

## Appendix 6 – Environment Options

### Local Wildlife Sites

	SA Objective	Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?	Local Wildlife Sites
	<b>Balanced Communities</b>		
1	To ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people want to live and work	Will it ensure the phasing of infrastructure, including community facilities to meet ongoing and future needs?	No impact.
		Will it ensure the regeneration and enhancement of existing rural and urban communities?	No impact.
		Will it ensure equal opportunities and that all sections of the community are catered for?	No impact.
		Will it meet the needs of an ageing population?	No impact.
		Will the policies and options proposed seek to enhance the qualifications and skills of the local community?	No impact.
		Will income and quality-of-life disparities be reduced?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Local Wildlife Sites</b>
<b>Healthy &amp; Safe Communities</b>			
2	Create healthy and safe environments where crime and disorder or fear of crime does not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion	Will it ensure the delivery of high quality, safe and inclusive design?	These designations would assist in the provision of quality opportunities for recreation and leisure, although it is recognised that not all designated sites are publicly accessible.
		Will it improve health and reduce health inequalities?	No impact.
		Will it promote informal recreation and encourage healthy, active lifestyles?	No impact.
		Will green infrastructure (non-vehicular infrastructure routes and links) and networks be promoted and/or enhanced?	Green infrastructure links may be provided in the future to facilitate species movement between sites.
		Will it minimise noise pollution?	No impact.
		Will it minimise light pollution?	No impact.
<b>Housing</b>			
3	To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home	Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?	No impact.
		Will a mix of housing types and tenures be promoted?	No impact.
		Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	No impact.
		Does it promote high quality design?	No impact.
		Is there sustainable access to key services?	No impact.
		Does it meet the resident's needs in terms of sheltered and lifetime homes or those that can be easily adapted so?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Local Wildlife Sites</b>
	<b>Economy &amp; Employment</b>		
4	To achieve sustainable levels of economic growth/prosperity and promote town centre vitality/viability	Does it promote and enhance existing centres by focusing development in such centres?	No impact.
		Will it improve business development?	There may be minor positive effects for the local economy through seeking to protect areas of nature conservation importance, which may support the local tourist industry.
		Does it enhance consumer choice through the provision of a range of shopping, leisure, and local services to meet the needs of the entire community?	No impact.
		Does it promote mixed use and high density development in urban centres?	No impact.
		Does it promote a wide variety of jobs across all sectors?	No impact.
		Does it secure more opportunities for residents to work in the district?	No impact.
		Will it aid the realisation of London Southend Airport's economic potential?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Local Wildlife Sites</b>
	<b>Accessibility</b>		
5	To promote more sustainable transport choices both for people and moving freight ensuring access to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling	Will it increase the availability of sustainable transport modes?	No impact.
		Will it seek to encourage people to use alternative modes of transportation other than the private car, including walking and cycling?	No impact.
		Will it contribute positively to reducing social exclusion by ensuring access to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services?	No impact.
		Will it reduce the need to travel?	No impact.
		Does it seek to encourage development where large volumes of people and/or transport movements are located in sustainable accessible locations?	No impact.
		Does it enable access for all sections of the community, including the young, the socially deprived, those with disabilities and the elderly?	No impact.
		Does it secure more opportunities for residents to work in the District, and for out-commuting to be reduced?	No impact.
		Does it enable access to green infrastructure and the wider natural environment to all sections of the community?	This option may enable access to locally important habitats, however, it is pertinent to note that not all of these are publicly accessible.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Local Wildlife Sites</b>
	<b>Biodiversity</b>		
6	To conserve and enhance the biological and geological diversity of the environment as an integral part of social, environmental and economic development	Will it conserve and enhance natural/semi natural habitats, including the District's distinctive estuaries and salt marshes?	This option would protect natural and semi-natural habitats which have local ecological value.
		Will it conserve and enhance species diversity, and in particular avoid harm to protected species and priority species?	This option has the potential to conserve and enhance species diversity through the recognition of locally important wildlife habitats.
		Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest?	There is likely to be significant long-term positive effects for biodiversity through seeking to maintain, restore and enhance sites of nature conservation importance through the designation of such locally important sites.
		Will it conserve and enhance sites of geological significance?	No impact.
		Does land use allocation reflect the scope of using brownfield land for significant wildlife interest where viable and realistic?	No impact.
