

**Rochford District Council**

**Draft Core Strategy DPD**

**Regulation 25 Version**

**Strategic Environmental Assessment  
And Sustainability Appraisal**

**Environmental Report**

**Prepared for Rochford District Council**

**By**

**Essex County Council**



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## **Non Technical Summary**

# **Non Technical Summary**

## **Non Technical Summary**

### **Chapter 1 - Methodology**

#### **Introduction to Sustainable Development**

Sustainable development is defined as ‘development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’ (World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987). The UK Government has adopted 5 principles of for sustainable development they include;

- Living within environmental limits,
- Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society,
- Achieving a sustainable economy,
- Promoting good governance,
- Using sound science.

#### **Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment**

The European Directive 2001/42/EC (EC, 2001) ensures that a Strategic Environmental Assessment of a wide range of plans and programmes shall be conducted. The Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version therefore requires a Strategic Appraisal that incorporates the dual statutory requirement of both Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) guidance;

- A ‘Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive’ (September, 2005).
- ‘Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks’ (November, 2005)

## **Methodology Adopted in the SEA**

The Scoping stage of the SEA/SA involves investigation into the relevant plans, programmes and environmental protection objectives. The Scoping Report also outlines the baseline information which provides the basis for predicting and monitoring environmental effects, aids in the interpretation of environmental problems and allows identification of possible mitigation measures. A list of Sustainability objectives is also outlined in the Scoping Report.

The Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version was consulted for a 5 week period. The second part of the SEA approach involves the development and refinement of alternatives and assessing the effects of the plan.

The third stage is the development of the Environmental Report. The structure of the Environmental Report is very similar to the suggested structure outlined in 'A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive' (September, 2005).

## **Chapter 2 - Background**

The Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version aims to set out the key elements of the planning framework for the area. The Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version outlines the following principle objectives;

<b>Number</b>	<b>Objective</b>
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<b>1</b>	<b>The Greenbelt and Strategic Gaps Between Settlements</b>
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Divert development and population growth away from rural areas to existing urban areas, green belt policy also assists in the achievement of sustainability objectives.

<b>2</b>	<b>Protection and Enhancement of the Upper Roach Valley</b>
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Increase development opportunities for informal countryside recreation within the Upper Roach Valley.

**3 Protection and Enhancement of Special Landscapes**

Protect and enhance special landscapes including coastal protection belt, special landscape areas and historic landscape.

**4 Housing Numbers**

Meet the housing requirements set out in the East of England Plan.

**5 General Development Locations**

Seek to deliver a development pattern that reduces the reliance on motorised transport and places development close to facilities and services.

**6 Affordable Housing**

Provide affordable housing for those in need.

**7 Employment**

Meet the employment target outlined in the East of England Plan, principally within Southend Airport, Rochford Business Park and the remainder of the allocation provided at various other locations throughout the rest of the District.

**8 Good Design and Design Statements**

Promote good quality design to protect the townscape character.

**9 Character of Place**

Design will be expected to enhance the local identity by being sympathetic to local needs and by building on local opportunities.

**10            Landscaping**

Maintain and enhance environmental quality in the District.

**11            Energy and Water Conservation**

Reduce the energy and water consumption not only for the benefit of the local environment, but for the global environment.

**12            Renewable Energy**

Balance the potential benefits of renewable energy schemes against any adverse effects on local amenity that may arise.

**13            Compulsory Purchase**

Use compulsory purchase powers to ensure sustainable and long term development opportunities for residential, employment, expansion of Cherry Orchard Jubilee Country Park (if required) and informal countryside recreational opportunities.

**14            Community, Leisure and Tourism**

Promote the development of community, leisure and tourism facilities in appropriate locations.

**Chapter 3        -        SEA Objectives and Baseline and Context**

**Review of the Plans and Programmes**

The relationship between various plans and programmes and sustainability objectives may influence the Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version in various ways. The relationships are analysed to;

- Identify any external social, environmental or economic objectives that should be reflected in the SA process;

- Identify external factors that may have influenced the preparation of the plan; and
- Determine whether the policies in other plans and programmes might lead to cumulative effects when combined with policies in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version.

### **Baseline Characteristics**

The SEA Directive requires an analysis of the 'relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan' (Annex 1b) and 'the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected' (Annex 1c).

The baseline data for the SEA/SA of the Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version includes existing environmental and sustainability information from a range of sources.

## **Baseline Context – Summary of the Trends**

### **Population Summary**

- The resident population of Rochford district, as measured in the 2001 Census, was 78,489 and it is anticipated that by 2021 the population within the District will be 81, 000 persons.
- In 2001, 20 per cent of the resident population were aged under 16, 57 per cent were aged between 16 and 59, and 23 per cent were aged 60 and over.
- Within the district of Rochford there is likely to be an increase in the number of retired people in 2021, most notably for persons 70 and above.
- The District of Rochford contains more persons per hectare than the County of Essex (3.8 persons), the East of England region (2.8 persons) and England and Wales (3.4 persons).
- The percentage of persons that are married or re-married within Rochford (59.7%) is greater than the percentage for Essex (55.2%), the east of England Region (54.3%) and England and Wales (50.9%). The number of single people within the District of Rochford (22.6%) is less than that of the comparators.

### **Deprivation Summary**

- The District of Rochford has less deprivation than the average for the Essex Districts, and Essex County.
- Only 1% of the population of Rochford District live in the most deprived super output areas in the country.
- 7.5% of the population of working age claim key benefits.
- 10.3% of the population over 60 live in households that are income deprived.

- 10.8% of children live in families that are income deprived.
- The incidences of crime per 1000 of the population in the District are considerably lower than the other comparators.
- The percentage of residents who think that vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles is a very big or fairly big problem in their local area is 62.3%.
- Percentage of residents surveyed who say that they feel fairly safe or very safe outside during the day is 98%

### **Education and Employment Summary**

- In 2004, of the people in Rochford of 'working age' (men aged 16-64, women aged 16-59), the employment rate was 79.2%. This compares with an average of 75% for Great Britain.
- 39,000 of the District's residents are in employment whilst statistics supplied by the Rayleigh Job centre in July 2004 state there is only 1% unemployment, compared to the national figure of 2.3% of the working population.
- There are 21,000 jobs in the District, predominately in the retail, wholesale and service sectors. Rochford has significantly more unfilled job vacancies relative to population than other areas locally in Essex
- There are few large businesses – only 5 employ more than 250 staff
- A high proportion of the Rochford workforce commutes out of the District. 30% travel to work in Southend, 14% to London, 9% to Basildon and about 15% travel elsewhere outside the District
- 91.6% of young people aged 16 to 24 year olds in full time education or employment
- 55.4% of 15 year old pupils in local authority schools achieving five or more GCSEs at Grade A\*-C or equivalent



### **Transport and Access Summary**

- 16.4% of households within the District of Rochford do not own a car or van. This proportion of the population is considerably different to the national trend whereby 26.8% of households do not own a car or van
- Within the District the majority of persons out commute and travel 40-60 miles. However, dissimilar to the regional and county trend persons out commuting 5-10 miles represent the next greatest out commuter group
- While Southend Airport is relatively quiet at this time, the indications are that in the future, certainly beyond 2008 when the new terminal facilities are completed, traffic could increase quite significantly
- 64.8% of the resident population travel to work by private motor vehicle (car, taxi or motorbike)
- 19.2% of the resident population travel to work by public transport
- 6.8% of the resident population travel to work on foot or cycle. (Lower quartile).
- 65.2% of residents who think that for their local area, over the past three years, that public transport has got better or stayed the same. (Lower quartile).

### **Housing Summary**

- The District of Rochford has a similar percentage of households inhabiting a semi detached dwelling house with 31.6% of the population to national figures.
- The District of Rochford has a comparable number of detached dwellings (22.8%) to the average for England and Wales
- The average price of a flat within the District of Rochford (£81, 667) was less than the average price of a flat within the region (£96, 888) and nationally

(£138, 762)

- Some 91.6% of households say that their accommodation is adequate for their needs. 8.4% (2,689 implied) say that it is inadequate. The largest single issue for those reporting an inadequacy which could be resolved in-situ (without moving) was that the dwelling needed improvement / repairs (87.7%). Of those requiring a move 68.8% (1,559 implied) indicated that the dwelling was too small.
- 67% cannot afford private rental and home ownership is beyond the reach of 75% of concealed households, even though nearly 40% of them earn over £25,000 p.a
- Annually 393 affordable housing units are needed, 291 more than existing supply from re-lets, a new supply requirement significantly greater than current delivery levels
- 1,817 existing households and 1,717 new households will be moving within Rochford District in the next three years.
- In the case of concealed households moving, choices were more focused on employment with 37.5% moving to get better access to work and 50.1% moving for a better job; 34.8% indicated lack of affordable housing to buy and 23% indicated lack of affordable housing to rent
- 75% have inadequate income to be able to buy and 67% cannot afford to rent privately even the smallest one and two bedroom flats and terraced houses
- The 2004 District Supply / Demand Analysis found that there was a total shortfall of 1558 affordable dwellings across the District.

### **Human Health Summary**

- Within the District of Rochford 15.8% of people have a limiting or long term illness, this level of persons is marginally lower than the regional proportion of

16.2% and the national level (18.2%).

- The proportion of the population that are generally not in good health within the District of Rochford (7.2%) is similar to the regional proportion (7.6%), but differs more greatly from the national level (9.2%).
- The vast majority of Rochford District residents (71.1%) class themselves as being in 'good' health.
- Rochford is in line with Essex in that roughly one-third of households have one or more people with a limiting long-term illness.
- 16.9% of households in the District contain somebody with a support need (5,463 households implied), of which 10.8% had two members affected. 67.4% of all household members were over 60, 16.3% under 45.
- Life expectancy at birth (years): Males is 78
- Life expectancy at birth (years): Females is 82.2

### **Cultural Heritage and Material Assets Summary**

- The Essex Historic Environment Record (HER) maintained by Essex County Council contains nearly 1500 records including 331 listed buildings and 1126 archaeological records which includes 5 Scheduled Monuments for the District of Rochford covering a total area of 98.5 hectares.
- One of these is Grade I listed. There are 17 Grade II\* listed buildings and 309 buildings designated as Grade II. The number of listed buildings at risk in the district has decreased from 8 in 2004 to 7 in 2005. There are 1126 archaeological records within the District, including five Scheduled Monuments.
- There are a total of 10 Conservation Areas, with the largest being Rochford at

365,798m<sup>2</sup>. These sites are defined as having 'special architectural or historical interest, the character of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance'.

- 20.6% of the population are within 20 minutes of a range of 3 different sports facility types
- 84.93% of residents think that for their local area, over the past three years, that sport and leisure facilities have got better or stayed the same.
- 90.29% of residents think that, over the past three years, parks and open spaces have got better or stayed the same.
- The % area of land designated as a SSSI within the local authority area, which is found to be in favourable condition is 77%.

### **Biodiversity Summary**

- As much as 30% of the agricultural land in Rochford District is Grade 1 and 2, with the majority of remaining agricultural land is classed as Grade 3
- Rochford District has a number of designated natural areas. There are 2 RAMSARs (also designated as SPAs), the Crouch and Roach Estuaries and Foulness
- Within the District there is a total of 3 SSSIs and 175.87ha of ancient woodland, which is mostly semi-natural ancient woodland, 59 County Wildlife Sites (CWS), with a total area of 15969.30ha and 4 LNRs, with the largest being Hockley Woods at 91.50ha..
- 2 out of the 3 SSSIs within the District are not meeting PSA targets - 90.25% of the SSSI area in the District is in an 'unfavourable declining' state, with the remaining area being classed as 'unfavourable no change.'

- Rochford District contains 59 CWSs of which 89.06% of the total area is coastal, 7.74% is grassland, 1.69% is mosaic habitat types, 1.20% is woodland and the remaining area is classified as freshwater aquatic. The largest CWS is Foulness.
- The district contains a number of sites of ecological importance reflected in the designation of 12,986 hectares as Sites of Special Scientific Interest, as well as a number of Wildlife Sites and Local Nature Reserves
- 7,071 hectares of the district have a 1% annual probability of fluvial flooding and / or a 0.5% annual probability of tidal flooding, as calculated by the Environment Agency
- 0% of river length assessed as good biological or chemical quality (Lower quartile).

### **Air Summary**

- Air Quality Review and Assessment requirements by the Environmental Health department at Rochford District Council has led to the identification of 7 potentially significant junctions with a daily flow of greater than 10,000 vehicles
- National Air Quality Strategy (2000) objectives are predicted to be met at all significant junctions identified within the District
- Local estimates of CO2 emissions (kt CO2) - Total domestic: 269kt CO2
- Local estimates of CO2 emissions (kt CO2) - Domestic emissions per capita: 3.4kt CO2
- Local estimates of CO2 emissions (ktCO2) - Total emissions per capita: 6.6kt CO2

### **Water Summary**

- Water courses associated with Rochford District are the Roach, Crouch, Eastwood Brook, Hawkwell Brook/Roach, Prittle Brook and Rayleigh Brook. There is also a reservoir present at Rochford
- The majority of water courses in the District as a whole were ranked as Grade D/fair (54.03%) or Grade C/fairly good (39.67%) for chemistry GQA in 2004
- Rochford District rivers are not in line with the Essex trend, since the majority of Rochford stretches are classified as RE3
- Daily domestic water use (per capita consumption, litres) is 166 litres (Lower Quartile).

### **Soil Summary**

- The District is composed of London Clay and Claygate and Bagshot Beds in the west which was deposited in the Eocene. Sands and gravels are also present, and are attributed to the former course and migration of the River Medway during the Quaternary
- The East of England has 58% of the country's Grade 1 and 2 land, with 72% of agricultural land in the region under cultivation, compared to 29% nationally
- Three broad regions within Essex are apparent:
  - Coastal: Estuaries and their hinterlands, mostly on the London Clays (deposited during the Eocene) and marshes formed from marine and fluvial deposits.
  - Mid-Essex zone:
    - To the south-west the geology consists of:  
Acidic soils from Bagshot Beds (fine sands above Claygate Beds)

Acidic soils from Claygate Beds (sand/clay layer above London Clays)  
London Clays (exposed in the valleys)  
Glacial outwash

- Essex till: North-west of Essex was affected by the Anglian cold phase, leading to the deposition of boulder clays which have been made fertile by their chalk content

## **SEA Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

### **Sustainability Objectives**

The utilisation of sustainability objectives is a recognised methodology for considering the environmental effects of a plan and programme and comparing the effects of the alternatives. The sustainability objectives are utilised to show whether the objectives of the plan and programme are beneficial for the environment, to compare the environmental effects of the alternatives or to suggest improvements.

The SEA Objectives for the SEA/Sa of the Rochford District Council Core Strategy Regulation 25 Consultation (Rochford District Council, 2006) include;

SEA Reference	SEA Objective
1	<b>To ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work.</b>
2	Create Safe environments where crime and disorder or fear of crime does not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion.
3	Protect and enhance the Greenbelt throughout the District of Rochford.
4	To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.
5	<b>To promote town centre vitality and viability.</b>
6	To conserve and enhance the biological and geological diversity of the environment as an integral part of social, environmental and economic development.
7	To promote more sustainable transport choices both for people and moving freight.
8	Promote accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling.
9	To improve the education and skills of the population.
10	To maintain and enhance the cultural heritage and assets within the District of Rochford.
11	To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes.
12	To reduce contributions to climatic change.
13	To improve water quality.



14	To improve air quality.
15	To achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth.

## Chapter 4 - The Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version Policy and Options Appraisal

Annex 1 (f) of the SEA Directive (2001) states that information should be provided on “the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic, material assets including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors” (Annex 1(f)). The SEA Directive also states that ‘where an Environmental Assessment is required under Article 3 (1), an Environmental Report shall be prepared in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan and programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated’ (SEA Directive, Article 5).

The Rochford District Council Core Strategy Regulation 25 Consultation (Rochford District Council, 2006) sets out a series of options and alternatives for the Core Strategy on a range of issues. The Regulation 25 consultation does not outline any specific policies it is concluded that the policies shall be derived from the options. The appraisal of the Rochford District Council Core Strategy Regulation 25 Consultation involved the analysis and evaluation of each option reference to policy where relevant was also outlined. The entire assessment is set out in the Technical Annex. The summary of the appraisal results are outlined in a series of graphs and matrices which are demonstrated in this section of the report. **In some instances it is concluded that the short – long term impact is uncertain, this may be due to external factors or the limited level of detail provided for in the explanation of the option.**

## Chapter 5 - Monitoring Implementation of the Development Plan Document

The SEA Directive states that “Member States shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans and programmes in order, inter alia, to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects, and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action” (Article.10.1). Furthermore the Environmental Report shall include “a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring” (Annex 1 (i)). This Chapter aims to outline the monitoring framework for the Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version.

The monitoring of the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version “allows the actual significant environmental effects of implementing the plan or programme to be tested against those predicted” (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, 2005, 39). The monitoring of the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version will aid in the identification of any problems that may arise during the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version implementation.

## **Chapter 1      -      Methodology**

# **Chapter 1**

## **1. Methodology**

### **1.1 Introduction to Sustainable Development**

The widely utilised international definition for sustainable development is “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987). In 1992 at the Rio Summit Government’s worldwide committed themselves to the delivery of sustainable development. Following this convention the UK Government formulated the first national Sustainable Development Framework in 1999. In the UK Sustainable Development Framework (1999) the UK Government clearly outlined the meaning of Sustainable Development placing greater emphasis on attaining a better quality of life for everyone now and for the future. The UK Government updated the Sustainable Development Strategy in 2005, and adopted 5 principles for sustainable development they include;

- \* Living within environmental limits,
- \* Ensuring a strong, healthy and Just Society,
- \* Achieving a sustainable economy,
- \* Promoting good governance,
- \* Using sound science.

An important component of sustainable development is weighing up the environmental, social and economic factors, and this is fundamental to Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment.

### **1.2 Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment**

The European Directive 2001/42/EC (EC, 2001) ensures that a Strategic Environmental Assessment of a wide range of plans and programmes shall be conducted. The Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version therefore requires a Strategic Appraisal that incorporates the dual statutory requirement of both Sustainability Appraisal

(SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The purpose of SEA/SA is to promote environmental protection and contribute to the integration of environmental, social and economic considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans, with a view to promote sustainable development.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) guidance:

- 'A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive' (September 2005)
- 'Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks' (November 2005)

The requirement for SEA/SA emanates from a high level of international and national commitment to sustainable development and this has been incorporated into EC Directives, laws, guidance, advice and policy.

The purpose of this sustainability appraisal is to promote sustainable development through better integration of sustainability considerations into the adoption of the Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version.

The requirements to undertake a SA and SEA are distinct. The principle difference between SEA and SA is that SEA is baseline led, focusing primarily on environmental effects, whereas SA is objectives led. The SEA directive defines the environment in a broad context and includes:

- Biodiversity
- Population
- Human Health
- Fauna
- Flora
- Soil
- Water
- Air

- Climatic factors
- Material Assets
- Cultural Heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage
- Landscape

SA goes further by examining all the sustainability-related effects of plans, whether they are social environmental or economic.

Despite these differences it is possible to meet both requirements through a single appraisal process. In order to minimise duplication and time, ECC has applied this approach. Throughout the remainder of this document where reference is made to sustainability appraisal (SA) it should be taken to include the requirements of the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) as incorporated into English Law by virtue of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programme Regulations (2004).

This report and SA process has been led by Essex County Council's environmental assessment team. Diverse expertise has been drawn upon across the County Council's service areas and appropriate partnership forums. This arrangement conforms to guidance recommendations in respect of a need for taking a balanced view; a good understanding of the local circumstances; understanding the issues, and drawing on good practice elsewhere to evaluate the full range of sustainability issues.

### **1.3 Scope of the Report**

The final Environment Report comprises of;

- Non-Technical Summary;
- An outline of the methodology adopted;
- Background setting out the purpose of the SEA and the objectives of the Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version;
- SEA objectives and the sustainability issues throughout the Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version and the key issues that need to be addressed;

- The Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version options considered and environmental effects of the alternatives outlined;
- An assessment of the contribution of the plan policies to social, economic and environmental objectives within the district;
- An outline of the proposed mitigation measures, for those where these impacts are negative.

#### **1.4 Methodology Adopted in the SEA**

The approach adopted in this Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version is based on the process outlined in the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister Guidance – A Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (September 2005). The methodology adopted seeks to meet the requirements of both SA and SEA for the environmental assessment of plans.

The SA Framework is based on the initial criteria and proposed approaches set out in the scoping report produced in November 2005. The aim of the scoping report is to ensure a focused yet comprehensive SA, addressing all relevant issues, objectives and allow input from consultation bodies at an early stage of the process.

The scoping stage of the SEA/SA involves investigation into the relevant plans, programmes and environmental protection objectives. The scoping report also sets out the baseline information which provides the basis for predicting and monitoring environmental effects, aids in the interpretation of environmental problems and allows identification of possible methods for mitigation. A range of information aids in the identification of potential environmental problems including, earlier issues identified in other plans and programmes, baseline information, tensions between current and future baseline information and consultation with the consultation bodies. The scoping report also contains a list of SEA objectives. SEA objectives are not a specific requirement of the Directive but they are recognised as a method for considering the environmental effects of a plan and comparing the effects of alternatives.

“The Directive creates the following requirements for consultation;

- 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.
- 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 effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinions” (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, 2005, 16).

The Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version was consulted for a 5 week period, whereby the statutory Consultation Bodies and other relevant persons were consulted. The statutory Consultation Bodies include;

- Countryside Agency,
- English Heritage,
- English Nature,
- And the Environment Agency.

The Planning Panel Members from Rochford District Council were consulted on the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version and views and representations were also welcome from the Rochford District Council Officers.

The second part of the SEA approach involves the development and refinement of alternatives and assessing the effects of the plan. The objectives of the plan are therefore tested against the SEA objectives identified at the scoping stage.

The third stage of the process is the development of the Environmental Report. The SEA Directive states that “the environmental report shall include information that may reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the



plan or programme, (and) its stage in the decision-making process” (Article 5.2). The structure for the Environmental Report is very similar to the suggested structure outlined in ‘A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive’ (September, 2005).

## **Chapter 2      -      Background**

## **Chapter 2**

### **2. Background**

#### **2.1 Purpose of this Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment**

This Environment Report has been devised to meet European Directive 2001/42/EC which requires a formal strategic assessment of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have a significant effect on the environment. The Directive has been incorporated into English Law by virtue of the Environment Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004). In accordance with the provisions set out in the SEA Directive and the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004), a SA/SEA of the Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version must be undertaken and consulted on prior to the adoption.

This Environment Report outlines the appraisal methodology, sustainability objectives, review of plans and programmes, baseline information used in the appraisal process, and the assessment of the Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version.

#### **2.2 Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version and the Objectives**

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) introduced alterations to the planning system; the fundamental aim of these changes was to promote a proactive and positive approach to managing development. The Local Development Framework forms a fundamental element in the new planning system.

Local Development Frameworks will be comprised of Local Development Documents, which include Development Plan Documents, that are part of the statutory development plan and Supplementary Planning Documents which expand on policies set out in a development plan document or provide

additional detail. The Core Strategy is one of the fundamental documents that form an integral part of the Local Development Framework.

The Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version aims to set out the key elements of the planning framework for the area. It outlines the spatial vision and strategic objectives for the area; a spatial strategy; core policies; and a monitoring and implementation framework.

The first section of the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version seeks to provide a brief overview of the planning system. The portrait of the Rochford District Council is the next section ultimately this section aims to provide a general summary of the community. The information utilised to provide a summary includes population, environmental, economic and social issues.

The Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version also lists the relevant plans and programmes at the local, county, regional and national level and how these are relevant to the strategic vision for Rochford District Council. The options for the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version are also highlighted, these options relate to jobs, land allocated for employment use, housing, town and village development, affordable housing and transportation. Finally the document outlines a series of core policies which have been derived from the existing Local Plan.

The Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version principle objectives are demonstrated in table 1.

**Table 1 – The Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25  
Version Objectives**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Objective</b>
<b>1</b>	<p><b>The Greenbelt and Strategic Gaps Between Settlements</b></p> <p>Divert development and population growth away from rural areas to existing urban areas, green belt policy also assists in the achievement of sustainability objectives.</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Protection and Enhancement of the Upper Roach Valley</b></p> <p>Increase development opportunities for informal countryside recreation within the Upper Roach Valley.</p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Protection and Enhancement of Special Landscapes</b></p> <p>Protect and enhance special landscapes including coastal protection belt, special landscape areas and historic landscape.</p>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Housing Numbers</b></p> <p>Meet the housing requirements set out in the East of England Plan.</p>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>General Development Locations</b></p> <p>Seek to deliver a development pattern that reduces the reliance on motorised transport and places development close to facilities and services.</p>
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Affordable Housing</b></p> <p>Provide affordable housing for those in need.</p>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Employment</b></p>

Meet the employment target outlined in the East of England Plan, principally within Southend Airport, Rochford Business Park and the remainder of the allocation provided at various other locations throughout the rest of the District.

**8 Good Design and Design Statements**

Promote good quality design to protect the townscape character.

**9 Character of Place**

Design will be expected to enhance the local identity by being sympathetic to local needs and by building on local opportunities.

**10 Landscaping**

Maintain and enhance environmental quality in the District.

**11 Energy and Water Conservation**

Reduce the energy and water consumption not only for the benefit of the local environment, but for the global environment.

**12 Renewable Energy**

Balance the potential benefits of renewable energy schemes against any adverse effects on local amenity that may arise.

**13 Compulsory Purchase**

Use compulsory purchase powers to ensure sustainable and long term development opportunities for residential, employment, expansion of Cherry Orchard Jubilee Country Park (if required) and informal countryside recreational opportunities.

**14 Community, Leisure and Tourism**

Promote the development of community, leisure and tourism facilities in appropriate locations.

An important part of the assessment involves the testing of the Rochford District Council Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version Objectives against the SEA objectives.

## **Chapter 3      -      SEA Objectives, Baseline and Context**



## Chapter 3

### SEA Objectives, Baseline and Context

#### Review of the Plans and Programmes

The relationship between various plans and programmes and sustainability objectives may influence the Rochford District Council Core Strategy in various ways. The relationships are analysed to;

- identify any external social, environmental or economic objectives that should be reflected in the SA process;
- identify external factors that may have influenced the preparation of the plan; and
- Determine whether the policies in other plans and programmes might lead to cumulative effects when combined with policies in the Core Strategy.

Engaging in this process enables Rochford District Council Core Strategy to take advantage of any potential synergies and to attend to any inconsistencies and constraints. The plans and programmes that need to be considered include those at an international, national and regional and local scale.

The preparatory work for the Rochford District Council Core Strategy has considered a number of planning policies and guidance documents, however to meet the SA's requirements a broader range were considered, in particular those outlining issues of environmental protection and sustainability objectives. Table 2 shows a summary list of plans and programmes that were reviewed as part of the SA. Appendix 1 contains the outcome of the review.

**Table 2 - List of plans and programmes reviewed:**

**International**

European and International Sustainability Development Strategy

European Spatial Development Perspective (May, 1999)

European Community Biodiversity Strategy

Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice

Draft European Constitution (2003)

European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (1992)

**National**

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (2005) Planning Policy Statement 1; Delivering Sustainable Communities

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (1995) Planning Policy Guidance 2 – Greenbelts

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (2000) Planning Policy Guidance Note 3; Housing

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (1992) Planning Policy Guidance Note 4; Industrial, Commercial Development and Small Firms

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (2005) Planning Policy Statement 6; Planning for Town Centres

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (2005) Planning Policy Statement 7; Sustainable Development in Rural Areas

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (2000) Planning Policy Guidance 8 - Telecommunications

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Planning Policy Statement 9 – Biodiversity and Geological Conservation

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (2005) Planning Policy Statement 10; Planning for Sustainable Waste Management

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (2005) Planning Policy Statement 12; Local Development Frameworks

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (1994) Planning Policy Guidance 13; Transport

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (1990) Planning Policy Guidance Note 14; Development on Unstable Land (1990)

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (1994) Planning Policy Guidance Note 15; Planning and Historic Environment (1994)

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (1990) Planning Policy Guidance Note 16; Archaeology and Planning (1990)

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (1991) Planning Policy Guidance Note 17; Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (1992) Planning Policy Guidance 20 - Coastal Planning

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (1992) Planning Policy Guidance 21 - Tourism

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (2005) Planning Policy Statement 22; Renewable Energy

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (2005) Planning Policy Statement 23; Planning and Pollution Control

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (1994) Planning Policy Guidance 24 - Planning and Noise

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (2001) Planning Policy Guidance 25 - Development and Flood Risk

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (2005) Securing Our Future Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (2000) By Design; Urban Design in the Planning System

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (2000) Planning and Access For Disabled People

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Disability Rights Commission: Briefing: Inclusive Design – Creating Inclusive Environments

Disability Rights Commission, (2005) Access Statements, Achieving an inclusive environment by ensuring continuity throughout the planning, design and management of buildings and spaces

Association of Chief Police Officers, (2004) Secured By Design

## **Regional**

East of England Regional Assembly (2004) Draft Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England Plan (RSS14)

Sustainable Futures; the Integrated Regional Strategy for the East of England (February, 2005)

East of England Development Agency, (2005) Regional Economic Strategy for the East of England

East of England Regional Assembly, (2001) A Sustainable Development Framework for the East of England

## **Sub Regional**

Thames Gateway South Essex, (2003) Delivering the Future

Thames Gateway South Essex, (2001) Vision for the Future

Thames Gateway South Essex, (2004) Draft Green Grid Strategy

### **County**

Essex County Council (2001) Essex and Southend-on-Sea Replacement Structure Plan

Essex County Council (2006) Health & Opportunity for the People of Essex – Essex's Local Area Agreement

Essex Police Authority and Essex Police, (2006) Three Year Strategy Plan 2006-2009

Essex County Council, (2006) School Organisational Plan 2005-2010

The Essex Rural Partnership, (2005) Essex Rural Strategy - Partnership Priorities for the Future of Rural Essex

### **Local**

Rochford District Council (2006) Rochford Replacement Local Plan

Rochford District Council, (2004) Community Strategy

The Crouch and Roach Estuary Management Plan

Rochford District Council, (2005) Economic Development Strategy for Rochford District

Rochford District Council, (2004) Housing Needs Survey

Rochford District Council (2004) Housing Strategy 2004-2007 Fit for Purpose

The plans and programmes reviewed provided the following:

- A basis for establishing sustainability objectives as part of the SA process.
- An influence over the Core Strategy preparation and a higher level policy context.
- A basis for identifying potential cumulative effects of the Core Strategy.

### **3.2 Baseline Characteristics**

The SEA Directive requires an analysis of the “relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan” (Annex 1b) and “the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected” (Annex 1c). The baseline information will form the basis for predicting and monitoring the effects of the adoption of the Rochford District Council Core Strategy (2005). Furthermore the baseline data allows sustainability problems to be identified and aids the formulation of appropriate mitigation measures and/or proposals for suitable alternatives.

The baseline data for the SA/SEA of the Rochford District Council Core Strategy (2006) includes existing environmental and sustainability information from a range of sources, including national government, agency websites, the 2001 Census, Rochford District Council and Essex County Council. The information the baseline data aimed to highlight includes;

- the latest data for Rochford District Council;
- comparators: regional or national level data against which the status of Rochford District may be evaluated;
- identified targets;
- established trends; and
- Environmental/sustainability problems.

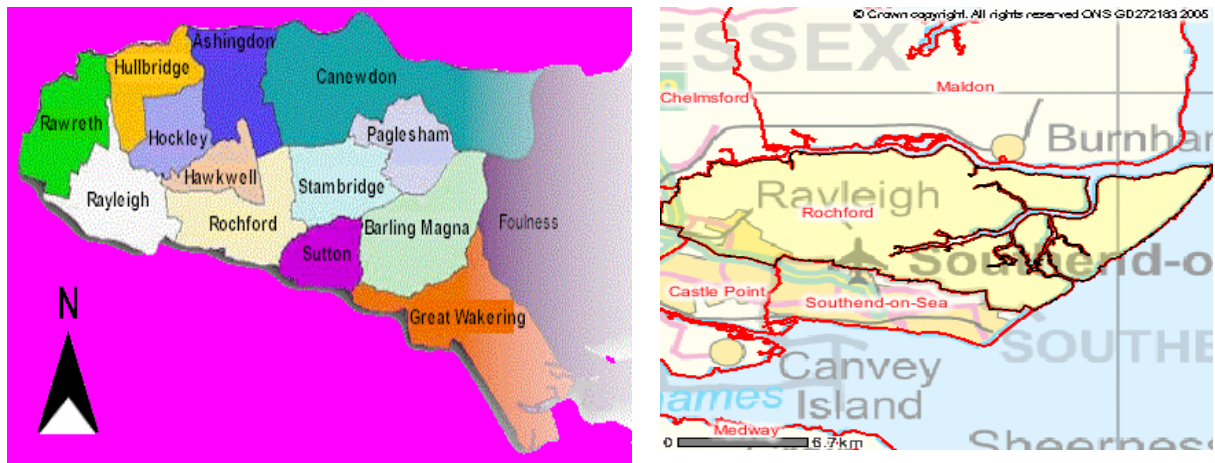
## **Key trends and predicting the future baseline**

The following section describes fundamental social, economic and environmental elements of the Rochford District.

### **Location**

Rochford District is situated to the south of Essex, and covers an area of 168.35 sq km (65 square miles). The district of Rochford is situated within a peninsula between the River Thames and Crouch, and is bounded by the North Sea. The district has land boundaries with Basildon, Castle Point and Southend on Sea Districts and Marine Boundaries with Maldon and Chelmsford Districts. Rochford District is predominately rural with many surrounding villages; the main urban centres in the district include the historic towns of Rochford and Rayleigh. Map 1 illustrates the location of the Rochford District.

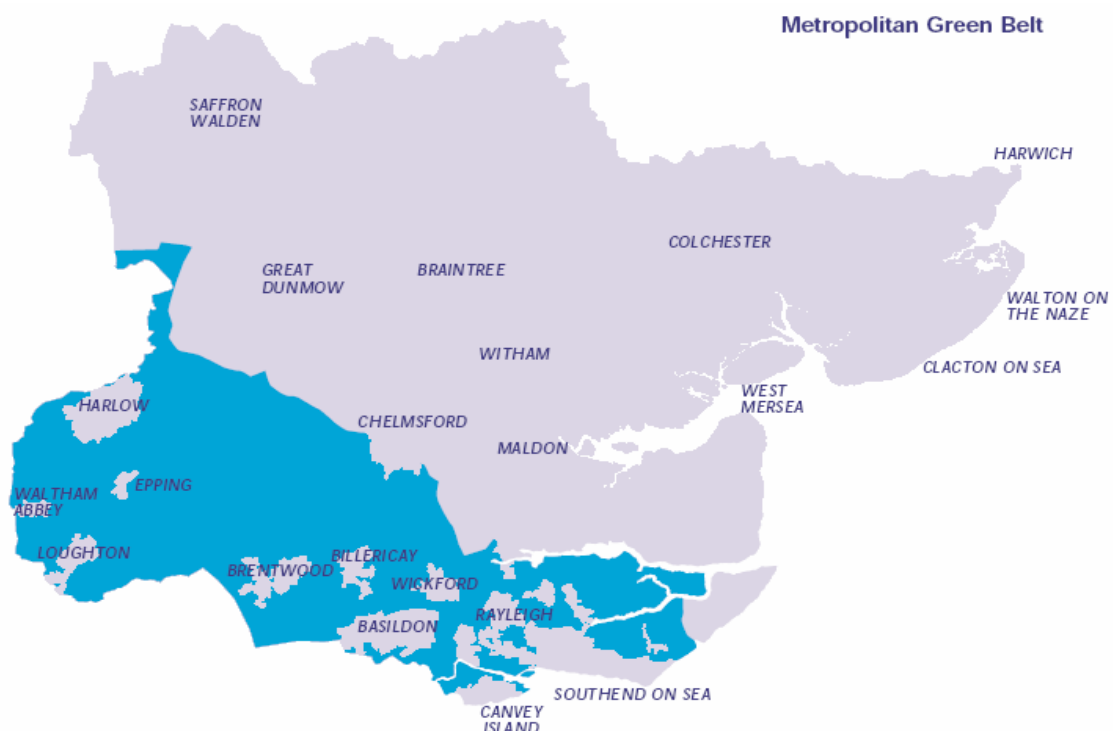
**Map 1: Illustrating the Location of the Rochford District**



(Sources; Rochford District Council Online, 2005 and National Statistics Online, 2005)

The district is predominantly rural in character comprising 12,763 hectares of Metropolitan Green Belt. There are three main residential areas, together with a number of smaller settlements and dwellings located sporadically throughout the Metropolitan Green Belt. The extent of the District that is designated as Metropolitan Green Belt is shown below in Map 2.

**Map 2 – Metropolitan Green Belt**





Source: Essex and Southend-on-Sea Replacement Structure Plan, 2001

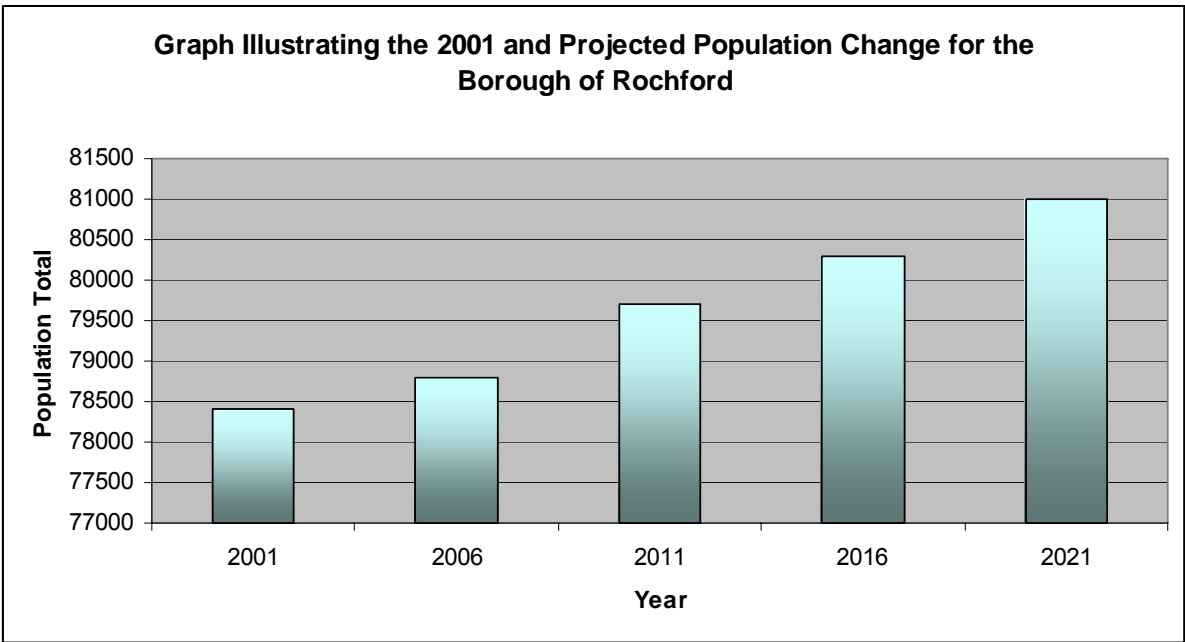
## Population

### Population

The resident population of Rochford district, as measured in the 2001 Census, was 78,489 of which 49 per cent were male and 51 per cent were female. The sex composition of Rochford District is similar to that of Essex County Council in 2001 with 48.8% of the Essex population male and 51.2% female. In 2001, 20 per cent of the resident population were aged under 16, 57 per cent were aged between 16 and 59, and 23 per cent were aged 60 and over. The mean average age was 40. This compared with an average age of 39 within England and Wales.

In analysing the social, economic and environmental characteristics of the District of Rochford it is important to be aware of the projected population change anticipated for the district. This will provide an understanding as to the amount of population change likely to be experienced within the district of Rochford. Graph one illustrates the 2001 and the future projected population change for the District of Rochford.

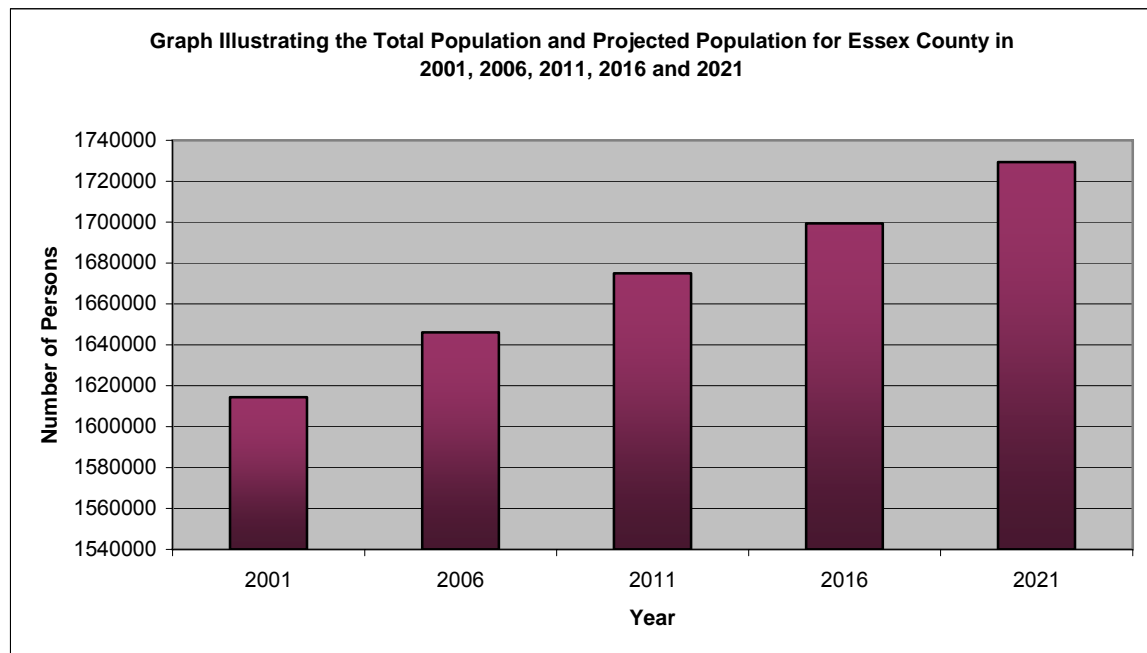
**Graph 1:** *The 2001 and projected population change in Rochford District*



Source; Total Regional Planning Guidance 14 Submission, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2005 (Note the population projection assumes dwelling provision will be implemented at the annual average rate of provision set out in policy H2 of the Regional Spatial Strategy 14.)

Graph 1 demonstrates the population within the Rochford District in 2001 and the projected alterations in the population size assuming the dwelling provision outlined in the Draft East of England Plan (2004) will be implemented within Rochford. In 2001 the population of Rochford was 78, 400 persons, it is anticipated that by 2021 the population within the District will be 81, 000 persons. The total population within Rochford District is therefore expected to increase by 3.2% throughout the period 2001-2021. Graph two illustrates the total population change anticipated for Essex allowing comparison between the total growth rate for Essex and that of the District of Rochford.

**Graph 2: Total and projected population for Essex County 2001-2021**



Source; Total Regional Planning Guidance 14 Submission, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2005 (Note the population projection assumes dwelling provision will be implemented at the annual average rate of provision set out in policy H2 of the Regional Spatial Strategy 14.)

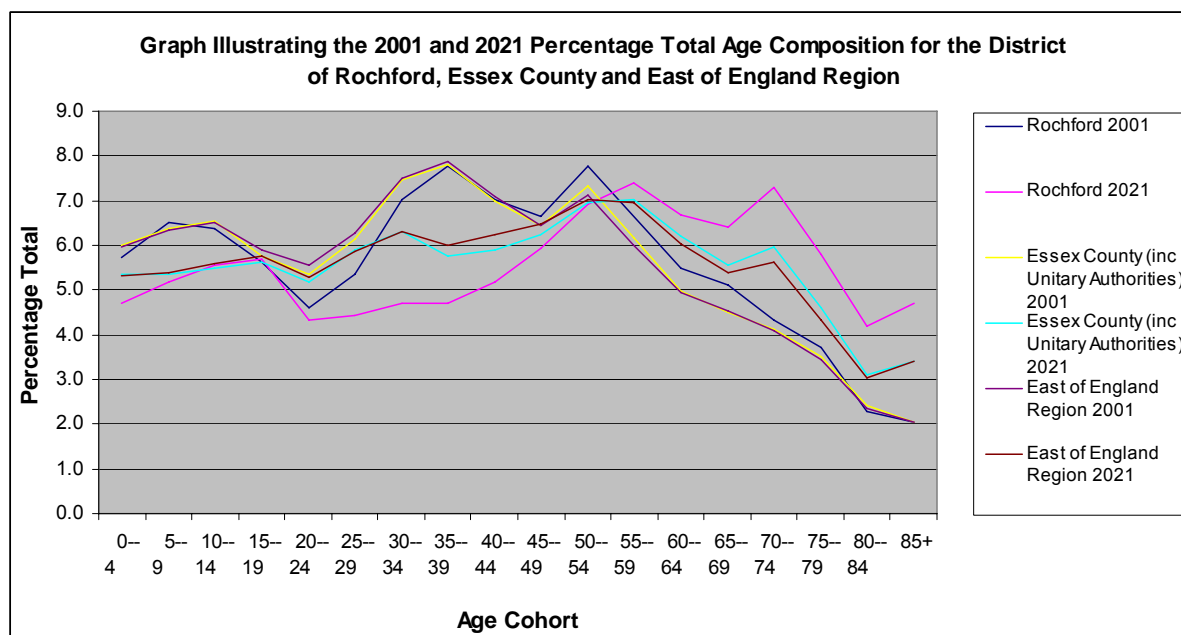
Graph 2 demonstrates that the population within the County of Essex in 2001 was 161, 4400 persons and is anticipated to increase by 2021 to 172, 9400 persons. The total population increase for Essex from 2001-2021 is 6.6%, therefore the projected population increase for the District of Rochford is 50.1% less than the anticipated rise in population throughout Essex.

### **Population Age Composition**

The age composition of the population within the District of Rochford is important as it will facilitate in measuring the demand for educational institutions, most notably primary and secondary schools, as well as the amount of sheltered housing that may be required

for senior citizens. Graph 3 outlines the percentage age composition of the persons in 2001 and 2021 within the District of Rochford compared to the County of Essex and the East of England region.

**Graph 3: Total age composition 2001-2021**



Source; Total Regional Planning Guidance 14 Submission, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2005 (Note the population projection assumes dwelling provision will be implemented at the annual average rate of provision set out in policy H2 of the Regional Spatial Strategy 14.)

Graph 3 demonstrates that the proportion of persons aged 0-19 years in 2001 within the District of Rochford, and the comparators will be less in 2021. Furthermore the percentage persons in Rochford aged 30-49 years in 2021 is anticipated to decline substantially from the 2001 rate. Within the district of Rochford there is likely to be an increase in the number of retired people by 2021 particularly among persons 70+ years.

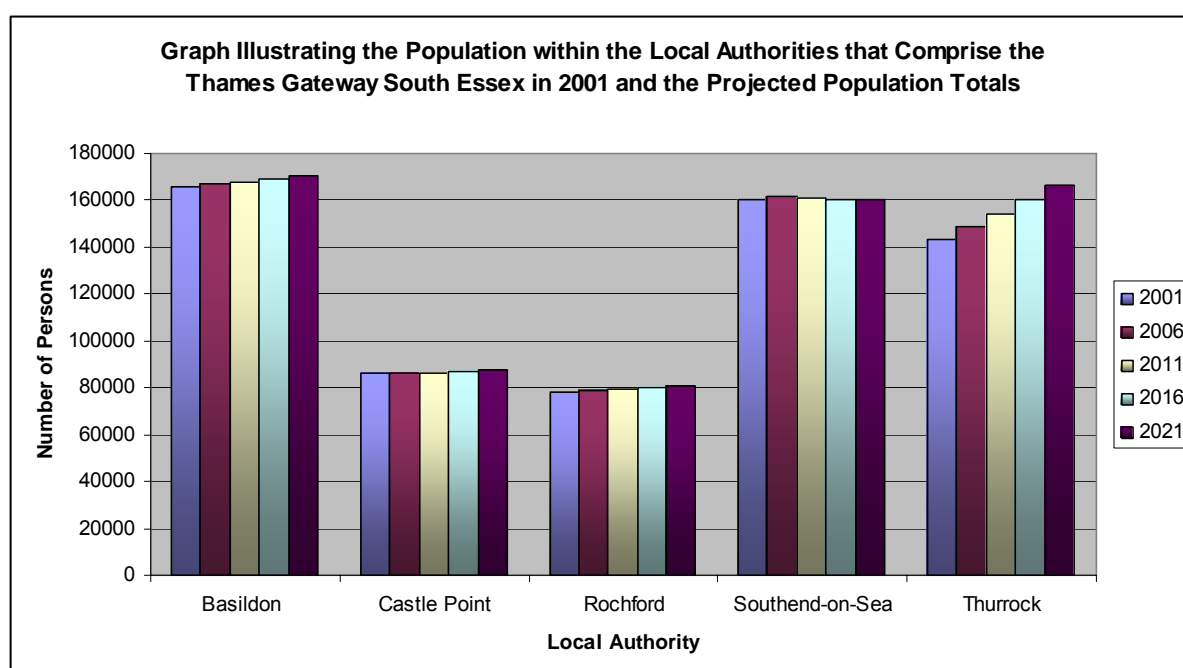
### Thames Gateway South Essex Sub Regional

The Thames Gateway South Essex sub-region comprises of five authorities who include Basildon, Castle Point, Rochford, Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock. Thames Gateway South Essex is the largest urban area within the East of England. It

contains a mix of urban and natural environments. In 2001 the population total for the sub region was 633,800 representing approximately 12% of the East of England regional total.

Graph 4 illustrates the current and projected population within the local authorities that comprise the Thames Gateway South Essex and the projected population growth from 2001-2021. The population growth figures are based on the number of housing anticipated to be constructed as outlined in the Draft East of England Plan (2004).

**Graph 4: Population and projected- TGSE area 2001-2021**

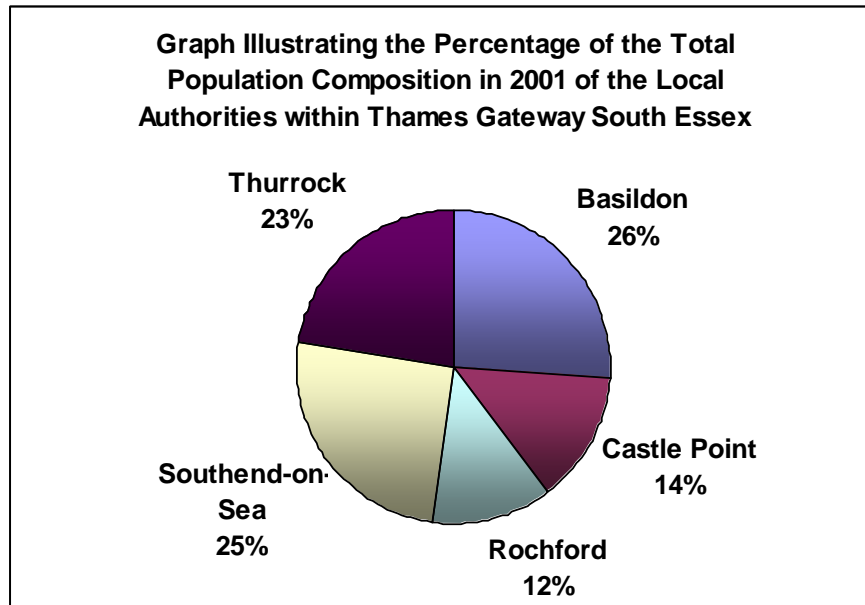


Source; Total Regional Planning Guidance 14 Submission, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2005  
(Note the population projection assumes dwelling provision will be implemented at the annual average rate of provision set out in policy H2 of the Regional Spatial Strategy 14.)

Graph 4 demonstrates that the District of Rochford is anticipated to continue to have the lowest population total of all the Thames Gateway South Essex districts. Furthermore the increase in population throughout this period is expected to remain fairly constant as the total population is predicted to increase by 3.2%. Clearly Thurrock is expected to experience the greatest increase in population throughout this period. Graph 5 illustrates the proportion of the population within Thames Gateway South Essex that live within each district authority. These population figures

are important in determining potential housing needs and densities for future developments.

**Graph 5:** *Percentage of total population composition TGSE area 2001*



Source: Adapted from Total Regional Planning Guidance 14 Submission, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2005 (Note the population projection assumes dwelling provision will be implemented at the annual average rate of provision set out in policy H2 of the Regional Spatial Strategy 14.)

Graph 5 illustrates that in 2001 Rochford (12%) contained the least proportion of the population within Thames Gateway South Essex, whilst the neighbouring authorities of Basildon (26%) and Southend-on-Sea (25%) had the greatest proportion of the population in the sub region.

