Wealden District Council

Wealden Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Appendix A Policies, Plans and Programmes

January 2024

Wealden
District Council

INTERNATIONAL		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change 1992	The stabilisation of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system" within a timeframe that allows people and planet to adapt and economies to develop sustainably. The UNFCCC has provided a basis for international climate negotiations since it was established, including the Kyoto Protocol (1997) and the Paris Agreement (2015).	conveng.pdf (unfccc.int)
UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021 – 2030	Is a direct response to the call from science, as articulated in the Special Report on Climate Change and Land of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and to the decisions taken by all UN Member States in the Rio Conventions on climate change and biodiversity, and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification. Seeks to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide.	UN Decade on Restoration
Kyoto Protocol 1997	Limit the emissions of 6 greenhouse gases including: carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, sulphur hexafluoride; Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 5% of 1990 levels by 2008-12; UK has an agreement to reduce emissions by 12.5% below 1990 levels by 2008/12 and a national goal to a 20% reduction in CO_2 emissions below 1990 levels by 2010.	What is the Kyoto Protocol? | UNFCCC
Paris Climate Agreement 2015	Hold the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levelss	The Paris Agreement | UNFCCC
Glasgow Climate Pact (COP26) 2021	• To hold the increase in global average temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels; • To end deforestation by 2030; • More public and private finance to support climate action in developing countries; • Make all new car sales zero emission globally by 2040, and by 2035 in leading markets; • End international coal finance by the end of 2021; • Phase out the use of coal power.	Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement on its second session, held in Glasgow from 31 October to 12 November 2021. Addendum (unfccc.int)
INTERNATIONAL		

Appendix A - Policies, Plans and Programmes

Policy or plan	Summary of objectives and targets	Source / link
UN Sustainable Development goals 2015-2030	The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. There are 17 integrated SDGs that together seek to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.	Sustainable Development Goals | United Nations Development Programme (undp.org)
The Sustainable Development Goals Report (2020)	Overview of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals before the pandemic started and some of the initial impacts of COVID-19 on specific goals and targets	The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2020 | Department of Economic and Social Affairs (un.org)
IPCC Sixth Assessment Report comprising:	The Assessment comprises 3 separate reports, with a 4th synthesis report that brings them together. No targets or objectives, these reports provide a concise picture of the impacts of climate change and the means to address them • Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis (Aug 2021) • Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability (Feb 2022) • Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change (Apr 2022) • Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report (Mar 2023)	Sixth Assessment Report — IPCC

INTERNATIONAL		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
World Health Organisation (WHO) Environmental Noise Guidelines for the European Region (2018) **and Environmental Noise Guidelines for the European Region Executive Summary (2018)**	The main purpose of these guidelines is to provide recommendations for protecting human health from exposure to environmental noise originating from various sources: transportation noise (road traffic, railway and aircraft) , wind turbine noise and leisure noise. Compared to previous WHO guidelines on noise, this version contains five significant developments: • stronger evidence of the cardiovascular and metabolic effects of environmental noise; • inclusion of new noise sources, namely wind turbine noise and leisure noise, in addition to noise from transportation (aircraft, rail and road traffic); • use of a standardised approach to assess the evidence; • a systematic review of evidence, defining the relationship between noise exposure and risk of adverse health outcomes; • use of long-term average noise exposure indicators to better predict adverse health outcomes	Environmental noise guidelines for the European Region (who.int) Environmental noise guidelines for the European Region: executive summary (who.int)
UN Convention on Biological Diversity 2010	Sets out a conservation plan to protect global biodiversity, and an international treaty to establish a fair and equitable system to enable nations to co-operate in accessing and sharing the benefits of genetic resources. The new global vision is "By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential to all people".	Convention on Biodiversity | United Nations
International Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention) (1976)	The Convention covers all aspects of wetland conservation and wise use. The Convention has three main 'pillars' of activity: the designation of wetlands of international importance as Ramsar sites; the promotion of the wise-use of all wetlands in the territory of each country; and international co-operation with other countries to further the wise-use of wetlands and their resources	Homepage | Convention on Wetlands (ramsar.org)

INTERNATIONAL		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
Bonn Convention	Contracting Parties work together to conserve migratory species and their habitats by providing strict protection for endangered migratory species (listed in Appendix 1 of the Convention), concluding multilateral Agreements for the conservation and management of migratory species which require or would benefit from international cooperation (listed in Appendix 2), and by undertaking cooperative research activities	CMS | Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land	This report addresses greenhouse gas (GHG) fluxes in land-based ecosystems, land use and sustainable land management in relation to climate change adaptation and mitigation, desertification, land degradation and food security and provides an updated assessment of the current state of knowledge while striving for coherence and complementarity with other recent reports.	Special Report on Climate Change and Land — IPCC site
World Heritage Convention (1972) UNESCO	Notes that cultural heritage and the natural heritage are increasingly threatened with destruction not only by the traditional causes of decay, but also by changing social and economic conditions Defines the scope of cultural heritage and calls for the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of cultural and natural heritage sites.	UNESCO World Heritage Centre - The World Heritage Convention
UNESCO Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the world Heritage Site Convention (Latest Guidelines Published 2021)	The World Heritage Committee, the main body in charge of the implementation of the Convention, has developed precise criteria for the inscription of properties on the World Heritage List and for the provision of international assistance under the World Heritage Fund. These are all included in a document entitled "Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention". The Operational Guidelines are periodically revised to reflect the decisions of the World Heritage Committee. https://whc.unesco.org/en/guidelines	UNESCO World Heritage Centre - The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention
World Health Organisation (WHO) Health 2020 (2012)	Aims to support action across government and society to: • significantly improve the health and well-being of populations; • reduce health inequalities; and • strengthen public health and ensure people-centred health systems that are universal, equitable, sustainable and of high quality	Health2020 (Long) (who.int)

EUROPEAN		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (1985)EC	The main purpose of the Convention is to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage	CETS 121 - Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (coe.int)
European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Revised)(1992) EC	Updates the previous 1969 Convention and makes the conservation and enhancement of the archaeological heritage one of the goals of urban and regional planning policies. Concerned with arrangements to be made for co-operation among archaeologists and town and regional planners in order to ensure optimum conservation of archaeological heritage.	CETS 143 - European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Revised) (coe.int)
European Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) (1979)	Aims to ensure conservation and protection of wild plant and animal species and their natural habitats, to increase cooperation between contracting parties, and to regulate the exploitation of those species (including migratory species). The UK Government ratified the Bern Convention in 1982. The obligations of the Convention are transposed into UK law by means of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended), Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 (as amended), Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985, and the Nature Conservation and Amenity Lands (Northern Ireland) Order 1985	Convention on the conservation of European wildlife and natural habitats (Bern Convention) - Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (coe.int)
EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 (2020)	The biodiversity strategy aims to put Europe's biodiversity on the path to recovery by 2030 for the benefit of people, climate and the planet. Actions: • Establishing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at sea, enlarging existing Natura 2000 sites with strict protection for areas of very high biodiversity and climate value; • Launching an EU nature restoration plan; • Introducing measures to enable the necessary transformative change; and • Introducing measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge	Biodiversity strategy for 2030 (europa.eu)

EUROPEAN		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
European Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection (2006)	The overall objective of this strategy is protection and sustainable use of soil, based on the following guiding principles: 1. Preventing further soil degradation and preserving its functions: • When soil is used and its functions are exploited, action has to be taken on soil use and management patterns; and • When soil acts as a sink/receptor of the effects of human activities or environmental phenomena, action has to be taken at source. 2. Restoring degraded soils to a level of functionality consistent at least with current and intended use, thus also considering the cost implications of the restoration of soil.	Microsoft Word - en-COM231.doc (europa.eu) Soil Thematic Strategy, COM(2006) 231 — European Environment Agency (europa.eu)
European Landscape Convention (ratified by the UK Government in 2006)	The European Landscape Convention (ELC) is the first international convention to focus specifically on landscape, and is dedicated exclusively to the protection, management and planning of all landscapes in Europe. The ELC was signed by the UK government on 24 February 2006, ratified on the 21 November 2006, and became binding on 1 March 2007. The convention highlights the need to recognise landscape in law, to develop landscape policies dedicated to the protection, management and creation of landscapes, and to establish procedures for the participation of the general public and other stakeholders in the creation and implementation of landscape policies. It also encourages the integration of landscape into all relevant areas of policy, including cultural, economic and social policies	
European Spatial Development Perspective Report (1999)	• Limit climate change and increase the use of clean energy; • Address threats to public health; • Manage natural resources more responsibly; • Improve the transport system and land use management; and • Combat poverty and social exclusion and deal with the economic and social implications of ageing society.	Inforegio - European Spatial Development Perspective (europa.eu)
EU Sustainable Development Strategy 2002 (revised 2006) (reviewed 2009) 2013 Monitoring Report	The overall aim of the EU Sustainable Development Strategy is to identify and develop action to enable the EU to achieve a continuous long-term improvement of quality of life through the creation of sustainable communities able to manage and use resources efficiently, able to tap the ecological and social innovation potential of the economy and in the end able to ensure prosperity, environmental protection and social cohesion	EUR-Lex - 52001DC0264 - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu) Sustainable development in the European Union - Publications Office of the EU (europa.eu)

EUROPEAN		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
EU 8th Environment Action Programme to 2030 (2022)	The action programme reiterates the EU's long-term vision to 2050 of living well, within planetary boundaries. It sets out priority objectives for 2030 and the conditions needed to achieve these. The 6 objectives are: • achieving the 2030 greenhouse gas emission reduction target and climate neutrality by 2050; • enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change; • advancing towards a regenerative growth model, decoupling economic growth from resource use and environmental degradation, and accelerating the transition to a circular economy; • pursuing a zero-pollution ambition, including for air, water and soil and protecting the health and well-being of Europeans; • protecting, preserving and restoring biodiversity, and enhancing natural capital; and • reducing environmental and climate pressures related to production and consumption (particularly in the areas of energy, industry, buildings and infrastructure, mobility, tourism, international trade and the food system)	Environment action programme to 2030 (europa.eu)
WHO Regional Office for Europe. Biological Mechanisms related to Cardiovascular and Metabolic Effects by Environmental Noise (2018)	The study summarises that environmental noise may induce acute cardiovascular and metabolic effects, both directly and indirectly.	A4 Prelims English public distribution (who.int)

