Dacorum Borough Council

Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment)

Addendum to Working Note for the Emerging Core Strategy

Additional Strategic Development Locations and Sites Assessment

April 2010
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CONTENTS

1 INTRODUCTION........................................................................................................................................... 2
  1.1 BACKGROUND ........................................................................................................................................... 2
  1.2 ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY .................................................................................................................. 2

2 ASSESSMENT RESULTS ................................................................................................................................... 3
  2.1 SHENDISH (NORTH) ................................................................................................................................. 3
  2.2 SHENDISH (SOUTH) .................................................................................................................................. 5
  2.3 FELDEN .......................................................................................................................................................... 6
  2.4 WEST HEMEL HEMPSTEAD (NORTH) .......................................................................................................... 7
  2.5 WEST HEMEL HEMPSTEAD (SOUTH) ......................................................................................................... 8
  2.6 MARCHMONT FARM ..................................................................................................................................... 9
  2.7 OLD TOWN ................................................................................................................................................... 10
  2.8 NASH MILLS ............................................................................................................................................... 11

APPENDIX A – SA FRAMEWORK: INCLUDED IN THIS DOCUMENT
APPENDIX B – ADDITIONAL STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT LOCATIONS ASSESSMENT TABLES: SEPARATE DOCUMENT
APPENDIX C – ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS INFORMATION (PROVIDED BY DBC): SEPARATE DOCUMENT
1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Dacorum Borough Council (DBC) published its Emerging Core Strategy for consultation in June 2009 and this was accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment) Working Note. The Working Note summarised the interim findings of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) on the Emerging Core Strategy.

An addendum to the working note was published in February 2010 to report the findings of the appraisal of additional strategic development locations in Berkhamstead and Tring. This working note built on the work undertaken in June 2009 which previously assessed locations in Kings Langley, Bovingdon and Markyate, as well as Berkhamstead and Tring.

This second addendum summarises the findings of the Sustainability Appraisal on a number of Additional Strategic Development Locations and Sites located in the Greenbelt around Hemel Hempstead.

This Addendum should be read alongside the SA Working Note and its accompanying appendices (published June 2009), which can be accessed on the Dacorum Borough Council website (http://www.dacorum.gov.uk/). In addition, information on the additional locations and sites to be appraised (supplied by DBC) is provided in Appendix C of this document.

As with the original SA Working Note, the Addendum does not form a formal part of the SA/SEA reporting process. It has been produced to contribute to the ongoing plan-making process, by providing an independent assessment of the Additional Strategic Development Locations, with a view to guiding the next stage of its development. Sustainability Appraisal is a decision aiding tool rather than a decision making one and the contents of this report should therefore be considered in this light.

1.2 Assessment Methodology

The appraisal approach taken within this Addendum utilises the SA/SEA Framework Objectives that were developed for the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for Dacorum Borough Council. The SA/SEA Framework is provided in Appendix A.

The Additional Strategic Development Locations and Sites have been assessed against the SA/SEA framework objectives in terms of their overall performance ranked from ‘very sustainable’ to ‘very unsustainable’, using the scoring criteria outlined below.
### Significance Assessment

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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Very sustainable - Option is likely to contribute significantly to the SA/SEA objective</td>
<td>✓ ✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainable - Option is likely to contribute in some way to the SA/SEA objective</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uncertain – It is uncertain how or if the Option impacts on the SA/SEA objective</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neutral – Option is unlikely to impact on the SA/SEA objective</td>
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<td>Unsustainable – Option is likely to have minor adverse impacts on the SA/SEA objective</td>
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<td>Very unsustainable – Option is likely to have significant adverse impacts on the SA/SEA objective</td>
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### 2 Assessment Results

The following section provides a summary of the assessment results. Full assessment tables providing more detailed information can be found in Appendix B.