## Population Density

**Table 3:** *Population Density within Rochford District, the County of Essex, the east of England region and England and Wales in 2001*

Density	Rochford District	Essex County	East of England Region	England & Wales
Number of People Per Hectare	4.6	3.8	2.8	3.4
Average Household Size	2.44	2.38	2.37	2.36

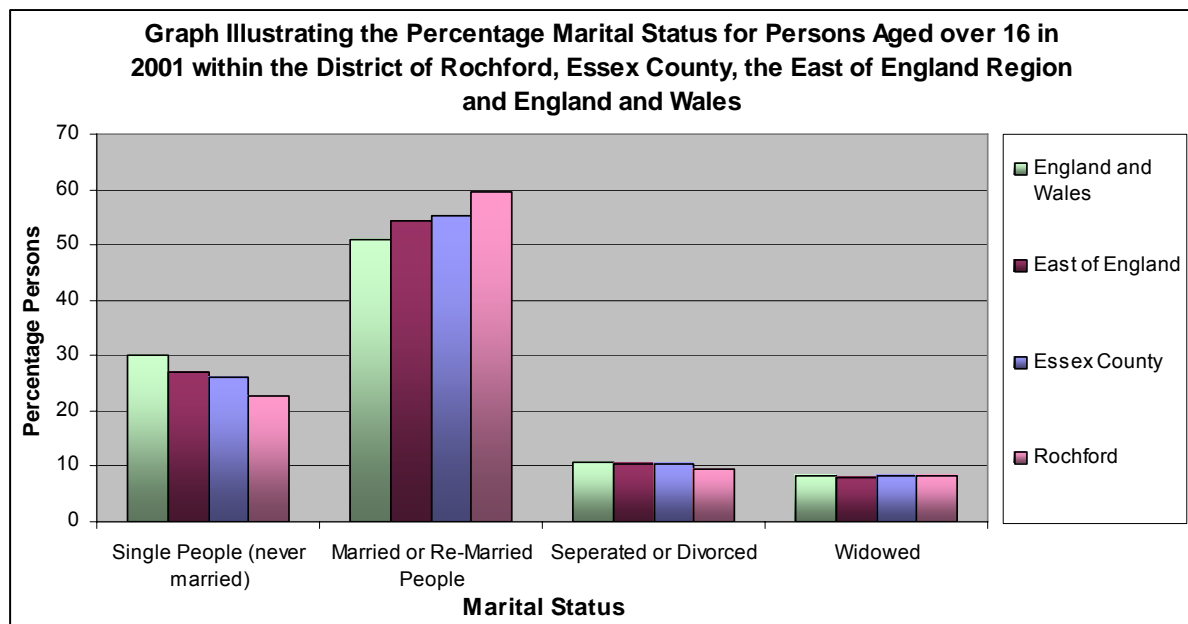
Source: Office for National Statistics, 2001

Table 3 clearly demonstrates that the District of Rochford contains more persons per hectare than the County of Essex (3.8 persons), the East of England region (2.8 persons) and England and Wales (3.4 persons). The average number of persons per hectare within the East of England region is of greatest divergence to the trend displayed by the District of Rochford in 2001. Table 3 also outlines the average household size and indicates that in 2001 the District of Rochford contained a marginally greater average household size than Essex County, the East of England Region and England and Wales.

## Marital Status

Graph 6 illustrates the marital status of persons aged over 16 years within the District of Rochford, the County of Essex, the East of England Region and England and Wales in 2001.

**Graph 6**



Source; Office for National Statistics, 2001

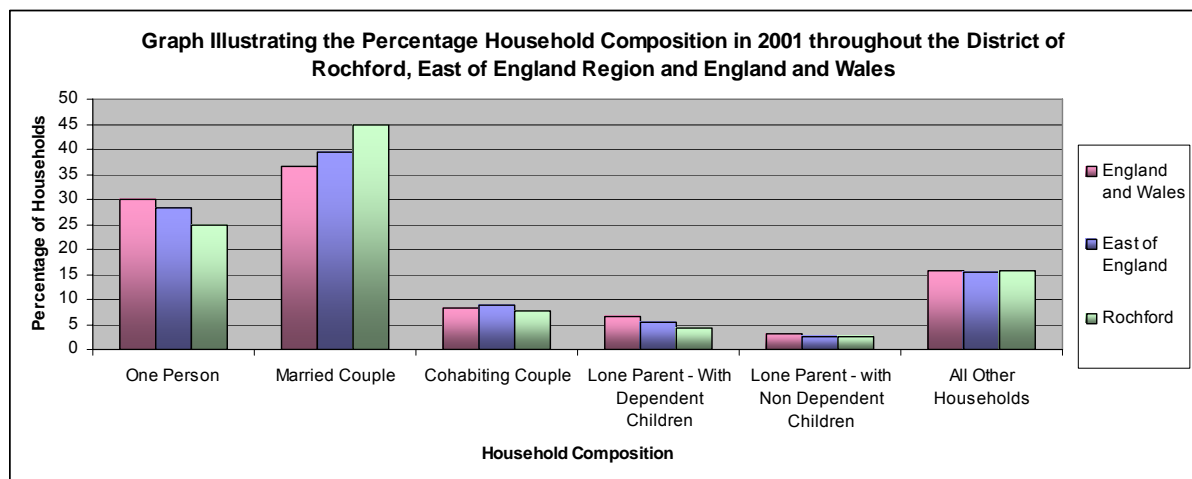
Graph 6 illustrates that the percentage of persons that are widowed within the District of Rochford is similar to the trends displayed at the County, regional and national scale. The percentage of persons that are separated or divorced throughout the District of Rochford is marginally less than the other comparators. However the percentage of persons that are married or re-married within Rochford (59.7%) is greater than the percentage for Essex (55.2%), the east of England Region (54.3%) and England and Wales (50.9%). The number of single people within the District of Rochford (22.6%) is less than that of the comparators. Marital status clearly will influence the type and design of residential dwelling demanded within a local authority.

### **Household Composition and Type**

Graph 7 outlines the percentage household composition for persons within England and Wales, the East of England region and the District of Rochford in 2001.



**Graph 7**



Source; Office for National Statistics, 2001

Graph 7 illustrates that the household composition for the District of Rochford, the East of England region and England and Wales in 2001. Rochford (24.9%) contains a marginally lower proportion of one person occupancy households than the East of England (28.3%) and England and Wales (30.0%). The District of Rochford also displays a divergence to the regional and national trend, as there are a greater proportion of married persons throughout the district. However the district demonstrates similar trends in the number of cohabiting couples, lone parents with dependent children and lone parents with non dependent children. It is important that when deciding upon the type of dwelling to construct or potential design implications for residential dwellings regard should be given to the household composition to ensure that housing needs continue to be adequately addressed.

## Population Summary

- The resident population of Rochford district, as measured in the 2001 Census, was 78,489 and it is anticipated that by 2021 the population within the District will be 81, 000 persons.
- In 2001, 20 per cent of the resident population were aged under 16, 57 per cent were aged between 16 and 59, and 23 per cent were aged 60 and over.
- Within the district of Rochford there is likely to be an increase in the number of retired people in 2021, most notably for persons 70 and above.
- The District of Rochford contains more persons per hectare than the County of Essex (3.8 persons), the East of England region (2.8 persons) and England and Wales (3.4 persons).
- The percentage of persons that are married or re-married within Rochford (59.7%) is greater than the percentage for Essex (55.2%), the east of England Region (54.3%) and England and Wales (50.9%). The number of single people within the District of Rochford (22.6%) is less than that of the comparators.

## Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 (IMD 2004) is a measure of multiple deprivations at the small area level, known as the Lower Super Output Areas. The IMD 2004 is based on the idea that there are clear dimensions of deprivation which are recognisable and may be measured. The deprivation is therefore measured in terms of the domain. The IMD 2004 comprises of seven domains including;

- ❖ Income deprivation;
- ❖ Employment deprivation;
- ❖ Health deprivation & disability;
- ❖ Education, skills and training deprivation;
- ❖ Barriers to housing and services;
- ❖ Crime; and the
- ❖ Living environment deprivation.

There are also 6 measures that comprise the large area level these are available for district and unitary council level areas. The large area measure for IMD 2004 is an important source of information for interpreting the overall level of deprivation experienced within the Rochford District. The large area measures include;

- Four are formulated from the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) for small area;
  - Average Score – overall deprivation measure, retains range of scores;
  - Average Rank - overall deprivation measure, dampens the impact of areas with extreme scores;
  - Extent Score - proportion of people living in serious deprived small areas.
  - Local Concentration Score - represents the severity of deprivation in 'hotspots' (average IMD rank of worst-off areas with 10% of people)
- Two are absolute numbers, drawn from data underlying the IMD:
  - Income Scale - number of income employment deprived people;
  - Employment Scale - number of employment deprived people."

(Essex County Council, 2004)

Table 4 illustrates the large area Index of Multiple Deprivation scores for all the Districts within Essex.

**Table 4**

Rank Essex	Average Score	Average Rank	Extent	Local Concentration
1	<b>Tendring 103</b>	<b>Tendring 98</b>	<b>Basildon 106</b>	<b>Tendring 111</b>
2	<b>Harlow 120</b>	<b>Harlow 101</b>	<b>Tendring 127</b>	<b>Basildon 116</b>
3	<b>Basildon 132</b>	<b>Basildon 142</b>	<b>Harlow 180</b>	<b>Colchester 189</b>
4	<b>Colchester 217</b>	<b>Colchester 221</b>	<b>Colchester 193</b>	<b>Harlow 207</b>
5	<b>Epping Forest 234</b>	<b>Braintree 228</b>	<b>Braintree 263</b>	<b>Epping Forest 243</b>
6	<b>Braintree 237</b>	<b>Epping Forest 232</b>	<b>Epping Forest 246</b>	<b>Braintree 247</b>
7	<b>Castle Point 245</b>	<b>Castle Point 243</b>	<b>Castle Point 273</b>	<b>Castle Point 258</b>
8	<b>Maldon 280</b>	<b>Maldon 280</b>	Rochford 271	<b>Chelmsford 286</b>
9	<b>Brentwood 312</b>	<b>Brentwood 312</b>	<b>Maldon 298</b>	Rochford 299
10	Rochford 316	Rochford 319	<b>Brentwood 295</b>	<b>Maldon 301</b>
11	<b>Chelmsford 320</b>	<b>Chelmsford 321</b>	<b>Chelmsford 274</b>	<b>Brentwood 307</b>
12	<b>Uttlesford 341</b>	<b>Uttlesford 342</b>	<b>Uttlesford 298</b>	<b>Uttlesford 352</b>

Source; Essex County Council, 2004

Table 4 demonstrates that out of the 12 Essex local authorities Rochford performs well compared to the remaining Essex Authorities, as the index of deprivation is predominately within the lower quartile.

“Chelmsford, Rochford and Brentwood score fairly low in terms of overall deprivation, in the 88-91% most deprived range” (Essex County Council, 2004, 8). The Extent Scores for the Essex Districts are outlined below;

*	Basildon	-	18%
*	Tendering	-	14%
*	Harlow	-	5%
*	Colchester	-	4%
*	Braintree, Castle Point, Epping Forest, Rochford	-	all 1%
*	Brentwood, Chelmsford, Maldon, Uttlesford	-	all 0%

(Source; Essex County Council, 2004, 9)

Clearly the results demonstrate that the District of Rochford has relatively few people living in serious deprivation compared to the majority of the Essex Districts.

Essex contains 40 Super Output Areas in the most deprived 20% in England. These seriously deprived areas are in Basildon, Clacton, Harwich, Colchester (5 areas) and Harlow. Rochford does not contain any Super Output Areas in the most deprived 20%.

To fully understand the character of the deprivation it is essential to outline the domain scores. Table 5 shows the percentage of small areas that are seriously deprived on each domain score for Rochford District, the County of Essex and the average for the Essex Districts.

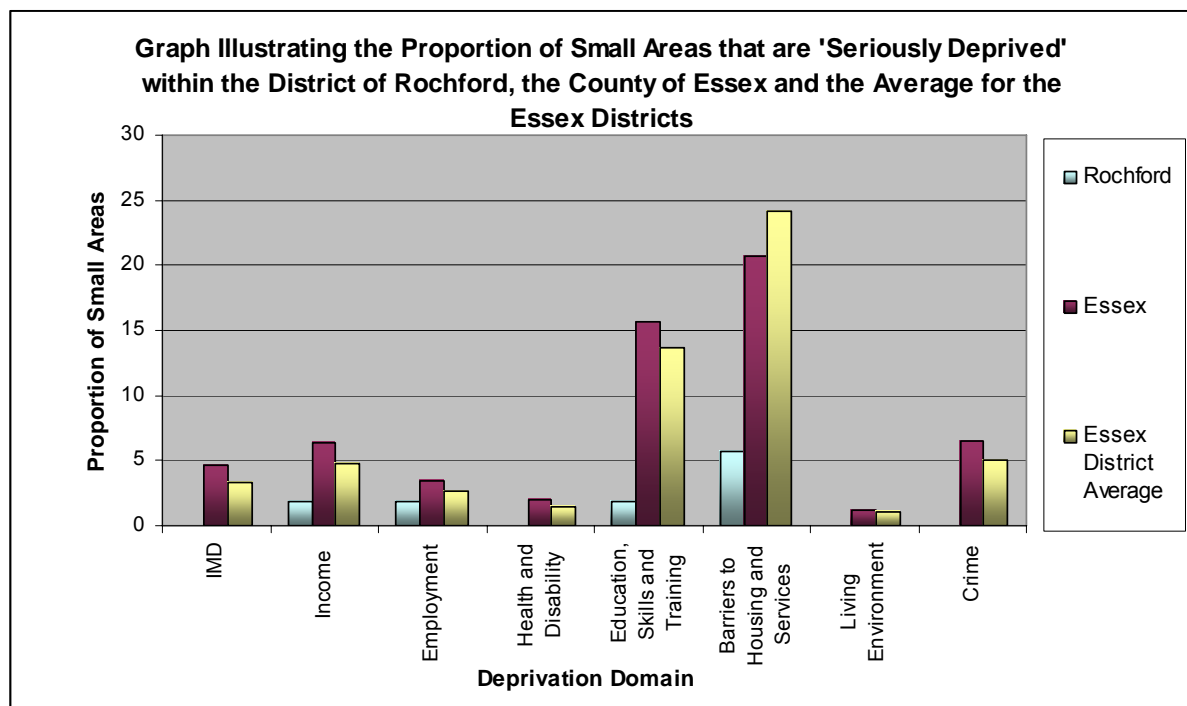
**Table 5**

Authority	IMD	Income	Employment	Health and Disability	Education, Skills and Training	Barriers to Housing and Services	Living Environment	Crime	No of Small Areas
Rochford	0	1.9	1.9	0	1.9	5.7	0	0	53
Essex	4.6	6.4	3.5	2.0	15.6	20.7	1.2	6.5	863
Essex District Average	3.3	4.8	2.7	1.4	13.7	24.1	1.0	5.1	71.9

Source, National Statistics Online, 2004 Indices of Multiple Deprivation

To aid interpretation of the results graph 8 has been formulated, highlighting the percentage score for the small areas that are seriously deprived in the Rochford District and the average for the Essex districts.

**Graph 8 – Illustrating the Proportion of Small Areas that are Seriously Deprived within the District of Rochford, Essex and the average for the Essex Districts**



Source, National Statistics Online, 2004 Indices of Multiple Deprivation

Graph 8 clearly demonstrates that the District of Rochford has less deprivation than the average for the Essex Districts, and Essex County. However similarly to the trend displayed by Essex and the average for the Essex Districts the greatest small areas deprivation experienced within the District of Rochford is related to Barriers to Housing and Services.

The Indices of Deprivation domains that are of particular importance include the Living Environment and Health Deprivation and Disability domains.

The Living Environment domain “focuses on deprivation with respect to the characteristics of the living environment. It comprises two sub-domains: the indoor living environment which measures the quality of housing and the outdoor which contains two measures about air quality and road traffic accidents” (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, 2004, 4). Graph 8 illustrates that there are no small areas within the District of Rochford that experience ‘serious living environment deprivation, however the average for the Essex districts and the County total marginally exceeds Rochford. It is important that the District of Rochford continues to display a good quality living environment. This Domain comprises two sub-domains: the 'indoors'

living environment which measures the quality of housing and the 'outdoors' living environment which contains two measures about air quality and road traffic accidents.

Sub-Domain: The 'indoors' living environment

- Social and private housing in poor condition (2001)
- Houses without central heating (2001)

Sub-Domain: The 'outdoors' living environment

- Air quality (2001)
- Road traffic accidents involving injury to pedestrians and cyclists (2000-2002)

Within each sub-domain the indicators were standardised, transformed to the normal distribution and combined with equal weights. Then the two sub-domains were standardised, transformed to the exponential distribution and combined into the domain using a weight of 66.6% for 'indoors' living environment and 33.3% for 'outdoors' living environment to reflect the time people spend in each arena.

The second Indices of Deprivation domain that is of particular importance to the Open Space Standards is the Health Deprivation and Disability domain. This "domain identifies areas with relatively high rates of people who die prematurely or whose quality of life is impaired by poor health or who are disabled" (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, 2004, 3). This domain identifies areas with relatively high rates of people who die prematurely or whose quality of life is impaired by poor health or who are disabled, across the whole population.

Indicators include:

- Years of Potential Life Lost (1997-2001)
- Comparative Illness and Disability Ratio (2001)
- Measures of emergency admissions to hospital (1999-2002)
- Adults under 60 suffering from mood or anxiety disorders (1997-2002)

Shrinkage is used on the indicators, then they are combined using factor weights. Similarly to the trends displayed by the Living Environment domain there are no small



areas within the District of Rochford that experience serious health deprivation, while the Essex District average (1.4) and Essex County (2.0) marginally exceeds this.

The following table 6 highlights a few key statistics for the District of Rochford, as well as the trend and the Districts performance nationally.

**Table 6 – Deprivation Statistics**

Indicator	Period	Value	Trend	National Quartile (1=best)
% of the population living in the most deprived super output areas in the country	2004	1.0%		④③②①
% of the population of working age that is claiming key benefits	Nov 04	7.5 %	↓	④③②①
% of the population over 60 who live in households that are income deprived	2004	10.3%		④③②①
% of children that live in families that are income deprived	2004	10.8%		④③②①
The percentage of residents who think that people being attacked because of their skin colour, ethnic origin or religion is a very big or fairly big problem in their local area	2003/04	13.7%		④③②①

## Crime

Table 7 illustrates the total number of offences per 1000 persons of the population from 2003-2004, within the England and Wales, the East of England region, Essex County and the District of Rochford.

**Table 7 – Total offences per 1000 population**

Authority	Total Offences per 1000 Population			
	Apr- Jun 2003	Jul- Sep 2003	Oct- Dec 2003	Jan- Mar 2004
England and Wales	29.0	28.3	27.6	27.8
East of England	23.7	23.1	22.9	23.4
Essex	23.1	21.3	22.3	22.3
Rochford	13.2	12.0	14.9	14.1

Source; Crime Statistics Online, Home Office

Table 7 indicates that the crime rates per 1000 of the population for the District of Rochford marginally fluctuated, however the incidences of crime per 1000 of the population were considerably lower than the other comparators. With regard to the Rochford District the Local Authority displays a fairly low level of crime and is not displaying any worrying trends.

The types of crimes committed give an indication to the seriousness of the crimes committed within the area. The type of criminal offences committed per 1000 of the population for the District of Rochford and the English average for 2004/05 are outlined in table 8.

**Table 8 – Type of crime per 1000 population**

Type of Crime	Per 1000 of the Population	
	Rochford District	English Average
Sexual Offences	0	0.9
Violence Against Person	9	16.5
Robbery Offences	0	1.4
Burglary Dwelling Offences	3	6.4
Theft of motor vehicle offences	2	4.5
Theft from a motor vehicle offence	4	10.0

Source; Up My Street website

Table 8 indicates that Rochford has a lower incidence of all criminal offences per 1000 of the population in comparison to the English average. It is important that the Local Authority continues to experience a low level of crime and the design of good quality housing contributes positively to the maintenance of a low level of crime.

Table 9 documents the population of Rochford District's perceptions of crime, safety and anti-social behaviour as well as some statistical data for the District.

**Table 9 - Community Safety**

Indicator	Period	Value	Trend	National Quartile (1=best)
Percentage of residents surveyed who say that they feel fairly safe or very safe outside during the day	2004/05	98.0%	↑	④③②①
Percentage of residents surveyed who say that they feel fairly safe or very safe outside after dark	2004/05	74.7%	↑	④③②①
Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households	2004/05	7.52	↓	④③②①
Violent Offences committed per 1,000 population	2004/05	9.09	↑	④③②①
Theft of a vehicle per 1,000 population	2004/05	1.89	↑	④③②①
Sexual offences per 1,000 population	2004/05	.37	↑	④③②①
The percentage of residents who think that vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles is a very big or fairly big problem in their local area	2003/04	62.3%		④③②①
The percentage of residents who think that people using or dealing drugs is a very big or fairly big problem in their local area	2003/04	57.6%		④③②①
The percentage of residents who think that people being rowdy or drunk in public places is a very big or fairly big problem in their local area	2003/04	41.6%		④③②①
Number of pedestrian road accident casualties per 100,000 population	2003/04	49.0		④③②①
Number of cyclist road accident casualties per 100,000 population	2003/04	30.0		④③②①

(Source: [www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk](http://www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk))

### **Deprivation Summary**

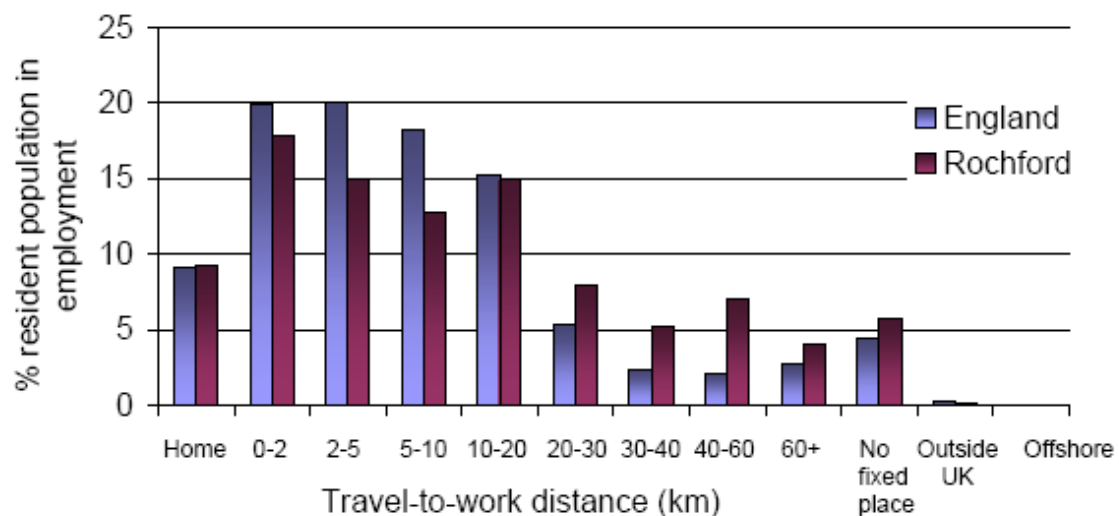
- The District of Rochford has less deprivation than the average for the Essex Districts, and Essex County.
- Only 1% of the population of Rochford District live in the most deprived super output areas in the country.
- 7.5% of the population of working age claim key benefits.
- 10.3% of the population over 60 live in households that are income deprived.
- 10.8% of children live in families that are income deprived.
- The incidences of crime per 1000 of the population in the District are considerably lower than the other comparators.
- The percentage of residents who think that vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles is a very big or fairly big problem in their local area is 62.3%.
- Percentage of residents surveyed who say that they feel fairly safe or very safe outside during the day is 98%

## Education & Employment

In 2004, of the people in Rochford of 'working age' (men aged 16-64, women aged 1659), the employment rate was 79.2%. This compares with an average of 75% for Great Britain.

A relatively high proportion of Rochford district residents in employment commute outside the district to work. The district has communication links with London by road and rail. Rochford, Rayleigh and Hockley have stations on the Liverpool Street line providing easy access to London. The district also has good communication links with the adjacent urban area of Southend. Graph 9 shows the distances that the resident population of Rochford district commute to work, compared to the average for England.

**Graph 9 – Illustrating Travel to Work Distances of Residents within Rochford Population in Employment**



(Source: Rochford Annual Monitoring Report December 2005)

Given the imbalance between the number of residents in employment and the number of jobs available, a high proportion of the Rochford workforce commutes out of the District. 30% travel to work in Southend, 14% to London, 9% to Basildon and about 15% travel elsewhere outside the District (Rochford Economic Profile). In the past five years there has been a steady increase in out commuting from the District. Statistics provided by First Great Eastern show that using 1998 as the base year, out

commuting by train from Rayleigh has increased by 10%, Rochford 24% and Hockley 7% (1998-2002).

Statistics provided by One Railway show that during 2002 to 2004 there has been an increase of approximately 1% in out commuting passengers from Rayleigh, Hockley and Rochford.

**Rayleigh – 2002 – 950,000 out journeys – 960,000 during 2004.**

**Hockley – 2002 – 2.033m out journeys – 1.985m during 2004**

**Rochford – 2002 – 663,000 out journeys – 684,000 during 2004**

## Employers Characteristics in Rochford

There are few large businesses – only 5 employ more than 250 staff. The majority of these are engineering firms. Many of the bigger employers have businesses related to London Southend Airport where there are some 1500 jobs mainly in the engineering sector. The District has a higher proportion of small companies than the national average, and these companies dominate the local economy. Among the larger employers in the District are engineering firms, including aviation-related industry at London Southend Airport. The majority of employment in the District is in utilities, construction and communications.

Every three years the government publishes the Indices of Multiple Deprivation. This is a system that looks nationally at areas of deprivation.






## Economic Well-Being

The following Tables 10 & 11 show the economic well being of the population of Rochford District and education and life long learning, as well as their trends and performance nationally.

**Table 10 – Economic Well Being**





















Indicator	Period	Value	Trend	National Quartile (1=best)
% of the working age population who are in employment	03/03-02/04	79.0%	↑	④③②①
Number of Job Seeker's Allowance claimants as a percentage of the working age population	March 2005	1.1%	↑	④③②①
% of Job Seeker's allowance claimants who have been out of work for more than a year	March 2005	5.8%	↑	④③②①
Total number of VAT registered businesses in the area at the end of the year	2004	2575	↑	④③②①
% change in the number of VAT registered businesses	2004	-0.2%	↓	④③②①



Job density: Number of jobs to working age population 2002 0.53     

(Source: [www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk](http://www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk))

**Table 11 - Education and Life Long Learning**

Indicator	Period	Value	Trend	National Quartile (1=best)
% of half days missed due to total absence in local authority primary schools	2004/05	5.62%		   
% of half days missed due to total absence in local authority secondary schools	2004/05	8.00%		   
% of young people aged 16 to 24 year olds in full time education or employment	2003/04	91.6%		   
% of 15 year old pupils in local authority schools achieving five or more GCSEs at Grade A*-C or equivalent	2004/05	55.4%		   

Source: [www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk](http://www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk)

The LSC Essex Annual Statement of Priorities (December 2004) states they will develop better training provision to meet employers requirements and increase employer engagement. The Knowledge Economy Audit for the Thames Gateway (March 2005) states that Rochford District has very low average earnings and a high employment rate, it has a stronger knowledge economy than its neighbour Castle Point. 33% of the workforce are qualified below level 2 and 17% are graduates.

It is the policy of the Council to try to purchase products and services locally wherever possible. 7% of products and services are purchased from businesses in the Rochford District area and 50% from the Essex area. Most of those for Essex are in neighbouring areas and are therefore relatively local. In fact, rural business makes up 4% of local employment, higher than average.

### **Education and Employment Summary**

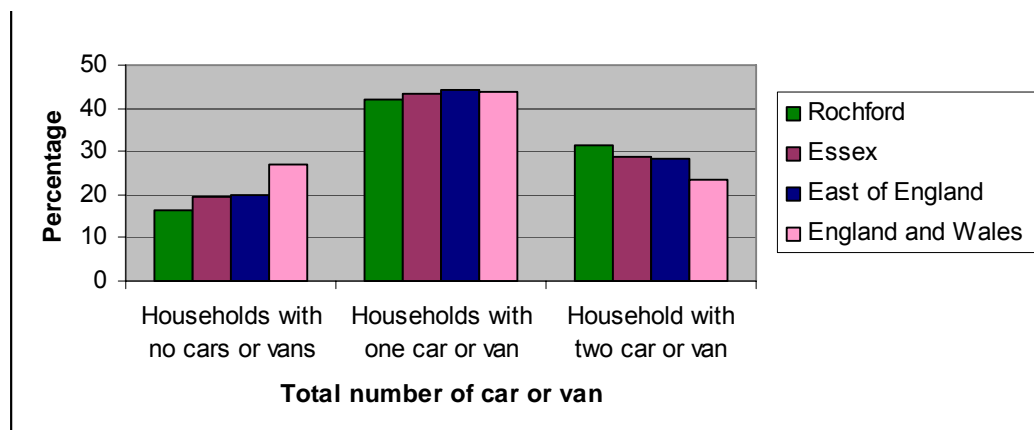
- In 2004, of the people in Rochford of 'working age' (men aged 16-64, women aged 16-59), the employment rate was 79.2%. This compares with an average of 75% for Great Britain.
- 39,000 of the District's residents are in employment whilst statistics supplied by the Rayleigh Job centre in July 2004 state there is only 1% unemployment, compared to the national figure of 2.3% of the working population.
- There are 21,000 jobs in the District, predominately in the retail, wholesale and service sectors. Rochford has significantly more unfilled job vacancies relative to population than other areas locally in Essex
- There are few large businesses – only 5 employ more than 250 staff
- A high proportion of the Rochford workforce commutes out of the District. 30% travel to work in Southend, 14% to London, 9% to Basildon and about 15% travel elsewhere outside the District
- 91.6% of young people aged 16 to 24 year olds in full time education or employment
- 55.4% of 15 year old pupils in local authority schools achieving five or more GCSEs at Grade A\*-C or equivalent

### **Transport and Access**

#### **Car Ownership**

The total number of cars and vans owned in 2001 throughout the Rochford District is 31,952. Graph 10 illustrates the percentage of car or van ownership within the District of Rochford, Essex County, the East of England Region and England and Wales.

**Graph 10 – Household Car Ownership**



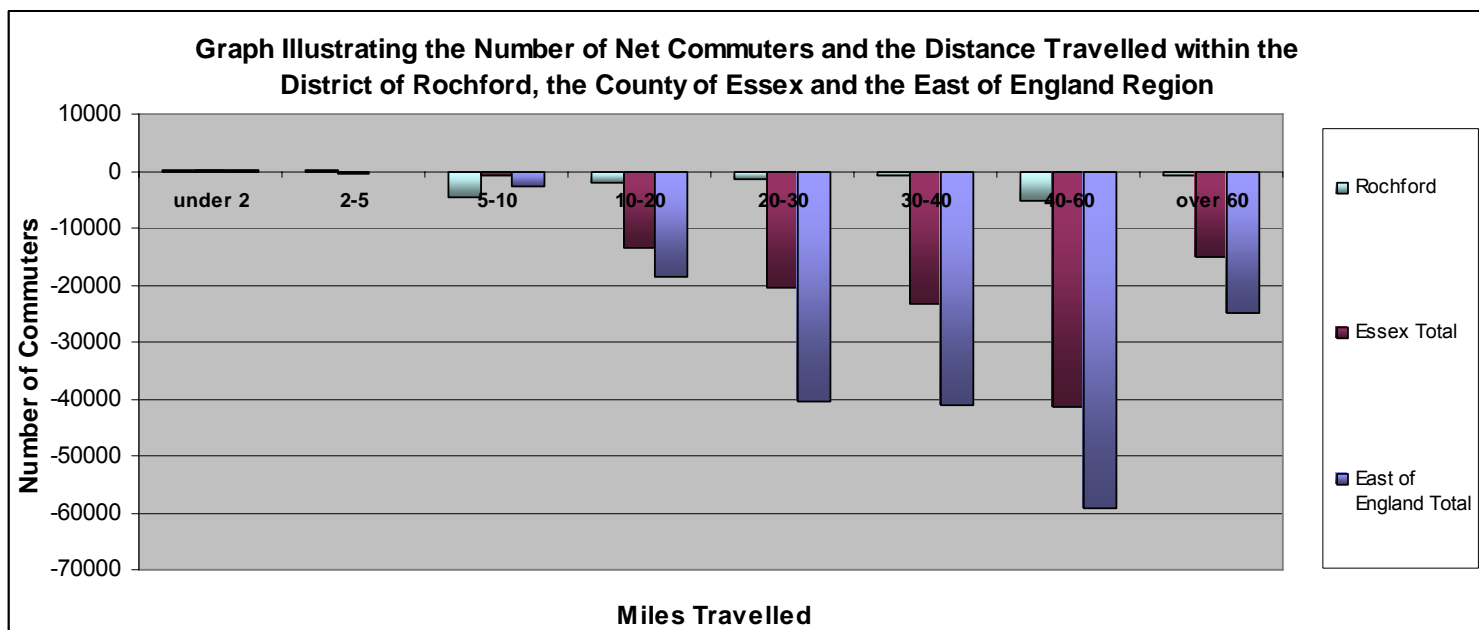
Source: [www.statisticsonline.gov.uk](http://www.statisticsonline.gov.uk)

Graph 10 demonstrates that 16.4% of households within the District of Rochford do not own a car or van. This proportion of the population is considerably different to the national trend whereby 26.8% of households do not own a car or van. However the relatively low number of households without a car or van is also evident in Essex and the East of England region. Graph 10 also shows that a greater percentage of households own one car or van, which is consistent for the County of Essex, the East of England region and England and Wales. When analysing the percentage of the population owning two cars or vans it is evident that Rochford has a higher percentage in comparison to Essex, the East of England and especially England and Wales.

### **Net Commuting**

Net commuting measures the difference between the numbers of persons commuting into a district minus the number of persons out-commuting. Graph 11 illustrates the number of net commuters and the distance travelled within the District of Rochford, the County of Essex and the East of England region in 2001.

**Graph 11**

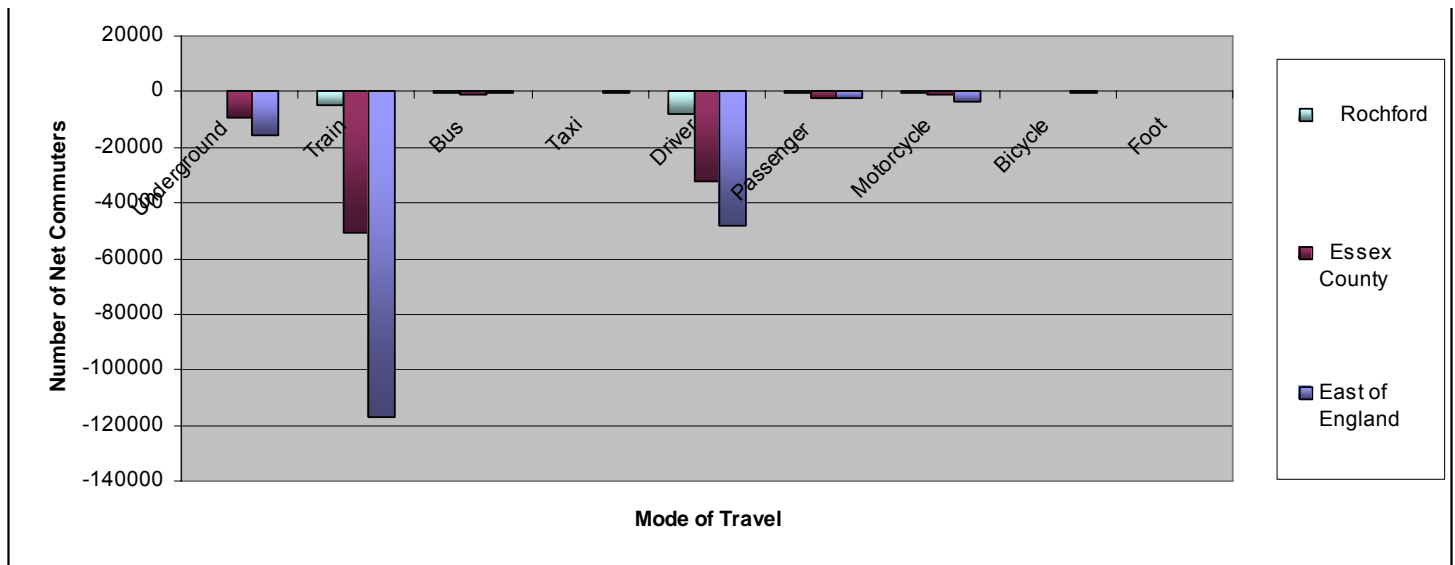


(Source: Census (2001))

Graph 11 demonstrates that similarly to the East of England and Essex County net commuter, Rochford Districts demonstrates that the majority of persons out commute and travel 40-60 miles. However, dissimilar to the regional and county trend persons out commuting 5-10 miles represent the next greatest out commuter group.

Graph 12 demonstrates the mode of travelled utilised and the number of net commuters using each particular mode.

**Graph 12 illustrating the number of commuters and mode of transportation within the District of Rochford, Essex County and the East of England Region in 2001**



(Source: Census (2001))

Graph 12 demonstrates that the greatest volume of commuters within the District of Rochford is out commuters, and they predominately travel by car, whereas the regional and county trend illustrates that there is a net out commute of persons but the principal mode of transportation is train. Thus it is important that the Rochford district seeks to address this issue, and promote the use of more sustainable transportation modes.

There are an estimated 708,000 cars or vans in the county, which represents 1.3 vehicles for every household. Over the last decade the number of cars and vans in Essex has risen by approximately 25%.

## **Public Transport Systems**

### **Buses**

There are over 40 bus companies operating many routes throughout the Essex area. However many rural areas of Essex have seen decreasing public transport services, including bus services, over the last decade and this has led to access problems and associated social isolation in the countryside.

### **London Southend Airport (Rochford District/Southend Borough)**

Southend Airport is owned by Regional Airports Limited and operated by London Southend Airport Company Limited. The airport straddles the Southend Borough and Rochford District boundaries.

Southend Airport has a single runway, which is 0.99 miles in length and is capable of taking aircraft up to the size of a Boeing 757. The runway could have risk implications for other transport links within the immediate area as at one end the approach to the flight path crosses the Liverpool Street to Southend Victoria railway line; and at the other, the A127 Southend Arterial Road is located a short distance beyond the runway thresh-hold.

Currently the airport has the capacity to handle 300,000 passengers per year. However, a new terminal is planned and scheduled for completion by 2007/8. Together with a new railway station, this will enhance the passenger handling capabilities and may well see a significant rise in passenger numbers. Southend Airport is often used as a diversionary airport for London City.

The airport is home to four flying schools, deals with ad-hoc and charter freight traffic, and has facilities for private/light aircraft operators and a number of hangers dedicated to aircraft maintenance and refurbishment. In recent times, with increasing uncertainty over air travel growth, Southend Airport has often played host to aircraft laid up pending redeployment or resale.

While Southend Airport is relatively quiet at this time, the indications are that in the future, certainly beyond 2008 when the new terminal facilities are completed, traffic could increase quite significantly.

Table 12 highlights some key statistics regarding transport and access in the District of Rochford as well as trends in the data and the District's position in the National Quartile.

**Table 12 – Transport and Access**

Indicator	Period	Value	Trend	National Quartile (1=best)
% of the resident population who travel to work by private motor vehicle (car, taxi or motorbike)	2001	64.8%		④③②①
% of the resident population who travel to work by public transport	2001	19.2%		④③②①
% of the resident population who travel to work on foot or cycle	2001	6.8%		④③②①
% of the resident population travelling over 20 km to work	2001	25.4%		④③②①
% of residents who think that for their local area, over the past three years, that public transport has got better or stayed the same.	2003/04	65.20%		④③②①
% of residents who think that for their local area, over the past three years that the level of traffic congestion has got better or stayed the same.	2003/04	22.78%		④③②①
Estimated traffic flows for all vehicle types (million vehicle kilometres)	2003	13223 million vehicle kms	↑	④③②①

(Source: [www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk](http://www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk))

### **Transport and Access Summary**

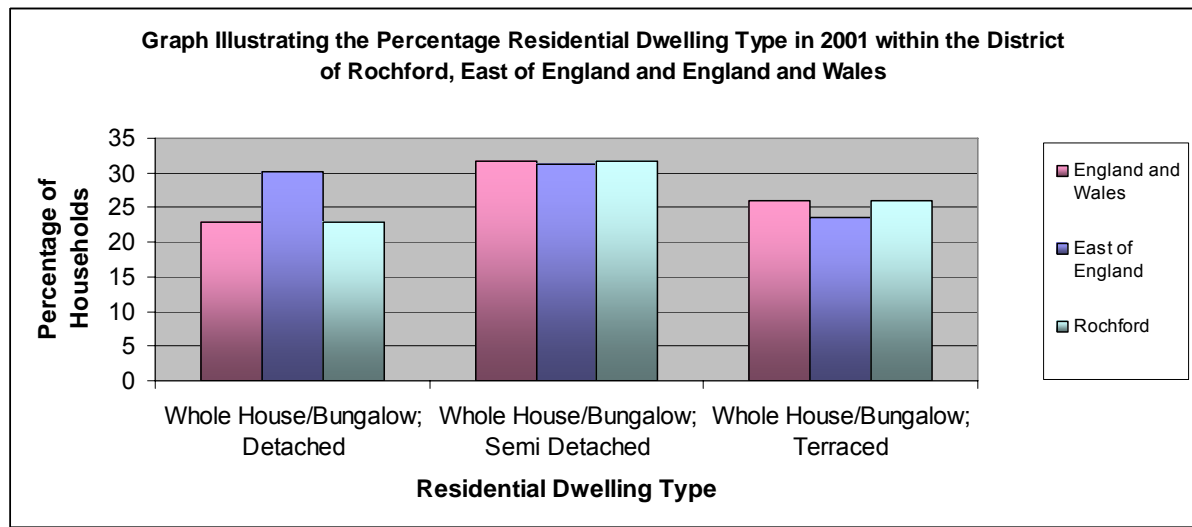
- 16.4% of households within the District of Rochford do not own a car or van. This proportion of the population is considerably different to the national trend whereby 26.8% of households do not own a car or van
- Within the District the majority of persons out commute and travel 40-60 miles. However, dissimilar to the regional and county trend persons out commuting 5-10 miles represent the next greatest out commuter group
- While Southend Airport is relatively quiet at this time, the indications are that in the future, certainly beyond 2008 when the new terminal facilities are completed, traffic could increase quite significantly
- 64.8% of the resident population travel to work by private motor vehicle (car, taxi or motorbike)
- 19.2% of the resident population travel to work by public transport
- 6.8% of the resident population travel to work on foot or cycle. (Lower quartile).
- 65.2% of residents who think that for their local area, over the past three years, that public transport has got better or stayed the same. (Lower quartile).



## Housing

Graph 13 illustrates the percentage of household dwelling type within England and Wales, the East of England region and the District of Rochford in 2001.

**Graph 13 – illustrating the percentage of Residential Dwellings in 2001 within the District of Rochford, the East of England Region and England and Wales**

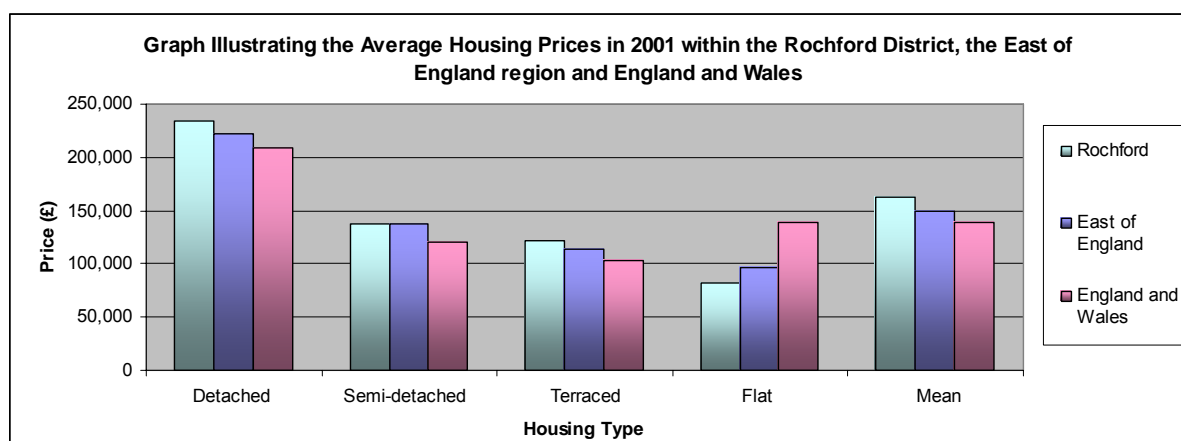


Source; Office for National Statistics, 2001

Graph 13 demonstrates that Rochford has a similar percentage of households inhabiting a semi detached dwelling house with 31.6% of the population. The District of Rochford has a comparable number of detached dwellings (22.8%) to the average for England and Wales, however the number of detached dwellings within the region is greater. Furthermore the District of Rochford has a similar proportion of terrace dwellings as the national average, while the region has marginally lower proportion of terrace dwellings.

Graph 14 outlines the average dwelling prices of properties of varying type within the District of Rochford, the East of England region and England and Wales in 2001.

**Graph 14 – Graph Illustrating the Average House Prices in 2001 within the Rochford District, the East of England Region and England and Wales**



Source; Office for National Statistics, 2001 Census

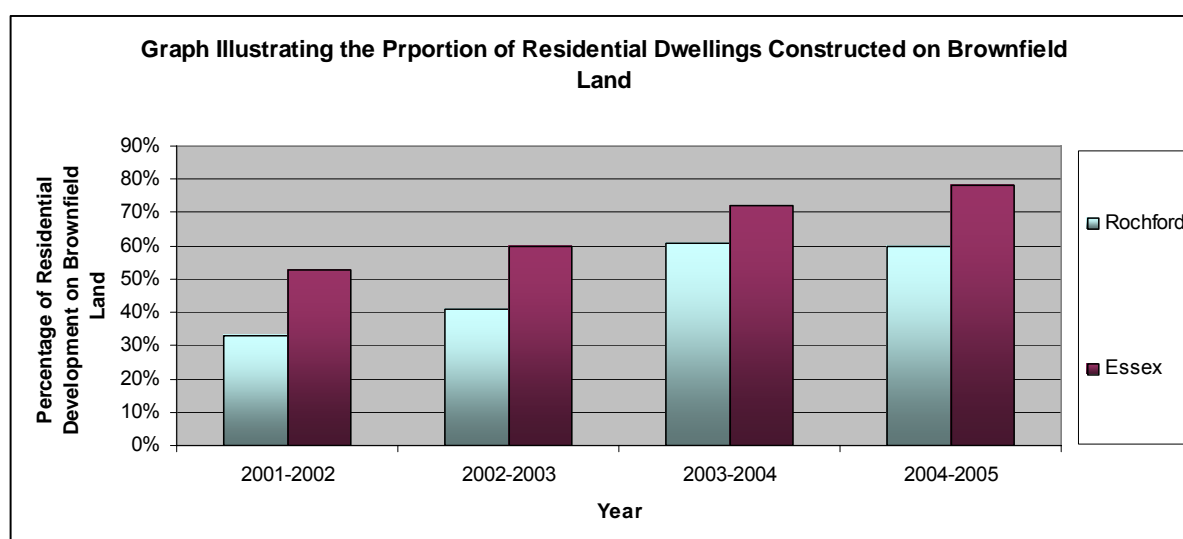
Graph 14 illustrates that the average price of a flat within the District of Rochford (£81, 667) was less than the average price of a flat within the region (£96, 888) and nationally (£138, 762). The average price of detached, semi detached and terraced dwellings throughout the District of Rochford are greater than the average for the region but comparable with the average price for England and Wales. The price of a dwelling is important to establish household ability to afford particular dwelling types. From the information outlined in graph 14 it is possible to conclude that the mean dwelling prices within the District of Rochford are greater than the regional average therefore accessibility to housing within the District may be socially exclusive.

## Land Utilisation

Planning Policy Guidance note 3 - Housing outlines that central Government is “committed to maximising the re-use of previously developed land and empty properties and the conversion of non- residential buildings for housing” (Office of Deputy Prime Minister, 2000, 8.) The objective of the government’s aim is to promote regeneration and minimise the amount of Greenfield land being utilised for development. The Planning Policy Guidance note 3 sets out a national target that by “2008, 60% of additional housing should be provided on previously developed land and through conversions of existing buildings” (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, 2000.8). The target allows the assessment of Local Authority Performance to development on previously developed land.

A service level agreement between Essex County Council and Rochford District Council exists whereby the County Council undertakes residential and non-residential land monitoring. The information formulated by the County Council is further verified by Rochford District Council. Graph 15 utilises this information and illustrates the percentage of residential development that has occurred on previously developed land from 2001-2004 in the Rochford District and throughout Essex.

**Graph 15 – illustrating the proportion of Residential Dwellings Constructed on Brownfield Land**



Source; Essex County Council Monitoring Statistics, 2004.

Graph 15 illustrates that since 2003-04 the District of Rochford has achieved the Government's target of 60% of new residential developments upon previously developed land. However Essex County (excluding Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock) has continually exceeded the number of residential development constructed on previously developed land. The intensification of existing and future development is an important aspect of residential dwelling design and may impact on the quantity of Greenfield land required for development.

## Housing Needs Survey

### Key Findings...

- ◆ 91.6% of households live in accommodation suitable for their needs. Satisfaction ranges from 96.1% in the owner occupied sector to 82.2% in the HA rented sector;
- ◆ Flats and terraced houses average cost is £118,294 and £170,224 respectively and affordability is a major issue, particularly for new forming households;
- ◆ 67% cannot afford private rental and home ownership is beyond the reach of 75% of concealed households, even though nearly 40% of them earn over £25,000 p.a.;
- ◆ The social stock is only 8%, less than half the national average of 19.3% and provides only 102 re-let units each year;
- ◆ Annually 393 affordable housing units are needed, 291 more than existing supply from re-lets, a new supply requirement significantly greater than current delivery levels;
- ◆ There is a requirement to develop a more balanced housing stock in both sectors with a need for more small units, flats and terraced houses, particularly in the private sector;
- ◆ The total population is projected to reduce but the retired age group will increase by 15.2% by 2011. There is an inextricable link between ageing and disability. Of the 5,463 households with a support need, 67% are over 60 and 58% of them have a walking difficulty.

## **Adequacy of the Existing Stock**

- The vast majority of households have access to all the basic amenities and the perception of most residents is that their homes are well maintained and not in need of improvement.
- Some 91.6% of households say that their accommodation is adequate for their needs. 8.4% (2,689 implied) say that it is inadequate. The largest single issue for those reporting an inadequacy which could be resolved in-situ (without moving) was that the dwelling needed improvement / repairs (87.7%). Of those requiring a move 68.8% (1,559 implied) indicated that the dwelling was too small.
- Based on a calculation of occupants to bedroom numbers, under-occupation affects approximately 84.8% of all households and over-occupation affects 1.4%.

## **Costs of Present Housing and Household Income**

- 22.3% paid less than £50 p.w.; 35% paid less than £60 p.w. and 47% paid less than £70. Of owner-occupiers, 48% of respondents paid no mortgage (outright owners) with a further 21.3% paying less than £450 per month. Around 4.9% of owner-occupier households pay in excess of £1,000 per month.
- 14.9% of households have incomes below £10,000, well below the corresponding UK figure (28%). 41.4% of households in the District have incomes above £30,000 well above the UK average (30%).

## **Moving Households**

- 1,817 existing households and 1,717 new households will be moving within Rochford District in the next three years.

- 2,519 existing and new forming households anticipate moving away from the District. In the case of existing households moving, the single most common reason given by existing households moving outside the District was retirement (28.7%) but near family / carer (25.6%) and lack of affordable housing to buy (25.1%) was also prominent. In the case of concealed households moving, choices were more focused on employment with 37.5% moving to get better access to work and 50.1% moving for a better job; 34.8% indicated lack of affordable housing to buy and 23% indicated lack of affordable housing to rent.

### **Concealed Households**

Concealed households are people who could not afford to be in the housing market and are living within another household. We found that around 5.3% of households contained one or more households seeking independent accommodation giving a total of 1,717 cases over the next three years to 2007. 93.8% are the adult children of existing District residents.

#### **In the Concealed Households Group:-**

- 64.0% of the people in these concealed households are between 20 and 29 years of age and 15.5% are over 30.
- 729 (45.0%) of households are being formed with a partner living in a separate household elsewhere in the District.
- 33.0% of those concealed households needing social rented housing were registered on a housing waiting list, 91.0% being on the Rochford District Housing Needs Register.

