows: “The need to safeguard existing green infrastructure assets where this does not compromise the delivery of housing and/ or cannot be mitigated through the provision of green infrastructure through the proposed development.”</p>	<p>Disagree. It is not considered appropriate to weight green infrastructure provision and housing.</p> <p>No change.</p>	
		<p>Population and Community</p> <p>It is recommended that the second key issue be amended as follows: ‘The need to provide the full affordable and private market housing requirement for Chelmsford within its administrative boundary.’</p>	<p>Comment noted. The key sustainability issue has been amended to read:</p> <p><i>“The need to enable housing growth, meeting objectively assessed housing needs and planning for a mix of accommodation to suit all household types.”</i></p>	
		<p>Transport and Accessibility</p> <p>It is recommended that the sixth key issue be amended as follows: ‘The need to ensure that new development is, <i>where possible</i>, accessible to community facilities and services and jobs so as to reduce the need to travel.’</p>	<p>Disagree. The proposed inclusion of the term ‘where possible’ is not considered to be appropriate.</p> <p>No change.</p>	
	3 (SA Framework)	<p>Suggests the following amendments to the SA objectives/guide questions:</p> <p>Biodiversity and Geodiversity</p> <p>It is requested that the SA objective be amended as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">To, where possible, conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the green infrastructure network.	<p>Disagree. The proposed amendment is not considered to be appropriate.</p> <p>No change.</p>	
		<p>Housing</p> <p>It is requested that the objective is amended as follows:</p>	<p>Comment noted. It is not considered necessary to amend the SA objective.</p>	

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To meet the full private and affordable housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes. 	<p>However, the first guide question under this objective has been amended to read:</p> <p><i>"Will it meet the City's objectively assessed housing need, providing and provide a range of housing types to meet current and emerging need for market and affordable housing?"</i></p>
			<p>Requests that the following guide question is amended as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it provide an appropriate mix of house types to contribute to the full current and emerging need for both market and affordable housing? 	<p>Comment noted. The guide question has been amended to read:</p> <p><i>"Will it meet the City's objectively assessed housing need, providing and provide a range of housing types to meet current and emerging need for market and affordable housing?"</i></p>
			<p>Sustainable Living and Revitalisation</p> <p>It is requested that an additional guide question be inserted into this specific SA objective as follows: 'Will the development support rural living and settlements through the provision of housing, services and economic benefits?'</p>	<p>Agreed. The following additional guide question has been included:</p> <p><i>"Will it support rural areas by providing jobs, facilities and housing to meet needs?"</i></p>
	General		Requests that the interim SA reports are published for consultation at the same time as the plan documents to allow consultees to fully appraise the sustainability implications of each reasonable alternative.	<p>Agreed.</p> <p>No change.</p>
	General)		Given that the Housing Market Area consists of Chelmsford City Council and three other local authorities, suggests that the SA considers the HMA as its geographic scope.	<p>Comment noted. The SA will consider the cross-boundary and cumulative effects of the Local Plan.</p> <p>No change.</p>
	General		In the interests of transparency we request that the council publish their screening criteria for consultation prior to its use.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>No change.</p>
	General		At this early stage of the SA process we welcome the opportunity to confirm that the SA process for the appraisal and selection of reasonable alternatives will follow the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) and assess all reasonable alternatives to the same level of detail as the option the plan-maker proposes to take forward in the Local Plan.	<p>Comment noted. It is agreed that all reasonable alternatives will be assessed to the same level of detail.</p> <p>No change.</p>

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
		3 (SA Framework)	The SA Framework contains a range of appraisal criteria in many of the SA objectives that contain distances to services and facilities that influence the appraisal outcome. Suggests that there are significant concerns that there appears to be no reference to the guidance from which these distances are taken. Similarly there is no reference to guidance to confirm that the list of key services and facilities identified in SA Objective 'Sustainable Living and Revitalisation' are those recognised by planning policy as being indicative of a sustainable development.	Comment noted. The thresholds used broadly reflect guidance contained in the Manual for Streets (2007). No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	Considers that the appraisal criteria provide no flexibility to recognise the need for housing in rural settlements where the full range of services listed and the distance to one or more of these services are simply unrealistic given the nature of the settlement.	Disagree. The SA is just one consideration in the selection of the sites. No change.
43	Essex Local Delivery Team – Natural England	General	Natural England is broadly satisfied with the proposed scope of the Sustainability Appraisal and the proposed approach to Habitats Regulations Assessment.	Comment noted. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	There is no mention of protected species in the guide questions for Objective 1, which is considered should be addressed.	Agreed. The following additional guide question has been included in the SA Framework: <i>"Will it conserve and enhance species diversity, and in particular avoid harm to indigenous Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitats and species and protected species?"</i>
		3 (SA Framework)	Suggested that a guide question could be designed around the Essex and south Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan, such as: "Will the Local Plan help to implement the Shoreline Management Plan?"	Agreed. The last guide question under SA Objective 9 has been amended to read: <i>"Will it help to manage and reduce the risks associated with coastal erosion and support the implementation of the Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan"</i>
		3 (SA Framework)	The guide questions for Air Quality are supported, but it is suggested that this should include Biodiversity as one of the relevant SEA topics.	Agreed. Biodiversity has been identified as one of the relevant SEA topics.

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
		General	With regards to the key environmental issues affecting European protected sites, in particular those at the coast, it is suggested that the Site Improvement Plan (SIP) for the Essex Estuaries produced by Natural England is referred too.	Agreed. The SIP has been referred to in the baseline analysis contained in Section 3 of this SA Report.
		1 (Plans and Programmes)	Suggests that references to Biodiversity Action Plan species (BAP) should be replaced with the NERC Act terminology, of s41 species of principal importance, or priority species. Considered that usage is inconsistent throughout the SA.	Agreed. The terminology used with reference to Biodiversity Action Plan species has been updated in this SA Report.
		1 (Plans and Programmes)	Suggests the inclusion of the following documents within the review of plans and programmes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 Essex and south Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) Natural England Essex Estuaries Site Improvement Plan (SIP) Natural England Landscape Character Area profiles as appropriate 	Agreed. The plans and programmes highlighted in this responses have been reviewed as part of the preparation of this SA Report. Natural England Landscape Character Area profiles are not considered to be a plan or programme in the context of the SEA Directive but have informed the baseline analysis presented in Section 3 of this SA Report.
		1 (Baseline)	The Council are encouraged to develop a Green Infrastructure Strategy to enable the SA to more intelligently assess the Local Plan against the state SA objectives and guide questions.	Comment noted. No change.
		2 (Key Issues)	Notes that the SA makes repeated mention of the need to re-use brownfield land. We would observe that brownfield land can offer valuable habitats for a range of wildlife, and that as expressed in the NPPF paragraph 111, a caveat would appropriately be inserted to ensure this objective captures the contribution brownfield land can make to biodiversity.	Comment noted. The appraisal of the Issues and Options Consultation Document presented in this SA Report has highlighted the potential biodiversity value of brownfield sites.
		3 (SA Framework)	Considers that some links between green infrastructure and e.g. economic objectives are missing in places.	Comment noted. Where there is the potential for green infrastructure provision to generate positive economic effects this will be identified in the appraisal of Local Plan policies and proposals. No change.
		3 (SA Framework)	Whilst we note that the assessment matrices offer a scale of response from ++ through to --, it is emphasised that the supporting text to the assessment matrices is critical to justifying the score applied. The	Comment noted. No change.

Ref	Consultee	Consultation Question	Consultee Response Summary	Response/Action
			Sustainability Appraisal should attempt to provide a SMART justification to the objectives if possible: Specific; Measureable; Achievable; Relevant; and Timed.	
44	Tendring District Council	1	Agrees that sufficient information has been submitted to establish the context for the SA of the emerging Local Plan.	Comment noted. No change.
		2	Agrees that the issues identified are relevant to the SA of the emerging Local Plan.	Comment noted. No change.
		3	Agrees with the proposed approach to SA of the emerging Local Plan.	Comment noted. No change.
45	Fisher German LLP (on behalf of CLG-PS)	General	Submitted a plan showing the CLH-PS pipeline and requested contact if any works are proposed in the vicinity of the pipeline.	Comment noted. No change.



Appendix B

Review of Plans and Programmes

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
International/European Plans and Programmes		
The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), Johannesburg, September 2002 - Commitments arising from Johannesburg Summit (2002)		
<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"> • Greater resource efficiency; • Support business innovation and take-up of best practice in technology and management; • Waste reduction and producer responsibility; and • Sustainable consumer consumption and procurement. <p>Create a level playing field for renewable energy and energy efficiency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New technology development • Push on energy efficiency • Low-carbon programmes • Reduced impacts on biodiversity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan can encourage greater efficiency of resources. Ensure policies cover the action areas. • The Local Plan can encourage renewable energy. Ensure policies cover the action areas. • The Local Plan can protect and enhance biodiversity. Ensure policies cover the action areas.
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)		
<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"> • Boost economic performance while reducing resource use; • Identify and create new opportunities for economic growth and greater innovation and boost the EU's competitiveness; • Ensure security of supply of essential resources; and • Fight against climate change and limit the environmental impacts of resource use. 	<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"> • The Local Plan policies should take into account the objectives of the Flagship Initiative. • The SA assessment framework should include objectives and guide questions that relate to resource use.
EU (2009) Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC)		
<p>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</p>	<p>Each Member State to achieve a 10% minimum target for the share of energy from renewable sources by 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan should contribute towards increasing the proportion of energy from renewable energy sources where appropriate • The SA assessment framework should include consideration of use of energy from renewable energy sources

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
The Cancun Agreement (2011)		
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"> No targets or indicators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should aim to reduce emissions. The SA assessment framework should include greenhouse gas emissions.
EU Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC) and previous directives (96/62/EC; 99/30/EC; 2000/69/EC & 2002/3/EC)		
<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> <p>Relevant objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain ambient air quality where it is good and improve it in other cases; and 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No targets or indicators. Includes thresholds for pollutants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. SA Framework should include objectives relating to air quality
EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)		
<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"> 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; Promotes sustainable water use based on a long-term protection of available water resources; 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-out of discharges, emissions and losses of the priority hazardous substances; Ensures the progressive reduction of pollution of groundwater and prevents its further pollution, and Contributes to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The achievement of "good status" for chemical and biological river quality. Production of River Basin Management Plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan policies should consider how the water environment can be protected and enhanced. This will come about through reducing pollution and abstraction. SA Framework should considers effects upon water quality and resource. 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.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
EU (2002) Environmental Noise Directive (Directive 2002/49/EC)		
<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"> 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; 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; 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; <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"> No targets or indicators, leaving issues at the discretion of the competent authorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan will need to have regard to the requirements of the Environmental Noise Directive. The SA Framework should include for the protection against excessive noise.
EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)		
<p>This Directive has the objective of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources; and preventing further such pollution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides for the identification of vulnerable areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan should consider impacts of development upon any identified nitrate sensitive areas where such development falls to be considered within its scope. Policies should consider objective to promote environmentally sensitive agricultural practices.
Bathing Waters Directive 2006/7/EC		
<p>Sets standards for the quality of bathing waters in terms of:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standards are legally binding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan should recognise that development can impact upon water quality and include policies to protect the resources.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the physical, chemical and microbiological parameters; the mandatory limit values and indicative values for such parameters; and the minimum sampling frequency and method of analysis or inspection of such water. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA Framework should consider objectives relating to water quality
Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)		
Provides for the quality of drinking water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standards are legally binding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan should recognise that development can impact upon water quality and include policies to protect the resources. SA Framework should consider objectives relating to water quality
Floods Directive 2007/60/EC		
Aims to provide a consistent approach to managing flood risk across Europe.	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan should recognise that development can impact vulnerability to flooding and increase risk due to climate change. SA Framework should considers objectives relating to flood risk.
EU (2006) European Employment Strategy		
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"> No formal targets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should deliver policies which support these aims The SA assessment framework should assess employment levels, quality of work and social inclusion
EU Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/409/EEC)		
<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"> Creation of protected areas; Upkeep and management; and Re-establishment of destroyed biotopes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan should include policies to protect and enhance wild bird populations, including the protection of SPAs. SA Framework should consider objectives to protect and enhance biodiversity including wild birds.
EU Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC) & Subsequent Amendments		

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<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"> simplify the species protection regime to better reflect the Habitats Directive; provide a clear legal basis for surveillance and monitoring of European protected species (EPS); toughen the regime on trading EPS that are not native to the UK; ensure that the requirement to carry out appropriate assessments on water abstraction consents and land use plans is explicit. 	<p>There are no formal targets or indicators.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should seek to protect landscape features of habitat importance. SA Framework objectives should include priorities for the protection of landscape features for ecological benefit.
EU Directive on Waste (Directive 75/442/EEC, 2006/12/EC 2008/98/EC as amended)		
<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 and management of waste and by reducing overall impacts of resource use and improving the efficiency of such use.</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"> 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 – including by 2015 separate collection for at least paper, metal, plastic and glass⁵. 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. 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should seek to minimise waste, and the environmental effects caused by it. Policies should promote recycling and re-use. SA Objectives should include priorities to minimise waste, increased recycling and re-use.
Council Directive 91/271/EEC for Urban Waste-water Treatment		

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<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"> Domestic waste water Mixture of waste water <p>Waste water from certain industrial sectors</p>	<p>The Directive includes requirement with specific:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collection and treatment of waste water standards for relevant population thresholds Secondary treatment standards A requirement for pre-authorisation of all discharges of urban wastewater <p>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</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA Objectives should include priorities to minimise adverse effects on ground and/or surface water.
EU Directive on the Landfill of Waste (99/31/EC)		
<p>Sets out requirements to ensuring that where landfilling takes place the environmental impacts are understood and mitigated against.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan should take into consideration landfilling with respect to environmental factors. SA Objectives should include priorities to minimise waste, increased recycling and re-use.
EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (94/62/EC)		
<p>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 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>No later than five years from the date by which this Directive must be implemented in national law (1996), between 50 % 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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Again, while this directive dictates national legislation, the Local Plan itself can play an important role in controlling or providing a basis for better waste management. These targets are incorporated in national legislation – so Local Plan must adhere to them as appropriate.
Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)		
<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"> Climate change and clean energy; Sustainable transport; 	<p>The overall objectives in the Strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should aim to create a pattern of development consistent with the objectives of the Strategy and in turn promote sustainable development.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable consumption and production; Conservation and management of natural resources; Public health; Social inclusion, demography and migration; and Global poverty. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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; 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 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. 	
EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 – towards implementation		
<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"> The strategy provides a framework for action over the next decade and covers the following key areas: Conserving and restoring nature; Maintaining and enhancing ecosystems and their services; Ensuring the sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries; Combating invasive alien species; Addressing the global biodiversity crisis. 	<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"> 1. Full implementation of EU nature legislation to protect biodiversity 2. Better protection for ecosystems, and more use of green infrastructure 3. More sustainable agriculture and forestry 4. Better management of fish stocks 5. Tighter controls on invasive alien species 6. A bigger EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should seek to protect and enhance biodiversity.
EU Directive 2002/91/EC (2002) Directive 2002/91/EC on the Energy Performance of Buildings		

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<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>The Directive highlights how the residential and tertiary sectors, the majority of which are based in buildings, accounts for 40% of EU energy consumption.</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"> 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.
UNFCCC (1997) The Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC		
<p>The Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC established the first policy that actively aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by industrialised countries.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
World Commission on Environment and Development (1987) Our Common Future (The Brundtland Report)		
<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"> to propose long-term environmental strategies for achieving sustainable development by the year 2000 and beyond; 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; to consider ways and means by which the international community can deal more effectively with environment concerns; and 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 action during the coming decades, and aspirational goals for the world community. 	<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"> The Brundtland Report provided the original definition of sustainable development. The accumulated effect of the SA objectives seek to achieve sustainable development.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
European Directive 2001/42/EC on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment (SEA Directive)		
<p>The SEA Directive provides the following requirements for consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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). 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. Other EU Member States must be consulted if the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment in their territories. 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. 	<p>Directive contains no formal targets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Directive sets the basis for SEA as a whole and therefore indirectly covers all objectives.
European Landscape Convention 2000 (became binding March 2007)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<p>Specific measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> raising awareness of the value of landscapes among all sectors of society, and of society's role in shaping them; promoting landscape training and education among landscape specialists, other related professions, and in school and university courses; the identification and assessment of landscapes, and analysis of landscape change, with the active participation of stakeholders; setting objectives for landscape quality, with the involvement of the public; and the implementation of landscape policies, through the establishment of plans and practical programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA objectives must consider the outcomes of the convention should feed into the Local Plan and associated documents.
The Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada Convention)		

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<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"> • Support the idea of solidarity and cooperation among European Parties, in relation to heritage conservation. • It includes principles of "conservation policies" within the framework of European cooperation. • Strengthen and promote policies for the conservation and development of cultural heritage in Europe. 	No specific target identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Plan policies should ensure that the historic environment is conserved and enhanced. • The SA Framework should include objectives relating to conservation and enhancement of the historic environment.
The European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Valette Convention)		
<p>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.</p>	No specific target identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Plan policies should ensure that the historic environment is conserved and enhanced. • The SA Framework should include objectives relating to conservation and enhancement of the historic environment.
UNESCO World Heritage Convention (1972)		
<p>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.</p>	No specific target identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Plan policies should ensure that the historic environment is conserved and enhanced. • The SA Framework should include objectives relating to conservation and enhancement of the historic environment.
National Plans and Programmes		
Securing the Future – the UK Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)		

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<p>The Strategy has 5 guiding principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living within environmental limits • Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society • Achieving a sustainable economy • Promoting good governance • Using sound science responsibly • and 4 strategic priorities: • sustainable consumption and production • natural resource protection and environmental enhancement • sustainable communities. 	<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"> • Greenhouse gas emissions • Road freight (CO2 emissions and tonne km, tonnes and GDP) • Household waste (a) arisings (b) recycled or composted • Local environmental quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider how the Local Plan can contribute to Sustainable Development Strategy Objectives. Consider using some of the indicators to monitor the effects of the Local Plan and as basis for collecting information for the baseline review. • The SA Framework should reflect the guiding principles of the Strategy.
“Working with the grain of nature – A Biodiversity Strategy for England” (Defra, 2002)		
<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"> • The population of wild birds; • The condition of Sites of Special Scientific Interest; • Progress with Biodiversity Action Plans; • Area of land under agri-environment agreement; • Biological quality of rivers; • Fish stocks around the UK fished within safe limits; • Progress with Local Biodiversity Action Plans; and <p>Public attitudes to biodiversity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop policies that support the vision emphasising biodiversity. • Include sustainability objectives and criteria that address the headline indicators. • Consider targets that require 95% of SSSI's within region to be of a favourable condition.
Natural Environment White Paper: The Natural Choice - Securing the Value of Nature (Defra 2011)		
<p>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>	<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"> • Develop policies that support the vision emphasising biodiversity.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
Making Space for Nature: A Review of England's Wildlife Sites and Ecological Network (Defra, 2010)		
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>No formal targets or indicators but a number of recommendations are identified under the followings themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the management and condition of wildlife sites • Improve the protection and management of remaining wildlife habitats • Become better at deriving multiple benefits from the ways society interacts with the environment • Need for society to accept change in nature conservation is necessary, desirable and achievable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan should seek to preserve the ecological network • The SA Framework should consider the ecological network in its objectives/guidance questions
Biodiversity 2020: a Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services (Defra, 2011)		
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"> • Creating 200,000 hectares of new wildlife habitats by 2020 • Securing 50% of SSSIs in favourable condition, while maintaining at least 95% in favourable or recovering condition • Encouraging more people to get involved in conservation by supporting wildlife gardening and outdoor learning programmes • Introducing a new designation for local green spaces to enable communities to protect places that are important to them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop policies that support the vision emphasising biodiversity.
England Biodiversity Strategy Climate Change Adaptation Principles Conserving Biodiversity in a Changing Climate (Defra, 2008)		
<p>The report sets out a number of broad principles and goals including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve existing biodiversity • Conserve protected areas and other high quality areas • Reduce sources of harm not linked to climate • Use existing biodiversity legislation and international agreements • Conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species 	No targets or indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan should seek to support and protect existing habitats and species and ecological networks
UK Post 2010 Biodiversity Framework (Defra, 2012)		

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<p>The Framework is to set a broad enabling structure for action across the UK between now and 2020:</p> <p><i>i.</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><i>ii.</i> 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><i>iii.</i> 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><i>iv.</i> To streamline governance arrangements for UK- scale activity</p>	<p>The Framework sets out 20 new global 'Aichi targets' under 5 strategic goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems species and genetic diversity Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should seek to protect biodiversity The SA Framework should ensure that the objectives of biodiversity conservation and enhancement are taken into consideration.
Rural Strategy (Defra, 2004)		
<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"> Building on the economic success of the majority of rural areas. Tackling the structural economic weaknesses and accompanying poor social conditions. <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"> Social priorities are to ensure fair access to public services and affordable. In both more and less prosperous areas, to tackle social exclusion wherever it occurs. <p>3. Enhancing the Value of our Countryside – protecting the natural environment for this and future generations.</p>	<p>No targets or indicators.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Policies to maintain and to enhance the quality of the countryside should also be considered. The SA 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.
Living Working Countryside: The Taylor Review of Rural Economy and Affordable Housing (DCLG, 2008)		
<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"> The Local Plan should consider economic gains that are possible in the rural area, whilst addressing the issues of affordable housing in rural areas.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
HM Government (2010) Local Growth: Realising Every Place's Potential		
<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>	<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</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should have due regard to the need for strong, sustainable and balance growth. The SA Framework should consider the nature of growth to ensure that the economy remains balanced and growth is sustainable.
HM Government (2011) Plan for Growth		
<p>Programme of structural reforms to remove barriers to growth for businesses and equip the UK to compete in the global race</p>	<p>No formal targets, sets out the government's four ambitions for growth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating the most competitive tax system in the G20; Encouraging investment and exports as a route to a more balanced economy; Making the UK the best place in Europe to start, finance and grow a business; and Creating a more educated workforce that is the most flexible in Europe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should have regard to the need for strong and competitive growing economy
HM Government (2011) National Infrastructure Plan		
<p>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 resource</p>	<p>The Plan contains major commitments to improve the UK's transport and broadband networks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan should ensure that policies consider the goal of the Infrastructure Plan
HM Government (2013) Achieving Strong and Sustainable Economic Growth		
<p>Sets out how the government is removing barriers to growth allowing the UK to compete in a rapidly changing global economy</p>	<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop policies that have due regard to the need for a strong, sustainable and balanced growth
The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (JNCC, 1981)		

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
the main UK legislation relating to the protection of named animal and plant species includes legislation relating to the UK network of nationally protected wildlife areas: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)	Under this Act, Natural England has responsibility for identifying and protecting SSSIs in England.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop policies that identify and continue the protection of SSSIs within the City Area. Consider targets that require 95% of SSSI's within region to be of a favourable condition.
Energy White Paper - Our Energy Future, Creating a Low Carbon Economy (2003)		
<p>Four Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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; to maintain the reliability of energy supplies; to promote competitive markets in the UK and beyond, helping to raise the rate of sustainable economic growth and to improve our productivity; and to ensure that every home is adequately and affordably heated. 	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"> Local Plan should ensure that policies are in place to encourage the reduction in carbon dioxide emissions whilst promoting sustainable economic growth. SA Framework should include objectives which aim to provide a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.
Energy White Paper - Meeting the Energy Challenge (2007)		
<p>Paper 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.</p> <p>Further it addresses the long term energy challenges faced and delivers four energy policy goals.</p>	<p>Paper sets the following key targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To put ourselves on a path to cutting CO2 emissions by some 60% by 2050 with real progress by 2020; To maintain the reliability of energy supplies; To promote competitive markets in the UK and beyond; and To ensure that every home is adequately and affordably heated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan should ensure that policies are in place to encourage the reduction in carbon dioxide emissions whilst promoting sustainable economic growth. SA Framework should include objectives which seek to provide a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and encourages energy efficiency.
Environment Agency (2009) 'Water for people and the environment' - Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales		
<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"> enable habitats and species to adapt better to climate change; allow the way we protect the water environment to adjust flexibly to a changing climate; reduce pressure on the environment caused by water taken for human use; encourage options resilient to climate change to be chosen in the face of uncertainty; 	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> better protect vital water supply infrastructure; reduce greenhouse gas emissions from people using water, considering the whole life-cycle of use; and improve understanding of the risks and uncertainties of climate change. 		
Water Act 2014 (HM Government 2014)		
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 make 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.	There are no formal targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SA Framework should consider objectives seeking to protect and improve the quality of inland and coastal waters.
Water White Paper, Water for Life (Defra & HM Government, 2011)		
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.	There are no formal targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan should take into account the vision of this document as a means of protecting existing water resources.
National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England (Environment Agency, 2011)		
The objective of this strategy is to reduce the risk of flooding and coastal erosion and manage its consequences.	There are no formal targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Objectives are relevant to the District and should be taken on board by the Local Plan.
Flood and Water Management Act 2010		

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
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"> 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. 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. 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. 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. 	
HM Government (2010) White Paper: Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Strategy for Public Health in England		
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"> The Local Plan should support this plan through policy. The SA should look at healthy issues and the way the site allocations will support these.
HM Government (2004) Housing Act (and revised 2006)		
The Act requires the energy efficiency of a building to 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Act requires greater energy efficiency in residential buildings. The SA Framework should include objectives relating to climate change and energy use.
HM Government (2003) Sustainable Energy Act		
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"> The Act requires the encouragement and reporting on the UK's attempts to increase energy efficiency and renewable energy use. The SA Framework should include objectives relating to climate change and energy use.
The Future of Air Transport - White Paper and the Civil Aviation Bill (2003)		
The White Paper sets out a strategic framework for the development of airport capacity in the United Kingdom over the next 30 years including proposals for all of the regions of the UK.	The white paper states " <i>We believe that there is considerable scope for London City, Norwich, Southampton, Southend, and Manston to help meet demand for air services. Nor should the potential of Lydd, Shoreham, and Biggin Hill be overlooked.</i> "	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan and associated documents should take account of potential airport extensions in the Region.

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	Furthermore, the government does not think that the Cliffe proposal should be brought forward – due to overriding environmental concerns.	
Defra (2007) Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland		
<p>The Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> sets out a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues; sets out the air quality standards and objectives to be achieved; introduces a new policy framework for tackling fine particles; and identifies potential new national policy measures which modelling indicates could give further health benefits and move closer towards meeting the Strategy's objectives. 	<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"> The Local Plan should take account of the Air Quality Strategy where there are likely to be issues relating to air quality
DCMS (2002) Game plan: A strategy for delivering government's sport and physical activity objectives		
<p>The government has set two overarching objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A major increase in participation in sport; and A sustained increase in success at international competition. <p>In addition to this the document makes recommendations in 4 areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grassroots participation; High performance sport; Mega sporting events; and <p>Delivery.</p>	<p>A number of targets and indicators identified</p> <p>The long term vision being <i>"to increase significantly levels of sport and physical activity, particularly among disadvantaged groups; and to achieve sustained levels of success in international competition"</i>.</p> <p>And the key targets being:</p> <p>To encourage a mass participation culture (with as much emphasis on physical activity as competitive sport). A benchmark for this could be Finland, which has very high quality and quantity of participation, particularly among older people. Our target is for 70% (currently ~30%) of the population to be reasonably active (for example 30 minutes of moderate exercise five times a week) by 2020.</p> <p>To enhance international success. A benchmark for this could be Australia, which has achieved disproportionate levels of international success. Our target is for British and English teams and individuals to sustain rankings within the top 5 countries, particularly in more popular sports.</p> <p>To adopt a different approach to hosting mega sporting events. They should be seen as an occasional celebration of success rather than as a means to achieving other government objectives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
Review of Heritage Protection: The Way Forward (2004)		
<p>The objective of the review were to deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a positive approach to managing the historic environment which would be transparent, inclusive, effective and sustainable and central to social, environmental and economic agendas at a local and community as well as national level; and an historic environment legislative framework that provided for the management and enabling of change rather than its prevention. 	<p>There are currently a number of short term packages which have been immediately implemented and a number of longer term packages which require legislative support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attention should be paid to the changing of legislation in line with the Review of Heritage Protection, and should feed back into the Local Plan documents.
DCMS (2007) Heritage Protection for the 21st Century - White Paper		
<p>The Consultation Paper has three core principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing a unified approach to the historic environment; Maximising opportunities for inclusion and involvement; and Supporting sustainable communities by putting the historic environment at the heart of an effective planning system. 	<p>No formal targets, but a number of measures/recommendations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SA Framework should include objectives which take into account the White Paper's principles.
The Planning Act 2008		
<p>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.</p>	<p>No key targets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan and associated documents should take into account any relevant National Policy Statements when published.
The Localism Act (CLG, 2011)		
<p>The Localism Bill includes five key measures that underpin the Government's approach to decentralisation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community rights; Neighbourhood planning; Housing; General power of competence; Empowering cities and other local areas. 	<p>No key targets or indicators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should take into consideration community involvement as and Enable communities to influence the decisions that affect their neighbourhoods and quality of life.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
HM Government (2013) The Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) Regulations 2013		
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"> The Local Plan should make some reference to the possibility of a Charging Schedule, as per the regulations, including that adopted by the County Council. 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.
The Climate Change Act 2008		
<p>This Act aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to improve carbon management and help the transition towards a low carbon economy in the UK; and 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. 	<p>The Act sets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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%. <p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Act sets out a clear precedent for the UK to lead in responding to the threats climate change provides. The Local Plan and associated documents must ensure that greenhouse gases are reduced or minimised and that energy use comes increasingly from renewable sources.
HM Government (2011) Carbon Plan: Delivering our Low Carbon Future		
<p>This sets out how the UK will achieve decarbonisation within the framework of energy policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make the transition to a low carbon economy while maintaining energy security, and minimising costs to consumers, particularly those in poorer households. 	No key targets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 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. The SA 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.
The Historic Environment: A Force for our Future (DCMS, 2001)		
<p>Report sets the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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; 	No key targets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the full potential of the historic environment as a learning resource is realised; the historic environment is accessible to everybody and is seen as something with which the whole of society can identify and engage; the historic environment is protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations; and the historic environment's importance as an economic asset is skilfully harnessed. 		
Strategy for England's Trees, Woods and Forests (ETWFs) (DEFRA 2007)		
<p>Key aims for government intervention in trees, woods and forests are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to secure trees and woodlands for future generations; to ensure resilience to climate change; to protect and enhance natural resources; to increase the contribution that trees, woods and forests make to our quality of life; and to improve the competitiveness of woodland businesses and products. <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>	Strategy aims to create 2,200 hectares of wet woodland in England by 2010.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan policies to protect and enhance trees, woods and forests. In turn ensuring resilience to climate change.
Trees and Woodlands Nature's Health Service(Forestry Commission, 2005)		
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"> The SA Framework should include objectives which relate to providing more equal access to opportunities, services and facilities for recreation.
The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan: National Strategy for Climate and Energy (Department for Energy and Climate Change, July 2009)		

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<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"> • New money for a 'smart grid', and to help regions and local authorities prepare for and speed up planning decisions on renewable and low carbon energy whilst protecting legitimate environmental and local concerns; • Funding to significantly advance the offshore wind industry in the UK; • Funding to cement the UK's position as a global leader in wave and tidal energy; • Funding to explore areas of potential "hot rocks" to be used for geothermal energy; • Challenging 15 villages, towns or cities to be testbeds for piloting future green initiatives; • Support for anaerobic digestion; • Encouraging private funding for woodland creation; and • Reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill, and better capture of landfill emissions etc. 	<p>Sets out a vision that by 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 1.2 million people will be in green jobs; • 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; • Around 40 percent of electricity will be from low-carbon sources, from renewables, nuclear and clean coal; • We will be importing half the amount of gas that we otherwise would; and • The average new car will emit 40% less carbon than now. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy covers a number of SA objectives including climate change, energy and air quality; landscape; geology and biodiversity; and waste. • Local Plan & associated documents must recognise the importance to cut emissions in line with national targets.
The UK Renewable Energy Strategy (HM Government, 2009)		
<p>Strategy sets out to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put in place the mechanisms to provide financial support for renewable electricity and heat worth around £30 billion between now and 2020; • Drive delivery and clear away barriers; • Increase investment in emerging technologies and pursue new sources of supply; and • Create new opportunities for individuals, communities and business to harness renewable energy. 	<p>A vision is set out in the document whereby by 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 30% of our electricity generated from renewables; • 12% of our heat generated from renewables; and • 10% of transport energy from renewables. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SA Framework should include objectives which seek to provide support for renewable energy.
The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (HM Government, 2010)		
<p>This is the UK transposition of EC Directive 92/43/EC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SA Framework should include objectives which seek to conserve the natural environment.
The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006)		