#### 2.1 Shendish (north)

| SA Objectives (Abridged) | ✓ | ✓ | - | ✓ | ✓ | - | - | - | - | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | - | ✓ | ✓ | - | - | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1. Biodiversity           |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 2. Water quality/quantity |   |   | - |   | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 3. Flood risk             |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 4. Soils                  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 5. GHG Emissions          |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 6. Climate Change Proof   |   |   | - |   | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 7. Air Quality            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 8. Use of brownfield sites|   |   | - |   | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 9. Resource Efficiency    |   |   | - |   | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10. Historic & Cultural Assets |   |   | - |   | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 11. Landscape & Townscape |   |   | - |   | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 12. Health                |   |   | - |   | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 13. Sustainable Locations |   |   | - |   | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 14. Equality/Inclusion    |   |   | - |   | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15. Good Quality Housing  |   |   | - |   | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 16. Community Identity and Participation |   |   | - |   | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 17. Crime and Fear of Crime and Growth             |   |   | - |   | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 18. Sustainable Prosperity and Growth               |   |   | - |   | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 19. Fairer Access to Services                        |   |   | - |   | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 20. Revitalise Town Centres                          |   |   | - |   | ✓ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

This option is forecast as having positive effects on ‘greenhouse gas emissions’ as the site has good access to local facilities in Apsley. The site is also located close to a train station and there is potential for creation of a public transport link through Manor Estate, both of which could encourage a shift from private car use to public transport. However the potential for additional congestion on London Road (part of which is soon to be designated by the Council as an Air Quality Management Area) has led to an adverse assessment in relation to ‘air quality’.

Adverse effects have been forecast for ‘biodiversity’, ‘water quality/quantity’, ‘soils’ and ‘use of brownfield sites’. The site is greenfield and would therefore result in loss or damage of habitats as well as soil sealing. The option is also located within a sand and gravel belt,
which could have implications for safeguarding mineral reserves, resulting in adverse effects for ‘resource efficiency’. Development of this option would have a significant visual impact on the landscape of Gade Valley, and would have a potential impact on the setting of Shendish Manor. Development in this area of the Greenbelt would decrease the gap between Hemel Hempstead and Rucklers Lane. The option is located adjacent to an area of archaeological significance and is located near Shendish Manor, which is a Grade II listed building and therefore adverse effects have been identified for ‘historic and cultural assets’.

The option is located near local facilities, which could encourage walking and cycling, although the topography of the site may discourage these modes. The site’s location near to the A41 could result in noise levels that could also adversely affect health and wellbeing. Developing this option would also lead to the loss of recreational facilities, as well as reducing the recreational value of footpaths through the area, which would reduce opportunities for healthy lifestyles. These factors would result in an overall adverse effect on the ‘health’ objective.

The option is located near a local centre which would result in a positive effect on ‘equality and social exclusion’. However, the two local primary schools are already at capacity and the location means that the area is relatively isolated from the rest of Hemel Hempstead.

Positive effects have been forecast against the majority of the social and economic objectives, including ‘housing’, ‘sustainable prosperity and growth’, and ‘fairer access to services’ objectives. The option will provide approximately 300 units of housing, including a proportion of affordable housing. The provision of additional housing means there will be more residents in the community making facilities and shops more viable. This would help support the local economy. However, this option would result in adverse effects on ‘revitalise town centres’, as by developing new homes in the Greenbelt around Hemel Hempstead this is not encouraging development in the centre of urban areas.
2.2 Shendish (south)

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This option is forecast as having positive effects on ‘greenhouse gas emissions’ as the site has good access to local facilities in Apsley. The site is also located close to a train station which could encourage a shift from private car use to public transport. However the potential for additional congestion on London Road (part of which is soon to be designated by the Council as an Air Quality Management Area) has led to an adverse assessment in relation to ‘air quality’.

Adverse effects have been forecast for ‘biodiversity’, ‘water quality/quantity’, ‘soils’ and ‘use of brownfield sites’ The site is greenfield and would therefore result in loss or damage of habitats as well as soil sealing. The option is also located within a sand and gravel belt, which could have implications for safeguarding mineral reserves resulting in adverse effects for ‘resource efficiency’. The option would have a visual impact on the landscape of Gade Valley, and would have a potential impact on the setting of Shendish Manor. Development in this area of the Greenbelt would decrease the gap between Hemel Hempstead and Rucklers Lane. The option is located adjacent to an area of archaeological significance and is located near Shendish Manor, which is a Grade II listed building and therefore adverse effects have been identified for ‘historic and cultural assets’.