		Does new development integrate within it opportunities for new habitat creation, particularly where they could facilitate species movement and colonisation in relation to climate change pressures on biodiversity and its distribution?	There may be positive effects on the local climate through maintaining and enhancing local sites, which will assist in improving the resilience of sites in the face of climatic changes and potentially assist in maintaining and / or improving air quality within the District.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Local Wildlife Sites</b>
	<b>Cultural Heritage</b>		
7	To maintain and enhance the cultural heritage and assets of the District	Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value in both urban and rural areas?	No impact.
		Will it support locally-based cultural resources and activities?	No impact.
	<b>Landscape &amp; Townscape</b>		
8	To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	Does it seek to enhance the range and quality of the public realm and open spaces?	This option has the potential to enhance the range and quality of the public realm and open spaces, although not all of the Local Wildlife Sites are publicly accessible.
		Will it contribute to the delivery of the enhancement, effective management and appropriate use of land in the urban fringe?	No impact.
		Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?	No impact.
		Will it conserve (as preservation is neither realistic or desirable) the landscape character areas of the plan area?	The continued protection of these Local Wildlife Sites may have positive long-term effects through enhancing the quality of landscape areas, particularly to the east of the District.
		Will it preserve and/or enhance townscape character and value?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Local Wildlife Sites</b>
<b>Climate Change &amp; Energy</b>			
9	To reduce contributions to climate change	Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by reducing energy consumption?	No impact.
		Will it lead to an increased proportion of energy needs being met from renewable sources?	No impact.
		Does it adapt to and provide for the consequences of climate change in a largely low-lying area?	There may be positive effects on the local climate through maintaining and enhancing local sites, which will assist in improving the resilience of sites in the face of climatic changes and potentially assist in maintaining and / or improving air quality within the District.
<b>Water</b>			
10	To improve water quality and reduce the risk of flooding	Will it improve the quality of inland water?	No impact.
		Will it improve the quality of coastal waters?	No impact.
		Will it provide for an efficient water conservation and supply regime?	No impact.
		Will it provide for effective wastewater treatment?	No impact.
		Will it require the provision of sustainable drainage systems in new development?	No impact.
		Will it reduce the risk of flooding?	No impact.
		Will it integrate sustainable flood management which works with natural processes, presents habitat enhancement opportunities and is landscape character sensitive?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Local Wildlife Sites</b>
	<b>Land &amp; Soil</b>		
11	To maintain and improve the quality of the District's land and soil	Does it ensure the re-use of previously-developed land and urban areas in preference to Greenfield sites, as far as is practicable given the characteristics of the District?	No impact.
		Will higher-density development be promoted where appropriate?	No impact.
		Will soil quality be preserved?	This option may preserve soil quality.
		Will it promote the remediation of contaminated land?	No impact.
		Will the best and most versatile agricultural land be protected?	No impact.
	<b>Air Quality</b>		
12	To improve air quality	Will air quality be improved through reduced emissions (e.g. through reducing car travel)?	There may be positive effects on the local climate through maintaining and enhancing local sites, which will assist in improving the resilience of sites in the face of climatic changes and potentially assist in maintaining and / or improving air quality within the District.
		Will it direct transport movements away from AQMAs and/or potentially significant junctions?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Local Wildlife Sites</b>
	<b>Sustainable Design &amp; Construction</b>		
13	To promote sustainable design and construction	Will it ensure the use of sustainable design principles, e.g. encouraging a mix of uses?	No impact.
		Will climate proofing design measures be incorporated?	No impact.
		Will the local character/vernacular be preserved and enhanced through development?	No impact.
		Will it require the re-use and recycling of construction materials?	No impact.
		Will it encourage locally-sourced materials?	No impact.
		Will it require best-practice sustainable construction methods, for example in energy and water efficiency?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

**Upper Roach Valley Special Landscape Area**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Upper Roach Valley Special Landscape Area</b>
	<b>Balanced Communities</b>		
1	To ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people want to live and work	Will it ensure the phasing of infrastructure, including community facilities to meet ongoing and future needs?	No impact.
		Will it ensure the regeneration and enhancement of existing rural and urban communities?	The designation of this vast area would potentially have positive regeneration benefits for local communities and provide significant positive health effects through the creation of formal/informal recreational opportunities in proximity to residential areas, which would be accessible and inclusive and therefore benefit many in the local community.
		Will it ensure equal opportunities and that all sections of the community are catered for?	No impact.
		Will it meet the needs of an ageing population?	No impact.
		Will the policies and options proposed seek to enhance the qualifications and skills of the local community?	No impact.