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<p>The Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • makes provision about bodies concerned with the natural environment and rural communities; • makes provision in connection with wildlife, sites of special scientific interest, National Parks and the Broads; • amends the law relating to rights of way; • makes provision as to the Inland Waterways Amenity Advisory Council; and • provides for flexible administrative arrangements in connection with functions relating to the environment and rural affairs and certain other functions; and for connected purposes. 	<p>Act contains no formal targets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA objectives must consider the importance of conserving biodiversity and landscape features as set out in the Act.
Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000)		
<p>This Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gives people greater freedom to explore open country on foot; • creates a duty for Highway Authorities and National Park Authorities to establish Local Access Forums; • 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; • 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 • protects Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty with legislation similar to that for National Parks. 	<p>Act seeks to protect sites of landscape and wildlife importance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA objectives should seek to protect areas of landscape and wildlife importance.
Play Strategy for England (DCMS, 2008)		

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<p>Strategy aims that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In every residential area there are a variety of supervised and unsupervised places for play, free of charge; Local neighbourhoods are, and feel like, safe, interesting places to play; Routes to children's play space are safe and accessible for all children and young people; Parks and open spaces are attractive and welcoming to children and young people, and are well maintained and well used; Children and young people have a clear stake in public space and their play is accepted by their neighbours; Children and young people play in a way that respects other people and property; Children and young people and their families take an active role in the development of local play spaces; and 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. 	<p>Every local authority will receive at least £1 million in funding, to be targeted on the children most in need of improved play opportunities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA Objectives should seek to promote sport and physical activity and promote healthy lifestyles.
Heritage Protection for the 21st Century - White Paper (DCMS, 2007)		
<p>White Paper for England & Wales with some UK-wide elements. It has three core principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing a unified approach to the historic environment; Maximising opportunities for inclusion and involvement; and Supporting sustainable communities by putting the historic environment at the heart of an effective planning system. 	<p>Paper contains no formal targets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA objectives should seek to protect and enhance the historic environment.
Safeguarding our Soils – A Strategy for England (Defra, 2011)		
<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"> agricultural soils will be better managed and threats to them will be addressed; 	<p>No further targets identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should seek to protect soil quality where appropriate. The SA Framework should include an objective/guide question relating to the effects of policies/proposals on soils.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> soils will play a greater role in the fight against climate change and in helping us to manage its impacts; soils in urban areas will be valued during development, and construction practices will ensure vital soil functions can be maintained; and pollution of our soils is prevented, and our historic legacy of contaminated land is being dealt with. 		
The National Adaptation Programme – Making the Country Resilient to a Changing Climate (Defra, 2013)		
<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"> To provide a clear local planning 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. 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. To ensure infrastructure is located, planned, designed and maintained to be resilient to climate change, including increasingly extreme weather events. 	<p>The Programme identifies a number of actions although no formal targets are identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan proposals should seek to adapt to the effect of climate change. The SA Framework should include an objective/guide question relating to climate change adaptation.
Waste Management Plan for England (DEFRA, 2013)		
<p>Sets out the Government's ambition to work towards a more sustainable and efficient approach to resource use and management.</p> <p>The document includes measures to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage reduction and management of packaging waste Promote high quality recycling Encourage separate collection of bio-waste Promote the re-use of products and preparing for re-use activities 	<p>The Plan seeks to ensure that by 2020 at least 50% of weight waste from households is prepared for re-use or recycled and at least 70% by weight of construction and demolition waste is subject to material recovery/</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan should consider opportunities to reduce waste and encourage recycling and composting
National Planning Policy Framework		

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
CLG (2012) National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	<p>The general thrust of the NPPF is aimed at contributing towards sustainable development through the planning system. There is a presumption in favour of sustainable development "which should be seen as a golden thread running through both plan-making and decision-taking." There are three dimensions as to how the government aims to achieve sustainable development which gives rise to the need for the planning system to perform in a number of roles. These roles are based around economic, environmental and social roles.</p> <p>The NPPF is supported by National Planning Practice Guidance which expands upon and provides additional guidance in respect of national planning policy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SA Framework should include objectives covering aspects of sustainable development.
NPPF – Biodiversity, Geodiversity & Soil	<p>The NPPF sets out 12 core planning principles for plan and decision making, including: 'Conserving and enhancing the natural environment'. The planning system should contribute and enhance the natural and local environment by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils; Recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services; Minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures; Preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; Remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate. <p>Plans and decisions should encourage effective use of brownfield sites and take into account the economic benefits of agricultural land when assessing development, seeking to utilise areas of poorer quality land.</p> <p>Local planning authorities should plan positively for creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure. Planning and decision making should occur at a landscape scale across local authority boundaries and assess noise, air and light pollution, considering cumulative impacts. Local planning authorities should protect and enhance biodiversity specifically regarding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA Framework should include objectives which seek to protect geological sites and improve biodiversity.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
	priority species/habitats, protected sites and potential/proposed/possible protected sites.	
NPPF – Landscape	<p>The NPPF sets out 12 core planning principles for plan and decision making, including: 'Conserving and enhancing the natural environment'. The planning system should contribute and enhance the natural and local environment by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils; Recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services; Minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures; Preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; Remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate. <p>Plans and decisions should encourage effective use of brownfield sites and take into account the economic benefits of agricultural land when assessing development, seeking to utilise areas of poorer quality land.</p> <p>Local planning authorities should plan positively for creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure. Planning and decision making should occur at a landscape scale across local authority boundaries and assess noise , air and light pollution, considering cumulative impacts. Local planning authorities should protect and enhance biodiversity specifically regarding priority species/habitats, protected sites and potential/proposed/possible protected sites.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA Framework should include objectives which seek to protect and improve landscapes for both people and wildlife and to protect and maintain vulnerable assets.
NPPF – Cultural Environment	<p>One of the NPPF's 12 core planning principles for plan and decision making is the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment. Local planning authorities are required to 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. Substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, grade I and II* listed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA Framework should include objectives which seek to conserve and enhance historic environment assets.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
	buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional. 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. Proposals that preserve the setting, reveal the significance of the asset or make a positive contribution should be treated favourably.	
NPPF – Water	<p>Among the NPPF's core principles are 'conserving and enhancing the natural environment' and 'meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change'; In fulfilling these objectives, the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability.</p> <p>In preparing plans to meet development needs, the aim should be to minimise pollution and other adverse effects on the local and natural environment.</p> <p>Local planning authorities should adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change, taking full account of flood risk, coastal change and water supply and demand considerations.</p> <p>Inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided by directing development away from areas at highest risk, but where development is necessary, making it safe without increasing flood risk elsewhere. Local Plans should be supported by Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and develop policies to manage flood risk from all sources, taking account of advice from the Environment Agency and other relevant flood risk management bodies, such as lead local flood authorities and internal drainage boards. Local Plans should apply a sequential, risk-based approach to the location of development to avoid where possible flood risk to people and property and manage any residual risk, taking account of the impacts of climate change, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applying the Sequential Test; • if necessary, applying the Exception Test; • safeguarding land from development that is required for current and future flood management; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA Framework should include objectives which aim to maintain quality of water and reduce the risk of flooding.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using opportunities offered by new development to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding; and • 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 facilitate the relocation of development, including housing, to more sustainable locations. 	
NPPF – Climate Change	One of the core principles of the NPPF is meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change and encourages the adoption of proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change in line with the objectives and provisions of the Climate Change Act 2008, taking full consideration of flood risk, coastal change and water supply and demand. The NPPF also supports low carbon future by helping to increase the use of renewable and low carbon sources in line with the National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure It seeks to ensure that all types of flood risk is taken into account over the long term at the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding, and to direct development away from areas of highest risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA Framework should include objectives which seek to reduce the causes and impacts of climate change. • SA Framework should include objectives which seek to ensure the prudent use of natural resources and the sustainable management of existing resources.
NPPF – Air Quality	Sets out that planning policies should sustain compliance with and contribute towards EU limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and the cumulative impacts on air quality from individual sites in local areas. Planning decisions should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas is consistent with the local air quality action plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA Framework should include objectives which seek to improve air quality.
NPPF – Minerals and Waste	One of the core principles of the NPPF is facilitating the sustainable use of minerals. Policy guidance suggests the need to: Identify policies for existing and new sites of national importance, the definition of Mineral Safeguarding Areas so that locations of mineral sources are not sterilised by other developments, safeguarding of existing and planned mineral infrastructure (rail links, wharfage, storage, processing etc), environmental criteria to ensure there is not an unacceptable environmental impact and policies for reclaiming land and site aftercare.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA Framework should include objectives which seek to reduce the quantity of minerals extracted and imported. • SA Framework should include objectives which seek to reduce the generation and disposal of waste and for its sustainable management.
NPPF – Economy	One of the NPPF's core planning principles for plan and decision making is building a strong competitive economy. The NPPF highlights the Government's commitment to securing economic growth to create jobs and prosperity, ensuring the planning system does everything it can to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA Framework should include objectives which seek for the City Area to achieve a strong and stable economy which offers rewarding and well located employment opportunities to everyone.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
	<p>support sustainable economic growth. Local planning authorities are required to proactively meet development needs recognising potential barriers to invest (including infrastructure, housing and services) and regularly review land allocations. Economic growth in rural areas should be supported to create jobs and sustainable new developments, including expansion of all types of businesses, diversification of agriculture, supporting tourism and retention of local services.</p> <p>In drawing up local plans, local authorities should;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set out a clear economic vision and strategy for their area which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth; • Set criteria, or identify strategic sites, for local and inward investment to match the strategy and to meet anticipated needs over the plan period; • Support existing business sectors, taking account of whether they are expanding or contracting and, where possible, identify and plan for new or emerging sectors likely to locate in their area. Policies should be flexible enough to accommodate needs not anticipated in the plan and to allow a rapid response to changes in economic circumstances; • Plan positively for the location, promotion and expansion of clusters or networks of knowledge driven, creative or high technology industries; • Identify priority areas for economic regeneration, infrastructure provision and environmental enhancement; and <p>Facilitate flexible working practices such as the integration of residential and commercial uses within the same unit.</p>	
NPPF – Housing	<p>Two of the NPPF's core principles is the delivery of a wide choice of high quality homes and requiring good design. Local planning authorities are required to significantly boost the supply of housing through;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable and meeting needs of the market, identifying accessible sites for 5, 6-10 and 11-15 years worth of housing/growth. • Illustrating the expected rate of housing delivery through a housing trajectory and set out a strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA Framework should include objectives which encourages the availability, availability and affordability of housing to everyone.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver high quality housing, widen opportunities for home ownership and create sustainable inclusive and mixed communities. • Making allowance for windfall sites on the basis that such sites are consistently available. • Resisting inappropriate development of residential gardens. • Avoid isolated country homes unless they were truly outstanding or innovative in design or enhance the surroundings. • Sustainable development in rural areas housing should be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities. • Planning policies and decisions should aim to ensure that developments: • 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; • Establish a strong sense of place, using streetscapes and buildings to create attractive and comfortable places to live, work and visit; • Optimise the potential of the site to accommodate development, create and sustain an appropriate mix of uses (including incorporation of green and other public space as part of developments) and support local facilities and transport networks; • Respond to local character and history, and reflect the identity of local surroundings and materials, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation; • Create safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion; and • Are visually attractive as a result of good architecture and appropriate landscaping. 	
NPPF - Health	Amongst the planning principles of the NPPF is the promotion of healthy communities. The framework sets out open space, sport and recreation considerations for neighbourhood planning bodies which include an assessment of needs and opportunities; setting local standards; maintaining an adequate supply of open space and sports and recreational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA Framework should include objectives which promote healthy communities and healthy living

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
	facilities; planning for new open space and sports and recreational facilities; and planning obligations. Local and neighbourhood plans should identify community green spaces of particular importance (including recreational and tranquillity) to them, ensuring any development of these areas is ruled out in a majority of circumstances.	
NPPF – Transport & Accessibility	<p>Amongst the 12 planning principles of the NPPF are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting sustainable transport; Support sustainable transport development including infrastructure, large scale facilities, rail freight, roadside facilities, ports and airports. Protecting and exploiting opportunities for sustainable transport modes, including designing and locating developments to maximise sustainable modes and minimise day to day journey lengths. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA Framework should include objectives which seek to reduce road traffic and its impacts and promote sustainable modes of transport.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<p>NPPF – Quality of Life</p>	<p>One of the 12 core planning principles of the NPPF is: Promoting healthy communities, and Supporting high quality communications infrastructure. The NPPF argues that the planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. Local planning authorities should create a shared vision with communities of the residential environment and facilities they wish to see. Local policies and decisions should therefore promote:</p> <p>Safe and accessible environments and developments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities for members of the community to mix and meet. • Plan for development and use of high quality shared public space. • Guard against loss of facilities. • Ensure established shops can develop in a sustainable way • Ensure integrated approach to housing and community facilities and services. <p>Local and neighbourhood plans should identify community green spaces of particular importance (including recreational and tranquillity) to them, ensuring any development of these areas is ruled out in a majority of circumstances.</p> <p>The framework sets out open space, sport and recreation considerations for neighbourhood planning bodies These include an assessment of needs and opportunities; setting local standards; maintaining an adequate supply of open space and sports and recreational facilities; planning for new open space and sports and recreational facilities; and planning obligations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA Framework should include objectives which seek to improve the quality of life for those living and working within the City Area.
DCLG (2014) National Planning Policy for Waste		
<p>Sets out detailed waste planning policies for local authorities. States that planning authorities need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to use a proportionate evidence base in preparing Local Plans • Identify sufficient opportunities to meet the identifies needs of their area for the management of waste streams • Identifying suitable sites and areas 	<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • SA Framework should consider objectives which relate to re-use, recycle and reduce.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
Planning Practice Guidance (DCLG 2014)		
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"> The Local Plan should reflect the Planning Practice Guidance. The SA Framework should reflect the principles of the NPPF and the Planning Practice Guidance.
Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (DCLG 2014)		
<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"> that local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning to ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites to encourage local planning authorities to plan for sites over a reasonable timescale that plan-making and decision-taking should protect Green Belt from inappropriate development to promote more private Traveller site provision while recognising that there will always be those Travellers who cannot provide their own sites that plan-making and decision-taking should aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective for local planning authorities to ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies to increase the number of Traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply to reduce tensions between settled and Traveller communities in planmaking and planning decisions to enable provision of suitable accommodation from which Travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure for local planning authorities to have due regard to the protection of local amenity and local environment. 	No formal targets are identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan will need to make appropriate provision for Traveller sites, in accordance with national planning policy. SA Framework should include a specific guide question relating to provision for Travellers.
Planning for Schools Development (DCLG 2011)		

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<p>This policy statement sets out the Government's commitment to support the development of state-funded schools and their delivery through the planning system. It identifies the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be a presumption in favour of the development of state-funded schools, as expressed in the National Planning Policy Framework. • Local authorities should give full and thorough consideration to the importance of enabling the development of state-funded schools in their planning decisions. • Local authorities should make full use of their planning powers to support state-funded schools applications. • Local authorities should only impose conditions that clearly and demonstrably meet the tests set out in Circular 11/95. • Local authorities should ensure that the process for submitting and determining state-funded schools' applications is as streamlined as possible. • A refusal of any application for a state-funded school, or the imposition of conditions, will have to be clearly justified by the local planning authority. • Appeals against any refusals of planning permission for state-funded schools should be treated as a priority. • Where a local planning authority refuses planning permission for a statefunded school, the Secretary of State will consider carefully whether to recover for his own determination appeals against the refusal of planning permission. 	No specific targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan should reflect the principles set out in this Planning Statement where appropriate. • The SA Framework should include objectives and/or guide questions relating to educational provision.
Written Statement on Sustainable Drainage Systems (DCLG 2014)		
<p>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.</p>	No specific targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan should reflect the Government's commitment to sustainable drainage systems.
Home to School Travel and Transport Guidance (Department for Education 2014)		
<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"> • Promote the use of sustainable travel and transport. • Make transport arrangements for all eligible children. 	No specific targets identified although minimum travel distances are identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan should promote sustainable travel and transport. • The SA Framework should include SA objectives and/or guide questions relating to the promotion of sustainable travel and transport.
Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 1 (Historic England 2015)		

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The purpose of this Good Practice Advice note 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"> The Council should have regard to the Advice note in preparing the Local Plan. The SA Framework should include objectives relating to conservation and enhancement of the historic environment.
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (HM Government)		
The main UK legislation relating to the protection of named animal and plant species includes legislation relating to the UK network of nationally protected wildlife areas: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).	Under this Act, Natural England has responsibility for identifying and protecting SSSIs in England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should include policies that identify and continue the protection of SSSIs.
UK Marine Policy Statement (HM Government 2011)		
<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"> Promote sustainable economic development; Enable the UK's move towards a low-carbon economy, in order to mitigate the causes of climate change; Ensure a sustainable marine environment which promotes healthy, functioning marine ecosystems and protects marine habitats, species and our heritage assets; and Contribute to the societal benefits of the marine area, including the sustainable use of marine resources to address local social and economic issues. 	No specific targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should support the implementation of the MPS where possible. The SA Framework should reflect the objectives of the MPS.
NHS England Five Year Forward View (2014)		
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"> The Local Plan should promote health and wellbeing and help ensure the provision of adequate facilities and services. The SA Framework should include a specific objective relating to human health.
Managing Water Extraction (2013)		
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"> The Local Plan should take account of water abstraction is a key requirement of many developments.

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Regional Plans and Programmes		
Essex and Suffolk Water (2014) Final Water Resources Management Plan		
<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. The current Water Resources Management Plan was published in 2014.</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"> The Local Plan should consider opportunities to reduce water use and increase water efficiency and take account of infrastructure requirements arising from new development. SA Framework should consider objectives which seek to minimise the use of water and ensure the delivery of appropriate infrastructure to accommodate new development.
Water for people and the Environment: Water Resource Strategy – Regional Action Plan for Anglian Region (EA, 2009)		
<p>The Strategies vision for water resource “is for there to be enough water for people and the environment”. “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"> Protecting the environment. Driving water efficiency. Ensuring resilience of water resources. Sharing and development of water resources. 	<p>Does not contain any targets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should ensure that water resources are used efficiently and the Plan contributes towards the objectives.
The London Plan: The Spatial Development Strategy for London Consolidated with Alterations since 2011 (2015)		
<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 over the next 20–25 years.</p> <p>The document brings together the geographic and locational (although not site specific) aspects of the Mayor's other strategies – including those dealing with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport 	<p>The central projection in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) indicates that London will require between approximately 49,000 (2015-2036) and 62,000 (2015-2026) more homes a year. The FALP proposes a minimum target of 42,000 additional homes per annum from 2015 to 2025.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When considering housing provisions/targets the Local Plan should be mindful of the emerging new London Plan. The Local Plan should acknowledge that London provides employment opportunities for many residents in Chelmsford. The Local Plan should acknowledge that London provides employment opportunities for many residents in Chelmsford.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Development Housing Culture a range of social issues such as children and young people, health inequalities and food a range of environmental issues such as climate change (adaptation and mitigation), air quality, noise and waste 		
The London Infrastructure Plan 2050 (2014 – consultation document)		
<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"> Demand for public transport is likely to increase by 50% Energy demand is expected to increase by 20% by 2050 The demand for water is predicted to exceed supply by 2016 with a 21% deficit in supply by 2040 Need for new hub airport capacity in London, as Heathrow is approaching capacity Provision needed for a growing school age population, equivalent to 600 new schools and colleges, and Around 49,000 new homes a year need to be provided. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should acknowledge that London provides employment opportunities for many residents in Chelmsford.
Woodlands for Life: Realising the Benefits of trees, woods and forests in the East of England (2011)		
<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"> 250ha a year of new woodland in Essex. 	<p>The 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"> Promote sustainable growth within environmental limits Reduce greenhouse gas emissions Adapt to impacts of climate change Increase resource efficiency and reduce recourse use and waste Conserve and restore the regions natural and built environment Promote employment learning, skills and innovation
South East Local Enterprise Partnership (2014) Growth Deal and Strategic Economic Plan		

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<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"> Building on our economic strengths Boosting our productivity Improving our skills Building more houses and re-building confidence Investing in our transport growth corridors/areas 	<p>The Economic Plan sets out the LEPs ambition to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enable the creation of 200,000 sustainable private sector jobs over the decade to 2021, an increase of 11.4% since 2011; 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, lever investment totalling £10 billion, to accelerate growth, jobs and homebuilding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should support the delivery of the Strategic Economic Plan. The SA Framework should include objectives/guide questions relating to the promotion of economic development, skills, investment in transport infrastructure and housing.
River Basin Management Plan Anglian River Basin District		
<p>The River Basin Management Plan contains the following objectives/targets for the Anglian River Basin District:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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. 	<p>No additional targets identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan policies should consider how the water environment can be protected and enhanced. This will come about through reducing pollution and abstraction. SA Framework should considers effects upon water quality and resource.
Environment Agency (2010) Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan 2		
<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"> to reduce the threat of flooding and erosion to people and their property; and 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"> Living within environmental limits Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society 	<p>No targets or indicators.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should seek to provide policies to help manage the shoreline across the Chelmsford City Council Administrative area for the period up to 2036.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Achieving a sustainable economy ○ Using sound science responsibly Promoting good governance		
Mid Essex CCG (2014) Five Year Strategy 2014-2019		
<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"> • Resilient and engaged communities and citizens • Person-centred and integrated care • Appropriate use of and access to health and social care 7 days per week • Improving patient experience and outcomes • Whole system financial sustainability <p>Our Success Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System objectives delivered • Key outcomes delivered • Quality and patient experience is good <p>Whole health and social care system financially stable by 18/19</p>	<p>Linked to our Vision, the CCG's overarching defining outcomes are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mid Essex residents to live a healthier and longer life 2. Mid Essex residents are supported to look after their health and wellbeing 3. Reduce inequalities in health for Mid Essex residents by narrowing the gap in life expectancy 4. Mid Essex residents will be provided with good quality, harm free and affordable healthcare 5. Mid Essex residents who are frail and have a long term condition will receive integrated health and social care services that will reduce their need to utilise health and social care services 6. Mid Essex residents to be supported to access and use healthcare services appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan should seek to work with and support the health status and needs of the local population. • The SA Framework should include objectives and / or guide questions relating to the health.
Natural England (2015) Site Improvement Plan: Essex Estuaries		

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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).	No targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should seek to provide policies to support the Site Improvement Plan for the Essex Estuaries.
Sub-Regional (County) Plans and Programmes		
Essex Waste Local Plan (2001)		
<p>The objectives of the Waste Local Plan are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> minimising waste by recycling/composting and other means; making adequate provision of necessary waste management facilities; and safeguarding the environment of Essex, and the quality of life of its residents. 	<p>Although the Plan is to be superseded, the targets still of relevance are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to recycle or compost at least 33% of household waste by 2015; to recycle of 33% municipal waste by 2003 and at least 33% by 2015 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan needs to encourage more sustainable waste management. The SA Framework should include objectives/guide questions relating to waste management.
Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Essex (2007-2032) (2008)		
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.	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).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should seek to have regard to the waste hierarchy contained within the emerging Waste Local Plan The SA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which seek to reduce waste and promote recycling and reuse of materials.
Essex Minerals Local Plan (2014)		
<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>	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan will need to consider the 'preferred sites' identified within the Minerals Plan and the associated implications as part of the Plan preparation. The SA 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

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<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"> • The minimisation of greenhouse gas emissions during the winning, working and handling of minerals. • Sustainable patterns of minerals transportation. • The integration of features which promote climate change mitigation and adaptation into the design of minerals restoration and after-care proposals. <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>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"> • 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. • 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. <p>10. To provide for a steady and adequate supply of primary aggregates and industrial minerals by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding transshipment sites for importing and exporting mineral products. • Meeting the mineral provision targets agreed by the East of England Aggregates Working Party, or as indicated by the Local Aggregate Assessment. • Identifying suitable mineral extraction sites through site allocations in the Plan <p>11. To provide protection from minerals development to designated areas of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity, cultural and</p>	<p>heath and lowland dry acid grassland and a further 50ha to reed beds.</p>	<p>sites' are taken into account as part of the assessment process.</p>

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<p>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> <p>14. To achieve more sustainable patterns of minerals transportation by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Giving preference to identifying local sources of aggregate as close as reasonably possible to urban growth areas and growth centres. • Optimising how mineral sites gain access to the strategic road network. • Mitigating the adverse traffic impacts of mineral extraction and associated development by appropriate traffic management measures. • Increasing the use and availability of rail and water facilities for the long haul movement of mineral products. 		
Essex Strategy 2008-2018 – Liberating Potential: Fulfilling Lives		
<p>The vision of the Essex Partnership is:</p> <p>"To support Essex people to liberate their potential and enjoy the best quality of life in England"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People want to be safe and healthy. • Our ambition is to make Essex the safest place to live in England. • People want to belong. 	<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"> • The Local Plan should support development which promotes a high quality of life. • The SA Framework should include social and environmental objectives/guide questions which encourage a healthier lifestyle.
Commissioning School Places in Essex (2013)		
<p>The documents sets out how Essex County Council commissions school places by achieving a balance between the number of places available and the number of pupils for whom they are required.</p>	<p>It is expected that there will be 15,539 pupils in primary school and 9,983 pupils in secondary school in 2017.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan should take into account the need to provide a balanced number of school places to ensure forecast demand is taken into account. • The SA Framework should include guide questions which consider impacts on education including school places.
Essex Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (2013)		

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<p>The LFRMS sets out how flood risk will be managed in Essex. The Strategy sets out nine guiding principles to manage flood risk which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on reducing disruption from flooding as well as the causes. • Effective flood risk management could reduce the long-term damage caused to properties and impacts on human health and well-being. • Decisions should be based on a sound evidence base and made against clear criteria. • Increase the flood risk knowledge base across all stakeholders. • Public organisations have a duty to inform households of their susceptibility to flooding and advise on what steps they can take to make their property more resilient. • Co-operation among relevant public agencies is essential for long-term comprehensive flood risk management. • New developments should ensure there is no increase in flood risk and seek to reduce the flood risk which already exists. • Emerging local plans should direct new development away from areas of flood risk where possible. • Cumulative impact of small developments on flood risk is as significant 	<p>The recent Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) for Essex County Council highlighted records of approximately 1,300 local flood events that have occurred across the county over the past fifteen years</p> <p>Based on the UK climate projections 2009 medium emissions scenario and central estimate for 2020 to 2080, the East of England can expect wetter winters with a winter mean precipitation percentage change ranging from +6% to +20% and drier summers with a summer mean precipitation percentage change ranging from -7% to - 21%. Also an increase of 36cm in sea level, and as weather is likely to become more variable, there could be more frequent extreme events, such as flash flooding, storms and coastal erosion.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan should direct new development away from areas at risk of flooding and seek to reduce the risk of flooding overall. • The SA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which seek to prevent an increase in flood risk.
Essex Design Guide (2005 – an update of the 1997 edition)		
<p>The location of a potential development dictates its minimum or maximum density and some aspects of its form. For instance, development opportunities that are close to either a town or neighbourhood centre (either existing or potential) are expected to yield the highest densities and greatest mix of uses.</p> <p>Descriptions of different spatial context are to help decide where in a conurbation a site is placed and can then be used to determine which of 6 possible development forms are most applicable to any given situation provided (see key targets and indicators section)</p>	<p>In using this Guide the definition of the Spatial Context for compact, urban development can be summarised as:</p> <p>Urban Centre which is likely to have the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport interchange • Walkability 800m (10 mins) for large centre, 400m for small centre (town with population less than 35,000) • Transport interchange and traffic management • Range of shops • Range of services • Range of employment opportunities • Building heights occasionally greater than 4– 5 storeys <p>Neighbourhood which is likely to have the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic transport route 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan should consider the principles of the design guide in terms of spatial context when considering the location of development. • The SA Framework should include guide questions which relate to high quality design. .