The option is located at near local facilities, which could encourage walking and cycling, although the topography of the site may discourage these modes. The site’s location near to the A41 could result in noise levels that could also adversely affect health and wellbeing. These factors would result in an overall adverse effect on the ‘health’ objective.

The option is located near a local centre which would result in a positive effect on ‘equality and social exclusion’. However, the two local primary schools are already at capacity and
the location of the option means that the area is relatively isolated from the rest of Hemel Hempstead.

Positive effects have been forecast against the majority of the social and economic objectives, including ‘housing’, ‘sustainable prosperity and growth’, and ‘fairer access to services’ objectives. The option will provide approximately 300 units of housing, including a proportion of affordable housing. The provision of additional housing means there will be more residents in the community making facilities and shops more viable. This would help support the local economy. However, this option would result in adverse effects on ‘revitalise town centres’, as by developing new homes in the Greenbelt around Hemel Hempstead this is not encouraging development in the centre of urban areas.

### 2.3 Felden

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The option would lead to development on greenfield land within GreenBelt. The option also includes a wildlife site “Grasslands south of Roughdown Common” which would mean that development on this location would lead to significant adverse effects on ‘biodiversity’, and adverse effects on ‘soils’, ‘use of brownfield land’ and ‘landscape’. In addition, the site is located adjacent to Roughdown Common SSSI and common land, and development would result in the loss of land actively managed by the Boxmoor Trust for grazing and in the interests of nature conservation.

The option is located at a distance from the town centre, which could increase the use of car therefore having adverse effects on ‘greenhouse gas emissions’ and ‘air quality’. However the site is located near the railway station and bus routes, which could increase the use of public transport, but the effect is very dependent on the uptake of these modes. The option is located at a distance from facilities which could discourage walking and cycling. The site’s
location near to the A41 could result in noise levels that could also adversely affect health and wellbeing.

Adverse effects have been identified on the ‘sustainable locations’ and ‘equality and social exclusion’ SA objectives for the option as it is located at a distance from the town centre.

Positive effects have been forecast for the option on the ‘good quality housing’, ‘sustainable prosperity and growth’, and ‘fairer access to services’ objectives. The new housing (approximately 300 units of housing) should help to support the local services in the town, maintaining their viability and boosting the local economy, thereby helping to support sustainable urban living. However, this option would result in adverse effects on ‘revitalise town centres’, as by developing new homes in the Greenbelt around Hemel Hempstead this is not encouraging development in the centre of urban areas.

### 2.4 West Hemel Hempstead (north)

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This option is forecast as having adverse effects on ‘greenhouse gas emissions’ and ‘air quality’, as the site is located at a distance from shops and facilities, which could increase the need to travel. Walking and cycling may be discouraged due to the topography of the area. Adverse effects have also been forecast for ‘biodiversity’, ‘soils’, and ‘use of brownfield sites’. The site is greenfield within the Greenbelt, and would therefore result in loss or damage of habitats as well as soil sealing. The option would have a visual impact on the landscape of Bulborne Valley.

The option is located at a distance from shops and facilities which could discourage walking and cycling, and the topography of the site may discourage these modes. The local health facilities are at capacity, thereby having an adverse effect on ‘health’.
In terms of ‘equality and social exclusion’, the option is located at a distance from local facilities, and local health facilities are at capacity. However, there is potential capacity in local schools.

Positive effects have been forecast against the majority of the social and economic objectives, including ‘housing’, ‘sustainable prosperity and growth’, and ‘fairer access to services’ objectives. The option will provide approximately 450 units of housing, including a proportion of affordable housing. The provision of additional housing means there will be more residents in the community making facilities and shops more viable. This would help support the local economy. However, this option would result in adverse effects on ‘revitalise town centres’, as by developing new homes in the Greenbelt around Hemel Hempstead this is not encouraging development in the centre of urban areas.