EUROPEAN		
EU Directives		
Conservation on Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Directive 92/43/EEC)	• Conserve, maintain and restore fauna and flora and natural habitats of EU importance; • Establish a network of protected areas to maintain both the distribution and abundance of threatened species and habitats	EUR-Lex - 01992L0043-20130701 - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu) The Habitats Directive (europa.eu)
Birds Directive (Directive 2009/147/EC)	• Protect all naturally occurring wild bird species present in the EU and their most important habitats; • Halt the decline or disappearance of bird species and allow bird species to recover and thrive over the long-term. • EU countries are required to take any necessary measures to maintain or restore bird populations	EUR-Lex - 32009L0147 - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu) The Birds Directive (europa.eu)
Assessment of the Effects of Certain Public and Private Projects on the Environment (EIA Directive 2011/92/EU)	Directive 2011/92/EU defines the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process which ensures that projects likely to have significant effects on the environment are made subject to an assessment, prior to their authorisation. The Directive applies to a wide range of defined public and private projects, which are defined in Annexes I and II. All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA. For projects listed in Annex II, the national authorities have to decide whether an EIA is needed. This is done by the "screening procedure", which determines the effects of projects on the basis of thresholds/criteria or a case-by-case examination	EUR-Lex - ev0032 - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu) EUR-Lex - 32011L0092 - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu)
Strategic Environmental Assessment SEA (Directive 2001/42/EC)	Requires the formal Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of certain plans and programmes that are likely to have significant effects on the environment. The focus of SEA is environmental effects.	Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive: guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Urban Waste Water Treatment (UWWT) Directive (91/271/EEC)	It aims to: • protect the environment from the adverse effects of urban wastewater discharges and discharges from certain industrial sectors • ensure that domestic and industrial wastewater is effectively collected, treated and discharged	EUR-Lex - 31991L0271 - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu)

	UWWT also has an important role to play in the circular economy, enabling the reuse of treated waste water and sewage sludge, the production of renewable energy, and the recycling of nutrients.	
EUROPEAN		
EU Directives		
Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) **Replaced the Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) at the end of 2013**	The key objectives of the Directive are set out in Article 4. It requires Member States to use their River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) and Programmes of Measures (PoMs) to protect and, where necessary, restore water bodies in order to reach good chemical and ecological status, and to prevent deterioration.	EUR-Lex - 32000L0060 - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu)
Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC)	The aim is to protect human health and preserve, protect, and improve the quality of the environment. The monitoring of bathing water primarily focuses on the two types of bacteria (Escherichia coli and intestinal enterococci) that indicate pollution from sewage and livestock breeding. EU bathing water legislation specifies if bathing water quality can be classified as 'excellent', 'good', 'sufficient' or 'poor', depending on the levels of faecal bacteria detected.	EUR-Lex - 31991L0271 - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu)
European Floods Directive (2007)	This Directive requires Member States to assess if all water courses and coast lines are at risk from flooding, to map the flood extent and assets and humans at risk in these areas and to take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce this flood risk. With this Directive also reinforces the rights of the public to access this information and to have a say in the planning process. Its aim is to reduce and manage the risks that floods pose to human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity	Floods Directive (europa.eu)
European Landfill Directive (1999)	Prevents and reduces the negative effects on the environment from the landfilling of waste by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills	Council Directive 1999/31/EC of 26 April 1999 on the landfill of waste (legislation.gov.uk)
European Waste Framework Directive (2008)	Sets out the waste hierarchy requiring the reduction of waste production and its harmfulness, the recovery of waste by means of recycling, re-use or reclamation and final disposal that does not harm the environment, including human health	Waste Framework Directive (europa.eu)

European Industrial Emission Directive (2010)	Lays down rules on integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from industrial activities. It also lays down rules designed to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment taken as a whole	Industrial Emissions Directive (europa.eu)

EUROPEAN		
EU Directives		

Air Quality Directive (2008)	Sets legally binding limits for concentrations in ambient (outdoor) air of major air pollutants that are known to have a significant impact on human health including particulate matter (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$) and nitrogen dioxide (NO_2).
	
	Limits are:
	• Sulphur Dioxide (SO2) - 60 % of 24-hour limit value (75 µg/m3, not to be exceeded more than 3 times in any calendar year)
	• Nitrogen dioxide (NO2) –
	  • Hourly - 70 % of limit value (140 µg/m3 not to be exceeded more than 18 times in any calendar year)
	  • Annually - 80 % of limit value (32 µg/m3)
	• PM10 and PM2.5
	  • 24 hour average - 70 % of limit value (35 µg/m3 not to be exceeded more than 35 times in any calendar year)
	  • Annually PM10 - 70 % of limit value (28 µg/m3)
	  • Annually PM2.5 - 70 % of limit value (17 µg/m3)
		EUR-Lex - 32008L0050 - EN - EUR-Lex (europa.eu)

Environmental Noise Directive 2002/49/EC	Focuses on four action areas • determining exposure to environmental noise and assessing its health effects at single dwelling level, • ensuring that information on environmental noise and its effects is made available to the public • preventing and reducing environmental noise; and • preserving environmental noise quality in areas where it is good	Environmental Noise Directive (europa.eu)

NATIONAL		
Regulations		
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)	The Act gives protection to native species, controls the release of non-native species, enhances the protection of Sites of Special Scientific Interest and builds upon the rights of way rules in the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. The key objective is to protect native species; control non-native species; enhance the protection of SSSIs and build on the rights of way rules.	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (legislation.gov.uk)
Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes regulations 2004	Provides the regulations for the implementation of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (EU/2001/42/EC) for certain plans and programmes that are likely to have significant environmental impacts	The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (legislation.gov.uk)
Environmental Noise (England) Regulations 2006 (as amended)	The regulations transpose the EU Directive 2002/49/EC that relates to the assessment and management of environmental noise	The Environmental Noise (England) Regulations 2006 (legislation.gov.uk)
Local Government Act 2000	This act received Royal Assent in July 2000 and is made up of three parts: • Part I introduces a new power for local authorities to promote the economic, social or environmental well-being of an area • Part II requires that all local authorities move away from the traditional committee style of decision making in which all members had a formal decision-making role, to one of four executive models. These are; leader or cabinet, mayor or cabinet, mayor or council manager, or alternative arrangements • Part III introduces a new ethical framework for councils, including a requirement to adopt a code of conduct for members and implement a standards committee. The general functions of the standards committee are to promote and maintain high standards of conduct within the local authority, and to assist members of the authority to observe the code of conduct	Local Government Act 2000 (legislation.gov.uk)
Local Government White Paper: Strong and Prosperous Communities (2009)	The aim of this White Paper is to give local people and local communities more influence and power to improve their lives. It is about creating strong, prosperous communities and delivering better public services through a rebalancing of the relationship between central government, local government and local people	Strong and prosperous communities: the local government white paper - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
NATIONAL		

Regulations		
Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004)	The Act received Royal Assent on 13 May 2004 and the provisions of the Act were introduced through a series of Commencement Orders and Regulations. The Act strengthened the focus on sustainability, transparency, flexibility and speed. The aim of the Act is to give effect to the Government's policy on the reform of the planning system, the principal features of which are set out in the policy statement Sustainable communities: Delivering through planning which was published on 23 July 2002	Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (legislation.gov.uk)
Planning and Energy Act (2008)	This Act allows local councils to set targets in their areas for on-site renewable energy, on-site low carbon electricity and energy efficiency standards in addition to national requirements. It requires developers to source at least 10% of any new building's energy from renewable sources.	Planning and Energy Act 2008 (legislation.gov.uk)
Planning Act (2008)	The Planning Act 2008 was granted Royal Assent on 26 November 2008. The Act introduced a new stream-lined system for decisions on applications to build nationally significant infrastructure projects (NSIPs) in England and Wales, alongside further reforms to the town and country planning system and the introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).	Planning Act 2008 (legislation.gov.uk)
Localism Act 2011	The Localism Act takes power from central government and hands it back to local authorities and communities - giving them the freedom and flexibility to achieve their own ambitions. There are five key measures in the Localism act: • Community Rights • Neighbourhood Planning • Housing • Empowering cities and other local areas • General power of competence Different parts of the Act will come into effect at different times	Localism Act 2011 (legislation.gov.uk)
Town and Country Planning Act (1990)	The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 is an act of the British Parliament regulating the development of land in England and Wales	Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (legislation.gov.uk)
The Town and Country Planning (Compensation) (England) Regulations 2012	Replaced the Town and Country Planning (Compensation) (England) Regulations 2011 and in doing so inserts one additional description of prescribed development under paragraphs (2A)(a) and (3C)(a) of section 108 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The additional description of prescribed development is: • Development permitted by Part 43 of Schedule 2 (installation of non-domestic microgeneration equipment). The transitional provision relates to Part 40 which was amended in December 2011	The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (legislation.gov.uk)

NATIONAL		
Regulations		
The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017	The Regulations govern the process of EIA in the context of town and country planning in England and apply to development which is given planning permission under Part III of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The regulations only apply to certain types of development. They can apply to 'permitted development' which is development for which planning permission is not required. They do not apply to development given consent under other regimes, these are subject to separate Environmental Impact Assessment regulations.	The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (legislation.gov.uk)
The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015	The GPDO has undergone several revisions since its first iteration in 1995. To date there have been 20 revisions, however, this was the last major revision and forms a baseline to the current version. There are four schedules and over 20 parts to the GPDO allowing certain types of development to go ahead without any requirement for planning permission. This includes changes of use and demolition. Some items within the permitted development order (GPDO) require what is called '*prior approval*'. This involves submitting a request to the local authority. They can only assess the application on items such as flood risk, noise, and contamination depending upon the works to be carried out. Under the 2015 Order, planning permission is not needed for changes in use of buildings within each subclass and for certain changes of use between some of the use classes.	The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (legislation.gov.uk) This link shows the legislation with all amendments to date.
The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012	The Regulations consolidate the existing Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 and the amendments made to them in 2008 and 2009; and make new provision and amendments to take account of the changes made by the Localism Act 2011.	The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (legislation.gov.uk)
The Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020	These Regulations amend the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987) as it applies to England. The changes made by these Regulations create new use classes in relation to England contained in the new Schedule 2 to the amended Order namely, • Class E (Commercial, Business and Service); • Class F.1 (Learning and Non-residential institutions); and • Class F.2 (Local community). It also moves certain uses which were in the Schedule to the Use Classes Order into regulation 3(6) (namely, uses which cannot be included in a specified class).	The Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020 (legislation.gov.uk)

Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023	The Act proposes a wide range of provisions including: • for the setting of levelling-up missions and reporting on progress in delivering them; • about local democracy; • about town and country planning; • about Community Infrastructure Levy; • about the imposition of Infrastructure Levy; • about environmental outcome reports for certain consents and plans; • about nutrient pollution standards; • about regeneration; • about the compulsory purchase of land; • about information and records relating to land, the environment or heritage; • about National Parks, areas of outstanding natural beauty and the Broads; and for connected purposes.	Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 - Parliamentary Bills - UK Parliament

NATIONAL		
Regulations		
Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012	The Regulations set out the procedure for the designation of neighbourhood areas and neighbourhood forums and for the preparation of neighbourhood development plans and neighbourhood development orders (including community right to build orders).	The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (legislation.gov.uk)
The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000	Section 85 of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000 states that: "In exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land in an area of outstanding natural beauty, a relevant authority shall have regard to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the area of outstanding natural beauty"	Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (legislation.gov.uk)
Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006)	The NERC Act is designed to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities through modernised and simplified arrangements for delivering Government policy. The Act was published by Parliament and is accompanied by a set of explanatory notes, a Regulatory Impact Assessment and a policy statement.	Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (legislation.gov.uk)
Environmental Protection Act 1990	The Act makes provision for the improved control of pollution to the air, water and land by regulating the management of waste and the control of emissions. Key provisions of the Act impose a duty of care on any business or person who produces, carries, keeps, treats, disposes of or imports controlled waste to do so safely. The Act also contains provisions addressing statutory nuisances, litter and the control of genetically modified organisms and certain other substances. Since the Act was passed, several provisions have been replaced or repealed by subsequent environmental legislation, which should therefore be considered in conjunction with the Act. These are concerned with pollution control, contaminated land, radioactive substances and nature conservation.	Environmental Protection Act 1990 (legislation.gov.uk)
The Environment Act 1995 (Section 62)	Section 62 of the Environment Act 1995 makes it a duty for all relevant authorities (for example, Government departments and agencies, utility companies and parish councils) to have regard to National Park purposes when coming to decisions or carrying out their activities and if there is a conflict between those purposes shall attach greater weight to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area comprised in the National Park.	Environment Act 1995 (legislation.gov.uk)

NATIONAL		
Regulations		
The Environmental Noise (England) Regulations 2006	These Regulations (as amended) transpose the Environmental Noise Directive into domestic law for England. These Regulations apply to environmental noise, mainly from transport. The regulations require regular noise mapping and action planning for road, rail and aviation noise and noise in large urban areas (agglomerations)	The Environmental Noise (England) Regulations 2006 (legislation.gov.uk)
Climate Change Act 2008 and its 2050 target amendment Order, 2019	Key provisions of the Act include: • A legally binding target of at least an 80% cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and a reduction in emissions of at least 34% by 2020 (both against 1990 baseline). Note the 2050 target has now been amended to Net Zero; • A carbon budgeting system that caps emissions over five-year periods; • Creation of the Committee on Climate Change; • Further measures to reduce emissions, including measures on biofuels; • A requirement for the Government to report at least every five years on the risks to the UK of climate change, and to publish a programme setting out how these will be addressed. The Act also introduces powers for Government to require public bodies and statutory undertakers to carry out their own risk assessment and make plans to address those risks	Climate Change Act 2008 (legislation.gov.uk)
Energy Act 2011	The Act has three principal objectives: tackling barriers to investment in energy efficiency; enhancing energy security; and enabling investment in low carbon energy supplies.	Energy Act 2011 (legislation.gov.uk)
Water Resources Act 1991	This Act aims to prevent and minimise pollution of water. The policing of this act is the responsibility of the Environment Agency. Under the act it is an offence to cause or knowingly permit any poisonous, noxious or polluting material, or any solid waste to enter any controlled water. Silt and soil from eroded areas are included in the definition of polluting material. If eroded soil is found to be polluting a water body or watercourse, the Environment Agency may prevent or clear up the pollution, and recover the damages from the landowner or responsible person.	Water Resources Act 1991 (legislation.gov.uk)
Flood and Water Management Act 2010	The Act provides for better, more comprehensive management of flood risk for people, homes and businesses, helps safeguard community groups from unaffordable rises in surface water drainage charges, and protects water supplies to the consumer.	Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (legislation.gov.uk) Sustainable drainage systems review - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

NATIONAL		
Regulations		
The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017	The Regulations transpose the WFD into UK legislation. They apply to surface waters (including some coastal waters) and groundwater (water below the surface of the ground). These regulations set out requirements to prevent the deterioration of aquatic ecosystems; protect, enhance and restore water bodies to 'good' ecological and chemical status; and achieve compliance with standards and objectives for protected areas such as Ramsar sites and SSSIs.	The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 (legislation.gov.uk)
The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2018	The Regulations implement Council Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption. The purpose of these regulations is to protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring it is wholesome and clean. The regulations govern the design, installation, operation, and maintenance of plumbing systems, water fittings, and water-using appliances. The limits for certain pollutants are set out in the Schedules to the Regulations.	The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2018 (legislation.gov.uk)
The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)	This legislation translates into UK legislation, the EU Habitats Directive, which protects habitats and species across Europe and so includes species found in the UK. These species are known as European Protected Species (EPS) and these regulations are the primary regulations protecting them. Under the Regulations, a competent authority (such as a local planning authority) must carry out an assessment under the Habitats Regulations, known as a habitats regulations assessment (HRA), to test if a plan or project proposal could significantly harm the designated features of a European site.	The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (legislation.gov.uk)
Environmental Damage (Prevention and Remediation) England Regulations 2015	These regulations came into force on 19th July 2015. They impose obligations on operators of certain activities requiring them to prevent or remediate environmental damage. They apply to damage to protected species, natural habitats, sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs), water and land.	The Environmental Damage (Prevention and Remediation) (England) Regulations 2015 (legislation.gov.uk)

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Regulations		
The Contaminated Land (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 Amended the Contaminated Land (England) Regulations 2006	Outlines the regulations on contaminated land in order to prevent new land becoming contaminated by polluting substances whilst also tackling historic contamination of sites as it poses risks to human health and the environment	The Contaminated Land (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 (legislation.gov.uk)
Environmental Damage (Prevention and Remediation) England Regulations 2015	The regulations impose obligations on operators of certain activities requiring them to prevent or remediate environmental damage and apply to damage to protected species, natural habitats, sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs), water and land.	The Environmental Damage (Prevention and Remediation) (England) Regulations 2015 (legislation.gov.uk)
The Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011	These regulations implement the revised EU Waste Framework Directive 2008/98 which sets requirements for the collection, transport, recovery and disposal of waste. Insummary the Regulations seek to protect the environment and human health by preventing or reducing the adverse impacts of the generation and management of waste and by reducing overall impacts of resource use and improving the efficiency of such use	The Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 (legislation.gov.uk)
The Autonomous and Electric Vehicles Act 2018	The main objectives are: • For almost every car and van to be a zero emission vehicle by 2050; • To improve the consumer experience of electric vehicle charging infrastructure, to ensure provision at key strategic locations and to require that charge points have 'smart' capability; and • To provide a good insurance protocol for autonomous vehicles	Automated and Electric Vehicles Act 2018 (legislation.gov.uk)
Transport Act (2020)	Contains measures to create a more integrated transport system and provide for a public-private partnership for National Air Traffic Services Ltd ("NATS"). Aims to improve quality in local passenger transport services such as helping limit traffic congestion and improving air quality as well introducing road user charges and workplace parking levies to help tackle congestion.	Transport Act 2000 (legislation.gov.uk)

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Regulations		
The Environment Act 2021	The Environment Act 2021 sets out how the UK government plan to protect and improve the natural environment in the UK. It aims to improve air and water quality, tackle plastic pollution, restore wildlife, and protect the climate. Key objectives for planning are: • Mandatory requirement of 10% biodiversity net gain for developments, to be delivered on-site wherever possible; • Strengthened duty to conserve and enhance biodiversity; • Development of Local Nature Recovery Strategies; • Improvements to air quality; and • Sustainable water abstraction.	Environment Act 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)
Air Quality Standards Regulations (2010)	The Air Quality Standards Regulation establishes mandatory standards for air quality and set limits and guide values for sulphur and nitrogen dioxide, suspended particles and lead in the air. These regulations set legally binding limits for concentrations in outdoor air of major air pollutants that impact public health such as particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5) and nitrogen dioxide (NO2). As well as having direct effects, these pollutants can combine in the atmosphere to form ozone, a harmful air pollutant (and potent greenhouse gas). The limits are: **Sulphur dioxide:** • Average 1 hour - 350 µg/m^3 not to be exceeded more than 24 times a calendar year • Average 24 hour - 125 µg/m^3 not to be exceeded more than 3 times a calendar year **Nitrogen dioxide:** • Average 1 hour - 200 µg/m^3 not to be exceeded more than 18 times a calendar year • Average per calendar year- 40 µg/m^3 **PM_{10}:** • Average 1 day - 50 µg/m^3, not to be exceeded more than 35 times a calendar year • Average per calendar year - 40 µg/m^3 **$PM_{2.5}$:** • Average per calendar year - 20 µg/m^3 to be met by 1st January 2020 The target values are: **Ozone:**	The Air Quality Standards Regulations 2010 (legislation.gov.uk) The Environment (Miscellaneous Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020 (legislation.gov.uk)