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walkability 400m (5 mins) • Range of shops • Some services • Some employment • Building heights rarely more than 3– 4 storeys <p>Transport Corridor which is likely to have the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus route with an existing 15 minute service frequency at peak hours • Connects one radial street to another and is likely to be a County Road • Mainly residential buildings <p>Regeneration Area which is likely to have the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy recognition within Local Development Framework (LDF) • Brownfield land/buildings in need of repair • Non-residential buildings • Loss of some services/facilities • Higher levels of community deprivation • Neglected environment/contamination • Complex, commercial economy 	
Essex Design Guide (2005 – an update of the 1997 edition) cont.		
	<p>Sustainable Urban Extension (at least 50 hectares) which is currently likely to have the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenfield and occasionally, brownfield • Adjacent to suburbia/urban edge • Lack of strong urban character • Landscape-dominant • Poorly served by public transport • Few urban facilities • Inaccessible/remote <p>It is possible that an urban extension of 50ha could contain around 2,000 homes, green space, community uses and 100,000sq m commercial space all within a fabric no higher than 4 storeys.</p> <p>Large Urban Infill (at least 50ha)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surrounding built context, existing urban character 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan should seek to create a connected safe and accessible network for all to use

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Probably brownfield and redundant institutional or industrial use Probably biologically diverse Existing buildings on site; possible re-use Few urban facilities Reasonably close to public transport routes <p>Small Urban Infill (0.1ha or less)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong built context, existing urban character Strong site constraints Probably brownfield or redundant land 	
Essex Economic Growth Strategy (2011)		
<p>All of the proposals in the Strategy are designed to achieve five objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essex businesses are enabled and supported to be more productive, innovate and grow, creating jobs for the local economy; Essex businesses are enabled to compete and trade internationally; individuals are equipped and able to access better paid jobs through an education and skills offer that meets the needs of businesses; the life chances of people in our most deprived areas are improved by ensuring that residents are able to access jobs and public services; and securing the highways, infrastructure and environment to enable businesses to grow 	<p>Essex will prosper if small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) across Essex become more productive</p> <p>The Strategy seeks to make the Essex Growth Offer 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 Apprenticeships 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>Enterprise Areas</p> <p>Chelmsford Innovation Centre: Creation of a Centre of Excellence for low carbon in Chelmsford, meeting needs and delivering open innovation activities to promote the commercial exploitation of the region's strengths in the sector.</p> <p>Chelmsford Rail Station and Days Yard: Provision of new access to the station to facilitate development of commercial and residential sites.</p> <p>Chelmsford Town Centre Public Realm Improvements: A series of significant public realm improvements in Chelmsford linked to major redevelopment sites.</p> <p>Chelmer Waterside Regeneration: Expansion of the town centre with complementary commercial and residential development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policies in the Local Plan should help achieve the objectives sets out within the Strategy. The SA Framework should include objectives relating to economic growth.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
Essex Transport Strategy; The Local Transport Plan for Essex (2011)		
<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"> • Provide connectivity for Essex communities and international gateways to support sustainable economic growth and regeneration. • Reduce carbon dioxide emissions and improve air quality through lifestyle changes, innovation and technology. • Improve safety on the transport network and enhance and promote a safe travelling environment. • Secure and maintain all transport assets to an appropriate standard and ensure that the network is available for use. • Provide sustainable access and travel choice for Essex residents to help create sustainable communities”. 	<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"> • The Local Plan should take into account the five outcomes of the Plan and ensure they are not compromised. • 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.
Essex Planning Officer Association Guidance Note: Health Impacts Assessments (2008)		
<p>HIA's purpose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify potential health consequences of a proposal on a given population; • Maximise the positive health benefits and minimise potential adverse effects on health and inequalities. 	<p>Within the adopted Core Strategy the Council requested that schemes in excess of 50units and 1000sq m floor space required an HIA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan should include policy references in relation to HIA in order to ensure development is sustainable. • The SA Framework should include SA objectives/guide questions relating to health.
Essex Planning Officer Association Guidance Note: Lifetime Homes Standard (2008)		

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Lifetime Homes is a set of design standards that adds to the comfort and convenience of the home and supports the changing needs occurring throughout a family's lifecycle. These Standards generally exceed the requirements of Part M of the Building Regulations. The features of Lifetime Homes made it possible for people with special mobility needs to occupy any dwelling and improves the potential for building sustainable communities that comprise people of different ages and needs.	<p>Within the adopted Core Strategy the Council requested that schemes should meet the Lifestyle Homes Standard of 3% new dwellings on 30dwelling or more should be built to full wheelchair standard.</p> <p>The Guidance note requests that 100% wheelchair standard should be provided in every dwelling.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should consider any relevant and up to date housing standards.
Essex Planning Officer Association Guidance Note: Parking Standards – Design and Good Practice (2009)		
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"> 93 out of 267 (35%) wards in Essex have an average car ownership in excess of 1.5 vehicles per household (2001 census). 70% of Essex is rural and for many areas public transport does not offer an attractive alternative to the private car (e.g. service frequency, destination etc.) It is acknowledged that previously advised garage dimensions are too small for modern cars (random sample of manufacturer's specification 2007). 78% of garages are not used to store vehicles but used for general storage/utility uses instead (Mouchel resident's study 2007). Often rear parking courts are used to facilitate the increase in use of wheelie bins and recycling storage containers (working group site visits 2007). Parking bays are of an inadequate size for modern vehicle (working group site visits 2007, random sample of manufacturer's specification 2007). Parking Courts are often poorly located and designed as well a unattractive and not secure (working group site visits 2007), Parking courts must have easy and direct access to dwellings. 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). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should include policy references which covers parking provision to ensure developments meets National parking standards.
Essex Police Strategy (2012-2015) and Plan 2012-2013 (2012)		

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<p>The Strategy sets out the future direction for policing in Essex and outlines four strategic priorities they seek to tackle between 2012-2015. The priorities comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> tackle crime and anti-social behaviour; protect people from serious harm; improve satisfaction in policies; and make best use of their resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce all recorded crime (by 1%) To reduce incidents of anti-social behavior (by 2%) To increase the all crime solved rate (31%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SA Framework should include an objective which seeks to ensure communities are safe and crime rates are reduced.
Essex Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2020		
<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"> Arable field margin Hedgerows Traditional orchards (and Essex specific varieties) Lowland dry acid grassland Lowland meadows Lowland heathland Ponds Rivers Floodplain and coastal grazing marsh Lowland raised bog Reedbeds Coastal saltmarsh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should protect the intrinsic value of the identified habitats and seek to improve them where possible. The SA Framework should include an objective/guide question which seeks to conserve and enhance habitats and species.
Joint Essex Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2018		
<p>By 2018 residents and local communities in Essex will have greater choice, control, and responsibility for health and wellbeing services. Life expectancy overall will have increased and the inequalities within and between our communities will have reduced. Every child and adult will be given more opportunities to enjoy better health and wellbeing".</p>	<p>Chelmsford has a low level of physically active children and high levels of adults with increasing and higher risk drinking. It has the highest level of hospital stays for self-harm in Essex, and a high level of excess winter deaths</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should help provide local communities with more opportunities to improve their health and wellbeing and reduced inequality. The SA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which consider a range of social and environmental matters, including health and wellbeing.
North Essex Catchment Flood Management Plan Summary Report (2009)		

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<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"> Where possible, flood risk should be managed by storing water on the floodplain upstream of Chelmsford. Redevelopment of floodplain areas is an opportunity to increase their flood resilience. Flood awareness plans will be used to manage the consequences of flooding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chelmsford City Centre and residential areas are at risk from flooding from the three watercourses (Can, Chelmer and Wid). Currently there are 366 properties at risk from the 1% annual probability river flood. There are some agricultural land at risk and some parts of the A1016, A1099 and A138 at risk in the 1% annual probability river flood. There is a significant amount of mainly grade three agricultural land at risk in the 1% annual probability river flood. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should seek to minimise the risk of flooding and ensure properties which are at risk of flooding are able to adapt. The SA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which seek to reduce the risk of flooding.
Essex Wildlife Trust Living Landscapes – A Vision for the Future of Essex (2013)		
<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should seek to protect and enhance local wildlife habitats The SA Framework should include objectives and / or guide questions relating to the conservation and enhancement wildlife habitats.
Essex County Council (2009) Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan		
<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"> To re-use and recycle, where feasible, and promote sustainable measures <p>Improved accessibility</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To incorporate approved pathways into the public rights of way network 	<p>No targets or indicators identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should seek to protect and enhance public rights of way (PROW).

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<p>3. To better integrate rights of way with other access provision, initiatives and facilities</p> <p>4. To reduce fragmentation in the public rights of way network</p> <p>5. To improve accessibility on the public rights of way network</p> <p>Safety</p> <p>6. To assist in providing 'safer routes to schools'</p> <p>7. To promote safety</p> <p>Quality of life and good health</p> <p>8. To promote improved health and quality of life through the use of the public rights of way network</p> <p>Tourism and economy</p> <p>9. To stimulate tourism and the local economy</p> <p>Communities and partnership</p> <p>10. To increase community involvement in the management of the public rights of way network</p>		
Essex County Council (2014) Economic Plan for Essex		
<p>The Economic Plan for Essex articulates Essex partners' collective plans for unlocking economic growth. It demonstrates a compelling case for investment in the Essex economy that will enable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> over 117,745 new jobs; and over 81,310 new homes by 2021. <p>Our Economic Plan also sets out the commitments that we seek from HM Government in working with local partners to secure growth outcomes. This includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> committing to deliver specific national rail and road investment by agreed dates; provide seed fund investment, through the Local Growth fund, for a new property investment fund; and enabling the Essex Employment and Skills, in partnership with the sector guilds, Essex's share of SELEP's £4.3million per year adult skills budget, in order to address skills shortages in priority sectors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We want to secure sustainable economic growth for businesses and communities across Essex. Everything in this plan supports this ambition. We will determine our success based on measures of: job growth across Essex – we aim to secure 117,745 new jobs through the delivery of this plan; increased levels of output across the economy – we want to see output increase in growth corridors and in key sectors; improvements in productivity – we want to see sustained increases in the earnings of those working in Essex; increased house building – we aim to see 81,310 new homes built over the life of this plan; improvements in broadband – we want to maximise the number of households and businesses that have access to superfast broadband; the skills of the Essex workforce – we want more Essex businesses to be able to recruit suitable people; the economic activity of our young people – we want Essex to be a NEET free county (people not in education, employment and training); and the delivery of infrastructure improvements that support business growth – we want businesses to have access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should seek to provide policies to support the Economic Plan for Essex. The SA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which consider a range of economic matters, including jobs and homes.

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	<p>to the right premises, and for Essex's transport links to enable, rather than inhibit economic growth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To help us manage progress towards this goal, we have commissioned specialised economic analysis to: quantify baseline our position at 2014; project anticipated trends based on demographic changes and the impact of our plans and proposals; and provide regular updates on changes in the local economy. This intelligence will to 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. 	
Essex County Council (2014) Sustainable Drainage Systems Design Guide		
<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.</p> <p>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"> 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. Amenity – SuDS can have visual and community benefits for the community 	No targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should produce policies which support the implementation of SuDS with regard to planning, design and delivery. The SA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which consider the impact SuDS can have with regard to mitigating flooding.
Essex County Council (2015) Education Transport Policy		

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<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	No targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SA Framework should include objectives/guide questions which consider the accessibility of dwellings to educational services and facilities.
Essex County Council (2015) Developer's Guide to Infrastructure Contributions 2015 Revision Consultation		
<p>A significant change to developer contributions has come into force since the previous edition of the Guide, namely the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010. These regulations allow Local Planning Authorities to introduce a floor-space based charge, on new development known as the Community Infrastructure Levy. At present only one District in Essex has implemented CIL but a number of others are making progress. At the same time, as part of the process of bringing in CIL the Regulations have put limits on Section 106 (s106) contributions and specifically the number of contributions which can be 'pooled' to finance a single infrastructure project, or type of infrastructure. That maximum has been set at five contributions and that provision comes into force in April 2015, although contributions agreed since April 2010 count towards the maximum of five. The imminence of this provision coming into force and the implications it may have for providing infrastructure for many ECC services is a further factor requiring an update of the Developers' Guide at this time.</p>	No targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should produce policies which support the implementation of Section 106/Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)/developer contributions.
Local Plans and Programmes (including neighbouring local authorities)		
Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD (2008 and 2013)		
<p>The Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD (including Further Alterations) sets out the overall approach to future development and policies to make decisions on planning applications.</p> <p>The Vision for Chelmsford is: <i>'The Borough of Chelmsford will be at the leading edge for economic, social and environmental excellence at the heart of Essex, where people choose to live, work and visit because of the ever-improving quality of life available to all, now and for future generations.'</i></p>	<p>The DPD includes an extensive monitoring framework comprising a number of targets in addition to housing requirement (which are now superseded).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should seek to provide policies to guide growth and development across the Chelmsford City Council administrative area for the period up to 2036. Once adopted, this will supersede the existing Local Development Framework.

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<p>The vision is underpinned by the following key guiding principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KGP1 - Integrating Land Use Planning with Other Policies and Programmes • KGP2 - Achieving Sustainable Development • KGP3 - Access and Accessibility – Distinguishing the Strategic and Local Issues • KGP4 - Testing Policies and Proposals • KGP5 - Continuous Involvement of Community and Stakeholders in the Preparation of Policies and Proposals • KGP6 - Focusing New Development Within Existing Built-up Areas <p>The plan identifies the following strategic objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MG1: Direct growth to the most sustainable locations in the Borough and ensure new and existing neighbourhoods are easy to get to and well integrated with strategic route networks. • MG2: Manage and limit growth to that capable of being accommodated by the strategic infrastructure and the community support facilities of the Borough. • MG3: Contain urban growth by re-use of urban land and imposition of rural boundaries. • MG4: Promote the advantages of urban living and create good places to live and work within the existing urban areas through mixed use, diverse activity and full use of existing space. • MG5: Minimise the need for car travel by locating development where alternative modes of transport are practicable and by improving public transport. • EPE1: Protect the Borough's natural and built resources, historic environment, biodiversity, geological diversity and countryside. • EPE2: Seek to ensure that development is designed and located so far as possible to minimise any negative effects on the local and global environment and wherever possible to provide a net beneficial effect by reducing the generation of pollution and waste and the consumption of natural resources, including fossil fuel-based energy consumption. The generation of energy from renewable resources will be encouraged. • EPE3: Enhance environmental quality of the Borough's countryside and urban areas. 		

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC1: Meet the housing needs of the whole community through the provision of types and tenures of housing facilities, including affordable and special needs housing such as housing for the elderly, and create balanced communities through a mixture of housing for different household types. • BC2: Promote social inclusion through equality of opportunity and equality of access to social, educational, health, employment, recreational, green space and cultural facilities for all in the Borough. • BC3: Reduce deprivation and improve residents' health and quality of life by targeted economic and community development. • BC4: Promote social inclusion by improved accessibility to health care, education, employment, local shopping, leisure facilities and services for all, especially for those without a car and for those in more remote parts of the Borough through well planned routes and integrated public transport. • QL1: Provide high quality social, educational, leisure and sports facilities, excellent parks and green spaces, and a full range of cultural opportunities for meeting, worship, entertainment and celebration. • QL2: Improved links between new development, surrounding neighbourhoods and the town centres by efficient local route networks and public transport. • QL3: Improve road safety and avoid pedestrian route severance by managing vehicle traffic in residential and shopping areas. • QL4: Ensure that new development creates places where people enjoy living and working and are safe, secure and attractive. • QL5: Secure the best built environment design for present and future use and visual character. Enhance the utility of existing buildings through adaptation and improvement. • ECP1: Maintain the Borough's economic competitiveness in a region of major growth and change by responding positively to economic change. • ECP2: Reinforce Chelmsford town's leading sub-regional economic role by attracting new commercial investment and reinforcing the town's attractiveness and competitiveness by enhancing civic and cultural activity. • ECP3: Enhance Chelmsford's role as a Regional Transport Node. 		

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECP4: Enhance the viability and vitality of South Woodham Ferrers town centre and secondary local centres. ECP5: Support essential commercial transport movement related to Borough business activity on road and rail networks. 		
Chelmsford Town Centre Area Action Plan (2008)		
<p>The AAP sets out the following vision for the City Centre: <i>'The dynamic capital of Essex, anchored upon Chelmsford's historic identity as a market town, cathedral city and technological powerhouse, embracing compact urban living, superb shops, leisure and culture, built around neighbourhoods of distinctive character.'</i></p>	No targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should seek to provide policies to promote and manage growth within the City Centre The SA Framework should include guide questions relating to the City Centre.
North Chelmsford Area Action Plan (2011)		
<p>The North Chelmsford Area Action Plan (NCAAP) objectives are:</p> <p>MG1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optimise the locational advantages within the quantitative parameters of the Core Strategy i.e. a minimum of 4,000 new homes in North Chelmsford by 2021. Development shaped around strategic route network and land allocations to accord with LDF Strategic objectives. <p>MG2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linking the new development of a minimum of 4,000 homes plus employment into existing neighbourhoods to create a sustainable community of 5,000–10,000 homes. Provide the necessary infrastructure to support the new neighbourhoods without placing undue pressure on existing developed areas. Integrate the delivery of infrastructure with housing employment and community facilities. The provision of education, health and community infrastructure to support the new neighbourhoods and address the existing deficiencies in the Broomfield and Springfield areas. <p>MG3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that new development at North East and North West Chelmsford is planned in relation to specific local opportunities, constraints and requirements. 	<p>The distribution of new homes will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> North West Chelmsford: up to 800 new homes North East Chelmsford: a minimum of 3,200 new homes The NCAAP envisages 64,000 sq m of employment floorspace. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should seek to provide policies to guide growth and development across the Chelmsford City Council administrative area for the period up to 2036. Once adopted, this will supersede the existing Local Development Framework.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish Defined Settlement boundaries for Broomfield, Great and Little Waltham and the Chelmsford Urban Area to contain development. Wherever there are good opportunities to do so, re-use of brownfield land and urban fringe land. <p>MG4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a use structure for the new neighbourhoods that generates advantages for living and working. Generate a physical form of residential blocks, neighbourhood centres, open space that optimises diverse activity. Essential community facilities: health, education, recreation, social support and convenience retail to be provided locally. <p>MG5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure there is a sustainable transport strategy based on bus based rapid transit, a new railway station, Park and Ride, together with improvements and enhancements to existing bus services. Provide principles for walking, cycling and vehicular circulation. Provide a new transport hub location based on railway station and a long-term viable bus based rapid transit system giving attractive and quick travel to the Town Centre and stations, offering a realistic, lasting alternative to the car. A development layout planned around the transport route network and local connectivity, offering a choice of travel modes minimising carbon emissions. 		
Site Allocations DPD (2012)		
<p>The Site Allocations DPD (SADPD) sets out how Chelmsford City Council will manage development growth for the bulk of the Council (excluding the areas covered by Area Action Plans) up to 2021, and then beyond. The SADPD implements in detail the Spatial Strategy contained within the Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD, which sets out the overall amount of new development and their broad locations</p> <p>The Site Allocations Document considers sites within the whole of the Council's administrative area including Chelmsford's main urban area and 25 of the surrounding</p>	<p>The main mechanism for monitoring will be the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In preparing the Local Plan, the Council will need to identify new allocations to deliver the spatial strategy of the Plan.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<p>villages. The plan excludes Chelmsford Town Centre and North Chelmsford, which are dealt with via separate Area Action Plans (the CTCAAP and NCAAP). The plan also excludes allocating sites within South Woodham Ferrers which is in accordance with the Council's Adopted Core Strategy which did not allocate any strategic housing and/or employment requirements.</p> <p>The Council seeks to direct growth to the most sustainable locations and ensure new and existing neighbourhoods are easy to get to and well integrated. It will do this through the SADPD by making the following allocations/ designations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metropolitan Green Belt Boundary • Settlement Boundaries • Sustainable Transport • Special Policy Areas. 		
A Plan for South Woodham Ferrers SPD (2008)		
<p>A Plan for South Woodham Ferrers SPD focuses on themes of town centre regeneration including managing housing development, car parking, leisure and recreation provision, transport, riverside and the Marsh Farm Country Park.</p> <p>The vision for South Woodham Ferrers is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A town where development is in keeping with its surroundings and where there are open spaces and leisure facilities for all age groups. • A town centre where residents and visitors want to shop and spend their leisure time in a safe and pleasing environment at any time. • A town where there is an affordable, integrated transport system both within the town and with convenient connections further afield. <p>The vision is underpinned by the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regenerate the town Centre • Control future housing development • Address parking issues • Improve health facilities • Improve youth facilities • Improve transport Infrastructure • Improve leisure facilities • Improve access and use of riverside facilities 	<p>Some targets identified for key proposal areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan should include policy to guide development in South Woodham Ferrers. • The SA Framework should include guide questions relating to South Woodham Ferrers

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revitalise Marsh Farm Country Park 		
Planning Obligations SPD (2008)		
<p>The SPD is intended as a guide to the implementation of LDF policies relevant to sustainable, affordable housing planning, setting out practical requirements when applying policy and the process by which proposals will be considered.</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"> The Local Plan should seek to meet needs for affordable housing and include revised affordable housing requirements/thresholds. The SA Framework should include guide questions relating to the provision of affordable housing.
Making Places SPD (Urban Design Guidance) (2008)		
<p>The Making Places SPD seeks to provide practical advice to improve the quality of all new development within urban areas and defined settlements, help achieve the optimum use of brownfield land and to provide practical advice to assist designers involved in the formulation of development schemes within the Council.</p> <p>The guide provides advice on the planning and design process to help developers and designers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appreciate development circumstances; Research the site; Bring land forward for development; Understand the site and its physical context; Create new buildings and spaces that have a sense of place and provides high quality urban living; Involve the community in the preparation of development proposals which affect them; Make a planning application. 	<p>The SPD identifies a range of standards for residential and mixed use development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan include policies related to design and accessibility. The SA Framework should include guide questions relating to design and accessibility.
Chelmsford Town Centre Public Realm Strategy (2011)		
<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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optimise public use; Public safety; Ease of pedestrian mobility and accessibility; Sustainable transport; 	<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"> Identify streets and spaces which require action; Set out a programme of works with priorities identified based on condition, regeneration impact and connection with other improvement programmes; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should seek to provide policies to promote and manage growth within the City Centre. The SA Framework should include guide questions relating to the City Centre.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation and character enhancement; Enable development of key sites; Economic investment; High quality good-looking spaces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complement the transport and development strategy for the town centre; Complement the cultural strategy; Help provide access to development sites to enable new residential development; Aid funding bids and to assist attracting further investment in the town centre; Facilitate community engagement, to respond to local needs and preferences; Guide project design and implementation to meet objectives and obtain value for money; Ensure a joined-up approach to the town centre public realm; Secure use of a sustainable palette of surface materials, plants and street furniture. 	
Community Plan – Chelmsford Tomorrow Vision 2021 (2008)		
<p>The Community Plan priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintaining a safe community Improving our local environment Meeting local transport needs Providing the best opportunities for learning and personal development Providing stable employment and improved prosperity Enhancing healthy living Promoting culture as the key to our future 	<p>Several targets are identified under the five themes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managing Growth; Environmental Protection and Enhancement; Balanced Communities; Quality of Life; and Economic Prosperity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Community Plan is now dated.. Nonetheless, the priorities should help to inform the SA Framework.
Chelmsford Biodiversity Action Plan 2013-17 (2013)		
<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"> Identify key wildlife sites and corridors; Ensure biodiversity is enhanced through the development of sustainable communities; 	<p>Targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and declare LNRs to above English Nature minimum standards; Manage sites that include ancient unimproved grassland; Ensure the protection of the water vole; Pursue schemes to create large areas of standing water; Maintain the distribution of ponds; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should consider policies to protect, maintain and enhance wildlife sites and other natural habitats. The SA Framework should include specific objectives relating to the conservation of habitats and species.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and enhance key wildlife sites; Protect sites which include ancient unimproved grassland; Protect and support rivers, streams and associated habitats, reservoirs and gravel pits; Ensure ponds are surveyed, particularly for GCN when development proposed; Secure the integrity of heathland and acid grassland. Safeguard Black Poplars; Halt loss of species rich and ancient hedgerows; and Ensure retention and management of ancient woodland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create new heathland; Ensure consideration of hedgerows in development control; Promote the management of field margins favouring EBAP species; and Continued protection of coastal grazing marsh. 	
Chelmsford Nature Conservation Reference Guide (2005)		
This report evaluates the existing network of important wildlife sites as part of the ongoing Local Plan review 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"> The Local Plan should consider how it can contribute to the protection of the City's wildlife sites. The SA Framework should include objectives/and or guide questions which help protect existing wildlife resources.
Chelmsford Parks and Green Spaces Strategy 2004-2014 (2004)		
<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"> The 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. The SA Framework should ensure adequate coverage of parks and green spaces.
Chelmsford Historic Characterisation Report (2004)		
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.	No specified targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should facilitate development whilst protecting the historic fabric of Chelmsford. The SA Framework should include objectives/guide questions that relate to Chelmsford's historic environment.
Chelmsford 's Air Quality Management Plan (2014)		
The Council's 2014 Air Quality Progress Report sets out the following summary of previous air quality assessments undertaken for the Council:	The Council's overall aim is to reduce the harmful the level of NO ₂ within the AQMA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should consider how it can contribute to the air quality management. This could be through the promotion of

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Detailed Assessment concluded that the annual mean objective for NO2 would not be met by 2005. The Council declared an Air Quality Management Area on 1st December 2005 at Army Navy Roundabout; 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. The 2013 Progress Report showed confirmed that all monitoring locations with relevant exposure were meeting the Air Quality Objectives 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. Chelmsford City Council has not identified any other pollutant that may be exceeding the Air Quality Objectives. 		<p>sustainable forms of travel, and the location of new development in area of good accessibility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SA Framework should include objectives/guide questions relating to air quality.
Be Moved - Chelmsford Sport & Arts Strategy 2012-16		
<p>The Strategy sets out the following vision: <i>"To encourage people who live, work & visit Chelmsford to get actively involved in sport & arts, to support local organisations and to develop the City's high quality of life & 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"> To promote health and wellbeing To build an Olympic and Paralympic legacy To facilitate community initiatives to enrich society To deliver a high quality and varied programme of sport and arts To ensure our services are right for you 	<p>The Strategy includes a range of actions and targets relating to sports and arts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should promote sport and arts. The SA Framework should include guide questions that seek to retain and enhance the Council's local sports and arts facilities.
Braintree District Council Site Allocations and Development Management Plan (2014)		
<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>	<p>No relevant targets identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is potential for interaction between the emerging Local Plan and the Chelmsford Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.

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Braintree District Council Core Strategy (2011)		
<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"> There is potential for interaction between Braintree's emerging Local Plan and the Chelmsford Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.
Maldon District Council Pre-submission Local Development Plan 2014-2019 (2014)		
<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 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>	No relevant targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is potential for interaction between the Maldon's emerging Local Development Plan and the Chelmsford Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.
Rochford District Council Core Strategy (2011)		
<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>	No relevant targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is potential for interaction between the Rochford Core Strategy and the Chelmsford Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.

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<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 of Hockley or Rayleigh, respectively; and east of Rochford, where vehicular movements would inevitably be directed through Rochford's historic centre.</p>		
Rochford District Council Allocations Plan (2014)		
<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"> There is potential for interaction between the Rochford Allocations Plan and the Chelmsford Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.
Basildon 2031 - Local Plan Core Strategy (emerging)		
<p>The Core Strategy Revised Preferred Options Report is a draft planning blueprint being prepared by Basildon Borough Council as the Local Planning Authority for next twenty years to establish a framework for the Borough's future growth until 2031.</p>	No relevant targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is potential for interaction between the emerging Basildon Core Strategy and the Chelmsford Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.

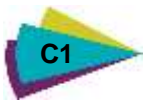
Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
Brentwood District Council Local Plan (emerging)		
<p>The Council is currently preparing a new Local Plan for the Borough which, once adopted, will supersede saved policies in the current Replacement Local Plan (2005).</p> <p>The Plan will set 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. Among other things, the Plan will include policies to deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing and economic growth requirements; Retail, leisure and other commercial development; Infrastructure for transport and utilities (such as energy, telecoms, and water); Local community facilities (such as local shops, schools and healthcare); Conservation and protection of the natural and historic environment; and Climate change and provision of renewable energy. 	No relevant targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is potential for interaction between the emerging Brentwood Local Plan and the Chelmsford Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.
Epping Forest District Council Local Plan (emerging)		
<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"> There is potential for interaction between the emerging Epping Forest Local Plan and the Chelmsford Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.
Uttlesford District Council Draft Local Plan (2014) (withdrawn)		
<p>On 4 July 2014 the Local Plan and its supporting documents were submitted for independent examination to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government via the Planning Inspectorate.</p>	No relevant targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is potential for interaction between the emerging Uttlesford Local Plan and the Chelmsford Local Plan which could lead to cumulative effects.

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The Council formally withdrew the Local Plan on 21 January 2015. Further to the Inspector's comments on 19 December Uttlesford District Council officially withdrew its draft Local Plan from the Examination process. A revised plan will need to be submitted in due course.		
Village Design Statements (various)		
<p>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.</p> <p>A total of 18 Village Design Statements have been prepared in the Chelmsford City Area.</p>	No targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should have regard to Village Design Statements whilst recognising the need to plan for new growth across Chelmsford. The SA Framework should include specific guide questions relating to the conservation and enhancement of local character.
Chelmsford City Council (2012) Meeting the needs of Older People: A Strategy for Older People in Chelmsford		
<p>The Strategy sets out the following priorities for older people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> improving communications and information supporting older people living in their own home helping older people to improve their health and wellbeing improving transport, mobility and access for older people 	No targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should seek to meet the housing needs of the whole community. The SA Framework should include a specific guide question relating to meeting the housing needs of the whole community.
Safer Chelmsford Partnership (2012) The Safer Chelmsford Partnership Plan 2011-2014		
<p>The Plan sets out the following key priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing Violent Crime, with a clear emphasis on the night time economy and alcohol related disorder. Protecting Vulnerable People, identifying repeat victims, educating both young and old people, supporting those at risk of re-offending and encouraging proactive reporting of hate crime and domestic abuse. Tackling Anti Social Behaviour, identifying repeat victims, improving perceptions and facilitating local problem solving to address issues. Reducing Re-offending, focusing on Integrated Offender Management. 	No targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should include policies that seek to reduce crime. The SA Framework should include guide questions relating to crime reduction.
Chelmsford City Council (2015) Housing Strategy Statement 2015/2016		

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<p>The Statement sets out the Council's aim to deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An increased availability of good, genuinely affordable homes for purchase and for rent Residents living in safer and healthier homes Homelessness reduced as a direct result of our Housing Advice work Vulnerable residents, including older people and those with a disability, living in housing that suits their needs 	<p>No specific targets identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should seek to deliver housing to meet local needs. The SA Framework should include a specific objective relating to the delivery of housing to meet local needs.
Chelmsford City Council (2013) Homelessness Review and Strategy		
<p>The Review and Strategy identifies the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Prevention of Homelessness and Sustaining tenancies The provision of Accommodation Partnership working 	<p>No specific targets identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SA Framework should include a specific guide question relating to homelessness.
Chelmsford City Council (2010) Private Sector Housing Strategy 2010-2015		
<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 an health and safety risk to occupiers.</p> <p>The following priorities are identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> self help by way of loans and creating further capacity through the development of suitable equity release options. actions to address risks that cause 'falls' in homes and cold homes. where ever possible bring homes up to the Decent Homes Standard when assessing for loan assistance to prevent further decline of stock condition. run awareness campaigns to areas of properties shown to be most likely to have poor conditions. 	<p>The Strategy identifies a number of actions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should include policies that seek to support a thriving private rented sector.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> actively promoting energy savings measures. targeting work around fuel poverty. increasing standards in the private rented sector. re-licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation and implementation of a rolling three year inspection programme recognising higher level of risk in this area. improving the Disabled Facility Grant process for customers. planning with Registered Social Landlords and other partner organisation for the anticipated growing demand for Disabled Facility Grants as our population ages. increased intervention on empty homes if numbers continue to increase. 		
Chelmsford City Council (2015) Tree Management Policy		
The Policy includes a range of objectives relating to tree management.	No targets identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should include policies to conserve and enhance biodiversity.
Chelmsford City Council (2013) Building for Tomorrow SPD		
<p>This SPD provides guidance on sustainable design in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing the environmental performance The location of development and sustainable travel Working with nature – enhancing biodiversity Managing surface water run-off Reducing energy demand and carbon dioxide emissions Using low carbon or renewable energy technologies Conserving water resources Selecting construction materials with low environmental impact Managing construction site pollution and waste 	The SPD identifies the Council's expectations in respect of development performance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should promote sustainable design and construction. The SA Framework should include guide questions relating to sustainable design and construction.
Chelmsford City Council (2008) Chelmsford Surface Water Management Plan (2014)		
<p>The objectives of the SWMP are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a thorough understanding of surface water flood risk in and around the study area, taking into account the implications of climate change, population and demographic change and increasing urbanisation in and around Chelmsford City 	No targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should include policies relating to the mitigation of flooding. The SA Framework should include guide questions relating to flooding.

Key objectives relevant to Local Plan & SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Commentary (how the SA Framework should incorporate the documents' requirements)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify, define and prioritise Critical Drainage Areas, including further definition of existing local flood risk zones and mapping new areas of potential flood risk Make recommendations for holistic and integrated management of surface water management which improve emergency and land use planning, and support better flood risk and drainage infrastructure investments Establish and consolidate partnerships between key stakeholders to facilitate a collaborative culture, promoting openness and sharing of data, skills, resource and learning, and encouraging improved coordination and collaborative working Engage with stakeholders to raise awareness of surface water flooding, identify flood risks and assets, and agree mitigation measures and actions Deliver outputs to enable practical improvements or change where partners and stakeholders take ownership of their flood risk and commit to delivering and maintaining the recommended measures and actions 		
Chelmsford City Council (2014) Planning Obligations SPD		
This Supplementary Planning Document sets out what will be required through Section 106 planning obligations. It identifies topic areas where planning obligations may be applicable and outlines the City Council's general procedural approach to securing planning obligations.	No targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should include policies relating to Planning Obligations.
Chelmsford City Council (2015) Chelmsford Museums Forward Plan 2015-2017		
<p>The development plan for 2015-2017 will focus on the following key issues:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To retain accredited status with Arts Council England for both the Chelmsford Museum and the Essex Regiment Museum. To provide quality permanent and temporary exhibitions To build a sustainable economic framework for Chelmsford Museums for the future To provide excellent customer care for all our visitors To increase participation in Chelmsford Museums by all sectors of the community To provide excellent collections management To continue to respond to initiatives aimed at developing the future development of Sandford Mill as a local visitor destination 	No targets or indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Plan should include policies that seek to support museums.