2.5 West Hemel Hempstead (south)

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This option is forecast as having adverse effects on ‘greenhouse gas emissions’ and ‘air quality’, as the site is located at a distance from shops and facilities, which could increase the need to travel. Walking and cycling may be discouraged due to the topography of the area. Adverse effects have also been forecast for ‘biodiversity’, ‘soils’, and ‘use of brownfield sites’. The site is greenfield within the Greenbelt, and would therefore result in loss or damage of habitats as well as soil sealing. The option would have a significant visual impact on the landscape of Bulborne Valley and the nearby Chilterns AONB. The option could also impact on the existing green link between Shrubhill Common and the countryside.

The option is located at a distance from shops and facilities which could discourage walking and cycling, and the topography of the site may discourage these modes. The local health facilities are at capacity, thereby having an adverse effect on ‘health’. The option is located
near A41 and the railway, which could result in noise levels that could affect health and wellbeing.

In terms of ‘equality and social exclusion’, the option is located at a distance from local facilities, and local health facilities are at capacity, resulting in adverse impacts on this objective.

Positive effects have been forecast against the majority of the social and economic objectives, including ‘housing’, ‘sustainable prosperity and growth’, and ‘fairer access to services’ objectives. The option will provide approximately 450 units of housing, including a proportion of affordable housing. The provision of additional housing means there will be more residents in the community making facilities and shops more viable. This would help support the local economy. However, this option would result in adverse effects on ‘revitalise town centres’, as by developing new homes in the Greenbelt around Hemel Hempstead this is not encouraging development in the centre of urban areas.

2.6 Marchmont Farm

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This option is forecast as having positive effects on ‘greenhouse gas emissions’ and ‘air quality’, as the site has good access to local facilities which could decrease the need to travel, reducing the level of growth in emissions.

Adverse effects have been forecast for ‘biodiversity’, ‘soils’, and ‘use of brownfield sites’. The site is greenfield within the Greenbelt, and would therefore result in loss or damage of habitats as well as soil sealing. The option would have a visual impact on the landscape of Gade Valley and Piccotts End, resulting in adverse impacts for ‘landscape’.

The option is located near local facilities, which could encourage walking and cycling, resulting in positive effects on ‘health’. This option is considered to be more sustainable
than other greenfield sites due to the proximity to the existing link road, schools and local shops.

Positive effects have been forecast against the majority of the social and economic objectives, including ‘housing’, ‘sustainable prosperity and growth’, ‘fairer access to services’ objectives. The option will provide approximately 300 units of housing, including a proportion of affordable housing. The provision of additional housing means there will be more residents in the community making facilities and shops more viable. This would help support the local economy. However, this option would result in adverse effects on ‘revitalise town centres’, as by developing new homes in the Greenbelt around Hemel Hempstead this is not encouraging development in the centre of urban areas.

### 2.7 Old Town

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This option is forecast as having positive effects on ‘greenhouse gas emissions’ and ‘air quality’, as the site has good access to local facilities, however walking and cycling may be discouraged due to the topography of the area.

Adverse effects have been forecast for ‘biodiversity’, ‘soils’, and ‘use of brownfield sites’. The site is greenfield and is located adjacent to Howe Grove Wood LNR and Wildlife site, and would therefore result in loss or damage of habitats as well as soil sealing. If the smaller site is developed, however it would be some distance from the designation and separated from it by Fletcher Way. The option is located near two Conservation Areas, and development may have an impact on their setting, resulting in uncertainty of the impact on

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1 There are two potential options for development at this site: first for the whole site and second for the southern end of the site below Fletcher Way.
‘historic and cultural assets’. Again, if the smaller site is developed however this would be further away from the Piccotts End Conservation Area.

Development in the Greenbelt at this location would result in the coalescence of Hemel Hempstead with Piccotts End, particularly if the whole area is developed for housing, rather than just the area to the south of Fletcher Way.

The option is located near local facilities, which could encourage walking and cycling, thereby having a positive effect on ‘health’, although the topography of the site may discourage these modes. Developing this option would also mean that there would be a loss of public open space, reducing the potential for recreational activities, having an adverse impact on ‘health’.