**Table 13 – Housing Type Needs and Preferences within the District of Rochford**

Type	Need %	Preference %	Current Stock %
Flat	49.7	25.1	7.9
Terraced	10.2	11.1	6.9
Semi-detached	28.9	48.6	34.4

Size	Need %	Preference %	Current Stock %
One bed	46.5	14.5	8.5
Two bed	41.8	50.7	24.8
Three bed	11.7	29.6	42.7

(Source: Rochford Annual Monitoring Report December 2005)

Important differences exist between the levels of preference expressed for property types and their stock supply levels, especially the higher preference for flats than are present in the existing stock.

69.3% (1,190 implied) of the concealed households want to owner occupy, 17.0% (292 implied) preferred Council rented and 3.2% (55 implied) prefer private rent. 4.5% (77 implied) want HA shared ownership accommodation and 6.0% Housing Association rent (103 implied).

### **Concealed Households' Housing Costs and Incomes**

Key factors relating to immediately forming households' ability to meet housing costs are that:-

- ◆ 36.9% could afford a weekly rent of no more than £60 and 50% no more than £70;
- ◆ 77.6% could not afford a mortgage of more than £500 per month;
- ◆ 11.4% have household incomes below £10,000 per annum, 26.3% earn between £10,001 - £20,000 and a further 23.8% between £20,001 and £25,000, 83.4% in total earning below £35,000;
- ◆ 75% have inadequate income to be able to buy and 67% cannot afford to rent privately even the smallest one and two bedroom flats and terraced houses.

## **The Rochford District Housing Market**

The evaluation of the market in Rochford District is based on specially prepared information taken directly from the Land Registry database for the year to 30th September 2004 and an analysis of local estate agency sales looking at entry level properties.

An income of £24,900 is required to buy a one bedroom flat in Rochford, rising to £37,700 in Rayleigh. A two bedroom flat requires an income of £26,300 in Hockley and up to £53,800 in Hullbridge. Terraced properties require an income of £47,400 in Rochford to £53,800 in Hawkwell.

We assess terraces to be the main entry level for first time buyers in view of their relatively lower cost and volume of sales. 75% have inadequate income to be able to buy and 67% cannot afford to rent privately. Additionally, private rent is not the housing preference of the majority of households and even where this is the case lack of supply may cause some households to have to leave the District to meet their requirements.

### **Affordability and Access to Market Housing**

The data indicates strongly that there is an affordability problem arising from the relationship between local incomes and the realistic supply of the cheapest stock available.

Table 14 shows the annual household income needed to buy in the lowest and highest priced areas in the District, based on a 95% mortgage availability and a 3-times gross income to lending ratio.



**Table 14 – Annual Household Income Needed**

Area	Income Thresholds (£)		
	1 bed Flat	2 bed Flat	2 bed Terrace
Hockley*	25,600	26,300	51,500
Hawkwell*	-nd-	-nd-	53,800
Rayleigh	37,700	41,000	49,200
Rochford	24,900	36,400	47,400
Hullbridge*	-nd-	53,800	-nd-

(Source: Rochford Annual Monitoring Report December 2005)

### **Affordable Housing**

The 2004 District Supply / Demand Analysis found that there was a total shortfall of 1558 affordable dwellings across the District.

The majority of residential developments in the District are undertaken by private developers on private land. The primary mechanism for securing affordable housing is likely to be through legal agreements between the Council and developer incorporated into planning permissions. Policy HP8 of the Rochford District Replacement Local Plan, Second Deposit Draft, outlines the Council's planning policy towards affordable housing. Policy HP8 will require residential development schemes of more than 25 dwellings or on sites of 1 hectare or more to usually comprise no less than 15 percent affordable housing.

In 2004-05 there were a total of seven affordable houses completed in the District. Five were part of the 40 dwelling units developed on land adjacent to 87 Rectory Road, Rochford. Two were constructed on land adjacent 43 Warwick Drive, Rochford by The Swan Housing Association.

Of the 923 dwellings with planning permission yet to be completed, 120 are to be affordable. Over half of these (70) will be provided on two sites: former Reads Nursery, Rawreth Lane, Rayleigh; and former Park School, Rawreth Lane, Rayleigh.

**Table 15 – Affordable Housing**

	Total	Affordable	% Affordable
Dwellings completed 04-05	59	7	12
Dwellings granted planning permission 04-05	306	27	9
Outstanding dwellings as at 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2005	923	120	13
Outstanding + Completed 2004-05	982	127	13
Number of sites with permission for residential development as at 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2005	219	6*	3*

\*Includes any site where at least 1 unit is to be affordable

Source: Rochford Annual Monitoring Report December 2005

Table 16 states some key statistics surrounding housing for the District of Rochford. Where possible, trends are documented as well as the Districts position in the National Quartile.

**Table 16 - Housing Statistics**

Indicator	Period	Value	Trend	National Quartile (1=best)
Total number of new housing completions	2004/05	93	↓	④③②①
Affordable dwellings completed as a % of all new housing completion	2004/05	15.1%	↑	④③②①
Household accommodation without central heating	2001	3.4%		④③②①
The percentage of residents who think that people sleeping rough on the streets or in other public places a very big or fairly big problem in their local area	2003/04	12.5%		④③②①
House price to income ratio	2003	4.34		④③②①

Source: [www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk](http://www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk)

## Housing Summary

- The District of Rochford has a similar percentage of households inhabiting a semi detached dwelling house with 31.6% of the population to national figures.
- The District of Rochford has a comparable number of detached dwellings (22.8%) to the average for England and Wales
- The average price of a flat within the District of Rochford (£81, 667) was less than the average price of a flat within the region (£96, 888) and nationally (£138, 762)
- Some 91.6% of households say that their accommodation is adequate for their needs. 8.4% (2,689 implied) say that it is inadequate. The largest single issue for those reporting an inadequacy which could be resolved in-situ (without moving) was that the dwelling needed improvement / repairs (87.7%). Of those requiring a move 68.8% (1,559 implied) indicated that the dwelling was too small.
- 67% cannot afford private rental and home ownership is beyond the reach of 75% of concealed households, even though nearly 40% of them earn over £25,000 p.a
- Annually 393 affordable housing units are needed, 291 more than existing supply from re-lets, a new supply requirement significantly greater than current delivery levels
- 1,817 existing households and 1,717 new households will be moving within Rochford District in the next three years.
- In the case of concealed households moving, choices were more focused on employment with 37.5% moving to get better access to work and 50.1% moving for a better job; 34.8% indicated lack of affordable housing to buy and 23% indicated lack of affordable housing to rent
- 75% have inadequate income to be able to buy and 67% cannot afford to rent

privately even the smallest one and two bedroom flats and terraced houses

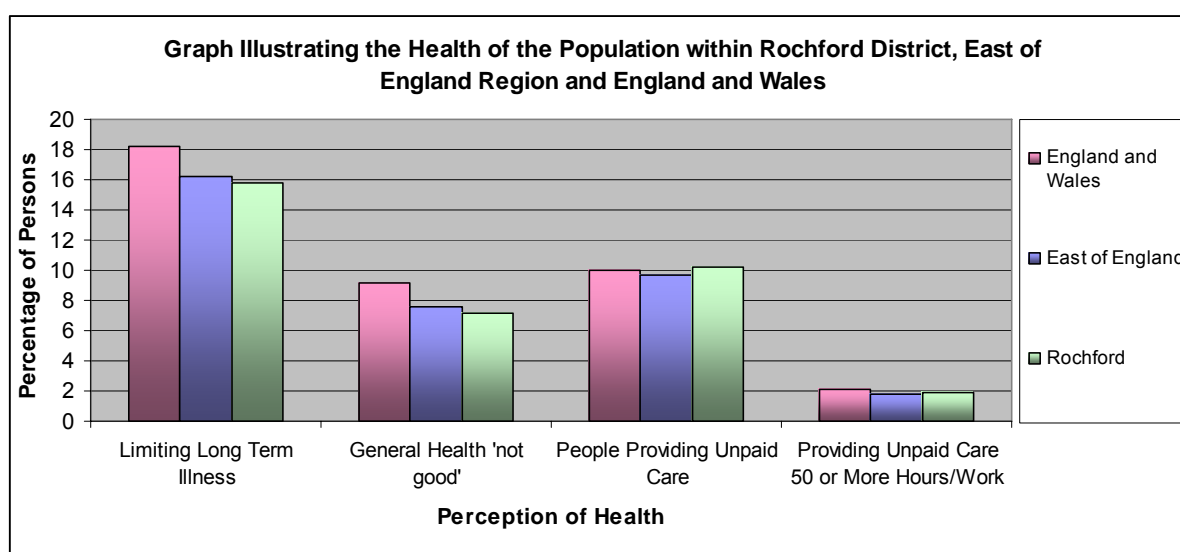
- The 2004 District Supply / Demand Analysis found that there was a total shortfall of 1558 affordable dwellings across the District.

## Human Health

### Health

The 2001 Census invited collected information regarding the respondents' general state of health. Graph 16 illustrates the health of persons within England and Wales, the East of England region and the District of Rochford.

**Graph 16 – Illustrating the Health of the Population within Rochford District Council, East of England Region and England and Wales**



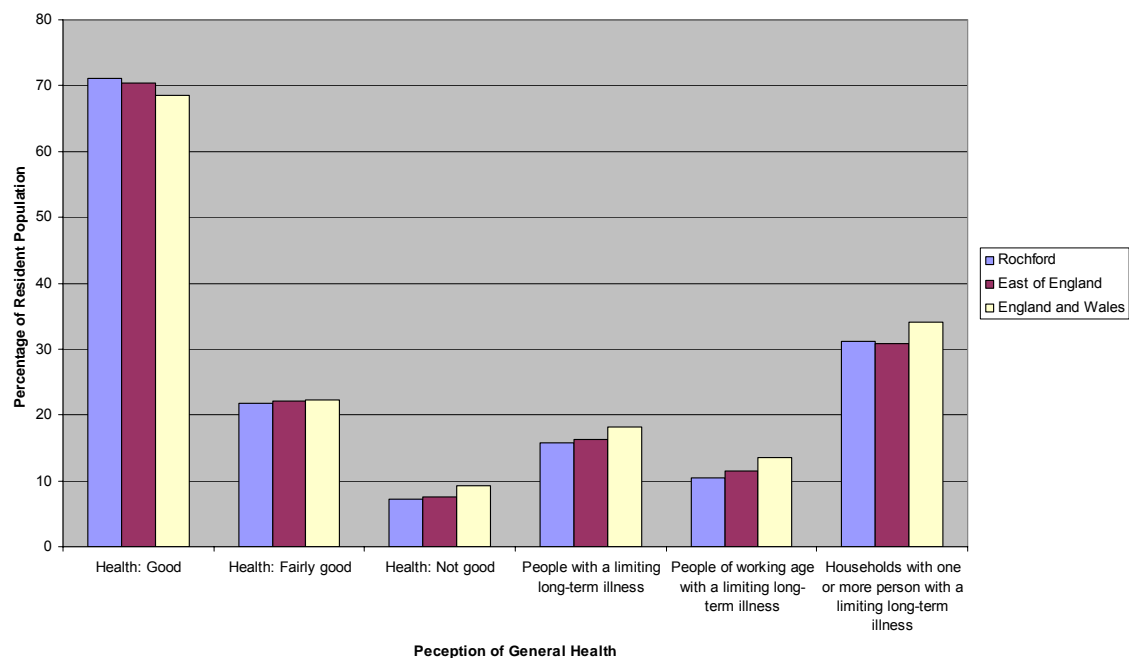
(Source, National Statistics Online, 2004)

Graph 16 demonstrates that within the District of Rochford 15.8% of people have a limiting or long term illness, this level of persons is marginally lower than the regional proportion of 16.2% and the national level (18.2%). Similarly to the percentage of persons that have a limiting long term illness the proportion of the population that are generally not in good health within the District of Rochford (7.2%) is similar to the regional proportion (7.6%), but differs more greatly from the national level (9.2%).

The proportion of persons classified as 'providing unpaid care' within Rochford is similar to the regional and national proportions.

Health measures can provide valuable indicators of the general health of the population and the prevalence of illness within it. As can be seen in graph 17, the vast majority of Rochford District residents (71.1%) class themselves as being in 'good' health.

**Graph 17 Perception of Health in Resident Population**



Source: National Statistic Online 2001

**Table 17 - Perception of Health**

	<b>Rochford</b>	<b>East of England</b>	<b>England and Wales</b>
<b>General health: Good</b>	71.1	70.4	68.6
<b>General health: Fairly good</b>	21.7	22.1	22.2
<b>General health: Not good</b>	7.2	7.6	9.2
<b>People with a limiting long-term illness</b>	15.8	16.2	18.2
<b>People of working age with a limiting long-term illness</b>	10.5	11.4	13.6
<b>Households with one or more person with a limiting long-term illness</b>	31.2	30.8	34.1

(Source: National Statistic Online 2001)

Essex residents class themselves as being healthy (see graph 17 and table 17 above), a higher percentage than the average for England and Wales. Very few members of the population regard themselves as having poor health; however there is a high level of households in both Rochford and Essex that have more than one person with a long term illness, however this is still lower than the England and Wales average percentage.

### **Primary Care Trust (PCT)**

Castle Point and Rochford Primary Care Trust (PCT) delivers healthcare services to approximately 170,000 people in the borough of Castle Point and district of Rochford. Together with GPs, dentists, pharmacist and opticians, they steer the planning and provision of these services for the population. They directly provide services from 10 health clinics and they employ approximately 360 staff including

district nurses, health visitors, specialist nurses (such as continence and diabetes), therapists and support staff.

**Table 18 - Health Services within Rochford District and surrounding area**

Health Services	Rochford District	Surrounding District's under same PCT (Benfleet, Canvey, Rayleigh and Hadleigh.)
Doctor	<b>4</b>	<b>32</b>
Dentist	<b>1</b>	<b>22</b>
Optician	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>
Pharmacist	<b>2</b>	<b>32</b>

Source: [www.nhs.co.uk](http://www.nhs.co.uk)

## **Disability**

The 2001 Census of Population provides data on the number of households with at least one person with a limiting long-term illness for Essex in table 19. Rochford is in line with Essex in that roughly one-third of households have one or more people with a limiting long-term illness.

**Table 19 – Households with one or more persons with limiting long term illness**

Households with one or more person with a limiting long term illness

	As % of all households	All households
<b>Basildon</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>69,207</b>
<b>Braintree</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>54,332</b>
<b>Brentwood</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>28,767</b>
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>35,279</b>
<b>Chelmsford</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>64,564</b>
<b>Colchester</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>63,706</b>
<b>Epping Forest</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>50,590</b>
<b>Harlow</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>33,185</b>
<b>Maldon</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>24,189</b>
<i>Rochford</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>31,952</i>
<b>Southend</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>70,978</b>
<b>Tendring</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>61,411</b>
<b>Thurrock</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>58,485</b>
<b>Uttlesford</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>27,519</b>
<i>Essex</i>	<i>32%</i>	<i>674,164</i>

Source: 2001 Census of Population, Office for National Statistics

When analysing Rochford 31,952 (31%) of all the households has a person with a limiting long term illness, this is lower than the Essex figure of 674,164 and considerably lower than districts such as Tendring

Top tier establishments are required to consult the County Council when preparing on-site emergency plans. The County Council is required to prepare an off-site emergency plan for top tier establishments. There is a requirement in the regulations that all plans are reviewed, revised and tested at least every three years, more frequently in some circumstances.



## Support Issues

- 16.9% of households in the District contain somebody with a support need (5,463 households implied), of which 10.8% had two members affected. 67.4% of all household members were over 60, 16.3% under 45.
- The largest group (3,135 implied) affected by a named support need were those with a walking difficulty but who do not use a wheelchair, representing 58.3% of those with a support need.
- Around 8.8% of these households contained someone who was a wheelchair user, suggesting around 474 in the District as a whole. 21.5% of wheelchair user's households live in a property with suitable adaptation.
- Of household members with support needs, some 25.4% (737 implied) felt they needed care or support which is not currently provided.
- 10.9% of all dwellings (3,520 implied) have been adapted to meet the needs of a disabled person. In terms of the nature of adaptations, 50.6% have handrails / grabrails, 43.6% have bathroom adaptations and 42.0% have ground floor toilet adaptations.

Table 20 states the health and social well being statistics for Rochford District as well as the trend of the data and the District's position in the National Quartile

**Table 20 - Health and Social Well Being**

Indicator	Period	Value	Trend	National Quartile (1=best)
Age-standardised mortality rates for all cancers by local authority, males all ages	1991-97	252.95		④③②①
Age-standardised mortality rates for all cancers by local authority, females all ages	1991-97	172.27		④③②①
Age-standardised mortality rates for ischaemic heart disease by local authority, males all ages	1991-97	209.57		④③②①
Age-standardised mortality rates for ischaemic heart disease by local authority, females all ages	1991-97	98.71		④③②①
Age-standardised mortality rates for stroke by local authority, males all ages	1991-97	70.13		④③②①
Age-standardised mortality rates for stroke by local authority, females all ages	1991-97	63.98		④③②①
Age-standardised mortality rates for respiratory diseases by local authority, males all ages	1991-97	119.44		④③②①
Age-standardised mortality rates for respiratory diseases by local authority, females all ages	1991-97	76.56		④③②①
Infant mortality rate: deaths up to 1 year per 1,000 live births	2003	3.9		④③②①
Life expectancy at birth (years): Males	2002	78.0		④③②①
Life expectancy at birth (years): Females	2002	82.2		④③②①
% of households with one or more person with a limiting long term illness	2001	31.2%		④③②①
Teenage conception rates: number of conceptions to under-18 year olds in a calendar year per thousand females aged 15 to 17	2004	30.6	↑	④③②①

(Source: [www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk](http://www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk))

### **Human Health Summary**

- Within the District of Rochford 15.8% of people have a limiting or long term illness, this level of persons is marginally lower than the regional proportion of 16.2% and the national level (18.2%).
- The proportion of the population that are generally not in good health within the District of Rochford (7.2%) is similar to the regional proportion (7.6%), but differs more greatly from the national level (9.2%).
- The vast majority of Rochford District residents (71.1%) class themselves as being in 'good' health.
- Rochford is in line with Essex in that roughly one-third of households have one or more people with a limiting long-term illness.
- 16.9% of households in the District contain somebody with a support need (5,463 households implied), of which 10.8% had two members affected. 67.4% of all household members were over 60, 16.3% under 45.
- Life expectancy at birth (years): Males is 78
- Life expectancy at birth (years): Females is 82.2

### **Cultural Heritage and Material Assets**

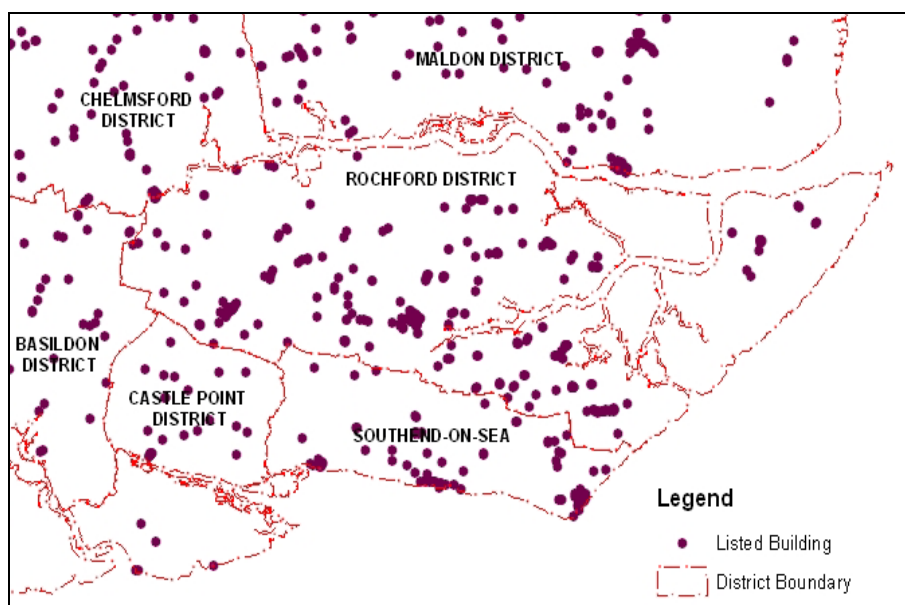
In the East of England there are 57,643 listed buildings, 211 registered parks and gardens, a registered battlefield at Maldon, approximately 1,600 scheduled monuments and 1,100 areas of special architectural or historic interest, designated

as Conservation Areas. English Heritage has identified 2% of the region's listed buildings as being 'at risk of decay' (Our Environment, Our Future: The Regional Environment Strategy for the East of England. East of England Regional Assembly and East of England Environment Forum, July 2003). It is difficult to quantify the archaeological resource, but there are approximately 150,000 archaeological sites currently recorded on County Sites and Monuments Records.

Rochford contains a rich and varied heritage and archaeological resource. The Essex Historic Environment Record (HER) maintained by Essex County Council contains nearly 1500 records including 331 listed buildings and 1126 archaeological records which includes 5 Scheduled Monuments

The Essex Historic Environment Record (HER) maintained by Essex County Council details 331 listed buildings in the District covering a total area of 98.5 hectares. One of these is Grade I listed. There are 17 Grade II\* listed buildings and 309 buildings designated as Grade II. The number of listed buildings at risk in the district has decreased from 8 in 2004 to 7 in 2005. There are 1126 archaeological records within the District, including five Scheduled Monuments.

**Map 3: Listed Buildings in Rochford District**

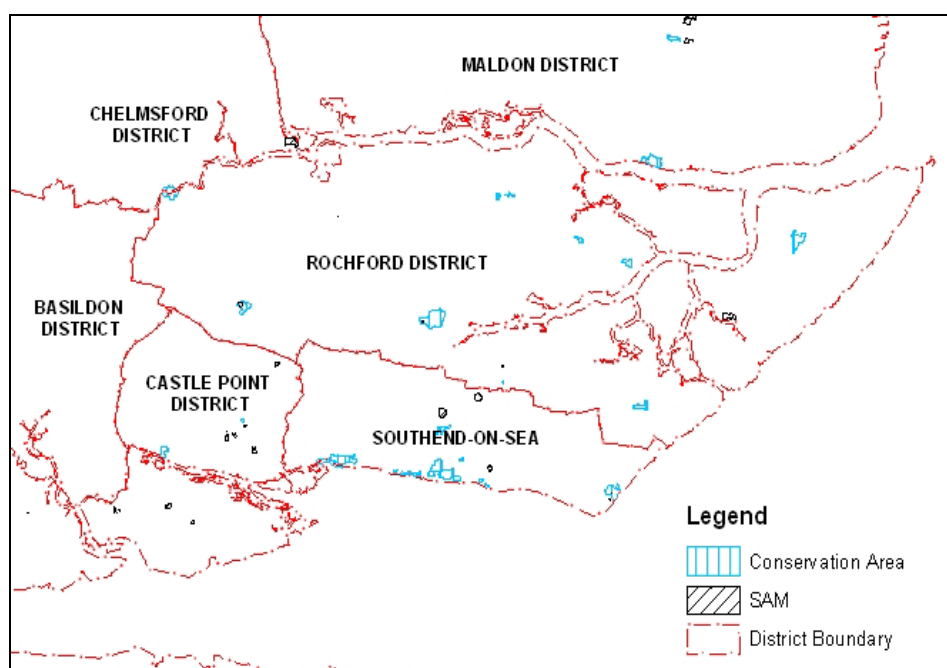


Source: Unrecorded

The District has 1 registered village green, Norpits Beach at Canewdon, with an area of 2.30ha. There are also 3 commons, with the largest recorded at Great

Wakering (5.86ha). In total the measured commons within the District have a hectarage of 6.48ha, which is a small area when compared to the Essex total of 1154.24ha. There are no registered parks/gardens within the District. There are a total of 10 Conservation Areas, with the largest being Rochford at 365,798m<sup>2</sup>. These sites are defined as having 'special architectural or historical interest, the character of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance'.

**Map 4: Rochford District Heritage Designations**



Source: Unrecorded

#### Listed buildings in Rochford;

**Table 21:** Location and type of listed building in Rochford

Building Type	Location
Blatches Farmhouse (barn, stables and granary)	Blatches Chase
Cherry Orchard	Cherry Orchard Lane
Rochford Hospital (Johnson Isolation Block, Main Block, Boiler House)	Dalys Road
Doggetts Farmhouse (stables, cart lodge, cartlodge, large barn, purpose built barn, granary)	Doggetts Chase
Bake/ Brew house	Doggetts Chase
N.o 20, 24, 24A, 26, 28 (south side)	East Street

N.o 5, 17 (north side)	East Street
N.o 1 and 2 Kings Hill Cottages	East Street
Gusted Hall	Gusted Hall Lane
Church of St Andrews, Rochford Hall, ruins and wall surrounding gardens, Pelham's Farmhouse, Rectory Cottage, The Lawn, Potash Cottage	off Hall Road
Shangri-La	Stroud Green, Hall Road
N.o 2, 4, 22, 32, 36, 38, and 40 Old Ship Public House (east side)	North Street
N.o 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29 – 35, 37, 61 - 67 (west side)	North Street
N.o 2, 4, 8, 10, 12, 14 – 20, 22, 24, 28, 30, 46 (west side)	South Street
N.o 1, 3, 7, 11, 15, 17, 19, 21- 31, 33, 35, 39, 41 (east side)	South Street
N.o 17, 19	Southend Road
N.o 2-8, 10-16	Weir Pond Road
N.o 34, 44, 46, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 82, 92- 100, (north side)	West Street
N.o 1, 3, 5, 9, 15, 17, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55 – 65, 67, 69, The Kings Head, Women's Institute Hall,	West Street

(south side)

Source: Rochford District Council

The Historic Buildings at Risk Register contains details of buildings known to be 'at risk' through neglect and decay, or vulnerable to becoming so. The objective of the Register is to outline the state of repair of these buildings with the intention of instigating action towards securing their long term conservation. Table 22 illustrates the number of buildings at risk in 2003, 2004 and 2005, while table 23 shows the number of listed buildings removed from the risk register.

**Table 22:** *The Number of Buildings at Risk in 2003, 2004, and 2005*

Administrative Area	At Risk			Newly at risk		
	2005	2004	2003	2005	2004	2003
Basildon	3	2	3	0	1	0
Braintree	32	27	29	4	9	5
Brentwood	10	9	6	2	1	3
Castle Point	1	1	2	0	0	0
Chelmsford	6	8	4	0	0	4
Colchester	26	21	29	0	5	0
Epping Forest	15	12	16	1	3	0
Harlow	3	3	3	0	0	0
Maldon	11	6	8	2	5	0
Rochford	7	8	10	0	0	0
Tendring	27	26	25	0	4	2
Uttlesford	17	17	17	0	3	0



Total	173	157	169	11	31	14
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Total At Risk **184**      **188**      **183**

(inc newly at  
risk)

(Source, Essex County Council, 2005)

**Table 23:** *The Total Number of Listed Buildings Removed from the Risk Register*

Administrative Area	No longer at risk		
	2005	2004	2003
Basildon	0	1	0
Braintree	4	7	9
Brentwood	0	0	3
Castle Point	0	1	0
Chelmsford	2	0	0
Colchester	0	8	1
Epping Forest	0	4	0
Harlow	0	0	1
Maldon	0	2	3
Rochford	1	2	0
Tendring	2	1	4
Uttlesford	3	0	2
Total	15	26	24

(Source; Essex County Council, 2005)

## Hockley Woods

Hockley Woods cover an area of 280 acres and forms the largest woodland in Essex.. The woodland is owned by Rochford District Council and is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Traditionally, the woods have been managed in coppice. In coppicing most of the trees in a selected area are felled, new shoots grow rapidly from the stumps and thrive in the clearings. After 18 - 20 years the trees have regrown and are cut down again. The cycle is repeated to give a continuous supply of wood.

Hockley Woods are a contiguous group of ancient coppice woods incorporating Great Bull wood, Great Hawkwell Wood, Beeches Wood and Parson's Snipe. They lie on the crest and slopes of a ridge of pre-glacial gravels and clay north-west of Southend-on-Sea. They form one of the most extensive areas of ancient woodland in South Essex, the dominant stand types comprising the Sweet Chestnut variants of Pedunculate oak-hornbeam - birch-hazel variant and acid Sessile oak-hornbeam.

The population of Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea* is probably the largest in eastern England. The woodland is mainly Oak standards, over Hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* or Sweet Chestnut *Castanea sativa* coppice. A large part of the central area is a mixture of these two types. Pure Hornbeam is found in parts. Sessile Oak is the predominant oak and occurs on the higher gravel ridges. Pedunculate Oak *Q. robur* is found on the clays and loams of the valleys and hybrids are common where the two species merge. Birch *Betula spp.* is locally dominant both as coppice and standards. Wild Service Tree *Sorbus torminalis* grows throughout the woods and over forty clones have been identified. Wild Cherry *Prunus avium* is especially abundant in Parson's Snipe. The ground flora is dominated by Bramble *Rubus fruticosus agg.* and Creeping Soft-grass *Holcus mollis* with substantial areas of Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*. Common cow-wheat *Melampyrum pratense*, Slender St. John's-wort *Hypericum pulchrum*, Wood Melick *Melica uniflora* and Yellow Archangel *Lamiastrum galeobdolon* are locally plentiful. Butcher's-broom *Ruscus aculeatus* is found on the boundary banks. Heath Dog-violet *Viola cania*, Great Woodrush *Luzula sylvatica* and Narrow-leaved Everlasting-pea *Lathyrus sylvestris*, all local plants in the county, occur in the more open areas. Three species of orchid have been recorded, including Bird'snest Orchid *Neottia nidus-avis* and, by a stream and marshy area, Broad-leaved Helleborine *Epipactis helleborine*.

Other plants found in this habitat include Woodruff *Galium odoratum*, Brooklime *Veronica beccabunga*, Wild Angelica *Angelica sylvestris* and Square-stalked St. John's wort and *Hypericum tetrapterum*.

Additional interest is provided by a seasonally wet pond with Waterviolet *Hottonia palustris*, an uncommon and decreasing plant in Essex.

The woods are also of significant historical interest: "The Anglo-Saxon perimeter has been nibbled away by many small encroachments, but the internal boundary banks are probably the most extensive fully described for any wood in England". (O. Rackham, 1986, 'The Woods of South East Essex').

Table 24 document some statistics that highlight the perceptions of residents concerning activities, culture and leisure in the District.

**Table 24 – Culture and Leisure**

Indicator	Period	Value	Trend	National Quartile (1=best)
% of the population within 20 minutes of a range of 3 different sports facility types	2005	20.6%		④③②①
% of residents who think that for their local area, over the past three years, that activities for teenagers has got better or stayed the same.	2003/04	54.26%		④③②①
% of residents who think that over the past three years, that cultural facilities (e.g. cinemas, museums) have got better or stayed the same.	2003/04	84.85%		④③②①
% of residents who think that, over the past three years, that facilities for young children have got better or stayed the same.	2003/04	80.93%		④③②①
% of residents who think that for their local area, over the past three years, that sport and leisure facilities have got better	2003/04	84.93%		④③②①

or stayed the same.

% of residents who think that, over the past three years, that parks and open spaces have got better or stayed the same.

2003/04 90.29%



The % area of land designated as a SSSI within the local authority area, which is found to be in favourable condition

2005 77%



Source: [www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk](http://www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk)

### Cultural Heritage and Material Assets Summary

- The Essex Historic Environment Record (HER) maintained by Essex County Council contains nearly 1500 records including 331 listed buildings and 1126 archaeological records which includes 5 Scheduled Monuments for the District of Rochford covering a total area of 98.5 hectares.
- One of these is Grade I listed. There are 17 Grade II\* listed buildings and 309 buildings designated as Grade II. The number of listed buildings at risk in the district has decreased from 8 in 2004 to 7 in 2005. There are 1126 archaeological records within the District, including five Scheduled Monuments.
- There are a total of 10 Conservation Areas, with the largest being Rochford at 365,798m<sup>2</sup>. These sites are defined as having 'special architectural or historical interest, the character of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance'.
- 20.6% of the population are within 20 minutes of a range of 3 different sports facility types
- 84.93% of residents think that for their local area, over the past three years, that sport and leisure facilities have got better or stayed the same.

- 90.29% of residents think that, over the past three years, parks and open spaces have got better or stayed the same.
- The % area of land designated as a SSSI within the local authority area, which is found to be in favourable condition is 77%.

## Biodiversity

Policy CS2 within the Rochford District Replacement Local Plan (Rochford District Council, December 2005) is part of the core strategy, highlighting the importance of protecting and enhancing the built and natural environment. It states that the local planning authority will protect, sustain and enhance the District's natural resources and cultural heritage through the application of the policies and proposals in the Plan for future generations to enjoy, and to ensure that new development contributes to environmental quality, relating to the protection, conservation and enhancement of the landscape character and quality, and the safeguarding of visually and historically important trees and woodland.

As much as 30% of the agricultural land in Rochford District is Grade 1 and 2, with the majority of remaining agricultural land is classed as Grade 3. The present dominant land use within the District is agricultural. Land contamination may also result from Southend airport, and the manufacturing, engineering, printing and plastics industries. 326 sites with potentially contaminative uses have been identified and are being investigated in priority order.

**Table 25:** EBAP targets: Habitats in the District of Rochford

Habitats	Actions/Targets
Ancient and/or Species Rich Hedgerows and Green Lanes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To maintain overall numbers of hedgerow trees within each county or district at least at current levels by planting or natural regeneration, in order to ensure a balanced age structure.</li> </ul>

Ancient Woodland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Halt the further loss of ancient woodland and ensure no more areas are lost in the future.</li> <li>• Continue work to develop markets for a range of woodland products to help establish sustainable woodland management.</li> <li>• Ensure that future woodland management considers the need to maintain levels of dead wood, veteran trees, and other habitats such as ponds, rides and glades where appropriate.</li> </ul>
Coastal Marsh	<p>Grazing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain existing extent of habitat within county.</li> <li>• Ensure no further degradation of habitat. Where loss of low value habitat is likely, appropriate mitigation and creation of equivalent.</li> <li>• Restore any grazing marsh which has fallen into disuse/poor condition within last 20 years by 2010.</li> <li>• Recreate sufficient habitat to increase the habitat area to 1980s levels (500ha) by 2010.</li> </ul>
Saline Lagoons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent and distribution of habitat should be maintained, within a framework of sustainable coastline management.</li> <li>• Quality of extant sites should be improved (all protected sites to be in optimal condition by 2010).</li> <li>• Sufficient new sites should be created and appropriately managed by 2010 to offset losses over past 50 years, and by 2020 to offset anticipated losses</li> </ul>

(through sea level rise and coastal realignment) up to 2050.

#### Urban Areas

- To ensure biodiversity issues contribute significantly to the development of sustainable green towns and cities.
- To develop up-to-date and accessible information on urban ecological resources.
- To maintain and enhance the value and integrity of key wildlife sites, wildlife features and strategic natural networks across urban areas.
- To increase awareness and understanding of the value and management of the range of 'urban' habitats, especially those supporting key populations of important species.
- To provide accessible natural open space for environmental education and the informal enjoyment of nature.
- To stimulate local action to benefit wildlife, through LA21 and other community initiatives.

Source: Essex County Council and Essex Wildlife Trust, 1999

Rochford District has a number of designated natural areas. There are 2 RAMSARs (also designated as SPAs), the Crouch and Roach Estuaries and Foulness. The Rochford District coast is also designated as part of the Essex Estuaries SAC. In total there are 3 SSSIs and 175.87ha of ancient woodland, which is mostly semi-

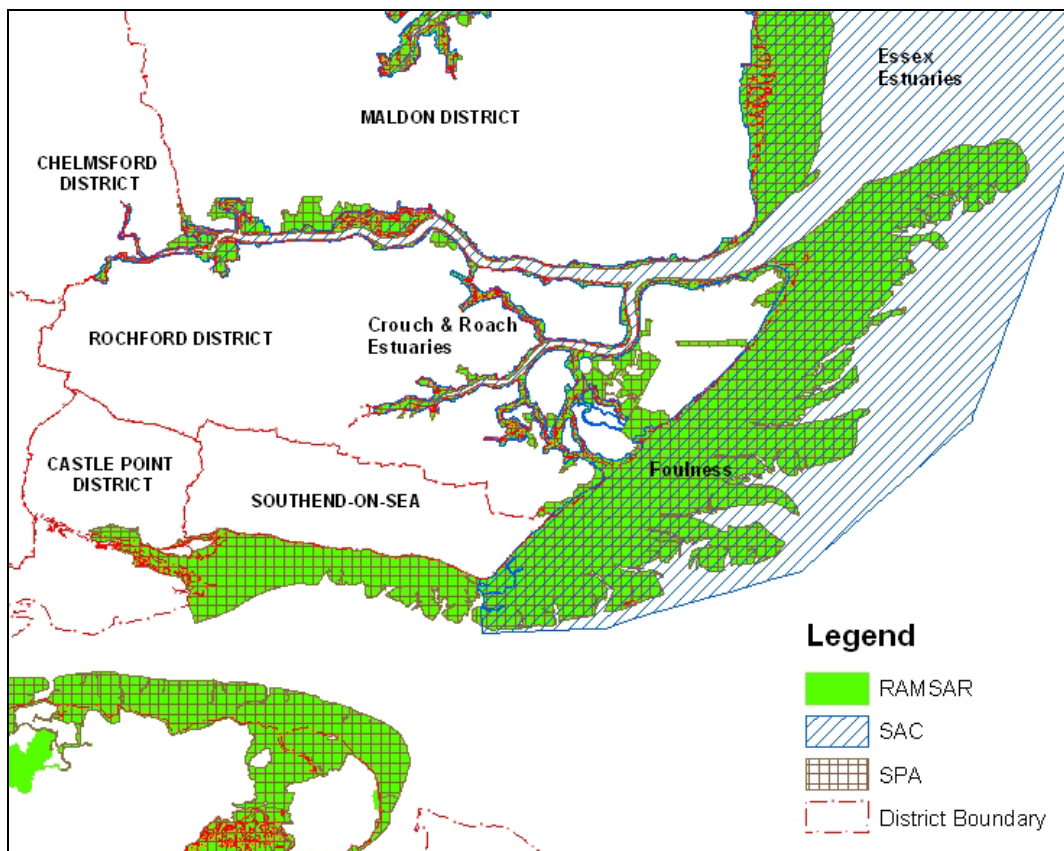


natural ancient woodland. There are 59 County Wildlife Sites (CWS) within the District, with a total area of 15969.30ha. There are also 4 LNRs, with the largest being Hockley Woods at 91.50ha. There are no NNRs or AONBs within the District.

At present however, 2 out of the 3 SSSIs within the District are not meeting PSA targets - 90.25% of the SSSI area in the District is in an 'unfavourable declining' state, with the remaining area being classed as 'unfavourable no change.' The poor condition of SSSIs could possibly be attributed to coastal squeeze, low water levels and inappropriate scrub control.

The Crouch and Roach Estuaries Ramsar and SPA site is an area of 1745.11ha on the eastern coast of Rochford District. As stated in the Local Plan in paragraph 8.27, this site qualifies as an SPA because it supports internationally important assemblages of waterfowl (wildfowl and waders) and regularly occurring migratory species. Foulness has SPA status for similar reasons, whilst also supporting internationally important breeding populations of regularly occurring species such as the Sandwich Tern (*Sterna sandvicensis*), Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*), Little Tern (*Sterna albifrons*) and Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*); and nationally important breeding populations of regularly occurring migratory species, primarily the Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*).

**Map 5:** Rochford District RAMSARs, SPAs and SACs



Source: Unrecorded

There are a reasonable number of County Wildlife Sites scattered throughout Rochford District. Based on the 1990 Essex Wildlife Trust Survey Rochford District contains 59 CWSs of which 89.06% of the total area is coastal, 7.74% is grassland, 1.69% is mosaic habitat types, 1.20% is woodland and the remaining area is classified as freshwater aquatic. The largest CWS is Foulness.

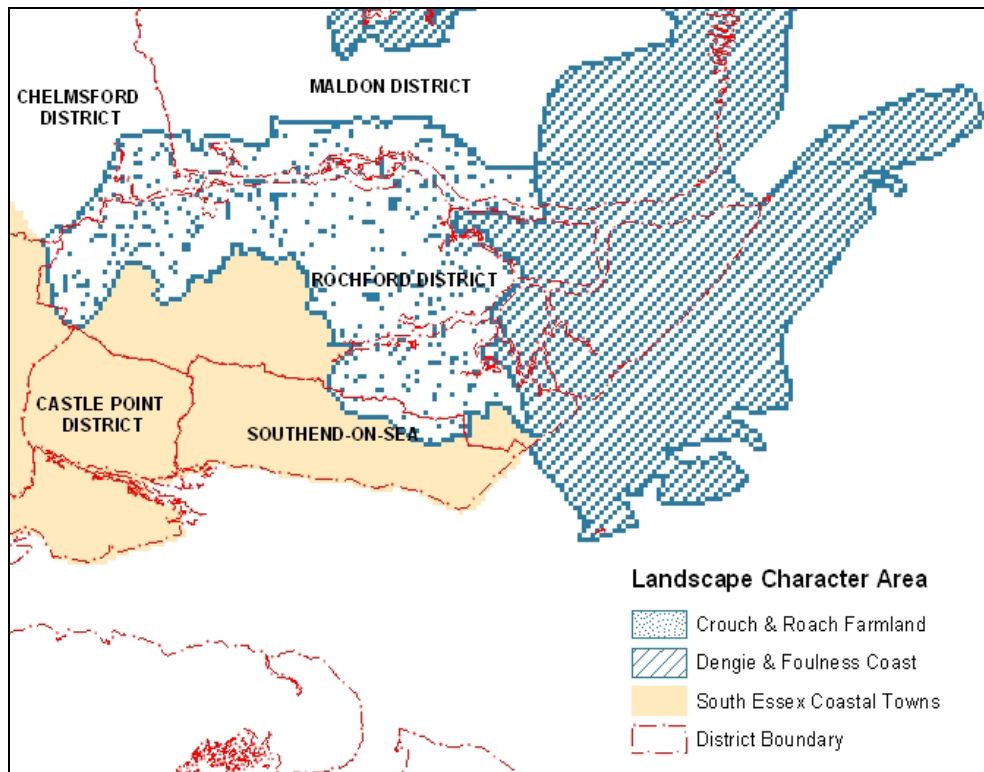
Contained within 65 square miles, Rochford District covers an area, which is predominately green belt, with miles of unspoilt coastline and attractive countryside. It contains the historic market towns of Rayleigh and Rochford, a number of smaller villages, and the Island of Foulness, each with its own identity and character.

A county wide study of Essex Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) in Essex was carried out by Chris Blandford Associates in 2003 and divides Rochford District into 3 Character Areas:

- Crouch and Roach Farmland

- Saltmarsh, grazing marsh and ancient woodland
  - Narrow margins of flat low lying marshland and salt marshes next to the Roach, broader areas adjacent to the Crouch
  - Very widely dispersed small copses, some small woodlands near Hockley
  - Scattered hedgerow Oak and Ash trees
  - Many hedgerows are fragmented
  - Occasional Elms, but these have largely been lost.
- Dengie and Foulness
    - Large areas of flat low lying land below 5m elevation
    - To the south, land broken into a series of islands by the lower Crouch and Roach estuaries and connecting creeks
    - Beyond sea wall in east both narrow and large areas of saltmarsh and vast tidal sands/mudflats such as Maplin Sands
    - Saltmarsh, pockets of coastal grazing marsh, sea wall grassland and shoreline vegetation
    - Generally very sparse tree cover
    - A few isolated copses and trees around farmsteads
    - Some isolated trees/scrub on older reclaimed marshes.
- South Essex Coastal Towns
    - Coastal grazing marshes, reedbeds marsh, extensive ancient woodland including Sessile Oak woods, unimproved meadows
    - High concentration of woodland at Daws Heath, including small and large blocks of interlocking deciduous woodland
    - Some secondary woodland associated with previous plotland areas
    - Absence of woodland/trees on flat low lying marshes
    - Condition of woodlands and hedgerows is moderate.

**Map 6:** *Landscape Character Areas within Rochford District*



Source: Unrecorded

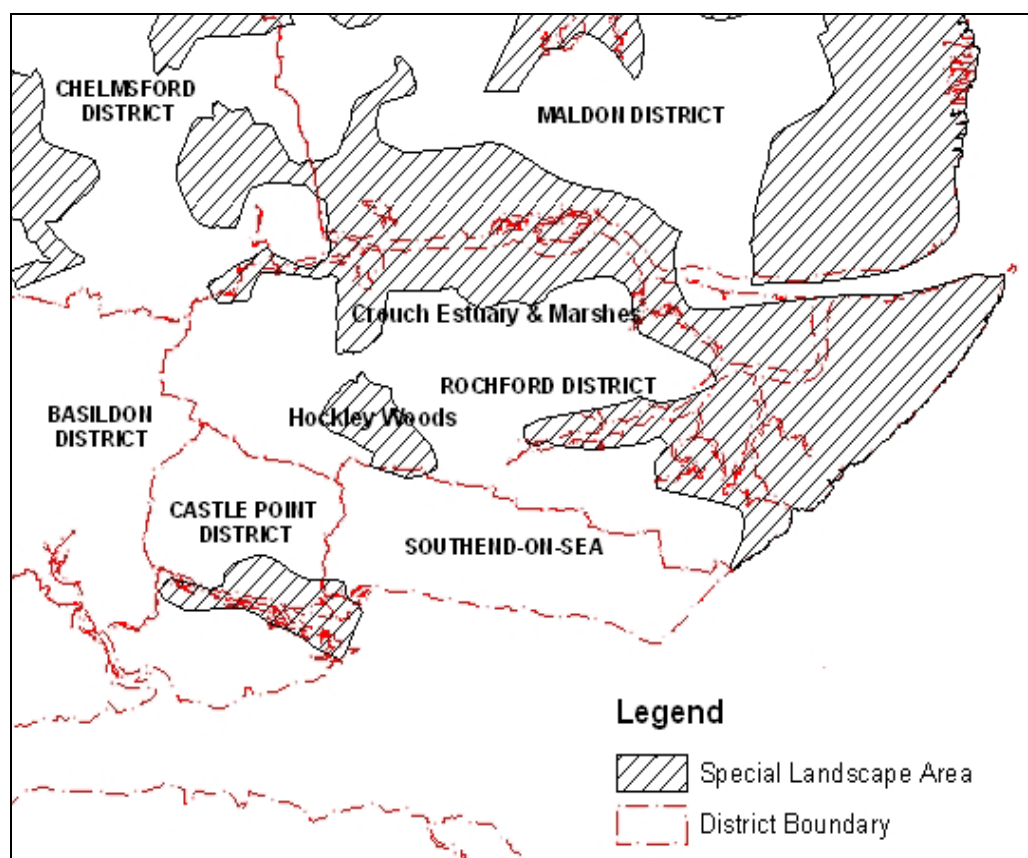
Special Landscape Areas (SLAs (map 4)) are areas of high quality landscape resulting from a combination of features such as vegetation cover and landform. Their conservation is important to the county's natural heritage and there is a presumption against development unless it accords with the character of the area concerned.

Policy NR1 in the replacement local plan identifies three SLAs within the district (see map 10 below):

- Hockley Woods – a large unspoilt area, containing a complex of ancient woodlands and farmland on undulating ground between Hockley and Southend-on-Sea.
- Upper Crouch – based on the River Crouch and contains numerous creeks, mudflats and saltings on either shore. It is a slightly less remote version of other coastal marshes and is relatively treeless and unspoilt.
- The Crouch/Roach marshes – consists of a large number of islands, creeks, and channels with saltmarsh, mudflats, and drainage ditches predominating.

Apart from the timber wharf at Wallasea Island, the area is remote and undeveloped and supports a large bird population.

**Map 7: Special Landscape Areas within Rochford District**



Source: Unrecorded

The district contains a number of sites of ecological importance reflected in the designation of 12,986 hectares as Sites of Special Scientific Interest, as well as a number of Wildlife Sites and Local Nature Reserves.

7,071 hectares of the district have a 1% annual probability of fluvial flooding and / or a 0.5% annual probability of tidal flooding, as calculated by the Environment Agency.

## The Crouch and Roach Estuary Management Plan

Along the Essex coast the sea level is rising at an estimated 6mm a year relative to the land. The natural response is for the tidal mudflats and saltmarshes to migrate inland. They are unable to do this if a sea wall is in the way, so instead they are being squeezed against the sea wall and are being lost to erosion. It has been estimated that 34% of the saltmarsh on the Crouch Estuary was lost to erosion between 1973 and 1998.

Apart from their outstanding wildlife interest tidal mudflats and saltmarsh also act as the first line of coastal defence and their absence complicates and increases the cost of maintaining flood defences. Continued rebuilding of hard sea defence only compounds the problem, hard sea walls reflect wave energy, and this speeds up foreshore erosion.

The answer is to work with nature, using natural sea defences. This will mean however that sea defences may have to move from their present position and wildlife will have to respond accordingly. The Crouch and Roach Project will raise awareness of the need to create new habitats landward of the sea wall and translocate key species in advance of coastal realignments.

The Essex Bio Diversity Action Plan lists the following as protected species found in or around the Crouch and Roach estuary;

- **Mammals**

Brown Hare	widespread
Dormouse	widespread
Harbour Porpoise	widespread (coastal)
Water Vole	widespread

- **Birds**

Grey Partridge	Dengie Flats
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Skylark	widespread
Songthrush	widespread

- **Other Vertebrates**

Great Crested Newt	widespread
Allis Shad	widespread (coastal)
Twaite Shad	widespread (coastal)

- **Invertebrates**

Heath fritillary butterfly and Hockley	Thrift Wood, South Woodham Ferrers,  Woods
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- **Trees and Plants**

Black Poplar	widespread
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- **Habitats**

Ancient and species rich Hedgerows and green lanes	widespread
Ancient woodland	widespread
Coastal grazing marsh	Dengie Peninsula
Eel Grass Beds	Dengie Flats, Foulness (extensive on Maplin Sands
	extending from Foulness point to Wakering Stairs and Suttons)
Saline lagoons	widespread (coastal)

## **Wallasea Wetlands Creation Project**

In 2004, Defra decided after consultation to create approximately 110 hectares of new wetland on the north eastern bank of Wallasea Island to compensate for wetland lost in

the 1990s. Once this has stabilised, the existing old sea wall will be breached at that point to allow the tide back onto its old flood plain. Once the site is created it is anticipated that it will be protected as an SSSI and as an SPA under the European Wild Birds Directive.

The project will create a more sustainable estuary shape; provide a new footpath on top of the seawall for people to enjoy the restored landscape; give Wallasea Farms a robust tidal defence for their business; provide shelter and habitat for invertebrates, fish, and rare plants and create a haven for the wild birds that lost their winter homes.

This project is seen locally as a good scheme, but careful monitoring must take place to ensure that flood defence is not jeopardised during or following completion of this project. Any observations by the community to this project, through the website or by letter to Waterlines (the Crouch and Roach Project newsletter) or via any other means, will be passed to Defra for their attention.

### **Hullbridge Habitat Creation Site**

In November 2003, the Environment Agency caused a breach of tidal defence at Hullbridge which has created 7 hectares of intertidal habitat and 5 hectares of grassland.

### **The Environment Strategy's Flood Strategy for the Crouch and Roach Estuary**

The Environment Agency are currently preparing flood strategies for all the Essex Estuaries, and have completed a thorough survey of the Crouch and Roach Estuary sea

defence, this was the first of the strategies to be carried out. By looking at land drainage, river currents, sediment, pollution, and sea level rise etc, to understand what

the path the estuary will seek to follow over the next century, and by identifying at risk areas that should be protected, the Environment Agency were able to draw up a 100 year flood management strategy.

This Strategy entitled Estuary Flood Management Strategy Roach and Crouch, which took the Environment Agency 4 years from 2001 to produce, takes into account the latest legislation which requires the Strategy to demonstrate flood management for



the next 100 years. The estuary banks are home to £650m of assets, 12000 hectares of flood plain and 27000 properties. The Strategy must be sustainable and this includes the social and economic cost of flood management.

The strategic objectives were to deliver flood risk management; to develop a hydrodynamic shape for the estuary; to protect habitats; to avoid pollution; to ensure uninterrupted navigation and to ensure sustainability. The Strategy was then put out for consultation, which included face to face meetings with the stakeholders and community drop-in workshops. The Roach and Crouch Strategy, being the first one to be carried out, forced the clarification of issues such as the Environment Agency's abandonment of seawalls that have rights of way across them, and landowners' rights to maintain their own seawalls following abandonment.

The Strategy which will deliver £15m in the first five years and £80m over 50 years will be launched in the autumn of 2005. It is envisaged that farmers with land bordering the estuary will under the Common Agricultural Policy Stewardship Scheme, seek grants for the management of mudflat rather than for cultivating crop.