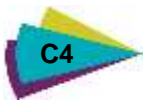


Appendix C

Quality Assurance Checklist

Quality Assurance Checklist	
Objectives and Context	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The plan's purpose and objectives are made clear. 	Section 1.3 and Section 1.4.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 3) have informed the development of the SA Framework presented in Section 4.2.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SEA objectives are clearly set out and linked to indicators and targets where appropriate. 	Section 4.2 presents the SA objectives and guide questions.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 SA Report.
Scoping	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 July-September 2015.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The assessment focuses on significant issues. 	Sustainability issues have been identified in the baseline analysis contained in Section 3 of this SA Report on a topic-by-topic basis. Section 3.14 summarises the key sustainability issues identified.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical, procedural and other difficulties encountered are discussed; assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit. 	<p>As set out in Section 4.4 of the Scoping Report, no difficulties were encountered during its preparation.</p> <p>Difficulties encountered in undertaking the appraisal of the Issues and Options Consultation Document are identified in Section 4.5 of this SA Report.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasons are given for eliminating issues from further consideration. 	No issues have been knowingly eliminated from this SA Report.
Baseline Information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and their likely evolution without the plan are described. 	Section 3 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"> 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. 	Throughout Section 3 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 SA. 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 3.2 and Appendix D together present a summary of the characteristics of the City Area's key settlements.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficulties such as deficiencies in information or methods are explained. 	<p>As set out in Section 4.4 of the Scoping Report, no difficulties were encountered during its preparation.</p> <p>Difficulties encountered in undertaking the appraisal of the Issues and Options Consultation Document are identified in Section 4.5 of this SA Report.</p>
Prediction and evaluation of likely significant effects	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	Section 5 summarises the appraisal of the sustainability performance of the Local Plan Spatial Principles, housing target projections, employment target projections and spatial options contained in the Issues and Options Consultation Document. Detailed appraisal matrices are

Quality Assurance Checklist	
	also provided at Appendix F, G and H and that have been developed to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both positive and negative effects are considered, and where practicable, the duration of effects (short, medium or long-term) is addressed. 	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"> Likely secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects are identified where practicable. 	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"> Inter-relationships between effects are considered where practicable. 	Inter-relationships between effects are identified in the assessment commentary, where appropriate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where relevant, the prediction and evaluation of effects makes use of accepted standards, regulations, and thresholds. 	These are identified in the commentary, where appropriate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methods used to evaluate the effects are described. 	These are described in Section 4 and Appendix E.
Mitigation measures	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and offset any significant adverse effects of implementing the plan are indicated. 	These are identified within the appraisal matrices. Cross-cutting measures are also summarised in Section 5.6.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issues to be taken into account in development consents are identified. 	These are identified within the appraisal matrices. Cross-cutting measures are also summarised in Section 5.6.
The SA Report	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is clear and concise in its layout and presentation. 	The SA Report is clear and concise.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses simple, clear language and avoids or explains technical terms. Uses maps and other illustrations where appropriate. 	Maps and tables have been used to present the baseline information in Section 3 and Appendix D where appropriate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explains the methodology used. Explains who was consulted and what methods of consultation were used. 	Section 4 presents the methodology used for assessment whilst consultation arrangements are discussed in Section 1.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies sources of information, including expert judgement and matters of opinion. 	Information is referenced throughout the SA Report.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contains a non-technical summary 	Included.
Consultation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SEA is consulted on as an integral part of the plan-making process. 	This SA Report is being consulted upon at the same time as the Issues and Options Consultation Document.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	This SA 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"> The SA Report and the opinions of those consulted are taken into account in finalising and adopting the plan. 	Responses received to this SA Report will inform the preparation of the Local Plan.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An explanation is given of how they have been taken into account. 	This information will be provided in subsequent SA Reports.



Quality Assurance Checklist

- Reasons are given for choices in the adopted plan, in the light of other reasonable options considered.

This information will be provided as the Local Plan is developed. However, this SA 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 Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD identifies Chelmsford's other 'key settlements' as including: Bicknare; 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.

Key Settlement Characteristics

Settlement	Key Baseline Characteristics
Chelmsford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The principal settlement within the Council's administrative area and more broadly within Essex with a population of 111,511 within the main urban area (as at the 2011 Census). 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. 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. 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. 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. 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 m² 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. 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. Green Wedges play 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 City's assets include Chelmsford Cathedral which is a Grade I Listed Building.

Settlement	Key Baseline Characteristics
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4,000 new houses, including schools, jobs, infrastructure, sports facilities and green space are currently being implemented to the north of Chelmsford's main urban area through the NCAAP.
South Woodham Ferrers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 a population of approximately 16,453 (as at the 2011 Census). 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. 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. 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.
Bicknacre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 a population of approximately 2,889 (including Woodham Ferrers, as at the 2011 Census). 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. Bicknacre Priory to the north of the village is a designated Scheduled Monument. A SSSI (Thrift Wood, Woodham Ferrers) is located to the south of the village which consists of a dense wooded area.
Boreham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 a population of 3,597 (as at the 2011 Census). Access to the village is taken off Boreham Interchange along the B1137. 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. The village has a range of local facilities and amenities including a primary school, doctor's surgery, post office, five public houses, a church, a pharmacy and a recreational ground. 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. 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. Parts of Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation Conservation Area runs through the south of the parish. The rural setting of Boreham including the Chelmer valley is a key characteristic of the village.
Broomfield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broomfield lies to the northwest of Chelmsford's main urban area and has a population of 4,575 (as at 2011).

Settlement

Key Baseline Characteristics

- The parish covers 747 hectares, the bulk of which is cultivated land, mostly for growing crops but also meadow.
- 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.
- 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.
- There is one Conservation Area located within the village around Church Green
- Broomfield contains the Chelmsford's single biggest employer, Broomfield Hospital, as well as one of Chelmsford's largest secondary schools;
- The NCAAP allocates up to 800 dwellings in North-West Chelmsford and Broomfield for the period up to 2021.

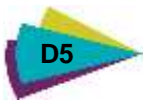
Danbury

- Danbury is a village located 2-3 km to the east of Chelmsford's main urban area and on the A414. The village extends to the west, north and east of the A414 and is centred on the junction of Maldon Road and Mayes Lane. As at the 2011 Census, the village had a population of 5,087.
- The village has good links to the local transport network which run along the A414.
- 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.
- There is a local neighbourhood centre located at Eves Corner, Maldon Road and Little Baddow Road.
- The Danbury village neighbourhood centre is focused around the village green. The centre includes tea rooms, a bank and a hairdresser. Along the busier main road there is a larger food store and convenience newsagents/off licence.
- 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).
- Danbury Country Park to the west of the village is a Registered Park.
- 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.

Galleywood

- Galleywood, is located to the south of Chelmsford's main urban area and has a population of 5,738 (as at the 2011 Census).
- 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 Rignals Lane industrial area.
- 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 was enlarged in 2004.
- 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.
- There are three schools in Galleywood.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

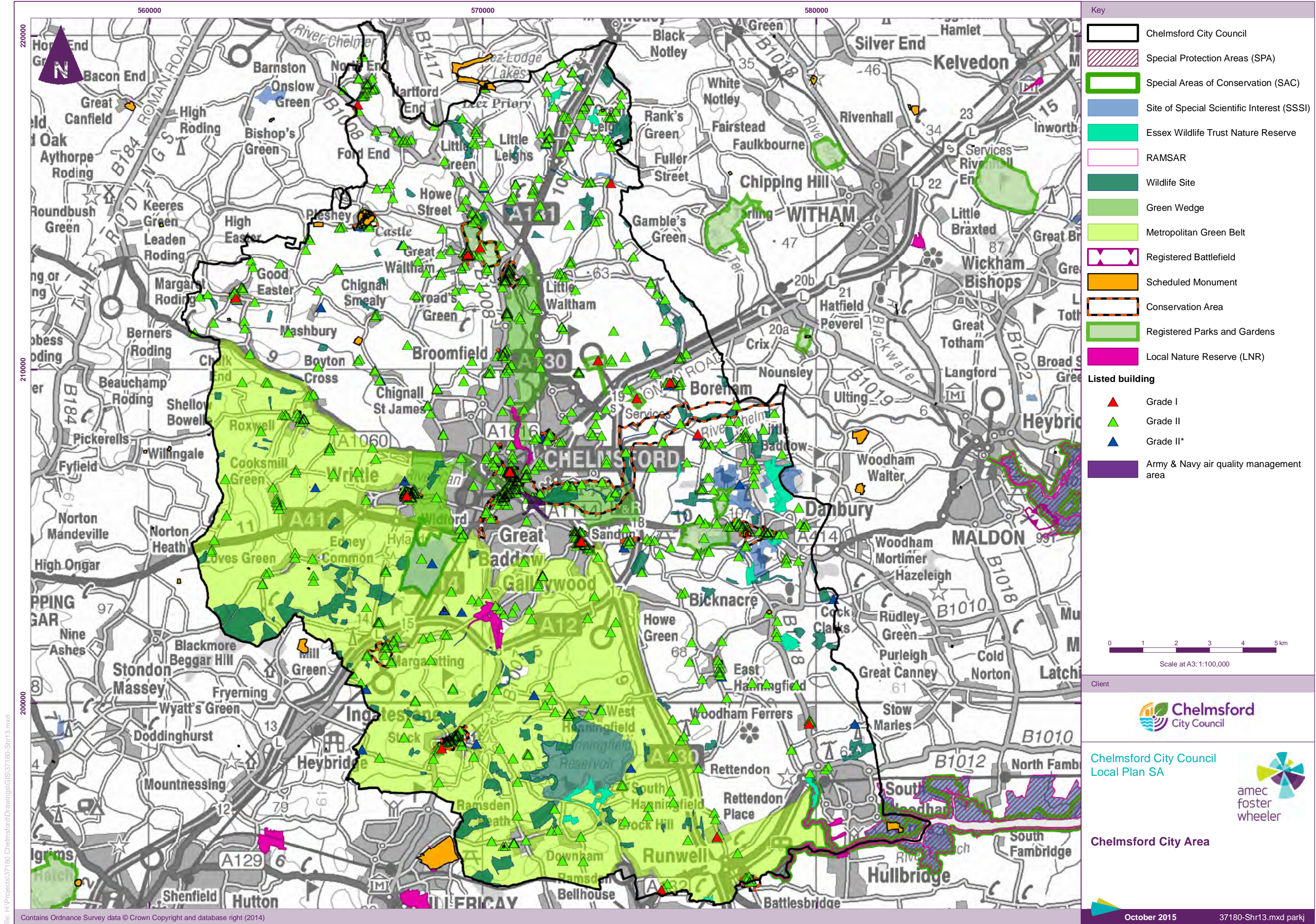
Settlement	Key Baseline Characteristics
Great Leighs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great Leighs is a village with a linear characteristic which runs parallel to the A131 north east of Chelmsford's main urban area and approximately 3km south of Braintree. It has a population of 2,709 (including Little Leighs, as at the 2011 Census). The village is serviced by two buses which provide public transport linkages to Chelmsford City Centre. 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 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.
Runwell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 at the 2011 Census, the village had a population of 3,394. The village lies within/adjacent to the Metropolitan Green Belt. The River Crouch is to the south of the parish boundary. The village has a number of local facilities including an existing primary school, a dentist, vets, mental health services unit, public house, a church (St Marys), café and recreational facilities (including a village hall, playing fields and allotments). There are two authorised Gypsy sites located to the north east of the village located off Meadow Lane. Planning permission has been granted for up to 575 homes and flexible use floorspace at the Former Hospital Site which could include retail, restaurant/pub or business/community uses. A site within the heart of the scheme has also been safeguarded for a new primary school to serve this site and the surrounding area. A wider range of amenities is available within the town of Wickford approximately 0.5 km to the south. 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. St. Mary's Church is the most notable landmark in Runwell situated adjacent to the A132 at the junction with Church End Lane.
Stock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 at the 2011 Census, the village had a population of 2,100. 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. 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. The village is enclosed by the Metropolitan Green Belt. 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.
Writtle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writtle is a village located about 1 km from the edge of Chelmsford's main urban area and has a population of 5,383 (as at the 2011 Census). Access to the village is obtained from the A414 Greenbury Way to the south and the A1060 to the north. 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 and Writtle College. There is an existing Travelling Show people site and authorised Gypsy and Traveller site located to the west of the village. 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



Settlement**Key Baseline Characteristics**

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.

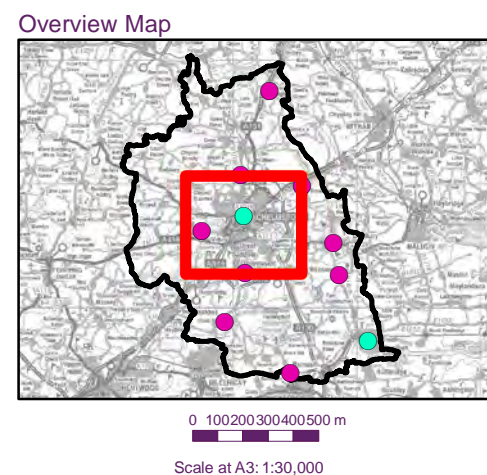
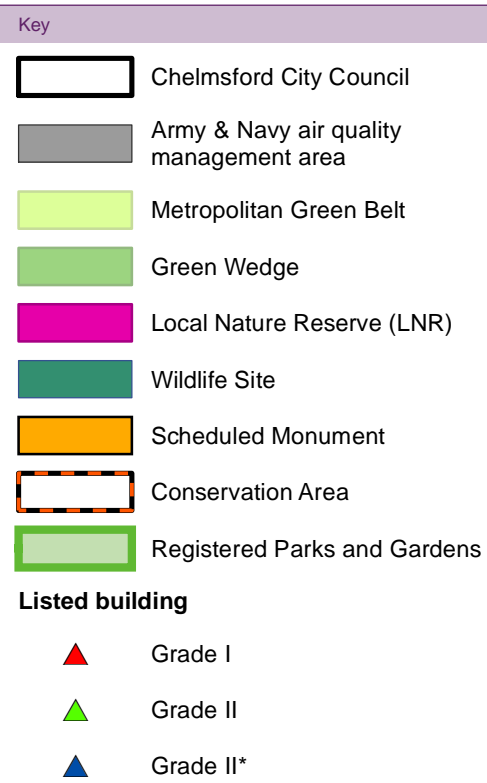
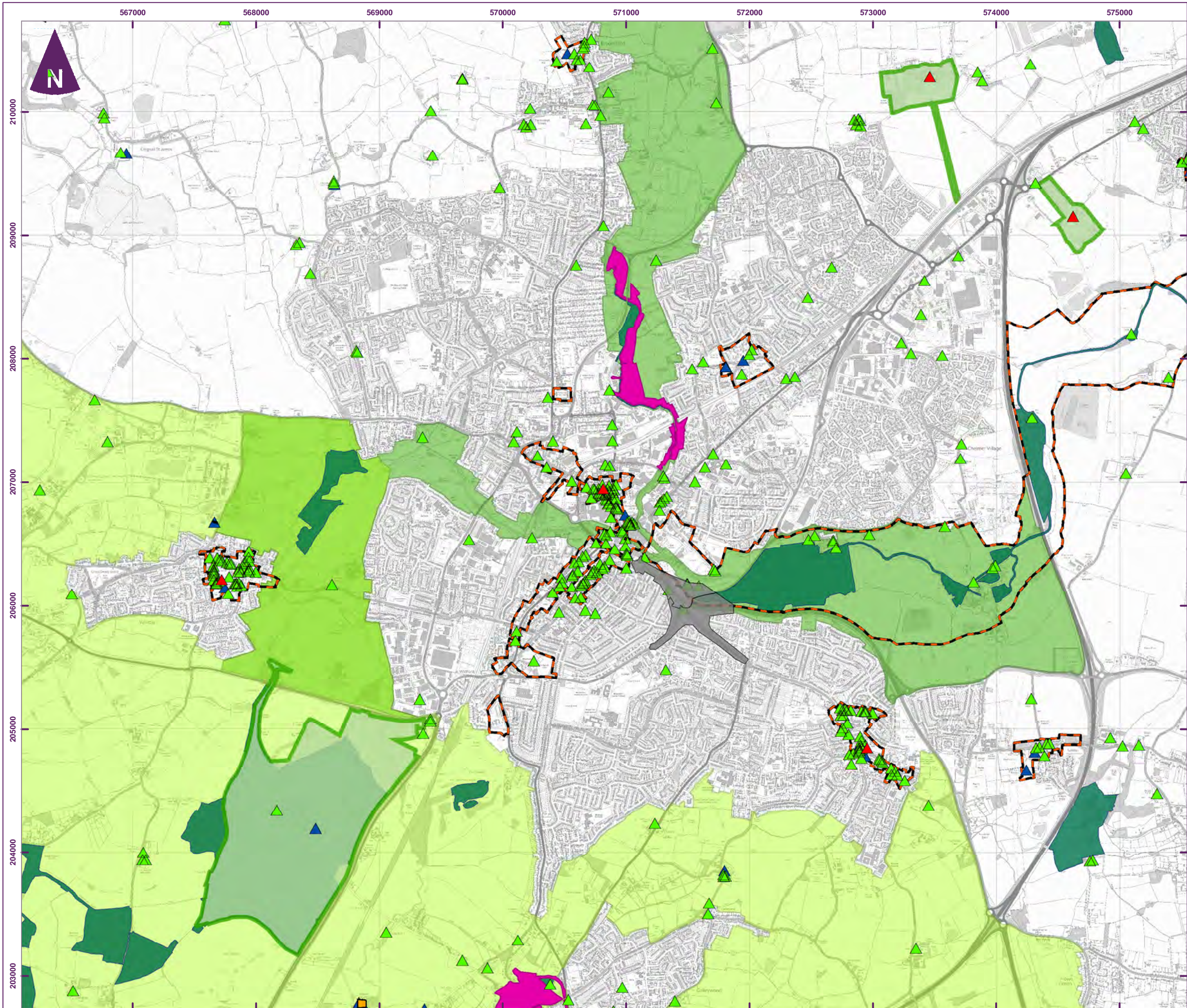
- The eastern side of the village forms part of a Conservation Area Aubyns, on the approach to the church, is the only Grade I listed building within the village and there are a number of Grade 2 Listed Buildings within the Conservation Area.



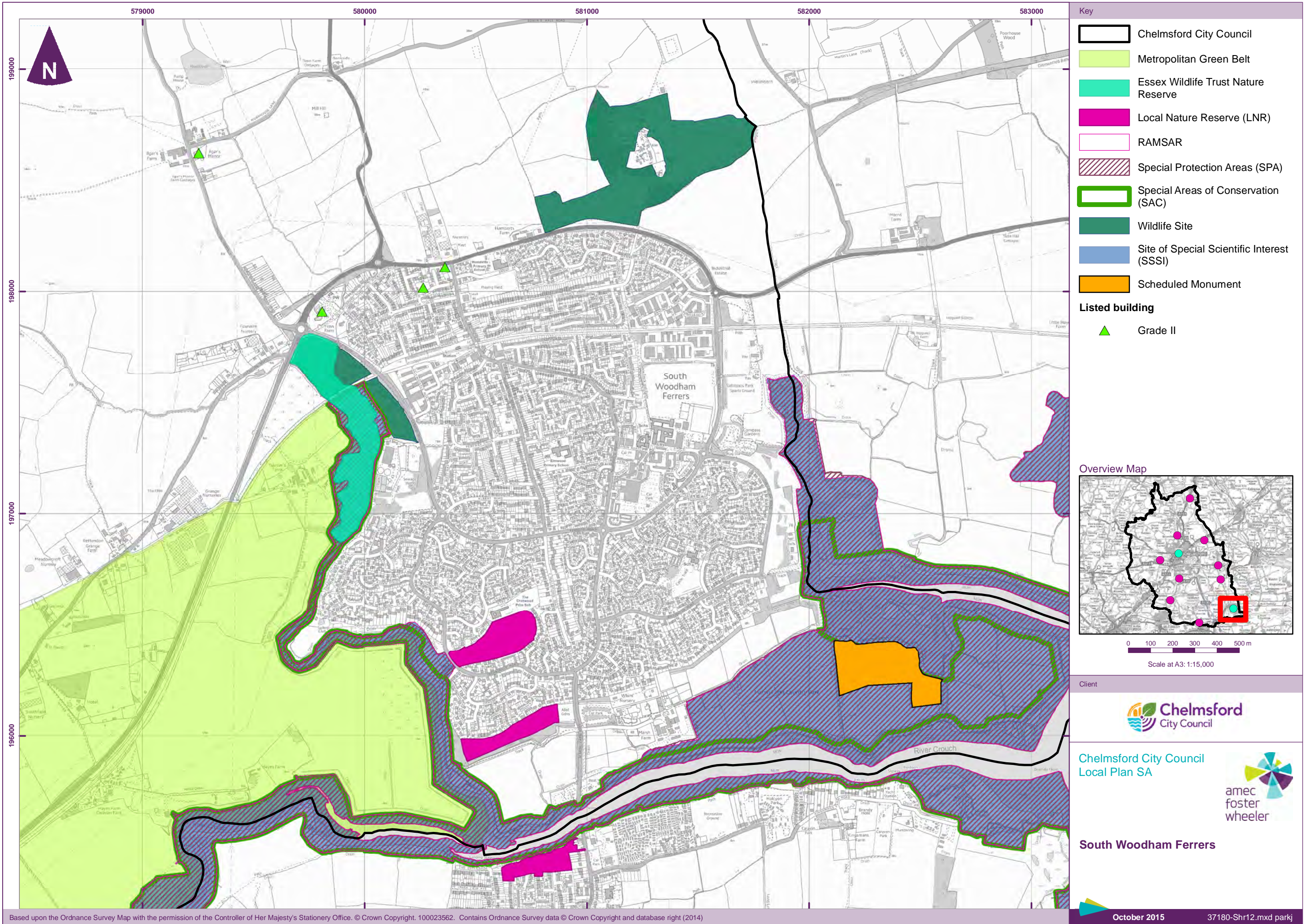
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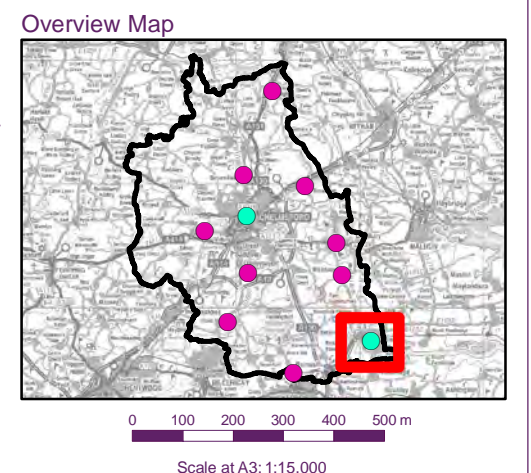


Key

- Chelmsford City Council
- Metropolitan Green Belt
- Essex Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve
- Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
- RAMSAR
- Special Protection Areas (SPA)
- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)
- Wildlife Site
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Scheduled Monument

Listed building

- Grade II



Client

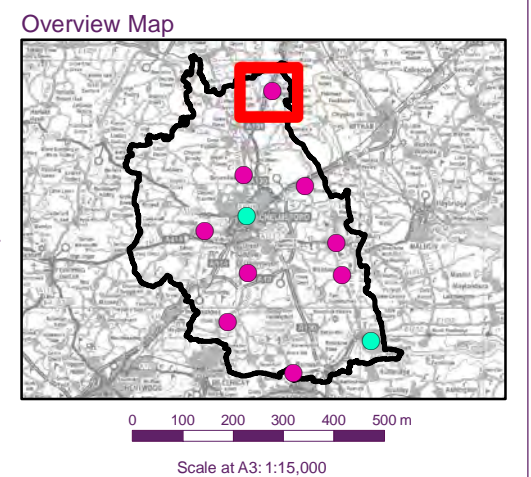
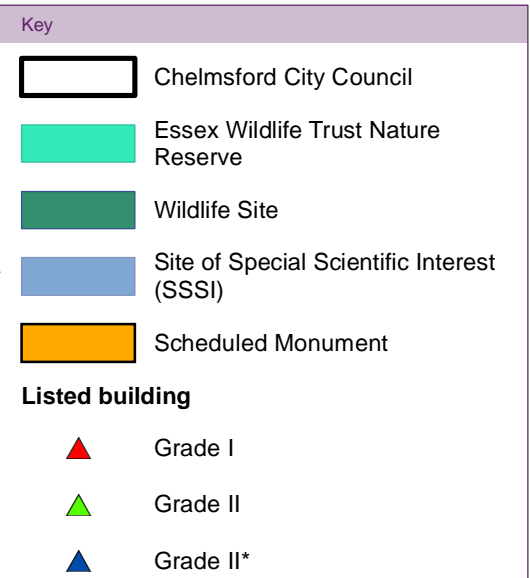
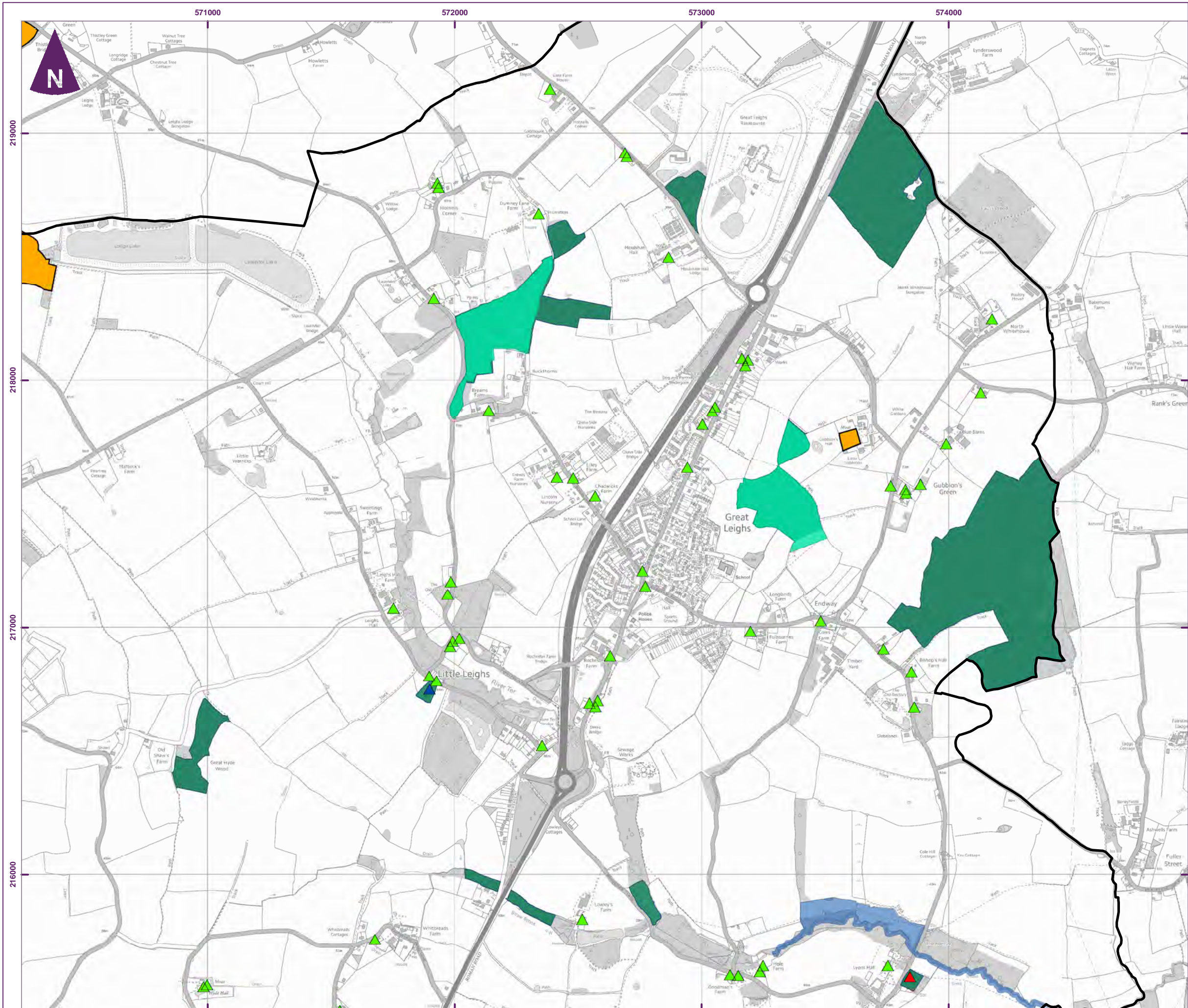
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Local Plan SA

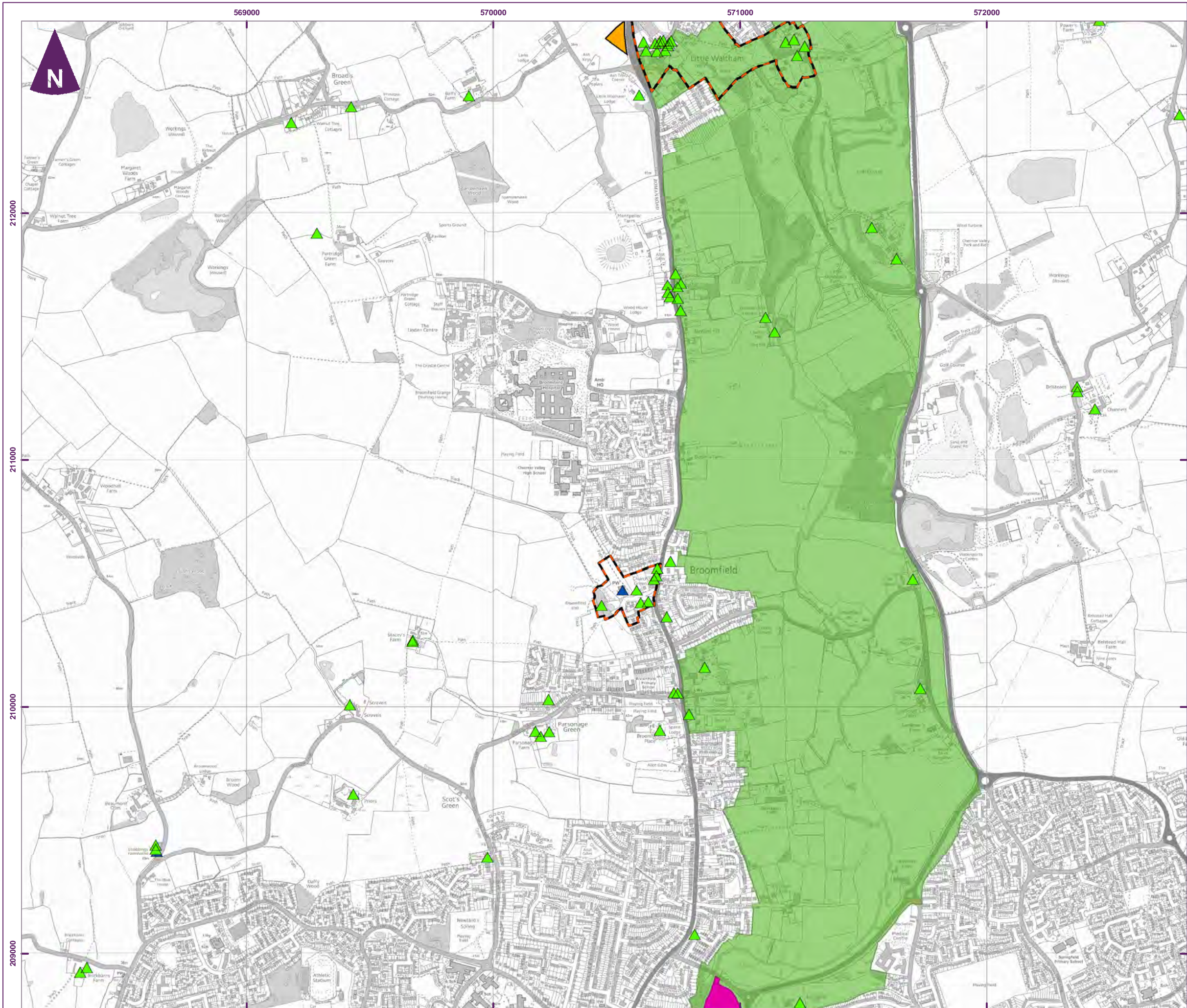
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Great Leighs