Positive effects have been forecast against the majority of the social and economic objectives, including the ‘housing’, ‘sustainable prosperity and growth’, and ‘fairer access to services’ objectives. The option will provide housing, including a proportion of affordable housing, however the level of effects against these objectives is dependent on whether just the southern part of the site will be developed, which would provide approximately 80 units of housing, or whether the entire site is developed, which would provide approximately 350 units of housing. The provision of additional housing means there will be more residents in the community making facilities and shops more viable, especially if the area north of Fletcher Way is developed. This would help support the local economy. However, this option would result in adverse effects on ‘revitalise town centres’, as by developing new homes in the Greenbelt around Hemel Hempstead this is not encouraging development in the centre of urban areas.

2.8 Nash Mills

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</table>
The option would lead to development on greenfield land within the Green Belt and includes the “Grand Union Canal/River Gade” and “Two Waters to Nash Mills” wildlife sites. These factors would mean that development on this location would lead to adverse effects on ‘biodiversity’, ‘flood risk’, ‘soils’, ‘use of brownfield land’ and ‘landscape’. The option is also located within a sand and gravel belt, which could have implications for safeguarding mineral reserves resulting in adverse effects for ‘resource efficiency’. The Council is shortly to designate an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) for part of London Road near to the Apsley local centre and additional traffic created by development at Nash Mills would add to existing problems. Therefore adverse effects have been identified for ‘air quality’.

The option is located near local facilities, which could encourage walking and cycling, and is also located within a reasonable distance from Apsley station and bus routes thereby having an positive effect on ‘greenhouse gas emissions’ and ‘health’. However, the option is located near the A4251 and the railway which could result in noise levels that could affect health and wellbeing. The option is located directly adjacent to the fuel pipeline “UKOP Leg 1 Thames to Bovingdon” which may have implications for health and wellbeing.

The option is located near two primary schools which are already at capacity and there is a need for a new school, so this leads to uncertainty over the effect on ‘equality and social exclusion’.

Positive effects have been forecast against the majority of the social and economic objectives, including ‘housing’, ‘sustainable prosperity and growth’, and ‘fairer access to services’ objectives. The option will provide housing, including a proportion of affordable housing. The provision of additional housing means there will be more residents in the community making facilities and shops more viable. This would help support the local economy. However, this option would result in adverse effects on ‘revitalise town centres’, as by developing new homes in the Greenbelt around Hemel Hempstead this is not encouraging development in the centre of urban areas.
## Appendix A: SA Framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Indicators (Bold indicates existing)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biodiversity</strong></td>
<td>To protect, maintain and enhance designated wildlife and geological sites (international, national and local) and protected species to achieve favourable condition</td>
<td>Herts QoL WH6 Condition of SSSIs (contextual indicator) and HBRC number, area and condition of SSSIs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To restore characteristic habitats and species, to achieve BAP targets</td>
<td>HBRC Change in areas designated for their intrinsic value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To support farming and countryside practices that enhance wider biodiversity and landscape quality by economically and socially valuable activities (e.g. grazing, coppicing, nature reserves)</td>
<td>HBRC Change in Priority Habitats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To manage woodlands and other habitats of value for biodiversity in a sustainable manner and protect them against conversion to other uses</td>
<td>Herts QoL WH1 Water voles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To recognise the social/environmental value and increase access to woodlands, wildlife &amp; geological sites and green spaces particularly near/in urban areas</td>
<td>Herts QoL WH2 Birds (contextual indicator)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Herts QoL WH4 Pipistrelle bats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Herts QoL WH5 Butterflies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HBRC distribution/change of key species in Herts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>HBRC distribution/change of protected species in Herts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>COI 8 Changes in areas and populations of biodiversity importance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>% woodland cover in District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of wildlife sites accessible by sustainable modes of travel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Criteria</td>
<td>Indicators (Bold indicates existing)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>To encourage people to come into contact with, understand, and enjoy nature</strong></td>
<td>Number of visitors to wildlife sites</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water</strong></td>
<td><strong>To raise awareness and encourage higher water efficiency and conservation by for instance promoting water reuse in new and existing developments</strong></td>
<td>Level of awareness of water issues and the need for water saving (contextual indicator)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To ensure water consumption does not exceed levels which can be supported by natural processes and storage systems</td>
<td>Average household water consumption per capita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To improve chemical and biological quality and flow of rivers and encourage practices which reduce nitrate levels in groundwater</td>
<td>Commercial water consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To improve flow of rivers</td>
<td>Proportion of housing (existing and new development) with installed water efficient devices/water metres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To reduce the number and severity of pollution incidents</td>
<td><strong>Herts QoL WR3 River quality objectives</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To maintain or restore the integrity of water dependent wildlife sites in the area</td>
<td>Number and severity of pollution incidents to surface water and groundwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. Ensure that new developments avoid areas which are at risk from flooding and natural flood storage areas</strong></td>
<td><strong>To avoid developments in areas being at risk from fluvial, sewer or groundwater flooding (for instance natural flood plains) while taking into account the impacts of climate change</strong></td>
<td>Number of properties at risk from flooding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To ensure that developments, which are at risk from flooding or are likely to be at risk in future due to climate change, are sufficiently adapted</td>
<td>Proportion of runoff from new developments which is directed into Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDs)²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To promote properly maintained sustainable urban drainage systems to reduce flood risk and run off in areas outside Source Protection Zones 1 (SPZ)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Soil</strong></td>
<td><strong>To safeguard high quality soils, such as agricultural land grades 1, 2 and 3a) from development</strong></td>
<td>Amount of high quality agricultural land degraded/lost to development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

² Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) are management practices and physical structures designed to drain surface water in a more sustainable way than conventional systems.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Indicators (Bold indicates existing)</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| minimise the degradation/loss of soils due to new developments | To limit contamination/degradation/loss of soils due to development | Area/percentage of contaminated land remediated  
Number of development sites having a policy to safeguard soils  
Area of proposed new developments on greenfield sites |

### Climatic Factors

5. Reduce the impacts of climate change, with a particular focus on reducing the consumption of fossil fuels and levels of CO₂

| | | NAIE Emissions of greenhouse gases (particularly CO₂) per capita grouped per type of source  
BV 63 Energy efficiency - average SAP rating of authority dwellings  
BV 80a (i) Actual/’Typical’ energy consumption LA buildings - electricity  
BV 80a (ii) Actual/’Typical’ energy consumption LA buildings - fossil fuels  
Herts QoL EN1 Energy efficiency in homes - overall reduction in CO₂ emissions %  
Herts QoL EN2 Energy efficiency in public buildings |
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To minimise greenhouse gas emissions (particularly CO₂) for instance through more energy efficient design and reducing the need to travel</td>
<td>To promote increased carbon sequestration e.g. through increases in woodland cover</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To adopt lifestyle changes which help to mitigate and adapt to climate change, such as promoting water and energy efficiency (through for instance higher levels of home insulation) |

6. Ensure that developments are capable of withstanding the effects of climate change (adaptation to climate change)

| | | Percentage of new developments considered to be ‘climate change proof’  
(For indicators regarding renewable energy see section on material assets) |
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To promote design measures which enable developments to withstand and accommodate the likely impacts and results of climate change (for instance through robust and weather resistant building structures)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Air Quality