		Will income and quality-of-life disparities be reduced?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Upper Roach Valley Special Landscape Area</b>
<b>Healthy &amp; Safe Communities</b>			
2	Create healthy and safe environments where crime and disorder or fear of crime does not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion	Will it ensure the delivery of high quality, safe and inclusive design?	No impact.
		Will it improve health and reduce health inequalities?	There is potential to connect this 'green lung' to green infrastructure links/additional cycling routes, potentially providing additional health benefits and encouraging alternative transport modes to the car.
		Will it promote informal recreation and encourage healthy, active lifestyles?	There is potential to connect this 'green lung' to green infrastructure links/additional cycling routes, potentially providing additional health benefits and encouraging alternative transport modes to the car.
		Will green infrastructure (non-vehicular infrastructure routes and links) and networks be promoted and/or enhanced?	There is potential to connect this 'green lung' to green infrastructure links/additional cycling routes, potentially providing additional health benefits and encouraging alternative transport modes to the car.
		Will it minimise noise pollution?	No impact.
		Will it minimise light pollution?	No impact.
<b>Housing</b>			
3	To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home	Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?	No impact.
		Will a mix of housing types and tenures be promoted?	No impact.
		Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	No impact.
		Does it promote high quality design?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

SA Objective		Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?	Upper Roach Valley Special Landscape Area
		Is there sustainable access to key services?	No impact.
		Does it meet the resident's needs in terms of sheltered and lifetime homes or those that can be easily adapted so?	No impact.
<b>Economy &amp; Employment</b>			
4	To achieve sustainable levels of economic growth/prosperity and promote town centre vitality/viability	Does it promote and enhance existing centres by focusing development in such centres?	No impact.
		Will it improve business development?	There may be minor positive effects for the local economy through seeking to protect areas of nature conservation importance, which may support the local tourist industry.
		Does it enhance consumer choice through the provision of a range of shopping, leisure, and local services to meet the needs of the entire community?	No impact.
		Does it promote mixed use and high density development in urban centres?	No impact.
		Does it promote a wide variety of jobs across all sectors?	No impact.
		Does it secure more opportunities for residents to work in the district?	There may be minor positive effects through increased employment opportunities.
		Will it aid the realisation of London Southend Airport's economic potential?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	SA Objective	Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?	Upper Roach Valley Special Landscape Area
	<b>Accessibility</b>		
5	To promote more sustainable transport choices both for people and moving freight ensuring access to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling	Will it increase the availability of sustainable transport modes?	Footpaths, bridleways and cycleways have the potential to increase the use of non-car modes of transport. It is recognised, however, that the site may encourage further access by private car.
		Will it seek to encourage people to use alternative modes of transportation other than the private car, including walking and cycling?	Footpaths, bridleways and cycleways have the potential to increase the use of non-car modes of transport. It is recognised, however, that the site may encourage further access by private car.
		Will it contribute positively to reducing social exclusion by ensuring access to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services?	No impact.
		Will it reduce the need to travel?	Footpaths, bridleways and cycleways have the potential to increase the use of non-car modes of transport. It is recognised, however, that the site may encourage further access by private car.
		Does it seek to encourage development where large volumes of people and/or transport movements are located in sustainable accessible locations?	No impact.
		Does it enable access for all sections of the community, including the young, the socially deprived, those with disabilities and the elderly?	No impact.
		Does it secure more opportunities for residents to work in the District, and for out-commuting to be reduced?	There may be minor positive effects through increased employment opportunities.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	SA Objective	Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?	Upper Roach Valley Special Landscape Area
		Does it enable access to green infrastructure and the wider natural environment to all sections of the community?	There is potential to connect this 'green lung' to green infrastructure links/additional cycling routes, which may ensure access for all sections of the community to this important local resource.
<b>Biodiversity</b>			
6	To conserve and enhance the biological and geological diversity of the environment as an integral part of social, environmental and economic development	Will it conserve and enhance natural/semi natural habitats, including the District's distinctive estuaries and salt marshes?	This option encompasses Hockley Woods which is a large expanse of woodland recognised for its ecological importance. This option would protect such natural and semi-natural habitats which form this important landscape.
		Will it conserve and enhance species diversity, and in particular avoid harm to protected species and priority species?	This option has the potential to conserve and enhance species diversity through recognising the importance of this area and preventing habitat fragmentation.
		Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest?	This option would maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest.
		Will it conserve and enhance sites of geological significance?	No impact.