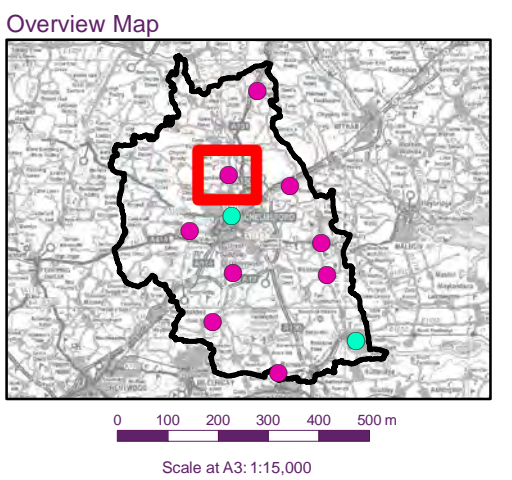


Key

- Chelmsford City Council
- Green Wedge
- Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
- Scheduled Monument
- Conservation Area

Listed building

- Grade II
- Grade II*



Client

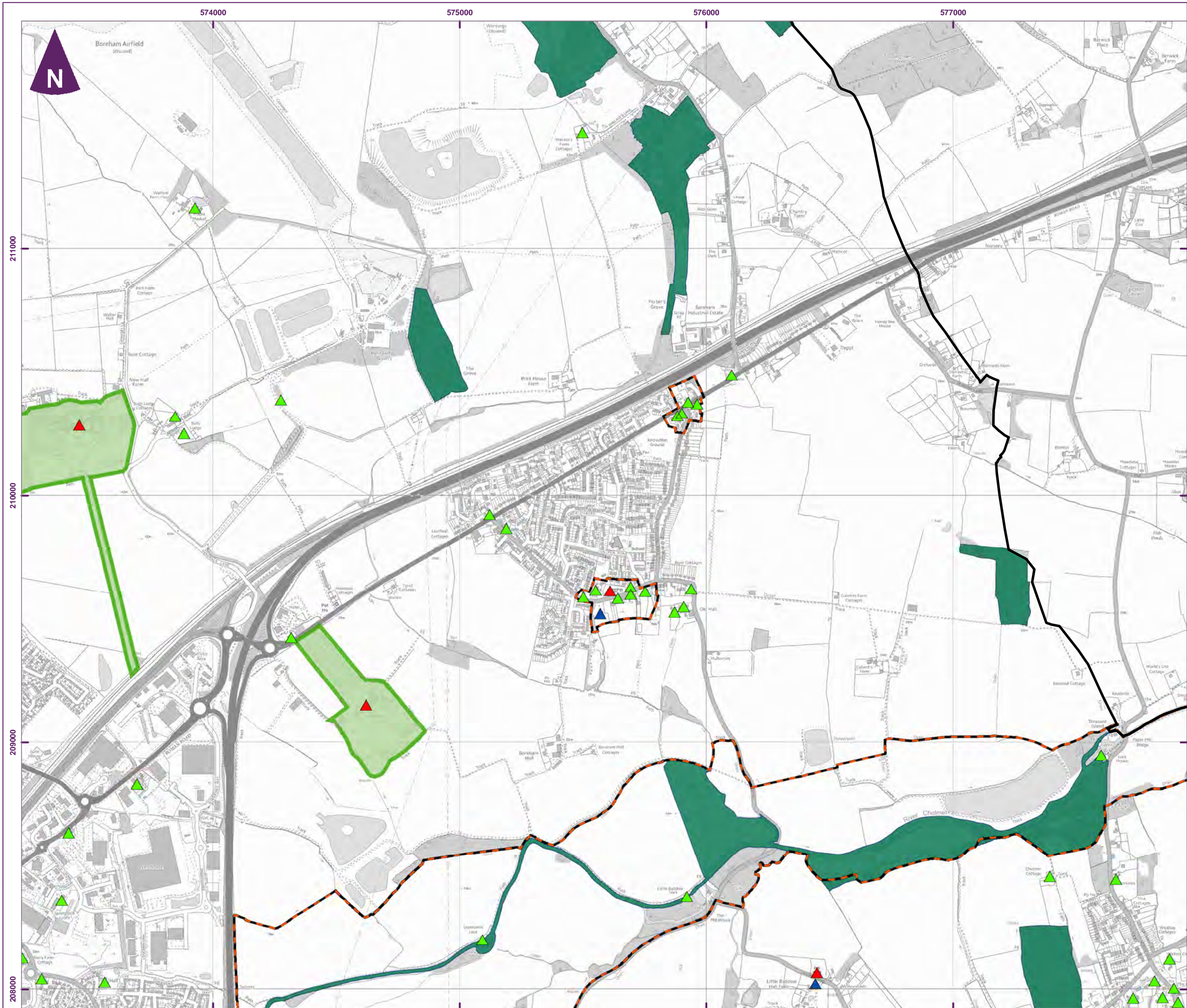
Chelmsford City Council

Chelmsford City Council
Local Plan SA

amec foster wheeler

Broomfield

October 2015 37180-Shr12.mxd parkj



Key

- Chelmsford City Council
- Wildlife Site
- Conservation Area
- Registered Parks and Gardens

Listed building

- Grade I
- Grade II
- Grade II*

Overview Map

0 100 200 300 400 500 m

Scale at A3: 1:15,000

Client

Chelmsford City Council

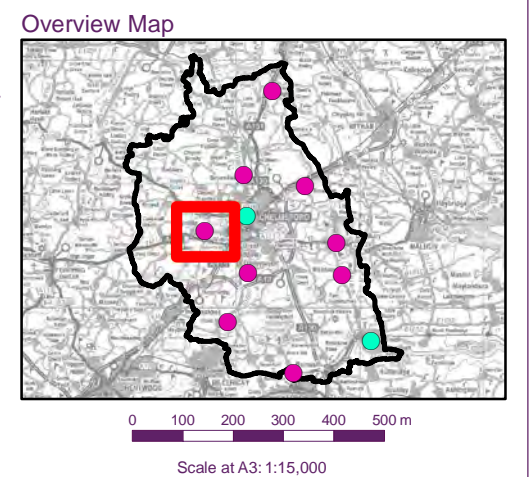
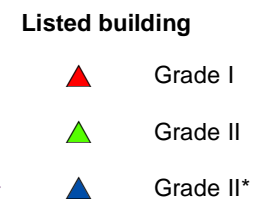
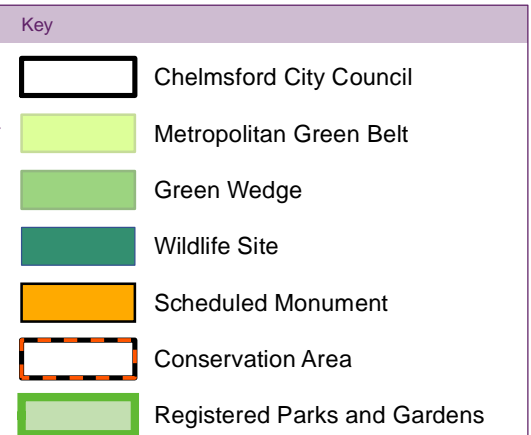
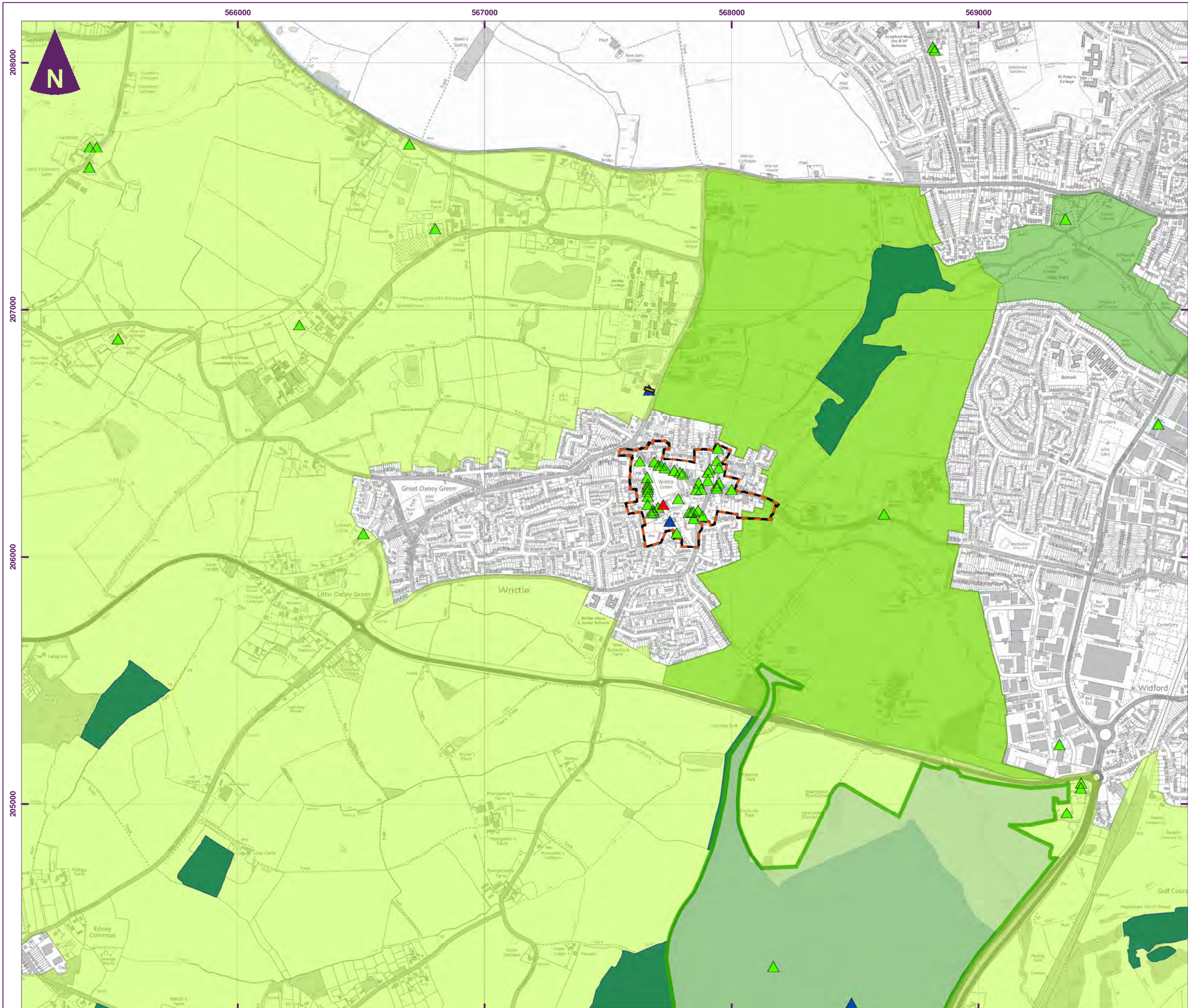
Chelmsford City Council
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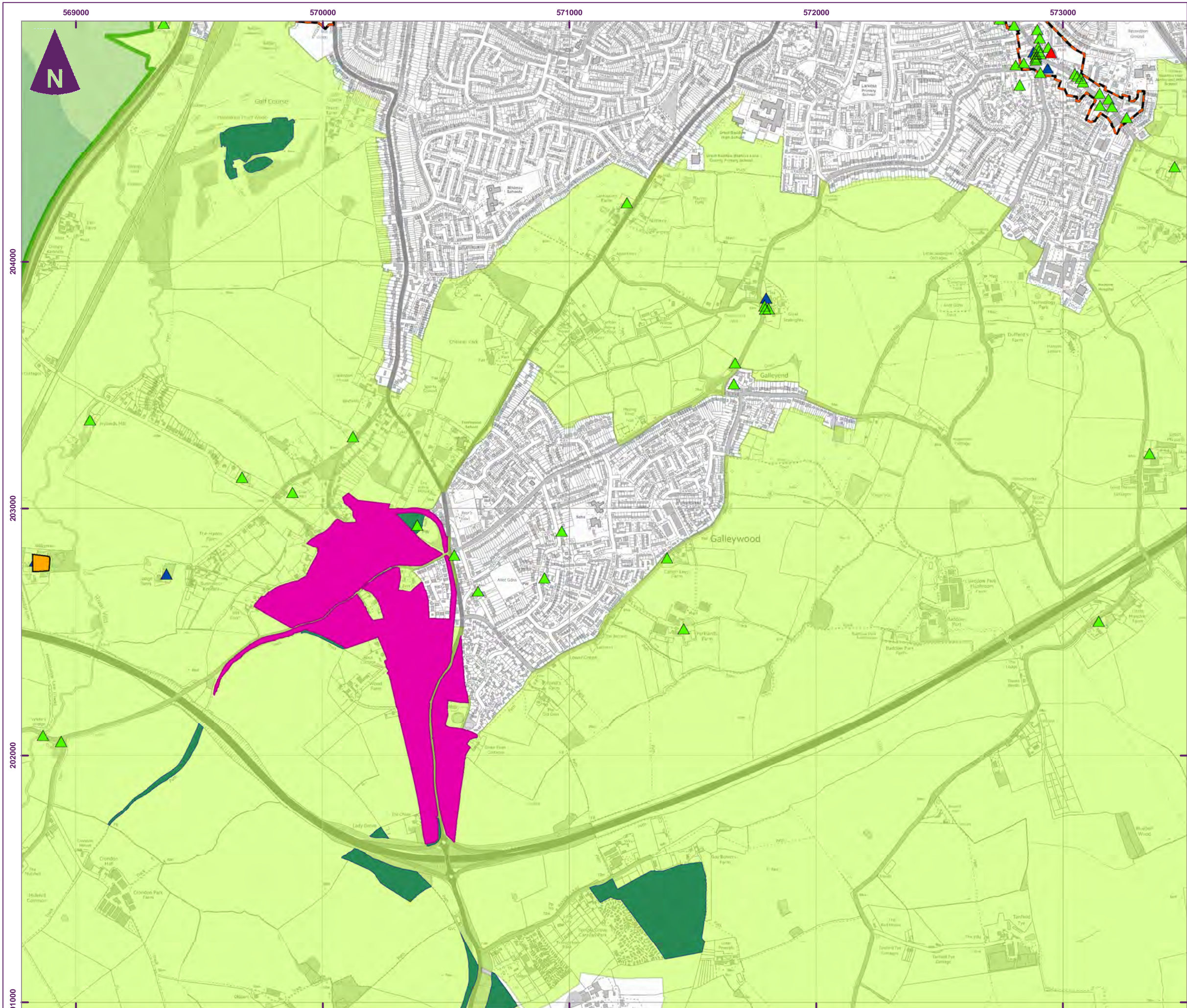
Boreham

October 2015

37180-Shr12.mxd parkj

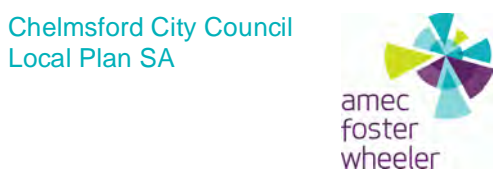
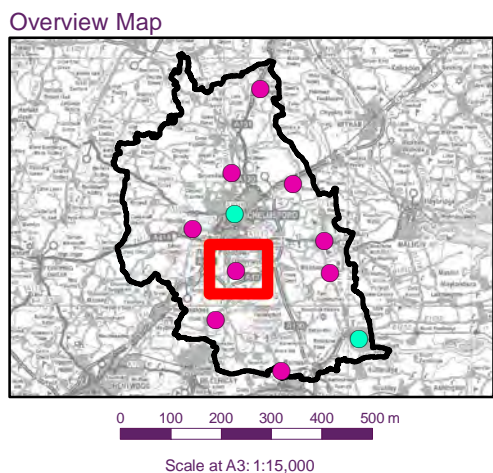


Writtle

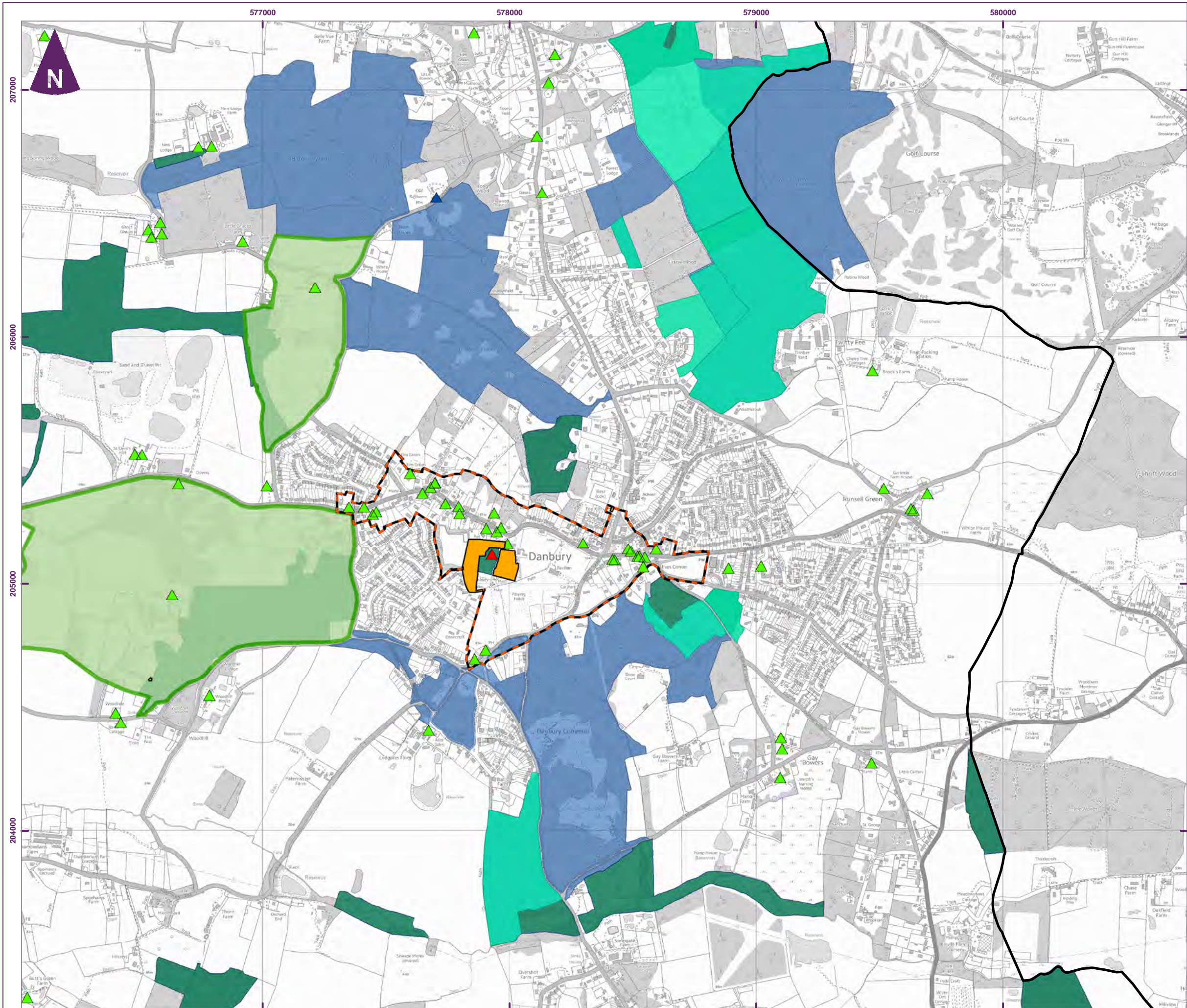


- Key
- Chelmsford City Council
 - Metropolitan Green Belt
 - Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
 - Wildlife Site
 - Scheduled Monument
 - Conservation Area
 - Registered Parks and Gardens

- Listed building
- Grade I
 - Grade II
 - Grade II*



Galleywood

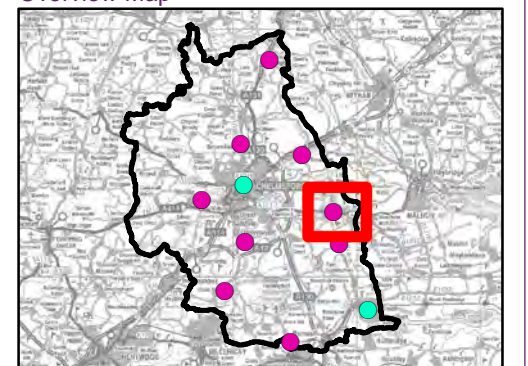


- Key**
- Chelmsford City Council
 - Essex Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve
 - Wildlife Site
 - Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
 - Scheduled Monument
 - Conservation Area
 - Registered Parks and Gardens

Listed building

- Grade I
- Grade II
- Grade II*

Overview Map



Client



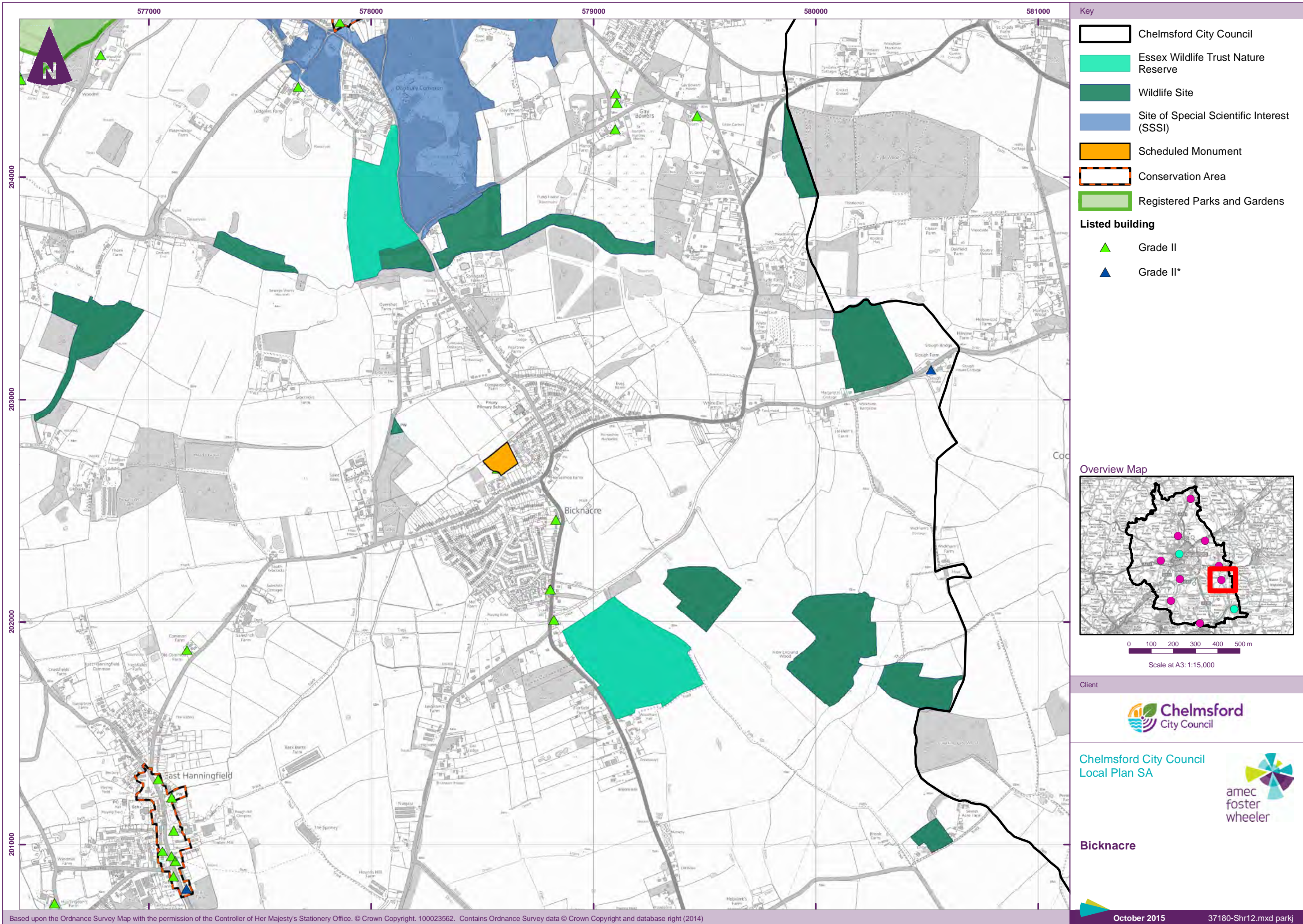
Chelmsford City Council
Local Plan SA



Danbury

October 2015

37180-Shr12.mxd parkj

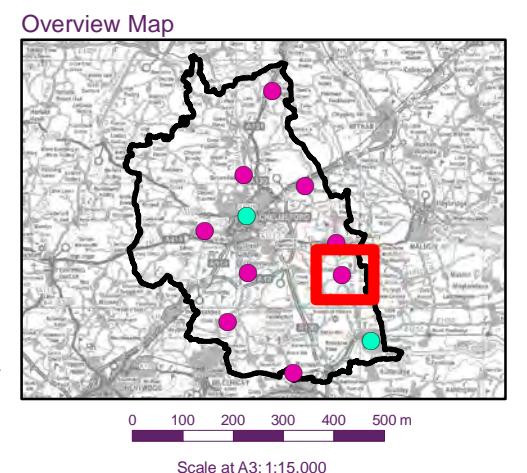


Key

- Chelmsford City Council
- Essex Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve
- Wildlife Site
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Scheduled Monument
- Conservation Area
- Registered Parks and Gardens

Listed building

- Grade II
- Grade II*



Client

Chelmsford City Council

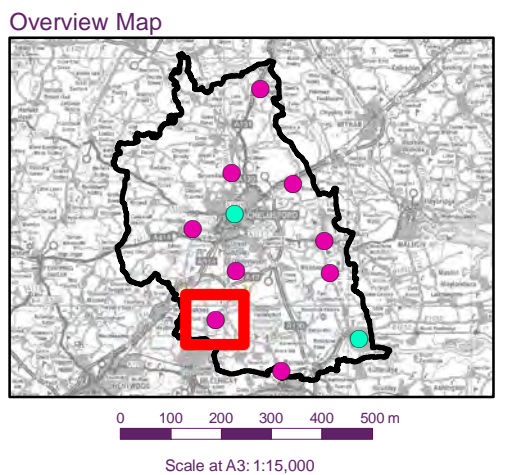
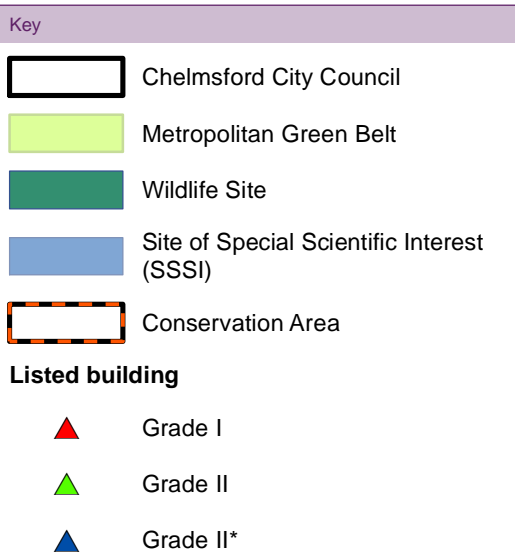
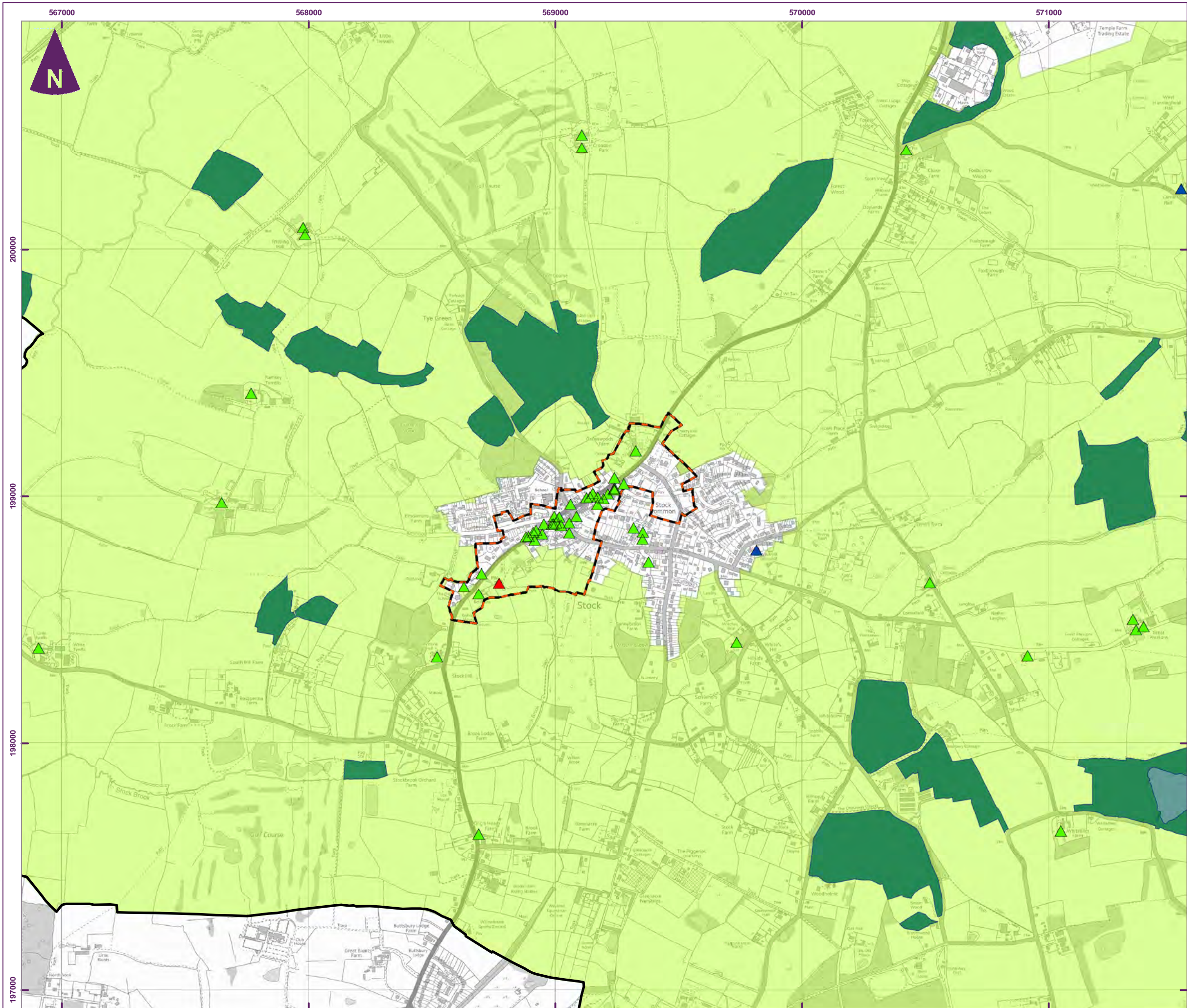
Chelmsford City Council
Local Plan SA