7. Achieve good air quality, especially in urban areas

| | | NAIE Levels of key air pollutants (e.g. Benzene, 1,3-Butadiene, CO₂, Lead, NO₂, PM10, SO₂) within the local authority area, and within the East of England  
Herts QoL QoL27 Air Pollution |
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To reduce the need to travel by car through planning settlement patterns and economic activity in a way that reduces dependence on the car and maintains access to work and essential services for non-car-owners</td>
<td>To integrate land use and transport planning by for instance:</td>
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<td>Objective</td>
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<td>Indicators (Bold indicates existing)</td>
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</table>
|                                                                          | ▪ Promoting Green Transport Plans, including car pools, car sharing as part of new developments  
▪ Ensuring services and facilities are accessible by sustainable modes of transport                                                                 | Herts QoL TR1 Volume of motor traffic  
Herts QoL TR2 Modal split  
Number of days when air pollution reported as moderate or higher within the local authority area  
Number of designated AQMAs                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                                          | To ensure that development proposals do not make existing air quality problems worse  
To address existing or potential air quality problems                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Material Assets                                                          | 8. Maximise the use of previously developed land and buildings, and the efficient use of land  
To concentrate new developments on previously developed land (PDL)  
To avoid use of Greenfield sites for development  
To maximise the efficient use of land and existing buildings by measures such as higher densities and mixed use developments  
To encourage the remediation of contaminated and derelict land and buildings | COI 1(a) & (c) Amount of land developed for employment by type and percentage which is on previously developed land  
COI 1(b) Amount of land developed for employment by type, which is in development and/or regeneration areas defined in the LDF  
COI 2(b) Percentage of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land  
COI 2(c) Percentage of new dwellings completed at: less than 30, between 30 and 50 and above 50 dwellings per hectare  
Herts QoL LU3 Residential development on previously developed land  
BV106 % of new homes built on previously developed land  
Amount and percentage of secondary and recycled materials (including minerals and aggregates) used in construction  
BV82a Household waste - percentage recycled  
BV82b Household waste - percentage                                                                                                      |
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<th>Indicators (Bold indicates existing)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sterilisation by other developments</td>
<td>composted</td>
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<td></td>
<td>To promote renewable energy sources as part of new or refurbished developments</td>
<td>BV82c Household waste - percentage of heat, power and other energy recovered</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>To increase recycling and composting rates and encourage easily accessible recycling systems as part of new developments</td>
<td>BV82d Household waste - percentage landfilled</td>
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<td></td>
<td>To promote awareness regarding waste/recycling and renewable energy issues through education programmes in schools and the community</td>
<td>BV84 Kg of household waste collected per head</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Cultural Heritage**