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	• Protection of human health (Maximum daily eight hour mean) - 120 µg/m³ not to be exceeded on more than 25 days per calendar year averaged over three years • Protection of vegetation (May to July) - AOT 40 (calculated from 1 h values) 18,000 µg/m³ ·h averaged over five years **$PM_{2.5}$** • Calendar year - 25 µg/m³ The $PM_{2.5}$ limits were updated by the Environment (Miscellaneous Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020.	
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act (1990)	The Act provides specific protection for buildings, objects or structures of particular architectural or historic interest, as well as conservation areas	Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (legislation.gov.uk)
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979	Under the Act, a monument which has been scheduled is protected against any disturbance including unlicensed metal detecting. Permission must be obtained for any work which might affect a monument above or below ground. English Heritage gives advice to the Government on each application. In assessing an application, the Secretary of State will try to ensure any works on protected sites are beneficial to the site or are essential for its long-term sustainability.	Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (legislation.gov.uk)
Building Regulations Approved Documents	The building regulations help ensure that new buildings, conversions, renovations and extensions (domestic or commercial) are going to be safe, healthy and high-performing. Detailed regulations cover specific topics including: structural integrity, fire protection, accessibility, energy performance, water efficiency, ventilation, overheating, acoustic performance, protection against falls, electrical and gas safety. These specific topics are covered in a series of Approved Documents. On 15th June 2022 the government made changes to Approved Document L1 Conservation of fuel and power: Dwellings and L2 Conservation of fuel and power: buildings other than dwellings. This was to lay the groundwork for the Future Homes and Buildings Standard to come into effect in 2025. The changes are: • New homes are to produce 31% lower CO_2 emissions than the 2013 Regulations; and • Non-residential buildings are to produce 27% lower CO_2 emissions than the 2013 Regulations. Other relevant targets:	The Merged Approved Documents (publishing.service.gov.uk)

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	Water efficiency - Developments are required to achieve: • 125 litres per person per day; or • 110 litres per person per day if specified on a planning permission or is made a condition	
Housing and Planning Act 2016	The Act contains a wide range of measures to expand homeownership, reform housing management and the planning process, and increase housing supply to tackle the housing crisis.	Housing and Planning Act 2016 (legislation.gov.uk)
Self-build and Custom Housebuilding Act (2015)	'Relevant authorities' (which includes Local Planning Authorities) to keep a register of individuals and associations 'who are seeking to acquire serviced plots of land in the authority's area in order to build houses for those individuals to occupy as homes'; and Authorities have to have regard to the register when carrying out functions related to planning, housing the disposal of land and regeneration.	Self-build and Custom Housebuilding Act 2015 (legislation.gov.uk)
Health and Care Act (2022)	The 2022 Health and Care Act introduced new legislative measures that aim to make it easier for health and care organisations to deliver joined-up care for people who rely on multiple different services, building on earlier recommendations by NHS England and NHS Improvement.	Health and Care Act 2022 (legislation.gov.uk)
Sustainable Communities Act 2007 (Amended 2010) and Sustainable Communities Regulations 2012	The Sustainable Communities Act 2007 provides an opportunity for communities to identify legislative barriers that prevent them from improving the sustainability of their local areas and discuss them with their local authorities. If the barrier needs Government action to remove it, local authorities can ask government to remove it.	Sustainable Communities Act 2007 (legislation.gov.uk) This link shows the legislation with all amendments to date The Sustainable Communities Regulations 2012 (legislation.gov.uk)
Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013	The Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013, also known as ERRA, aimed at reforming the regulatory environment faced by small and medium-sized business. The Act established a UK Green Investment Bank (part 1), reformed several aspects of employment law (part 2), cut regulation (part 5) and addressed a range of other regulatory issues. The Act also strengthened the regulatory settlement on mergers and anti-competitive behaviour (parts 3 and 4). In doing so, part 3 of the Act established a new combined Competition and Markets Authority, which took over the functions of the Office of Fair Trading and the Competition Commission. It received Royal Assent on 25 April 2013. It implemented reforms to UK competition procedures which had been announced in March 2012.	

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NATIONAL		
Reports and Policy Papers		
National Policy Statement for waste water. **Policy Paper published 9 Feb 2012**	A framework document for planning decisions on nationally significant waste water infrastructure.	National policy statement for waste water - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
MHCLG (2014) National Planning Policy for Waste	This document sets out detailed waste planning policies for local authorities. States that planning authorities need to: • Use a proportionate evidence base in preparing Local Plans; • Identify sufficient opportunities to meet the identified needs of their area for the management of waste streams; and • Identifying suitable sites and areas. The overall objective of the document is to work towards a more sustainable and efficient approach to resource use and management. Planning plays a pivotal role e.g. by ensuring the design and layout of new development and other infrastructure complements sustainable waste management.	National planning policy for waste - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Climate Change Committee Sixth Carbon Budget 2020	Recommended pathway requires a 78% reduction in UK territorial emissions between 1990 and 2035. In effect, bringing forward the UK's previous 80% target (now 100% 'net zero') by nearly 15 years. The Sixth Carbon Budget can be met through four key steps: 1. Take up of low-carbon solutions 2. Expansion of low-carbon energy supplies; 3. Reducing demand for carbon-intensive activities; and 4. Land and greenhouse gas removals	Sixth Carbon Budget - Climate Change Committee (theccc.org.uk)

NATIONAL		
Reports and Policy Papers		
UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022	The risk assessment considers 61 UK-wide climate risks and opportunities cutting across multiple sectors of the economy and prioritises the following eight risk areas for action in the next two years: 1. risks to the viability and diversity of terrestrial and freshwater habitats and species from multiple hazards 2. risks to soil health from increased flooding and drought 3. risks to natural carbon stores and sequestration from multiple hazards 4. risks to crops, livestock and commercial trees from multiple climate hazards 5. risks to supply of food, goods and vital services due to climate-related collapse of supply chains and distribution networks 6. risks to people and the economy from climate-related failure of the power system 7. risks to human health, wellbeing and productivity from increased exposure to heat in homes and other buildings 8. multiple risks to the UK from climate change impacts overseas	UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Climate Change Committee Progress in adapting to climate change: 2023 Report to Parliament	Provides an assessment of progress at the end of two National Adaptation Programmes, the statutory programme required from Government to help prepare the country for climate change. The second National Adaptation Programme covered the period of 2018 – 2023 and the third is due to be published in summer 2023. Key messages from the report: • The second National Adaptation Programme has not adequately prepared the UK for climate change - limited evidence of the implementation of adaptation at the scale needed to fully prepare for climate risks facing the UK • The impacts from extreme weather in the UK over the last year highlight the urgency of adapting to climate change - The record-breaking temperatures seen in summer 2022 brought unprecedented numbers of heat-related deaths, wildfire incidents and significant infrastructure disruption • The next National Adaptation Programme must make a step change - The next National Adaptation Programme (NAP3) must be much more ambitious than its predecessors and lead to a long overdue shift in focus towards the delivery of effective adaptation	Progress in adapting to climate change - 2023 Report to Parliament - Climate Change Committee (theccc.org.uk)

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Reports and Policy Papers		
Sustainable Drainage Systems Review – Policy Paper Published 10 Jan 2023	Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 relating to the provision of sustainable drainage systems within developments was never enacted, however the government have just accepted the recommendation of this review into the implementation of Schedule 3 to make SuDS mandatory on all new development, not just major development (10+ dwellings). Defra will carry out a consultation in order to collect views on the impact assessment, national standards and statutory instruments in 2023.	Sustainable drainage systems review - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Air Quality Plan for Nitrogen Dioxide in the UK, 2017	Jointly produced by the DfT and DEFRA, this national plan determines an approach for areas with the worst levels of traffic-related air pollution to mitigate the effects. It sets out the framework for Clean Air Zones, allowing for targeted action to improve air quality in the "shortest possible time" as required by legal obligations to meet NO2 concentration thresholds. The document also sets out plans for ending the sale of new, conventional petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2040. The plan argues that NO2 accumulation is a local issue, as the pollutants do not disperse widely like greenhouse gases. In line with this local approach, the plan sets out support to local authorities, including: • Setting up a £255 million Implementation Fund; • Establishing a Clean Air Fund; and • Providing £100m for retrofitting and new low emission buses.	Air quality plan for nitrogen dioxide (NO2) in UK (2017) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Noise Policy Statement for England (2010)	The Statement was published on 15 March 2010. It sets out the long term vision of government noise policy, to promote good health and a good quality of life through the management of noise.	Noise policy statement for England - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Natural Environment White Paper (2011)	The Natural Environment White Paper has four ambitions: • Protecting and improving our natural environment; • Growing a green economy; • Reconnecting people and nature; and • EU leadership. It looks at ecosystem services provided by natural systems and promotes a step-change in nature conservation which makes sustainable use of natural capital and natural networks by working at a landscape scale. It aims to ensure that by 2020 17% of England is managed effectively to safeguard biodiversity	Natural Environment White Paper: implementation updates - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

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Reports and Policy Papers		
Landscapes review (National Parks and AONBs): government response (Published 15 January 2022)	This report sets out the government response to Julian Glover's review of England's protected landscapes report. The review considers the next steps for National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) in England.	Landscapes review (National Parks and AONBs): government response - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Heritage Protection for the 21st Century White Paper, Department for culture, media and sport (March 2007)	The paper sets out a vision of a unified and simpler heritage protection system, which will have more opportunities for public involvement and community engagement. The proposed system will be more open, accountable and transparent	Heritage Protection for the 21st Century (publishing.service.gov.uk)
Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon White Paper: Making sustainable local transport happen (2011) Department for Transport	Government vision is for a transport system that is an engine for economic growth, but one that is also greener and safer and improves quality of life in communities.	Creating growth, cutting carbon: making sustainable local transport happen - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Housing White Paper 'Fixing our Broken Housing Market (2017)	Sets out the government's direction of travel for housing policy within four groups or steps: • Step 1- Planning for the right homes in the right places; • Step 2- Building homes faster; • Step 3- Diversifying the market; and • Step 4- Helping people now	Fixing our broken housing market (publishing.service.gov.uk)
UK Housing Review - Chartered Institute of Housing (2021)	Featuring analysis from a wide range of commentators looking at issues affecting housing such as housing need, delivery of new homes, the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic, fire safety, and housing costs. The briefing also takes a look at the direction housing in the devolved nations may take and what can be learned from this.	UK Housing Review 2021 Briefing Paper (cih.org)