### **Managed Retreat - Essex Community Risk Register Overview (January 2006 – Essex Resilience Forum)**

Managed Retreat is a strategy to encourage the movement of the shoreline landward of its present position in a managed or controlled manner, hence the term "managed retreat", sometimes also referred to as "managed set-back".

Essex contains a number of areas of managed retreat, several of which also coincide with other environmentally important areas of the County's coastline, such as SSSI's and Ramsars. Most of the County's managed retreat sites have resulted in the creation of areas of saltmarsh, which are important habitats for a variety of bird species.

### **Essex Managed Retreat Sites**

A 0.04 sq mile site was created in June 2003 at Hullbridge on the River Crouch and is managed by the Blackwater Wildfowling Association. This site is protected by 0.26 miles of sea defences

A new 0.42 sq mile wetland habitat at Wallasea Island on the River Crouch is currently being created in order to compensate for areas of saltmarsh and mudflat lost to port developments elsewhere on the east coast, and will be completed by August 2006. The site will be owned by DEFRA and protected by 2.23 miles of defences.

Table 26 highlights the condition of rivers in the District of Rochford, the trend of the data and their position in the National Quartile

**Table 26 – Condition of Rivers in Rochford District**

Indicator	Period	Value	Trend	National Quartile (1=best)
% of river length assessed as good biological quality	2004	0.00%	↔	4321
% of river length assessed as good chemical quality	2004	0.00%	↔	4321

(Source: [www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk](http://www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk))

### Biodiversity Summary

- As much as 30% of the agricultural land in Rochford District is Grade 1 and 2, with the majority of remaining agricultural land is classed as Grade 3
- Rochford District has a number of designated natural areas. There are 2 RAMSARs (also designated as SPAs), the Crouch and Roach Estuaries and Foulness
- Within the District there is a total of 3 SSSIs and 175.87ha of ancient woodland, which is mostly semi-natural ancient woodland, 59 County Wildlife Sites (CWS), with a total area of 15969.30ha and 4 LNRs, with the largest being Hockley Woods at 91.50ha..

- 2 out of the 3 SSSIs within the District are not meeting PSA targets - 90.25% of the SSSI area in the District is in an 'unfavourable declining' state, with the remaining area being classed as 'unfavourable no change.'
- Rochford District contains 59 CWSs of which 89.06% of the total area is coastal, 7.74% is grassland, 1.69% is mosaic habitat types, 1.20% is woodland and the remaining area is classified as freshwater aquatic. The largest CWS is Foulness.
- The district contains a number of sites of ecological importance reflected in the designation of 12,986 hectares as Sites of Special Scientific Interest, as well as a number of Wildlife Sites and Local Nature Reserves
- 7,071 hectares of the district have a 1% annual probability of fluvial flooding and / or a 0.5% annual probability of tidal flooding, as calculated by the Environment Agency
- 0% of river length assessed as good biological or chemical quality (Lower quartile).

## Air

### Air Quality

The quality of our air affects both human health and life quality, and the natural environment. Poor air quality can also affect the health of our ecosystems, and can adversely affect our built cultural heritage.

Local air quality is affected by emissions from industrial activity, airports, power stations and natural sources, but road transport accounts for around 40% of UK Nitrogen dioxide emissions. Additionally, diesel vehicles are a significant source of the emissions of fine particulates.

The implementation of Air Quality Review and Assessment requirements by the Environmental Health department at Rochford District Council has led to the identification of 7 potentially significant junctions with a daily flow of greater than 10,000 vehicles. These are as follows:

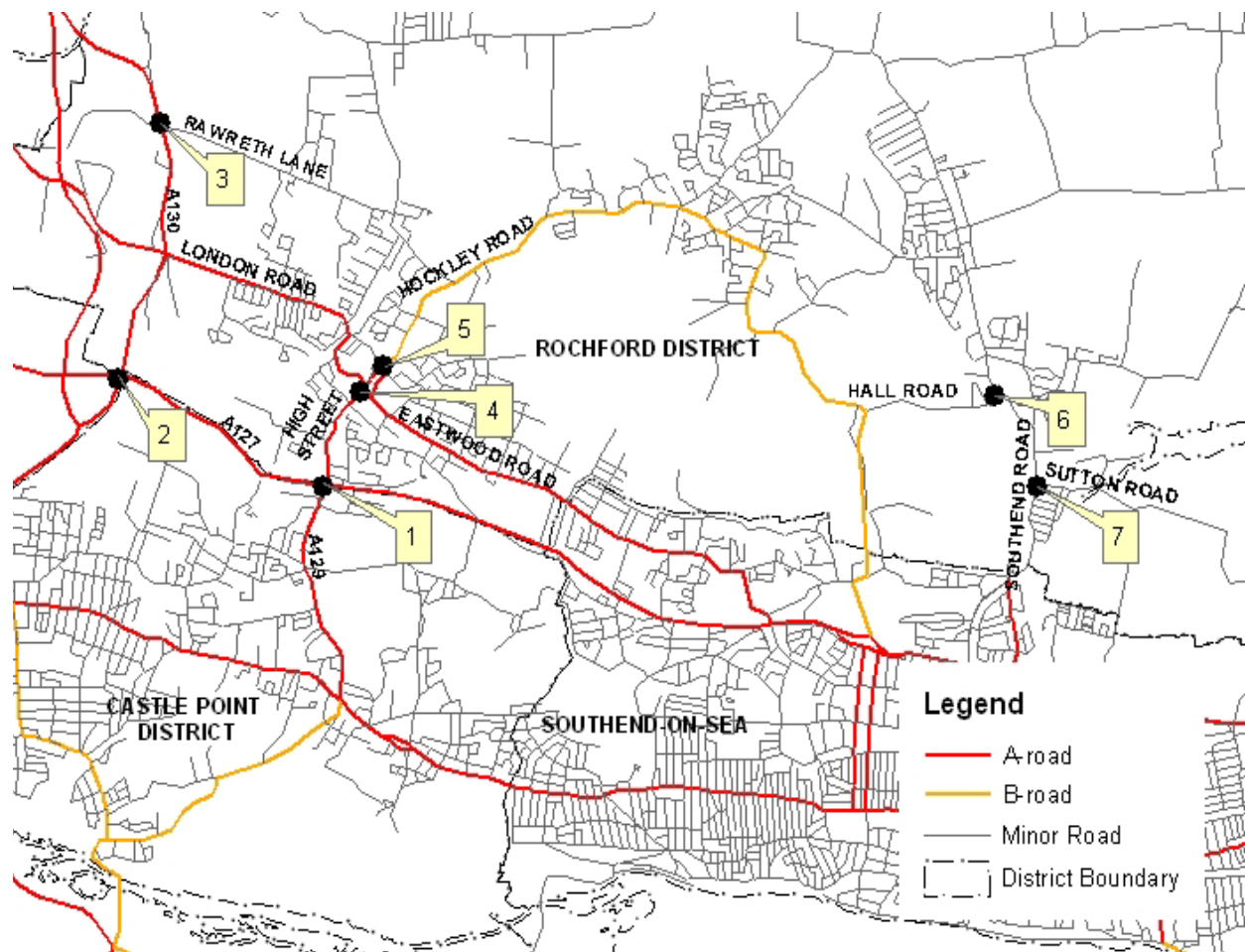
- 1) A129/A127 Rayleigh Weir Underpass
- 2) A127/A130 Junction
- 3) Rawreth Lane/A130 Chelmsford Road Junction
- 4) High Street/Eastwood Road Junction, Rayleigh
- 5) Hockley Road/High Street A129 Junction, Rayleigh
- 6) Hall Road/West Street Junction, Rochford
- 7) Southend Road/Sutton Road Junction, Rochford

At all of these junctions the predicted 2005 annual mean Nitrogen dioxide concentration, 2004 PM<sub>10</sub> concentration and exceedence all meet the National Air Quality Strategy (2000) standards (Rochford District Council: Local Air Quality Management – Updating and Screening Assessment, October 2003). The highest predicted Nitrogen dioxide concentration in 2005 is at the High Street/Eastwood Road junction, with a predicted annual mean concentration of 39.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. However, this is only a modelled prediction. The maximum predicted annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> concentration in 2004 is 30.5 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, at the aforementioned junction, which is below the annual average objective of 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The estimated number of exceedence of the daily mean objective is 30, which is below the 35 exceedence allowed in a year.

As a result of this the High Street/Eastwood Road junction has become a site for Nitrogen dioxide diffusion tube monitoring. The actual 2004 and 2005 Nitrogen dioxide concentrations at 3 roadside sites have been found to exceed or almost exceed the annual mean objective value of  $40 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . These measurements range from  $38.1 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  to  $42.8 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . The other diffusion tube monitoring sites, at Rochford Market Square and Bedloes Corner have been found to have Nitrogen dioxide concentrations well below the annual mean objective in 2004 and 2005, ranging from  $27.4 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  to  $30.9 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .

$\text{PM}_{10}$  monitoring was undertaken from May to August 2004 at the Rawreth Industrial Estate. The site chosen was to the east of the estate in closest proximity to the T J Cottis site, which has been the main source of reported dust complaints. Monitoring was undertaken under worse case conditions during the summer months. During the 3 months of monitoring, there were 7 days where the 24-hour mean objective of  $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  was exceeded. The range of concentrations measured during the monitoring period was  $11.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  to  $57.6 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , with a period mean of  $31.4 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  (Rochford District Council: Local Air Quality Management – Detailed Assessment Report, November 2004). This site is due to be monitored for  $\text{PM}_{10}$  in the summer of 2006.

**Map 8 - Potentially Significant Junctions in Rochford District**



Source: unrecorded

Rochford District has one road of concern regarding congestion (with a ratio of flow to congestion reference flow of <0.79), the A130.

### **Compliance with targets**

National Air Quality Strategy (2000) objectives are predicted to be met at all significant junctions identified within the District.

The actual 2004 and 2005 Nitrogen dioxide concentration at 3 roadside sites at the High Street/Eastwood Road junction has been found to exceed or almost exceed the annual mean objective value of  $40 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .

At the Rochford Market Square and Bedloes Corner, Nitrogen dioxide concentrations have been found to be well below the annual mean objective in 2004 and 2005, ranging from  $27.4 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  to  $30.9 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .

During the monitoring of Rawreth Industrial Estate for  $\text{PM}_{10}$  in summer 2004, there were 7 days where the 24-hour mean objective of  $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  was exceeded.

It is therefore necessary that the District of Rochford continues to monitor the air quality throughout the area, and seek to promote the utilisation of more sustainable transportation modes.

Table 27 documents the total and per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of households within the District of Rochford.

**Table 27 – Air Quality Statistics**

Indicator	Period	Value	Trend	National Quartile (1=best)
Local estimates of CO2 emissions (kt CO2) - Total domestic	2003	269kt CO2		④③②①
Local estimates of CO2 emissions (kt CO2) - Domestic emissions per capita	2003	3.4kt CO2		④③②①
Local estimates of CO2 emissions (ktCO2) - Total emissions per capita	2003	6.6kt CO2		④③②①

Source: [www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk](http://www.areaprofiles.auditcommission.gov.uk)

### Air Summary

- Air Quality Review and Assessment requirements by the Environmental Health department at Rochford District Council has led to the identification of 7 potentially significant junctions with a daily flow of greater than 10,000 vehicles
- National Air Quality Strategy (2000) objectives are predicted to be met at all significant junctions identified within the District
- Local estimates of CO2 emissions (kt CO2) - Total domestic: 269kt CO2
- Local estimates of CO2 emissions (kt CO2) - Domestic emissions per capita: 3.4kt CO2
- Local estimates of CO2 emissions (ktCO2) - Total emissions per capita: 6.6kt CO2



## **Water**

### **Water Quality**

Water courses associated with Rochford District are the Roach, Crouch, Eastwood Brook, Hawkwell Brook/Roach, Prittle Brook and Rayleigh Brook. There is also a reservoir present at Rochford. In 1999-2001 only two river stretches investigated were compliant with their targets (Hawkwell Brook/Roach headwaters to Eastwood Brook confluence and Prittle Brook from the headwaters to the tidal limit), with the remaining 6 stretches being classified as 'marginal' or 'significant failure.'

The majority of water courses in the District as a whole were ranked as Grade D/fair (54.03%) or Grade C/fairly good (39.67%) for chemistry GQA in 2004. The river stretch of most concern with regard to chemistry is Eastwood Brook from the headwaters to Southend Airport, which is classed as Grade E/poor. Five river stretches are graded D/fair, including Eastwood Brook (Rayleigh Brook – Roach), Hawkwell Brook/Roach (headwaters to the tidal limit), Rayleigh Brook/Nobles Ditch (Rayleigh East Sewage Treatment Works – Eastwood Brook) and Rochford Reservoir. However, three of these sites have recently improved in water quality, from Grade E/poor to Grade D/fair.

In terms of biology GQA, in 2004 the District's rivers were classified as Grade D (53.95%) and Grade E (46.05%). The river stretches with the poorest biological quality are the two Hawkwell Brook/Roach sites, graded as E.

Essex and indeed the East of England and beyond are classified as being within a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone. In 2004 the 49.73% of water courses were ranked as Grade 5/high. The percentage length of rivers classed as Grade 6/very high nitrate GQA has approximately halved since 1990, with 34.68% ranked Grade 6 in 2004. Eastwood Brook from headwaters to Southend Airport and Prittle Brook from headwaters to the tidal limit are performing comparatively well in terms of nitrate GQA quality, being ranked as Grade 3/moderately low and Grade 4/moderate respectively.

All rivers within the District were ranked as Grade 5/very high or Grade 6/excessively high in terms of phosphates GQA in 2002-2004. Only two sites are classed as Grade

5; Eastwood Brook (headwaters to Southend Airport) and Prittle Brook (headwaters to the tidal limit).

All of the river water bodies assessed for the Water Framework Directive have been classified as being 'at risk' or 'probably at risk' (based on the assessment of each body in relation to point and diffuse source pollution, water abstraction, physical or morphological alteration and alien species.) The only lake assessed in the District was Stannetts Creek Lagoon, which was found to be 'probably not at risk'. The transitional waters of the Crouch and the Thames were also assessed to be 'at risk'.

The River Quality Objective River Ecosystem (RE) Classification has ranked the majority of Essex rivers in 2004 within the RE2 (58.9% of rivers) and RE3 (23.5%) classifications. This is equivalent to water of good quality and suitable for fish species (RE2) and water of fair quality and suitable for high class coarse fish populations (RE3) (Environment Agency personal communication, 2005).

Rochford District rivers are not in line with the Essex trend, since the majority of Rochford stretches are classified as RE3. Hawkwell Brook/Roach (headwaters to Eastwood Brook confluence) has been graded RE4, which is defined as water of fair quality and suitable for coarse fish populations. However, Eastwood Brook from the headwaters to Southend Airport and from here to Rayleigh Brook has been recorded as RE2.

In terms of estuary quality, in 2004 the Crouch and Roach have been classed as Grade A or B in all the stretches investigated.

## **Water Resources**

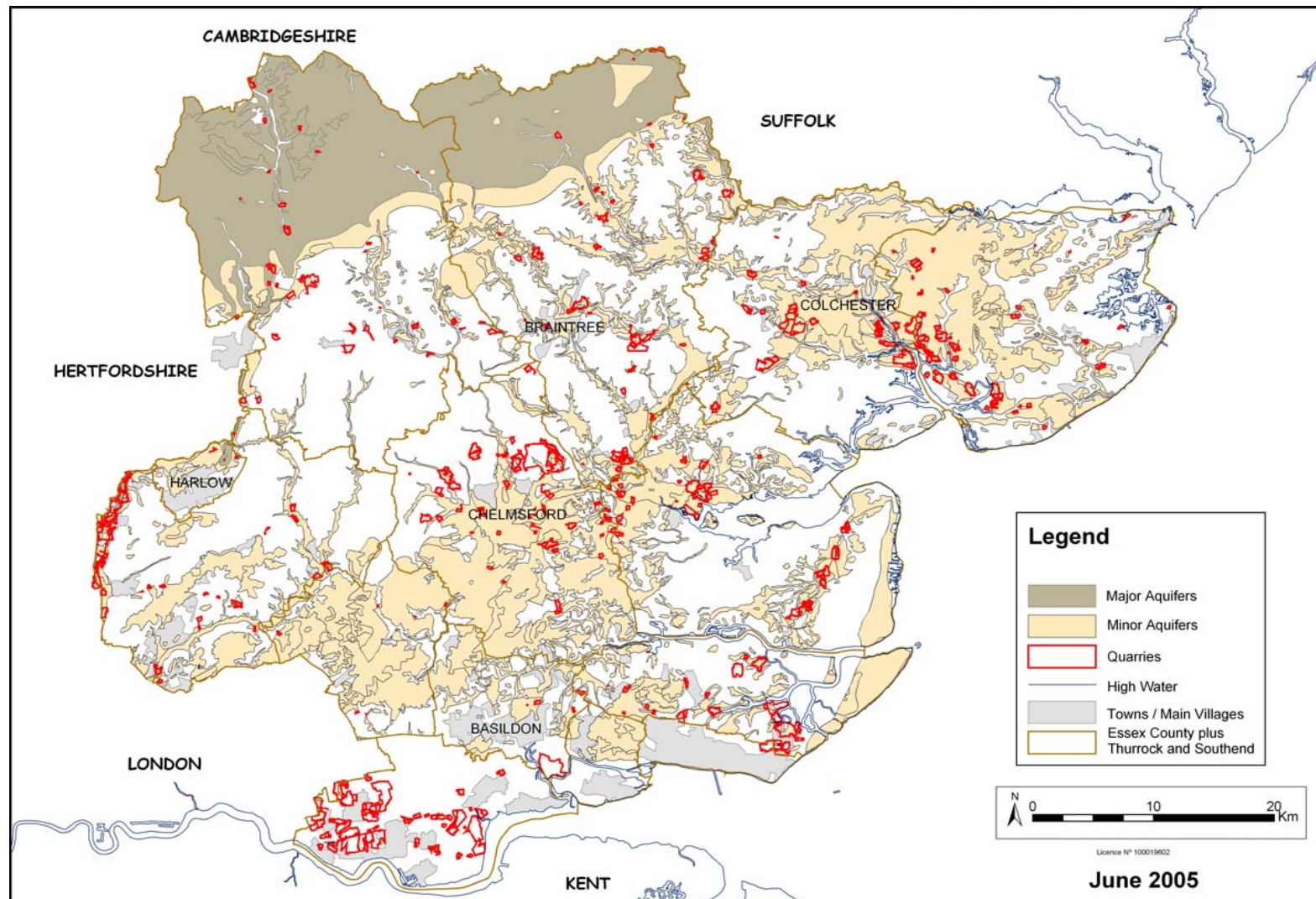
There are several minor aquifers within Rochford District. There is also a trunk main water supply from further north, near to Ware and a small volume from Hadham. Transfer from Grafham Water in the Anglian Water region is also of importance. The District is not self-sufficient in terms of water resources and relies upon water from elsewhere in the Essex and Suffolk Water supply area. The company manages 110 service reservoirs and water towers through 8613 km of mains and maintains 25 treatment works. The area of supply is divided into 51 water supply zones. The company's Water Quality Report 2004 states that the majority of groundwater

abstracted in the region is of high quality and only requires simple disinfection, iron and manganese removal and plumbosolvency control measures prior to supply.

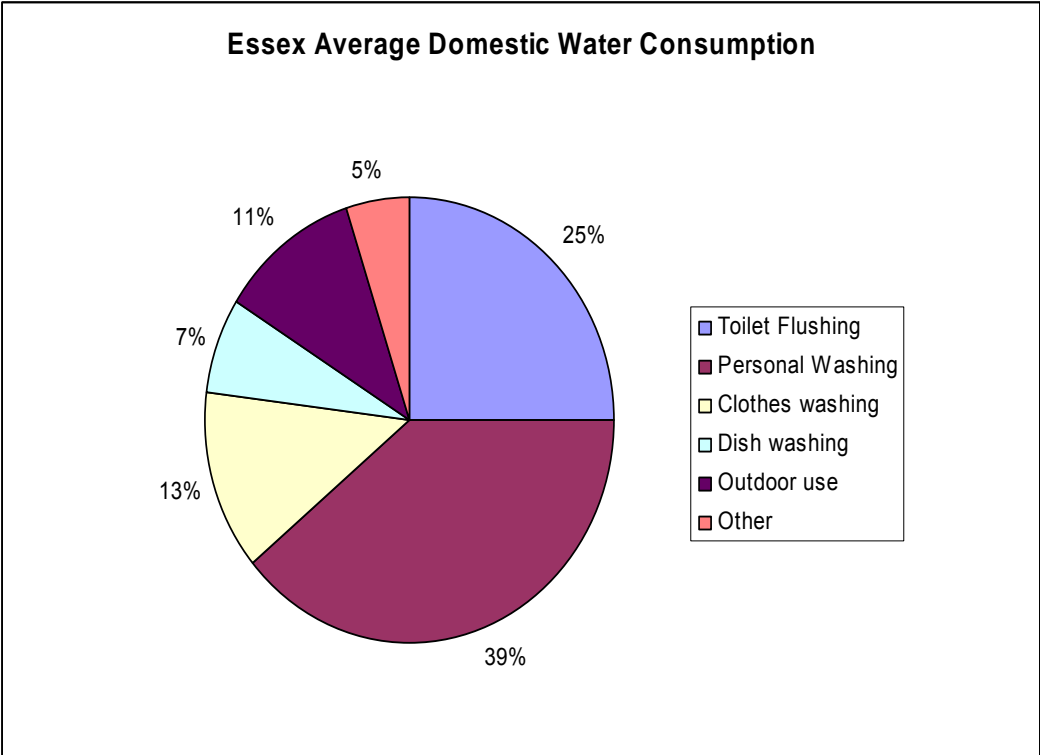
Essex and Suffolk Water supply over 1.7 million households and businesses with an average 489 million litres of water each day. The leakage rate for Essex and Suffolk Water's supply area (Northumbrian South supply area), which includes Rochford District, is the lowest in the country (Our Water Resources Plan 2005. Essex and Suffolk Water, 2005). Leakage rates have improved from 72MI/day in 2000-01 to 70MI/day in 2003-04. Leakage rate has remained relatively constant except for 2002-03 which saw a drop to 67MI/day. The fact that it rose again in 2003-04 may have been a result of weather fluctuations causing London clay ground movement and consequent leakage outbreaks.

The majority of domestic water in Essex (64%) is utilised for personal washing and toilet flushing. All water companies in Essex have active water management plans aimed at encouraging water savings and efficiencies and to educate the public and raise awareness. Three types of audit have been undertaken within the Essex and Suffolk Water supply area through the Water 21 programme. In August 2002 in Witham and Maldon full water audits were carried out for the 4,207 customers who wished to participate. DIY audits were distributed to 1,940 customers in Essex and a further 724 customers were given audits by the Essex Energy Advice Centre. A total of 29,884 save-a-flush devices were distributed, mainly to customers participating in the Water 21 audits. A large number of other water-saving devices were distributed during these projects, including almost 1,500 waterbutts, 17,500 trigger hose guns and 15,000 tap washers (Environment, Society and Economy: Performance report 2002/03, Northumbrian Water).

Map 9: Aquifers within Essex (Environment) Source: unrecorded



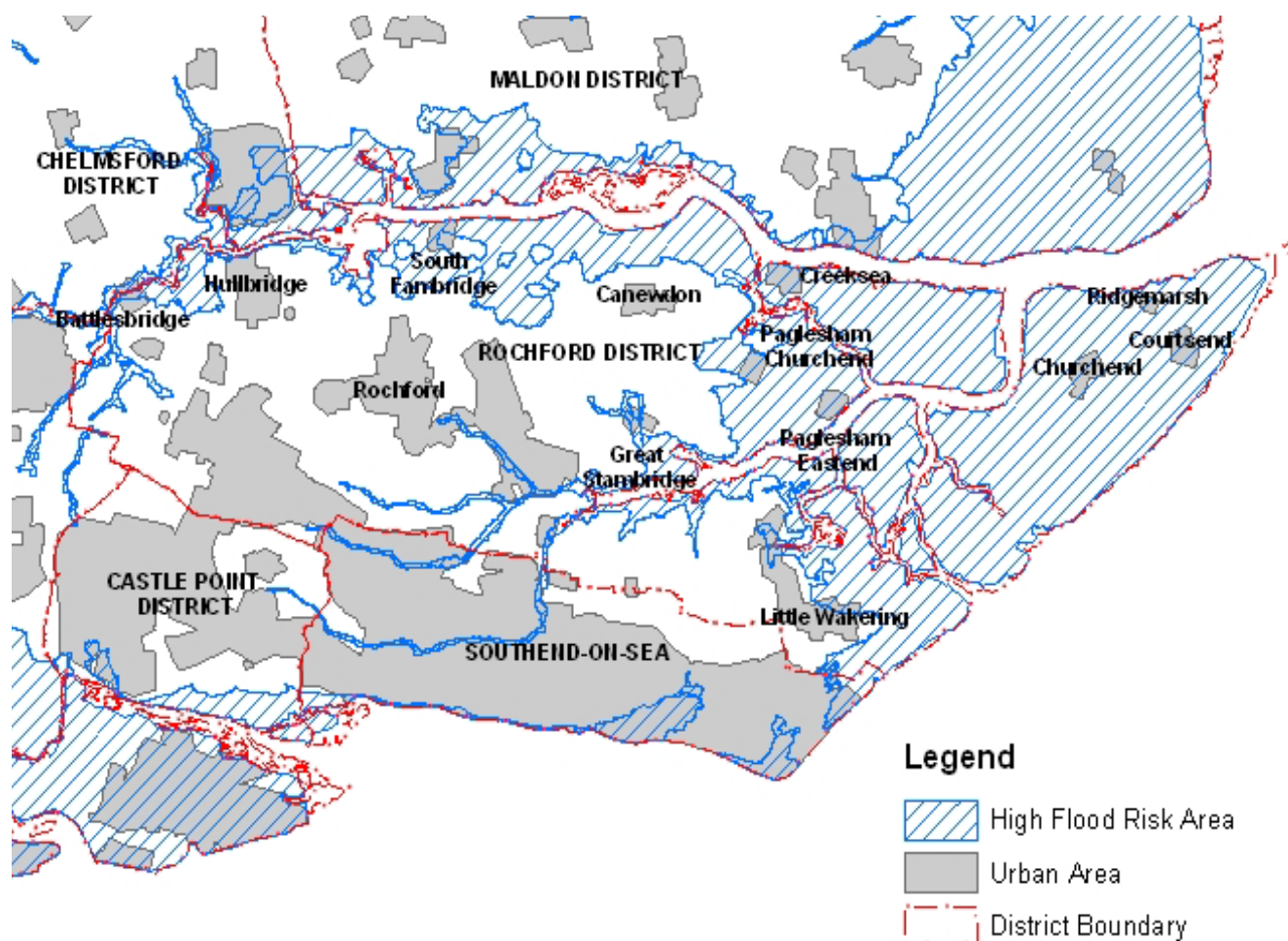
Graph 18 Average Domestic Water Consumption in Essex (Essex & Suffolk Water personal communication, 2005)



**Flooding**

The area at a high risk of flooding is considerable. Managed retreat has occurred at Brandy Hole on the Crouch Estuary, with 12.0ha of land having been created. This form of coastal management is also being implemented at Wallasea Island.

Map 10: High Flood Risk Areas in Rochford District



Source: unrecorded

River stretches are compliant with targets in 1999-2001, Hawkwell Brook/Roach headwaters to Eastwood Brook confluence and Prittle Brook from the headwaters to the tidal limit.

None of the river stretches investigated within Rochford District are meeting the target of 'good' status by 2015, as set out in the Water Framework Directive. The river stretches in the most favourable condition are Eastwood Brook from Southend Airport to Rayleigh Brook and Prittle Brook from the headwaters to the tidal limit, which were graded C/fairly good for chemical GQA in 2000-2002. In fact, 39.67% of rivers in the District were graded C for this period. In terms of biological GQA, no river stretches were classified as Grade A, B or C, and so are not meeting the target status. The River Quality Objective target of 91% compliance is currently not being



met at an Essex level (Rochford District data is not available). In 2004 71.1% of Essex rivers were compliant with the water quality required for their agreed uses (Environment Agency personal communication, 2005), which falls significantly below the 91% national compliance target set for 2006.

Hockley Woods is the only SSSI of the three within Rochford District which is currently complying with the PSA target of 95% of all nationally important wildlife sites to be brought into a favourable condition by 2010. The SSSIs that are currently not complying with the PSA target include the large area of Foulness, where 77.93% of the SSSI is compliant with the PSA target, and the Crouch and Roach Estuaries units within the District, which are 0.00% compliant.

There is unfortunately no data available concerning Environmental Quality Standards. There are no shellfish waters or bathing waters within Rochford District. There is no data regarding compliance with the Freshwater Fish Directive or with the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive.

In 2004 water quality was 99.95% compliant with the Surface Water Abstraction Directive (Water Quality Report 2004. Essex and Suffolk Water, 2005).

### **Water Summary**

- Water courses associated with Rochford District are the Roach, Crouch, Eastwood Brook, Hawkwell Brook/Roach, Prittle Brook and Rayleigh Brook. There is also a reservoir present at Rochford
- The majority of water courses in the District as a whole were ranked as Grade D/fair (54.03%) or Grade C/fairly good (39.67%) for chemistry GQA in 2004
- Rochford District rivers are not in line with the Essex trend, since the majority of Rochford stretches are classified as RE3
- Daily domestic water use (per capita consumption, litres) is 166 litres (Lower Quartile).



## Soil

Essex makes up the eastern section of the London Basin, formed by the laying down of chalk in the Cretaceous, and this layer comes to the surface in the north-west of the county. Three broad regions within Essex are apparent:

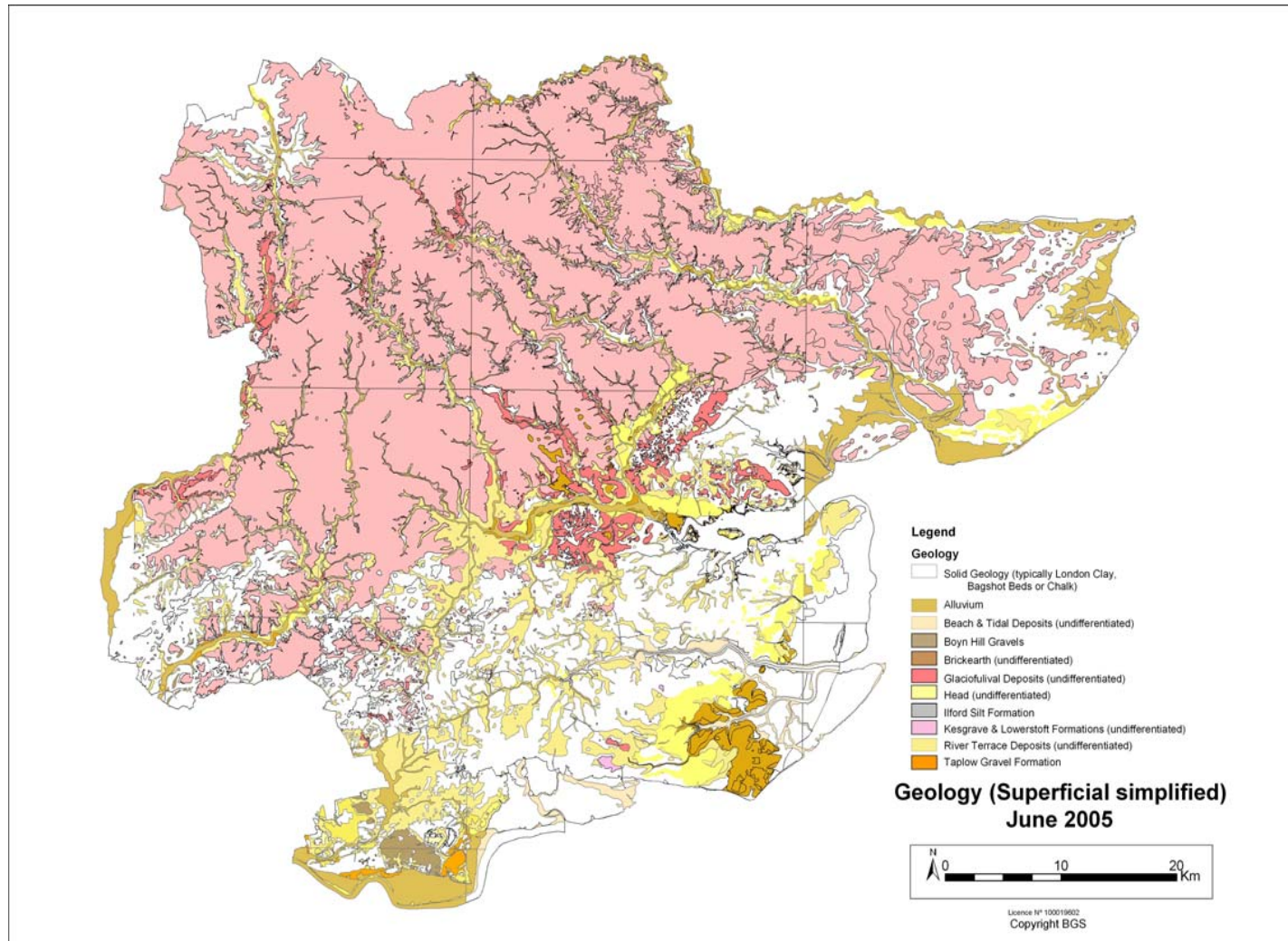
- Coastal: Estuaries and their hinterlands, mostly on the London Clays (deposited during the Eocene) and marshes formed from marine and fluvial deposits.
- Mid-Essex zone: Area running from south-west to north-east Essex.
  - To the north-east the geology consists of:
    - Kesgrave Formations (sands and gravels from pre-diversion Thames terraces)
    - Glacial outwash
  - To the south-west the geology consists of:
    - Acidic soils from Bagshot Beds (fine sands above Claygate Beds)
    - Acidic soils from Claygate Beds (sand/clay layer above London Clays)
    - London Clays (exposed in the valleys)
    - Glacial outwash
- Essex till: North-west of Essex was affected by the Anglian cold phase, leading to the deposition of boulder clays which have been made fertile by their chalk content (The Essex Landscape. Essex Record Office, 1999).

The East of England has 58% of the country's Grade 1 and 2 land, with 72% of agricultural land in the region under cultivation, compared to 29% nationally (Our Environment, Our Future: The Regional Environment Strategy for the East of England. East of England Regional Assembly and East of England Environment Forum, July 2003). The majority of agricultural land within Essex can be broadly classified as Grade 2 in the north and Grade 3 to the south. This is related to the location of the Essex till, with better quality land located in the north-west of the county. There are also significant areas of Grade 1 agricultural land within Tendring and Rochford districts.

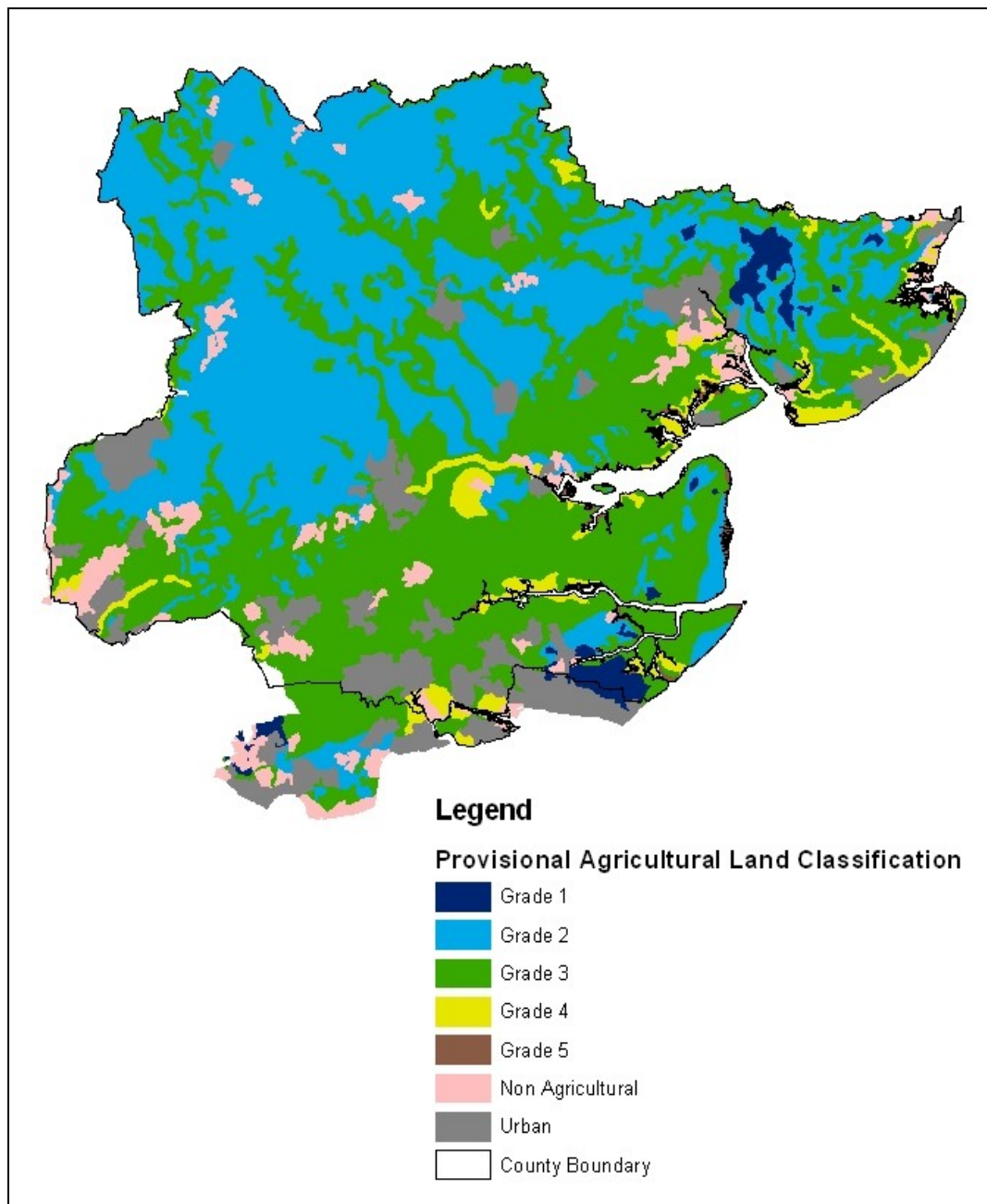
In general, substances' potential to cause land contamination problems are assessed for their toxicity to humans, the aquatic environment, ecosystems, their effect on materials and structures used on sites, their persistence in the soil, their tendency to

bioaccumulate and the likelihood of the substance occurring in significant concentrations at many sites. Essex was largely agricultural until the 1950s and 1960s and so most land contamination is likely to relate to this, such as pollution from tanneries and abattoirs. Other land contamination can result from sewage treatment, disused railways and nuclear facilities.

**Map 11: Geology of Essex (British Geological Survey, 2005)**



Map 12 Essex Agricultural Land Classification (DEFRA, 2005)



Source: unrecorded

The District is composed of London Clay and Claygate and Bagshot Beds in the west and were deposited in the Eocene. Sands and gravels are also present, and are attributed to the former course and migration of the River Medway during the Quaternary. The Medway laid down the High-level East Essex Gravels, which survive as degraded gravels at Dawes Heath and Ashingdon. Following the diversion of the

Thames up to 450,000BP, the Thames combined with the Medway in the late stage of the Anglian, carving a channel from Southend, through Asheldham and East Mersea to Clacton. The channel moved progressively eastwards, resulting in beds of gravel, the Low-level east Essex Gravels at Southchurch, Rochford, Shoeburyness, Barling and the Dengie (Essex Record Office, 1999).

**Table 28 Geological Stratigraphy of Essex (Essex RIGS Group, 2001)**

Period or Epoch	Geological Formations in Essex
<b>Holocene</b>	<b>Recent peat and alluvium</b>
<b>Pleistocene</b>	<b>River terrace deposits</b>
	<b>Boulder clay and glacial gravel</b>
	<b>Kesgrave Sands and Gravels</b>
	<b>Norwich Crag (Chillesford Sand)</b>
<b>Pliocene</b>	<b>Red Crag</b>
<b>Miocene</b>	<b>No evidence in Essex</b>
<b>Oligocene</b>	<b>No evidence in Essex</b>
<b>Eocene</b>	<b>Bagshot Beds</b>
	<b>London Clay</b>
	<b>Blackheath and Oldhaven Beds</b>
<b>Palaeocene</b>	<b>Woolwich and Reading Beds</b>
	<b>Thanet Sand</b>
<b>Cretaceous</b>	<b>Chalk (Lower, Middle and Upper)</b>
	<b>Gault and Upper Greensand (beneath Essex)</b>
<b>Jurassic</b>	<b>No evidence beneath Essex</b>
<b>Triassic</b>	<b>No evidence beneath Essex</b>
<b>Permian</b>	<b>No evidence beneath Essex</b>
<b>Carboniferous</b>	<b>No evidence beneath Essex</b>
<b>Devonian</b>	<b>Shales and mudstones occur</b>

	<b>beneath Essex</b>
<b>Silurian</b>	<b>Shales and mudstones occur</b>
	<b>beneath Essex</b>
<b>Ordovician</b>	<b>No evidence beneath Essex</b>
<b>Cambrian</b>	<b>No evidence beneath Essex</b>
<b>Precambrian</b>	<b>No evidence beneath Essex</b>

Planning objective N3 within the Rochford District Replacement Local Plan (Rochford District Council, December 2005) relates to the safeguarding of the best and most versatile agricultural land.

Policy PN2 within the Local Plan regards contaminated land. Planning applications for development on or adjacent to land which may have been contaminated by a previous use must include evidence that the possibility of contamination has been investigated, and proposals for dealing with any remediation works are included. Development will only be permitted where:

- a) it would not give rise to significant harm or significant risk of significant harm to health or the environment, or cause pollution of controlled waters;
- b) it safeguards users or occupiers of the site or neighbouring land; and
- c) it protects the environment and any buildings or services from contamination during its implementation and in the future.

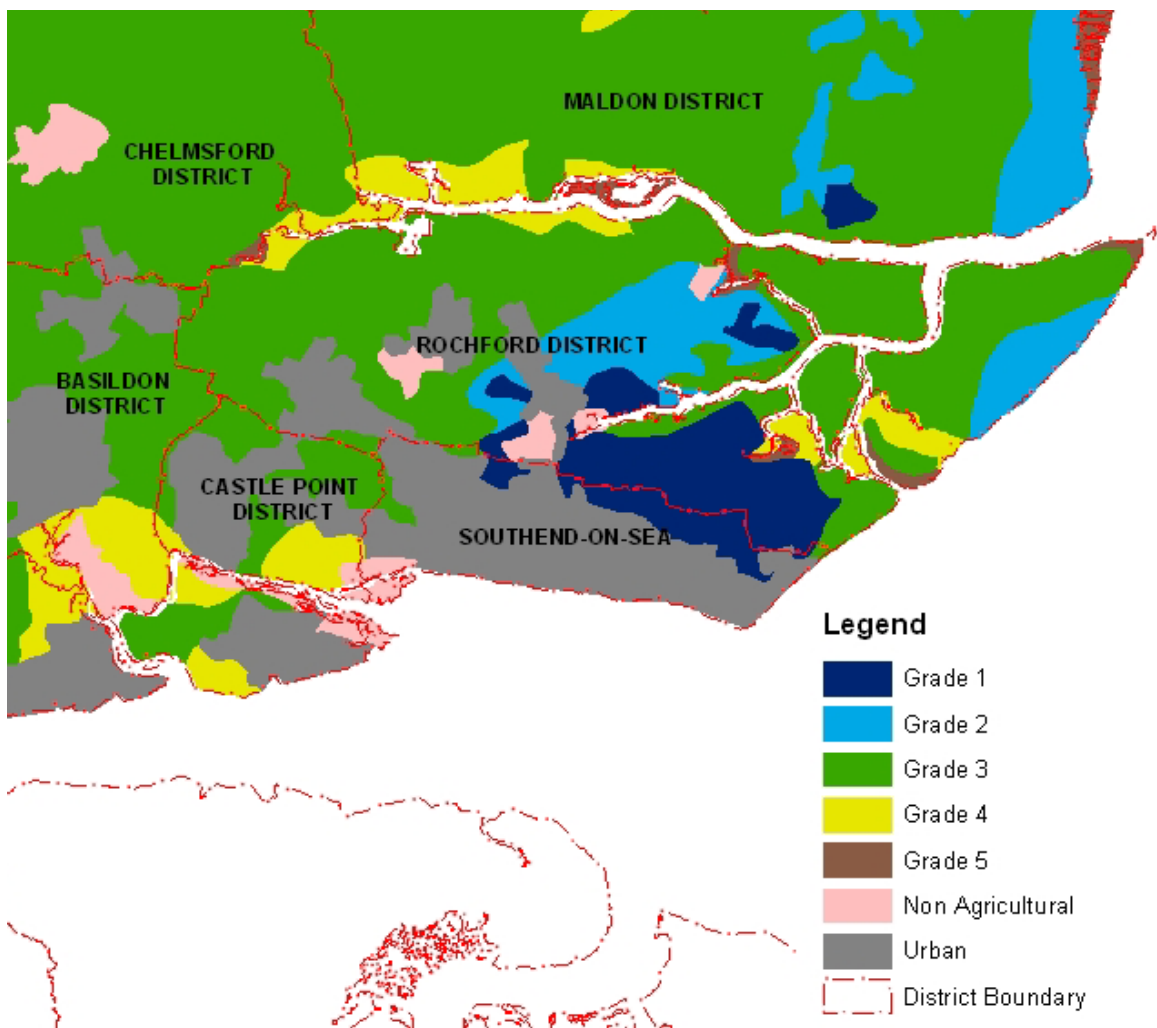
Pollution planning objectives within the Local Plan include ensuring a high level of environmental protection (P1), that new development/uses have no adverse impact on land, water or air pollution (P2), and that existing development/uses are safeguarded from potentially polluting development (P3).

Policy PN1 – Potentially Polluting Uses states that development that may be liable to cause pollution of water, air or soil or pollution through noise, smell, smoke, fumes, gases, steam, dust, vibration, light, or heat, electromagnetic radiation or other polluting emissions will only be permitted if:

- a) The health, safety and amenity of users of the site or surrounding land are not put at significant risk;

- b) The quality and enjoyment of the environment would not be damaged or put at risk; and
- c) National air quality objectives would not be breached.

**Map 13 Rochford District Agricultural Land Classification (DEFRA, 2005)**



Source: unrecorded

## Soil Summary

- The District is composed of London Clay and Claygate and Bagshot Beds in the west and were deposited in the Eocene. Sands and gravels are also present, and are attributed to the former course and migration of the River Medway during the Quaternary
- The East of England has 58% of the country's Grade 1 and 2 land, with 72% of agricultural land in the region under cultivation, compared to 29% nationally
- Three broad regions within Essex are apparent:
  - Coastal: Estuaries and their hinterlands, mostly on the London Clays (deposited during the Eocene) and marshes formed from marine and fluvial deposits.
  - Mid-Essex zone:
    - To the south-west the geology consists of:
      - Acidic soils from Bagshot Beds (fine sands above Claygate Beds)
      - Acidic soils from Claygate Beds (sand/clay layer above London Clays)
      - London Clays (exposed in the valleys)
      - Glacial outwash
  - Essex till: North-west of Essex was affected by the Anglian cold phase, leading to the deposition of boulder clays which have been made fertile by their chalk content



## **SEA Objectives and Sustainability Framework**

The utilisation of SEA objectives is a recognised methodology for considering the environmental effects of a plan and programme and comparing the effects of the alternatives. They serve a different purpose to the objectives of the Rochford District Council Core Strategy (2006). The SEA objectives are utilised to show whether the objectives of the plan and programme are beneficial for the environment, to compare the environmental effects of the alternatives or to suggest improvements.

The SEA objectives have been derived from a review of the plans and programme at the European, national, regional, sub-regional, county and local scale and a strategic analysis of the baseline information. The assessment of the baseline data allows the current state of the environment to be evaluated to determine if significant effects are evident for them to be identified.

Annex 1 (f) of the SEA Directive states that 'the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors' should be analysed. The SEA objectives identified for the assessment of the Rochford District Council Core Strategy are outlined in table 10.

Table 10 also seeks to outline the sustainability framework, which will feed into the assessment of the Rochford District Council Core Strategy by providing a context as to how the SEA objectives shall be viewed in the appraisal. Within table 10 each SEA objective is outlined alongside headline and detailed indicators, and the key questions to be considered in the assessment.

## Rochford District Council Core Strategy - Sustainability Framework

SEA Objective Reference	Headline Objective	Source	Annex 1 SEA Directive Requirements	Headline Indicator	Key Questions	Detailed Indicator
<b>Overarching Objective</b>						
1	To ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work.	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (2005) Sustainable Communities Plan	<b>Population</b>  <b>Human Health</b>  <b>Fauna/Flora/Soil</b>  <b>Water</b>  <b>Air</b>  <b>Climatic factors</b>  <b>Cultural Heritage – Architectural and archaeological</b>  <b>Landscape</b>	See columns below	See columns below	See columns below

2	Create Safe environments where crime and disorder or fear of crime does not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion.	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (2005) Planning Policy Statement 1 – Delivering Sustainable Development	<b>Population</b>  <b>Human Health</b>		Will it ensure the delivery of high quality and inclusive design?	
3	Protect and enhance the Greenbelt throughout the District of Rochford.	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (1995) Planning Policy Guidance – Greenbelts	<b>Population</b>  <b>Material Assets</b>  <b>Fauna/Flora/Soil</b>		Will the Greenbelt land be protected?	
					Will it contribute to the delivery of enhanced greenbelt land?	
4	To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (2000) Planning	<b>Population</b>  <b>Human Health</b>  <b>Material Assets</b>	Number of unfit homes per 1,000 dwellings.	Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?	House Prices

		Policy Guidance – Housing			Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	Number of unfit homes per 1,000 dwellings.
						Indices of Multiple Deprivation Score – particularly Housing and Services Domain and the Living Environment Deprivation Domain.
5	To promote town centre vitality and viability.	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (2005) Planning Policy Statement 6 – Town Centres	<b>Population</b>	Diversity of main town centre uses (by number, type and amount of floorspace).	Does it promote and enhance existing centres by focusing development in such centres?	Pedestrian footfall
				Diversity of main town centre uses (by number, type and amount of floorspace).	Does it enhance consumer choice through the provision of range of shopping, leisure and local services to meet the needs of the entire	Amount of retail, leisure and office floorspace in town centres and neighbourhood centres.
						Amount of retail, leisure and office floorspace in town centres and neighbourhood centres.

					community?	
				Density of development	Does it promote mixed use and high density development in urban centres?	Density of development
						Floorspace Data (Department of Communities and Local Government)
6	To conserve and enhance the biological and geological diversity of the environment as an integral part of social, environmental and economic development.	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (2005) Planning Policy Statement 9 – Biological and Geological Conservation	<b>Fauna/Flora</b>  <b>Cultural Heritage</b>  <b>Water</b>  <b>Landscape</b>	Net change in natural/semi natural habitats.	Will it conserve and enhance natural/semi natural habitats?	Populations of wild birds.
						Sustainable management of woodland.
					Will it conserve and enhance species diversity, and in particular avoid harm to protected species?	Biodiversity in coastal/marine areas.
						Trends in plant and animal species.
						Achievement of Biodiversity Action Plan targets.
					Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest?	Extent and management of SSSI's etc..

