

Rochford District Council’s Legal Compliance Statement

1. Has the Plan been prepared in accordance with the statutory procedures?

The Rochford AAP has been prepared in accordance with the Local Development Scheme, the Habitat Regulations, the Statement of Community Involvement and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

2. Have the requirements for Sustainability Appraisal been met?

The requirements for Sustainability Appraisal have been met in accordance with the relevant regulations. A Sustainability Appraisal has been prepared by specialist consultants, Enfusion, for each stage of the document (Issues and Options and Pre-Submission) to assess the likely environmental, economic and social implications of the options and policies being proposed. The Sustainability Appraisal was also reviewed and updated to take account of changes made to the Pre-Submission Document following consultation, and was submitted alongside the Submission Document (dated November 2013).

The Issues and Options and Pre-Submission Sustainability Appraisals are available to view on the Council’s website at the following link:

http://www.rochford.gov.uk/planning/policy/local_development_framework/rochford_area_action_plan.

3. Were any requirements for appropriate assessment under the Habitats Regulations met before publication?

A Habitats Regulations Assessment has been produced for the Plan and verified by Natural England.

4. Has a statement setting out how the Council has satisfied the requirements of the Duty to Cooperate (DTC) been provided?

A statement setting out how the Council has satisfied the Duty to Cooperate in respect of the Rochford AAP has been included within the Consultation Statement.

5. Has the Council has undertaken a ‘self-assessment’ exercise with the submitted Plan?

The Council has not undertaken the optional ‘self-assessment’ exercise, however, more detail in relation to soundness and legal compliance can be provided, if required.