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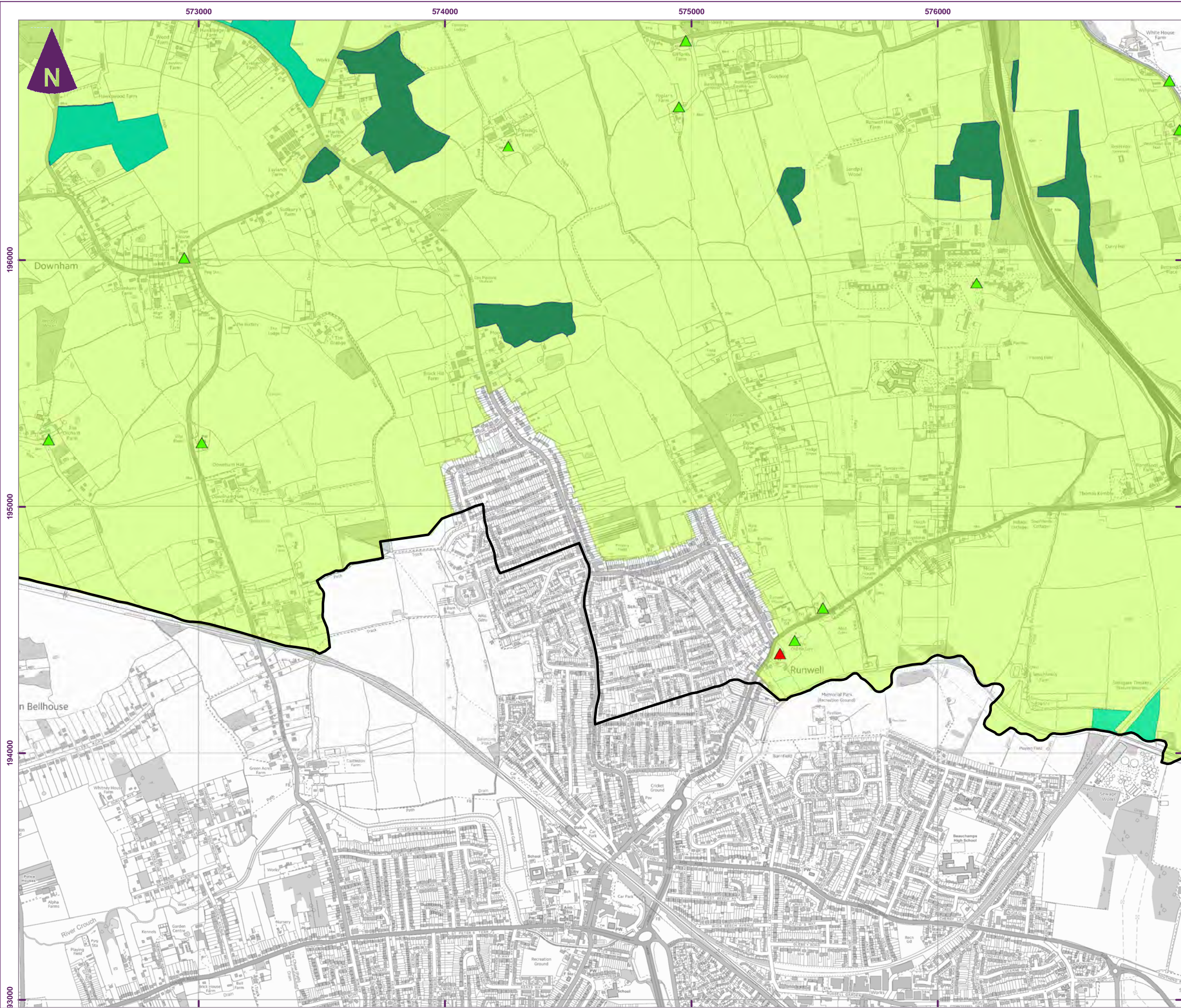
Bicknacre

October 2015

37180-Shr12.mxd parkj



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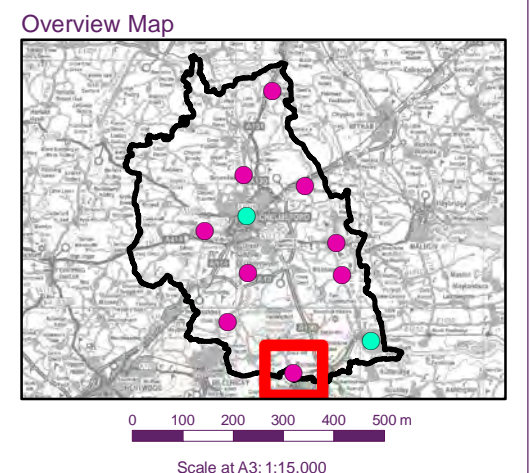


Key

- Chelmsford City Council
- Metropolitan Green Belt
- Essex Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve
- Wildlife Site

Listed building

- Grade I
- Grade II



Client

Chelmsford City Council

Chelmsford City Council Local Plan SA

amec foster wheeler

Runwell

October 2015

37180-Shr12.mxd parkj



Appendix E

Definitions of Significance

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
1. Biodiversity and Geodiversity: To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the green infrastructure network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it conserve and enhance international designated nature conservation sites (Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and Ramsars)? 	++	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>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it conserve and enhance nationally designated nature conservation sites such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest? 	+	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>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it conserve and enhance Local Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites and Ancient Woodland? 	0	Neutral	<p>The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it avoid damage to, and protect, geologically important sites? 	-	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>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it conserve and enhance species diversity, and in particular avoid harm to indigenous species of principal importance, or priority species and habitats? 	--	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>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it provide opportunities for new habitat creation or restoration and link existing habitats as part of the development process? Will it enhance ecological connectivity and maintain and improve the green infrastructure network, providing green spaces that are well connected and biodiversity rich? Will it provide opportunities for people to access the natural environment including green and blue infrastructure? 	~	No Relationship	<p>There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.</p>

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
		?	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"> Will it meet the City's objectively assessed housing need, providing a range of housing types to meet current and emerging need for market and affordable housing? Will it reduce the level of homelessness? Will it help to ensure the provision of good quality, well designed homes? Will it deliver pitches required for Gypsies and Travellers and Showpeople? 	++	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	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). The policy/proposal would make use of/improve existing buildings or unfit, empty homes. The policy/proposal would promote high quality design. The policy/proposal would deliver sufficient pitches to meet requirements for Gypsies and Travellers and Showpeople.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		-	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"> Will it provide a flexible supply of high quality employment land to meet the needs of existing businesses and attract inward investment? Will it maintain and enhance economic competitiveness? Will it strengthen the convenience shopping role in Chelmsford City Centre and ensure that the neighbourhood and local centres continue to perform a strong convenience goods 	++	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. 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.

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> role which serves local needs? Will it support the growth of new sectors including those linked to the Anglia Ruskin University? Will it help to diversify the local economy? Will it provide good quality, well paid employment opportunities that meet the needs of local people? Will it improve the physical accessibility of jobs? Will it support rural diversification and economic development? Will it promote a low carbon economy? Will it reduce out-commuting? Will it improve access to training to raise employment potential? Will it promote investment in educational establishments? 	<p>0</p> <p>-</p> <p>--</p> <p>~</p> <p>?</p>	<p>Neutral</p> <p>Negative</p> <p>Significant Negative</p> <p>No Relationship</p> <p>Uncertain</p>	<p>The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.</p> <p>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 0.1 and 0.99 ha of employment land).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have significant negative effects on business, the local economy and local employment (e.g. 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).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in the loss of existing educational establishments without replacement provision elsewhere within the Chelmsford City Area.</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>
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"> Will it support and enhance the City of Chelmsford by attracting new commercial investment and reinforcing the City's attractiveness? Will it encourage more people to live in urban areas? Will it enhance the public realm? 	<p>++</p>	<p>Significant Positive</p>	<p>The policy/proposal would significantly enhance the attractiveness of the main urban area of Chelmsford as a place to invest, live, work and visit.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would create new, or significantly enhance existing, community facilities and services.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would significantly improve social and environmental conditions within deprived areas and support regeneration.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would significantly enhance the vitality and viability of South Woodham Ferrers town centre and/or villages.</p>

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it enhance the viability and vitality of South Woodham Ferrers town centre and secondary local centres? 	+	Positive	<p>The policy/proposal would enhance the attractiveness of the main urban area of Chelmsford as a place to invest, live, work and visit.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would enhance existing community facilities and services.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would improve social and environmental conditions within deprived areas.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would enhance the vitality and viability of South Woodham Ferrers town centre and/or villages.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it tackle deprivation in the most deprived areas, promote social inclusion and mobility and reduce inequalities in access to education, employment and services? 	0	Neutral	<p>The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it support rural areas by providing jobs, facilities and housing to meet needs? 	-	Negative	<p>The policy/proposal would undermine the attractiveness of the main urban area of Chelmsford as a place to invest, live, work and visit.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would reduce the accessibility, availability and quality of existing community facilities and services.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have an adverse effect on the vitality and viability of South Woodham Ferrers town centre and/or villages.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it maintain and enhance community facilities and services? 	--	Significant Negative	<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.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in the loss of existing community facilities and services without their replacement elsewhere within the Chelmsford City Area.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have a significantly adverse effect on the vitality and viability of South Woodham Ferrers town centre and villages.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in new residential development being inaccessible to existing services and facilities.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it increase access to schools and colleges? 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it enhance accessibility to key community facilities and services? 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it align investment in services, facilities and infrastructure with growth? 	~	No Relationship	<p>There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it contribution to regeneration initiatives? 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it foster social cohesion? 	?	Uncertain	<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"> Will it avoid locating development where environmental circumstances could negatively impact on people's health? Will it maintain and improve access to green infrastructure, open space, 	++	Significant Positive	<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.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would deliver new healthcare facilities and/or open space.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would significantly reduce the level of crime through design and other safety measures.</p>

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
	leisure and recreational facilities?	+	Positive	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.
	• Will it maintain and enhance Public Rights of Way and Bridleways?			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).
	• Will it promote healthier lifestyles?	0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would reduce crime through design and other safety measures.
	• Will it meet the needs of an ageing population?			The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
	• Will it support those with disabilities?	-	Negative	The policy/proposal would reduce access to healthcare facilities and open space.
	• Will it support the needs of young people?			The policy/proposal would deliver residential development in excess of 800 m from a GP surgery and/or open space.
	• Will it maintain and enhance healthcare facilities and services?	--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would lead to an increase in reported crime and the fear of crime in the district.
	• Will it align investment in healthcare facilities and services with growth to ensure that there is capacity to meet local needs?			The policy/proposal would have effects which could cause deterioration of health.
	• Will it encourage sustainable food production to reduce food miles, such as community gardens or allotments?	~	No Relationship	The policy/proposal would result in the loss of healthcare facilities and open space without their replacement elsewhere within the Chelmsford City Area.
	• Will it improve access to healthcare facilities and services?			The policy/proposal would lead to a significant increase in reported crime and the fear of crime.
	• Will it promote community safety?	?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal would have significant effects which would cause deterioration of health within the community (i.e. increase in pollution)
	• Will it reduce actual levels of crime and anti-social behaviour?			There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
	• Will it reduce the fear of crime?			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.
	• Will it promote design that discourages crime?			

SA 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.	• Will it reduce travel demand and the distance people travel for jobs, employment, leisure and services and facilities?	++	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.
	• Will it reduce out-commuting?	+	Positive	The policy/proposal would support investment in transportation infrastructure and/or services.
	• Will it encourage a shift to more sustainable modes of transport?	+	Positive	The policy/proposal would reduce need for travel (e.g. new development is within 400m of one or more services).
	• Will it encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport?	+	Positive	The policy/proposal would encourage the use of sustainable travel/transport of people/goods.
	• Will it help to reduce traffic congestion and improve road safety?	0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
	• Will it deliver investment in transportation infrastructure that supports growth in the Chelmsford City Area?	-	Negative	The policy/proposal would increase the need for travel by less sustainable forms of transport, increasing road traffic and congestion.
	• Will it locate new development in locations that support and make best use of committed investment in strategic infrastructure?	--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would deliver new development in excess of 400 m from public transport services/cycle routes.
	• Will it support the expansion, or provision of additional, park and ride facilities?	~	No Relationship	The policy/proposal would significantly increase the need for travel by less sustainable forms of transport, substantially increasing road traffic and congestion.
	• Will it enhance Chelmsford's role as a key transport node?	?	Uncertain	The policy/proposal would result in the loss of transportation infrastructure and/or services.
7. Land Use and Soils: To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.	• Will it promote the use of previously developed (brownfield) land and minimise the loss of greenfield land?	++	Significant Positive	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
	• Will it avoid the loss of agricultural land including best and most versatile land?	+	Positive	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.
	• Will it reduce the level of freight movement by road?	0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would encourage significant development on brownfield land.
		-	Negative	The policy/proposal would result in existing land / soil contamination being removed.

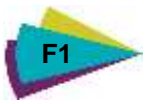
SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land? Will it encourage the reuse of existing buildings and infrastructure? Will it prevent land contamination and facilitate remediation of contaminated sites? 	<div>--</div> <div>~</div> <div>?</div>	<div>Significant Negative</div> <div>No Relationship</div> <div>Uncertain</div>	<p>The policy/proposal would result in the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land. 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"> Will it result in a reduction of run-off of pollutants to nearby water courses that lead to a deterioration existing status and/or failure to achieve the objective of good status under the Water Framework Directive? Will it improve ground and surface water quality? Will it reduce water consumption and encourage water efficiency? Will it ensure that new water/wastewater management infrastructure is delivered in a timely manner to support new development? 	<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 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> <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> <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>

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
9. Flood Risk and Coastal Erosion: To reduce the risk of flooding and coastal erosion to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it help to minimise the risk of flooding to existing and new developments/infrastructure? 	++	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).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it manage effectively, and reduce the likelihood of, flash flooding, taking into account the capacity of sewerage systems? 	+	Positive	The policy/proposal would reduce flood risk to new or existing infrastructure or communities (currently located 1 in 1000 year floodplain).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it discourage inappropriate development in areas at risk from flooding and promote the sequential test? 	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.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it discourage inappropriate development in areas at risk from flooding and promote the sequential test? 	-	Negative	The policy/proposal would result in an increased flood risk within the 1 to 1000 year floodplain. The policy/proposal would result in development being located within Flood Zone 2.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it ensure that new development does not give rise to flood risk elsewhere? 	--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in an increased flood risk within the 1 to 100 year floodplain. The policy/proposal would result in development being located within Flood Zone 3.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it deliver Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDs) and promote investment in flood defences that reduce vulnerability to flooding? 	~	No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the policy/proposal and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it encourage the use of multifunctional areas and landscape design for drainage? 	?	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"> Will it maintain and improve air quality? 	++	Significant Positive	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).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it address air quality issues in the Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area and prevent new 	+	Positive	The policy/proposal would improve air quality.
		0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> designations of Air Quality Management Areas? Will it avoid locating development in areas of existing poor air quality? Will it minimise emissions to air from new development? 	<div>-</div> <div>--</div> <div>~</div> <div>?</div>	<p>Negative</p> <p>Significant Negative</p> <p>No Relationship</p> <p>Uncertain</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"> Will it minimise energy use and reduce or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions? Will it plan or implement adaptation measures for the likely effects of climate change? Will it support the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy and reduce dependency on non-renewable sources? Will it promote sustainable design that minimises greenhouse emissions and is adaptable to the effects of climate change? 	<div>++</div> <div>+</div> <div>0</div> <div>-</div> <div>--</div> <div>~</div> <div>?</div>	<p>Significant Positive</p> <p>Positive</p> <p>Neutral</p> <p>Negative</p> <p>Significant Negative</p> <p>No Relationship</p> <p>Uncertain</p>	<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> <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>

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
12. Waste and Natural Resources: To promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover) and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.	• Will it minimise the demand for raw materials?	++	Significant Positive	The policy/proposal would reduce the amount of waste generated through prevention, minimisation and re-use.
	• Will it promote the use of local resources?			The policy/proposal would significantly reduce the amount of waste going to landfill through recycling and energy recovery.
	• Will it reduce minerals extracted and imported?			The policy/proposal would support/encourage investment in waste management facilities.
	• Will it increase efficiency in the use of raw materials and promote recycling?	+	Positive	The policy/proposal would reduce the amount of waste going to landfill through recycling and energy recovery.
	• Will it avoid sterilising minerals extraction sites identified by the Essex Minerals Local Plan?	0	Neutral	The policy/proposal would encourage the use of sustainable materials.
	• Will it reduce waste arisings?	-	Negative	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
	• Will it increase the reuse and recycling of waste?	--	Significant Negative	The policy/proposal would result in an increased amount of waste going to landfill.
	• Will it support investment in waste management facilities to meet local needs?			The policy/proposal would increase the demand for local resources.
	• Will it support the objectives and proposals of the Essex Minerals Local Plan?	~	No Relationship	The policy/proposal would result in a significantly increased amount of waste going to landfill.
13. Cultural Heritage: To conserve and enhance the historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.	• Will it help to conserve and enhance existing features of the historic environment and their settings, including archaeological assets?	++	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).
	• Will it tackle heritage assets identified as being 'at risk'?			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.
	• Will it promote sustainable repair and reuse of heritage assets?	+	Positive	The policy/proposal would result in an assets(s) being removed from the At Risk Register.
	• Will it protect or enhance the significance of designated heritage assets?			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).
	• Will it protect or enhance the significance of non-designated heritage assets?	0	Neutral	The policy/proposal will increase access to historical/cultural/archaeological/architectural buildings/spaces/places.
	• Will it promote local cultural distinctiveness?	-	Negative	The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.
		?	Uncertain	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.

SA Objective	Guide Questions	Effect	Description	Illustrative Guidance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it help to conserve historic buildings, places and spaces that enhance local distinctiveness, character and appearance through sensitive adaptation and re-use? Will it improve and promote access to buildings and landscapes of historic/cultural value? Will it recognise, conserve and enhance the inter-relationship between the historic and natural environment? 	<div>--</div> <div>~</div> <div>?</div>	<div>Significant Negative</div> <div>No Relationship</div> <div>Uncertain</div>	<p>The policy/proposal would lead to deterioration of the sites, areas and features of historic, cultural, archaeological and architectural interest with national designation or result in the destruction of heritage assets (national or local).</p> <p>The policy/proposal would permanently restrict access to historical/cultural/archaeological/architectural buildings/spaces/places.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in an asset being placed on the At Risk Register.</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>
14. Landscape and Townscape: To conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes? Will it promote high quality design in context with its urban and rural landscape? Will it avoid inappropriate development in the Green Belt and ensure the Green Belt endures? Will it help to conserve and enhance the character of the undeveloped coastline? Will it avoid inappropriate erosion to the Green Wedges? 	<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 offer potential to significantly enhance landscape/townscape character.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would ensure the long term protection of the Green Belt.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would offer potential to enhance landscape/townscape character.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would not have any effect on the achievement of the objective.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have an adverse effect on landscape/townscape character.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would have a significant adverse effect on landscape/townscape character.</p> <p>The policy/proposal would result in inappropriate development in the Green Belt or affect the permanence of the Green Belt boundary.</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>



Appendix F

Appraisal of Housing Target Projections

The following three housing target projections for the Local Plan have been identified and appraised:

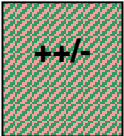
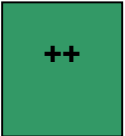

- ▶ Option 1: National Household Projections - 657 dwellings per annum (9,885 dwellings over the plan period).
- ▶ Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need - 775 dwellings per annum (11,625 dwellings over the plan period).
- ▶ Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer - 930 dwellings per annum (13,950 dwellings over the plan period).

Key to Appraisals

Score	Description	Symbol
Significant Positive Effect	The option contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective.	++
Minor Positive Effect	The option contributes to the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	+
Neutral	The option does not have any effect on the achievement of the objective	0
Minor Negative Effect	The option detracts from the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	-
Significant Negative Effect	The option detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective.	--
No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the option and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.	~
Uncertain	The option 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 appraisal to be made.	?

NB: where more than one symbol/colour is presented in a box it indicates that the appraisal 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.




SA Objective	Option 1: National Household Projections- 657 dwellings per year (9,885 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need - 775 dwellings per year (11,625 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer - 930 dwellings per year (13,950 dwellings over the plan period)
<p>1. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the green infrastructure network.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Within the Chelmsford City Area there are three European sites: 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. In addition, there are eight Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) covering an area of 2,412.77 hectares (ha) including the River Ter; Newney Green Pit; Blake's Wood & Lingwood Common; Woodman Walter Common; Danbury Common; Thrift Wood, Woodham Ferrers; Hanningfield Reservoir; and Crouch and Roach Estuaries. There are also three Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) and 150 Local Wildlife Sites (LWS).</p> <p>It is assumed that residential development would not directly affect these designated sites although housing growth under this option 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, which is currently unknown.</p> <p>Residential 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 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, which is currently uncertain.</p> <p>Residential development may provide opportunities to enhance the existing, or incorporate new, green infrastructure. This could potentially have a significant</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated within this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. Option 2 proposes a higher level of growth compared to Option 1 and in consequence, the potential for adverse effects on biodiversity may be proportionally increased, although this would be dependent on the scale and exact location of development proposed at individual sites.</p> <p>Given the increased scale of development, Option 2 would be expected to place greater pressure on greenfield sites relative to Option 1. For example (and indicatively), based on existing density targets set out in the Authority Monitoring Report 2013-2014 (AMR) (a minimum of 30 dwelling per hectare), the delivery of an additional 1,740 dwellings over the plan period could equate to an additional land take of approximately 60 hectares (ha), compared to Option 1. However, it is recognised that substantially higher density development has been delivered in the City Area. A higher housing density requirement could in theory reduce the total area of greenfield land required, although this would be dependent on policies contained in the Local Plan and site specific proposals.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective, however the magnitude of the effect is uncertain.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Options 1 and 2. However, Option 3 proposes the highest level of housing growth of all three options (930 dwellings per year). Commensurate with the scale of growth, the likelihood of adverse effects on biodiversity may be increased.</p> <p>The level of growth proposed by this option, which is 41.1% greater than Option 1, is likely to increase the potential pressure on designated nature conservation sites and require more greenfield land for development. For example (and indicatively), based on existing density targets set out in the AMR, the delivery of an additional 4,065 dwellings over the plan period could equate to an additional land take of approximately 140 ha. In consequence, the potential for direct and indirect impacts on habitats and species may be increased. However, until the distribution and exact location of development is known, the extent to which this additional growth would result in significant effects on this objective is uncertain. It is also recognised that a higher housing density requirement could in theory reduce the total area of greenfield land required, although this would be dependent on policies contained in the Local Plan and site specific proposals.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective. Whilst the magnitude of the effect is uncertain at this stage, it is recognised that the probability of significant negative effects occurring under this option could be increased relative to Options 1 and 2.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. Consideration should be given to habitat creation measures in order to reduce adverse effects associated with additional land take under this option. <p>Assumptions</p>

SA Objective	Option 1: National Household Projections- 657 dwellings per year (9,885 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need - 775 dwellings per year (11,625 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer - 930 dwellings per year (13,950 dwellings over the plan period)
	<p>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, Option 1 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective due to the potential for indirect, adverse effects on designated sites, and the loss of habitats from the use of greenfield land, although uncertainty remains with regard to the exact type, magnitude and duration of effects.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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. Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets, closely linked with existing and new development. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is assumed that greenfield land will be required to accommodate growth. It is assumed that new development would not be located on land designated for nature conservation. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The distribution and exact location of future development is unknown at this stage. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.
<p>2. To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>According to the Council's AMR, there has been an average completion rate of 531 dwellings per annum between 2001 and 2014. The AMR also notes that completion rates have increased for the fourth year in a row to 2013/14 with development</p> 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The proposed provision of 775 dwellings per annum under Option 2 meets the City Area's objectively assessed housing need as identified in the Objectively Assessed Housing Study (2015). This level of growth would represent a circa</p> 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Under Option 3, it is proposed that a total of 930 dwellings would be delivered per annum. This level of provision exceeds the City Area's objectively assessed housing need as identified in the Objectively Assessed Housing Study (2015) and</p> 

SA Objective	Option 1: National Household Projections- 657 dwellings per year (9,885 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need - 775 dwellings per year (11,625 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer - 930 dwellings per year (13,950 dwellings over the plan period)
	<p>activity having increased significantly since 2013. In 2013/14, 470 houses were built in the Chelmsford City Area compared to an average of 283 over the five year period 2009/10 to 2013/14 which suggests a return to pre-recession house building levels (an average of 687 dwellings per annum were completed in the period 2001/02 to 2008/09).</p> <p>The level of housing delivery proposed under this option (657 dwellings per annum) is in-line with household projections over the plan period. It is also greater than the average number of dwellings delivered within the City Area (per annum) over the five period 2009/10 to 2013/14 and is similar to pre-recession completion rates.</p> <p>However, the level of housing delivery under Option 1 would fall short of the City Area's objectively assessed housing need of 775 dwellings per annum, as set out in the Objectively Assessed Housing Need Study (2015). In consequence, the proposed level of growth under this option is likely to result in the current and future housing needs of the City Area going unmet. This could lead to unfulfilled location and tenure aspirations within the City Area and out-migration (as people will need to move outside the City Area to find a home).</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None identified. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 HMA, a revised SHMA is being produced. 	<p>65% increase in the level of housing delivery in the City Area compared to the 2013/14 period. Consequently, this option would be expected to support an increase in housing land supply and which should help to contribute to the provision of decent, affordable housing for residents with different needs. The Objectively Assessed Housing Need Study also highlights that the level of provision proposed under this option will meet need exported from London and forecast jobs growth.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a significant positive effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None identified. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. 	<p>would support the National Planning Policy Framework's (NPPF) (2012) direction that local planning authorities should seek to boost significantly the supply of housing (see para 47).</p> <p>The inclusion of a 20% buffer is expected to help to provide a degree of flexibility by ensuring choice and competition in the market for land, helping to ensure that housing needs are met. Additionally, this option could provide further opportunities to accommodate growth arising from unmet need in London and other neighbouring authorities, although this is uncertain.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a significant positive effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Careful consideration should be given to the potential effects of an oversupply of housing in the City Area on neighbouring authorities. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1.

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<p>3. To achieve a strong and stable economy which offers rewarding and well located employment opportunities to everyone.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The construction of new dwellings under this option (and Options 2 and 3) 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.</p> <p>The Council's Employment Land Review (ELR) (2015) highlights that Chelmsford has been a major driver of growth within the Heart of Essex sub-region and has the largest economy, contributing £3.4 billion to the UK economy in 2011 (around 60% of the total Heart of Essex contribution). Accordingly, Chelmsford has the largest business base within the Heart of Essex and was home to 6,770 enterprises supporting 82,600 jobs across a mixed economy in 2014.</p> <p>As indicated within the appraisal of this option against SA Objective 2, the provision of 657 dwellings per annum will not meet the City Area's objectively assessed housing need. Consequently, there may be a lack of housing to support further economic growth and which could result in an increased level of in-commuting into the City Area. In this regard, the Scoping Report notes that in 2011, a total of 30,605 workers commuted into Chelmsford.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Like Option 1, this option would generate positive effects on the economy associated with the construction of new dwellings and an increased spend in the local economy once dwellings are occupied. Commensurate with the increase in the number of dwellings that would be delivered under this option, these positive effects may be increased.</p> <p>The East of England Forecast Modelling (2015) baseline forecast shows employment growth in Chelmsford increasing from 81,900 jobs in 2013 to 99,400 in 2031, a total growth of 17,500 jobs, or approximately 900 jobs per annum. This option would meet the City Area's objectively assessed housing need and demand created by jobs growth. This option may also provide opportunities for those who currently commute into the City Area to live in the area.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a positive effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 2. However, this option would deliver a increase in housing relative to Options 1 and 2 and in consequence, the positive economic effects associated with housing delivery could be expected to increase.</p> <p>The scale of housing provision under this option should provide greater potential to support future economic growth in the City Area. In this regard, the Objectively Assessed Housing Study (2015) notes that for the HMA as a whole, this should result in slightly more than enough workers to support the 2,697 new jobs per annum.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a significant positive effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

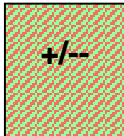
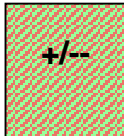
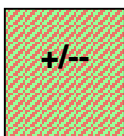
SA Objective	Option 1: National Household Projections- 657 dwellings per year (9,885 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need - 775 dwellings per year (11,625 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer - 930 dwellings per year (13,950 dwellings over the plan period)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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>4. To promote urban renaissance and support the vitality of rural centres, tackle deprivation and promote sustainable living.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <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 secondary local 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>The Scoping Report indicates that 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>However, depending on where new development is located, there is the potential for growth to increase pressure on existing community facilities and services. For example, Essex County Council has identified (in the Commissioning School Places in Essex 2014-2019 report (2014) that there will be deficits in the number of primary and secondary school places in the period to 2019 with a significant deficit in reception places from the school year 2015/16 within the Baddow, Moulsham and Galleywood area.</p> <p>The 2015 Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) ranked the Chelmsford City Area as 261st out of 326 local authorities (where a rank of 1 is the most deprived and 326 is the least deprived) placing Chelmsford in the top 20% least deprived local authority areas nationally. However, there are pockets of deprivation across the</p> <div>+/-</div>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. However, Option 2 proposes a higher level of growth and, as such, the likelihood of the positive and negative effects identified in respect of Option 1 occurring and their magnitude may be increased. However, this remains dependent, in part, on the location of future development and levels of investment stimulated by growth.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <div>+/-</div>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Options 1 and 2. Option 3 proposes the highest level of housing growth of all three options. Commensurate with the scale of growth, the likelihood of the positive and negative effects identified in respect of Option 1 occurring and their magnitude may be increased further relative to Option 2, although this remains dependent on the location of future development and levels of investment stimulated by growth.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <div>+/-</div>

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	<p>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, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New development should be located in close proximity to services and facilities and/or incorporate new facilities. • Developer contributions towards key services and facilities should be sought where appropriate. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The distribution and exact location of future development is unknown at this stage. • 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. 		
<p>5. To improve the health and wellbeing of those living and working in the Chelmsford City Area.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The construction of 657 dwellings per annum has the potential to 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</p> <div>  </div>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. However, Option 2 proposes a higher level of growth and, as such, the likelihood of those positive and negative effects identified in respect of Option 1 occurring and their magnitude may be increased.</p> <p>There is, relative to Option 1, potential for increased demand on healthcare facilities in the City Area, which, if not appropriately mitigated, may affect the quality of these services. In this regard, it is already noted that</p> <div>  </div>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Options 1 and 2. As this option proposes the highest level of housing growth, it could be expected to have the highest potential negative effects on health and wellbeing due to the increased scale of construction activity and vehicle movements associated with new development. However, effects are considered unlikely to be significant.</p> <div>  </div>

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	<p>and not significant, although this is relative as this option proposes the lowest level of housing growth of the three options.</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 Scoping Report highlights that the main source of air pollution in Chelmsford is road traffic emissions from major roads.</p> <p>In 2012, the Chelmsford City Area had 692 ha of parks and green space. It should be noted, however, that in 2004 an Open Space Assessment found deficiencies in open space provision particularly in the urban areas of Chelmsford including parks and gardens, natural and semi-natural, amenity green space and young people and children typologies. New development could be expected to provide an opportunity to facilitate further the promotion of healthy lifestyles through addressing deficiencies.</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 vis-à-vis the accessibility of services, facilities, jobs and open space which is at present uncertain. 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).</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. In this regard, GP-patient ratio data for the NHS Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group highlights that, as of 2014, ratios were 1654.29 patients per Full Time Equivalent (FTE) GP. This was above the UK average of 1,580 patients per FTE.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p>	<p>the ratio of GPs to patients in the City Area is above the national average. At the same time, the increased level of growth, relative to Option 1, under this option should have increased scope to provide investment in existing, or additional, facilities and services for the residents of the City Area.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	<p>The increased number of residents in the City Area (compared to Options 1 and 2) could have a detrimental impact on healthcare services and facilities if they are placed under too much pressure due to resident demand. The scale of growth proposed under this option may also increase pressure on open and green space. However, the increased level of growth, relative to Options 1 and 2, should increase the scope for investment in healthcare facilities and services and open space provision.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