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Reports and Policy Papers		
Spatial Planning for Health: an evidence resource for planning and designing healthier places – Public Health (2017)	This review provides public health planners and local communities with evidence informed principles for designing healthy places.	Spatial Planning for Health: an evidence resource for planning and designing healthier places (publishing.service.gov.uk)
Childhood obesity: a plan for action (2016)	The Action Plan includes measures regarding the food industry, schools and including Helping all children to enjoy an hour of physical activity every day.	Childhood obesity: a plan for action - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Adult Obesity: Applying all our Health (Updated 11 February 2022)	The information is intended to help front-line health and care staff to promote the benefits of achieving and maintaining a healthy weight. It also recommends actions that managers and staff holding strategic roles can take to help combat adult obesity.	Adult obesity: applying All Our Health - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
The Marmot Review – Fair Society, Healthy Lives (February 2010) The Marmot Review 10 years On'	Central to the Review is the recognition that disadvantage starts before birth and accumulates throughout life. This is reflected in the 6 policy objectives and to the highest priority being given to the first objective: • Give every child the best start in life; • Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives; • Create fair employment and good work for all • Ensure healthy standard of living for all; • Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities; and • Strengthen the role and impact of ill-health prevention. In February 2020 The Institute published with The Health Foundation: 'Health Equity in England: The Marmot Review 10 Years On', to examine progress in addressing health inequalities in England and to propose recommendations for future action.	Marmot Review report – 'Fair Society, Healthy Lives | Local Government Association

NATIONAL		
Reports and Policy Papers		
Build Back Better High Streets (2021) MHCLG & DLUHC	This strategy sets out the government's long-term goal to support the evolution of high streets into thriving places to work, visit and live. To achieve this, five key priorities have been set out: 1. Breathing new life into empty buildings; 2. Supporting high street businesses; 3. Improving the public realm; 4. Creating safe and clean spaces and; 5. Celebrating pride in local communities.	Build Back Better High Streets Report (publishing.service.gov.uk)
Revitalisation of the high street (2019)	It identifies and shares examples of best practice that empower communities to tackle common problems confronting all the high streets including; business rates, competition from out-of-town retail and online shopping, traffic congestion and parking charges, the rising cost of doing business and changing customer behaviour that were examined.	Committee-C-Report-on-the-Revitalisation-of-the-High-Street.pdf (britishirish.org)

NATIONAL		
Planning Policy		

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2021)	The NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It provides a framework within which local people and Councils can produce their own distinctive local and neighbourhood plans, which reflect the needs and priorities of their communities. At the heart of the NPPF is a presumption in favour of sustainable development.
	For plan-making this means that:
	• Authorities should positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of their area;
	• Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change, unless:
	  ○ any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or
	  ○ specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted.
	For decision-taking this means:
	• approving development proposals that accord with the development plan without delay; and where the development plan is absent, silent or relevant policies are out of date, granting permission unless:
	  ○ any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or
	  ○ specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted
	The NPPF contains policies covering the following:
	• Delivering a sufficient supply of homes;
	• Building a strong competitive economy;
	• Ensuring the vitality of town centres;
	• Promoting healthy and safe communities;
	• Promoting sustainable transport;
	• Supporting high quality communications;
	• Making effective use of land;
	• Achieving well-designed places;
	• Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change;
	• Conserving and enhancing the natural environment;
	• Conserving and enhancing the historic environment; and
		National Planning Policy Framework (publishing.service.gov.uk)

	• Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals.	
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Planning Policy		
Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) to the NPPF	The PPG provides additional guidance to local planning authorities to ensure the effective implementation of the planning policies set out in the National Planning Policy Framework.	Planning practice guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Planning Policy for traveller sites (2015)	The aims are to: • Develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites; • To increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations; • Limit tensions between settled and traveller communities; • To enable travellers access to education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure; and • To have due regard to the protection of the local amenity and local environment	Planning policy for traveller sites - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

NATIONAL		
Government Strategies and Plans		
Safeguarding our soils: A strategy for England 2009 **Published 8 April 2011** **Soil Health Action Plan to be launched by UK Government**	The Strategy sets out a vision for soil use in England which includes better protection for agricultural soils, protecting stores of soil carbon, improving the resilience of soils to climate change and preventing soil pollution. The essential message in relation to development is that pressure on soils is likely to increase in line with development pressure and the planning system should seek to mitigate this Key topics include: • Better protection for agricultural soils • Protecting and enhancing stores of soil carbon • Building the resilience of soils to a changing climate • Preventing soil pollution Future research and monitoring	Safeguarding our soils: A strategy for England - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) Soil Health Action Plan to be launched - Defra in the media (blog.gov.uk)
Clean Growth Strategy (2017)	The Clean Growth Strategy deals specifically with the challenge of trying to grow the UKs economy whilst reducing its emissions. The guiding principles are to, through nurturing low carbon technologies, processes, and systems: • meet the UK's domestic commitments at the lowest possible net cost to UK taxpayers, consumers, and businesses; and • Maximising the social and economic benefits for the UK from this transition The key policies to achieve this are: • accelerating clean growth; • improving business and industry efficiency (25% of emissions); • improving our homes (13% of emissions); • accelerating the shift to low carbon transport (24% of emissions); • delivering clean, smart, flexible power (21% of emissions); • enhancing the benefits and value of our natural resources (15% of emissions); • leading in the public sector (2% of emissions); and Government leadership in driving clean growth	Clean Growth Strategy - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Resources & Waste Strategy for	Sets out a vision and a number of policies to move to a more circular economy, such as waste prevention through policies to support reuse, repair and remanufacture activities	Resources and waste strategy for England - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

England, 2018 (Defra)		

NATIONAL		
Government Strategies and Plans		
Waste Management Plan for England 2020	Focuses on waste sources and their management. This document provides a single plan that links the multiple sources of waste management policy within a coherent framework. This document provides an analysis of the current waste management situation in England. The plan does not introduce new policies or change the landscape of how waste is managed in England. Its core aim is to bring current waste management policies under the umbrella of one national plan. The updated plan reflects ambitious new government commitments	Waste Management Plan for England 2021 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment 2018	Sets out government action under multiple themes to help the natural world regain and retain good health. It calls for an approach to agriculture, forestry, land use and fishing that puts the environment first.	25-year-environment-plan.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)

Environmental Improvement Plan 2023 **Published – 30th January 2023** **Last updated - 2nd February 2023**	Builds on the 25YEP vision with a new plan setting out how DEFRA will work with landowners, communities and businesses to deliver each of their goals for improving the environment, matched with interim targets to measure progress. Aiming to restore nature, reduce environmental pollution, and increase the prosperity of the country. The Plan sets out a number of commitments the government will implement under the following topic areas: • Thriving plants and wildlife; • Clean air; • Clean and plentiful water; • Managing exposure to chemicals and pesticides; • Maximise our resources, minimise our waste; • Using resources from nature sustainably; • Mitigating and adapting to climate change; • Reduced risk of harm from environmental hazards; • Enhancing biosecurity; and Enhancing beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment.	Environmental Improvement Plan (publishing.service.gov.uk)

NATIONAL		
Government Strategies and Plans		
Biodiversity 2020: a Strategy for England's Wildlife and ecosystem services Published – 19 August 2011	This strategy for England built on the Natural Environment White Paper and provides a comprehensive picture of how the government were implementing international and EU commitments. It set out the strategic direction for biodiversity policy up to 2020 on land (including rivers and lakes) and at sea.	Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
National Pollinator Strategy 2014-2024	The strategy aims to build a solid foundation to bring about the best possible conditions for bees and other insects to flourish. This will fulfil the vision of the Strategy which is to see pollinators thrive so that they can carry out their essential service to people of pollinating flowers and crops, while providing other benefits for native plants, the wider environment, food production and all of us	National pollinator strategy: for bees and other pollinators in England - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Tree Management Strategy and Action Plan 2021	The England Trees Action Plan 2021 to 2024 sets out the government's long-term vision for the treescape it wants to see in England by 2050 and beyond. The plan provides a strategic framework for implementing the Nature for Climate Fund and outlines over 80 policy actions the government is taking over this Parliament to help deliver this vision.	England Trees Action Plan 2021 to 2024 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
The Road to Zero Next steps towards cleaner road transport and delivering our industrial strategy (2018)	The Strategy outlines how the government will support the transition to zero emission road transport and reduce emissions from conventional vehicles during the transition. The strategy is long term in scope and ambition, considering the drivers of change, opportunities and risks out to 2050 and beyond. Its focus, however, is on what the UK will do now to lay the foundations for the transition. The aim is to end the sale of petrol and diesel cars and increase the uptake of EV's.	Reducing emissions from road transport: Road to Zero Strategy - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) The Road to Zero (publishing.service.gov.uk)
Transport Investment Strategy (2017)	The Strategy describes what the government are trying to achieve through: • their investment in transport infrastructure; • the priorities and propositions that will guide future investment decisions; • the institutional frameworks within which those decisions will be taken; and the actions we are taking to help us meet our ambitions.	Transport Investment Strategy

NATIONAL		
Government Strategies and Plans		
UK Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener (2021)	Key policies: 1. The UK will be powered entirely by clean energy by 2035 2. Investment in large-scale nuclear energy 3. 40 GW of offshore wind by 2030, with more onshore, solar and other renewables simultaneously; 4. 1GW of floating offshore wind by 2030; 5. Deployment of new flexibility measures including storage to help smooth out future price spikes; 6. Hydrogen investment; 7. Future-proofing industrial sectors; 8. Incentive cost abatement in industry; 9. No new gas boilers sold by 2035; 10. Funding for home energy efficiency improvements; 11. Funding to support electric vehicle deployment; 12. Active travel investment	Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Decarbonising Transport – Setting the Challenge (2020)	Six strategic priorities: • Accelerating modal shift to public and active transport; • Decarbonisation of road vehicles; • Decarbonising how we get our goods; • Place-based solutions • UK as a hub for green transport technology and innovation; and Reducing carbon in a global economy.	Decarbonising Transport: Setting the Challenge (publishing.service.gov.uk)
DfT Decarbonising Transport: A better, greener Britain (2021)	This plan sets out the government's commitments and the actions needed to decarbonise the entire transport system in the UK. It includes: • the pathway to net zero transport in the UK • the wider benefits net zero transport can deliver • the principles that underpin the approach to delivering net zero transport	Transport decarbonisation plan - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