7	To promote more sustainable transport choices both for people and moving freight.	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (1999) Planning Policy Guidance 13 - Transport	<b>Population</b>  <b>Climatic Factors</b>  <b>Air</b>	Travel to Work mode of transport	Will it increase the availability of sustainable transport modes?	Public Transportation Infrastructure
					Will it seek to encourage people to use alternative modes of transportation other than the private car?	Travel to work mode of transportation
8	Promote accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling.	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (1999) Planning Policy Guidance 13 - Transport	<b>Population</b>  <b>Human Health</b>  <b>Climatic Factors</b>  <b>Air</b>	Indices of Multiple Deprivation most notably the Housing and Services Domain.	Will it contribute positively to reducing social exclusion by ensuring access to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services?	Indices of Multiple Deprivation
					Will it reduce the need to travel?	Distance to work travelled
					Does it seek to ensure that development encourages a large	

					volume of people or transport movements are located in sustainable accessible locations?	
9	To improve the education and skills of the population.	Rochford District Council – Community Strategy	<b>Population</b>	Qualification attainment	Will the policies and options proposed seek to enhance the qualifications and skills of the local community?	Qualifications of working population
						Young person educational attainment
10	To maintain and enhance the cultural heritage and assets within the District of Rochford.	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (1994) Planning Policy Guidance 15 – Planning and Historic Environment	<b>Cultural Heritage – archaeological and architectural Landscape</b>	Buildings of grade I and II at risk of decay.	Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value in both urban and rural areas?	Loss of damage to listed buildings and their settings.
						Loss or damage to scheduled ancient monuments and their settings.
						Loss or damage to historic parks and gardens and their setting.
						Percentage of

						conservation area demolished or otherwise lost.
						Lost or damage to historic view lines and vistas.
11	To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes.	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (2005) Sustainable Communities Plan	<b>Population</b>	Quantity of open space – including parks etc.	Does it seek to enhance the range and quality of the public realm and open spaces?	Number of parks allocated green flag status.
			<b>Human Health</b>			Percentage of highways that are either of a high or acceptable level of cleanliness.
			<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	Developments on Previously Developed Land.	Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?	Amount of vacant land.
			<b>Flora/Fauna</b>			Amount of derelict properties.
			<b>Soil</b>		Will it improve the landscape?	Landscape features – hedges, walls, ponds, buildings
12	To reduce contributions to	Office of the Deputy Prime	<b>Climatic Factors</b>	Emissions of greenhouse	Will it reduce emissions of	Carbon Dioxide emissions



	climatic change.	Minister (1993) Planning Policy Guidance 22 - Renewable Energy	<b>Air</b>  <b>Water</b>	gases.	greenhouse gases by reducing energy consumption?	Energy efficiency of road passenger travel/average fuel consumption.
					Will lead to an increased proportion of energy needs being met from renewable sources?	Proportion of energy supplied from renewable sources.
13	To improve water quality	Water Directive	<b>Water</b>  <b>Human Health</b>	Rivers of good or fair quality.	Will it improve the quality of inland water?	Percentage of main land rivers of good or fair quality.
					Will it improve the quality of coastal waters?	Dangerous substances in the water.
						Estuarine water quality, marine inputs.
14	To improve air quality.		<b>Air</b>  <b>Human Health</b>	Days when pollution is moderate or higher.	Will it improve air quality?	Number of AQMA's in the District
						Concentrations of selected pollutants.
						Number of days of air

						pollution.
15	To achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth.	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, (2005) Planning Policy Statement 1 – Delivering Sustainable Development	<b>Population</b>	Local Gross Domestic Product/ Gross Domestic Product per head.	Will it improve business development?	GDP per head.
						Percentage change in the total number of VAT registered businesses in the area.
					Will it promote growth in key sectors?	Labour productivity in key sectors.

Table 10 illustrates a series of 15 SEA objectives. As part of the appraisal we have decided to include objective 1 related to the delivery of a sustainable community where people will choose to live and work as the overarching objective. Thus if all the policies and development options outlined in the Core Strategy are deemed to contribute positively in the short-long term then it is concluded that this overarching SEA objective will be delivered successfully.

- **Assessing the Compatibility of the Objectives**

A balance of social, economic and environmental objectives has been selected. To test the internal compatibility of the sustainability objectives a compatibility assessment was undertaken to identify any potential tensions between the objectives. Matrix 1 illustrates the compatibility appraisal of the sustainability objectives.

## Matrix 1

### Matrix Illustrating the Compatibility Appraisal of the Sustainability Objectives

<b>SEA Objectives</b>	<b>2</b>	VC														
	<b>3</b>	VC	C													
	<b>4</b>	VC	VC	C												
	<b>5</b>	VC	VC	C	VC											
	<b>6</b>	VC	VC	VC	C	VC										
	<b>7</b>	VC	C	C	C	VC	C									
	<b>8</b>	VC	C	C	VC	VC	C	VC								
	<b>9</b>	VC	VC	NI	VC	VC	VC	C	VC							
	<b>10</b>	VC	VC	VC	VC	VC	VC	C	C	VC						
	<b>11</b>	VC	C	VC	VC	VC	VC	C	C	C	VC					
	<b>12</b>	VC	NI	C	C	C	VC	VC	VC	C	C	VC				
	<b>13</b>	VC	NI	C	C	C	VC	C	C	C	VC	VC	VC			
	<b>14</b>	VC	NI	C	C	C	VC	VC	VC	C	C	VC	VC	VC		
	<b>15</b>	VC	VC	C	VC	VC	VC	VC	VC	VC	VC	VC	VC	VC	VC	VC
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	
		<b>SEA Objectives</b>														

Key	Symbol
Very Compatible	VC
Compatible	C
No Impact	N
Incompatible	I
Very Incompatible	VI
Uncertain	U

Matrix 1 demonstrates that none of the 15 SEA objectives outlined in table 10 are incompatible or very compatible. The majority are compatible or very compatible. However some SEA objectives have no impact, but this it is deemed appropriate that these objectives continue to be included in the assessment as overall they contribute positively to the delivery of a sustainable community where people will choose to live and work.

Matrix 2 illustrates the compatibility matrix for the SEA objectives against the Rochford District Council Core Strategy Regulation 25 (May, 2006) objectives.

<b>SEA Objectives</b>	<b>2</b>	U	C	N	U	VC	C	C	VC	VC	C	N	U	VC	VC
	<b>3</b>	VC	U	VC	C	VC	C	U	VC	VC	VC	VC	VC	VC	U
	<b>4</b>	C	C	N	VC	VC	VC	C	VC	VC	VC	N	U	VC	VC
	<b>5</b>	VC	I	U	VC	VC	VC	U	VC	VC	VC	N	U	VC	VC
	<b>6</b>	VC	C	VC	U	VC	U	U	VC	VC	VC	VC	VC	VC	U
	<b>7</b>	VC	U	N	VC	VC	VC	VC	N	C	C	U	U	VC	VC
	<b>8</b>	VC	U	U	VC	VC	VC	C	U	C	VC	U	U	VC	VC
	<b>9</b>	C	C	VC	C	VC	U	VC	N	N	N	N	U	VC	VC
	<b>10</b>	U	VC	VC	C	U	U	U	VC	VC	VC	C	U	VC	U
	<b>11</b>	C	C	VC	VC	VC	C	U	VC	VC	VC	C	U	VC	U
	<b>12</b>	U	C	N	U	U	U	N	N	N	C	VC	VC	N	U
	<b>13</b>	U	N	VC	N	N	U	N	N	N	C	VC	VC	N	U
	<b>14</b>	U	N	C	N	N	U	N	N	N	C	VC	VC	N	U
	<b>15</b>	VC	U	U	VC	VC	VC	VC	C	VC	C	C	U	VC	VC
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
		<b>Core Strategy Objectives</b>													

## **Chapter 4 - Core Strategy Policy and Option Appraisal**

## Chapter 4

### Core Strategy Policy and Options Appraisal

#### Significant Social, Environmental and Economic Effects of the Options

Annex 1 (f) of the SEA Directive (2001) states that information should be provided on “the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic, material assets including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors” (Annex 1(f)). The SEA Directive also states that ‘where an Environmental Assessment is required under Article 3 (1), an Environmental Report shall be prepared in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan and programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated” (SEA Directive, Article 5).

The Rochford District Council Core Strategy Regulation 25 Consultation (Rochford District Council, 2006) sets out a series of options and alternatives for the Core Strategy on a range of issues. The Regulation 25 consultation does not outline any specific policies it is concluded that the policies shall be derived from the options. The appraisal of the Rochford District Council Core Strategy Regulation 25 Consultation involved the analysis and evaluation of each option reference to policy where relevant was also outlined.

The appraisal refers to the temporal extent which is measured with regard to the short, medium and long term effect. For the purpose of this appraisal the duration of these time frames reflects the content of the Draft East of England Plan and are;

- **Short Term** - This is regarded as present day to 2010.
- **Medium Term** - Regarded as 2011-2015.
- **Longer Term** - 2016 – 2021.

The entire assessment is set out in the Technical Annex. The summary of the appraisal results are outlined in a series of graphs and matrices which are demonstrated in this section of the report. The graphs demonstrate the total performance of the SEA objectives against each of the options, therefore illustrating how well each option delivers the overarching sustainability objective SEA 1. The matrices provide an illustration of the performance scores for each option against all SEA objectives. **In some instances it is concluded that the short – long term impact is uncertain, this may be due to external factors or the limited level of detail provided for in the explanation of the option.**



## **The Green Belt & Strategic Gaps between Settlements**

As identified in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version, the following alternatives are considered realistic by the Council in regards to the Green Belt and strategic gaps between settlements:

**Option A** - Relaxation of greenbelt policy, leading to more development opportunities in the greenbelt, particularly for leisure and tourism.

**Option B** – No strategic gaps, allowing coalescence in areas where the greenbelt performs only a token purpose.

**Option C** – The Council proposes to continue its restrictive suite of policies for development within the greenbelt, in line with national guidance. The key general extent of the greenbelt will be shown on the Core Strategy Key Diagram and in detail on the Proposals Map.

**Option D** - The Council considers that strategic gaps will be defined and protected by policy and included broadly on the Core Strategy Key Diagram and in detail on the Proposals Maps. The Policy will include the strategic gaps below;

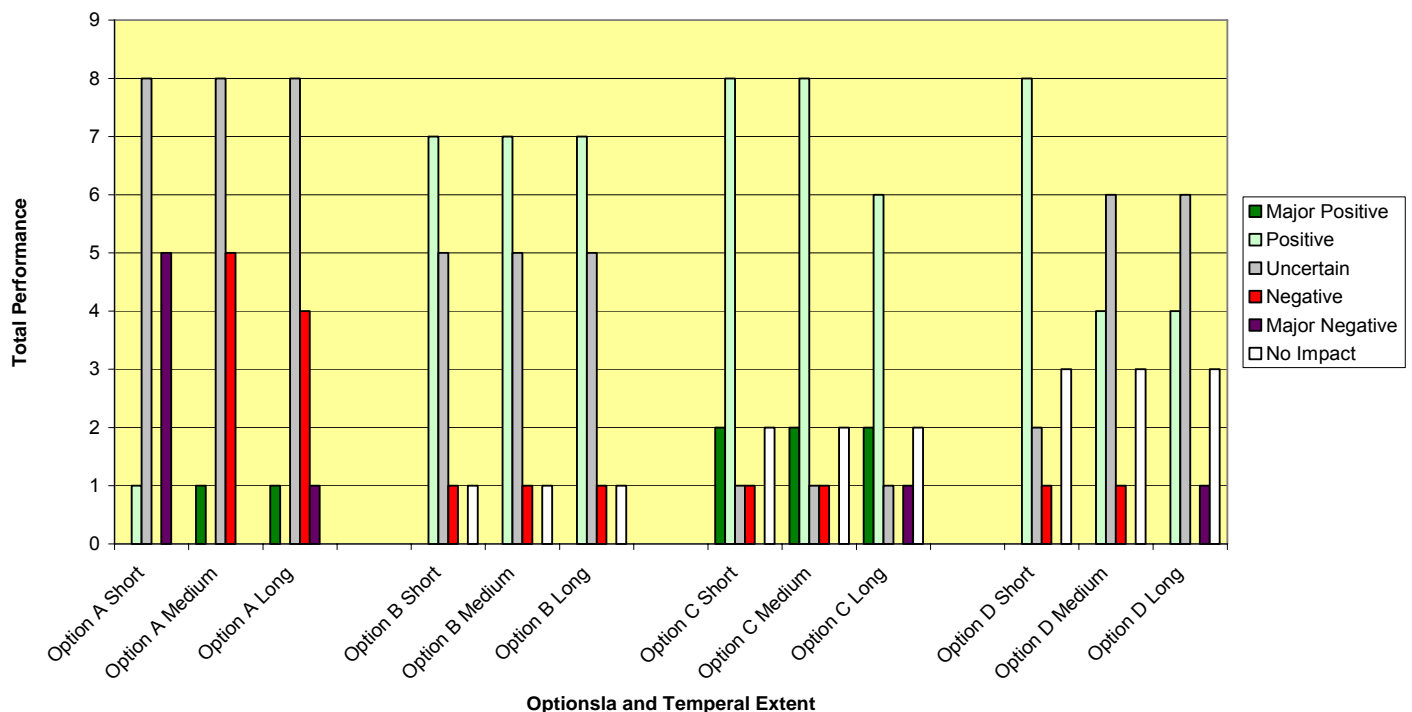
- Great Wakering and North Shoebury (the area around the boundary with Southend-on-Sea Borough Council),
- Hockley and Rayleigh,
- Hullbridge and Rayleigh,
- Rawreth and Rayleigh,
- Rayleigh and Eastwood (the area around the boundary with Southend-on-Sea Borough Council)
- Rayleigh and Thundersley (the area around the boundary with Castle Point Borough Council),
- Rochford/Ashingdon and Hawkwell/Hockley

Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 19 and matrix 3. Graph **19** shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the Green Belt and Strategic Gaps Between Settlements policies on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work. Their impacts on this objective are separated into six differing degrees; major positive, positive, uncertain, negative, major negative and no impact

## Graph 19

**Graph illustrating the performance of the Green Belt & Strategic Gaps Between Settlements options to determine the extent to which overarching SEA Objective 1 is delivered**



Graph **19** shows that Option C has a high major negative effect as well as a negative and uncertain effect. In comparison, option B shows a strong positive result, although there is also a strong uncertain effect in evidence and a minor negative effect can be seen. Option C shows a high positive result with high positive result, similar to that in option B and whilst there is an minor negative effect, option C has a much lower uncertain result. Option also shows positive results, although there is also an uncertain and no impact element. Option D has a high amount of positive impacts particularly in

the short term, however there are negative and major negative aspects. The negative part of option D is primarily related to SEA objective 4 (decent homes).

**Matrix 3 illustrating the performance of the SEA Objectives against the Green Belt and Strategic Gaps Between Settlements Options**

Issues and Options		SEA Objective 1			SEA Objective 2			SEA Objective 3			SEA Objective 4			SEA Objective 5			SEA Objective 6			SEA Objective 7			SEA Objective 8		
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent		
		Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
<b>The Greenbelt and Strategic Gaps between Settlements</b>																									
<b>Option A</b> - Relaxation of greenbelt policy, leading to more development opportunities in the greenbelt, particularly for leisure and tourism.																									
<b>Option B</b> – No strategic gaps, allowing coalescence in areas where the greenbelt performs only a token purpose.																									
<b>Option C</b> – The Council proposes to continue its restrictive suite of policies for development within the greenbelt, in line with national guidance. The key general extent of the greenbelt will be shown on the Core Strategy Key Diagram and in detail on th																									
<b>Option D</b> - The Council considers that strategic gaps will be defined and protected by policy and included broadly on the Core Strategy Key Diagram and in detail on the Proposals Maps. The Policy will include the strategic gaps below;																									
• Great Waking a																									
Issues and Options		SEA Objective 9			SEA Objective 10			SEA Objective 11			SEA Objective 12			SEA Objective 13			SEA Objective 14			SEA Objective 15			Key of Effects		
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent					
		Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long			
<b>The Greenbelt and Strategic Gaps between Settlements</b>																									
<b>Option A</b> - Relaxation of greenbelt policy, leading to more development opportunities in the greenbelt, particularly for leisure and tourism.																									
<b>Option B</b> – No strategic gaps, allowing coalescence in areas where the greenbelt performs only a token purpose.																									
<b>Option C</b> – The Council proposes to continue its restrictive suite of policies for development within the greenbelt, in line with national guidance. The key general extent of the greenbelt will be shown on the Core Strategy Key Diagram and in detail on th																									
<b>Option D</b> - The Council considers that strategic gaps will be defined and protected by policy and included broadly on the Core Strategy Key Diagram and in detail on the Proposals Maps. The Policy will include the strategic gaps below;																									
• Great Waking a																									

## Protection and Enhancement of the Upper Roach Valley

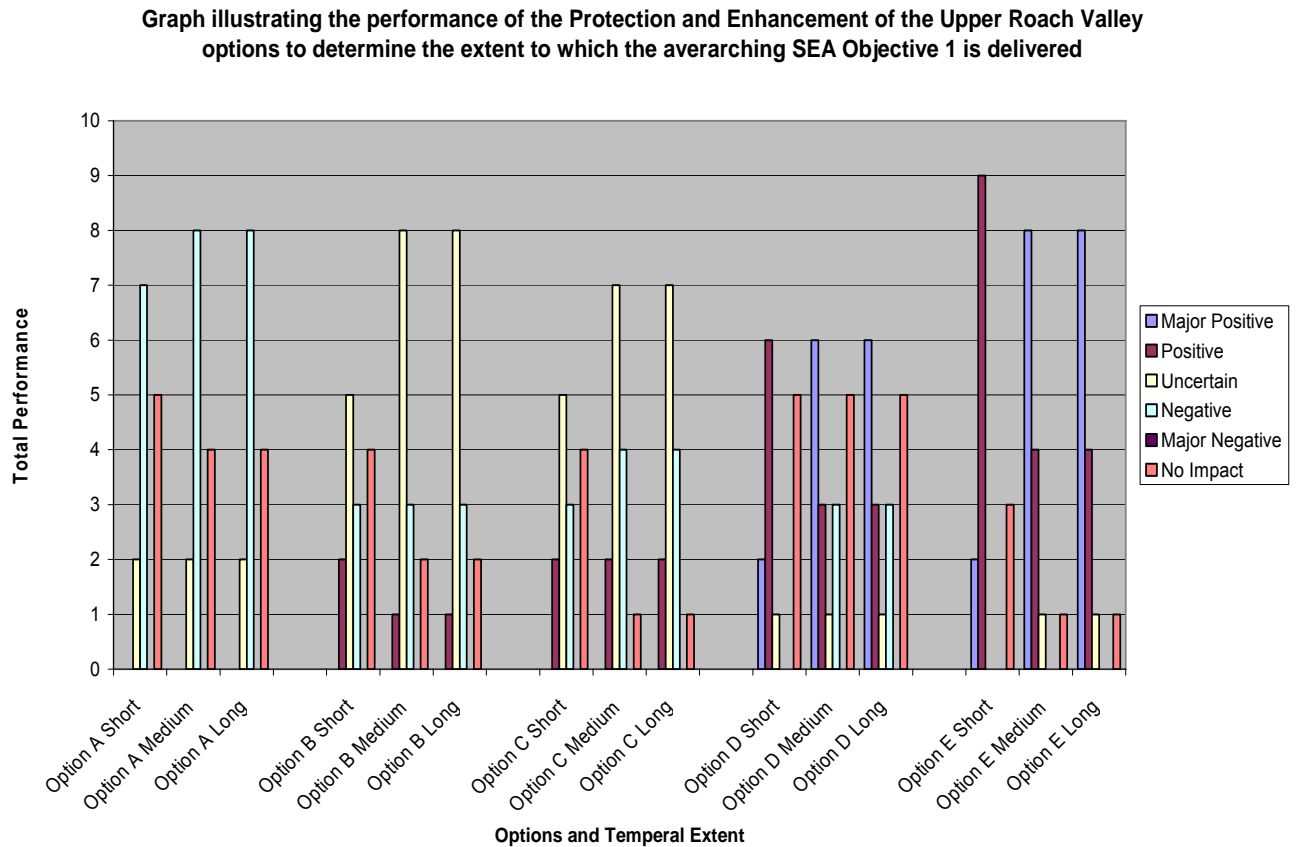
The alternatives that Rochford District Council consider appropriate include;

- **Option A** - No country park allocation, keeping it to its current size with no proposals for expansion
- **Option – B** – No local landscape designations, allowing more general policies to determine the style and location of development.
- **Option – C** – No need for a further designation, allowing more general policies to determine the style and location of development.
- **Option – D** – A policy providing for the protection and enhancement of the area and increased informal countryside recreation opportunities.
- **Option – E** – Identify land to be included in the Cherry Orchard Jubilee County Park and any further proposed extensions beyond its current allocation.

Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 20 and matrix 4. Graph **20** shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the options related to the Protection and Enhancement of the Upper Roach Valley on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work.

**Graph 20**



Graph 20 demonstrates the performance of the Protection and Enhancement of the Upper Roach Valley options to determine the extent to which the overarching SEA objective 1 is delivered. Clearly option A has the most detrimental impact as it has the greatest proportion of negative impacts. In contrast options D and E have the greatest proportion of major positive and positive impacts. Further analysis on the associated options and policies is outlined in the technical annex.

Matrix 4 demonstrates the performance of the SEA Objectives against the Protection and Enhancement of the Upper Roach Valley.

**Matrix 4 - Demonstrates the Performance of the SEA Objectives against the Protection and Enhancement of the Upper Roach Valley**

[illegible]

## **Protection and Enhancement of Special Landscape Areas**

As identified in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version, the following alternatives are considered realistic by the Council in regards to Protection and Enhancement of Special Landscape Areas:

**Option A** – No local landscape designations, as these add little value to the planning process and the countryside should be protected for its own sake

**Option B** – No coastal protection belt as the coast is protected by nature conservation designations

**Option C** – No protection for the landscape as this is an evolving feature and artificial designations create artificial landscapes.

**Option D** – Freedom for agriculture, horticulture, equine uses, leisure and tourism to develop in these areas, whilst maintaining restrictions on general employment and housing uses.

**Option E** – Protection for the undeveloped coast and ensuring that development proposed for the undeveloped coast must require a coastal location.

**Option F** – Protection for the three Special Landscape Areas allowing only for development that has location, size, siting, design, materials and landscaping according with the character of the area in which the development is proposed

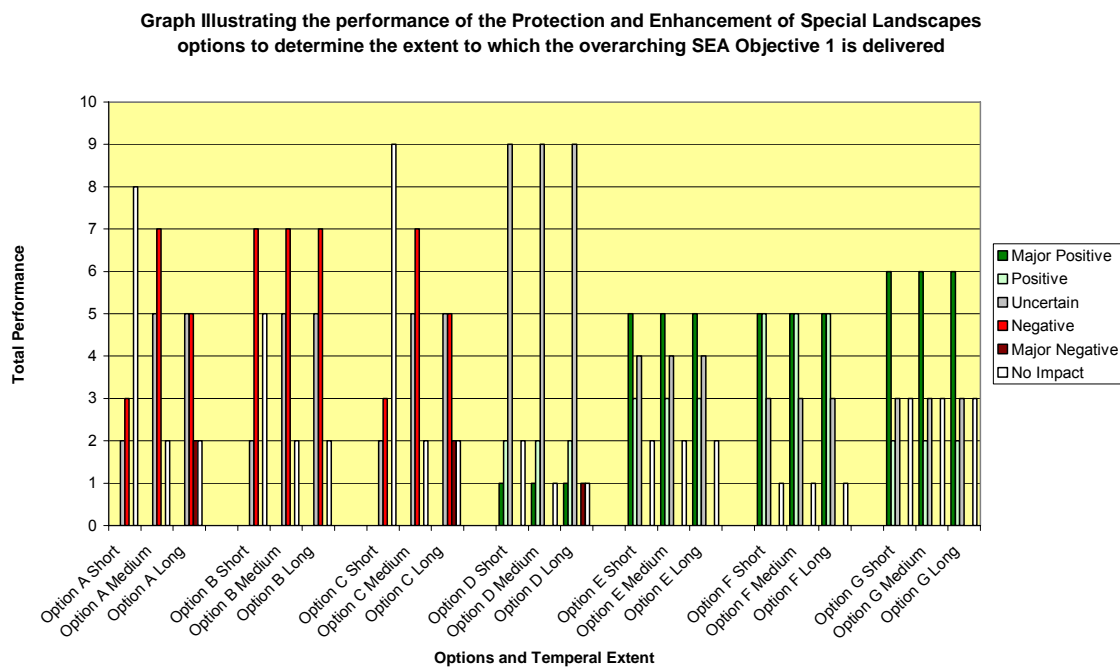
**Option G** – Protection of the Area of Historic Landscape and Ancient Woodlands from development that would adversely affect their historic importance, existing landscape character or physical appearance.

Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 21 and matrix 5. Graph **21** shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the Protection and Enhancement of Special Landscape Areas policies on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work. Their impacts on this objective are separated into six differing degrees; major positive, positive, uncertain, negative, major negative and no impact



**Graph 21**



Option A contains extremes in scores with a significant number of assessment criteria not being impacted upon combined with a significant number ranking negatively. In the medium term this negative effect increases as does the uncertain effect. The long term effect also shows a negative and uncertain effect with a major negative effect. Option B shows a strong negative effect and a no impact effect in the short term. In the medium term the negative effect remains the same and is matched by an uncertain effect in the medium and long term. Option C shows a high negative and no impact effect in the short term, followed by a high negative and uncertain effect in the medium term and which decreases in the long term. Option D shows a high uncertain result in the short medium and long term. Option E shows a major positive and uncertain effect in the short, medium and long term. Option F shows a high major positive and positive result in the short, medium and long term and option G shows a high major positive result, with a smaller positive and uncertain result in the short, medium and long term.



Matrix 5 illustrating the performance of the SEA Objectives against the Protection and Enhancement of Special Landscapes Options

Issues and Options		SEA Objective 1			SEA Objective 2			SEA Objective 3			SEA Objective 4			SEA Objective 5			SEA Objective 6			SEA Objective 7			SEA Objective 8		
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent		
		Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
<b>Protection and Enhancement of Special Landscapes</b>																									
<b>Option – A</b> – No local landscape designations, as these add little value to the planning process and the countryside should be protected for its own sake																									
<b>Option – B</b> – No coastal protection belt as the coast is protected by nature conservation designations																									
<b>Option – C</b> – No protection for the landscape as this is an evolving feature and artificial designations create artificial landscapes.																									
<b>Option – D</b> – Freedom for agriculture, horticulture, equine uses, leisure and tourism to develop in these areas, whilst maintaining restrictions on general employment and housing uses.																									
<b>Option – E</b> – Protection for the undeveloped coast and ensuring that development proposed for the undeveloped coast must require a coastal location.																									
<b>Option – F</b> – Protection for the three Special Landscape Areas allowing only for development that has location, size, siting, design, materials and landscaping according with the character of the area in which the development is proposed																									
<b>Option – G</b> – Protection of the Area of Historic Landscape and Ancient Woodlands from development that would adversely affect their historic importance, existing landscape character or physical appearance.																									

Issues and Options		SEA Objective 9			SEA Objective 10			SEA Objective 11			SEA Objective 12			SEA Objective 13			SEA Objective 14			SEA Objective 15		
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent		
		Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
<b>Protection and Enhancement of Special Landscapes</b>																						
<b>Option – A</b> – No local landscape designations, as these add little value to the planning process and the countryside should be protected for its own sake																						
<b>Option – B</b> – No coastal protection belt as the coast is protected by nature conservation designations																						
<b>Option – C</b> – No protection for the landscape as this is an evolving feature and artificial designations create artificial landscapes.																						
<b>Option – D</b> – Freedom for agriculture, horticulture, equine uses, leisure and tourism to develop in these areas, whilst maintaining restrictions on general employment and housing uses.																						
<b>Option – E</b> – Protection for the undeveloped coast and ensuring that development proposed for the undeveloped coast must require a coastal location.																						
<b>Option – F</b> – Protection for the three Special Landscape Areas allowing only for development that has location, size, siting, design, materials and landscaping according with the character of the area in which the development is proposed																						
<b>Option – G</b> – Protection of the Area of Historic Landscape and Ancient Woodlands from development that would adversely affect their historic importance, existing landscape character or physical appearance.																						

Key of Effects	
No Effect	
Major Positive	
Positive	
Uncertain	
Negative	
Major Negative	

## Housing Numbers

As identified in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version, the following alternatives are considered realistic by the Council in regards to Housing Numbers:

**Option – A** – Not attempting to meet the cascaded figure due to the restrictive development position vis-avis the green belt

**Option – B** – Relying on windfall development and urban intensification, to prevent the need for any green belt releases

**Option – C** – Not allocating land to accommodate all the dwelling units and relying on a percentage of windfall development and urban intensification

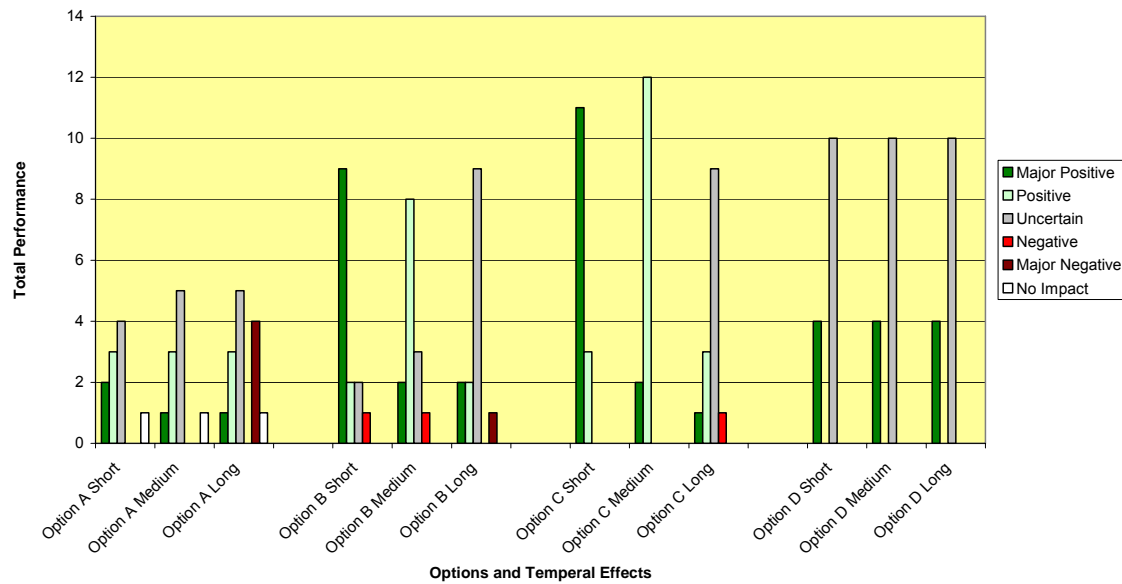
**Option – D** – Ensuring enough land is allocated to accommodate all of the cascaded figure for homes from the *East of England Plan (RSS14)* for the period 2001 to 2021.

Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 22 and matrix 6. Graph **22** shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the Housing Numbers policies on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work. Their impacts on this objective are separated into six differing degrees; major positive, positive, uncertain, negative, major negative and no impact

## Graph 22

Graph Illustrating the performance of the Housing Numbers options to determine the extent to which overarching SEA Objective 1 is delivered



Option A, B and C demonstrate a declining positive effect over time, with negative implications in the future. Option D has a positive to uncertain effect in all temporal extents.

Matrix 6 illustrating the performance of the SEA Objectives against the Housing Numbers Options

Issues and Options		SEA Objective 1			SEA Objective 2			SEA Objective 3			SEA Objective 4			SEA Objective 5			SEA Objective 6			SEA Objective 7			SEA Objective 8		
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent		
		Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
Housing Numbers																									
Option – A – Not attempting to meet the cascaded figure due to the restrictive development position vis-avis the green belt																									
Option – B – Relying on windfall development and urban intensification, to prevent the need for any green belt releases																									
Option – C – Not allocating land to accommodate all the dwelling units and relying on a percentage of windfall development and urban intensification																									
Option – D – Ensuring enough land is allocated to accommodate all of the cascaded figure for homes from the <i>East of England Plan (RSS14)</i> for the period 2001 to 2021.																									

Issues and Options		SEA Objective 9			SEA Objective 10			SEA Objective 11			SEA Objective 12			SEA Objective 13			SEA Objective 14			SEA Objective 15		
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent		
		Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
Housing Numbers																						
Option – A – Not attempting to meet the cascaded figure due to the restrictive development position vis-avis the green belt																						
Option – B – Relying on windfall development and urban intensification, to prevent the need for any green belt releases																						
Option – C – Not allocating land to accommodate all the dwelling units and relying on a percentage of windfall development and urban intensification																						
Option – D – Ensuring enough land is allocated to accommodate all of the cascaded figure for homes from the <i>East of England Plan (RSS14)</i> for the period 2001 to 2021.																						

Key of Effects	
No Effect	
Major Positive	
Positive	
Uncertain	
Negative	
Major Negative	

## **General Development Locations**

As identified in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version, the following alternatives are considered realistic by the Council in regards to General Development Locations:

**Option – A** – Greater dispersal to minor settlements, enabling possible regeneration of local facilities

**Option – B** – Split the housing allocation evenly between the parishes (excluding Foulness), so that each area gets a small amount of housing.

**Option – C** – Develop a new settlement, well related to transport links and providing its own basic infrastructure

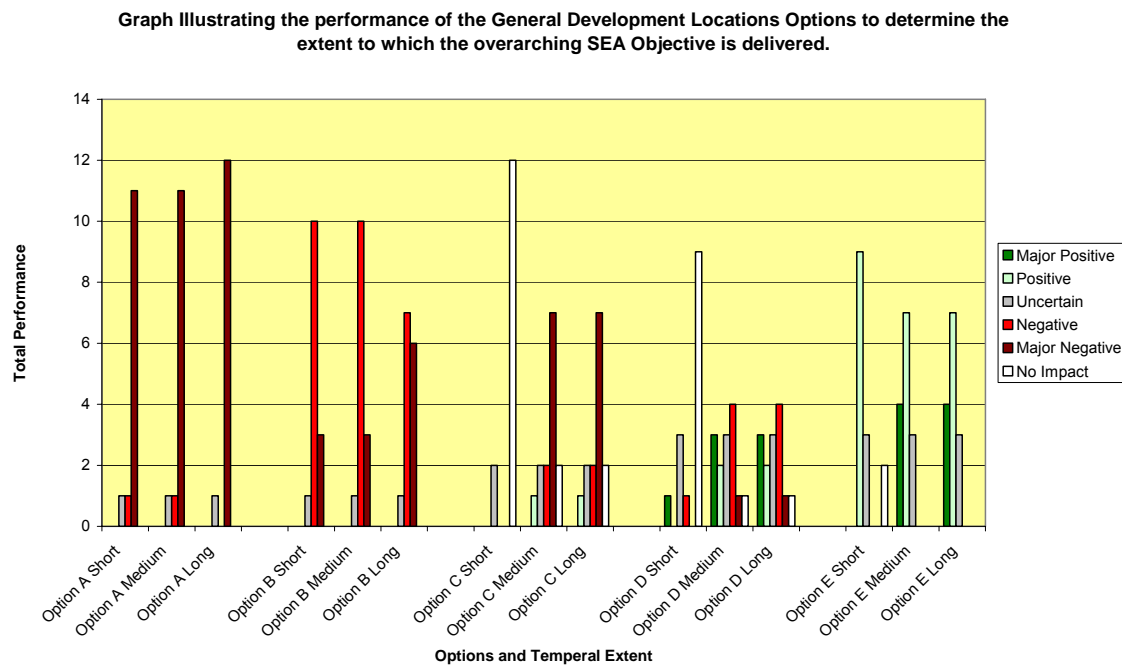
**Option – D** – Focus solely on an expansion of one settlement, creating a significant urban expansion.

**Option – E** – Allocate the total number of housing units to the top and second tier settlements, to gain a smaller number of large sites which will deliver the greatest amount of infrastructure improvements

Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 23 and matrix 7. Graph **23** shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the General Development Locations policies on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work. Their impacts on this objective are separated into six differing degrees; major positive, positive, uncertain, negative, major negative and no impact

**Graph 23**



Options A and B have a major negative effects in the short, medium and long term. Graph 23 also demonstrates that the adoption of option C would result in increasingly negative impacts throughout time. Option D has a diverse range of impacts with both negative and positive effects whilst Option E has the greatest concentration of positive effects.



**Matrix 7 illustrating the performance of the SEA Objectives against the General Development Locations Options**

Issues and Options			SEA Objective 1			SEA Objective 2			SEA Objective 3			SEA Objective 4			SEA Objective 5			SEA Objective 6			SEA Objective 7			SEA Objective 8		
			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent		
			Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
<b>General Development Locations</b>																										
<b>Option – A</b> – Greater dispersal to minor settlements, enabling possible regeneration of local facilities																										
<b>Option – B</b> – Split the housing allocation evenly between the parishes (excluding Foulness), so that each area gets a small amount of housing.																										
<b>Option – C</b> – Develop a new settlement, well related to transport links and providing its own basic infrastructure																										
<b>Option – D</b> – Focus solely on an expansion of one settlement, creating a significant urban expansion.																										
<b>Option – E</b> – Allocate the total number of housing units to the top and second tier settlements, to gain a smaller number of large sites which will deliver the greatest amount of infrastructure improvements.																										

Issues and Options			SEA Objective 9			SEA Objective 10			SEA Objective 11			SEA Objective 12			SEA Objective 13			SEA Objective 14			SEA Objective 15			Key of Effects					
			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent											
			Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	No Effect	Major Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Negative	Major Negative
<b>General Development Locations</b>																													
<b>Option – A</b> – Greater dispersal to minor settlements, enabling possible regeneration of local facilities																													
<b>Option – B</b> – Split the housing allocation evenly between the parishes (excluding Foulness), so that each area gets a small amount of housing.																													
<b>Option – C</b> – Develop a new settlement, well related to transport links and providing its own basic infrastructure																													
<b>Option – D</b> – Focus solely on an expansion of one settlement, creating a significant urban expansion.																													
<b>Option – E</b> – Allocate the total number of housing units to the top and second tier settlements, to gain a smaller number of large sites which will deliver the greatest amount of infrastructure improvements.																													

## **Affordable Housing**

As identified in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version, the following alternatives are considered realistic by the Council in regards to Affordable Housing:

**Option A** - 30% of all new homes in the District be affordable on all sites.

**Option B** – 50% of all new homes on sites in excess of 10 units, will be affordable

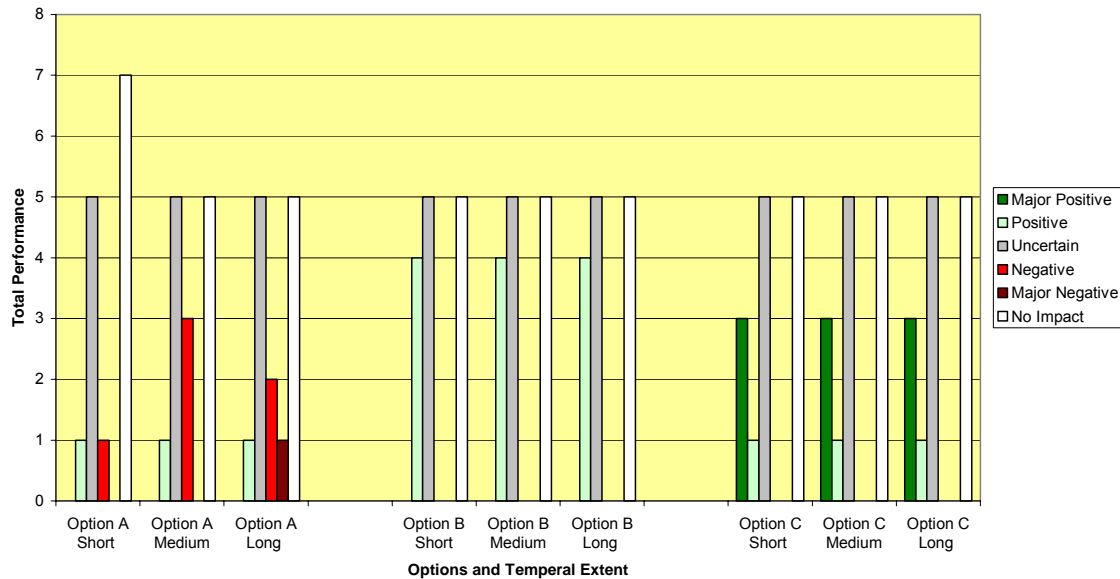
**Option C** – Affordable housing will be set at 40% on sites specified in the Allocations DPD

Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 24 and matrix 8. Graph 24 shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the Affordable Housing policies on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work. Their impacts on this objective are separated into six differing degrees; major positive, positive, uncertain, negative, major negative and no impact

**Graph 24**

**Graph Illustrating the performance of the Affordable Housing options to determine the extent to which the overarching SEA Objective 1 is delivered**



Option does not impact on a number of the sustainability criteria, however against directly relevant criteria (SEA 4) it has a positive effect. Similarly to option A, option B also has a high degree of no impact and uncertainty, however there is a greater concentration of positive impacts. Option C has a greater number of major positive impacts.

Matrix 8 illustrating the performance of the SEA Objectives against the Affordable Housing Options

Option Appraisal Summary of Performance																													
Issues and Options		SEA Objective 1			SEA Objective 2			SEA Objective 3			SEA Objective 4			SEA Objective 5			SEA Objective 6			SEA Objective 7			SEA Objective 8						
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent						
		Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long				
Affordable Housing																													
Option A - 30% of all new homes in the District be affordable on all sites.																													
Option B – 50% of all new homes on sites in excess of 10 units, will be affordable.																													
Option C – Affordable housing will be set at 40% on sites specified in the Allocations DPD																													
Issues and Options		SEA Objective 9			SEA Objective 10			SEA Objective 11			SEA Objective 12			SEA Objective 13			SEA Objective 14			SEA Objective 15									
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent									
		Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long							
Affordable Housing																													
Option A - 30% of all new homes in the District be affordable on all sites.																													
Option B – 50% of all new homes on sites in excess of 10 units, will be affordable.																													
Option C – Affordable housing will be set at 40% on sites specified in the Allocations DPD																													

Key of Effects

No Effect	
Major Positive	
Positive	
Uncertain	
Negative	
Major Negative	

Key of Effects	
No Effect	
Major Positive	
Positive	
Uncertain	
Negative	
Major Negative	

## **Accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers**

As identified in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version, the following alternatives are considered realistic by the Council in regards to Accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers:

**Option A** - No Gypsy or Traveller Site to be identified in the green belt because there are no acceptable locations

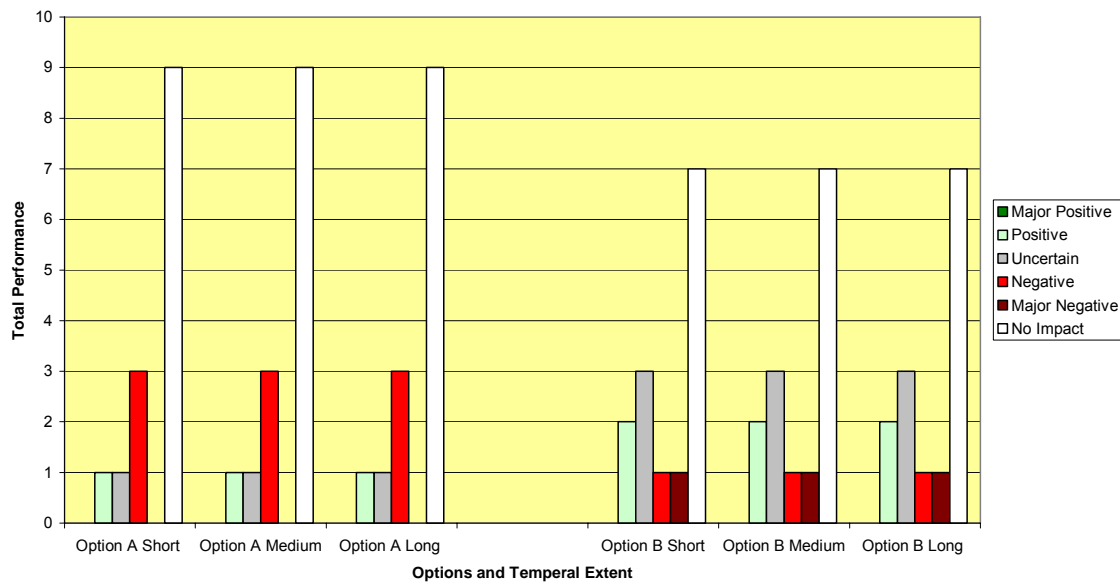
**Option B** – Accommodation needs for Gypsy and Travellers will be met by identifying in an existing residential area for a site and formally specifying it in the Allocations DPD

Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 25 and matrix 9. Graph **25** shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the Accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers policies on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work. Their impacts on this objective are separated into six differing degrees; major positive, positive, uncertain, negative, major negative and no impact

**Graph 25**

Graph illustrating the performance of the Accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers options to determine the extent to which the overarching SEA Objective 1 is delivered



Option A shows a strong short, medium and long term no impact effect and minor negative element. The adoption of Option B would result in lower no impact and higher degree of uncertainty than option A. However there is a greater amount of positive effects in the short-long term.

Matrix 9 illustrating the performance of the SEA Objectives against the Accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers Options

Issues and Options	SEA Objective 1			SEA Objective 2			SEA Objective 3			SEA Objective 4			SEA Objective 5			SEA Objective 6			SEA Objective 7			SEA Objective 8		
	Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent		
	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
Accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers																								
Option A - No Gypsy or Traveller Site to be identified in the green belt because there are no acceptable locations																								
Option B – Accommodation needs for Gypsy and Travellers will be met by identifying in an existing residential area for a site and formally specifying it in the Allocations DPD																								

Key of Effects

No Effect	
Major Positive	
Positive	
Uncertain	
Negative	
Major Negative	

Issues and Options	SEA Objective 9			SEA Objective 10			SEA Objective 11			SEA Objective 12			SEA Objective 13			SEA Objective 14			SEA Objective 15		
	Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent		
	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
Accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers																					
Option A - No Gypsy or Traveller Site to be identified in the green belt because there are no acceptable locations																					
Option B – Accommodation needs for Gypsy and Travellers will be met by identifying in an existing residential area for a site and formally specifying it in the Allocations DPD																					

## Rural Exceptions

As identified in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version, the following alternatives are considered realistic by the Council in regards to Rural Exceptions:

**Option A** - No rural exceptions policy, because of potential sustainable development issues with rural housing

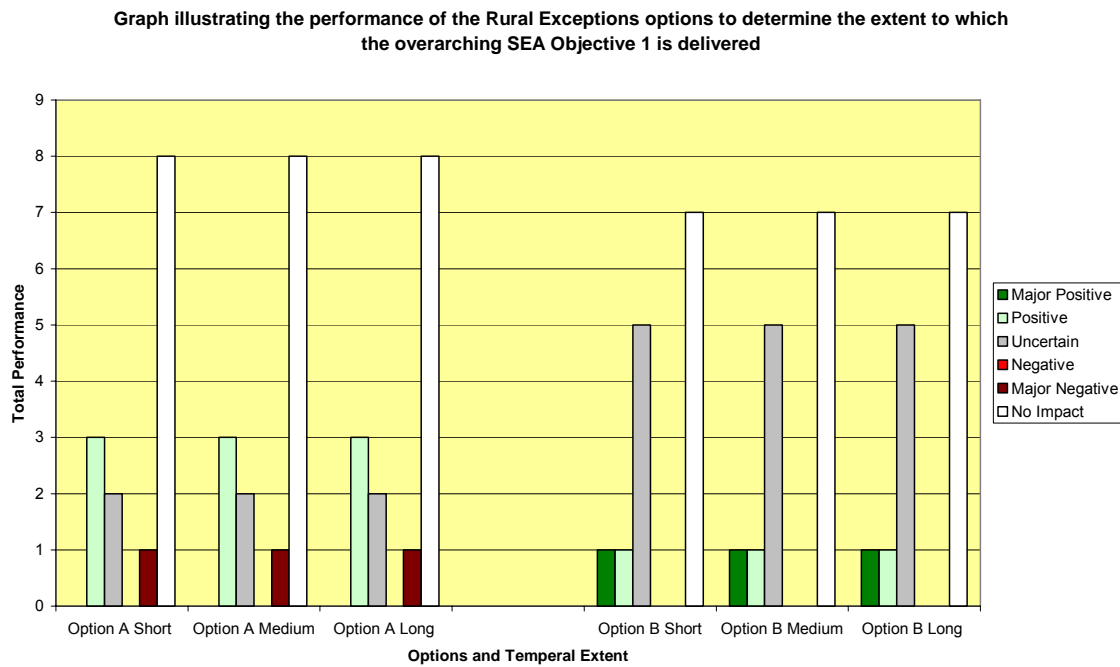
**Option B** – For windfall sites, 30% of all units will be required to be affordable. On rural exception sites all the units will be required to remain affordable in perpetuity.

Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 26 and matrix 10. Graph **26** shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the Rural Exceptions policies on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work. Their impacts on this objective are separated into six differing degrees; major positive, positive, uncertain, negative, major negative and no impact



**Graph 26**



Option A shows a strong short, medium and long term no impact result. There is also a positive result showing and a small major negative effect. Option B in comparison has no negative effects, a high no impact result and a greater amount of uncertainty is apparent, but in relation to criteria SEA performs positively.



Matrix 10 illustrating the performance of the SEA Objectives against the Rural Exceptions Options

Issues and Options		SEA Objective 1			SEA Objective 2			SEA Objective 3			SEA Objective 4			SEA Objective 5			SEA Objective 6			SEA Objective 7			SEA Objective 8			
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			
			Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
Rural Exceptions																										
Option A - No rural exceptions policy, because of potential sustainable development issues with rural housing																										
Option B – For windfall sites, 30% of all units will be required to be affordable. On rural exception sites all the units will be required to remain affordable in perpetuity.																										

Issues and Options		SEA Objective 9			SEA Objective 10			SEA Objective 11			SEA Objective 12			SEA Objective 13			SEA Objective 14			SEA Objective 15			
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			
			Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
Rural Exceptions																							
Option A - No rural exceptions policy, because of potential sustainable development issues with rural housing																							
Option B – For windfall sites, 30% of all units will be required to be affordable. On rural exception sites all the units will be required to remain affordable in perpetuity.																							

Key of Effects	
No Effect	
Major Positive	
Positive	
Uncertain	
Negative	
Major Negative	

## Employment

As identified in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version, the following alternatives are considered realistic by the Council in regards to employment:

**Option A** - No jobs figure to be included, as it is too difficult to accurately provide for such a figure.

**Option B** – Provide no details of the general locations, as it is unrealistic to plan for employment development in excess of ten years in advance.

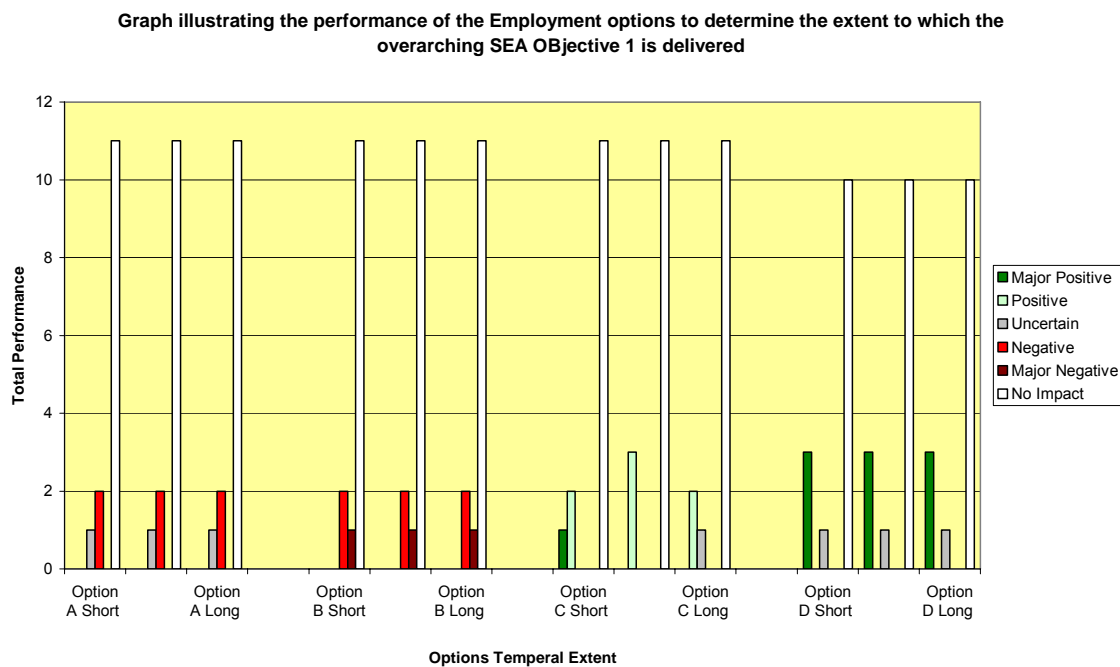
**Option C** – Allocate a total number of jobs to be created in the District. It will specify areas within the District and their share of the overall total.

**Option D** - Programme employment development in advance of new housing, wherever possible.

Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 27 and matrix 11. Graph **27** shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the Employment policies on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work. Their impacts on this objective are separated into six differing degrees; major positive, positive, uncertain, negative, major negative and no impact

## Graph 27



Option A demonstrates high short, medium and long term no impact effects, with negative and uncertain effects also present. Option B shows the same no impact and negative results as option A, however major negative results are also evident. Option C again shows similar no impact effects however it also displays positive effects which are slightly higher in the medium term. Option D has lower no impact effects and a greater proportion of major positive effects in the short-long terms.