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	<p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should ensure that open space and/or health facilities are provided on site/contributions are sought to provision off site. Local Plan policies should ensure that development is not located in close proximity to unsuitable neighbouring uses. Local Plan policies should consider if/how accessibility to the countryside can be promoted as part of new development. New development should be located in close proximity to health care facilities. Careful consideration should be given to the distribution of new development vis-à-vis GP capacity/availability. Existing open space and recreational facilities should be protected, or replacement provision sought. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of new development is unknown at present. It is understood that an updated Open Space Assessment is currently being prepared. 		
6. To reduce the need to travel, promote more sustainable modes of transport and align investment in infrastructure with growth.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The development of 657 dwellings per annum 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 road traffic accidents. In this regard, the Scoping Report notes that 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</p> <p>-</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1.</p> <p>Option 2 proposes a higher level of growth than Option 1 and, as such, the potential for adverse effects on the road network associated with increased traffic volumes may be increased. However, this option would meet the City Area's objectively assessed housing need which could help to ensure that there is sufficient housing to meet the needs of workers in the City Area and also provide opportunities for those who currently</p> <p>+/-</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Option 3 proposes the highest level of housing growth of all three options. In consequence, the likelihood of negative effects on the road network occurring, and their magnitude, are likely to be increased, particularly given existing capacity issues in the City Area.</p> <p>As the level of growth proposed under this option is greater than the City Area's objectively assessed housing need, there may be opportunities to reduce in-commuting, although high levels of growth could also result increased out-commuting. The quantum of</p> <p>+/-/?</p>

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	<p>and pinch points). However, development may support investment in highways improvements which could help to mitigate adverse effects in this regard.</p> <p>As noted under the assessment of this option against SA Objective 3, the provision of 657 dwellings per annum will not meet the City Area's objectively assessed housing need. Consequently, existing and prospective workers may have to continue to reside outside the City Area due to a lack of local housing provision and which may result in an increased level of in-commuting into the City Area.</p> <p>The delivery of 9,885 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). However, this is currently uncertain.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should encourage the preparation of green travel plans as part of new development proposals. Local Plan policies should positively promote walking and cycling as part of new developments. 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. Careful consideration should be given to the distribution/location of new development to ensure accessibility to key services, facilities and employment opportunities. Opportunities should be sought to secure investment in public transport provision. 	<p>commute into the City Area to live in the area. Conversely, based on current trends, it would be expected that an increased local population would result in higher levels of out-commuting.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	<p>growth proposed under this option could also support enhancements to the transport network including public transport infrastructure and services which could enhance public transport in the City Area.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective, although compared to Options 1 and 2, the magnitude of effect is considered to be more uncertain.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

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	Assumptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. Uncertainties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of future development is unknown at this stage. 		
7. To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.	Likely Significant Effects Under this option (and Options 2 and 3), the development of brownfield land is expected to be encouraged. 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. This has been assessed as having a significant negative effect on this objective. <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. However, until the exact location of new development is known, effects in this regard are uncertain.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and significant negative effect on this objective.</p> Mitigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Local Plan policies and proposals should seek to use areas of poorer quality land in preference to that of a higher quality. 	Likely Significant Effects The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. Option 2 proposes a higher level of growth than Option 1 and, as such, the amount of greenfield land required to accommodate new development is, subject to the intent of the preferred spatial strategy, likely to increase. For example (and indicatively), based on existing density targets set out in the AMR (a minimum of 30 dwelling per ha), the delivery of an additional 1,740 dwellings over the plan period could equate to an additional land take of approximately 60 ha, compared to Option 1. However, it is recognised that substantially higher density development has been delivered in the City Area and the extent of greenfield land required for development under this option relative to Option 1 may not be directly commensurate with level of housing provision proposed. A higher housing density requirement could in theory reduce the total area of greenfield land required, although this would be dependent on policies contained in the Local Plan and site specific proposals. <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and significant negative effect on this objective.</p> Mitigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. Assumptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. Uncertainties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	Likely Significant Effects The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Options 1 and 2. However, the level of growth proposed under this option (which is 40% larger than Option 1) is likely to increase significantly the pressure on greenfield land for development. This is also likely to increase the potential for adverse impacts on the supply of best and most versatile agricultural land in the City Area. For example (and indicatively), based on existing density targets set out in the AMR, the delivery of an additional 4,065 dwellings over the plan period could equate to an additional land take of approximately 140 hectares (ha). <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and significant negative effect on this objective.</p> Mitigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. Assumptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. Uncertainties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should resist the development of best and most versatile agricultural land. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of future development is unknown at this stage. 		
8. To conserve and enhance water quality and resources.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</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. However, the Scoping Report notes that one of the two pumped storage reservoirs, Abberton, has recently been enlarged and enhanced so to provide long term water resources for Essex. The Essex and Suffolk Water Water Resources Management Plan 2014 also indicates that the Essex Water Resource Zone, which Chelmsford City Area sits within, will be in surplus over the period of the plan (to 2039/40). In consequence, effects on water resource availability are not expected to be significant.</p> <p>The Water Cycle Study (2010) for Chelmsford highlights that there was limited capacity within both the foul sewerage system and at existing wastewater treatment works to accommodate future growth. In particular, Chelmsford Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) was considered to be operating close to the limit of its treatment capacity. However, it is understood that there has been significant investment at the works.</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 associated with construction activities (through, for example, accidental discharges or uncontrolled surface water runoff from construction sites). However, it is assumed that the design of the development will include sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) to ensure that all subsequent rainfall</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. However, Option 2 proposes a higher level of growth than Option 1 and, as such, the potential for adverse effects on water quality and resources may be increased due to the increased number of residents within the City Area and the associated water demand.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p style="text-align: center;">-</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Options 1 and 2. Option 3 proposes the highest level of housing growth of all three options. In consequence, it is anticipated that water demand would be higher under this option due to the increased number of residents within the City Area (relative to Options 1 and 2). Similarly, the risk of adverse effects on water quality arising from, for example, construction activity may be increased. Furthermore, the level of growth supported by this option could place substantially more pressure on wastewater infrastructure in the City Area.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p style="text-align: center;">-/?</p>

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	<p>will infiltrate surfaces rather than exacerbate any downstream flood risks (which also have temporary effects on water quality). Nonetheless, the Water Cycle Study highlights that as much of the Chelmsford City Area is underlain by impermeable London Clay, infiltration techniques are likely to be inappropriate in many areas, and attenuation techniques may have to be used instead.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council should consider the potential for Local Plan policies to support water company water efficiency activities for existing businesses. • It is recommended that the Local Plan includes policies that promote water attenuation systems due to the underlying geology of the area. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 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. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The exact location of developments and the potential impact on waterbodies is uncertain at this stage. • It is understood that the Council is due to commission an updated Water Cycle Study. 		

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<p>9. To reduce the risk of flooding and coastal erosion to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</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 a 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.</p> <p>The Chelmsford City Area Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2008) indicates that there were 502 properties at risk of flooding within the River Chelmer Catchment. Environment Agency flood maps also indicated that surface water flooding is a potential constraint in some parts of the City Area including within the main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers. In this context, the loss of greenfield land under this option could lead to an increased risk of flooding off site (as a result of the increase in impermeable surfaces). Whilst, 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), the Water Cycle Study (2010) does highlight that much of the City Area is underlain by impermeable London Clay and in consequence, infiltration techniques are likely to be inappropriate in many areas, and attenuation techniques may have to be used instead.</p> <p>As noted within the assessment of this option against SA Objective 1, 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 Local</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-/?</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p style="text-align: center;">-/?</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Options 1 and 2. Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p style="text-align: center;">-/?</p>

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	<p>Plan, the competing priorities for developer contributions and details of site specific proposals.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 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>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies and proposals should avoid development in areas of flood risk (e.g. Flood Zones 2 and 3). Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets to provide opportunities for flood storage where appropriate. Local Plan policies should seek to promote as close to greenfield runoff rates as possible. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of development is uncertain at this stage. 		
10. To improve air quality.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</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 Scoping Report 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.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">-/?</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1.</p> <p>Option 2 proposes a higher level of growth than Option 1 and, as such, the volume of emissions to air are likely to also increase (due to increased construction activity and vehicle movements in particular). However, as noted under the assessment of this option against SA Objective 6, Option 2 would meet the City Area's objectively assessed housing need. This could help to ensure that there is sufficient housing to meet the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">-/?</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Options 1 and 2. However, Option 3 proposes the highest level of housing growth of all three options and in consequence, emissions to air associated with this option are also expected to be greater.</p> <p>As the level of growth proposed under this option is greater than the City Area's objectively assessed housing need, there may be opportunities to reduce in-commuting, although high levels of growth could also</p> <p style="text-align: right;">-/?</p>

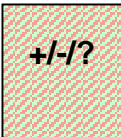
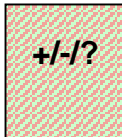
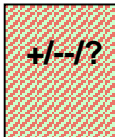
SA Objective	Option 1: National Household Projections- 657 dwellings per year (9,885 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need - 775 dwellings per year (11,625 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer - 930 dwellings per year (13,950 dwellings over the plan period)
	<p>Effects on this objective may be more pronounced if development is located near to, or within, the Army and Navy AQMA (which has been designated due to exceedances in Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)) 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>The provision of 657 dwellings per annum will not meet the City Area's objectively assessed housing need. Existing and prospective workers may therefore have to continue to reside outside the City Area due to a lack of local housing provision and which may result in an increased level of in-commuting into the City Area, potentially contributing to road traffic emissions.</p> <p>As highlighted in the assessment of this option against SA Objective 6, housing delivery could help to maintain existing, and (potentially) stimulate investment in, public transport provision and which could help to minimise emissions to air associated with car use. 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 to air. However, this is currently uncertain.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective, however the magnitude of the effect is uncertain at this stage.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to reduce congestion. • Local Plan policies should ensure that development within the City Area's Army and Navy AQMA is consistent with the objectives of the AQMA. • Careful consideration should be given to the distribution/location of new development to ensure accessibility to key services, facilities and employment opportunities. 	<p>needs of workers in the City Area and also provide opportunities for those who currently commute into the City Area to live in the area thereby reducing in-commuting and associated pollution from vehicles.</p> <p>The higher level of growth proposed under this option could also stimulate greater use of, and investment in, public transport within the City Area which could help to minimise emissions to air associated with car use. However, based on current trends it would be expected that an increased local population would result in higher levels of out-commuting.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective, however the magnitude of the effect is uncertain.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. 	<p>result increased out-commuting. The quantum of growth proposed under this option could support enhancements to the transport network including public transport infrastructure, reducing emissions to air associated with car use and congestion.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective, although it is recognised that the potential for significant negative effects under this option is greater relative to Options 1 and 2, subject to the location of future development.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: National Household Projections- 657 dwellings per year (9,885 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need - 775 dwellings per year (11,625 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer - 930 dwellings per year (13,950 dwellings over the plan period)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities should be sought to secure investment in public transport provision. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of future development is uncertain at this stage. 		
11. To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</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, per capita emissions of CO₂ for the Chelmsford City Area have generally fallen, albeit slowly, over the period 2008-2012 and 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 provision of 657 dwellings per annum will not meet the City Area's objectively assessed housing need. Existing and prospective workers may therefore have to continue to reside outside the City Area due to a lack of local housing provision and which may result in an increased level of in-commuting into the City Area, potentially contributing to road traffic emissions.</p> <p>Development could help to maintain existing, and (potentially) stimulate investment in, public transport provision in the City Area which could help to minimise greenhouse gas emissions, including CO₂, associated with car use. Should future residential development be focused in the two main urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers in particular, then</p> <p style="text-align: right;">-/?</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. This option proposes circa 18% more residential development than Option 1, therefore the volume of greenhouse gases emitted under this option will be greater.</p> <p>However, Option 2 would meet the City Area's objectively assessed housing need. This could help to ensure that there is sufficient housing to meet the needs of workers in the City Area and also provide opportunities for those who currently commute into the City Area to live in the area, thereby reducing in-commuting which should reduce emissions associated with travel. The higher level of growth proposed under this option could also stimulate greater use of, and investment in, public transport within the City Area which could help to minimise emissions associated with car use and congestion.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective, however the magnitude of the effect is uncertain.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p style="text-align: right;">-/?</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Options 1 and 2. This option proposes circa 41% more residential development than Option 1 and 20% more than Option 2. In consequence, this option has scope to generate the greatest volume of greenhouse gas emissions of the three options.</p> <p>As the level of growth proposed under this option is greater than the City Area's objectively assessed housing need, there may be opportunities to reduce in-commuting and associated greenhouse gas emissions, although high levels of growth could also result in increased out-commuting. The quantum of growth proposed under this option could support enhancements to the transport network including public transport infrastructure and services, reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with car use and congestion.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective, however the magnitude of the effect is uncertain.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <p style="text-align: right;">-/?</p>

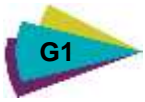
SA Objective	Option 1: National Household Projections- 657 dwellings per year (9,885 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need - 775 dwellings per year (11,625 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer - 930 dwellings per year (13,950 dwellings over the plan period)
	<p>prospective residents are also likely to benefit from high levels of accessibility which may reduce car use and associated greenhouse gas emissions. However, this is currently uncertain.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective, however the magnitude of the effect is uncertain.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should promote high standards of low carbon and energy efficient design including, where appropriate, renewable energy provision. Careful consideration should be given to the distribution/location of new development to ensure accessibility to key services, facilities and employment opportunities. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact scale of greenhouse gas emissions associated with this option 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. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.
<p>12. To promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover) and ensure the sustainable use of resources.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</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> <div data-kind="parent" data-rs="2">-</div>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. However, commensurate with the increased scale of development that would be delivered under this option, the volume of resources required during construction and the generation of waste would also be greater (relative to Option 1).</p> <div data-kind="parent" data-rs="2">-</div>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Options 1 and 2. However, commensurate with the increased scale of development that would be delivered under this option, the volume of resources required during construction and generation of waste would also be greater (relative to Options 1 and 2).</p> <div data-kind="parent" data-rs="2">-</div>

SA Objective	Option 1: National Household Projections- 657 dwellings per year (9,885 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need - 775 dwellings per year (11,625 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer - 930 dwellings per year (13,950 dwellings over the plan period)
	<p>Some parts of the City Area have been designated as Mineral Safeguarding Area. 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.</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 (the Scoping Report notes that in 2013/14, 43.0% of all waste collected was sent for recycling/composting/reuse).</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council should consider the potential for Local Plan policies to encourage the use of recycled and secondary materials in new developments. The provision of recycling facilities within new developments should be a component of Local Plan design and/or waste management policies. The reuse of construction and demolition wastes on site should be promoted. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact scale of waste associated with this option 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. 	<p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	<p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective although it is recognised that the potential for significant negative effects under this option is greater relative to Options 1 and 2, subject to the design and construction of the proposed dwellings, the availability of waste management facilities and the behaviour of occupiers with regard to recycling and reuse.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: National Household Projections- 657 dwellings per year (9,885 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need - 775 dwellings per year (11,625 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer - 930 dwellings per year (13,950 dwellings over the plan period)
<p>13. To conserve and enhance the historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Chelmsford's cultural heritage is a key feature of the local authority area, as indicated by the National Heritage List for England which includes 1,006 listed buildings (including 21 grade I), 19 scheduled monuments, 25 conservation areas and 6 registered parks and gardens within the Chelmsford City Area. Residential development has the potential to adversely affect these assets 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 be felt 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, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Policies within the Local Plan should promote high standards of architecture and urban design. • The Local Plan should set out a strategic framework to preserve and enhance historic areas and promote high standards of new development. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. However, Option 2 proposes a higher level of growth than Option 1 and, as such, the potential for both positive and negative effects on the historic environment and cultural heritage assets within the City Area may be increased, although this would be dependent on the scale and exact location of development proposed.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 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>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Options 1 and 2. However, Option 3 proposes the highest level of housing growth of all three options. Commensurate with the scale of growth, the likelihood of both positive and negative effects on the historic environment may be increased, although this is dependent on the exact location of any proposed development.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 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>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: National Household Projections- 657 dwellings per year (9,885 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need - 775 dwellings per year (11,625 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer - 930 dwellings per year (13,950 dwellings over the plan period)
	<p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The exact location of new development is uncertain at this stage.• 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.		
14. To conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>There are no national landscape designations affecting the Chelmsford City Area, although a large proportion of the local authority area is Metropolitan Green Belt, circa 12,888 ha (37.57% of the total area). However, the delivery of 8,995 dwellings under this option is likely to result in adverse effects on landscape character. Effects may be felt 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>The Scoping Report highlights that the built form and scale of the City Centre is a product of historic evolution. It notes that the City Centre has areas of distinct built character based on history, townscapes and use, all requiring the reinforcement of their sense of place. With regard to South Woodham Ferrers, meanwhile, the Scoping Report highlights the unique character of the town. Residential development has the potential to adversely affect townscape character of these areas during construction and once development is complete. However, 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> 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. However, Option 2 proposes a higher level of growth than Option 1 and, as such, the potential for adverse effects on the City Area's landscape character and townscapes may be increased. In particular, the increased scale of development proposed by this option would be likely to place greater pressure on greenfield sites relative to Option 1.</p> <p>As noted in the assessment of this option against SA Objective 7, this option could result in higher densities of residential development. Whilst this would reduce the total area of greenfield land required, it could also result in taller building heights which could have more significant landscape/townscape and visual amenity impacts.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 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>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Options 1 and 2. However, Option 3 proposes the highest level of housing growth of all three options (930 dwellings per year). Commensurate with the scale of growth, the likelihood of adverse effects on landscape and townscape occurring may be increased. In particular, the level of growth proposed under this option (13,950 dwellings over the plan period) is likely to increase the potential pressure on greenfield land for development and could lead to higher density (and taller) residential development.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and potentially significant 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>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As per Option 1. 

SA Objective	Option 1: National Household Projections- 657 dwellings per year (9,885 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 2: Objectively Assessed Need - 775 dwellings per year (11,625 dwellings over the plan period)	Option 3: Objectively Assessed Need and a 20% Buffer - 930 dwellings per year (13,950 dwellings over the plan period)
	<p>Overall, Option 1 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>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Detailed policies on high quality design should be contained within the Local Plan. 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. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of future development, the quality of the receiving landscapes and the proximity of sensitive receptors is unknown at this stage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	



Appendix G

Appraisal of Employment Target Projections

The following two employment target projections for the Local Plan have been identified:

- ▶ Option 1: 2012 Sub-National Population Projections based - 727 jobs per year.
- ▶ Option 2: Employed People – 887 jobs per year.

Key to Appraisals

Score	Description	Symbol
Significant Positive Effect	The option contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective.	++
Minor Positive Effect	The option contributes to the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	+
Neutral	The option does not have any effect on the achievement of the objective	0
Minor Negative Effect	The option detracts from the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	-
Significant Negative Effect	The option detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective.	--
No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the option and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.	~
Uncertain	The option 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 appraisal to be made.	?

NB: where more than one symbol/colour is presented in a box it indicates that the appraisal 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.

SA Objective	Option 1: 727 jobs per year	Option 2: 887 jobs per year
<p>1. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the green infrastructure network.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>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. In addition, there are eight Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) covering an area of 2,412.77 hectares (ha) including the River Ter; Newney Green Pit; Blake's Wood & Lingwood Common; Woodman Walter Common; Danbury Common; Thrift Wood, Woodham Ferrers; Hanningfield Reservoir; and Crouch and Roach Estuaries. There are also three Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) and 150 Local Wildlife Sites (LWS).</p> <p>It is assumed that employment development would not directly affect these 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, Option 1 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective, however the magnitude of the effect is uncertain.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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. Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets, closely linked with existing and new development. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is assumed that greenfield land will be required to accommodate growth. It is assumed that new development would not be located on land designated for nature conservation. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. Option 2 proposes a higher level of jobs growth compared to Option 1 and in consequence, the potential for adverse effects on biodiversity may be proportionally increased, although this would be dependent on the scale and exact location of development proposed.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective, however the magnitude of the effect is uncertain.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: 727 jobs per year	Option 2: 887 jobs per year
	Uncertainties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The distribution and exact location of future development is unknown at this stage. The scale of employment land required to accommodate jobs growth under this option is uncertain at this stage and will be dependent on a number of factors including the density of development and type of employment use. 	
2. To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes.	Likely Significant Effects The City Area's objectively assessed housing need has been uplifted to accommodate jobs growth in the City Area (see the Objectively Assessed Housing Need Study, 2015). In consequence, this option would not be expected to have an effect on this objective. Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a neutral effect on this objective. Mitigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. Assumptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. Uncertainties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. 	Likely Significant Effects The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a neutral effect on this objective. Mitigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. Assumptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. Uncertainties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.
3. To achieve a strong and stable economy which offers rewarding and well located employment opportunities to everyone.	Likely Significant Effects The construction of new employment space under this option (and Options 2) 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. The Council's Employment Land Review (ELR) (2015) 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) and has the largest economy, contributing £3.4 billion to the UK economy in 2011 (around 60% of the total Heart of Essex contribution). However, the ELR found that Chelmsford has a relatively limited supply of land to accommodate future growth, particularly in respect of office uses. In this context, the provision of employment land to accommodate 727 jobs per annum 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.	Likely Significant Effects Like Option 1, this option would generate significant positive effects on the economy during both the construction and operation of new employment space. Commensurate with the increase in jobs that would be supported under this option (approximately 20% greater than Option 1), the positive effects are likely to be enhanced. However, the rate of jobs growth under this option (887 jobs per annum) would still be lower than trends over the period 2009 to 2013 as well as forecasts by Edge Analytics (1,013 jobs per annum), Experian (1,099 jobs per annum) and the England East of England Economic Model (1,070 jobs per annum). Notwithstanding, the target would be in line with the City Area's objectively assessed housing need. Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on this objective. Mitigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. Assumptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: 727 jobs per year	Option 2: 887 jobs per year
	<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>Despite the benefits outlined above, the level of jobs growth proposed by this option (727 jobs per annum) would be below forecasts by Edge Analytics (1,013 jobs per annum, between the period 2013 to 2037), Experian (1,099 jobs per annum between 2011 and 2031) and the England East of England Economic Model (1,070 jobs per annum between 2012 and 2031). It would also be below historic jobs growth over the 5 year period 2009 to 2013 (1,200 jobs per annum). In consequence, the implementation of this option could mean that there is 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, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None identified. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1.
<p>4. To promote urban renaissance and support the vitality of rural centres, tackle deprivation and promote sustainable living.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</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, as noted under the assessment of this option against SA Objective 3, the level of jobs growth proposed by this option (727 jobs per annum) would be below forecasts and historic jobs growth. In consequence, the implementation of this option could mean that there is 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</p> <div data-kind="parent" data-rs="2">+</div>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. Option 2 proposes a higher level of jobs growth than Option 1 and in consequence, the magnitude of positive effects on urban renaissance may be increased, though not to a level considered to be significant.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a positive effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <div data-kind="parent" data-rs="2">+</div>

SA Objective	Option 1: 727 jobs per year	Option 2: 887 jobs per year
	<p>of Marconi, Patching Hall and St Andrews, being within the most deprived in the country. Jobs growth under this option may create 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.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a positive effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should ensure that new development supports specific regeneration opportunities where possible. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The type and location of additional employment land required under this option is unknown at this stage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.
5. To improve the health and wellbeing of those living and working in the Chelmsford City Area.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</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, with poor respiration, 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 option 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 promotes healthy lifestyles through, for example, walking and cycling will be dependent on its accessibility</p> <div style="background-color: #f8d7da; text-align: center; width: 50px; height: 80px; margin: 10px auto;">-</div>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. However, Option 2 proposes a higher level of jobs growth and, as such, the likelihood of those negative effects identified in respect of Option 1 occurring and their magnitude may be increased, though not to a level considered to be significant.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <div style="background-color: #f8d7da; text-align: center; width: 50px; height: 80px; margin: 10px auto;">-</div>

SA Objective	Option 1: 727 jobs per year	Option 2: 887 jobs per year
	<p>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, Option 1 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None identified. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The type and location of additional employment land required under this option is unknown at this stage. 	
<p>6. To reduce the need to travel, promote more sustainable modes of transport and align investment in infrastructure with growth.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The provision of employment proposed by this option 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 an increase in road traffic accidents. 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>The Scoping Report notes that in 2011, a total of 30,605 workers commuted into Chelmsford from other local authority areas whilst 34,430 residents commuted out of the City Area. This represents a net outflow of 3,825 workers. Whilst the creation of local employment opportunities associated with this option 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, Option 1 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. Option 2 proposes a higher level of jobs growth than Option 1 and, as such, the potential for adverse effects on the road network associated with increased traffic volumes may be increased, though not to a level considered likely to be significant.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: 727 jobs per year	Option 2: 887 jobs per year
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Careful consideration should be given to the distribution/location of new development to ensure accessibility by transport modes other than the car. Local Plan policies should encourage the preparation of green travel plans as part of new development proposals. Local Plan policies should positively promote walking and cycling as part of new developments. 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. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of future development is unknown at this stage. 	
<p>7. To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Under this option (and Options 2 and 3), the development of brownfield land is expected to be encouraged. However, 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, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Local Plan policies and proposals should seek to use areas of poorer quality land in preference to that of a higher quality. Local Plan policies should resist the development of best and most versatile agricultural land. <p>Assumptions</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. Option 2 proposes a higher level of jobs growth than Option 1 and, as such, the amount of greenfield land required to accommodate new development is, subject to the intent of the preferred spatial strategy, likely to increase.</p> <p>However, it is recognised that the extent of greenfield land required for development under this option relative to Option 1 may not be directly commensurate with the level of jobs growth proposed as this would be dependent in part on the type of employment use and the density of development.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: 727 jobs per year	Option 2: 887 jobs per year
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of future development is unknown at this stage. The scale of employment land required to accommodate jobs growth under this option is uncertain at this stage and will be dependent on a number of factors including the density of development and type of employment use. 	
8. To conserve and enhance water quality and resources.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The construction of new employment development will increase demand on water resources, with the potential to affect water availability. However, the Scoping Report notes that one of the two pumped storage reservoirs, Abberton, has recently been enlarged and enhanced so to provide long term water resources for Essex. The Essex and Suffolk Water Water Resources Management Plan 2014 also indicates that the Essex Water Resource Zone, which Chelmsford City Area sits within, will be in surplus over the period of the plan (to 2039/40). In consequence, effects on water resource availability are not expected to be significant.</p> <p>Depending on the type and location of new employment development, the proximity to waterbodies and the prevailing quality of the waterbody, there is potential for adverse effects on water quality associated with construction and operational activities (through, for example, accidental discharges or uncontrolled surface water runoff). However, 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). Nonetheless, the Water Cycle Study highlights that as much of the Chelmsford City Area is underlain by impermeable London Clay, infiltration techniques are likely to be inappropriate in many areas, and attenuation techniques may have to be used instead.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council should consider the potential for Local Plan to support water company water efficiency activities for existing businesses. It is recommended that the Local Plan includes policies that promote water attenuation systems due to the underlying geology of the area. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 Water Resources Management Plan would be expected to help ensure that future water resource demands are met. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. However, Option 2 proposes a higher level of growth than Option 1 and, as such, the potential for adverse effects on water quality and resources may be increased.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: 727 jobs per year	Option 2: 887 jobs per year
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of developments and the potential impact on waterbodies is uncertain at this stage. It is understood that the Council is due to commission an updated Water Cycle Study. 	
<p>9. To reduce the risk of flooding and coastal erosion to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</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 option could lead to an increased risk of flooding off site (as a result of the increase in impermeable surfaces). Whilst, 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), the Water Cycle Study (2010) does highlight that much of the City Area is underlain by impermeable London Clay and in consequence, infiltration techniques are likely to be inappropriate in many areas, and attenuation techniques may have to be used instead.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 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>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies and proposals should avoid development in areas of flood risk (e.g. Flood Zones 2 and 3). Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets to provide opportunities for flood storage where appropriate. Local Plan policies should seek to promote as close to greenfield runoff rates as possible. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is assumed that, where appropriate, development proposals would be accompanied by a FRA and that suitable flood alleviation measures would be 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: 727 jobs per year	Option 2: 887 jobs per year
	<p>incorporated into the design of new development where necessary to minimise flood risk.</p> <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of development is uncertain at this stage. 	
10. To improve air quality.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</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 AQMA (which has been designated due to exceedances in Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)) 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 option 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, Option 1 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to reduce congestion. Local Plan policies should ensure that development within the City Area's Army and Navy AQMA is consistent with the objectives of the AQMA. Careful consideration should be given to the distribution/location of new employment development to ensure accessibility by transport modes other than the car. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of future development is uncertain at this stage. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. However, Option 2 proposes a higher level of jobs growth than Option 1 and, as such, the potential for adverse effects on the road network associated with increased traffic volumes may be increased, though not to a level considered likely to be significant.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: 727 jobs per year	Option 2: 887 jobs per year
11. To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <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 option against SA Objective 6, whilst the creation of local employment opportunities associated with this option 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, Option 1 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should promote high standards of energy efficient design including, where appropriate, renewable energy provision. High quality, sustainable design and onsite renewable and low carbon energy provision should be promoted. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact scale of greenhouse gas emissions associated with this option 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. The location of additional employment required under this option is unknown at this stage. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. However, Option 2 proposes a higher level of jobs growth than Option 1 and, as such, the volume of greenhouse gases emitted under this option would therefore be expected to be greater.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

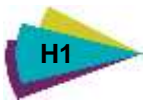
SA Objective	Option 1: 727 jobs per year	Option 2: 887 jobs per year
<p>12. To promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover) and ensure the sustainable use of resources.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The construction of employment premises will require raw materials (such as 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, Option 1 has been assessed as having a negative effect upon this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council should consider the potential for Local Plan policies to encourage the use of recycled and secondary materials in new developments. • The provision of recycling facilities within new developments should be a component of Local Plan design and/or waste management policies. • The reuse of construction and demolition wastes on site should be promoted. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The exact scale of waste associated with this option 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 exact scale of resource use associated with this option will be dependent on the final scale and type of uses that come forward. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. However, commensurate with the increased scale of jobs growth under this option, the volume of resources required during construction and operation and waste generation would also be greater (relative to Option 1).</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: 727 jobs per year	Option 2: 887 jobs per year
<p>13. To conserve and enhance the historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Chelmsford's cultural heritage is a key feature of the local authority area, as indicated by the National Heritage List for England which includes 1,006 listed buildings (including 21 grade I), 19 scheduled monuments, 25 conservation areas and 6 registered parks and gardens within the Chelmsford City Area. Employment development has the potential to adversely affect these assets 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 be felt 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, Option 1 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>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Policies within the Local Plan should promote high standards of architecture and urban design. • The Local Plan should set out a strategic framework to preserve and enhance historic areas and promote high standards of new development. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The exact location of new development is uncertain at this stage. • 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. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. However, Option 2 proposes a higher level of jobs growth than Option 1 and, as such, the potential for both positive and negative effects on the historic environment and cultural heritage assets within the City Area may be increased, although this would be dependent on the scale and exact location of development proposed.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 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>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: 727 jobs per year	Option 2: 887 jobs per year
14. To conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>There are no national landscape designations affecting the Chelmsford City Area, although a large proportion of the local authority area is Metropolitan Green Belt, circa 12,888 ha (37.57% of the total area). However, employment development under this option is likely to result in adverse effects on landscape character. Effects may be felt 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>The Scoping Report highlights that the built form and scale of the City Centre is a product of historic evolution. It notes that the City Centre has areas of distinct built character based on history, townscapes and use, all requiring the reinforcement of their sense of place. With regard to South Woodham Ferrers, meanwhile, the Scoping Report highlights the unique character of the town. Employment development has the potential to adversely affect the character of these areas during construction and once development is complete. However, there may also 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> <p>Overall, Option 1 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>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Detailed policies on high quality design should be contained within the Local Plan. 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. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of future development, the quality of the receiving landscapes and the proximity of sensitive receptors is unknown at this stage. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. However, Option 2 proposes a higher level of jobs growth than Option 1 and, as such, the potential for adverse effects on the City Area's landscape character and townscapes may be increased. In particular, the increased scale of development proposed by this option would be likely to place greater pressure on greenfield sites relative to Option 1.</p> <p>As noted in the assessment of this option against SA Objective 7, this option could result in higher densities of development. Whilst this would reduce the total area of greenfield land required, it could also result in taller building heights which could have more significant landscape/townscape and visual amenity impacts.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 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>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.