		Does land use allocation reflect the scope of using brownfield land for significant wildlife interest where viable and realistic?	No impact.
		Does new development integrate within it opportunities for new habitat creation, particularly where they could facilitate species movement and colonisation in relation to climate change pressures on biodiversity and its distribution?	The Core Strategy Submission Document Sustainability Appraisal acknowledges that there is potential for very positive biodiversity effects, through enhancement of habitats and a potential longer term reduction in habitat fragmentation enabling flora and fauna to cope with the forecast effects of climate change.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Upper Roach Valley Special Landscape Area</b>
	<b>Cultural Heritage</b>		
7	To maintain and enhance the cultural heritage and assets of the District	Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value in both urban and rural areas?	This area encompasses Hockley Woods and land to the south which is a complex of ancient woodlands and farmland on undulating ground between Hockley and Southend-on-Sea (SEA Baseline Information Profile). It also encompasses Cherry Orchard Jubilee Country Park.
		Will it support locally-based cultural resources and activities?	No impact.
	<b>Landscape &amp; Townscape</b>		
8	To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	Does it seek to enhance the range and quality of the public realm and open spaces?	This option has the potential to enhance the range and quality of the public realm and open spaces, through ensuring the continued protection of the important landscape between Hockley and Southend-on-Sea to the south which encompasses Hockley Woods and Cherry Orchard Jubilee Country Park.
		Will it contribute to the delivery of the enhancement, effective management and appropriate use of land in the urban fringe?	No impact.
		Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?	No impact.
		Will it conserve (as preservation is neither realistic or desirable) the landscape character areas of the plan area?	The continued protection of this important area would conserve the landscape character of this area. The protection and enhancement of this area would potentially generate strong beneficial effects for improving landscape quality in the urban fringe and longer term beneficial effects for the preservation of soil quality and good agricultural land.
		Will it preserve and/or enhance townscape character and value?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	SA Objective	Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?	Upper Roach Valley Special Landscape Area
<b>Climate Change &amp; Energy</b>			
9	To reduce contributions to climate change	Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by reducing energy consumption?	No impact.
		Will it lead to an increased proportion of energy needs being met from renewable sources?	No impact.
		Does it adapt to and provide for the consequences of climate change in a largely low-lying area?	The Core Strategy Submission Document Sustainability Appraisal acknowledges that there is potential for very positive biodiversity effects, through enhancement of habitats and a potential longer term reduction in habitat fragmentation enabling flora and fauna to cope with the forecast effects of climate change.
<b>Water</b>			
10	To improve water quality and reduce the risk of flooding	Will it improve the quality of inland water?	No impact.
		Will it improve the quality of coastal waters?	No impact.
		Will it provide for an efficient water conservation and supply regime?	No impact.
		Will it provide for effective wastewater treatment?	No impact.
		Will it require the provision of sustainable drainage systems in new development?	No impact.
		Will it reduce the risk of flooding?	No impact.
		Will it integrate sustainable flood management which works with natural processes, presents habitat enhancement opportunities and is landscape character sensitive?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	SA Objective	Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?	Upper Roach Valley Special Landscape Area
<b>Land &amp; Soil</b>			
11	To maintain and improve the quality of the District's land and soil	Does it ensure the re-use of previously-developed land and urban areas in preference to Greenfield sites, as far as is practicable given the characteristics of the District?	No impact.
		Will higher-density development be promoted where appropriate?	No impact.
		Will soil quality be preserved?	This option may have a positive impact on soil quality.
		Will it promote the remediation of contaminated land?	No impact.
		Will the best and most versatile agricultural land be protected?	No impact.
<b>Air Quality</b>			
12	To improve air quality	Will air quality be improved through reduced emissions (e.g. through reducing car travel)?	Additional tree-planting is likely to increase the potential of the area to act as a 'carbon sink' and have positive benefits for air quality.
		Will it direct transport movements away from AQMAs and/or potentially significant junctions?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Upper Roach Valley Special Landscape Area</b>
	<b>Sustainable Design &amp; Construction</b>		
13	To promote sustainable design and construction	Will it ensure the use of sustainable design principles, e.g. encouraging a mix of uses?	No impact.
		Will climate proofing design measures be incorporated?	No impact.
		Will the local character/vernacular be preserved and enhanced through development?	No impact.
		Will it require the re-use and recycling of construction materials?	No impact.
		Will it encourage locally-sourced materials?	No impact.