Matrix 11 Illustrating the performance of the SEA Objectives against the Employment Options

Issues and Options	SEA Objective 1			SEA Objective 2			SEA Objective 3			SEA Objective 4			SEA Objective 5			SEA Objective 6			SEA Objective 7			SEA Objective 8		
	Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent		
	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
Employment																								
Option A - No jobs figure to be included, as it is too difficult to accurately provide for such a figure.																								
Option B – Provide no details of the general locations, as it is unrealistic to plan for employment development in excess of ten years in advance.																								
Option C – Allocate a total number of jobs to be created in the District. It will specify areas within the District and their share of the overall total.																								
Option D - Programme employment development in advance of new housing, wherever possible.																								

SEA Objective 9			SEA Objective 10			SEA Objective 11			SEA Objective 12			SEA Objective 13			SEA Objective 14			SEA Objective 15		
Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent		
Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
Option A - No jobs figure to be included, as it is too difficult to accurately provide for such a figure.																				
Option B – Provide no details of the general locations, as it is unrealistic to plan for employment development in excess of ten years in advance.																				
Option C – Allocate a total number of jobs to be created in the District. It will specify areas within the District and their share of the overall total.																				
Option D - Programme employment development in advance of new housing, wherever possible.																				

No Effect	
Major Positive	
Positive	
Uncertain	
Negative	
Major Negative	

## **Good Design and Design Statements**

As identified in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version, the following alternatives are considered realistic by the Council in regards to Good Design and Design Statements.

**Option A** - No emphasis on design, as the market will decide whether the product is acceptable

**Option B** – No emphasis on lifetime housing, as homeowners can make changes in future years

**Option C** – No emphasis on sustainable design, as Building Regulations will deliver sustainable homes.

**Option D** - Prescriptive design guidance within policy to ensure uniform design and high standards.

**Option E** - Push design statements to the fore of the planning application process

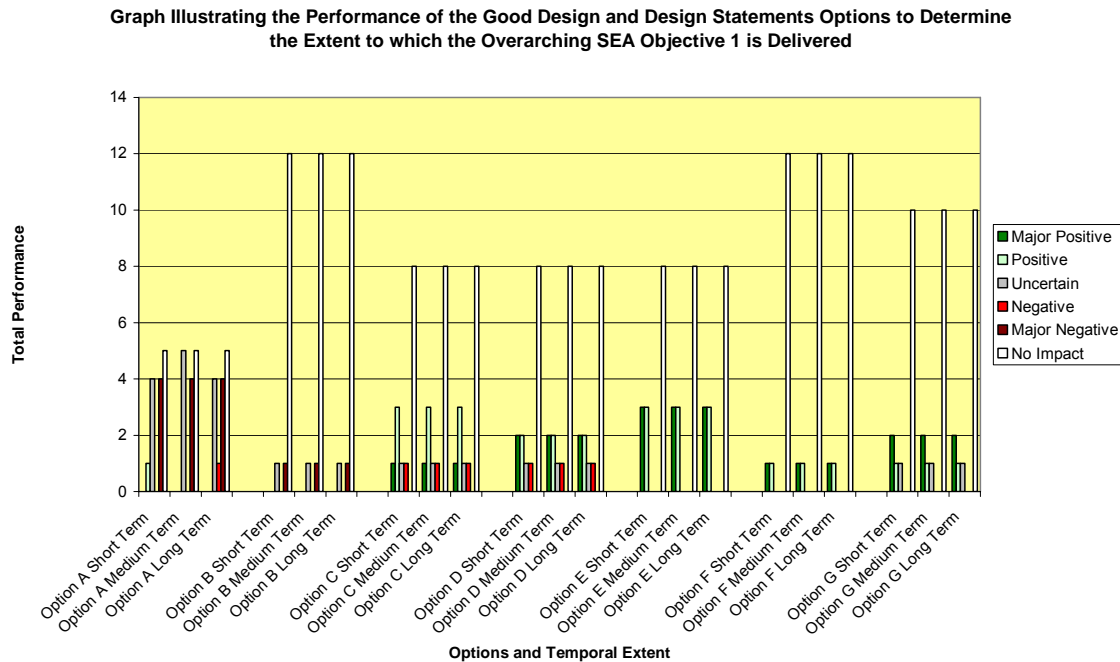
**Option F** - Require 25% of units provided on all housing sites over 10 units to meet a lifetime housing standard.

**Option G** - Require, as a starting point, at least compliance with the minimum standards, as set out in the Code for Sustainable Homes.

Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 28 and matrix 12. Graph **28** shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the Good Design and Design Statements policies on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work. Their impacts on this objective are separated into six differing degrees; major positive, positive, uncertain, negative, major negative and no impact

Graph 28



Option A reveals high major negative, no impact and uncertain effects. Option B has lower uncertainty and major negative effects but has higher no impact results. Option C displays high no impact effects but positive effects are apparent. Option D exhibits a high no impact effect, and although there are major positive and positive effects, there are also negative ones. Option E again shows a strong no impact result but with a higher major positive and positive effect than previous options. Option F shows a very high no impact result. In comparison to options D and E the quantity of major positive and positive effects is less. Option G demonstrates a slightly lower no impact effect, as well as major positive and positive results.



Matrix 12 illustrating the performance of the SEA Objectives against the Good Design and Design Statement Options

Issues and Options	SEA Objective 1			SEA Objective 2			SEA Objective 3			SEA Objective 4			SEA Objective 5			SEA Objective 6			SEA Objective 7			SEA Objective 8		
	Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent		
	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
Good Design and Design Statements																								
Option A - No emphasis on design, as the market will decide whether the product is acceptable																								
Option B – No emphasis on lifetime housing, as homeowners can make changes in future years																								
Option C – No emphasis on sustainable design, as Building Regulations will deliver sustainable homes.																								
Option D - Prescriptive design guidance within policy to ensure uniform design and high standards.																								
Option E - Push design statements to the fore of the planning application process																								
Option F - Require 25% of units provided on all housing sites over 10 units to meet a lifetime housing standard.																								
Option G - Require, as a starting point, at least compliance with the minimum standards, as set out in the Code for Sustainable Homes.																								

Good Design and Design Statements																								
Option A - No emphasis on design, as the market will decide whether the product is acceptable																								
Option B – No emphasis on lifetime housing, as homeowners can make changes in future years																								
Option C – No emphasis on sustainable design, as Building Regulations will deliver sustainable homes.																								
Option D - Prescriptive design guidance within policy to ensure uniform design and high standards.																								
Option E - Push design statements to the fore of the planning application process																								
Option F - Require 25% of units provided on all housing sites over 10 units to meet a lifetime housing standard.																								
Option G - Require, as a starting point, at least compliance with the minimum standards, as set out in the Code for Sustainable Homes.																								

Key of Effects	
No Effect	
Major Positive	
Positive	
Uncertain	
Negative	
Major Negative	

## **Character of Place**

As identified in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version, the following alternatives are considered realistic by the Council in regards to Character of Place.

**Option A** - No emphasis on character of place, as over-emphasis will lead to pattern book designing and a lack of innovation.

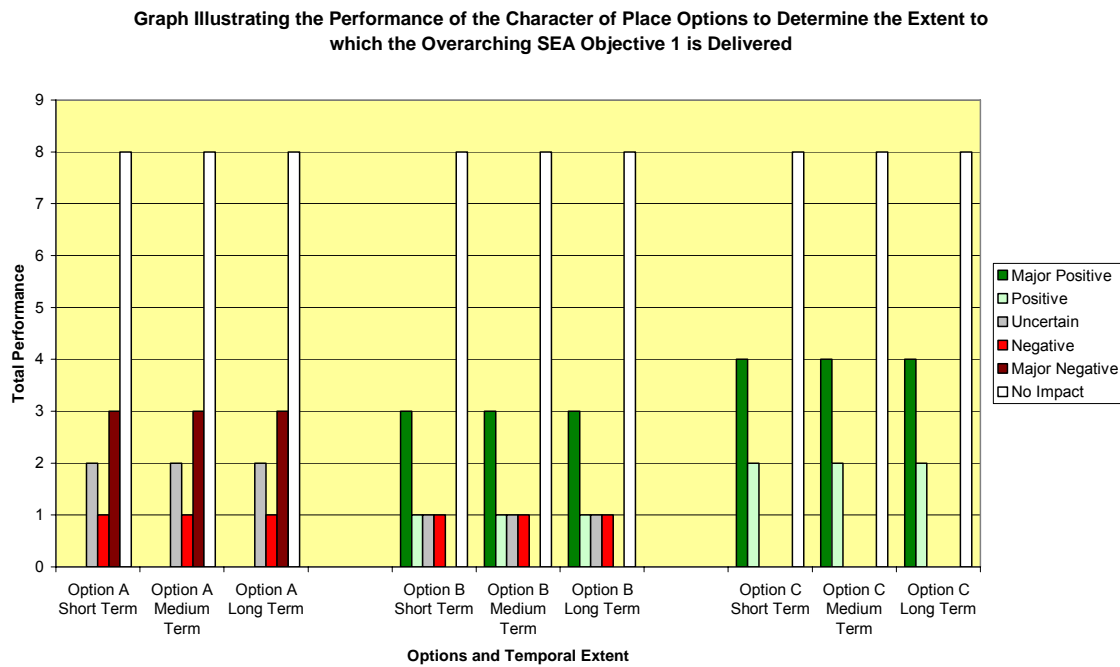
**Option B** – Prescriptive design guidance within policy to ensure uniform design and high standards

**Option C** – Protection of the District's identity and ensuring that new development respects the local character.

Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 29 and matrix 13. Graph **29** shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the Compulsory Purchase policies on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work. Their impacts on this objective are separated into six differing degrees; major positive, positive, uncertain, negative, major negative and no impact

**Graph 29**



Graph 29 demonstrates that option A has a high amount of no impact, major negative and negative results. Similarly option B exhibits a high concentration of no impact results however unlike option A major positive effects are evident. Option C has the greatest concentration of major positive and positive effects although there is still a high concentration of no impact effects evident.

Matrix 13 illustrating the performance of the SEA Objectives against the Character of Place Options

Issues and Options		SEA Objective 1			SEA Objective 2			SEA Objective 3			SEA Objective 4			SEA Objective 5			SEA Objective 6			SEA Objective 7			SEA Objective 8		
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent		
		Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
<b>Character of Place</b>																									
<b>Option A</b> - No emphasis on character of place, as over-emphasis will lead to pattern book designing and a lack of innovation.																									
<b>Option B</b> – Prescriptive design guidance within policy to ensure uniform design and high standards																									
<b>Option C</b> – Protection of the District's identity and ensuring that new development respects the local character.																									

Issues and Options		SEA Objective 9			SEA Objective 10			SEA Objective 11			SEA Objective 12			SEA Objective 13			SEA Objective 14			SEA Objective 15			Key of Effects	
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent				
		Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long		
<b>Character of Place</b>																							No Effect	
<b>Option A</b> - No emphasis on character of place, as over-emphasis will lead to pattern book designing and a lack of innovation.																							Major Positive	
<b>Option B</b> – Prescriptive design guidance within policy to ensure uniform design and high standards																							Positive	
<b>Option C</b> – Protection of the District's identity and ensuring that new development respects the local character.																							Uncertain	
																							Negative	
																							Major Negative	

## Landscaping

As identified in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version, the following alternatives are considered realistic by the Council in regards to the Landscaping:

**Option A** - No emphasis on landscaping, as this is not a major part of the development. In any event it can be tackled through the use of conditions.

**Option B** – Continue determining landscaping details post-application and through enforcement work.

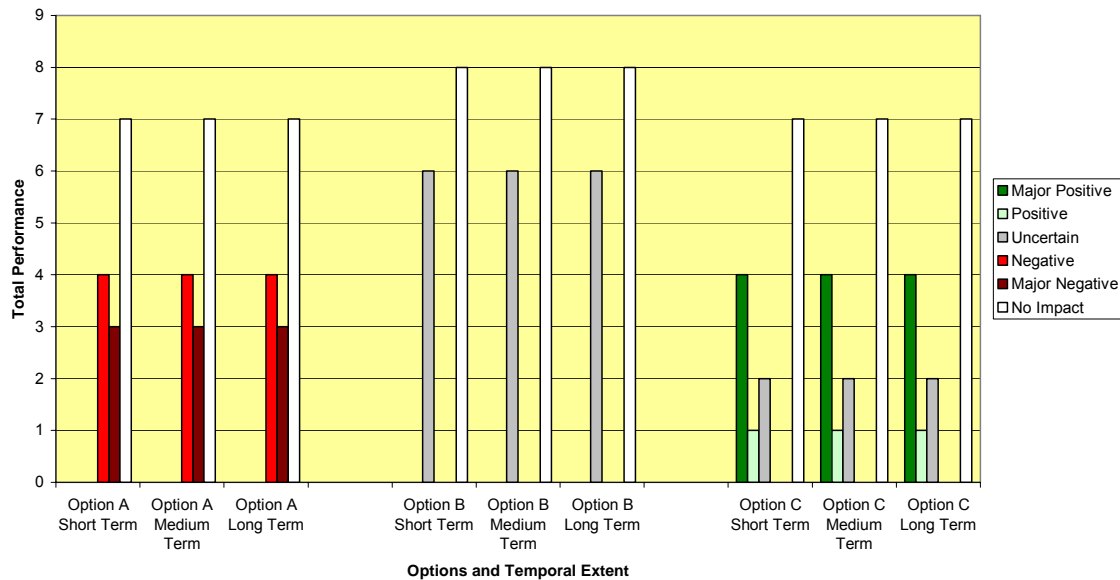
**Option C** – Push landscaping details to the fore of the planning application process and making them a prerequisite for determination for certain application types.

Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 30 and matrix 14. Graph **30** shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the Landscaping policies on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work. Their impacts on this objective are separated into six differing degrees; major positive, positive, uncertain, negative, major negative and no impact.

## Graph 30

Graph Illustrating the Performance of the Landscaping Options to Determine the Extent to which the Overarching SEA Objective 1 is Delivered



Graph 30 illustrates that option A shows a strong major negative and negative effect, accompanied by an even greater proportion of no impacts. Option B, shows a similar no impact effect, however it also demonstrates a high degree of uncertainty. Option C, similarly to options A and B contains a high concentration of no impacts but major positive effects are also evident.

**Matrix 14 illustrating the performance of the SEA Objectives against the Landscaping Options:**

Issues and Options		SEA Objective 1			SEA Objective 2			SEA Objective 3			SEA Objective 4			SEA Objective 5			SEA Objective 6			SEA Objective 7			SEA Objective 8			
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			
			Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long			
<b>Landscaping</b>																										
<b>Option A</b> – No emphasis on landscaping , as this is not a major part of the development. In any event it can be tackled through the use of conditions.																										
<b>Option B</b> – Continue determining landscaping details post-application and through enforcement work.																										
<b>Option C</b> – Push landscaping details to the fore of the planning application process and making them a prerequisite for determination for certain application types.																										
Issues and Options		SEA Objective 9			SEA Objective 10			SEA Objective 11			SEA Objective 12			SEA Objective 13			SEA Objective 14			SEA Objective 15						
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent						
			Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long			
<b>Landscaping</b>																										
<b>Option A</b> – No emphasis on landscaping , as this is not a major part of the development. In any event it can be tackled through the use of conditions.																										
<b>Option B</b> – Continue determining landscaping details post-application and through enforcement work.																										
<b>Option C</b> – Push landscaping details to the fore of the planning application process and making them a prerequisite for determination for certain application types.																										
																									<b>Key of Effects</b>	
																									No Effect	
																									Major Positive	
																									Positive	
																									Uncertain	
																									Negative	
																									Major Negative	

## **Energy and Water Conservation**

As identified in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version, the following alternatives are considered realistic by the Council in regards to Energy and Water Conservation:

**Option A** – No emphasis on sustainable design, because this will be delivered through Building Regulations

**Option B** – Deliver carbon-neutral development, despite current difficulties in gaining and interpreting data

**Option C** – Ensure that new development promotes the development of environmentally efficient buildings and the use of energy efficient heating, lighting, cooling, ventilation and other powered systems, together with water conservation measures. Development policies will also reduce the need to travel and encourage the use of energy efficient transport.

**Option D** – Bring forward a policy requiring at least compliance with the minimum standards, as set out in the Code for Sustainable Homes.

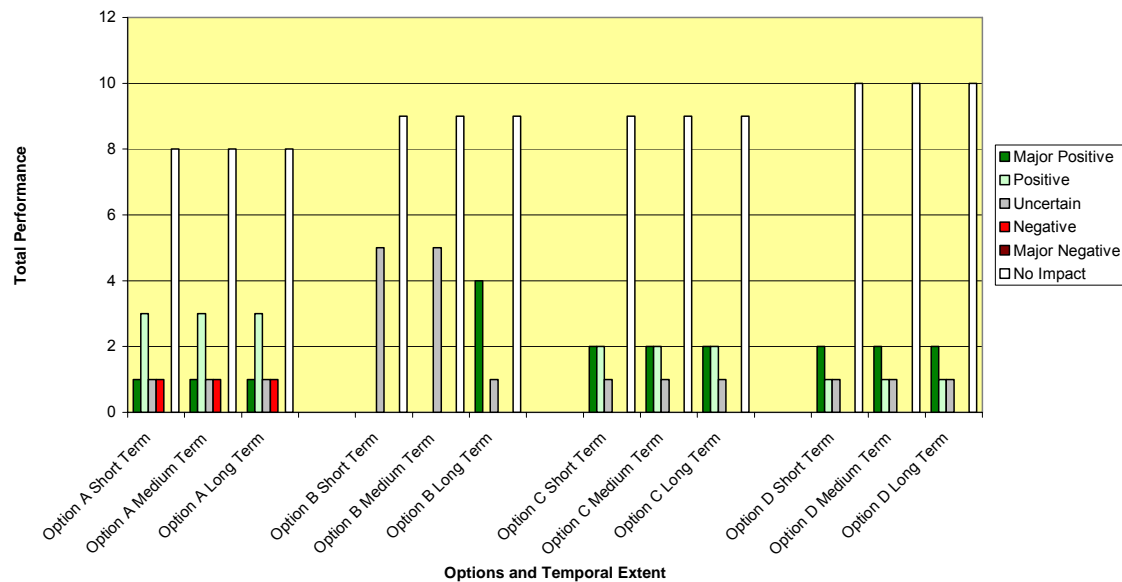
Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 31 and matrix 15. Graph **31** shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the Energy and Water Conservation policies on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work. Their impacts on this objective are separated into six differing degrees; major positive, positive, uncertain, negative, major negative and no impact.



**Graph 31**

**Graph Illustrating the Performance of the Energy and Water Conservation Options to Determine the Extent to which the Overarching SEA Objective 1 is Delivered**



In graph 31, option A appears to favour a strong no impact effect, with a positive effect also noticeable. Option B again shows a strong no impact result, however it also shows higher uncertain effect. Option C also shows a high no impact result, with major positive and positive effects also in evidence, and option D shows a higher no impact result than the previous options with major positive effects.

Matrix 15 illustrating the performance of the SEA Objectives against the Energy and Water Conservation Options

Issues and Options		SEA Objective 1			SEA Objective 2			SEA Objective 3			SEA Objective 4			SEA Objective 5			SEA Objective 6			SEA Objective 7			SEA Objective 8													
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent													
		Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long											
<b>Energy and Water Conservation</b>																																				
<b>Option A</b> - No emphasis on sustainable design, because this will be delivered through Building Regulations.																																				
<b>Option B</b> – Deliver carbon-neutral development, despite current difficulties in gaining and interpreting data.																																				
<b>Option C</b> – Ensure that new development promotes the development of environmentally efficient buildings and the use of energy efficient heating, lighting, cooling, ventilation and other powered systems, also reduce the need to travel and encourage the use																																				
<b>Option D</b> - Bring forward a policy requiring at least compliance with the minimum standards, as set out in the Code for Sustainable Homes.																																				
Issues and Options		SEA Objective 9			SEA Objective 10			SEA Objective 11			SEA Objective 12			SEA Objective 13			SEA Objective 14			SEA Objective 15			<b>Key of Effects</b> <table><tr><td>No Effect</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Major Positive</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Positive</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Uncertain</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Negative</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Major Negative</td><td></td></tr></table>		No Effect		Major Positive		Positive		Uncertain		Negative		Major Negative	
		No Effect																																		
		Major Positive																																		
Positive																																				
Uncertain																																				
Negative																																				
Major Negative																																				
Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent																		
Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long																
<b>Energy and Water Conservation</b>																																				
<b>Option A</b> - No emphasis on sustainable design, because this will be delivered through Building Regulations.																																				
<b>Option B</b> – Deliver carbon-neutral development, despite current difficulties in gaining and interpreting data.																																				
<b>Option C</b> – Ensure that new development promotes the development of environmentally efficient buildings and the use of energy efficient heating, lighting, cooling, ventilation and other powered systems, also reduce the need to travel and encourage the use																																				
<b>Option D</b> - Bring forward a policy requiring at least compliance with the minimum standards, as set out in the Code for Sustainable Homes.																																				

Key of Effects	
No Effect	
Major Positive	
Positive	
Uncertain	
Negative	
Major Negative	

## Renewable Energy

As identified in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version, the following alternatives are considered realistic by the Council in regards to Renewable Energy:

**Option A** – Push for any renewable energy uses in any location, despite possible landscape implications

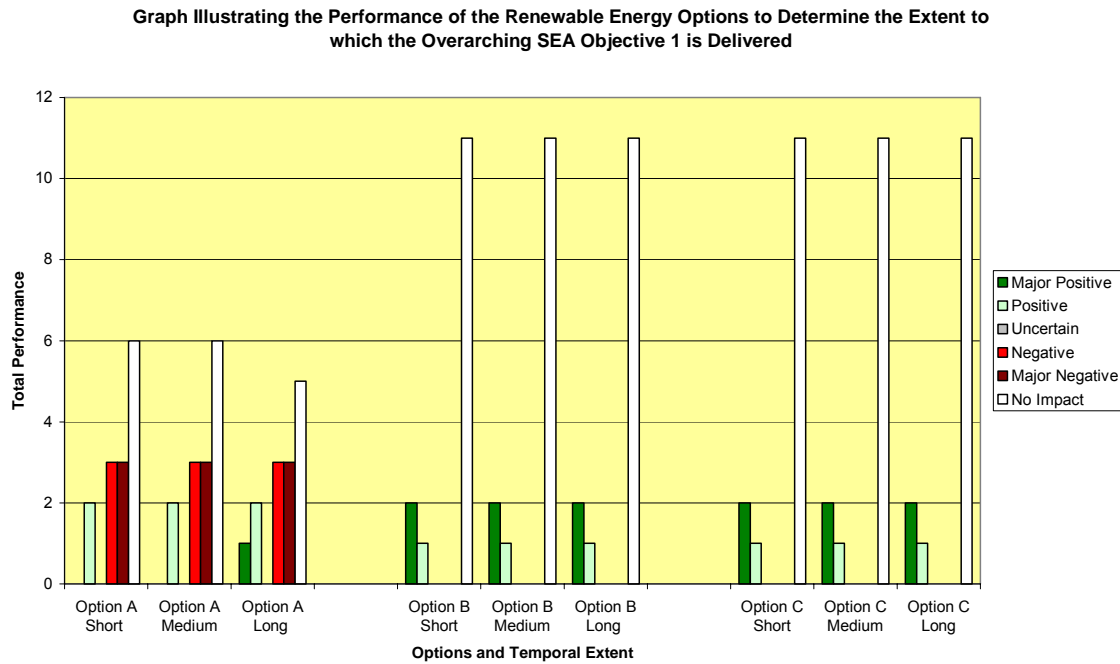
**Option B** – Set a threshold for development size or number before requiring renewable energy to be included

**Option C** – Require all new housing and employment development to include renewable energy provision. Details to be included with an application and not submitted subsequently.

Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 32 and matrix 16. Graph **32** shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the Green Belt and Strategic Gaps Between Settlements policies on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work. Their impacts on this objective are separated into six differing degrees; major positive, positive, uncertain, negative, major negative and no impact

**Graph 32**



Graph 32 shows that option A has major negative and negative effects as well as no impact. Option B however shows no major negative or negative effects, although it does show a high no impact effect result and Option C shows the same outcome as option B.

Matrix 16 illustrating the performance of the SEA Objectives against the Renewable Energy:

Issues and Options		SEA Objective 1			SEA Objective 2			SEA Objective 3			SEA Objective 4			SEA Objective 5			SEA Objective 6			SEA Objective 7			SEA Objective 8		
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent		
		Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
Renewable Energy																									
Option A - Push for any renewable energy uses in any location, despite possible landscape implications.																									
Option B – Set a threshold for development size or number before requiring renewable energy to be included																									
Option C – Require all new housing and employment development to include renewable energy provision. Details to be included with an application and not submitted subsequently.																									

Issues and Options		SEA Objective 9			SEA Objective 10			SEA Objective 11			SEA Objective 12			SEA Objective 13			SEA Objective 14			SEA Objective 15		
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent		
		Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long
Renewable Energy																						
Option A - Push for any renewable energy uses in any location, despite possible landscape implications.																						
Option B – Set a threshold for development size or number before requiring renewable energy to be included																						
Option C – Require all new housing and employment development to include renewable energy provision. Details to be included with an application and not submitted subsequently.																						

No Effect	
Major Positive	
Positive	
Uncertain	
Negative	
Major Negative	

## **Compulsory Purchase**

As identified in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version, the following alternatives are considered realistic by the Council in regards to Compulsory Purchase:

**Option A** – No compulsory purchase policy and attempt to use the legislation if required.

**Option B** – Designate specific potential compulsory purchase sites, despite blight implications.

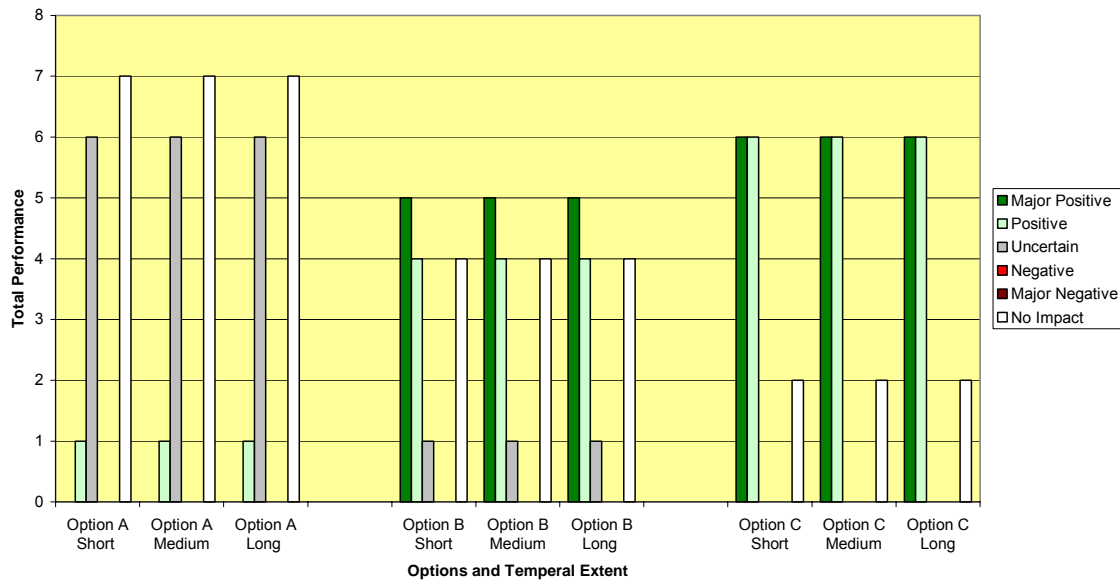
**Option C** – Set the framework to ensure that employment, residential, recreational and environmental enhancements for the district can be brought forward using compulsory purchase powers.

Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 33 and matrix 17. Graph **33** shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the Compulsory Purchase policies on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work. Their impacts on this objective are separated into six differing degrees; major positive, positive, uncertain, negative, major negative and no impact

**Graph 33**

**Graph Illustrating the performance of the Compulsory Purchase options to determine the extent to which the overarching SEA Objective 1 is delivered**



Graph 33 shows that option A has a high no impact and uncertain effect. Option B shows strong positive and major positive effects as well as a degree of no impact effects. Option C shows high major positive and positive effects. Unlike options A and B, this option shows no uncertain effects on the graph.

**Matrix 17 illustrating the performance of the SEA Objectives against the Compulsory Purchase Options**

Option Appraisal Summary of Performance																									
Issues and Options		SEA Objective 1			SEA Objective 2			SEA Objective 3			SEA Objective 4			SEA Objective 5			SEA Objective 6			SEA Objective 7			SEA Objective 8		
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent		
			Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long		
<b>Compulsory Purchase</b>																									
<b>Option A</b> – No compulsory purchase policy and attempt to use the legislation if required.																									
<b>Option B</b> – Designate specific potential compulsory purchase sites, despite blight implications.																									
<b>Option C</b> – Set the framework to ensure that employment, residential, recreational and environmental enhancements for the district can be brought forward using compulsory purchase powers.																									

Issues and Options		SEA Objective 9			SEA Objective 10			SEA Objective 11			SEA Objective 12			SEA Objective 13			SEA Objective 14			SEA Objective 15			Key of Effects		
		Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent			Performance - Temporal Extent					
			Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long	Short	Medium	Long		
<b>Compulsory Purchase</b>																									
<b>Option A</b> – No compulsory purchase policy and attempt to use the legislation if required.																									
<b>Option B</b> – Designate specific potential compulsory purchase sites, despite blight implications.																									
<b>Option C</b> – Set the framework to ensure that employment, residential, recreational and environmental enhancements for the district can be brought forward using compulsory purchase powers.																									

No Effect	
Major Positive	
Positive	
Uncertain	
Negative	
Major Negative	



## **Community, Leisure and Tourism Facilities**

As identified in the Draft Core Strategy DPD Regulation 25 Version, the following alternatives are considered realistic by the Council in regards to Community, Leisure and Tourism Facilities:

**Option – A** – Protect the green belt without providing any further guidance, leaving it up to central government in its review of Planning Policy Guidance Note 2.

**Option – B** – Reduce protection of the green belt to allow for community, tourism and leisure facilities

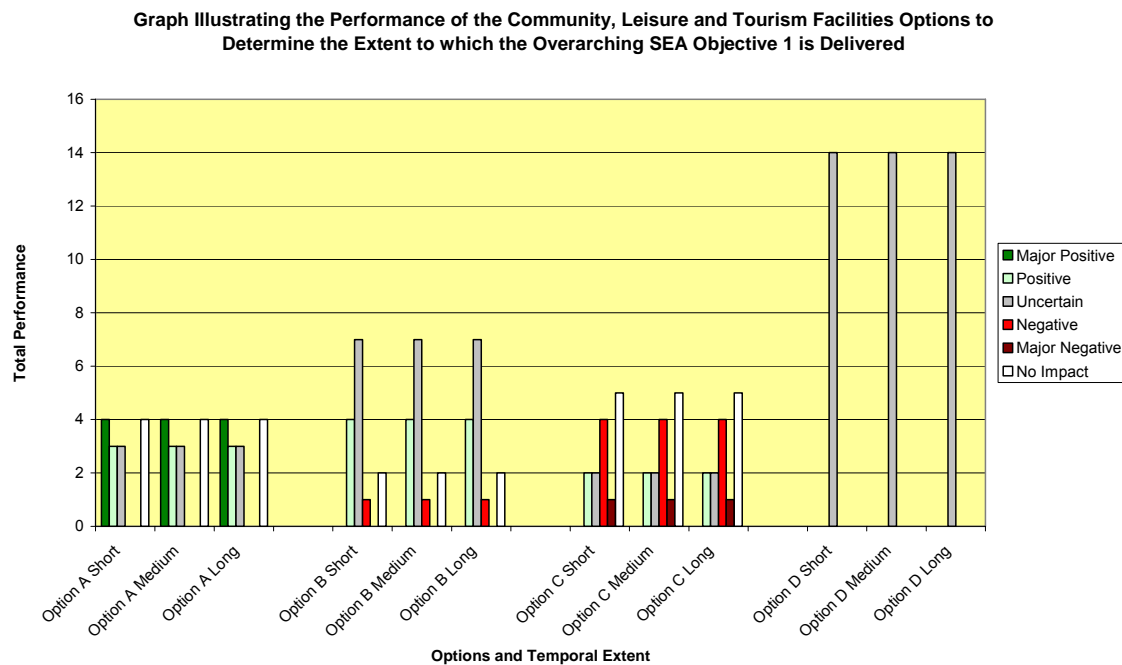
**Option – C** – No policy on this issue, as it is currently not a major factor in the district

**Option – D** – Provide a policy dealing with community, leisure and tourism proposals, which will provide clarity for developments, particularly within the Green Belt.

Detailed individual appraisals of each of these options and, where relevant, the policy implications can be found in the Technical Annex.

The outcome of this appraisal is outline in the graph 34 and matrix 18. Graph **34** shows the short, medium and long term effects of each of the Community, Leisure and Tourism Facilities policies on the overarching SEA objective to ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work. Their impacts on this objective are separated into six differing degrees; major positive, positive, uncertain, negative, major negative and no impact

**Graph 34**



Option A shows a consistent positive effect, uncertain effect and no impact, with no negative implications. Option B shows a minor negative element with a larger degree of uncertainty. Option C shows a larger negative effect and no impact whereas Option D shows has completely uncertain implications.

Matrix 18 illustrating the performance of the SEA Objectives against the Community, Leisure and Tourism Facilities

Options

Issues and Options	SEA Objective 1			SEA Objective 2			SEA Objective 3			SEA Objective 4			SEA Objective 5			SEA Objective 6			SEA Objective 7			SEA Objective 8		
	Performance - Short	Temporal - Medium	Extent - Long	Performance - Short	Temporal - Medium	Extent - Long	Performance - Short	Temporal - Medium	Extent - Long	Performance - Short	Temporal - Medium	Extent - Long	Performance - Short	Temporal - Medium	Extent - Long	Performance - Short	Temporal - Medium	Extent - Long	Performance - Short	Temporal - Medium	Extent - Long	Performance - Short	Temporal - Medium	Extent - Long
Community, Leisure and Tourism Facilities																								
Option A -Protect the green belt without providing any further guidance, leaving it up to central government in its review of Planning Policy Guidance Note 2.																								
Option B – Reduce protection of the green belt to allow for community, tourism and leisure facilities																								
Option C – No policy on this issue, as it is currently not a major factor in the district																								
Option D - Provide a policy dealing with community, leisure and tourism proposals, which will provide clarity for developments, particularly in the green belt																								

Issues and Options	SEA Objective 9			SEA Objective 10			SEA Objective 11			SEA Objective 12			SEA Objective 13			SEA Objective 14			SEA Objective 15			Key of Effects	
	Performance - Short	Temporal - Medium	Extent - Long	Performance - Short	Temporal - Medium	Extent - Long	Performance - Short	Temporal - Medium	Extent - Long	Performance - Short	Temporal - Medium	Extent - Long	Performance - Short	Temporal - Medium	Extent - Long	Performance - Short	Temporal - Medium	Extent - Long	Performance - Short	Temporal - Medium	Extent - Long		
Community, Leisure and Tourism Facilities																						No Effect	
Option A -Protect the green belt without providing any further guidance, leaving it up to central government in its review of Planning Policy Guidance Note 2.																						Major Positive	
Option B – Reduce protection of the green belt to allow for community, tourism and leisure facilities																						Positive	
Option C – No policy on this issue, as it is currently not a major factor in the district																						Uncertain	
Option D - Provide a policy dealing with community, leisure and tourism proposals, which will provide clarity for developments, particularly in the green belt																						Negative	
																						Major Negative	

## **Chapter 5   -   Monitoring Implementation of the Core Strategy**

## Chapter 5

### 5 Monitoring Implementation of the Core Strategy

The SEA Directive states that “Member States shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans and programmes in order, inter alia, to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects, and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action” (Article.10.1). Furthermore the Environmental Report shall include “a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring” (Annex 1 (i)). This Chapter aims to outline the monitoring framework for the Rochford District Council Core Strategy Regulation 25 Consultation.

Monitoring of the Rochford District Council Core Strategy Regulation 25 Consultation “allows the actual significant environmental effects of implementing the plan or programme to be tested against those predicted” (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, 2005, 39). The monitoring of the Rochford District Council Core Strategy Regulation 25 Consultation will aid in the identification of any problems that may arise during the Rochford District Council Core Strategy Regulation 25 Consultation implementation.

The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister published ‘Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents’ (November, 2005). This guidance demonstrates that the monitoring framework should consider the following;

- the time, frequency and geographical extent of monitoring (e.g. link to timeframes for targets, and monitoring whether the effects is predicted to be short, medium or long term);
- Who is responsible for the different monitoring tasks, including the collection processing and evaluation of social, environmental and economic information; and

- How to present the monitoring information with regard to its purpose and the expertise of those who will have to act upon the information (e.g. information may have to be presented in a form accessible to non-environmental specialists).

(Source; Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, 2005, 149)

The table 29 outlines the SEA monitoring framework for the Rochford District Council Core Strategy Regulation 25 Consultation significant effects.

**Table 29 - Rochford District Council Core Strategy Regulation 25 Consultation – Monitoring Framework**

SEA Objectives	Monitoring Activity	Targets	Responsible Authority	Temporal Extent (Frequency of Monitoring)	Presentation Format	Any Issues with the Monitoring
<p>1. Overarching Objective</p> <p>To ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people will want to live and work.</p>						
<p>2. Create safe environments where crime and disorder or fear of crime does not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion.</p>	<p><b>Monitor the number of domestic burglaries per 1,000 population.</b></p>	Context	Office of National Statistics	Annual	Tabulated	
	<p><b>Monitor the number of violent offences per 1,000 population.</b></p>	Context	Office of National Statistics	Annual	Tabulated	
	<p><b>Monitor the number of vehicle crimes per 1,000</b></p>	Context	Office of National Statistics	Annual	Tabulated	

	population.					
	Monitor incidents of vandalism per 1,000 population.	Context	Office of National Statistics	Annual	Tabulated	
	Monitor incidents of all crime per 1,000 population.	Context	Office of National Statistics	Annual	Tabulated	
	Percentage of residents surveyed who feel 'fairly safe' or 'very safe' during the day whilst outside in their local authority.	Context	Local Authority	Annual	Tabulated	May not currently collate this information



	<b>Indexes of Multiple Deprivation throughout the District</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>ODPM</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Tabulated</b>	
3. Protect and enhance the Greenbelt	<b>Monitor the type and number of applications permitted in the greenbelt.</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Tabulated /Mapped</b>	<b>May not be currently monitored.</b>

4. To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.	<b>Number of unfit homes per 1,000 dwellings.</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Tabulated</b>	<b>May not be currently monitored.</b>
	<b>Indices of Multiple Deprivation – Housing and Services Domain</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>DCLG</b>	<b>4 Years</b>	<b>Tabulated / Mapped</b>	

5). To promote town centre vitality and viability.	<b>The changing diversity of main town centre uses (by number, type and amount of floorspace).</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>DCLG</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Tabulated</b>	
	<b>The changing density of development</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Tabulated</b>	

6) To conserve and enhance the biological and geological diversity of the environment as an integral part of social, environmental and economic development.	<b>Net change in natural/semi natural habitats.</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Essex County Council</b>		<b>Tabulated</b>	
7) To promote more sustainable transport choices both for people and moving freight.	<b>Changes in the travel to Work mode of transport</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Learning Skills Council</b>		<b>Mapped / Graph</b>	

8) Promote accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling.	<b>Indices of Multiple Deprivation most notably the Housing and Services Domain.</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>DCLG</b>	<b>4 Years</b>	<b>Graph</b>	
9) To improve the education and skills of the population.	<b>Changing educational attainment at GCSE Level</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>National Statistics Online – Neighbourhood Statistics</b>		<b>Graph</b>	
	<b>Proportion of persons in the local population with a degree level qualification</b>					
10) To maintain and enhance the cultural heritage and assets within the District of Rochford.	<b>Buildings of grade I and II at risk of decay.</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Essex County Council</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Tabulated</b>	

11) To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes.	<b>To monitor the number of parks awarded Green Flag Status</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Tabulated</b>	<b>Dependent upon Local Authority applying for status.</b>
	<b>To monitor the number of landscape or built environment designations.</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Tabulated</b>	
12) To reduce contributions climatic change.	<b>Changes in the travel to Work mode of transport</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Learning Skills Council</b>		<b>Mapped / Graph</b>	
13) To improve water quality.	<b>Changing water quality.</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Environment Agency</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Mapped / Graph</b>	
14) To improve the air quality.	<b>AQMA designations or threshold designations</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>National Air Quality Management Centre</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Graph</b>	
15) To achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth.	<b>Percentage change in the total number of VAT registered</b>	<b>Context</b>		<b>Annual</b>	<b>Graph</b>	

	businesses in the area.					
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### **Further Mechanisms for Monitoring the Core Strategies Performance**

Rochford District Council may also monitor the success of the Core Strategy utilising the Annual Strategic Environmental Assessment Baseline Monitoring Reports formulated by Essex County Council as part of a Service Level Agreement.

## **Appendices**



## Annex 1:

### Review of the Plans and Programmes

#### Appendix 1 - Rochford District Council Core Strategy - Review of the Plans and Programmes

Plan/ Programme	Key objectives relevant to the plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Issues for consideration in SEA
<b>International</b>			
<b>European and international Sustainability Development Strategy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limit climate change and increase the use of clean energy.</li> <li>• Address threats to public health.</li> <li>• Manage natural resources more responsibly.</li> <li>• Improve the transport system and land use management.</li> </ul>	<p>* Each of the objectives has a set of headline objectives and also measures at the EU level.</p> <p>Headline Objectives;</p> <p>* The EU will meet its Kyoto commitment. Thereafter, the EU should aim to reduce atmospheric greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 1% per year over 1990 levels up to 2020.</p> <p>* The union will insist that the other major industrialised countries comply with their Kyoto targets. This is an indispensable step in ensuring the broader international effort needed to limit global warming and adapt to its effects.</p> <p>* Break the link between economic growth, the use of resources and the generation of waste.</p> <p>* Protect and restore habitats and natural systems and halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010...</p>	All developments should be designed to be compliant with the broad guidelines and targets stipulated in the European and International Sustainability Development Strategy.
<b>European Spatial Development</b>	Spatial development policies promote sustainable development of the EU through a balanced spatial structure;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive information at the international level that may be used for the baseline data.</li> </ul>	Ensure that, as they develop, urban and rural areas are interlinked. Transportation should be sustainable in nature where

<b>Perspective (May, 1999)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of a balanced and polycentric urban system and a new urban-rural relationship;</li> <li>• Securing parity of access to infrastructure and knowledge; and</li> <li>• Sustainable development, prudent management and protection of nature and cultural heritage.</li> </ul>		possible and should be accessible by all.
<b>European Community Biodiversity Strategy</b>	* Anticipate, prevent and attack the causes of significant reduction or loss of biological diversity at the source.	* No relevant targets.	Ensure that environmental mitigation measures form part of any development where relevant.

<b>Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice</b>  <b>The Sixth Environment Action Programme of the European Community</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tackle climate change,</li> <li>• Protect nature and wildlife,</li> <li>• Address environment and health issues,</li> <li>• Preserve natural resources and manage waste.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 8% compared with 1990 levels by 2008 – 12 (as agreed at Kyoto);</li> <li>* Reduce global emissions by approximately 20-40% on 1990 levels 2020;</li> <li>* Tackle the long term goal of a 70% reduction in emissions set by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.</li> </ul> <p>Reduce the quantity of waste going to final disposal by 20% on 2000 levels by 2010 and in the order of 50% by 2050.</p>	<p>All developments should be designed with consideration of Green Issues.</p>
<b>Draft European Constitution 2003</b>	<p>Aid to promote culture and heritage conservation where such aid does not affect trading conditions and competition in the Union to an extent that is contrary to the common interest. (Sub-section 2 Aid Granted To Member States Article III-167 paragraph 3d)</p> <p>Action by the Union shall be aimed at encouraging cooperation between Member States and, if necessary, supporting and complementing their action in the following area: Conservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage of European significance. (Adapted from Section 3. Culture. Article III-280 paragraph 2b).</p>		<p>Conservation and the safeguarding of cultural heritage should be paramount when designing new development. The only caveat to this is that trading conditions and competition in the Union should not be compromised to an extent which is contrary to common interest.</p>
<i>European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological</i>	<p>To seek to reconcile and combine the respective requirements of archaeology and development plans by ensuring that archaeologists participate in planning policies designed to ensure well-</p>		<p>Archaeologists and town / regional planners will need to liaise during the planning process to ensure the respective requirements of archaeology and development plans are taken into account.</p>

<p><i>Heritage (Revised)</i></p> <p><b>Valetta, 16.1.1992</b></p>	<p>balanced strategies for the protection, conservation and enhancement of sites of archaeological interest in the various stages of development schemes.</p> <p>This is to ensure that archaeologists, town and regional planners systematically consult one another in order to permit the modification of development plans likely to have adverse effects on the archaeological heritage to ensure that environmental impact assessments and the resulting decisions involve full consideration of archaeological sites and their settings. (Adapted from Article 5 - Integrated conservation of the archaeological heritage).</p>		
<b>National</b>			
<p><b>PPS1; Delivering Sustainable Development</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making suitable land available for development in line with economic, social and environmental objectives to improve people's quality of life;</li> <li>• Contributing to sustainable economic development;</li> <li>• Protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment, the quality and character of the countryside, and existing communities;</li> </ul> <p>Ensuring high quality development through good and inclusive design, and the efficient use of resources; ensuring that development supports existing</p>	<p>Indicators;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessibility for all members of the community to jobs, health, housing, education, shops, leisure and community facilities.</li> </ul> <p>Target;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development policies should avoid unnecessary detail and should concentrate on guiding overall scale, density, massing, height, landscape, layout and access of new development in relation to neighbouring buildings.</li> </ul>	<p>Make suitable land available for development in line with economic, social and environmental objectives to improve people's quality of life.</p> <p>All development will need to either protect or enhance the natural and historic environment where applicable. New development will also have to be integrated into existing urban form.</p> <p>Development should display high quality design and it is imperative that efficient use is made of resources to create safe and</p>

	<p>communities and contributes to the creation of safe, sustainable, liveable and mixed communities with good access to jobs and key services for all members of the community.</p> <p>Design;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be integrated into the existing urban form and the natural and built environments;</li> <li>• Respond to their local context and create or reinforce local distinctiveness;</li> <li>• Are visually attractive as a result of good architecture and appropriate landscaping.</li> </ul> <p>Maintain and improve the local environment and help to mitigate the effects of declining environmental quality through positive policies on issues such as design, conservation and the provision of public space. (Para 18)</p> <p>Create safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder or fear of crime does not undermine quality of life or community cohesion; and respond to their local context and create and reinforce local distinctiveness.</p> <p>New design is visually attractive as a result of good architecture and appropriate landscaping. (Adapted from Para 36)</p> <p>Planning policies should seek to protect</p>		<p>sustainable communities with good access to jobs and services for all.</p>
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	<p>and enhance the quality, character and amenity value of the countryside and urban areas as a whole. A high level of protection should be given to most valued townscapes and landscapes, wildlife habitats and natural resources. (Para 17)</p> <p>Planning authorities should plan positively for the achievement of high quality and inclusive design for all development, including individual buildings, public and private spaces and wider area development schemes.</p> <p>Design which is inappropriate in its context, or which fails to take the opportunities available for improving the character and quality of an area and the way it functions, should not be accepted.</p> <p>Good design should be integrated into the existing urban form and the natural and built environments.</p>	<p>No applications to be approved where it is considered that the design is inappropriate in its context or fails to improve the quality or functionality of the area.</p>	<p>Applications for development which is inappropriate in its context or fails to improve the quality or functionality of the area will not be approved.</p>
<b>PPG2; Green Belts</b>	<p>Provided that it does not result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the <b>original</b> building, the extension or alteration of dwellings is not inappropriate in Green Belts.</p> <p>Development plans should make clear the approach local planning authorities will take, including the circumstances (if any) under which replacement dwellings are</p>	<p>The essential characteristic of Green Belts is their permanence. Their protection must be maintained as far as can be seen ahead. (para 2.1)</p>	<p>Thought must be given to the aesthetic and designated use of any development proposed within the Green Belt. Development should not be permitted unless it falls into 1 of the categories highlighted in PPG2 paragraph 3.4.</p> <p>Re-development of existing buildings must be in keeping with surroundings and constructed with local building materials. Any planned increase to the size of the</p>

	<p>acceptable. (para 3.6)</p> <p>The form, bulk and general design of buildings are to be in keeping with their surroundings. (Conversion proposals may be more acceptable if they respect local building styles and materials, though the use of equivalent natural materials that are not local should not be ruled out). (para 3.8d)</p> <p>The visual amenities of the Green Belt should not be injured by proposals for development within or conspicuous from the Green Belt which, although they would not prejudice the purposes of including land in Green Belts, might be visually detrimental by reason of their siting, materials or design. (para 3.15)</p>		<p>development should not be disproportionate to the original building.</p> <p>The construction of new buildings inside a Green Belt is inappropriate unless it is for the following purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- agriculture and forestry (unless permitted development rights have been withdrawn - see paragraph D2 of Annex D);</li> <li>- essential facilities for outdoor sport and outdoor recreation, for cemeteries, and for other uses of land which preserve the openness of the Green Belt and which do not conflict with the purposes of including land in it (see paragraph 3.5 below);</li> <li>- limited extension, alteration or replacement of existing dwellings (subject to paragraph 3.6 below);</li> <li>- limited infilling in existing villages (under the circumstances described in the box following paragraph 2.11), and limited affordable housing for local community needs under development plan policies according with PPG3 (see Annex E, and the box following paragraph 2.11); or</li> <li>- limited infilling or redevelopment of major existing developed sites identified in adopted local plans, which meets the criteria in paragraph C3 or C4 of Annex C<sup>1</sup>. (para 3.4)</li> </ul>
<b>PPG3; Housing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New housing and residential environments should be well designed and should make a</li> </ul>	Indicator – Urban capacity identified in the Local Authorities Urban Capacity Studies.	The government is committed to maximising the re-use of Brownfield land and therefore development should be

	<p>significant contribution to promoting urban renaissance and improving the quality of life;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promote good design in new housing developments in order to create attractive, high-quality living environments in which people will choose to live;</li> <li>2. Create places and spaces with the needs of people in mind, which are attractive, have their own distinctive identity but respect and enhance local character;</li> <li>3. Promote designs and layouts which are safe and take account of public health, crime prevention and community safety considerations;</li> <li>4. Focus on the quality of the places and living environments being created and give priority to the needs of pedestrians rather than the movement and parking of vehicles;</li> <li>5. Avoid inflexible planning standards and reduce road widths, traffic speeds and promote safer environments for pedestrians;</li> <li>6. Promote the energy efficiency of new housing where possible;</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide wider housing opportunity and choice and a better mix in the size, type and location of housing than is currently available, and seek</li> </ul>	<p>Indicator;</p> <p>Local planning authorities should develop a shared vision with their local communities of the types of residential environments they wish to see in their area.</p> <p>Targets</p> <p>With exception of flats, new housing should have at least 50 sqm of usable garden space which is not directly overlooked by neighbouring properties;</p> <p>Rear gardens should be at least 10 metres in depth. This may be reduced if the developer can demonstrate that there is a benefit in designing wide frontage houses in which garden area would exceed 50 metres;</p> <p>Small north facing gardens should be developed;</p> <p>Flat developments should provide a reasonable amount of communal amenity space per unit of accommodation;</p> <p>By 2008 60% of additional housing should be provided on previously developed land and through conversions of existing buildings; and</p>	<p>concentrated within these areas whenever possible.</p> <p>Please see list of targets for the Governments' development guidelines.</p> <p>Provision for housing must be made for all within housing developments. New developments should have their own identity but respect and enhance local character. Layouts should be safe and take account of public health and crime prevention and priority should be given to the needs of pedestrians. Housing should also be designed to be energy efficient.</p>
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	<p>to create mixed communities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide sufficient housing land but give priority to re-using previously-developed land within urban areas, bringing empty homes back into use and converting existing buildings, in preference to the development of greenfield sites; and</li> <li>• Create more sustainable patterns of development by building in ways which exploit and deliver accessibility by public transport to jobs, education and health facilities, shopping, leisure and local services.</li> <li>• Seek to reduce car dependence by facilitating more walking and cycling, by improving linkages by public transport between housing, jobs, local services and local amenity, and by planning for mixed use; and</li> <li>• In locations, such as town centres, where services are readily accessible by walking, cycling or public transport;</li> <li>• The development can be designed sympathetically and laid out in keeping with the character of the village using such techniques as village design statements.</li> </ul>	<p>For new housing developments housing densities of 30-50 dwellings per hectare ensure land is utilised efficiently.</p>	<p>Development must be as sustainable as possible and built in a manner which delivers accessibility to jobs and key services by public transport, minimising the need for private car use.</p>
<b>PPG4;</b>	Encourage new development in locations		New industrial or commercial development