SA Objective	Option 1: 727 jobs per year	Option 2: 887 jobs per year
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The scale of employment land required to accommodate jobs growth under this option is uncertain at this stage and will be dependent on a number of factors including the density of development and type of employment use.	



Appendix H

Appraisal of Spatial Options

The following three spatial options for the Local Plan have been identified and appraised:

- ▶ **Option 1- Urban Focus:** This option seeks to concentrate new development at locations within and/or close to the existing urban areas that are within Chelmsford. These are the urban areas of Chelmsford, where the majority of new development would be planned, on land to the north of the town of South Woodham Ferrers and on land to the north and east of Great Leighs which is two miles south of Braintree and which would provide linkages to development planned in Braintree District.
- ▶ **Option 2- Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors:** This option also promotes development at locations within and/or close to the existing urban areas, but to a lesser extent than contained in Option 1. The remaining development would be planned at locations on the key transport corridors serving the district, notably the A130/A131 and A132 in order to maximise the locational opportunities of sites along those corridors and to enhance the ability to secure further transportation benefits.
- ▶ **Option 3 - Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages:** This option promotes a more dispersed approach to planning for new development within and/or close to the existing urban areas, but to a lesser scale than Options 1 and 2. The remaining development would be planned at the Service Settlements outside of the Green Belt that provide existing local services and facilities which includes Boreham, Danbury and Bicknacre and other locations where new development could provide new services and facilities, such as Howe Green.

Key to Appraisal

Score	Description	Symbol
Significant Positive Effect	The option contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective.	++
Minor Positive Effect	The option contributes to the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	+
Neutral	The option does not have any effect on the achievement of the objective	0
Minor Negative Effect	The option detracts from the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	-
Significant Negative Effect	The option detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective.	--
No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the option and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.	~
Uncertain	The option 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 appraisal to be made.	?

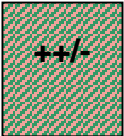
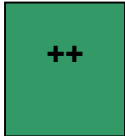
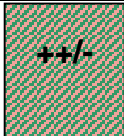
NB: where more than one symbol/colour is presented in a box it indicates that the appraisal has identified both positive and negative effects. Where a box is coloured but also contains a '?', this indicates uncertainty over whether the effect could be a minor or significant effect although a professional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

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
1. To conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the green infrastructure network.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>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). However, taking into account the distance of these assets from the areas identified for potential growth under this option, effects are considered unlikely to be significant, although this would be dependent on the exact location of future development.</p> <p>This option would support the redevelopment of brownfield sites in the Chelmsford Urban Area (equivalent to circa 2,500 dwellings). It is recognised that in some cases 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 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 will mean that greenfield land adjacent to the urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers and at Great Leighs will be required. Indicatively, based on existing density targets set out in the Authority</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Like Option 1, under this option there would be the potential for development to result in indirect adverse effects on designated nature conservation sites. Additionally, directing growth to Rettendon Place (circa 1,250 dwellings) could result in indirect adverse effects on Hanningfield Reservoir SSSI (which is circa 3 km from Rettendon Place) and 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), relative to Option 1. 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.</p> <p>This option would support development in the urban area with circa 2,500 dwellings delivered on brownfield sites. However, development requirements and the limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the City Area will mean that greenfield land of a similar area to that under Option 1 will be required. Allied with the potential construction of a western relief road and a north east bypass as well as other infrastructure, 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 operation of new development). The magnitude of any negative effects in this regard will be dependent on the exact scale of greenfield land lost to development and the existing biodiversity value of sites.</p> <p>Like Option 1, the proposed extension of 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, Option 2 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</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Option 3 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. Like Options 1 and 2, there would be the potential for indirect effects on European and nationally designated conservation sites. By directing additional development to Danbury and Boreham (around 900 dwellings), this option could place additional pressure on Danbury Common, Blake's Wood & Lingwood Common, Woodham Walter Common and Danbury Common SSSIs relative to Options 1 and 2. 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.</p> <p>Like Options 1 and 2, this option 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 the potential construction of a western relief road and a north east bypass as well as other infrastructure, 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 relative to Options 1 and 2 (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>Like Options 1 and 2, the proposed extension of 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, Option 3 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p>

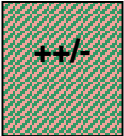
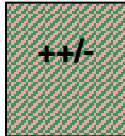
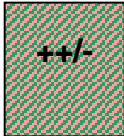
SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<p>Monitoring Report 2013-2014 (AMR) (a minimum of 30 dwelling per hectare), the delivery of an additional 11,500 dwellings on greenfield land over the plan period could equate to an additional land take of approximately 380 hectares (ha). Allied with the potential construction of a western relief road and a north east bypass as well as other infrastructure, 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 operation of new development). The magnitude of any negative effects in this regard will be dependent on the exact scale of greenfield land lost to development and the existing biodiversity value of sites.</p> <p>The proposed extension of 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, Option 1 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>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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. 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. 	<p>land required to support growth, the magnitude of negative effect on this objective is uncertain at this stage.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	<p>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>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is assumed that greenfield land will be required to accommodate growth. It is assumed that new development would not be located on land designated for nature conservation. It is assumed that, on balance, the biodiversity value of brownfield sites is less than that of greenfield land. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of future development at each settlement is unknown at this stage. 		
2. To meet the housing needs of the Chelmsford City Area and deliver decent homes.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Option 1 would deliver the majority of the City Area's new housing in and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area (around 10,000 dwellings, subject to the housing target projection taken forward) with smaller scale provision adjacent to South Woodham Ferrers (2,000 dwellings) and Great Leighs (2,000 dwellings). This would help to meet housing needs in these settlements.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a significant positive effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact quantum of housing growth to be delivered over the plan period is unknown at this stage. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Like Option 1, Option 2 would deliver the majority of the City Area's additional housing in and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area (9,500 additional dwellings, subject to the housing target projection taken forward) with a smaller scale of provision adjacent to South Woodham Ferrers (1,750 dwellings) and Great Leighs (1,500 dwellings). This option would also deliver 1,250 dwellings at Rettendon Place.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a significant positive effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Under Option 3, the majority of growth would be focused in locations adjoining the existing built-up areas of Chelmsford, South Woodham Ferrers and Great Leighs. However, residential development would also be distributed to the City Area's larger villages and service settlements.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a significant positive effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

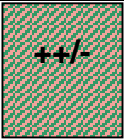
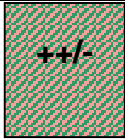

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The extent to which new housing development meets local needs will be dependent on the mix of housing delivered (in terms of size, type and tenure) which is currently unknown. 		
3. To achieve a strong and stable economy which offers rewarding and well located employment opportunities to everyone.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This option 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.</p> <p>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. The accessibility of these locations may be further enhanced through the provision of supporting infrastructure under this option including a proposed new north east bypass, highways improvements and bus-based transit as well as by existing planned infrastructure including a new rail station to the north east of Chelmsford as part of the Beaulieu development.</p> <p>Under this option, employment development would be provided as part of larger mixed use schemes which would be expected to help ensure that the opportunities created are easily accessible to prospective residents.</p> <p>Development to the north east of Chelmsford under this option has the potential to complement the Beaulieu development by providing employment opportunities for residents or by enabling prospective residents to access jobs created at this urban</p> <p>++</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Like Option 1, this option focuses employment growth 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. Under this option, there would also be an additional office/high tech business park at east Chelmsford (although the total quantum of employment land provided under this option would be the same as for Option 1).</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a significant positive effects on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>++</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Option 3 proposes the same employment locations as Option 2. However, under this option 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 (relative to Options 1 and 2).</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>++/-</p>

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<p>extension (which includes areas of search for two business park locations to accommodate 45,000 sq m).</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. In this context, it is noted that the Employment Land Review (2015) found that the City Centre has a relatively limited supply of land to accommodate future growth.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a significant positive effects on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 quantum of employment land to be delivered is unknown at this stage. The exact location of future development at each settlement is unknown at this stage. 		
<p>4. To promote urban renaissance and support the vitality of rural centres, tackle deprivation and promote sustainable living.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</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 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>Development to the north east of Chelmsford under this option also has the potential to complement the Beaulieu development by providing community facilities and services for residents or by enabling</p> 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Like Option 1, this option focuses most new development to locations adjoining or close to the existing built-up areas of Chelmsford, South Woodham Ferrers and Great Leighs. In consequence, the range and type of effects associated with Option 2 are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1.</p> <p>This option would direct some development (approximately 1,250 dwellings) to Rettendon Place with 500 fewer dwellings delivered in or adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area and 250 less dwellings to the north of South Woodham Ferrers. Relative to Option</p> 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Under Option 3, the majority of growth would be focused in locations adjoining the existing built-up areas of Chelmsford, South Woodham Ferrers and Great Leighs. In consequence, this option would be expected to have similar positive effects on this objective as Options 1 and 2.</p> <p>In adopting a more dispersed approach where the quantum of new development delivered within and adjacent to urban areas would be reduced, the magnitude of these effects would be reduced. However, this option would support a wider distribution of investment across the City Area and which would</p> 

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<p>prospective residents to access facilities in this urban extension.</p> <p>There is a risk that growth could place pressure on existing community facilities and services, particularly in Great Leighs which has more limited existing provision. However, Option 1 may also improve the viability of existing shops, services and facilities, commensurate with an increased local population. Additionally, under this option there would be the delivery of a range of community facilities and services, alongside retail provision, at the key growth locations. This would be expected to help address increased demand arising from new development and could also benefit existing residents.</p> <p>There are pockets of deprivation across the Chelmsford City Area with some lower super output areas (LSOAs) being within the most deprived in the country. These LSOAs are predominantly focused within the Chelmsford Urban Area include the wards of Marconi, Patching Hall and St Andrews. By focusing development within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area, this option may help to promote urban renaissance 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 and meets local needs.</p> <p>More broadly, it is anticipated that, in directing growth and investment towards/adjacent to urban areas, this option will enhance the City Centre (including the public realm) and the vitality and viability of South Woodham Ferrers town centre. However, this option 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>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should ensure that new development supports specific regeneration opportunities where possible. 	<p>1, benefits associated with focusing development within and adjacent to these urban areas may therefore be slightly reduced, although rural vitality may be promoted.</p> <p>Given the small size of Rettendon Place and the limited facilities and services it currently supports, there is a risk that prospective residents in this area would not have good access to services and facilities whilst the pressure on existing services and facilities in the village would be increased. However, under this option 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 in the village.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a significant positive effect on this objective. However, it is expected that the magnitude of this effect would be less than under Option 1.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	<p>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 facilities, the accessibility of prospective residents to services and facilities is expected to be less under this option compared to Options 1 and 2. Development, particularly in Howe Green and Boreham (which would receive circa 800 dwellings each) would also be expected to place substantial pressure on existing services and facilities. However, like Options 1 and 2, 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>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developer contributions towards key services and facilities should be sought where appropriate. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact quantum of growth to be delivered over the plan period is unknown at this stage. 		
5. To improve the health and wellbeing of those living and working in the Chelmsford City Area.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>There is potential for the construction of new development to have a negative effect on the health and wellbeing of residents and other sensitive receptors in close proximity to development sites and along transport routes within the City Area. Effects could include, for example, respiratory problems associated with construction traffic and dust. This may be more pertinent in sensitive areas such as the Army and Navy Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and locations with pre-existing health issues.</p> <p>In the longer term, there may be further adverse effects on health arising from, in particular, emissions to air associated with increased traffic movements. 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>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. Allied with proposed improvements to highway circulation, public transport and walking and cycling, 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>In 2004, an Open Space Assessment found deficiencies in open space provision particularly in the</p> 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Like Option 1, this option focuses most new development to locations adjoining or close to the existing built-up areas of Chelmsford, South Woodham Ferrers and Great Leighs. In consequence, the range and type of effects associated with Option 2 are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified under Options 1 and 2.</p> <p>Whilst this option would focus the majority of growth in locations adjoining the existing built-up areas of Chelmsford, South Woodham Ferrers and Great Leighs, a more dispersed approach including growth in Great Leighs, Howe Green, Boreham, Danbury, Bicknacre and other service settlements within the City Area is likely to increase the need to travel by car and associated emissions to air as there will be some services that are not found within the immediate vicinity. Further, the smaller nature of the individual developments which are a feature of the dispersed spatial pattern of this option means that individual developments are unlikely to provide the full range of infrastructure/services needed.</p> <p>The reduced accessibility of prospective residents to services, facilities and employment opportunities in these smaller settlements compared to Options 1 and 2 may discourage walking and cycling, although there may be increased access to natural open space.</p> <p>Like Options 1 and 2, there is a risk that demand arising from new residents may undermine the quality of existing services and facilities and which could be more acute under this option (given the size of the additional settlements that would receive growth under this option). However, under this option new healthcare facilities would be provided at these settlements (alongside open space and recreational facilities). This would be expected to help address</p> 

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<p>urban areas of Chelmsford including parks and gardens, natural and semi-natural, amenity green space and young people and children typologies. Under this option, 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 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. In this regard, the GP-patient ratio data for the NHS Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group highlights that, as of 2014, ratios were 1,654.29 patients per Full Time Equivalent (FTE) GP. This is above the UK average of 1,580 patients per FTE. However, this option would deliver additional investment in healthcare facilities including the provision of new facilities as part of the proposed urban extensions.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should ensure that open space and/or health facilities are provided on site/contributions are sought to provision off site. Local Plan policies should ensure that development is not located in close proximity to unsuitable neighbouring uses. Consideration should be given to the provision of open space as part of new development within the Chelmsford Urban Area. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p>		<p>increased demand arising from new development and could also benefit existing residents. Compared to Options 1 and 2, benefits in this regard would be more dispersed across the City Area, benefiting a wider proportion of the existing population.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of new development is unknown at present. The exact quantum of growth to be delivered over the plan period is unknown at this stage. The 2004 Open Space Assessment is currently being updated. 		
6. To reduce the need to travel, promote more sustainable modes of transport and align investment in infrastructure with growth.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>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 (as services and employment opportunities would be physically accessible). New development should also be well connected to the existing public transport network (including existing planned infrastructure such as the proposed new rail station and transport hub to the north east of Chelmsford as part of the Beaulieu development). Development may also help to maintain existing, and stimulate investment in, new public transport provision. In this regard, it is noted that under this option there would be investment in public transport provision including bus-based transit and priority to provide connections to the City Centre as well as two park and ride schemes (one located to the south west of Chelmsford around the A414 and the other located to the north east of Chelmsford around the A12 and A138). The delivery of local employment opportunities may also help to reduce out-commuting in the longer term.</p> <p>Circa 2,000 dwellings would be delivered at Great Leighs under this option which could result in increased car use given the existing size of the settlement and more limited range of services and jobs it provides. However, new development does present an opportunity to enhance the sustainability of this settlement by supporting investment in community facilities and services.</p> <p>The Scoping Report highlights that one of the City Area's strengths is its good connectivity to London. However, the high levels of both in and out-commuting</p> 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Like Option 1, this option focuses most new development to locations adjoining or close to the existing built-up areas of Chelmsford, South Woodham Ferrers and Great Leighs. In consequence, the range and type of effects associated with Option 2 are likely to be broadly similar to those identified in respect of Option 1.</p> <p>This option would, however, direct a proportion of the City Area's housing requirement at key locations on the main north-south transport corridor (the A131/A130) including north east of Great Baddow/Sandon and Rettendon Place. Through developer contributions, growth in these settlements could be expected to fund road improvements including along the A132. This may help to enhance network capacity and connectivity relative to Option 1. However, enhanced connectivity may also encourage car use and as noted under the assessment of this option against SA Objective 4, Rettendon Place and Great Leighs have a more limited range of community services and facilities and employment opportunities which could further increase car use relative to Option 1.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Under Option 3, the majority of growth would be focused in locations adjoining the existing built-up areas of Chelmsford, South Woodham Ferrers and Great Leighs. In consequence, this option would be expected to have similar positive effects on this objective as Options 1 and 2.</p> <p>This option would distribute a proportion of new development to the City Area's smaller settlements. This approach 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 compared to Options 1 and 2. This could increase in-commuting to the City Centre with related congestion on the strategic and local road network.</p> <p>Like Option 2, this option could support investment in road improvements including along the A132 and (additionally) to the A12/A130 Junction at Howe Green. Additionally, a dispersed approach could support wider investment in public transport. However, development of the scale proposed would be expected to place increased pressure on the local road network. For example, the A414 to the east of Chelmsford has serious traffic capacity issues that would severely limit opportunities in locations such as Danbury and Bicknacre.</p> 

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<p>experienced by the City Area is also an issue. Under this option, an increase in population and households within the Chelmsford Urban Area in particular will generate more transport movements. Based on current trends, these movements are expected to be by car with a continuation of (net) out-commuting but substantial in-commuting. This could result in increased pressure on the road network, with congestion on the A12, A130 and A414 (a number of junctions on the strategic highway network have capacity constraints and pinch points) and on local road networks. However, development may support investment in highways improvements which could help to mitigate these adverse effects. In this regard, this option could deliver a number of highways improvements including at Army and Navy junction and to the A132. Additionally, growth under this option could facilitate the delivery of a western relief road and a North East Chelmsford by-pass which would help to enhance connectivity to the strategic road network and alleviate congestion.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed significant positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should encourage the preparation of green travel plans as part of new development proposals. Local Plan policies should positively promote walking and cycling as part of new developments. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of future development is unknown at this stage. The exact quantum of growth to be delivered over the plan period is unknown at this stage. 		<p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
7. To encourage the efficient use of land and conserve and enhance soils.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>In order to assess the potential future development capacity in Chelmsford's Urban Area, the Council has undertaken detailed assessments to calculate the type and level of development that could come forward. These assessments provide housing capacity estimates for brownfield sites and indicate that up to 2,500 new homes could be built in this area. Reflecting the findings of this assessment work, this option would deliver 2,500 dwellings on brownfield sites.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, development requirements and the limited number of brownfield sites that have not already been earmarked for future development in the City Area will mean that greenfield land adjacent to the urban areas of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers and at Great Leighs will be required to accommodate growth. Indicatively, based on existing density targets set out in the Authority Monitoring Report 2013-2014 (AMR) (a minimum of 30 dwelling per hectare), the delivery of an additional 11,500 dwellings on greenfield land over the plan period could equate to an additional land take of approximately 380 hectares (ha). Allied with the potential construction of a western relief road and a north east bypass (as well as other infrastructure), the area of greenfield land required is expected to be significant.</p> <p>The quality of agricultural land around the settlements is mixed. Outside of the urban area of Chelmsford, the north west is classified as Grade 2 ('Very Good') agricultural land whilst land adjacent to the River Chelmer that goes 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 Ferrer 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 this option therefore has the potential to result in the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and significant negative effect on this objective.</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Like Option 1, this option would deliver 2,500 dwellings on brownfield land. However, the remaining requirement is likely to be met through the development of greenfield sites and which may include best and most versatile agricultural land.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and significant negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Like Options 1 and 2, this option would deliver 2,500 dwellings on brownfield land. However, this option would result in the substantial development of greenfield land in the City Area and which is likely to include best and most versatile agricultural land.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and significant negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Local Plan policies should resist the development of best and most versatile agricultural land. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of future development and the land quality of development sites is unknown at this stage. The exact quantum of growth to be delivered over the plan period is unknown at this stage. 		
8. To conserve and enhance water quality and resources.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The Water Cycle Study (2010) for Chelmsford highlights that there was limited capacity within both the foul sewerage system and at existing wastewater treatment works to accommodate future growth. In particular, Chelmsford Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) was considered to be operating close to the limit of its treatment capacity. However, it is understood that there has been significant investment at the works.</p> <p>Depending on the exact location of new development, the proximity to waterbodies and the prevailing quality of the waterbody, there is potential for adverse effects on water quality associated with construction activities (through, for example, accidental discharges or uncontrolled surface water runoff from construction sites). Given the confluence of rivers within Chelmsford it could be considered that development will be within close proximity of a waterbody however, the green wedges within the City Area are defined by the valleys and flood plains for the Rivers Chelmer, Wid and Can which should reduce the likelihood of significant adverse effects in this regard. Further, it is assumed that the design of the development will</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<p>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). Nonetheless, the Water Cycle Study highlights that as much of the Chelmsford City Area is underlain by impermeable London Clay, infiltration techniques are likely to be inappropriate in many areas, and attenuation techniques may have to be used instead.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is recommended that the Local Plan includes policies that promote water attenuation systems due to the underlying geology of the area. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. This has been considered as part of the appraisal of development growth options and it is therefore assumed that the volume of water associated with each spatial option would be broadly similar. 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 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. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of developments and the potential impact on waterbodies is uncertain at this stage. 		

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact quantum of growth to be delivered over the plan period is unknown at this stage. It is understood that the Council is due to commission an updated Water Cycle Study. 		
9. To reduce the risk of flooding and coastal erosion to people and property, taking into account the effects of climate change.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The Scoping Report highlights that 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>Large parts of South Woodham Ferrers are at risk of coastal flooding. However, land to the north of the town, and which is identified as a potential area for growth under this option, is in Flood Zone 1. Flood risk adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area is more limited and is unlikely to be a significant constraint to development at urban extensions.</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. Some land adjacent to the main urban areas and around Great Leighs are also at risk of surface water flooding. In this context, the loss of greenfield land under this option could lead to an increased risk of flooding off site (as a result of the increase in impermeable surfaces). Whilst 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), the Water Cycle Study (2010) does highlight that much of the City Area is underlain by impermeable London Clay and in consequence, infiltration techniques are likely to</p> <p>+/-</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1. Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>+/-</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This option would focus the majority of growth within the Chelmsford Urban Area and in locations adjoining the existing built-up areas of Chelmsford, South Woodham Ferrers and Great Leighs. In consequence, this option would be expected to have a similar effect on this objective as Options 1 and 2.</p> <p>This option would also deliver some housing growth to other smaller settlements in the City Area; however, these settlements and their immediate vicinities are largely within Flood Zone 1 with only narrow areas in Flood Zones 2/3. As a result, flood risk is unlikely to be a significant constraint in these areas.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>+/-</p>

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<p>be inappropriate in many areas, and attenuation techniques may have to be used instead.</p> <p>The City Area's existing green wedges are defined by the valleys and flood plains of the River Chelmer, Wid and Can. The extension of the green wedges will follow the valleys and adjacent flood plains of these rivers. This could help to ensure that development is not located near to flood zones and provide space for flood waters to flow through and additional areas for future flood storage.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should avoid development in areas of flood risk (i.e. Flood Zones 2 and 3). Local Plan policies should ensure that any new development avoids increasing the flood risk of existing development. Local Plan policies should plan for a network of green infrastructure assets to provide opportunities for flood storage where appropriate. Local Plan policies should seek to promote as close to greenfield runoff rates as possible. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of development is uncertain at this stage. 		

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
10. To improve air quality.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</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. In this regard, the Scoping Report 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 AQMA (which has been designated due to exceedances in Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)).</p> <p>However, as noted under the assessment of this option against SA Objective 6, 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 and public transport are all likely to reduce the need to travel by car. The delivery of local employment opportunities may also help to reduce out-commuting in the longer term.</p> <p>As noted above, the implementation of this option could support investment in highways improvements which may help to reduce congestion and air quality impacts arising from new development. There may also be opportunities to address existing air quality issues in the City Area. In this regard, this option would deliver a number of highways improvements including at Army and Navy Junction (which is designated as an AQMA). Additionally, growth under this option could facilitate the delivery of a western relief road and a North East Chelmsford by-pass.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Like Option 1, this option focuses most new development to locations adjoining or close to the existing built-up areas of Chelmsford, South Woodham Ferrers and Great Leighs. In consequence, the range and type of effects associated with Option 2 are likely to be broadly similar to those identified in respect of Option 1.</p> <p>This option would, however, direct a proportion of the City Area's housing requirement at key locations on the main north-south transport corridor (the A131/A130) including north east of Great Baddow/Sandon and Rettendon Place. Through developer contributions, growth in these settlements would be expected to fund road improvements including along the A132. This may help to enhance network capacity relative to Option 1, addressing congestion and reducing associated emissions to air on these routes. However, enhanced connectivity may also encourage car use.</p> <p>As noted under the assessment of this option against SA Objective 4, Rettendon Place and Great Leighs have a more limited range of community services and facilities and employment opportunities and which could result in increased car use and emissions relative to Option 1.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The type and range of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Options 1 and 2.</p> <p>The distribution of a proportion of new development to the City Area's smaller settlements could help to reduce traffic volumes and associated emissions to air within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area relative to Options 1 and 2. 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) and local employment opportunities more restricted. On balance, it is therefore considered that a more dispersed approach to development is likely to increase the need to travel and emissions to air compared to Options 1 and 2, although effects are not expected to be significant.</p> <p>Like Option 2, this option would support investment in road improvements including along the A132 and (additionally) to the A12/A130 Junction at Howe Green. Additionally, a dispersed approach could support wider investment in public transport. However, development of the scale proposed would be expected to place increased pressure on the local road network leading to congestion and emissions to air. For example, the A414 to the east of Chelmsford has serious traffic capacity issues that would severely limit opportunities in locations such as Danbury and Bicknacre.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective, although it is considered that the magnitude of negative effects would be greater than Options 1 and 2.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p>

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to reduce congestion. Local Plan policies should ensure that development within the Army and Navy AQMA is consistent with the objectives of the AQMA. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of future development is uncertain at this stage. The exact quantum of growth to be delivered over the plan period is unknown at this stage. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.
11. To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The volume of greenhouse gas emissions associated with this option (as well as Options 2 and 3) are primarily influenced by the quantum of development to be accommodated in the City Area over the plan period and which has been appraised separately. Further, 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>Notwithstanding the above, as noted in the assessment of this option against SA Objective 6, 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 and public transport are all likely to reduce the need to travel by car and associated greenhouse gas emissions. The delivery of local employment opportunities may also help to reduce out-commuting and related emissions in the longer term.</p> <p>The implementation of this option could support investment in highways improvements. Improvements could help to reduce congestion and greenhouse gas emissions arising from new development, although</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1.</p> <p>This option would, however, direct a proportion of the City Area's housing requirement at key locations on the main north-south transport corridor (the A131/A130) including north east of Great Baddow/Sandon and Rettendon Place. Through developer contributions, growth in these settlements would be expected to fund road improvements including along the A132. This may help to enhance network capacity relative to Option 1, addressing congestion and reducing associated greenhouse gas emissions. However, enhanced connectivity may also encourage car use.</p> <p>As noted under the assessment of this option against SA Objective 4, Rettendon Place and Great Leighs have a more limited range of community services and facilities and employment opportunities and which could result in increased car use and greenhouse gas emissions relative to Option 1.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a positive effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>Under Option 3, the majority of growth would be focused in locations adjoining the existing built-up areas of Chelmsford, South Woodham Ferrers and Great Leighs. In consequence, this option would be expected to have similar positive effects on this objective as Options 1 and 2.</p> <p>As noted in the assessment of this option against SA Objective 6, the distribution of a proportion of new development to the City Area's smaller settlements would be expected to, on balance, lead to an increase in travel. In consequence, the scale of greenhouse gas emissions associated with this option are likely to be greater than Options 1 and 2.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p style="text-align: center;">+/-</p>

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<p>construction would result in additional energy use and, over time, usage of new road schemes can be expected to increase leading to a greater overall number of vehicle movements.</p> <p>The delivery of urban extensions may present an opportunity to deliver district scale heating systems and which could promote renewable energy generation in the City Area. However, this will be dependent on site specific proposals.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a positive effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan policies should promote high standards of energy efficient design including, where appropriate, renewable energy provision. Opportunities to promote district scale heating networks should be sought as part of the delivery of sustainable urban extensions. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	
12. To promote the waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover) and ensure the sustainable use of resources.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>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 has been considered as part of the appraisal of development growth options and is unlikely to be influenced by the spatial option taken forward.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>As per Option 1.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>As per Options 1 and 2.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
13. To conserve and enhance the historic environment, cultural heritage, character and setting.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>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 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. Adverse effects may be felt 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>The implementation of this option could aid the construction of a western relief road and North East Bypass. The construction of these roads could affect buried archaeological remains and above ground assets along their routes although until the routes are determined this is uncertain.</p> <p>Locating new development in close proximity to these 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>+/-/?</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1.</p> <p>This option would direct some growth to the north east of Great Baddow/Sandon and to Rettendon Place which could result in positive and negative adverse effects on cultural heritage assets within and adjacent to these areas including Great Baddow and Sandon Conservation Areas and associated listed buildings.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>+/-/?</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Options 1 and 2.</p> <p>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 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>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>+/-/?</p>

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies contained within the Local Plan should seek to conserve and, where possible, enhance cultural heritage assets including by promoting heritage-led development. Policies within the Local Plan should promote high standards of architectural and urban design. The Local Plan should set out a strategic framework to preserve and enhance historic areas and promote high standards of new development. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of new development is uncertain at this stage. 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. 		
14. To conserve and enhance landscape character and townscapes.	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The Scoping Report highlights that the built form and scale of the City Centre is a product of historic evolution. It notes that the City Centre has areas of distinct built character based on history, townscapes and use, all requiring the reinforcement of their sense of place. With regard to South Woodham Ferrers, meanwhile, the Scoping Report highlights the unique character of the town. Development within and adjacent to the Chelmsford Urban Area and to the north of South Woodham Ferrers has the potential to adversely affect townscape character during construction and once development is complete, although this would be dependent on the scale, height and design of new development. Further, the redevelopment of brownfield sites presents an</p> <p>+/-/?</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Option 1.</p> <p>This option would direct some growth to the north east of Great Baddow/Sandon and to Rettendon Place. The development at Rettendon Place of circa 1,250 dwellings in particular would alter the existing built character of the settlement and affect landscape character.</p> <p>Overall, Option 2 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>+/-/?</p>	<p>Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>The range and type of effects associated with this option are likely to be similar to those identified in respect of Options 1 and 2. However, the reduced allocation of residential development adjacent to the urban areas relative to Options 1 and 2 and increased delivery in villages and service settlements could increase the potential for significant negative effects on the character of these smaller settlements and landscape. However, this is dependent on the exact location, scale, density and design of development which is currently unknown.</p> <p>Overall, Option 3 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>+/-/?</p>

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<p>opportunity to enhance the quality of the built environment and to improve townscapes.</p> <p>As noted above, 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 of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers and at Great Leighs will be required to accommodate growth under this option. Allied with the potential construction of a western relief road and a north east bypass (as well as other infrastructure), the area of greenfield land required is expected to be substantial and in consequence there is the potential for significant negative effects on landscape character and visual amenity. The scale of growth at Great Leighs (circa 2,000 dwellings) in particular would be likely to alter the existing built character of the settlement. 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. It should also be noted that development under this option would not be within the Green Belt or at locations that would harm green wedges.</p> <p>Under this option, existing green wedges would be retained (although their precise boundary would be reviewed) and extended which would help to protect existing townscape/landscape character. Green buffers would also be implemented at urban extensions to the north of South Woodham Ferrers, south of Great Leighs, north of Broomfield and at Boreham. These buffers would be expected to help mitigate adverse effects on landscape character arising from new development and maintain separation between built-up areas.</p> <p>Overall, Option 1 has been assessed as having a mixed positive and negative effect on this objective.</p> <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration should be given to the delivery of a green buffer at Rettendon Place to help protect landscape character. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. 	<p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Option 1.

SA Objective	Option 1: Urban Focus	Option 2: Urban Focus and Growth on Key Transport Corridors	Option 3: Urban Focus and Growth in Key Villages
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed policies on high quality design should be contained within the Local Plan. 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. <p>Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None identified. <p>Uncertainties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exact location of future development, the quality of the receiving landscapes and the proximity of sensitive receptors is unknown at this stage. The exact quantum of growth to be delivered over the plan period is unknown at this stage. 		