		Will it require best-practice sustainable construction methods, for example in energy and water efficiency?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

**Coastal Protection Belt**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Coastal Protection Belt</b>
	<b>Balanced Communities</b>		
1	To ensure the delivery of high quality sustainable communities where people want to live and work	Will it ensure the phasing of infrastructure, including community facilities to meet ongoing and future needs?	No impact.
		Will it ensure the regeneration and enhancement of existing rural and urban communities?	This designation would have a positive effect on high quality sustainable communities by directing development away from coastal areas towards existing developed areas, which may also contribute to their regeneration.
		Will it ensure equal opportunities and that all sections of the community are catered for?	No impact.
		Will it meet the needs of an ageing population?	No impact.
		Will the policies and options proposed seek to enhance the qualifications and skills of the local community?	No impact.
		Will income and quality-of-life disparities be reduced?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Coastal Protection Belt</b>
<b>Healthy &amp; Safe Communities</b>			
2	Create healthy and safe environments where crime and disorder or fear of crime does not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion	Will it ensure the delivery of high quality, safe and inclusive design?	No impact.
		Will it improve health and reduce health inequalities?	This designation would have a positive effect on healthy and safe communities by directing development away from coastal areas towards existing developed areas, which may also contribute to their regeneration.
		Will it promote informal recreation and encourage healthy, active lifestyles?	This designation would have a positive effect on healthy and safe communities by directing development away from coastal areas towards existing developed areas, which may also contribute to their regeneration.
		Will green infrastructure (non-vehicular infrastructure routes and links) and networks be promoted and/or enhanced?	No impact.
		Will it minimise noise pollution?	No impact.
		Will it minimise light pollution?	No impact.
<b>Housing</b>			
3	To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home	Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?	No impact.
		Will a mix of housing types and tenures be promoted?	No impact.
		Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	No impact.
		Does it promote high quality design?	No impact.
		Is there sustainable access to key services?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	SA Objective	Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?	Coastal Protection Belt
		Does it meet the resident's needs in terms of sheltered and lifetime homes or those that can be easily adapted so?	No impact.
<b>Economy &amp; Employment</b>			
4	To achieve sustainable levels of economic growth/prosperity and promote town centre vitality/viability	Does it promote and enhance existing centres by focusing development in such centres?	No impact.
		Will it improve business development?	This option would potentially have indirect positive benefits for local economy.
		Does it enhance consumer choice through the provision of a range of shopping, leisure, and local services to meet the needs of the entire community?	No impact.
		Does it promote mixed use and high density development in urban centres?	No impact.
		Does it promote a wide variety of jobs across all sectors?	No impact.
		Does it secure more opportunities for residents to work in the district?	No impact.
		Will it aid the realisation of London Southend Airport's economic potential?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	SA Objective	Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?	Coastal Protection Belt
	<b>Accessibility</b>		
5	To promote more sustainable transport choices both for people and moving freight ensuring access to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling	Will it increase the availability of sustainable transport modes?	No impact.
		Will it seek to encourage people to use alternative modes of transportation other than the private car, including walking and cycling?	No impact.
		Will it contribute positively to reducing social exclusion by ensuring access to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services?	No impact.
		Will it reduce the need to travel?	No impact.
		Does it seek to encourage development where large volumes of people and/or transport movements are located in sustainable accessible locations?	No impact.
		Does it enable access for all sections of the community, including the young, the socially deprived, those with disabilities and the elderly?	No impact.
		Does it secure more opportunities for residents to work in the District, and for out-commuting to be reduced?	No impact.
		Does it enable access to green infrastructure and the wider natural environment to all sections of the community?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Coastal Protection Belt</b>
	<b>Biodiversity</b>		
6	To conserve and enhance the biological and geological diversity of the environment as an integral part of social, environmental and economic development	Will it conserve and enhance natural/semi natural habitats, including the District's distinctive estuaries and salt marshes?	This designation would help protect the wildlife and heritage qualities of the coastline, have positive long-term effects for biodiversity and have positive benefits for geological diversity. By directing development away from the coast, there would be significant positive effects for the District's very distinctive coastal landscape.
		Will it conserve and enhance species diversity, and in particular avoid harm to protected species and priority species?	The Coastal Protection Belt encompasses the Crouch and Roach estuaries and adjacent areas which are designated Ramsar Sites, Special Protection Areas, and Sites of Special Scientific Interest amongst other nature conservation designations (SEA Baseline Information Profile). This designation may therefore have positive long-term effects for biodiversity.
		Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest?	There are likely to be significant benefits for biodiversity through seeking to maintain, restore and enhance sites of nature conservation importance through the designation of the District's distinctive landscape.