<p><b>Industrial, Commercial Development and Small Firms</b></p>	<p>which minimise the length and number of trips especially by motor vehicles;</p> <p>Encourage development in locations that can be served by more energy efficient modes of transport (this is particularly important in the case of offices, light industrial development and campus style developments such as science and business parks likely to have large numbers of employees);</p> <p>Discourage new development where it would be likely to add unacceptably to congestion;</p> <p>The characteristics of industry and commerce are evolving continuously, and many businesses can be carried on in rural and residential areas without causing unacceptable disturbance through increased traffic, noise, pollution or other adverse effects.</p> <p>In areas which are primarily residential, development plan policies should not seek unreasonably to restrict commercial and industrial activities of an appropriate scale - particularly in existing buildings - which would not adversely affect residential amenity</p> <p>Few firms, especially small ones, can afford to build their own premises, and developers who provide unit factories, offices and other premises suitable for small firms are contributing to the</p>		<p>must be designed with the viability of alternative forms of transport in mind. This is in order to reduce the chances of congestion and to promote sustainable forms of transportation.</p> <p>Commercial and industrial activities will be allowed in residential areas providing they are of an appropriate scale and do not affect residential amenity.</p> <p>Applications for speculative development should be considered on their land-use planning merits.</p>
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	expansion of the economy and of employment. Planning applications for speculative development should be considered on their land-use planning merits. (para.24)		
<b>PPS6; Planning for Town Centres</b>	<p>Key objective – Is to promote town centre vitality and viability by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting and enhancing existing centres, by focusing development in such centres and encourage a wide range of services in a good environment, accessible to all.</li> <li>• Enhancing consumer choice by making provision for a range of shopping, leisure and local services, which allow genuine choice to meet the needs of the entire community, and particularly socially-excluded groups;</li> <li>• Supporting efficient, competitive and innovative retail, leisure, tourism and other sectors, with improving productivity;</li> <li>• Improving accessibility, ensuring that existing or new development is, or will be accessible and well served by choice of means of transport.</li> <li>• To deliver more sustainable patterns of development, ensuring that locations are fully exploited through high density, mixed use development and promoting sustainable transport choices, including reducing the need to</li> </ul>	<p>Local Authorities are to collect information which may be utilised as key indicators;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diversity of main town centre uses (by number, type and amount of floorspace).</li> <li>• The amount of retail, leisure and office floorspace in edge-of-centre and out-of-centre Locations.</li> <li>• Pedestrian flows (footfall).</li> <li>• Accessibility</li> <li>• Customer and residents' views and behaviour.</li> <li>• Perception of safety and occurrence of crime.</li> <li>• State of the town centre environmental quality.</li> </ul>	<p>Promote town centre regeneration by enhancing consumer choice, improving accessibility, employing high density development practices and regenerating deprived areas.</p> <p>Promote high quality and inclusive design, improve the quality of the public realm and open spaces and protect and enhance the architectural and historic heritage of centres.</p> <p>Developments need to enhance consumer choice for all, making provision for a range of shopping, leisure and local services.</p> <p>Development needs to be of a sustainable nature, with services able to be accessed by forms of transport other than private car.</p> <p>Investment should be encouraged and promoted in deprived areas.</p>

	<p>travel and providing alternatives to car use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To promote social inclusion, ensuring that communities have access to a range of main town centre uses, and that deficiencies in provision in areas with poor access to facilities are remedied;</li> <li>• To encourage investment to regenerate deprived areas, creating additional employment opportunities and an improved physical environment;</li> <li>• To promote economic growth of regional, sub-regional and local economies;</li> <li>• To promote high quality and inclusive design, improve the quality of the public realm and open spaces, protect and enhance the architectural and historic heritage of centres, provide a sense of place and a focus for the community and for civic activity and ensure that town centres provide an attractive, accessible and safe environment for businesses, shoppers and residents.</li> </ul>		
<b>PPS7; Sustainable Development in Rural Areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning authorities should ensure that development respects and, where possible, enhances the rural area. It should also contribute to a sense of local identity and regional diversity and be of an appropriate</li> </ul>		<p>All rural developments need to be in keeping with the existing character and aesthetics.</p> <p>High-quality contemporary designs that are sensitive to their immediate setting should be championed.</p>

	<p>design and scale for its location;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning authorities should take a positive approach to innovative, high-quality contemporary designs that are sensitive to their immediate setting and help to make country towns and villages better places for people to live and work;</li> <li>Thriving, inclusive and sustainable rural communities, ensuring people have decent places to live by improving the quality and sustainability of local environments and neighbourhoods; and</li> </ul> <p>Continued protection of the open countryside for the benefit of all, with the highest level of protection for our most valued landscapes and environmental resources.</p>		<p>Improve the quality and sustainability of local environments and neighbourhoods.</p> <p>Enable the continued protection of the open countryside for the benefit of all.</p>
<b>Planning Policy Guidance 8 – telecommunications (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister)</b>	<p>Local Planning Authorities are encouraged to respond positively to telecommunications development proposals; they should take account of the advice on the protection of urban and rural areas.</p> <p>In Greenbelts, telecommunications development is likely to be inappropriate unless it maintains openness.</p> <p>Facilitate the growth of new and existing telecommunications systems whilst keeping impact to a minimum.</p>	N/A	<p>The SEA should seek to ensure that the SEA objectives aim to ensure that the principles related to telecommunications development are accounted for.</p>
<b>PPS9;</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To promote sustainable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The location of designated sites</li> </ul>	To promote sustainable development by

<b>Biodiversity and Geological Conservation</b>	<p>development by ensuring that biological and geological diversity are conserved and enhanced as an integral part of social, environmental and economic development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To conserve, enhance and restore the diversity of England's wildlife and geology.</li> <li>• To contribute to rural renewal and urban renaissance.</li> </ul> <p>Plan policies on the form and location of development should take a strategic approach to the conservation, enhancement and restoration of biodiversity and geology, and recognise the contributions that sites, areas and features, both Individually and in combination, make to conserving these resources (Para 1 (iii)).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where sites have significant biodiversity or geological interest of recognised local importance, local planning authorities, together with Developers, should aim to retain this interest or incorporate it into any development of the site (Para 13).</li> <li>• Development proposals provide many opportunities for building-in beneficial biodiversity or geological features as part of good design. When considering proposals, local planning authorities should maximise such opportunities in and around developments, using planning obligations where appropriate (Para 14).</li> </ul>	<p>of importance for biodiversity and geodiversity, making clear distinctions between the hierarchy of international, national, regional and locally designated sites;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify areas or sites for restoration or creation of new priority habitats which contribute to regional targets;</li> <li>• Quantity of use of previously developed land for new development (previously developed land makes a major contribution to sustainable development by reducing the amount of countryside and undeveloped land that needs to be used);</li> </ul>	<p>ensuring that biological and geological diversity are conserved and enhanced.</p> <p>Any new development should incorporate existing biodiversity or geological conservation. Planning obligations should be used where appropriate to ensure conservation in approved developments.</p>
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<b>PPS10; Planning for Sustainable Waste Management</b>	<p>* Ensure the provision of waste management facilities in appropriate locations.</p>	<p>PPS 10 states that as a minimum monitoring should include changes in the stock of waste management facilities, waste arising and the amounts of waste recycled, recovered or going for disposal (may be utilised as indicators or to derive targets).</p>	<p>Any new development must have adequate provision of waste facilities in appropriate locations.</p>
<b>PPG13; Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote more sustainable transport choices for both people and for moving freight.</li> <li>• Promote accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling.</li> <li>• Reduce the need to travel, especially by car.</li> <li>• Encourage the shared use of parking, particularly in town centres and as part of major proposals</li> <li>• Improving the attractiveness of urban areas and allowing efficient use of land;</li> </ul> <p>The objectives of this guidance are to integrate planning and transport at the national, regional, strategic and local level to:</p> <p>1. promote more sustainable transport choices for both people and for moving freight;</p>		<p>Any new development must contain or promote more sustainable and inclusive transport choices, reducing the need to use a private car.</p>

	<p>2. promote accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling, and 3. reduce the need to travel, especially by car. (para. 2)</p> <p>The car will continue to have an important part to play and for some journeys, particularly in rural areas, it will remain the only real option for travel. (para. 5)</p> <p>In rural areas, locate most development for housing, jobs, shopping, leisure and services in local service centres which are designated in the development plan to act as focal points for housing, transport and other services, and encourage better transport provision in the countryside. (para. 6 obj. 5)</p> <p>Allocate sites which are (or will be) highly accessible by public transport for travel intensive uses (including offices, retail, commercial leisure, hospitals and conference facilities), ensuring efficient use of land, but seek, where possible, a mix of uses, including a residential element; and allocate sites unlikely to be well served by public transport for uses which are not travel intensive. (para. 21)</p> <p>In rural areas... The objective should be to ensure that jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services are primarily sited at the most accessible locations in the local area, or where accessibility will be improved as a result of the local transport plan provision</p>		<p>It is recognised that the provision of public transport or pedestrian areas will not always be feasible.</p> <p>Development in rural areas should be centred on focal points in order to encourage better transport provision.</p> <p>Developments need to be easily accessible by a variety of transport types and should also be of a mixed use. This is particularly important for rural areas.</p>
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	or other measures that the local authority intends to take. (para. 40)		
<b>PPG14; Development on Unstable Land</b>	* Ensure that development is suitable and that the physical constraints on the land are taken into account.	* No relevant targets.	Ensure that development is suitable and that the physical constraints on the land are taken into account.
<b>PPG15; Planning and the Historic Environment.</b>	<p>In general it is better that old buildings are not set apart, but are woven into the fabric of the living and working community. They need to be carefully designed to respect their setting, follow fundamental architectural principles of scale, height, massing and alignment, and use appropriate materials (Para 2.15).</p> <p>Applicants for listed building consent will need to show why works which would affect the character of a listed building are desirable or necessary. They should provide the local planning authority with full information, to enable them to assess the likely impact of their proposals on the special architectural or historic interest of the building and on its setting.</p> <p>Special regard should be had for such matters as scale, height, form, massing, and respect for the traditional pattern of frontages, vertical or horizontal emphasis, and detailed design (e.g. the scale and spacing of window openings, and the nature and quality of materials).</p> <p>The GDO requires planning applications for certain types of development in conservation areas which are elsewhere classified as permitted development.</p>	<p>Number and percentage of regional strategies including benefits of historic environment</p> <p>Loss or damage to nationally and regionally important historic sites and features</p> <p>Proportion of region covered by historic landscape characterisation, backed by appropriate development plan policies</p> <p>Number and percentage of registered/designated historic assets covered by management plans</p> <p>Number of traditional building products available</p>	<p>New buildings do not have to copy their older neighbours in detail: some of the most interesting streets in our towns and villages include a variety of building styles, materials, and Forms of construction, of many different periods, but together forming a harmonious group (Para 2.14).</p> <p>Authorities are reminded that permitted development rights should not be restricted without good reason; but there will nevertheless be cases where it will be desirable to invoke this power to ensure that the immediate setting of a Listed building is protected when minor development is proposed (Para 2.20).</p> <p>Policies will need to be designed to allow the area to remain alive and prosperous, and to avoid unnecessarily detailed controls over businesses and householders, but at the same time to ensure that any new development accords with the area's special Architectural and historic interest (Para 4.16).</p> <p>The Courts have recently confirmed that planning decisions in respect of development proposed to be carried out in a</p>

	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• various types of cladding;</li> <li>• the insertion of dormer windows into roof slopes;</li> <li>• the erection of satellite dishes on walls, roofs or chimneys fronting a highway;</li> <li>• And the installation of radio masts, antennae or radio equipment housing with a volume in excess of two cubic metres (unless the development is carried out in an emergency).</li> </ul> <p>The size of house and industrial extensions that may be carried out without specific planning permission is also more restricted (Para 4.21).</p> <p>The Secretary of State will generally be in favour of approving directions in conservation areas where these are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• backed by a clear assessment of an area's special architectural and historic interest,</li> <li>• where the importance to that special interest of the features in question is established,</li> <li>• where the local planning authority can demonstrate local support for the direction, and</li> </ul>		<p>conservation area must give a high priority to the objective of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of the area. If any proposed development would conflict with that objective, there will be a strong presumption against the grant of planning permission, though in exceptional cases the presumption may be overridden in favour of development which is desirable on the ground of some other public interest (Para 4.19).</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where the direction involves the minimum withdrawal of permitted development rights (in terms of both area and types of development) necessary to achieve its objective (Para 4.23).</li> </ul> <p>New buildings should not directly imitate earlier styles, but should be designed with respect for their context, as part of a larger whole which has a well-established character and appearance of its own (Para 4.17).</p>		
<b>PPG 16; Archaeology and Planning</b>	The desirability of preserving an ancient monument and its setting is a material consideration in determining planning applications whether that monument is scheduled or unscheduled. Developers and local authorities should take into account archaeological considerations and deal with them from the beginning of the development control process (para 18).	Useful source for baseline data, indicators and potential target formation – Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME).	Developments in close proximity to areas of archaeological interest will either be severely mitigated or impossible.
<b>PPG17; Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve the quality of the public realm through good design;</li> <li>Provide areas of open space in commercial and industrial areas;</li> <li>Enhance the range and quality of existing facilities</li> <li>Encourage better accessibility of existing open spaces and sports and recreational facilities, taking account of the mobility needs in the local population;</li> </ul>	Local Authorities are required to undertake robust assessments of the existing and future needs of their communities for open space, sports and recreational facilities.	<p>Encourage better accessibility of existing open spaces and sports and recreational facilities, taking account of the mobility needs in the local population.</p> <p>Improve the quality of the public realm through good design.</p> <p>Provide areas of open space in commercial and industrial areas.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote accessibility by walking, cycling and public transport, and ensure that facilities are accessible for people with disabilities;</li> </ul>		
<b>PPG19: Outside Advertisement Control</b>	<p>The main purpose of the advertisement control system is to help everyone involved in the display of outdoor advertising to contribute positively to the appearance of an attractive and cared-for environment in cities, towns and the countryside. (Para. 2).</p> <p>The appearance of a good building can easily be spoiled by a poorly designed or insensitively placed sign or advertisement, or by a choice of advertisement materials, colour, proportion or illumination which is alien to the building's design or fabric. Too often, outdoor advertisements seem to have been added to a building as an afterthought, so that they appear brash, over-dominant or incongruous. (Para. 4).</p>	Number of advertisements or signs that are alien to the building's design or fabric.	<p>Ensure that the advertisement control system is deliverable at local authority level to help involved parties.</p> <p>The issues outlined in National Guidance concerning sensitive design practices are reflected in the SEA objectives.</p>
<b>PPG20; Coastal Planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve, protect and enhance natural beauty of the coasts, including their terrestrial, littoral and marine flora and fauna, and their heritage features of architectural, historical and archaeological interest.</li> <li>To facilitate and enhance the enjoyment, understanding and appreciation by the public of heritage coasts by improving and extending opportunities for recreational, educational, sporting</li> </ul>	Baseline data regarding the amount of development within the coastline and size of coastal sites.	<p>Ensure that new developments are sympathetic to existing coastal land uses and heritage features.</p> <p>New development should extend opportunities for either recreational, educational, sporting or tourist activities without detrimentally affecting the visual amenity or heritage of the area.</p>

	and tourist activities that draw on, and are consistent with conservation of their natural beauty and the protection of their heritage features.		
<b>PPG21; Tourism</b>	<p>The Government is committed to encouraging tourism in Britain while at the same time conserving those qualities in the environment that are a major attraction for tourism. Its policy is directed at securing a proper balance between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- maximising the economic and employment benefits that tourism can bring;</li> <li>- promoting geographical and seasonal spread of tourism;</li> <li>- encouraging the development of non-traditional destinations as well as the more popular visitor locations;</li> <li>- respecting the needs of the tourist industry and its customers;</li> <li>- safeguarding of the environment; and</li> <li>- protecting the interests of the communities that cater for its needs, but feel its effects. (Para. 3.13).</li> </ul> <p>Tourism benefits from a range of Government assistance made available to cultural, artistic and sporting activities; for the conservation and preservation of ancient monuments and historic buildings and the countryside and its wildlife; and to</p>		<p>New proposals should facilitate and encourage development and improvement in tourist provision</p> <p>The provision of geographical and seasonal tourism, encouragement of both non-traditional and traditional destinations needs to be tempered with a respect for the environment. Tourism which in itself respects the environment should be promoted where possible.</p>

	<p>help business development in areas of particular need. Conversely, these and many other activities benefit greatly from the income from tourists. (Para. 3.14)</p> <p>Four main principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- supporting the development of the industry in ways which contribute to, rather than detract from, the quality of the environment;</li> <li>- promoting the understanding of environmental quality concerns within the industry and of the need to improve the quality of its service and its products;</li> <li>- ensuring through the regional tourist boards and Training and Enterprise Councils that managers in tourism adopt visitor management techniques that can mitigate the impact on the environment;</li> <li>- encouraging those types of tourism which in themselves aim to safeguard the environment. (Para. 3.15)</li> </ul>		
<b>PPS22; Renewable Energy</b>	* Encourage the appropriate development of further renewable energy schemes.	* Government target set out in the Energy White Paper is that 'by 2010 we should generate 10% of electricity from renewable sources, with the aspiration that this increases to 20% by 2020'.	The possibility of incorporating relevant renewable energy sources should be considered in new developments at the design stage.
<b>PPS23; Planning and Pollution Control</b>	<p>Government objectives set out in DETR Circular 02/2000 Contaminated Land, these are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* to identify and remove unacceptable risks to human health and the environment;</li> <li>* to seek to bring damaged land back into beneficial use; and</li> </ul>	<p>The Kyoto Protocol agreed targets are outlined in PPS23, they include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* To reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5% below base year (1990) levels by 2008-2012.</li> <li>* Cut carbon dioxide emissions by 20%</li> </ul>	<p>New developments should seek to minimise the adverse effects of potentially polluting activities through good design practices.</p> <p>Damaged and Brownfield land should be sought as favourable locations for new development.</p>

	<p>* To seek to ensure that the cost burdens faced by individuals, companies and society as a whole are proportionate, manageable and economically sustainable.</p> <p>The overall aim of PPS23 is;</p> <p>* To ensure the sustainable and beneficial use of land (and in particular encouraging reuse of previously developed land in preference to Greenfield sites).</p> <p>* Ensure that polluting activities that are necessary for society and the economy minimise the adverse effects.</p>	<p>below 1990 levels by 2010.</p> <p>Energy White Paper Targets outlined;</p> <p>* Reduction of carbon dioxide emissions by 60% from current levels by 2050.</p> <p>Indicators may be derived from the – Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, published in 2000.</p>	
<b>PPG24; Planning and Noise</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise the impact of noise without placing unreasonable restrictions on development;</li> <li>planning conditions should be imposed to ensure that the effects of noise are mitigated as far as possible. For example, intervening buildings or structures (such -as garages) may be designed to serve as noise barriers; and</li> <li>Consideration of potential new development near major new or recently improved roads, the local planning authorities should ascertain forecast noise levels (eg over the next 15 years) with the assistance of the local highway authority.</li> </ul>	<p>* Contains Noise Exposure Categories.</p>	<p>Any new proposals should seek to mitigate, through measures such as noise barriers, any potential implications of noise that may arise from the development.</p>
<b>PPG25; Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce the risks to people and the developed and natural environment</li> </ul>	<p>Locations and indicators within the baseline data within this report.</p>	<p>Any developments that will/may because the provision and/or</p>

<b>and Flood Risk</b>	<p>from flooding;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developers should fund the provision and maintenance of flood defences that are required because of the development; and</li> <li>• Development needs to be of a design and with an appropriate level of protection to ensure that the risk of damage from flooding is minimised, while not increasing the risk of flooding elsewhere.</li> </ul>		<p>maintenance of flood defences must contain mitigation measures or funding provisions and be outlined at the proposal stage.</p>
<b>Securing the Future Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy (March, 2005)</b>	<p>Guiding principles for the 2005 UK Sustainable Development Strategy;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living within environmental limits.</li> <li>• Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society.</li> <li>• Achieving a sustainable economy.</li> <li>• Promoting good governance</li> <li>• Using sound science responsibly.</li> </ul>	<p>* Very comprehensive list of targets and indicators in chapter 7 of the document.</p>	<p>New developments should seek to create strong and sustainable communities.</p>
<b>ODPM By Design, Urban Design In The Planning System May 2000</b>	<p>Successful urban design depends on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ a clear framework provided by development plans and supplementary guidance delivered consistently, including through development control;</li> <li>▪ a sensitive response to the local context;</li> <li>▪ judgements of what is feasible in terms of economic and market conditions;</li> <li>▪ an imaginative and appropriate design approach by those who design development and the people who manage the planning process.</li> </ul>	<p>* No Targets / Indicators (Good urban design is rarely brought about by a local authority prescribing physical solutions, or by setting rigid or empirical design standards).</p>	<p>Any new developments should adhere to the design implications as stipulated in, '<i>By Design, Urban Design In The Planning System.</i>' ODPM May 2000.</p>



	<p>Good Design should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote character in townscape and landscape by responding to and reinforcing locally distinctive patterns of development, landscape and culture.</li> <li>• Promote the continuity of street frontages and the enclosure of space by development which clearly defines private and public areas.</li> <li>• promote public spaces and routes that are attractive, safe, uncluttered and work effectively for all in society, including disabled and elderly people</li> <li>• promote accessibility and local permeability by making places that connect with each other and are easy to move through, putting people before traffic and integrating land uses and transport</li> <li>• promote legibility through development that provides recognisable routes, intersections and landmarks to help people find their way around</li> <li>• promote adaptability through development that can respond to changing social, technological and economic conditions</li> <li>• promote diversity and choice through a mix of compatible developments and uses that work</li> </ul>		
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	<p>together to create viable places that respond to local needs</p> <p>(Adapted from pages 8-9; 14-15)</p>		
<p><b>ODPM Planning and Access For Disabled People 2003</b></p>	<p>Under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 it is unlawful for employers (where they employ more than 15 persons) and persons who provide services to members of the public to discriminate against disabled people by treating them less favourably for a reason related to their disability - or by failing to comply with a duty to provide reasonable adjustments....</p> <p>....this duty can require the removal or modification of physical features of buildings - provided it is reasonable. In deciding whether an adjustment is reasonable, both the costs and practicability of any adjustment and the financial resources of the employer or service provider would be considered. (paragraph 3.3.3)</p>	<p>Target: 100% of new developments to have inclusive disabled access design.</p>	<p>Developing an inclusive environment will have a substantial and positive effect on society as an estimated 20% of the adult population, some 11.7 million people, have a disability. According to the Institute for Employment Studies (1999) their estimated spending power is £51.3bn. (paragraph 3.2.1)</p> <p>This percentage is set to increase dramatically over the next few decades, as UK demographics shift towards an increasingly elderly population. Indeed, over the next 40 years, the number of people over 65 is set to rise by 40%, while the population as a whole is set to increase by only 7%. (paragraph 3.2.2)</p> <p>It is significantly more cost-effective to provide for inclusive access at the design stage than to make retrospective adjustments during the construction phase or after occupation. Additional costs can be marginalised or eliminated if inclusive design is considered at an early stage. (paragraph 3.3.3)</p>
<p><b>Disability Rights Commission: Briefing: Inclusive</b></p>	<p>Access Statements - By stating their intention and objectives to make their building inclusive and accessible, the client will be easing the passage of their project through the various statutory control</p>	<p>Target: 100% of new developments must be designed to have inclusive disabled access.</p>	<p>Developers should state their intention to make their building(s) inclusive and accessible and similarly stating their objectives and intentions to make their developments accessible.</p>

<b>Design – Creating Inclusive Environments.</b>	<p>mechanisms and compiling a body of evidence about how they have sought to ensure their premises will be accessible to disabled people and all other users. The access statement will be of particular significance in relation to alterations to existing buildings.</p> <p>By preparing an access statement, the building owner or service provider will demonstrate that they have fully considered the access requirements of disabled people and have described how they intend to meet them. (paragraph 5.16)</p>		
<b>Disability Rights Commission Access Statements, Achieving an inclusive environment by ensuring continuity throughout the planning, design and management of buildings and spaces 2005</b>	<p>An Inclusive Environment does not, and cannot, attempt to meet every need of every individual who will use it. However, it should consider people's diversity and minimise unnecessary barriers and exclusions, something which will often benefit society as a whole. It should certainly address the fact that many people currently remain unnecessarily 'disabled' by the design and management of existing environments.</p> <p><b>A fully inclusive built environment is one which:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides equitable access</li> <li>• Allocates appropriate space for people</li> <li>• Ensures ease of use, comprehension and understanding</li> <li>• Requires minimal stress, physical strength and effort</li> <li>• Achieves safe, comfortable and healthy environments</li> </ul>	<p>Target: 100% of new developments to be designed for inclusive disabled access.</p>	<p>All new developments must be as fully inclusive as possible, adhering to the guidance laid down by the Disability Rights Commission.</p>

<b>DDA Codes of Practice and Part M of the Building Regulations</b>	Please see Appendix 4.	<i>See above</i>	Please see Appendix 4.
<b>'Secured by Design' ACPO CPI June 2004</b>	<p>The government recognises that much deeper emphasis needs to be placed on the quality of design and planning. Designing for community safety is a central part of this, and the core principles apply not only to residential but also to other forms of development. (Para 1.1)</p> <p>Secured by Design aims to achieve a good overall standard of security for buildings and for the private and public spaces around them. Through the introduction of appropriate design features that facilitate natural surveillance and create a sense of ownership and responsibility for every part of the development, criminal and anti-social behaviour within the curtilage of grounds of an estate can be deterred. (Para. 1.10)</p> <p>These design features include secure vehicle parking, adequate lighting of communal areas, fostering a sense of ownership of the local environment, control of access to individual and common curtilages, defensible space, and landscape design supporting natural surveillance and safety. (Para. 1.10)</p> <p>Vehicular and pedestrian access routes</p>	<p>The number of criminal offences and recordings of anti-social behaviour in <i>Secured by Design</i> developments in comparison to those without Secured by Design initiatives in place.</p> <p>The perceived level of criminal activity and anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime by residents in comparison to the residents of other developments.</p>	<p>Design issues including lighting, vehicle parking, ownership of the local environment and landscape design are all referred to within SEA objectives and will be appraised against objectives of design that are sensitive to their immediate setting in the compatibility section of the SEA.</p> <p>Secured by Design initiatives conform with the SEA and national objective of creating "attractive, high quality living environments in which people will choose to live." (PPG3 para 2)</p> <p>The incorporation of (Secured by Design) footpaths and cycleways into developments are relevant to SEA objectives regarding sustainable transport methods and their promotion, as well as those regarding public health and safety.</p> <p>Landscaping and planting (and buffering) are relevant to incorporating open space and biodiversity into developments; a key consideration for SEA.</p> <p>Issues of incorporating improved lighting into developments has SEA implications concerning building and heritage conservation.</p>

	<p>are often problematic from a crime deterrent point of view, and the planning issues can be challenging to resolve...in the interests of good urban planning, new development must provide adequate access to meet functional and recreational needs...however, multiple footpaths and points of access can make crime easier to commit by providing a choice of alternative escape routes from the scene of the crime. Careful attention to the disposition and design of access, and in some cases limiting the means of access to developments and to buildings, can assist in reducing opportunities for crime.</p> <p>Roads to groups of buildings should be designed to create a sense of identity, privacy and shared ownership.</p> <p>Footpaths and cycleways should only be provided if they are likely to be well used.</p> <p>The position of planting and choice of species should be such that hiding places are not created. Thorny species of shrub can help to deter intruders.</p> <p>Footpaths and cycleways should be lit up in built areas, except where the route is passing through woodland or an ecologically sensitive area, in which case an alternative lit route should be made available, such as a footway alongside a road.</p> <p>Property boundaries, particularly those at</p>		
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	<p>the side and rear, which adjoin public land, need to be secure. Windows should not provide easy access from public land. A substantial buffer planted on the outside of the fence line may help to discourage intruders.</p> <p>Improved lighting can be effective in reducing fear of crime, and in certain circumstances reducing the incidence of crime. However, different lighting sources need to be considered for different environments – the character of the local environment must always be respected.</p>		
<b>Regional</b>			
<b>Draft Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England (RSS14) (December, 2004)</b>	<p>Local development documents may make provision for development in or adjacent to urban areas where the scale and location of the release:</p> <p>1 will not adversely affect the need to make maximum use of previously developed land and buildings and efforts to deliver sub-regional urban renaissance in accordance with the sequential approach and phased release of land, and</p> <p>2 if greenfield, represents the most sustainable option by virtue of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• existing access to good quality public transport, or where the development can assist new public transport provision</li> <li>• utilising existing physical and social infrastructure</li> <li>• having good access to housing, jobs,</li> </ul>	<p>Increase the net number of dwelling completions in or adjacent to urban areas (Policy SS3)</p> <p>Annual housing completions and housing commitments by region, district/unitary planning area at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• larger urban areas (over 50,000 population at 2001) <i>(and split into (a) policy SS2 settlements and (b) others)</i></li> <li>• other large urban areas (between 25,000 and 50,000 population at 2001)</li> <li>• urban areas (between 3,000 and 25,000 population at 2001)</li> <li>• Smaller settlements (less than 3,000 population at 2001)</li> <li>• <i>% of all housing, business and retail development at key centres named in</i></li> </ul>	<p>Development should be concentrated in urban areas where possible, although provision exists for development outside of these areas.</p>

	<p>schools, shopping and leisure facilities</p> <p>Greenfield land releases should be appropriate in scale to the adjoining urban area.</p> <p>Significant urban extensions should be large enough to provide a sustainable form of development, in relation to employment, public transport provision, and social, health, education, and community facilities provision.</p> <p>Where urban areas adjoin local authority boundaries or are administered by more than one Local Development Document, local authorities will need to co-operate to develop strategies, establish needs and ensure the sequential approach is implemented. Co-ordinated and complementary strategies should be considered where urban areas are closely clustered. (Adapted from SS3)</p> <p>Local development documents will ensure that new built development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• maximises its contribution to the attractiveness and character of the local area</li> <li>• makes efficient use of land</li> <li>• for housing development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- delivers greater intensity and density of development in places with good public transport accessibility, while</li> <li>- respecting local building styles, character and identity</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><i>policy SS2 (Adapted from SS3)</i></p> <p>At least 60% of all new development in the region will take place in or using previously used land or buildings. Local development documents will identify and allocate suitable previously developed land and buildings for new development with a view to contributing to this target. (Adapted from SS4)</p> <p>Achieve a net dwelling density of at least 30 dwellings per hectare (Policy SS16)</p> <p>Average density of housing development completed and planned by region, county and district/unitary planning area. (Policy SS16)</p> <p>100% of new developments are built at the highest possible net density commensurate with an assessment</p>	<p>Adhere to Local Development Documents to ensure high quality urban and rural design.</p> <p>Local authorities will need to liaise when proposed developments have a cross boundary spatial extent or impact.</p> <p>Development will need to be built in a sustainable manner which maximises its contribution to the character of the area and makes efficient use of land. Development should be of a mixed type and address crime prevention, community safety and public health.</p>
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	<p>promote more sustainable communities, and a closer relationship between jobs and existing or proposed labour supply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• locations where the maximum use of sustainable (public) transport can be made (Adapted from Policy E3)</li> </ul> <p>Local planning authorities will monitor housing needs in co-operation with EERA, Regional Housing Board and other relevant stakeholders to ensure that everyone, in urban and rural areas, has the opportunity of a decent home. Local development documents will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• require provision of a range of dwelling types and sizes to meet the assessed need of all sectors of the community based on up-to-date local housing needs studies</li> <li>• make provision for sites wholly for affordable housing as an exception to normal planning policies to meet rural housing need (Adapted from Policy H2)</li> </ul> <p>1. improve opportunities for all to access jobs, services and leisure/tourist facilities 3. reduce the need to travel / widen travel choice: increasing and promoting opportunities for travel by means other than the private car, particularly walking, cycling and public transport, improving seamless travel through the provision of quality interchange facilities and raising travel awareness</p> <p>The development and design of transport infrastructure, and policy will seek to protect and enhance the natural, built and</p>	<p>be made.</p> <p>Existing employment land resources need to be used efficiently and located in areas where maximum use can be made of sustainable forms of transport.</p> <p>New housing developments must provide housing for all and by of a type and scale suitable for its immediate setting.</p> <p>Planning authorities will monitor housing needs in co-operation with EERA and other relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>Developments will need to maximise and promote travel choice.</p> <p>Increase the proportion of journeys taken by modes other than the private car from 29% in 1998 to 35% by 2020 (Policies T12 and T13)</p>	
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	<p>historic environment, minimise environmental impact and improve safety and security by reducing sources of danger (Policy T11).</p> <p>Walking and cycling will be encouraged and provision for both will be improved. Strategic access to and within the Regional Interchange Centres (see policy T2) will integrate with pedestrian and cycle provision at the local level. Support will be given to the completion (by 2010) of the National Cycle Network in the region and linking it with local cycling networks to form continuous routes.(Adapted from Policy T12)</p> <p>Public transport provision will be improved and its use encouraged. Levels of public transport accessibility will be increased in line with the standards set out in table 8.1 of the East of England plan. (Adapted from Policy T13)</p> <p>Provide and safeguard green infrastructure based on the analysis of existing natural, historic, cultural and landscape assets, provided by characterisation assessments, and the identification of new assets required to deliver green infrastructure (Policy ENV 1).</p> <p>Identify biodiversity conservation areas and biodiversity enhancement areas, to deliver large-scale habitat enhancement for the benefit of wildlife and people. (Policy ENV 1).</p>	<p>The East of England Plan (draft RSS) makes provision for 23,900 net additional dwellings per annum to be built in the East of England between 2001 and 2021 – a total of 478,000 dwellings.</p> <p>Increase levels of public transport accessibility in line with criteria in Table 1 in Chapter 8 (policy T13)</p> <p>A. Percentage of urban RIC households within 400 metres of a quarter-hourly service</p> <p>B. Percentage of rural households within 13 minutes walk of an hourly bus service (Policy T13)</p>	<p>Transport infrastructure must seek to protect and enhance the natural, built and historic environment.</p> <p>Provision of walking and cycling facilities within proposed new development is likely to be looked upon favourably.</p> <p>Sustainable means of transport should be incorporated into the design of new developments.</p> <p>Green infrastructure must be safeguarded to ensure development plans are inline with Regional Policy.</p>
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	<p>Planning authorities and other agencies will seek to conserve and enhance landscape character by: developing criteria-based policies, informed by landscape character assessments to ensure that all development, wherever possible respects and enhances local landscape character and providing appropriate mitigation measures where avoidance of damage to local landscape character is unavoidable. (Policy ENV 2).</p> <p>The region's biodiversity, earth heritage and natural resources will be protected by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promoting the restoration and re-establishment of habitats and species populations in accordance with the East of England regional biodiversity targets in appendix B and the targets set out in the UK, England and local biodiversity action plans</li> <li>• identifying and safeguarding areas for habitat restoration and re-establishment, in particular for large-scale (greater than 200 ha) habitat restoration which bring associated social and economic benefits</li> <li>• identifying and safeguarding regionally important geological and/or geomorphological sites (RIGS) and promoting the expansion of the number of sites receiving active conservation</li> </ul>	<p>Number of planning obligations used to 'build in beneficial biodiversity or geological features as part of good design'</p> <p>Regional stock and condition of National Parks, Areas of character Nature Outstanding Natural Beauty and Heritage Coasts. National core indicator.</p> <p>Progress against East of England Regional Biodiversity targets. (ENV 3- Biodiversity and earth heritage).</p> <p>Number of listed buildings and buildings at risk. (ENV 5- Historic Environment).</p> <p>Number Of scheduled monuments in England. Data available: 19,594 scheduled sites at 1 April 2004, a net increase of 148 on 2003. (English Heritage)</p> <p>Number of listed buildings. Data available: 371,971 entries on the list, 1 August 2004. (English Heritage)</p> <p>Number Of conservation areas in England. Data available: 9,140 conservation areas in England as at 1</p>	<p>All development, where possible, includes mitigation measures against possible damage to local landscape character.</p> <p>Any proposed development will need to satisfy the requirements of the UK, England and local biodiversity action plan.</p>
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	<p>management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensuring the appropriate management and further expansion of wildlife corridors that are important for the migration and dispersal of wildlife. (Policy ENV 3).</li> </ul> <p>Planning authorities and other agencies in their plans, policies and proposals will identify, protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment of the region, its archaeology, historic buildings and areas and historic landscapes.</p> <p>Protect the wider historic landscape that contributes to the distinctiveness of the region, including scheduled ancient monuments and other nationally important archaeological sites and monuments (Adapted from Policy ENV5).</p>	<p>April 2004, a net increase of 60 on 2003 (English Heritage)</p> <p>Extent of area designations in England. Data available: 994 hectares of national park, 20, 40 hectares of areas of outstanding natural beauty, 1,057km of heritage coast. (English Heritage)</p> <p>Number of items recorded on historic environment records. Data available: 1.43 million (estimated) items on historic environment records. (English Heritage)</p> <p>Extent of historic landscape characterisation. Data available: Historic landscape characterisation programme now more than half completed. (English Heritage)</p> <p>Scheduled monument consent decisions. Data available: 928 applications logged by English Heritage in 2003/04, 7increase on previous year. (English Heritage)</p> <p>Conservation area consent applications determined annually by local authorities. Data available: 3,147 decisions on consent applications received in 2003/04., 5% increase on previous (English Heritage)</p>	<p>Development which impact negatively on the wider historic landscape that contributes to the distinctiveness of the region is unlikely to be permitted.</p>
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<b>East of England Regional Economic Strategy (East of England Development Agency)</b>	<p><b>Goal one: A skills base that can support a world-class economy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing employment rates in disadvantaged communities</li> <li>Supporting wider career choices for young people</li> <li>Developing skills that better meet business needs</li> <li>Developing higher level skills to support the knowledge economy</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal two: Growing competitiveness, productivity and entrepreneurship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building a more enterprising culture</li> <li>Providing a coherent and integrated business support service</li> <li>Supporting the accelerated and sustained growth, productivity and competitiveness of the region's businesses</li> <li>Developing the capacity of the region to engage in global markets and to improve the level and quality of foreign investment into the region</li> <li>Ensuring business development adds value and vitality to local communities</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal three: Global leadership in</b></p>	<p><b>Goal one:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adults with basic skills</li> <li>Proportion of young people / adults with no qualifications / with qualifications at NVQ levels 2/3/4</li> <li>Amount of public and private investment in workforce development (Regional LSC survey)</li> <li>Participation of 18-30 year olds in Higher Education</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal two:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proportion of people considering going into business</li> <li>Self-Employment rates</li> <li>Small firm productivity</li> <li>Manufacturing exports per head</li> <li>Inward investment</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal three:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Business expenditure on R&amp;D as a proportion of GVA</li> <li>Proportion of businesses having introduced new products, services and processes (Community Innovation Survey)</li> <li>Number of innovation-active businesses (Community Innovation Survey)</li> </ul>	<p>The SEA process can draw objectives from the following areas of the Regional Economic Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring a suitable supply of homes</li> <li>Social and transport infrastructure</li> <li>Developing and enhancing green spaces and infrastructure</li> <li>Developing cultural, heritage and leisure assets</li> <li>Providing improved access to services</li> <li>Ensuring transport solutions to serve economic growth in a sustainable manner</li> <li>Promoting resource efficiency</li> <li>The potential of renewable energy</li> <li>Establishing the region as an exemplar of environmentally sustainable development.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>developing and realising innovation in science, technology and research</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stimulating demand for research and development and knowledge transfer among the region's SME's.</li> <li>• Ensuring strong links between regional universities, research institutes and the private sector</li> <li>• Maintaining and building upon the quality of research establishments in the region</li> <li>• Facilitating international partnerships that enable knowledge transfer and collaboration on R&amp;D</li> <li>• Making full use of the research assets and global reputation of Cambridge to achieve benefits for the region</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal four: High quality places to work and visit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring a suitable supply of homes to support economic growth</li> <li>• Ensuring the provision of social and transport infrastructure</li> <li>• Ensuring a high quality supply of business land and premises</li> <li>• Developing and enhancing green spaces and infrastructure to support economic growth</li> <li>• Developing culture, heritage and leisure assets for residents and visitors</li> <li>• Enabling renaissance and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HE-Business interaction: University income from collaborative research and intellectual property (HEFCE survey)</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal four:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal five:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment and self-employment rates in deprived areas and among disadvantaged groups</li> <li>• Benefit claimant rates (key benefits)</li> <li>• Health inequality (variation in district level life expectancy)</li> <li>• Worklessness (Labour Force Survey)</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal six:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distance travelled per person per year by mode of transport</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal seven:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selected indicators from the Regional ICT Benchmarking Survey</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal eight:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waste production and recycling (household, municipal, industrial and commercial)</li> <li>• Sustainable consumption and</li> </ul>	
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	<p>regeneration of the region's communities</p> <p><b>Goal five: Social inclusion and broad participation in the regional economy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting those who are disadvantaged to achieve their potential</li> <li>• Supporting disadvantaged communities and groups to access sustainable employment opportunities</li> <li>• Improving prospects for better quality employment</li> <li>• Providing improved access to essential services</li> <li>• Tackling discrimination experienced by communities or individuals</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal six: Making the most from the development of international gateways and national and regional transport corridors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking advantage of the opportunities from sustainable airport expansion in the region</li> <li>• Making the most of our gateways to the sea</li> <li>• Promoting the delivery of strategic road, rail and other public transport priorities for the region</li> <li>• Ensuring that transport solutions serve economic growth in a sustainable manner</li> <li>• Understanding and addressing the</li> </ul>	<p>production / decoupling indicators (under development by Defra)</p>	
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	<p>importance of transport links with London</p> <p><b>Goal seven: A leading information society</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting the use of network based technologies among businesses, organisations and individuals</li> <li>• Ensuring that the capacity and coverage of our data communications infrastructure keeps pace with the needs of a knowledge economy</li> <li>• Improving the skills and ability of people to make effective use of ICT</li> <li>• Supporting growth in the supply of network based technologies and the development of digital content</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal eight: An exemplar in the efficient use of resources.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting the adoption of resource efficiency and environmental good practice principles</li> <li>• Capturing the advantages of the renewable energy potential of the region</li> <li>• Progressing the development of environmental goods and services businesses</li> <li>• Establishing the region as an exemplar of environmentally sustainable development</li> </ul>		
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	<p>Within the Regional Economic Strategy, Thames Gateway South Essex (including part of Rochford) is recognised as a national priority for regeneration and growth. The areas for development in this area are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving aspirations and the skills base through better outcomes in schools</li> <li>• Focus on the existing and future skills needed by businesses through work-based and lifelong learning initiatives</li> <li>• Support employment, entrepreneurship, business growth and inward investment in key sectors through skills development and provision of appropriate employment locations and support service infrastructure.</li> <li>• Tackle deprivation and build community cohesion through integrated programmes to increase social capital, community leadership and improve access to services and facilities.</li> <li>• Maximise investment in strategic transport infrastructure to address current deficits and meet future requirements</li> <li>• Develop the Green Grid South Essex to protect, enhance and increase access to environmental assets, and underpin the sustainability of communities and employment areas</li> <li>• Support local delivery vehicles that</li> </ul>		
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	have the capacity to enable a step change in the equality and speed of delivery		
<b>A Sustainable Development Framework for the East of England (East of England Regional Assembly) (2001)</b>	<p><b>High Level Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth.</li> <li>• To deliver more sustainable patterns of location of development, including employment and housing.</li> <li>• To protect and maintain our most valuable regional assets such as designated habitats, landscapes of natural beauty, and our historic built heritage, and to improve the wider environment by means of adequate investment and management.</li> <li>• To reduce our consumption of fossil fuels.</li> <li>• To 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.</li> <li>• To use natural resources, both finite and renewable, as efficiently as possible, and re-use finite resources or recycled alternatives wherever possible.</li> <li>• To minimise our production of by-products or wastes, aiming for 'closed systems' where possible.</li> <li>• To avoid using the global</li> </ul>	<p><b>High Level Objectives and related indicators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>To achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ GDP per head.</li> <li>○ Annual average investment by manufacturing industry as % of GDP.</li> <li>○ GDP per worker</li> <li>○ % of businesses recognised as Investors in People</li> <li>○ Adoption of Environmental Management Systems (EMAS) and 'Green Accounting' by businesses</li> <li>○ Proportion of working age people in work.</li> <li>○ Number and survival of business start-ups</li> <li>○ Participation in training</li> <li>○ Qualifications at age 19.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>To deliver more sustainable patterns of location of development, including employment and housing.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ New homes built on previously developed land.</li> <li>○ Number of vacant properties</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>The Regional Sustainable Development Framework seeks to set out a range of high level and comprehensive objectives. The implications of these objectives on the SEA are that it is important that they relate to the SEA objectives utilised in the appraisal of the Core Strategy.</p> <p>The associated indicators with the high level objectives may be utilised to shape the sustainability framework.</p>