10. To identify, maintain and enhance the historic environment and cultural assets

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<th>Indicators (Bold indicates existing)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To safeguard and enhance the historic environment and restore historic character where appropriate, based on sound historical evidence</td>
<td>Number of Listed Buildings at Risk</td>
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<td></td>
<td>To promote local distinctiveness by maintaining and restoring historic buildings and areas, encouraging the re-use of valued buildings and thoughtful high quality design in housing and mixed use developments – to a density which respects the local context and townscape character, and includes enhancement of the public realm</td>
<td>Number and condition of Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)</td>
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<td>To promote public education, enjoyment and access of the built heritage and archaeology</td>
<td>Number and condition of Registered Parks and Gardens</td>
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<td>Number of Conservation Areas</td>
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<td></td>
<td>% of Conservation Areas with character appraisals</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of historic buildings and structures open to the public</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Numbers of historic assets taken from the ‘at risk’ category</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of historic assets restored/reused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of locally important buildings to be demolished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Criteria</td>
<td>Indicators (Bold indicates existing)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Landscape</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11. To conserve and enhance landscape and townscape character and encourage local distinctiveness</td>
<td>To protect and enhance landscape and townscape character</td>
<td>Changes inconsistent with historic landscape</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>To evaluate the sensitivity of the landscape to new/inappropriate developments and avoid inappropriate developments in these areas</td>
<td>Quality in the built environment as measured by public perception surveys</td>
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<td>To protect ‘dark skies’ from light pollution, and promote low energy and less invasive lighting sources while considering the balance between safety and environmental impacts</td>
<td>A measure of increased public access or interpretation of sites</td>
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<td>To minimise the visual impact of new developments</td>
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<td><strong>Population and Human Health</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12. To encourage healthier lifestyles and reduce adverse health impacts of new developments</td>
<td>To promote the health advantages of walking and cycling and community based activities</td>
<td>Length and condition of cycle / footpath network</td>
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<td>To identify, protect and enhance open spaces, such as rivers and canals, parks and gardens, allotments and playing fields, and the links between them, for the benefit of people and wildlife</td>
<td>Number and condition of sports facilities</td>
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<td>To include specific design and amenity policies to minimise noise and odour pollution, particularly in residential areas</td>
<td>COI 4(c) Percentage of eligible open spaces managed to green flag award standards</td>
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<td>To narrow the income gap between the poorest and wealthiest parts of the area and to reduce health differential</td>
<td>Percentage of population with access to public open space</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. To deliver more sustainable patterns of location of</td>
<td>To reduce the need to travel through closer integration of housing, jobs and services</td>
<td>Herts QoL NO1 Noise complaints received per 1000 population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Herts QoL NO2 Source of noise complaints</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Percentage of health facilities accessible by sustainable modes of travel</td>
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<td>Objective</td>
<td>Criteria</td>
<td>Indicators (Bold indicates existing)</td>
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<tr>
<td>development</td>
<td>To promote better and more sustainable access to health facilities</td>
<td>Herts QoL TR2 Modal split</td>
</tr>
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<td>Accessibility modelling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Factors</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. Promote equity &amp; address</td>
<td>To include measures which will improve everyone’s access to high quality</td>
<td>Index of Multiple Deprivation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>social exclusion by closing</td>
<td>education, recreation, community facilities and public transport</td>
<td>BV156 % of local authority buildings suitable for and accessible by disabled people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the gap between the poorest</td>
<td>To ensure facilities and services are accessible by people with</td>
<td>BV170a Number of visits to/usage’s of museums per 1,000 population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>communities and the rest</td>
<td>disabilities and minority groups</td>
<td>BV 117 Visits to libraries Number per capita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>To encourage people to access the learning and skills they need for</td>
<td>Herts QoL SE3 Transport: access to public services</td>
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<td></td>
<td>high quality of life</td>
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<td></td>
<td>To ensure that the LDF does not discriminate on the basis of disability,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ethnic minority, or gender</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Ensure that everyone has</td>
<td>Promote a range housing types and tenure, including high quality</td>
<td>COI 2(d) Affordable housing completions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>access to good quality housing</td>
<td>affordable and key worker housing</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>that meets their needs</td>
<td></td>
<td>BV184a LA homes which were non-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Criteria</td>
<td>Indicators (Bold indicates existing)</td>
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<tr>
<td>16. Enhance community identity and participation</td>
<td>To recognise the value of the multi-cultural/faith diversity of the peoples in the region</td>
<td>Number of community facilities per 10,000 population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To improve the quality of life in urban areas by making them more attractive places in which to live and work, and to visit</td>
<td>Town centre health checks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To encourage high quality design in new developments, including mixed uses, to create local identity and encourage a sense of community pride</td>
<td>CABE design review of schemes with significant impacts (if conducted)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Reduce both crime and fear of crime</td>
<td>To reduce all levels of crime with particular focus on violent, drug related, environmental and racially motivated crime</td>
<td>BV126a Burglaries No. per 1,000 households</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To plan new developments to help reducing crime and fear of crime through thoughtful design of the physical environment, and by promoting well-used streets and public spaces</td>
<td>BV127a Robberies per 1000 population and percentage detected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To support government-sponsored crime/safety initiatives, maximising the use of all tools available to police, local authorities and other agencies to tackle anti-social behaviour</td>
<td>BV127b violent offences committed in a public place per 1,000 population</td>
</tr>
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<td>BV127c violent offences committed in connection with licensed premises per 1,000 population</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>BV127d violent offences committed under the influence per 1,000 population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>BV128a Vehicle crimes No. per 1,000 population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BV174 Number of recorded racial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
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<td>Indicators (Bold indicates existing)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Economic Factors</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth</td>
<td>To support an economy in the Authority which draws on the knowledge base, creativity and enterprise of its people</td>
<td>Herts QoL EC1 Percentage rise in GVA Herts QoL UN1 Long term unemployment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To promote and support economic diversity, small and medium sized enterprises and community-based enterprises</td>
<td>Herts QoL QoL1 Proportion of people of working age in employment COI 1(f) Amount of employment land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To support the economy with high quality infrastructure and a high quality environment</td>
<td>lost to residential development Business start up failures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Achieve a more equitable sharing of the benefits of prosperity across all sectors of society and fairer access to services, focusing on deprived areas in the region</td>
<td>To encourage local provision of and access to jobs and services</td>
<td>Herts QoL QoL5 The percentage increase/decrease in the number of local jobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To improve the competitiveness of the rural economy</td>
<td>In/out commuting balance Rate of growth of businesses (urban and rural)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Revitalise town centres to promote a return to sustainable urban living</td>
<td>To promote the role of local centres as centres for sustainable development providing services, housing and employment, drawing on the principles of urban renaissance</td>
<td>COI 4(b) Percentage of completed retail, office and leisure development in town centres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To encourage well-designed mixed-use developments in the heart of urban areas, create viable and attractive town centres that have vitality and life, and discourage out-of-town developments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>