		Will it conserve and enhance sites of geological significance?	This designation may have positive benefits for geological diversity.
		Does land use allocation reflect the scope of using brownfield land for significant wildlife interest where viable and realistic?	No impact.
		Does new development integrate within it opportunities for new habitat creation, particularly where they could facilitate species movement and colonisation in relation to climate change pressures on biodiversity and its distribution?	The Core Strategy Submission Document Sustainability Appraisal recognises that such a designation would assist in building resilience in an area particularly susceptible to the effects of climate change.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Coastal Protection Belt</b>
	<b>Cultural Heritage</b>		
7	To maintain and enhance the cultural heritage and assets of the District	Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value in both urban and rural areas?	This option would ensure significant positive effects for the District's very distinctive coastal landscape, which encompasses numerous different historic environment character zones, and associated archaeological potential and sensitivity to change (Rochford District Historic Environment Characterisation Project).
		Will it support locally-based cultural resources and activities?	No impact.
	<b>Landscape &amp; Townscape</b>		
8	To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	Does it seek to enhance the range and quality of the public realm and open spaces?	No impact.
		Will it contribute to the delivery of the enhancement, effective management and appropriate use of land in the urban fringe?	No impact.
		Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?	No impact.
		Will it conserve (as preservation is neither realistic or desirable) the landscape character areas of the plan area?	This designation would continue to protect the character of the undeveloped coastline within the District.
		Will it preserve and/or enhance townscape character and value?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Coastal Protection Belt</b>
<b>Climate Change &amp; Energy</b>			
9	To reduce contributions to climate change	Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by reducing energy consumption?	No impact.
		Will it lead to an increased proportion of energy needs being met from renewable sources?	No impact.
		Does it adapt to and provide for the consequences of climate change in a largely low-lying area?	The Core Strategy Submission Document Sustainability Appraisal recognises that such a designation would assist in building resilience in an area particularly susceptible to the effects of climate change.
<b>Water</b>			
10	To improve water quality and reduce the risk of flooding	Will it improve the quality of inland water?	There is potential for positive long-term effects for water quality, particularly coastal water and for land and soil, through seeking to limit development in sensitive coastal areas.
		Will it improve the quality of coastal waters?	There is potential for positive long-term effects for water quality, particularly coastal water and for land and soil, through seeking to limit development in sensitive coastal areas.
		Will it provide for an efficient water conservation and supply regime?	No impact.
		Will it provide for effective wastewater treatment?	No impact.
		Will it require the provision of sustainable drainage systems in new development?	No impact.
		Will it reduce the risk of flooding?	This designation would direct development away from coastal areas towards existing developed areas, which are generally at a lower risk of flooding.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	SA Objective	Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?	Coastal Protection Belt
		Will it integrate sustainable flood management which works with natural processes, presents habitat enhancement opportunities and is landscape character sensitive?	No impact.
<b>Land &amp; Soil</b>			
11	To maintain and improve the quality of the District's land and soil	Does it ensure the re-use of previously-developed land and urban areas in preference to Greenfield sites, as far as is practicable given the characteristics of the District?	No impact.
		Will higher-density development be promoted where appropriate?	No impact.
		Will soil quality be preserved?	This option would have a positive impact on soil quality through directing development away from undeveloped coastal areas towards existing developed areas.
		Will it promote the remediation of contaminated land?	No impact.
		Will the best and most versatile agricultural land be protected?	No impact.

**Rochford District Council – Allocations Development Plan Document:  
Discussion and Consultation Document – Sustainability Appraisal**

	<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Decision-Aiding Question Will it (the Option)...?</b>	<b>Coastal Protection Belt</b>
	<b>Air Quality</b>		
12	To improve air quality	Will air quality be improved through reduced emissions (e.g. through reducing car travel)?	No impact.
		Will it direct transport movements away from AQMAs and/or potentially significant junctions?	No impact.
	<b>Sustainable Design &amp; Construction</b>		
13	To promote sustainable design and construction	Will it ensure the use of sustainable design principles, e.g. encouraging a mix of uses?	No impact.
		Will climate proofing design measures be incorporated?	No impact.
		Will the local character/vernacular be preserved and enhanced through development?	No impact.
		Will it require the re-use and recycling of construction materials?	No impact.
		Will it encourage locally-sourced materials?	No impact.
		Will it require best-practice sustainable construction methods, for example in energy and water efficiency?	No impact.