	<p>environment to underwrite our own unsustainable way of life (e.g. dependence on unsustainably produced and/or transported food products or timber).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To revitalise town centres to promote a return to sustainable urban living.</li> </ul> <p>The Plan also sets out a range of key objectives related to the issues. The key objectives deemed appropriate for the analysis of the a Core Strategy include;</p> <p><b>The Economy – Key Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support the Regional Economic Strategy aim of making the East of England a world-class economy, renowned for its knowledge base, the creativity and enterprise of its people and the quality of life of all who live and work here.</li> <li>• To foster an innovation culture, exploit regional knowledge strengths, encourage world-class skills and improve access to innovation and technology support.</li> <li>• To promote and support economic diversity.</li> <li>• To support and promote key industry sectors, small and medium sized enterprises, community-based enterprises and leading edge infrastructure and high quality environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Number of residential units created above shops</li> <li>○ Distance travelled to work and mode of travel</li> <li>○ Number and length of journeys by environmentally damaging modes: car, lorry, plane</li> <li>○ Proportion of journeys by 'green' modes: walking, cycle, bus, passenger rail, rail freight</li> <li>○ Traffic congestion</li> <li>○ Rate of growth of rural businesses</li> <li>○ Availability of affordable housing, attractive streets and buildings.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>To protect and maintain our most valuable regional assets such as designated habitats, landscapes of natural beauty, and our historic built heritage, and to improve the wider environment by means of adequate investment and management.</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Populations of wild birds.</li> <li>○ _ Area of semi-natural habitat lost to development</li> <li>○ _ Area of new semi-natural habitat created</li> <li>○ _ Wildlife sites affected by water abstraction</li> <li>○ _ Loss/damage to Sites of Special Scientific Interest</li> </ul>	
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	<p><b>Location of Growth</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To direct growth to the most environmentally, economically and socially sustainable locations.</li> <li>• To provide for more equal access to affordable housing, rewarding jobs and services.</li> <li>• To spread economic growth more evenly to benefit areas of deprivation.</li> <li>• To concentrate development through the reuse of previously developed land and buildings and by urban extensions only where the development of Greenfield land is unavoidable.</li> <li>• To maximise the efficient use of land by measures as higher density development, mixed use and avoiding over provision of car parking.</li> <li>• To use development to create woodlands, habitats and country parks adjacent to urban areas.</li> <li>• To reduce the need to travel through closer integration of housing, jobs and services.</li> <li>• To ensure development is not at risk of flooding, or increases flood risk elsewhere.</li> <li>• To guide development away from important landscape, biodiversity and historic features.</li> <li>• To protect landscape character,</li> </ul>	<p>(SSSIs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ _ Species at risk</li> <li>○ _ Buildings of Grade I and II* at risk of decay</li> <li>○ _ Changes in landscape features - woodland, hedges, stone walls and ponds</li> <li>○ _ Area of ancient semi-natural woodland</li> <li>• <b>To reduce our consumption of fossil fuels.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Output of greenhouse gas and particularly CO2.</li> <li>○ _ Weather-related insurance claims</li> <li>○ _ Regional energy consumption compared with population and GDP</li> <li>○ _ Energy use per household</li> <li>○ _ Proportion of electricity generated from renewable sources</li> <li>○ _ Economic health and prospects of energy industry, including off-shore</li> <li>○ _ Proportion of total travel which is by car.</li> <li>○ _ Transport's share of region's CO2 emissions</li> <li>○ _ Freight transport: tonne/miles and empty lorry miles</li> <li>○ _ Air quality improvements measured against related illnesses</li> <li>○ _ Tourism by mode of transport</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
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	<p>and be sustainable in the use of resources (e.g. energy, water).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To encourage developments which support the revival and sustainability of coastal towns.</li> </ul> <p><b>Transport</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To plan for a pattern of settlement and economic activity that reduces dependence on the car and maintains access to work and essential services for non car owners.</li> <li>• To reduce the need to travel by car through a combination of high quality transport alternatives, particularly public transport, walking and cycling networks, but also light rail, taxi and water.</li> <li>• To encourage use of ICT and e-commerce as an alternative communication link to travel.</li> <li>• To encourage intelligent freight practices to transfer movements to rail and water, minimise empty lorry journeys, and promote local distribution of local food products.</li> <li>• To address radial (from London) dominance of routes and promote east-west links, including rail.</li> <li>• To make best use of and support adequate maintenance of existing strategic road and rail infrastructure, to overcome congestion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>To 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.</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Variations in GDP per head within the region</li> <li>○ _ Index of local deprivation</li> <li>○ _ Proportion of working age people in work, by area, age band, gender and ethnicity.</li> <li>○ _ Women in public appointments and senior positions</li> <li>○ _ Dependency on working-age benefits, by region, ward and district</li> <li>○ _ Percentage of working-age people in workless households.</li> <li>○ _ Proportion of housing unfit or lacking appropriate insulation, by area.</li> <li>○ _ Availability of public services - transport, shops, banks etc by area</li> <li>○ _ Access for disabled people</li> <li>○ _ Fuel poverty.</li> <li>○ _ Increase in number of illness-free years.</li> <li>○ _ % pensioners in households with below half average income</li> <li>○ _ % of children in households with below have average income</li> </ul>	
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	<p><b>Rural Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To restore the role of market towns as centres for sustainable development providing services, housing and employment, drawing on the principles of urban renaissance.</li> <li>• To support the development of micro-businesses, community economic development and local investment.</li> <li>• To encourage local provision of, and access to, jobs and services.</li> <li>• To sustain key services, including education, affordable housing, post offices and shops, and encourage innovative public transport solutions.</li> <li>• To protect and enhance the cultural heritage, distinctive landscapes, tranquillity, natural habitats and biodiversity of rural areas.</li> <li>• To promote more sustainable landforms of farming, tourism and informal countryside recreation.</li> <li>• To implement Integrated Coastal Zone Management, in order to achieve sustainable use of coastal areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>Agriculture, Food and Forestry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To raise the level of understanding of the tension between economic, social and environmental</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ _ Recorded crime (by type) per 100,000 populations.</li> <li>• <b>To use natural resources, both finite and renewable, as efficiently as possible, and re-use finite resources or recycled alternatives wherever possible.</b></li> <li>○ Household water use and peak demand</li> <li>○ _ Low flows in rivers</li> <li>○ _ Margin between water supply and projected demand</li> <li>○ _ % of water lost to leakage</li> <li>○ _ Area under agri-environment schemes</li> <li>○ _ Area converted to organic production</li> <li>○ _ Concentration of organic matter in agricultural top-soils</li> <li>○ _ Volumes of minerals produced in the region</li> <li>○ _ Level of minerals and aggregate use replaced by recycled or substitute materials</li> <li>○ _ Number of exhausted mineral sites returned to suitable use</li> <li>○ _ Construction and demolition waste going to landfill</li> <li>○ _ Imported mineral tonnage</li> <li>○ _ Numbers of dwellings created by re-use of existing buildings</li> <li>○ _ Number of buildings designed to sustainability principles</li> </ul>	
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	<p>requirements in achieving agriculture and food production which is sustainable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To promote the restructuring and diversification of agriculture such as establishing alternative rural businesses, including re-use of farm buildings as workspace to service the local area.</li> <li>• To sustain the natural environment by conserving and enhancing the landscape, wildlife, cultural and archaeological value of farmland.</li> <li>• To promote the sustainable use and management of woodlands.</li> <li>• To manage sustainable all woodland and protect existing woodland against conversion to other uses.</li> <li>• To promote forestry for recreation access and tourism, and the planting of new woodlands.</li> <li>• To recognise the social/environmental value of woodlands/orchards particularly near urban areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>Poverty and Deprivation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To give access to decent, affordable housing including affordable warmth.</li> <li>• To provide for skills training and development, and social and recreational activities.</li> <li>• To enhance the built environment,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>To minimise our production of by-products or wastes, aiming for 'closed systems' where possible.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Levels of wastes and emissions (nutrients, pesticides, herbicides).</li> <li>○ _ Household waste and recycling</li> <li>○ _ Rivers of good or fair quality.</li> <li>○ _ Proportion of water needs met by local water recycling in urban and rural areas</li> <li>○ _ Compliance with Bathing Water Directive</li> <li>○ _ Concentrations of persistent organic pollutants</li> <li>○ _ Air quality - number of days per year any parameter exceeds its National Standard.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>To avoid using the global environment to underwrite our own unsustainable way of life (e.g. dependence on unsustainably produced and/or transported food products or timber).</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Percentage of food, timber, and raw materials used in the region which is imported from unsustainable sources</li> <li>○ _ Percentage of food consumed in the region that is produced</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
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	<p>and to deliver co-ordinated public services, such as health, education, reliable transport, policing and social services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To have planning policies that foster business and social development in disadvantaged areas.</li> <li>• To strengthen the social economy, including community businesses.</li> </ul> <p><b>Health</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To narrow the income gap between the poorest and wealthiest parts of the region to reduce health differential.</li> <li>• To reduce traffic growth, the environmental impacts of traffic, and improve road safety.</li> <li>• To improve the provision and condition of affordable housing.</li> <li>• To promote better public transport links to major hospitals.</li> <li>• To promote the health advantages of walking and cycling, and community based activities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Crime</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To plan new development to help reduce crime and fear of crime through the design of the physical, environment, and by promoting well-used streets and public spaces.</li> </ul>	<p>locally</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ _ Number of farmers markets, and local trading schemes</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>To revitalise town centres to promote a return to sustainable urban living.</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Vacant land and properties and derelict land</li> <li>○ _ Proportion of new retail in town centres versus out-of-town</li> <li>○ _ Proportion of population living in town centres</li> <li>○ _ Access to local green space</li> <li>○ _ Quality of surroundings</li> <li>○ _ Noise levels</li> <li>○ _ Rates of fear of crime</li> <li>○ _ % households stating their neighbourhood has 'community spirit'</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To promote recreation opportunities to help tackle the underlying causes of criminal damage by redirecting inappropriate behaviour towards positive outcomes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Culture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop a regional image and attract inward investment.</li> <li>• To agree cultural priorities and themes and reconcile competing demands and policies.</li> <li>• To increase awareness of the value of culture in tackling regeneration, job creation, economic development and social inclusion, and promote opportunities to engage in cultural activity.</li> <li>• To conserve the existing built environment as an integral part of regional identity, and promote high quality architecture and design.</li> <li>• To encourage development of sporting opportunities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tourism</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To recognise the role of the tourism industry in supporting the maintenance of the region's natural, historic and built assets.</li> <li>• To promote the unique qualities of the region.</li> </ul>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To plan and manage tourism development and activities to encourage year-round tourism, and more sustainable destinations, products and businesses (e.g. through use of a 'green audit kit').</li> <li>• To protect and enhance sensitive natural and built environmental assets, such as rural tranquillity and distinctive landscapes, and ensure that tourist revenues, such as the 'visitor payback' scheme, are diverted towards their management and upkeep.</li> <li>• To improve opportunities for tourists not to have to drive, such as public transport, green lanes, and cycling.</li> <li>• To encourage investment in rural tourism initiatives, including farm diversification.</li> <li>• To support regeneration of traditional resorts, and deprived urban centres, bringing redundant historic buildings back into use, and involve local people in the community regeneration process.</li> <li>• To promote local products and services to retain visitor spend within the local economy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Learning and Skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To give greater focus to learning and skills in regeneration areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>Natural Environment</b></p>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure appropriate planning policies are in place and implemented to minimise adverse environmental impacts, recognise and support environmental limits, and provide the highest level of protection for irreplaceable natural features (e.g. traditional species rich grassland, ancient woodlands, tranquil areas), aiming for no net environmental loss.</li> <li>• To support standards, regulations, and economic instruments to safeguard and enhance environmental quality.</li> <li>• To restore the full range of characteristic habitats and species to achieve BAP targets, and maintain or enhance other natural assets (e.g. reedbeds) to secure the regional stock above viable levels.</li> <li>• To create or re-create habitats to ensure sustainable and linked species populations (e.g. Breckland and Suffolk Sandlings heaths).</li> <li>• To support farming and countryside practices that enhances biodiversity and landscape quality by economically and socially valuable activity (e.g. grazing, coppicing, nature reserves).</li> <li>• To encourage coastal management in accordance with</li> </ul>		
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	<p>natural processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To manage water quality and water resources to maximise value to people and wildlife.</li> </ul> <p><b>Historic and Built Environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To safeguard and enhance the historic environment, and re-create some historic features.</li> <li>• To promote local distinctiveness and pride in local identity by repairing historic buildings and areas, and by encouraging the re-use of valued buildings.</li> <li>• To encourage thoughtful design, high density housing and mixed-use development, which: respects its context, reflecting local distinctiveness, Incorporates well-planned open space, is accessible by a choice of alternative means of transport, includes energy and water efficiency measures, and incorporates sustainable drainage, uses locally sourced materials where possible.</li> <li>• To encourage well-designed mixed-use developments in the heart of towns and cities, create viable and attractive town centres that have vitality and life, and discourage out-of-town developments.</li> <li>• To promote an urban form that supports town centres that can be served by public transport.</li> </ul>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support conversion of redundant commercial buildings to residential and leisure use and creation of living accommodation above shops.</li> <li>• To consider whole life use in new developments, and re-use of materials to reduce waste.</li> </ul> <p><b>Global Impact</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To minimise our CO2 production.</li> <li>• To encourage positive attitudes towards renewable energy schemes (e.g. wind and biomass).</li> <li>• To encourage ways of mitigating the region's impact upon the global environment, such as cleaner and more efficient use of transport, supporting local markets to reduce the unnecessary movement of raw materials and foodstuffs, planting trees to sequester carbon, and higher levels of home insulation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Living With Climate Change</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To take decisions now that will reduce the impact of climate change in the future, such as not developing areas at risk of flooding, and allowing for managed retreat where necessary.</li> <li>• To adopt lifestyle changes to cope with climate change, such as promoting water and energy efficiency.</li> </ul>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To plan and manage change to landscapes, historic sites, nature conservation, and farming.</li> <li>• To provide for preservation of locally distinct species under threat through seedbanks.</li> </ul> <p><b>Energy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To encourage more efficient uses of energy, including product design, manufacturing processes, transport, and behavioural changes.</li> <li>• To raise awareness of the potential of renewable energy to attract more investment.</li> <li>• To encourage planning authorities to take a more positive attitude towards renewable energy schemes, home insulation, and local community renewable energy schemes.</li> <li>• To develop, adopt and ensure the effective use of built development design guides tackling energy use, to provide homes and businesses with self-sufficient energy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Local Environmental Quality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve the quality of life in urban areas by making them more attractive places in which to live and work, and to visit.</li> <li>• To reduce the impact of traffic on air quality, particularly in urban</li> </ul>		
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	<p>areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To maintain the peace and tranquillity enjoyed in many parts of the region.</li> <li>• To protect dark skies from light pollution, and promote low energy and less invasive lighting sources, considering the balance between safety and environmental impact.</li> <li>• To identify, protect and manage open space, such as rivers and canals, parks and gardens, allotments and playing fields, and the links between them, for the benefit of people and wildlife.</li> <li>• To encourage high quality design in new development, including mixed uses, to create local identity and encourage a sense of community pride.</li> </ul> <p><b>Waste</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To minimise the production of waste, and then promote re-use, recycling, composting, alternative treatment options and energy recovery before resorting to landfill, taking into account the Best Practicable Sustainable Option (BPSO).</li> <li>• To encourage easily accessible recycling systems and develop markets for recyclable materials building upon the work of the Waste and Resources Action Programme, and promote and</li> </ul>		
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	<p>support local strategies and enterprises (e.g. Re-Made schemes).</p> <p><b>Water Resources and Quality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To regulate water supply to within reasonable limits, and manage demand.</li> <li>• To raise awareness to encourage water efficiency and conservation.</li> <li>• To develop and promote local water recycling initiatives for developments and buildings.</li> <li>• To encourage rainwater harvesting, to reduce significantly new development needs.</li> <li>• To anticipate situations in which local water supplies may be a constraint on development and where water transfers may be needed (e.g. Essex developments supplied from Norfolk).</li> <li>• To promote sustainable urban drainage systems to reduce flood risk and water loss from natural systems, and the use of natural techniques (e.g. reedbed technology) to clean water.</li> <li>• To encourage increased/innovative use of renewable energy for the treatment of water.</li> </ul>		
<b>Sub-Regional</b>			
<b>Delivering the Future (2003) Thames</b>	Of particular interest to Rochford is the potential to develop those themes which link to the vision in Southend, in particular	N/A	Leisure, recreation and tourism issues are reflected in SEA objectives. The possible implications on the environment of



<b>Gateway South Essex</b>	developing the area for leisure, recreation and tourism activity. The District has a high socio-economic profile, high-value housing and quality environment which balances the communities of South-Essex, and provides an attractive inward investment proposition for business, particularly the developing service sector. The characteristics and aims identified contribute to the wider and balanced sub-regional offer for Thames Gateway South Essex.		developing for leisure, recreation and tourism activity can be assessed in the Appraising Plans Policy section of the SEA.
<b>Vision for the Future (2001) – Thames Gateway South Essex Partnership</b>	<p><b>Overarching aim</b> – provide an improved quality of life for all the people of South Essex and to allow the area to participate, via the Thames gateway initiative, in the wider prosperity of the wider South East and the East of England.</p> <p><b>Sub Aims</b> -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the skills and employment opportunities across a range of economic sectors, and to promote a competitive environment by stimulating the creation of effective business support networks linked to research institutions.</li> <li>• Secure leading edge infrastructure, particularly improve sustainable transport.</li> <li>• Promote urban renaissance and provide employment opportunities.</li> <li>• Create a high quality and sustainable urban and rural environment.</li> <li>• Improve the health and well-being</li> </ul>	<p><b>Skills, Learning and Employment Indicators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of centres of excellence to support businesses,</li> <li>• Promotion and development of higher education within South Essex – greater links with further education, training and business organisations and university provision.</li> <li>• Fully address the need for basic and higher skills for the unemployed.</li> <li>• Create employment opportunities.</li> <li>• Encourage greater business involvement in training.</li> <li>• Greater child care.</li> <li>• Retention of employment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Transport and Infrastructure</b></p>	<p>It is important that the aims and aspirations highlighted by the Thames gateway South Essex Partnership and deliverable at the local level that seeks to improve the quality of life of persons that live and reside within the District of Rochford.</p> <p>The aims and objectives outlined by Thames Gateway South Essex are reflected in the SEA objectives.</p>

	<p>of all communities throughout South Essex.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote a high profile and positive image of Thames Gateway South Essex.</li> </ul> <p>Secure Rochford as a cultural and intellectual hub.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve access within South Essex across the Thames Gateway, to London and the wider regions and Europe.</li> <li>Identify and develop key inter changes within South Essex.</li> <li>Promote the development of seaport and airport facilities.</li> <li>Secure investment in the railways – inc better links with existing lines, station improvements, service reliability and links to strategic rail network.</li> <li>Improve all forma of sustainable transport – such as bus services and infrastructure.</li> <li>Developing state of the art communications, signing and management systems.</li> </ul> <p><b>Investment and Development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Action Plans for key catalyst developments within South Essex</li> <li>Innovative design of new developments.</li> <li>Improve accessibility to sites.</li> <li>Diverse range of business opportunities.</li> <li>Decontamination of land</li> <li>Maximise use of previously developed land.</li> </ul> <p><b>A Better Environment</b></p>	
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to safeguard the areas environmental assets – protected areas, foreshore from development.</li> <li>• Implement landscape improvement schemes, replace lost woodlands, trees, hedgerows and green the urban environment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Health and Community</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regenerate run down estates.</li> <li>• Raise education attainment.</li> <li>• Reduce teenage pregnancies.</li> <li>• Reduce crime and disorder.</li> <li>• Improve the cultural, leisure and recreational facilities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Marketing and Communications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve communication within Thames gateway.</li> <li>• Promote TGSE nationally and internationally.</li> </ul>	
<b>Draft Green Grid Strategy (2004) Thames Gateway South Essex</b>	<p><b>The key objectives</b> of the Green Grid strategy are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embrace different habitats and land uses across rural and urban boundaries.</li> <li>• Connect new communities with existing neighbourhoods and the regenerated riverside across</li> </ul>	N/A	The objective demonstrated in the Green Grid Strategy may be utilised to enhance the SEA objectives for appraising the Core Strategy.

	<p>spatial and conceptual boundaries providing improved 'access for all'.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conserve and enhance existing sites and links.</li> <li>• Conserve and enhance biodiversity.</li> <li>• Create well-designed and high quality new elements in identified areas of opportunity and need.</li> <li>• Contribute to improved environmental sustainability and enhancement through flood risk management, improved air and water quality and noise abatement.</li> <li>• Create a distinctive 'sense of place' through enhancement and celebration of landscape character and heritage.</li> <li>• Enhance the image and confidence in South Essex as a high quality place to live, work and invest.</li> <li>• Engage all communities with an interest in the planning, management and celebration of the network.</li> <li>• Plan and promote the network as part of a broader sustainable environmental agenda including the transport system.</li> <li>• Promote use of the network for recreation and tourism, education and healthy living; and</li> </ul> <p>Promote employment creation, and learning and skills development through environmental activity.</p>		
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<b>County</b>			
<b>Essex and Southend on Sea Replacement Structure Plan (adopted April 2004)</b>	<p>1. Improve the quality of life in urban areas, and achieve a significant enhancement of the vitality and viability of the urban environment, making them more attractive places to live, work, shop, spend leisure time and invest;</p> <p>2. Concentrate new economic and housing development and redevelopment within the existing urban areas, wherever possible, and maximise the use of spare capacity in terms of land, buildings and infrastructure within urban areas;</p> <p>7. Promoting mixed use neighbourhood development. (Adapted from Policy CS1).</p> <p>In releasing land for development through new land allocations and the granting of planning permission, local planning authorities will have regard to the following criteria:-</p> <p>1. The development can be accommodated within the existing and committed infrastructure capacity of the area;</p> <p>2. The development is accessible by existing and committed sustainable means of transport;</p> <p>3. The sequential approach should be used to encourage development and redevelopment of sites in appropriate locations in urban areas, and encourage intensification of use</p>	<p>At least 60% of all new development in the region will take place in or using previously used land or buildings. Local development documents will identify and allocate suitable previously developed land and buildings for new development with a view to contributing to this target. (Adapted from Draft Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England, SS4 (RSS14) (December, 2004)</p>	<p>New developments should be concentrated within existing urban areas and Brownfield land within them.</p> <p>Sustainable means of transport should be incorporated into the design of new developments</p>

	<p>of existing sites where appropriate; 5. The scale of development is consistent with the principles of sustainability and respects the character and environment of the locality. (Adapted from Policy CS4).</p> <p>The focus for transportation proposals and investment will be on developing schemes which:- 5. Ensure access by all sectors of the community, including the mobility impaired and economically disadvantaged. (Adapted from Policy CS5).</p> <p>Except in very special circumstances, planning permission will not be granted within the Metropolitan Green Belt unless for:- The limited extension, alteration or replacement of existing dwellings; (Adapted from Policy C2)</p> <p>Development which may be permitted under this policy should preserve the openness of the Green Belt and should not conflict with the main purposes of including land within it. Any development which is permitted should be of a scale, design and siting such that the character of the countryside is not harmed. (Policy C2)</p> <p>The natural beauty, amenity and traditional character of the landscape will be protected, conserved and enhanced. Development must respect its landscape</p>	<p>Number/type of development permitted each year within the Metropolitan Green Belt contrary to Green Belt policy in adopted development plans. (Policy C2).</p> <p>No inappropriate development permitted within the Metropolitan Green Belt. (Policy C2).</p> <p>100% of proposals inappropriate to the</p>	<p>Planning permission is unlikely to be granted within Metropolitan Green Belt unless under special circumstances.</p> <p>Any developments that are permitted to commence in the Green Belt should preserve the openness of the Green Belt and should not conflict with the main purposes of including land within it. Any development which is permitted should be of a scale, design and siting such that the character of the countryside is not harmed.</p> <p>The natural beauty, amenity and traditional</p>
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	<p>setting and will not be permitted if it would cause permanent destruction or damage to the character of the landscape. (Policy NR1)</p> <p>Landscape character assessments should be prepared of District areas, identifying the particular character of different areas of the countryside, to help inform the preparation of Local Plans.</p> <p>Development will not be allowed which would detract from the visual quality of these areas. Until such assessments have been completed, Special Landscape Areas will be taken to identify areas where conservation or restoration of existing character should be given high priority. (Policy NR4)</p> <p>Development will not be permitted which would have a materially adverse impact upon the historic and archaeological importance, existing landscape character, and physical appearance of Ancient Landscapes, Ancient Woodlands, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields and Protected Lanes.</p> <p>Conservation, enhancement and management measures will be encouraged and implemented within these defined areas so as to retain and promote their historic and landscape interest. Any proposals which would give rise to a material increase in the amount of traffic</p>	<p>character of the landscape to be rejected.</p>	<p>character of the landscape will be protected, conserved and enhanced.</p> <p>Development will not be allowed in Special Landscape Areas to the detriment of the area's aesthetics.</p> <p>The historic importance, character and appearance of Ancient Landscapes, Ancient Woodlands and Protected Lanes will not be adversely affected by any new development in its locality.</p> <p>Any proposals which would give rise to a material increase in the amount of traffic</p>
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	<p>using Protected Lanes will not be permitted. (Policy NR5)</p> <p>Development or land use change, which would adversely affect either designated or candidate sites of international or European significance, will not be permitted unless there is no alternative solution and the development is necessary for imperative reasons of overriding public interest. These sites include Ramsar Sites, Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation and Marine Special Areas of Conservation. (Policy NR6)</p> <p>Development which would have an adverse effect, either directly or indirectly on a Site of Special Scientific Interest or National Nature Reserve, will not be permitted unless the need for the development clearly outweighs the national nature conservation importance of the site.</p> <p>If there is a risk of damage to a designated site from development, local authorities may seek to enter into a planning obligation with developers to secure future site management or to make compensatory provision elsewhere for any losses expected when development occurs in accordance with Policy BE5 (Policy NR6)</p> <p>Local Nature Reserves, Wildlife Sites, Regionally Important Geological/ Geomorphologic Sites, other habitats and natural features of local value will be</p>		<p>using Protected Lanes will not be permitted.</p> <p>Development within Ramsar sites, Special Protection Areas and Special Areas of Conservation will not be permitted unless there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest.</p> <p>Development within a SSSI or National Nature Reserve will not be permitted unless the need for development outweighs the national nature conservation importance of the site.</p> <p>Planning obligations should be sought with developers where there is a risk of damage to a site as a result of development, for future site management or compensatory provision.</p>
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	<p>protected from material adverse effects of development, unless it can be clearly demonstrated that the reasons for the proposal outweigh the need to safeguard the nature conservation value of the site and appropriate compensatory measures can be provided. (Policy NR7)</p> <p>Development will not be permitted which may harm or adversely affect animals and plants protected by law, together with their habitats. (Policy NR7)</p> <p>The local planning authorities will work together and with other agencies to provide opportunities for the enhancement and effective management of land in the urban fringe through, for example, such measures as landscape improvement, habitat creation, enhanced public access and improving damaged or degraded land. Any development proposals will be subject to other policies in this Plan for controlling development in the Metropolitan Green Belt and the rural areas beyond the Green Belt. (Policy NR11).</p> <p>Within the Coastal Protection Belt there shall be the most stringent restrictions on development within the rural and undeveloped coastline situated outside existing built-up areas.</p> <p>Any development which is exceptionally permitted within this Belt shall not adversely affect the open and rural character, historic features or wildlife.</p>	<p>0% of development to be permitted which may harm protected species of flora or fauna</p>	<p>Ensure that new developments are</p>
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	<p>(Policy CC1).</p> <p>Development will not be permitted in coastal areas which are at risk from flooding, erosion and land instability, particularly where existing flood defences properly maintained would not provide an acceptable standard of safety over the lifetime of the proposed development, or where the construction of new coastal defences would be required. (Policy CC2)</p> <p>Development requiring a coastal location should be sited within the already developed areas of the coast, particularly where this can promote urban regeneration and the conservation of areas of special architectural and historic interest, providing that: -</p> <p>3. Road traffic, parking provision and facilities for non car users can be satisfactorily accommodated;</p> <p>4. Townscape and traditional character, residential amenities, sites of nature conservation importance, landscape quality, sites of leisure, tourism and recreational value, and buildings and areas of special architectural, historic or archaeological importance are protected. (Adapted from Policy CC4).</p> <p>The amount, location, rate and density of development will be strictly controlled in all historic settlements so as to protect, safeguard and enhance their special character and environmental quality. The following</p>	<p>Number/type of development permitted each year within the Coastal Protection Belt contrary to policy in adopted development plans. (CC1)</p> <p>No inappropriate development to be permitted within the Coastal Protection Belt. (CC1)</p>	<p>sympathetic to existing coastal land uses and heritage features.</p>
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	<p>characteristics of historic settlements, will be rigorously protected from inappropriate development and unsympathetic change: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Landscape setting within surrounding open countryside;</li> <li>2. Gateway approaches;</li> <li>3. Public open spaces and corridors;</li> <li>4. Special townscape character; and</li> <li>5. Historic and architectural character and archaeological remains.</li> </ol> <p>(Adapted from Policy HC1).</p> <p>Development in Conservation Areas, and within their setting, including any change of use of an existing building, should preserve and/or enhance the character or appearance of the Conservation Area as a whole. (Adapted from Policy HC2)</p> <p>Within Conservation Areas all those buildings, spaces, archaeological sites, trees, views and other aspects of the environment which contribute to their character, will be protected.</p> <p>Development which would damage or destroy a Scheduled Ancient Monument or other nationally important archaeological site, its character or its setting, will not be permitted. (Policy HC5).</p> <p>Development proposals which would materially affect a site of archaeological importance will be considered against the following</p>		<p>Ensure that new developments are sympathetic to Conservation Areas.</p>
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	<p>requirements:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Where nationally important archaeological sites and monuments, are affected by a proposed development they should be preserved in situ.</li> <li>2. Where a proposed development would perceivably affect important archaeological sites and monuments, developers will be required to arrange for an archaeological field evaluation to assess the character and extent of the archaeological remains, to be carried out before the planning application can be determined.</li> <li>3. In circumstances where preservation is not possible or merited, then development will not be permitted until the developer has ensured that satisfactory provision has been made for a programme of archaeological investigations and recording prior to the commencement of the development.(Policy HC6)</li> </ol> <p>In areas where development would not otherwise be allowed, the conversion to a new use of an existing building of special architectural or historic interest, may exceptionally be permitted in appropriate circumstances where this would preserve the building, its setting, and its special character or architectural qualities. (Policy HC4).</p>		<p>In very exceptional circumstances, planning permission for development which would not normally be granted may be allowed in circumstances where this would preserve the building, its setting and its special character or architectural qualities.</p>
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	<p>Existing built-up areas will be used in the most efficient way to accommodate new development by the:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recycling of vacant, derelict, degraded and under-used land to accommodate new development;</li> <li>2. Re-use of existing buildings by refurbishment, conversions, changes of use, and extensions;</li> <li>3. Re-use of urban sites, which are no longer appropriate to their existing or proposed use in the foreseeable future, for alternative land-uses; and,</li> <li>4. Use of higher densities where compatible with the character of the area concerned and urban design controls.</li> </ol> <p>(Adapted from Policy BE1)</p> <p>Mixed use developments will be provided in appropriate locations particularly within town centres, urban regeneration areas, urban villages, areas of major new development and other urban areas well served by a choice of means of transport. (Policy BE2)</p> <p>Within the built-up areas, open land uses will be retained where they have been identified by adopted local plans as being of special importance for amenity, recreation, leisure, archaeology and the quality of the urban environment. The displacement of these open land uses from within built-up areas into the adjacent countryside, so as to provide further land for urban development, will not be permitted. (Policy BE3)</p>	<p>Indicator</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Percentage of all new development which is completed annually on previously developed land and by the re-use of existing buildings.</li> <li>2. Percentage of all new development which is completed annually in existing built-up areas.</li> <li>3. Numbers of, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>_ Unfit dwellings;</li> <li>_ Vacant dwellings;</li> <li>_ Empty properties in town centres.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>(BE1)</p> <p>Target</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. At least 50% of all new development built each year to be on either previously developed land or by re-use</li> </ol>	<p>Mixed use development will need to be well serviced by a number of different modes of transport. Open land within built-up areas</p>
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	<p>Development will not be permitted unless it makes provision for community facilities, public services, transport provision, infrastructure, environmental works and any other requirements which are made necessary by, and are directly related to, the proposed development. (Adapted from Policy BE5)</p> <p>Proposals for new development involving potentially polluting, hazardous or noisy activities will be assessed in relation to their impact upon existing land uses, and where incompatibility exists between existing and proposed land uses, and then permission will not be given. Similarly, proposed development within the vicinity of existing noisy, hazardous or polluting land uses will not be permitted where this would cause material harm to the health and safety of people. (Policy BE6).</p> <p>Proposals for new residential development should make appropriate provision for:-</p> <p>5. High standards in the design, layout and landscaping;</p> <p>6. Maximising densities having regard to the quality of urban living, and design, social, and environmental criteria. (Adapted from Policy H4)</p> <p>The type and level of need for affordable housing will be identified from local</p>	<p>of existing buildings.</p> <p>2. At least 50% of all new development built each year to take place within existing built-up areas.</p> <p>3. Reduction year on year in underused properties See Chapter 18. Monitoring and Review, for further details. (BE1)</p>	<p>should be maintained and therefore such developments will need to be located primarily within town centres and urban regeneration areas.</p> <p>Development will not be permitted unless provision is made for all associated amenities that would aid the sustainability of that development. These costs are to be met by the developer.</p> <p>Developments resulting in potentially polluting, hazardous or noisy activities will not be permitted if they will cause material harm to the health and safety of people.</p>
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	<p>authority housing needs surveys and housing strategies. Targets for affordable housing provision, and policies and proposals for their implementation, will be indicated in adopted local plans. (Adapted from Policy H5).</p> <p>Local Planning Authorities will support proposals that will strengthen and maintain the role of town centres by:-</p> <p>4.Managing road traffic and improving access and road safety, while improving facilities for passenger transport users, pedestrians, cyclists and those with special needs; and,</p> <p>5. Supporting the conservation and enhancement of the historic character and townscape of town centres and ensuring that new development is in sympathy with their existing character and buildings. (Adapted from Policy TCR3)</p> <p>Retail development proposals should:-</p> <p>2. Be accessible by a choice of means of transport;</p> <p>3. Not give rise to unacceptable problems of access, road safety or traffic congestion;</p> <p>5. Promote high standards of design and not cause unreasonable loss of amenity to adjoining land uses; (Adapted from Policy TCR4).</p> <p>New development should be designed so as to make appropriate provision for access for both people and goods by all forms of transport including passenger transport, cyclists, pedestrians, the mobility</p>	<p>Affordable new homes provided as a proportion of total dwelling completions each year throughout the plan area. (H5)</p> <p><i>See Appendix 3: Percentage breakdown of funding TGSE areas and demographics.</i></p> <p>UK ranking of identified town centres within the plan area. (TCR3)</p> <p>Identified town centres in plan area to retain position in ranking of town centres in UK list. (TCR3)</p>	<p>Good design principles must be carried out in all residential developments and a maximum density suited to the area should be sought.</p> <p>The Local Housing Strategy should be consulted when deciding the forms of housing within developments.</p> <p>The maintenance of road traffic, access, the public realm and forms of transport, should be the priority of town centres. Similarly, the enhancement and conservation of the historic character and townscape should also maintain and strengthen the role of town centres.</p>
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	<p>impaired and road traffic.</p> <p>Proposals for new development should promote high standards of road safety within their design for all these forms of transport and should not result in a deterioration of the traffic conditions within the surrounding areas.</p> <p>The owners of existing developments will be encouraged where appropriate to improve accessibility to their premises according to the same principles.</p> <p>For all major development, applicants for planning permission will be required to provide a comprehensive Transport Impact Assessment which effectively demonstrates:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To what extent the development will minimise the length, duration and number of journeys;</li> <li>2. How far the development will encourage a greater proportion of journeys by modes other than car;</li> <li>3. How movement likely to be generated by the development will be properly accommodated on the surrounding transport network; and</li> <li>4. How the transport needs of the development can be accommodated whilst maintaining or improving road safety and the surrounding environmental conditions for the local community.</li> </ol> <p>In addition, for all major commercial developments, applicants for planning</p>	<p>Number of employers with Green Commuter Plans. (T3)</p> <p>All new employers with more than 50 employees to implement Green Commuter Plans, and all major public bodies to implement them by 2006. (T3)</p>	<p>Any new retail development proposals should be inclusively accessible and of high standards of design.</p> <p>Owners of existing developments will be encouraged where appropriate to improve accessibility to their premises.</p> <p>For all major development, applicants for</p>
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	<p>permission will be required to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) provide a 'travel to work' plan (Green Commuter Plan) where appropriate;</li> <li>b) demonstrate what measures will be taken to minimise the amount and impact of additional road haulage where such development involves a significant movement of goods.</li> </ul> <p>Commercial development which involves heavy goods vehicles will be required to have good access to the main road system using suitable routes based on the Road Hierarchy as defined in Policy T7. (Policy T3)</p> <p>The quality of the natural and built environment will be maintained and conserved by:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Safeguarding and enhancing the character and townscape of the urban environment;</li> <li>2. Giving priority to protecting and enhancing areas designated as having intrinsic environmental quality at international, national and strategic level;</li> <li>3. Sustaining and enhancing the rural environment, including conserving the countryside character;</li> <li>4. Protecting and enhancing the landscape, wildlife and heritage qualities of the coastline;</li> </ol>		<p>planning permission will be required to provide a comprehensive Transport Impact Assessment. This assessment will demonstrate the criteria stipulated in Policy T3 of the Essex and Southend on Sea Replacement Structure Plan.</p>
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	<p>5. Enhancing and managing by appropriate use, land in the Metropolitan Green Belt and urban fringe;</p> <p>6. Retaining the best and most versatile land for agriculture;</p> <p>7. Preserving and enhancing the biodiversity of the area;</p> <p>8. Managing the demand for water resources by controlling the location, scale and phasing of development so as to protect environmental and nature conservation interests. (PolicyCS2)</p>		<p>The conservation, maintenance, enhancement and management of the natural and built environment with regard to townscape, countryside character, the landscape, wildlife and heritage qualities of the coastline, the Metropolitan Green Belt, agricultural land, biodiversity, and water resources.</p>
<p><b>Health &amp; Opportunity for the People of Essex – Essex's Local Area Agreement (2006)</b></p>	<p>Priorities, targets, and the blocks: mapping the synergies</p> <p>Our priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of young people who take a job or stay on in education or in training</li> <li>• Generate inward investment and stimulate business development and innovation</li> <li>• Ensure development is designed to promote healthier living in the built environment</li> <li>• Raise educational attainment</li> <li>• Save lives at risk from accidents from road and fire</li> <li>• Empower local people to have a greater voice and influence over local decision making and the delivery of services</li> </ul>	<p>Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of young people who take a job or stay on in education or in training</li> <li>• The rise in healthier living in the built environment</li> <li>• Raise educational attainment</li> <li>• The reduction/rise in accidents from road and fire</li> <li>• The reduction/rise in older people to go into hospital or residential care</li> <li>• Reductions in reported criminal activity and anti-social</li> </ul>	<p>Issues for consideration in the SEA include the promotion of healthier living in the built environment, the active management of the environment, reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and improve the overall quality of life. SEA objectives can be drawn from these priorities and targets.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the number of people who smoke in Essex</li> <li>• Keep vulnerable children and young people safe</li> <li>• Actively manage our environment</li> <li>• Reduce the need for older people to go into hospital or residential care</li> <li>• Build respect in communities and reduce anti-social behaviour</li> <li>• Reduce crime, the harm caused by illegal drugs and to reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime</li> <li>• Improve the quality of life for people in the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods and ensure service providers are more responsive to neighbourhood needs and improve their delivery</li> <li>• Reduce obesity (pg. 16)</li> </ul>	behaviour	
<b>Three Year Strategy Plan 2006-2009 (2006) Essex Police Authority and Essex Police</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide greater accessibility to policing services.</li> <li>• Reduce crime and fear of crime.</li> <li>• Increase community confidence, tackle anti-social behaviour and reduce fear of crime.</li> </ul>	<p>Key priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce overall crime by 15% by 2007/2008 and more in high crime areas.</li> <li>• Reduce public perception of anti social behaviour.</li> </ul>	The key of the Essex Police Authority and Essex Police 3 Year Strategy is the need to ensure that the SEA objectives seek to ensure the delivery of a safe community.
<b>School Organisational Plan 2005-2010 (2006) Essex County Council</b>	<p><b>Overarching Objective:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To promote and value learning as a rewarding lifelong experience and to encourage and support people to become effective members of, and contributors to,</li> </ul>	Not relevant	The information outlined in the Schools Plan may be useful for the baseline context to identify current and future issues related to the number of school places available in the District of Rochford.

	<p>their local communities.</p> <p>The plan seeks to set out a requirement for places in maintained primary, secondary and special schools until 2010 and identifies areas where providers will need to match supply with demand.</p>		
<p><b>Essex Rural Strategy, The Essex Rural Partnership, Partnership priorities for the future of Rural Essex</b></p>	<p><b>Identified key delivery priorities</b></p> <p><b>Delivery Priorities and Associated Actions</b></p> <p><b>1. Improving access to services</b> Those living in rural areas should not be disadvantaged in respect of access to essential services and facilities</p> <p><b>2. Improving availability and accessibility of transport to and from rural areas</b> Transport to and from rural areas should be available and easy to use</p> <p><b>3. (a) Promoting Essex 1-General</b> Present a positive message about Essex and its rural areas as the place to work, live and visit</p> <p><b>3. (b) Promoting Essex 2-Tourism</b> Present a positive message about Essex and its rural areas as the place to work, live and visit, whilst protecting and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment.</p> <p><b>4. Integrated business support</b></p>	<p>The percentage increase in use of public transport in rural areas</p> <p>Visitor figures for areas of rural Essex</p> <p>Percentage increase/decrease in concealed housing within the District's rural areas</p>	<p>Information outlined in the Essex Rural Strategy is useful</p>

	<p>A joined up approach to helping and supporting indigenous rural business</p> <p><b>5. Improving skills and employment opportunity</b> Matching training and skills initiatives with the needs of existing, developing and new high value rural business</p> <p><b>6. Improving infrastructure</b> A holistic approach to planning for rural regeneration; economic and community.</p> <p><b>7. Responding to climate change</b> Reduce greenhouse gas emission and adapt to a changing environment</p> <p><b>8. Attracting new sources of funding</b> Increase the value of funds that are available to support improvements to the quality of life in rural Essex</p> <p><b>9. Actively encouraging community involvement</b> We must encourage more people, especially 'hard to reach groups' to become more involved in their local communities</p> <p><b>10. Conservation and enhancement of the built, natural and historic environment</b> Improve the quality of life of rural residents, attract visitors and increase environmental sustainability by improvements to our built, natural and historic heritage.</p>		
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	<p><b>11. Increasing the availability of affordable housing</b> We must increase the availability of affordable housing to enable young people to continue living in their local community. The provision of affordable housing is a critical factor in supporting rural employment, communities and enterprise.</p> <p><b>12. Ensuring that the Planning system is responsive to the needs of rural regeneration</b> Ensure that sustainable and appropriate development is facilitated in order to maintain rural vitality</p> <p><b>13. Education and awareness of the rural environment</b> Encourage better understanding of rural issues and the value of the countryside</p> <p><b>14. Exerting influence on policy and ensuring a co-ordinated approach to rural delivery</b> Raise awareness of rural Essex, encourage a positive policy framework and improve delivery.</p> <p><b>15. Undertaking research and analysis to inform policy and delivery.</b> Improve understanding of rural issues and opportunities.</p>		
<b>Local</b>			
<b>Rochford District Council (2006)</b>	Developers are required to prepare a design statement for all new housing schemes of more than 12 dwellings to be	Good urban design is rarely brought about by a local authority prescribing physical solutions, or by setting rigid or	Any new developments over the specified size of 12 dwellings will require a design statement to be submitted at the proposal



	<p>or more dwellings that 10% of the units are designed, or capable of easy adaptation to, housing for long term needs. (Policy HP13)</p> <p>Within the Metropolitan Green Belt there is a general presumption against inappropriate development. Except in very special circumstances, planning permission will not be granted unless for:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the extension, alteration or replacement of existing dwellings in accordance with the criteria defined in Policies R2, R5 and R6;</li> <li>• limited affordable housing for local community needs within or immediately adjoining existing villages, in accordance with the criteria defined in Policy R3;</li> <li>• the re-use or adaptation of existing buildings in accordance with the criteria defined in Policy R9;</li> </ul> <p>Development which may be permitted under this policy should preserve the openness of the Green Belt. Any development which is permitted should be of a scale, design and siting such that the character of the countryside is not harmed and nature conservation interests are protected. (Policy R1)</p> <p>Extensions to dwellings in the Green Belt outside the rural settlement areas defined in Policy R2 will be restricted in size. Planning permission will be granted</p>	<p>10% of all units in a 25+ unit development must be designed, or easily adapted to being, housing for long term needs.</p> <p>Good urban design is rarely brought about by a local authority prescribing physical solutions, or by setting rigid or empirical design standards</p>	<p>New housing developments should use good design practices in relation to differing mobility needs and standards.</p> <p>Planning permission should not be granted for development located within the Green Belt, unless in exceptional circumstances, for any uses that is not 'open in character.'</p>
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	<p>for extensions provided that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the total size of the dwelling as extended will not exceed the original habitable floor space by more than 35 square metres in floor area;</li> <li>the proposal does not involve a material increase in the overall height of the property;</li> <li>the proposal does not harm the character of the countryside;</li> <li>the proposal does not give rise to the formation of a self-contained unit of accommodation (e.g. a 'granny flat')(Policy R5)</li> </ul> <p>The replacement or rebuild of existing dwellings in the Metropolitan Green Belt will be permitted taking account of the following criteria:</p> <p>(i) the total size of the new dwelling is no greater than:</p> <p>(A) 35 square metres in floor area above the size of the habitable floorspace of the original dwelling;</p> <p>(B) the size of the original dwelling together with the maximum permitted development allowance provided for by Schedule 2, Part 1, Class A of the Town and Country Planning General Permitted Development Order 1995; or,</p> <p>(C) the size of the habitable floorspace of the dwelling lawfully existing at the time of the application;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the visual mass of the new dwelling should be no greater than that of the</li> </ul>	<p>100% of developments permitted within the Green Belt to be in accordance with Policies R5 and R6 of the Rochford District Replacement Local Plan.</p>	<p>Planning applications which seek to change the use or extend buildings in the Green Belt, listed or unlisted, will need to be assessed against the relevant policies (R5 and R6) contained in the Rochford District Replacement Local Plan.</p>
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	<p>existing dwelling. The overall height of the replacement dwelling should not exceed that of the existing dwelling, unless a modest increase in height can be justified on design or visual amenity grounds. Where the existing dwelling is a bungalow it should be replaced by a bungalow;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the replacement dwelling will be expected to be sited in the same location within the plot as the original, unless an alternative siting is perceived to be more appropriate in Green Belt or amenity terms.</li> </ul> <p>Planning conditions or legal agreements will be used in appropriate cases to prevent the erection of extensions to the dwelling or the conversion of roof spaces, garages, etc., to habitable floorspace. (Policy R6)</p> <p>Landscaping proposals should form an integral part of any proposal for employment development or design statement. The Council will have particular regard to the impact of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lighting, including that for security purposes;</li> <li>Hard and soft landscaping measures; and</li> <li>Buffer zones</li> </ul> <p>Special attention must be paid to on site earth mounding or planting to protect and enhance the amenities, ecological value and appearance of the surroundings in</p>	<p>Consideration will need to be given as to how a proposal to extend a domestic garden already located in a Green Belt area will effect that Green Belt.</p>	<p>Any alterations and additions to a listed building or other building in the Green Belt should not affect any important architectural or historic features and complimentary materials must be used.</p>
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	<p>general, and of neighbouring properties or the seclusion of nature conservation sites in particular.</p> <p>Proposals for the long-term management and maintenance of landscaping proposals must also be included.</p> <p>Both the design and management of landscaping schemes should identify, protect and enhance nature conservation interests on-site and in surrounding areas. (Policy EB7)</p> <p>Applications for new buildings, extensions and alterations within, or affecting, Conservation Areas, will be permitted provided that the following design criteria are met:-</p> <p>i. The design and siting of the proposal respects the townscape character, and the proposal logically forms a part of the larger composition of the area in which it is situated;</p> <p>ii. The mass of the proposal is in scale and harmony with adjoining buildings and the area as a whole, and the volumes making up its block form are proportioned such that they form a satisfactory composition with each other and with adjoining buildings;</p> <p>iii. The proposal uses appropriate architectural detailing to reinforce the character of the conservation area within which it is sited. Architectural details in the new building would be expected to</p>	<p>100% of major planning applications to be accompanied by a landscaping statement.</p> <p>Good urban design is rarely brought about by a local authority prescribing physical solutions, or by setting rigid or empirical design standards.</p>	<p>New industrial and commercial developments will need to incorporate landscaping measures and improvements where established sites will be affected.</p> <p>The design policies set out in BC1 of the Rochford District Local Plan (First Review) should be adhered to in order to enhance the townscape character or conservation</p>
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	<p>complement the existing new development;</p> <p>iv. The external materials are appropriate to the particular building and to the character of the area; and,</p> <p>v. in the case of shopfronts, the proposal exhibits a high standard of shop front design, reflecting the traditional character of the particular conservation area. (Adapted from Policy BC1)</p> <p>Alterations and additions, or changes of use, to a listed building will not be permitted if they adversely affect important architectural or historic features, either internal or external, which contribute to its character, to the scale and proportions of the building or to the preservation of its setting. The choice of materials for new additions to listed buildings will be expected to complement the original materials of construction. (Policy BC3)</p> <p>Within the three Special Landscape Areas identified on the proposals map, development will not be allowed unless its location, size, siting, design, materials and landscaping accord with the character of the area in which the development is proposed. (NR1)</p> <p>Development that adversely affects the amenity value or viability of individual trees, groups of trees or woodlands that are considered ancient or that form an important part of the landscape or</p>	<p>All proposed alterations to listed buildings to be checked for their historical compatibility.</p>	<p>area.</p> <p>The design policies set out in BC3 of the Rochford District Local Plan (First Review) should be adhered to in order to enhance the townscape character or conservation area.</p> <p>There will be a presumption against</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linear tree belts</li> <li>• Plantations and woodlands</li> <li>• Semi-natural grasslands</li> <li>• Marshes</li> <li>• Watercourses</li> <li>• Reservoirs</li> <li>• Lakes</li> <li>• Ponds</li> <li>• Networks or patterns of other locally important habitats</li> </ul> <p>Development which will adversely affect the landscape features listed above will only be permitted if it can be proven that the reasons for the development outweigh the need to retain the feature and that mitigating measures can be provided.</p> <p>Appropriate management of these features will be encouraged through the imposition of conditions on planning permissions, where appropriate, to achieve the completion of a legal agreement to secure the provision of a replacement feature. (Adapted from Policy NR6)</p> <p>Within the Coastal Protection Belt, applications for development will not be granted planning permission unless it can show that the development would not adversely affect the rural character of the coastline, or its historic, wildlife or geological features. (Adapted from Policy NR8)</p> <p>The Local Planning Authority will require</p>	<p>100% of approved major applications to include measures which will facilitate biodiversity</p> <p>100% of approved applications to either promote biodiversity or have no net impact.</p> <p>All planning applications to either protect, enhance or make allowances for replacements to landscape features.</p>	<p>their proposed development will impact negatively on biodiversity</p> <p>Applicants will have to provide appropriate compensatory measures if it is thought that their proposed development will impact negatively on identified landscape features.</p>
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	<p>the provision of off-street servicing in all proposals for new development within Town Centres and will encourage the provision of new or improved off-street servicing facilities. (Policy SAT6)</p> <p>Shopfronts should be designed to complement the style and proportions of the affected building, and to those adjoining it. Shop front designs should also incorporate any features necessary to ensure the security of the premises, and its contents. (Policy SAT7)</p> <p>As well as matters of design and layout and car parking standards, the local planning authority will take into account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscape, ecological and topographical features;</li> <li>• The wider visual impact of a scheme. (Adapted from Policy HP3)</li> </ul> <p><b>Design Statements:</b> All statements will be expected to outline the key design elements of the scheme and to provide an assessment against principles of sustainable development, including impacts on biodiversity and nature conservation. (Adapted from Policy HP4)</p>	<p>0% of development to be granted planning permission that would adversely affect the rural character of the coastline, or its historic, wildlife or geological features.</p> <p>100% of approved planning applications to make provision for off-street servicing.</p> <p>100% of approved signage applications within conservation areas to be of a traditional form.</p>	<p>Rural characteristics of the coastline and its historic, wildlife and geological features to be preserved and not jeopardised by any new development.</p> <p>Major planning applications will need to make provision for off-street services.</p> <p>Developers will need to be aware that a newly installed shop front will have to complement the style and proportion of the affected building.</p> <p>Advertisements will need to be in keeping with the character of the area and building on which they are displayed.</p> <p>Traditional forms of fascias and hanging signs will be encouraged over more modern forms of lighting and advertising in conservation areas. Local planning authorities to additionally take into account landscape, ecological and topographical features and wide visual impacts of a proposal so as to determine the viability of the development in context to wider conservation issues.</p>
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		100% of design statements to include an assessment against principles of sustainable development, including impacts on biodiversity and nature conservation.	Design statements to outline key design elements and assessment against principles of sustainable development, including impacts on biodiversity and nature conservation.
<b>Community Strategy (2004) Rochford District Council</b>	<p>The Strategy includes six key themes which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feeling Safe <i>(To reduce both the level and the fear of crime and to make the District a safer place for people to live in, work in or visit.)</i></li> <li>Looking After Our Environment <i>(To protect and enhance the natural and built environment for present and future generations.)</i></li> <li>A Good Education, Good Skills and Good Jobs <i>(To enable all residents of the District to access high quality education, training and skills development opportunities to ensure a thriving local economy)</i></li> </ul>	N/A	<p>Issues of ensuring safer communities are incorporated into SEA objectives</p> <p>The protection and enhancement of the natural and built environments is an objective that can covered in the SEA.</p>



	<p><i>now and in the future.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthy Living (<i>To improve and promote the social, physical and mental health of everyone in the District by providing a variety of choices for leisure and free time pursuits and first class healthcare.</i>)</li> <li>• Getting Around (<i>To improve people's ability to get across and around the District.</i>)</li> <li>• An Inclusive Community (<i>To promote active and responsible citizenship, creating a community inclusive of all groups, and enabling everyone to fully participate in activities that improve their quality of life.</i>)</li> </ul>		<p>The health of Rochford District's population and improving accessibility can be used in SEA objectives regarding the promotion of sustainable transport and open space.</p>
<p><b>The Crouch and Roach Estuary Management Plan</b></p>	<p>This Management Plan through its stakeholders is able to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• co-ordinate planning policies across four Local Planning Authorities within the County of Essex</li> <li>• examine issues that are not</li> </ul>	<p>Impacts from development and coastal realignment on agriculture, tourism, access and fisheries.</p> <p>The affects of recreational use on the ecology of the estuaries.</p>	<p>Issues of tourism, coastal protection and ecology can all be utilised as SEA objectives. The examination of the interplay between these can be addressed in the Compatibility Matrix and the Appraising Plans Policy section.</p>

	<p>addressed by the planning system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• examine the interplay between the pressures of tourism, agriculture, coastal protection and ecology</li> <li>• examine the potential for coastal realignment options and the potential impact on agriculture, tourism, access and fisheries</li> <li>• address the affects of recreational use on the ecology of the estuaries</li> <li>• consider the health of the rural economy of the area</li> <li>• identify opportunities for economic activity to support the rural population</li> <li>• build on the findings of market town health checks on the north and south banks of the river Crouch and aid the delivery of local actions</li> </ul>		
<b>Economic Development Strategy for Rochford District (2005)</b> <b>Rochford District Council</b>	<p>The aim of this particular Strategy is to: <i>'work with partners to maximise the economic well being of businesses in the area, making the District a better place to live and work' (Para. 2.4)</i></p> <p>There are seven key themes for Economic Development, identified below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work in partnership to support the needs of the business community in the area, to enable it to develop and grow and thus contribute to the economic prosperity of the District.</li> <li>2. Working with partners, develop the skills of the local workforce to meet the needs of</li> </ol>	<p>Levels of (un)employment in the District</p> <p>The economic performance and competitiveness of town centres and industrial estates in the District.</p>	<p>The issue of facilitating appropriate local transport and infrastructure developments which balance businesses needs whilst respecting local environmental constraints is reflected in SEA objectives and the appraisal section.</p> <p>Improving access to recreation facilities and preserving the District's heritage are both important to the District of Rochford and to objectives of sustainability.</p>

	<p>businesses now and in the future, to maintain low levels of unemployment in the District and encourage jobs that add value to the local economy.</p> <p>3. Support town centre and industrial estate enhancement initiatives aimed at improving the environment ensuring the area is economically prosperous and competitive.</p> <p>4. Work with partners to ensure that businesses, including rural businesses have access to quality and effective business support initiatives locally.</p> <p>5. Facilitate appropriate local transport and infrastructure developments which balance businesses needs whilst respecting local environmental constraints.</p> <p>6. Develop tourism and heritage initiatives which provide new local employment and wealth generation opportunities, and visitor attractions aimed at improving access to recreation facilities and preserving the Districts' heritage for future generations.</p> <p>7. Taking advantage of inward investment opportunities to secure the future economic prosperity of the District.</p>		
<b>Housing Needs Survey (2004)</b>	The Thames Gateway South Essex Sub-Region is seeking to undertake a comprehensive and robust housing	The performance of the Council's Planning Policy in the delivery of affordable housing units – 2,037 units	Issues of affordable housing requirements and delivery are relevant to, and reflected in, SEA objectives.

<b>Rochford District Council</b>	<p>market and needs assessment to obtain high quality information about current and future housing needs across the Sub-Region and also at Local Authority level.</p> <p>The key aims of the Housing Market Assessment and Needs Survey research project are to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Provide robust data to inform a sub-regional housing strategy and the five Local Authority housing strategies;</li> <li>◆ Meet the Sub-Region's and Councils' statutory obligations to consider housing conditions and needs in the specified areas;</li> <li>◆ Provide robust data to support the Councils' Planning Policy for affordable housing;</li> <li>◆ Assist in the development of detailed Social Housing Grant Investment priorities;</li> <li>◆ Assist in the development and review of:-</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asset Management Strategies;</li> <li>• Housing policies in Corporate plans, which include the Community Plan, Best Value Performance Plans, Statutory Development Plan documents and Local Agenda 21;</li> <li>• Community Care Plan and emerging</li> </ul>	<p>by 2011</p> <p>Current and future housing needs in comparison to delivery.</p>	
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	<p>Supporting People strategies;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sub-Regional Housing Strategy.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Housing Strategy 2004-2007 Fit for Purpose (2004) Rochford District Council</b></p>	<p>The Council's strategic housing priorities are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure provision of sufficient affordable and suitable housing for the local people, including those with special needs, which take account of cost, size and location requirements.</li> <li>• To ensure all homes in the District are of suitable standard for modern living and for the promotion of safety and good health, concentrating on Council housing and private homes where the occupier is unable to maintain the property.</li> <li>• To improve our performance in preventing and dealing with homelessness.</li> <li>• To ensure that older persons' housing care and support needs are effectively addressed.</li> </ul> <p>To ensure that the Option Appraisal in relation to the Council's housing stock is completed to timetable.</p>	<p>Indicators and associated targets outlined in Appendix 6. Of relevance to the SEA includes;</p> <p><b>BV62</b> – The proportion of unfit private sector dwellings made fit or demolished as a direct result of local authority action.</p> <p><b>Targets –</b></p> <p>2005/06 – 2.5% 2006/07 – 3%</p> <p><b>BV63</b> – Energy efficiency – the average SAP rating of local authority owned dwellings.</p> <p><b>Targets</b></p> <p>2005/06 – 62 2006/07 – 65</p> <p><b>BV64</b> – The number of private sector vacant dwellings that are returned into occupation or demolished during the year as a result of action by the Local Authority.</p>	<p>The objectives of the plan may be utilised in the SEA to shape the SEA objectives. The indicators and targets outlined in appendix 6 of the plan may be integrated into the sustainability framework to assist in the appraisal of the Core Strategy, and also to inform the monitoring framework.</p>

		<b>Targets –</b> 2005/06 – 2 2006/07 - 2	
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