NATIONAL		
Government Strategies and Plans		
	The plan follows on from Decarbonising transport: setting the challenge, published in March 2020, which laid out the scale of additional reductions needed to deliver transport's contribution to legally binding carbon budgets and delivering net zero by 2050	
Department for Transport. Gear Change. A Bold Vision for Cycling and Walking (2020)	The document sets out the actions required at all levels of Government to make England an active travel nation , grouped under four themes.	Gear change: a bold vision for cycling and walking (publishing.service.gov.uk)
Department for Transport Cycling and walking Investment Strategy (2017)	This document sets out the Government's strategy for cycling and walking. The first part sets out their objectives, the second, the financial resources available to support these objectives as well as governance and monitoring arrangements. The final part describes the actions necessary to support the delivery of the objectives.	Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy (publishing.service.gov.uk)
Department for Transport. Bus Back Better. National Bus Strategy for England (2021)	This report outlines the Government's vision for the future of buses and how it will deliver better bus services and a green bus revolution.	Bus Back Better (publishing.service.gov.uk)
Department for Transport Road investment Strategy 2020-2025	Sets out the vision for the strategic road network by 2050 to be: • a network that supports the economy; • a safer and more reliable network; • a greener network; • a more integrated network; and a smarter network.	Road Investment Strategy 2: 2020-2025 (publishing.service.gov.uk)
Future of mobility: urban strategy' (2019)	This Strategy outlines the government's approach to maximising the benefits from transport innovation in cities and towns. It sets out the principles that will guide government's response to emerging transport technologies and business models.	Future of mobility: urban strategy - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Inclusive Transport Strategy (2018)	The Strategy sets out: • government's actions for achieving equal access to transport for disabled people; • a clear programme of monitoring and evaluation; and a new governance framework for accountability	The Inclusive Transport Strategy – summary of progress - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

NATIONAL		
Government Strategies and Plans		
Fixing the Foundations: creating a more prosperous nation (HM Treasury) 2015	The government will: • Create a new Roads Fund by 2020-21, funded directly by the revenues from Vehicle Excise Duty, to ensure continued high and stable investment in the strategic road network for generations to come; • Take a decision on airport capacity in the south east by the end of the year; and Invest £100 billion in all infrastructure over this Parliament, giving long-term certainty and increased funding to the most productive areas of infrastructure spend	
Clean Air Strategy (2019)	The Clean Air Strategy explains how the UK Government will tackle all sources of air pollution, sets out policy direction, and outlines measures that will drive the move to zero emission transport modes. The strategy links into other national level policies (the Industrial Strategy, the Clean Growth Strategy and the 25 Year Environment Plan), outlining the same targets and strategies across multiple documents. The strategy includes numerous aims and goals, many drawn from other policy documents that are collated in brief in the executive summary. These are framed in the following topics: • Protecting the nation's health. • Protecting the environment. • Securing clean growth and innovation. • Action to reduce emissions from transport. • Action to reduce emissions at home. • Action to reduce emissions from farming. • Action to reduce emissions from industry; and Leadership at all levels	Clean Air Strategy 2019 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
The Future Homes Standard (set to come into effect in 2025)	The Standard proposes an ambitious uplift in the energy efficiency of new homes through changes to Part L (Conservation of fuel and power) of the Building Regulations. The Standard will complement the Building Regulations to ensure new homes built from 2025 produce 75-80% less carbon emissions than homes delivered under the old regulations. A technical specification is proposed for consultation in 2023 by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), with the necessary legislation introduced in 2024, and implementation in 2025.	The Future Homes Standard: changes to Part L and Part F of the Building Regulations for new dwellings - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) Future Homes Standard: The Complete Guide to The New Targets | Homebuilding

NATIONAL		
Government Strategies and Plans		
Future Homes and Buildings Standard December 2021	The standard sets out energy and ventilation standards for non-domestic buildings, which provides a pathway to highly efficient non-domestic buildings which are zero carbon ready, better for the environment and fit for the future	The Future Buildings Standard - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Defra – Our integrated plan for delivering clean and plentiful water **Published April 2023**	This plan will deliver clean and plentiful water – a healthy water environment, and a sustainable supply of water for people, businesses, and nature. Key aims for water consumption: By 31st March 2038: • Reduce water consumption to 122 litres per person per day; • Reduce leakage by 37%; and • Reduce non-household (for example, business) water use by 9%. By 2050: • Achieve 110 litres per person per day household water use; • To roll out water efficiency labelling across appliances and ensure water companies deliver a 50% reduction in leakages; and • A 15% reduction in non-household water use Key aims for water quality: • To tackle nutrient pollution, including upgrading 160 wastewater treatment works by 2027 and providing increased advice and incentives to support a shift to sustainable agricultural techniques To restore 400 miles of river through the first round of Landscape Recovery projects	Our Integrated Plan for Delivering Clean and Plentiful Water (publishing.service.gov.uk)

NATIONAL		
Government Strategies and Plans		
DfT outcome delivery plan 2021 to 2022	The delivery plan outlines three priority outcomes; • Improving connectivity by enhancing the transport network; • Building confidence in the transport network as the country recovers from Covid 19 and improve transport users experience ensuring that the network is safe reliable and inclusive; and • Tackling climate change and improving air quality by decarbonising transport	DfT Outcome Delivery Plan: 2021 to 2022 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Future of Transport programme (collection) (November 2020 updated in 2022)	Information on the Future of Transport programme, which aims to shape transport innovation and make the UK a world leader in transport movement	Future of Transport programme - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)Buid
A connected society: a strategy for tackling loneliness (October 2018	This strategy sets out the approach to tackling loneliness in England. It marks a shift in the way we see and act on loneliness, both within government and in society more broadly.	DDCMS Loneliness Strategy (publishing.service.gov.uk)
Childhood obesity: applying All Our Health (April 2022) and Childhood obesity: a plan for action (2015)	Explains the many factors that can help children maintain a healthy weight, at an individual, community level or national level.	Childhood obesity: applying All Our Health - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

NATIONAL		
Government Strategies and Plans		
Public Health England Strategy 2020-2025	The aims are: • To keep people safe; • To work to prevent poor health; • To work to narrow the health gap; and • To support a strong economy. The 10 Priorities are: 1. A smoke-free society; 2. Healthier diets, healthier weight; 3. Cleaner air; 4. Better mental health; 5. Best start in life; 6. Effective responses to major incidents; 7. Reduced risk from antimicrobial resistance; 8. Predictive prevention;	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/phe-strategy-2020-to-2025
Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Our Strategy for public health in England (2010)	This strategy sets out how Government's approach will address public health challenges.	Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Our strategy for public health in England (publishing.service.gov.uk)

NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Water and Drainage		
Surface water management plan technical guidance June 2011	The SWMP guidance has been written for local authorities to assist them as they co-ordinate and lead local flood risk management activities	Surface water management plan technical guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
DEFRA Sustainable Drainage Systems. Non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage systems (March 2015)	This document sets out non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage systems, to be used in conjunction with the NPPF and PPG.	Sustainable Drainage Systems: Non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage systems (publishing.service.gov.uk)
Water, People, Places: A Guide for master planning sustainable drainage (2013)	This guidance outlines the process for integrating sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) into the master planning of large and small developments. Consideration of the movement of water and its interaction with space at the earliest stage of design is crucial to the success of SuDS and allows the developer to maximise wider benefits. This guidance complements existing guidance on SuDS design, maintenance and operation.	se7-suds-masterplanning_low_res_reduced (1).pdf Sustainable drainage systems | East Sussex County Council

NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Water and Drainage		
Water Management Alliance. Development Control and Regulation Information for Local Planning Authorities (LPAs)	This document provides Development Control and Regulation information for Local Planning Authorities. It aims to communicate the way in which the WMA Member Boards undertake their flood risk and water management functions and to consolidate and highlight the IDB policy framework that supports the delivery of this work.	Information for Local Planning Authorities (wlma.org.uk)
Climate Change		
UKCP18 guidance	UKCP18 places the use of climate projections in the context of risk analysis and aims to help navigate the different components of the UKCP18 land projection with examples. It covers: 1. Using climate model projections. Why are there multiple strands of information? 2. What should you be aware of before using the land projections? 3. What is the relationship between the sets of land projections? 4. How do you choose the appropriate UKCP18 projections?	UK Climate Projections (UKCP) - Met Office
Defra Good Practice Guidance for Local Government Jun 2019	This guide seeks to assist local government with preparing for the impacts of climate change, a process known as change adaptation. The overall aim of this guide is to reduce the impacts on service demand and delivery, and reduce financial costs, to meet other statutory requirements and delivering other co-benefits	Good Practice Guide ADEPT 2019f.pdf (adeptnet.org.uk)

NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Climate Change		
Spatial Planning for Climate Resilience and Net Zero (July 2023)	The Centre for Sustainable Energy and the Town and Country Planning Association conducted research into the barriers and opportunities for delivering climate mitigation and adaptation through the spatial planning system at the local authority level in England. The research highlighted that the planning system has the potential to be a key tool for Net Zero and climate resilience at the local level but is not delivering on this. It makes over 20 recommendations to close the gap between the current performance and potential of the system at the local plan level.	Spatial planning for climate resilience and Net Zero (CSE & TCPA) - Climate Change Committee (theccc.org.uk)
Rising to the Climate Crisis. A Guide for Local Authorities on Planning for Climate Change (December 2018)	The guide is intended to help planners and politicians to tackle climate change and improve resilience. It is designed to inform the preparation of strategic and local development plans. It investigates the barriers to effective local plan action on climate change and different local plan approaches	PfCCv2-Web.qxd (rtpi.org.uk)
UK Climate Risk Independent Assessment. Technical Report (2021)	The aim of this assessment was to investigate what should be the priorities for the next UK National Adaptation Programme and adaptation programmes of the devolved administrations.	Technical report (CCRA3-IA) - UK Climate Risk
Design		
National Design Guide (2019)	This guide illustrates how well-designed places that are beautiful, enduring and successful can be achieved in practice.	National design guide - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
National Model Design Code. Part 1 The Coding Process (2021)	Provided guidance on the production of design codes, guides and policies to promote successful design.	National Model Design Code: Part 1 - The Coding Process (publishing.service.gov.uk)
NATIONAL		

Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Design		
TCPA Guidance on 20 Minute Neighbourhoods (2021)	Describes the idea of the 20 Minute Neighbourhood, its features and how to achieve it, set against the changing policy context in England.	20MN_Main.qxd (tcpa.org.uk)
Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England 2010	Vision: "That the value of the historic environment is recognised by all who have the power to shape it; that Government gives it proper recognition and that it is managed intelligently and in a way that fully realises its contribution to the economic, social and cultural life of the nation"	Historic Environment for England 2010
Secured by Design Guides	A series of Design Guides that have been produced to assist the building, design and construction industry to incorporate security into developments to comply with Building Regulations and to meet the requirements of SBD	Secured by Design - Design Guides
Lifetime Homes: Design and Standards	A range of resources that include details about lifetime homes standards and provide analysis and suggestions about their application in practice.	Lifetime Homes - Accessible Design - Design - Topics - Resources - Housing LIN

NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Design		
Rics The Future of Sustainable Building Materials (October 2021)	The article looks at the past, present and future of three construction materials that could offer a more sustainable solution for building projects.	The future of sustainable building materials | Modus | RICS
Historic Environment		
The Heritage Statement (2017)	Sets out how the Government will support the heritage sector to protect and care for the historic environment, in order to maximise its economic and social impact and to ensure that everyone can enjoy and benefit from it. To support the heritage sector to protect and care for the historic environment, in order to maximise its economic and social impact.	The Heritage Statement
Historic England- Conservation Principles Policies and Guidance for sustainable management of the historic environment 2008	These Principles, Policies and Guidance for the sustainable management of the historic environment have been developed through extensive debate and consultation, both within English Heritage and wit colleagues in the historic environment sector and beyond. The main purpose in producing the Principles, Policies and Guidance is to strengthen the credibility and consistency of decisions taken and advice given by English Heritage staff, improving accountability by setting out the framework within which they will make judgements on casework.	Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance (historicengland.org.uk)
The Historic Environment and Site Allocations in Local Plans. Historic England Advice Note 3 2015 HEAG074 (2015)	This document is intended to offer advice to all those involved in the process, to help ensure that the historic environment plays a positive role in allocating sites for development. It offers advice on evidence gathering and site allocation policies, as well as setting out in detail several steps to make sure that heritage considerations are fully integrated in any site selection methodology.	The Historic Environment and Site Allocations in Local Plans | Historic England

NATIONAL
Guidance and Other Reference Documents

Historic Environment		
Historic England- Good Practice Advice in Planning: 1. The Historic Environment in Local Plans 2015	The purpose of this Good Practice Advice note is to provide information on good practice to assist local authorities, planning and other consultants, owners, applicants and other interested parties in implementing historic environment policy in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the related guidance given in the National Planning Practice Guide (PPG)	The Historic Environment in Local Plans | Historic England
Making Changes to Heritage Assets: Historic England Advice Note 2 2016 HEAG023 (2015)	Provides information on repair, restoration, addition and alteration works to heritage assets to assist local authorities, planning and other consultants, owners, applicants and other interested parties in implementing historic environment legislation, the policy in the NPPF and the related guidance given in the PPG.	Making Changes to Heritage Assets | Historic England
Historic England Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 4: Enabling Development and heritage Assets 2020	The purpose of this Historic England Good Practice Advice note is to provide information to assist local authorities, planning and other consultants, owners, applicants and other interested parties in implementing historic environment policy in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the related guidance given in the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) in relation to enabling development.	HEAG (historicengland.org.uk)
Historic England- Advice Note 7 Local Heritage Listing: Identifying and Conserving Local Heritage 2021	This advice supports communities and local authorities in introducing a local heritage list in their area or making changes to an existing list	Local Heritage Listing: Identifying and Conserving Local Heritage (historicengland.org.uk)

NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Historic Environment		
Historic England Advice Note 8 Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment 2016	The purpose of this Historic England advice note is to support those involved in assessing the effects of certain plans on the historic environment. It offers advice on heritage considerations during the Sustainability Appraisal and Starategic Environmental Assessment process and on implementing historic environment legislation.	Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment | Historic England
Historic England Advice note 17- Planning and Archaeology. Includes section on plan-making 2022	This Historic England Advice Note describes how archaeology works in the English planning system. Its aims are to: • summarise key responsibilities (of planning authorities and applicants) to archaeology through the planning process; • support the application of relevant legislation, national planning policy and guidance; • promote the need for rigour at key stages in the process; and • enthuse about the benefits arising from this work (including making public value apparent). It is written principally for local planning authorities	Planning and Archaeology | Historic England
Energy Efficiency and Traditional Homes (2020)	This advice note considers energy efficiency improvements to those traditional homes which are described as heritage assets within the planning system. It outlines a 'whole building' approach that can help in meeting the combined objectives of increasing energy efficiency and sustaining significance in heritage assets.	Energy Efficiency and Traditional Homes | Historic England
Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3: The Setting of Heritage Assets (2nd edition 2017)	Sets out guidance, against the background of the NPPF and the related guidance PPG, on managing change within the settings of heritage assets, including archaeological remains and historic buildings, sites, areas, and landscapes.	Making Changes to Heritage Assets | Historic England

NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Historic Environment		
Listed Buildings - National Heritage list for England- Historic England	The National Heritage List for England (NHLE) is the only official, up to date register of all nationally protected historic buildings and sites in England – listed buildings, scheduled monuments, protected wrecks, registered parks and gardens and battlefields.	Search the List - Find listed buildings, monuments, battlefields and more | Historic England
Heritage at Risk Register	This lists all the heritage sites in England that are under threat of being lost forever. The register assigns each heritage site with a condition level and a priority category. The condition level has four grades: "good", "fair", "poor" and "very bad"	Heritage at Risk 2022 Registers | Historic England

NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Preserving Archaeological Remains (English Heritage, 2016)	This advice is for developers, owners, archaeologists and planners working on projects where the intention is to retain and protect archaeological sites beneath or within the development. It can also be read in relation to other land-use or site management work. It has a particular focus on decision-taking on waterlogged archaeological sites.	Preserving Archaeological Remains | Historic England
Understanding Historic Buildings (English Heritage, 2016)	This Historic England guidance sets out the process of investigating and recording historic buildings for the purposes of historical understanding. It aims to assist professional practitioners and curators, managers of heritage assets, academics, students and volunteer recorders in compiling or commissioning records that are accurate and suited to the purposes for which they are intended.	Understanding Historic Buildings | Historic England
Heritage 2020: Strategic priorities for England's historic environment 2015-2020	This framework sets out the shared strategic priorities for organisations working together to maximise the public benefit of the historic environment in England as: • Discovery, identification & understanding; • Constructive conservation and sustainable management; • Public engagement; • Capacity building; and • Helping things to happen	Heritage2020 framework text 2016 06 20_final (historicenvironmentforum.org.uk)
Natural Capital Committee: Advice on using nature based interventions to reach net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 (2020)	The report makes several recommendations: • Integrating net zero into broader environmental policy • Using nature based interventions to deliver net zero • Addressing gaps in the evidence base	State of Natural Capital Report 2020 (publishing.service.gov.uk)

NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Natural Environment		
Natural England's Carbon Storage and Sequestration by Habitat 2021 (NERR094) (Apr 2021)	This Natural England Research Report reviews the scientific evidence base relating to carbon storage and sequestration by semi-natural habitats, in relation to their condition and/or management	Carbon Storage and Sequestration by Habitat 2021 - NERR094 (nepubprod.appspot.com)
State of Nature Reports (2019)	The 2019 State of Nature report is a health check on how the UK's wildlife is faring. It is put together using wildlife data from a group of 50 conservation organisations.	State of Nature 2019 Reports - National Biodiversity Network (nbn.org.uk)
Guidance - Protected species and development: advice for local planning authorities Last updated - 8 September 2022	Provides guidance on how to assess a planning application when there are protected species on or near a proposed development site.	Protected species and development: advice for local planning authorities - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Preparing a flood risk assessment – EA Standing Advice 8 Feb 2022	Provides advice from the EA to LPAs and applicants on making sure flood risk assessments contain the correct information and follow the correct process.	Preparing a flood risk assessment: standing advice - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Natural Environment		
Water Industry National Environment Programme (WINEP) Last updated 12 May 2022	WINEP represents a set of actions that the EA have requested all 20 water companies operating in England to complete between 2020 and 2025, in order to contribute towards meeting their environmental obligations.	
Local Air Quality Management Policy Guidance (PG22) August 2022 (Replaces PG16)	This guidance is for local authorities in England, excluding those in London The guidance applies to local authority led action to improve local air quality using available levers, including planning, public health and transport responsibilities	LAQM-Policy-Guidance-2022.pdf (defra.gov.uk)
Chief Medical Officer's Annual Report 2022: Air Pollution	The report highlights achievable solutions across different sectors and makes the case that we need to continue to be active in reducing outdoor air pollution. It oulines how air pollution is changing but also solutions to outdoor and indoor air pollution.	Chief Medical Officer's Annual Report 2022 (publishing.service.gov.uk)
Institute of Lighting Professionals (ILP) Guidance Note GN01: The Reduction of Obtrusive Light (2021)	Provides guidance on the installation and use of artificial light within the external environment and how to reduce or eliminate the negative effects of obtrusive light, sky glow, light spill and light nuisance for both humans and flora and fauna	Guidance Note 1 for the reduction of obtrusive light 2021 | Institution of Lighting Professionals (theilp.org.uk)

NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Natural Environment		
Bat Conservation Trust – Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK' Guidance Note GN 08 23	The Bat Conservation Trust in partnership with the Institution for Lighting Professionals (ILP) and Clarkson & Woods ecological consultants have published the latest practical guidance on considering the impact upon bats when designing lighting schemes. The guidance note supersedes the previous 2009 guidance and goes into depth about lighting levels and colour temperature impacts on different bat species. It is intended to raise awareness of the impacts of artificial lighting on bats but also the potential solutions to avoid and reduce this harm	Lighting - Threats to bats - Bat Conservation Trust
Biodiversity duty: public authority duty to have regard to conserving biodiversity Published 17 May 2023	This guidance helps public authorities understand what the biodiversity duty is under the Environment Act and how to comply with it	Complying with the biodiversity duty - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Great Crested Newts: District Level Licensing for Development Projects	Interim guidance from Natural England on District Level Licensing for Great Crested Newts	DLL-Guidance-Document-for-LPAs-NatureSpace-Partnership_March2021.pdf (naturespaceuk.com)
Nature Space Partnership. Impact Risk Maps for Great Crested Newts	Impact risk maps accurately predict newt presence through the analysis of habitat suitability in each area. The maps are the accepted statutory guidance that local planning authorities must take into account when considering the risk of development for great crested newts. It provides certainty to developers as they can quickly determine whether they need to take action with regards to newts. Colour coded zones indicate the likely presence of great crested newts.	Impact Maps - NatureSpace Partnership (naturespaceuk.com)

NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Natural Environment		
National Forest Inventory	This programme monitors woodland and trees within Great Britain. It includes the most in depth survey carried out on Britain's woodland and trees to date. The NFI provides an extensive and unique record of key information about our forests and woodlands. Woodland surveys and compiled forest inventories have been carried out at 10–15-year intervals since 1924.	National Forest Inventory - Forest Research
Ancient Woodland Inventory	The AWI is a provisional guide and map-based tool to the location of Ancient and long-established Woodland. Ancient woodland is defined as land that is currently wooded and has been continually wooded in England at least since 1600. This type of woodland has important biodiversity and cultural values by its virtue of its antiquity.	Ancient Woodland (England) | Ancient Woodland (England) | Natural England Open Data Geoportal (arcgis.com)
Natural England's Green Infrastructure Framework (2023)	This framework integrates green infrastructure tools, principles, standards and design guidance to create nature-rich towns and cities, helping millions to realise the benefits of accessing nature.	Natural England unveils new Green Infrastructure Framework - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Local nature recovery strategy statutory guidance (2023)	The strategy explains what a responsible authority should include in their local nature recovery strategy. Responsible authorities are required by law to have regard to this guidance when preparing their strategy.	Local nature recovery strategy statutory guidance (publishing.service.gov.uk)
Tree and Woodland Strategy Toolkit (Tree Council 2022)	Tree Council supported by DEFRA and Forestry Commission has facilitated this toolkit to provide guidance and tools for preparation of Tree and Woodland Strategies and action plans by Local Authorities.	Tree-Council-Trees-and-Woodland-Strategy-Toolkit-2022.pdf (treecouncil.org.uk)

NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Natural Environment		
An Approach to Landscape Sensitivity Assessment (Natural England 2019)	Guidance forlandscape sensitivity assessment – identifies and describes landscape types.	Landscape character assessments: identify and describe landscape types - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Health		
NHS Planning guidance for COVID-19 recovery (2021-22)	The NHS is expected to work with local communities and others to protect the most vulnerable from COVID-19, restore NHS services for people living in deprived areas, and increase access to primary care. The NHS must also accelerate the delivery of personal health budgets, social prescribing referrals and personalised care plans. Collaboration and partnership working are required, and integrated care systems are asked to develop priorities that reflect the needs of their local populations.	NHS England » 2021/22 priorities and operational planning guidance
Public Health England's Healthy Places Guidance (2021)	The programme has been designed to support the development of healthy places and homes with the aim of ensuring that health inequalities are considered and addressed when planning, developing and improving the built environment and in enabling people to have a place they can call 'home'	PHE Healthy Places - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Building for a Healthy Life: A design code for neighbourhoods, streets, homes and public spaces (2020)	Building for a Healthy Life is the most up to date design tool used by organisations and bodies involved with new community planning and development. It follows on from the Building for Life 12 principles.	The sign of a good place to live (builtforlifehomes.org)
The 2020 Lancet Commission Report on Dementia prevention,	It highlighted 12 modifiable risk factors which may prevent or delay up to 40% of dementias. They recommend focusing on: Hypertension, hearing impairment, smoking, obesity, depression, physical inactivity, diabetes, low	Dementia prevention, intervention, and care: 2020 report of the Lancet Commission - The Lancet

intervention, and care	social contact, improving educational attainment, excessive alcohol consumption, traumatic brain injury and air pollution	

NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Health		
All our Health (2019)	Aimed at preventing illness, protecting health and promoting wellbeing. The introduction explains how All Our Health provides a framework to: • care for individuals and local communities, as well as larger populations such as cities and regions; • support all ages of life with the aim of improving health and reducing health inequalities; • present evidence and guidance to show the impact health and care professionals can make through the topics aligned to the public health outcomes framework	All Our Health: about the framework - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Community Resilience Development Framework (2019)	A reference tool for the delivery of strategic approaches to community resilience development, at the Local Resilience Forum level in collaboration with non-statutory partners. This guidance helps emergency planners ensure communities are central to emergency planning, response and recovery.	Community resilience development framework - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
UK HSA Strategic Plan 2023 to 2026: securing health, saving lives and protecting livelihoods	This strategic plan sets out the health security challenges and opportunities for the UK over the next 3 years.	UKHSA 3 year strategy (publishing.service.gov.uk)
The Quality of Life Framework (2021)	The aim of the Quality of Life Foundation is to improve people's quality of life by making health and wellbeing central to the way we create and care for our homes and communities. It sets out the evidence and suggests what communities, developers and their designers and local authorities might do to encourage better places to live.	Quality-of-Life-Foundation-Framework.pdf (hact.org.uk)

NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Health		
Active Design. Creating Active Environments through Planning and Design (2023)	Active design aims to create places and spaces which encourage people to move more, with more opportunities for everyone to increase their activity levels and lead healthier lives. The guide outlines 10 key principles for active design and provides case studies to illustrate how these principles can be successfully implemented in a variety of contexts.	Active Design (sportengland-production-files.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com)
Constituency Data: Health Conditions (October 2023)	Allows users to browse data constituency estimates for the prevalence of 20 health conditions. Estimates are based on an analysis of 2022/23 data from England's GP practices.	Constituency data: health conditions (parliament.uk)
Health and Climate change: Complex Problems with Co-Benefits (January 2023)	This article focusses on the interrelationship between climate change and health in the UK, and the opportunities for health offered by action on climate change,	Health and climate change: complex problems with co-benefits - The Health Foundation
Neurodiversity in Planning Engagement Toolkit (2021)	The aim of this toolkit is to encourage greater neurodiverse engagement at all stages of the planning process. It establishes 7 principles for engaging with a neurodiverse audience.	Neurodiversity in Planning (becg.com)
The Role of Home Adaptations in Improving Later Life (November 2017)	The review aims to provide evidence to make the case for the importance and effectiveness of adaptations, primarily to influence policy-makers at national and local levels, practitioners and local commissioners. The objective is to strengthen their focus on housing in their strategic plans, and commit increased effort and resources to delivering both more extensive, better coordinated, more timely and personalised repair and adaptations services and better information and advice services.	The role of home adaptations in improving later life.pdf (ageing-better.org.uk)

NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Health		
RTPI Dementia and Town Planning. RTPI Practice Advice (Updated September 2020)	This practice note gives advice on how town planning can work with other professionals to create better environments for people living with dementia. It summarises expert advice, outlines key planning policy, good practice and case studies from around the UK.	dementiatownplanningpracticeadvice2020.pdf (rtpi.org.uk)
Residential Exposure to Transportation Noise in Denmark and Incidence of Dementia: National Cohort Study (August 2021)	This study found transportation noise to be associated with a higher risk of all causes of dementia and dementia subtypes, especially Alzheimer's disease.	Residential exposure to transportation noise in Denmark and incidence of dementia: national cohort study (bmj.com)
Air Pollution and Dementia (2021)	Discusses the research linking air pollution and dementia and the urgency for the need for effective policy measures to reduce air pollution globally. It states that reducing air pollution should be a global health and humanitarian priority.	Air pollution and dementia | The BMJ
Air Pollution and Dementia :A Systematic Review (2019)	The objective of this study was to systematically review the evidence base with respect to the relationship between air pollution and later cognitive decline and dementia. It concludes that evidence is emerging that greater exposure to airborne pollutants is associated with increased risk of dementia.	Air Pollution and Dementia: A Systematic Review - IOS Press
Towards a dementia-inclusive society. WHO Toolkit for dementia- friendly initiatives (2021)	The toolkit provides practical guidance and tools that can support efforts, including planning and implementation activities, to create dementia-inclusive societies.	Towards a dementia inclusive society (who.int)
NATIONAL		
Guidance and Other Reference Documents		
Other		

Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM)	First published by the Building Research Establishment (BRE) in 1990, is the world's longest established method of assessing, rating, and certifying the sustainability of buildings.	BREEAM - BRE Group
BREEAM Communities Sustainability Framework	The BREEAM Communities standard provides a framework to support planners, local authorities and developers to integrate and assess sustainable design in the masterplanning of new communities and regeneration projects.	BREEAM Communities - BRE Group
Network Rail England and Wales Strategic Business Plan Control Period 7 (2023)	Sets out what Network Rail intend to deliver between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2029.	England and Wales CP7 Strategic Business Plan (networkrail.co.uk)
OECD Employment outlook 2023. Artificial Intelligence and Jobs	Assesses results from a new OECD Survey on AI use in the manufacturing and finance sectors.	OECD Employment Outlook

REGIONAL		
Policy and Plans		
Economy, Employment and Skills		
South East LEP Economic Recovery and Renewal Strategy (2021)	This Strategy sets out the South East LEPs guiding principles for delivering sustainable economic growth in the South East, including East Sussex and these include the following priorities: • **Delivering clean growth** by rebuilding the economy through boosting local carbon industries while cutting carbon emissions to move to net-zero; • **Closing the digital divide** to build a smart connected South East; • **Developing the skills of our workforce and residents** to retain and build a labour market needed in a post-pandemic and post-EU economy • **Addressing inequalities** to build a fairer and more inclusive economy	South East LEP Economic Recovery and Renewal Strategy
South East LEP Local Industrial Strategy (2019)	This Strategy is ambitious about creating an economy that is smarter, achieves faster delivery of the infrastructure and connectivity needed for the economy that is wanted and works together across SELEP and with neighbours. To achieve this ambition, the Strategy identifies the following 5 top priorities: • Priority one - Creating ideas and enterprise; • Priority two - Developing tomorrow's workforce; • Priority three – Accelerating Infrastructure; • Priority four – Creating places; and Priority five – Working together.	SmarterFasterTogether - The South East Local Enterprise Partnership (southeastlep.com)
South East LEP Growth Deal and Economic Plan (2014)	This Plan sets out the strategic economic plan for the LEP area, as well shared opportunities and challenges across the South East LEP area. The plan also sets out the area-based Growth Deals and confirms that the A22/A27 Eastbourne – South Wealden area is a growth corridor that should be a focus for growth in both homes and businesses.	Strategic_Economic_Plan_2014.pdf (southeastlep.com)
Water		
South East Water - Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP24)	The draft plan intends to invest £2.2 billion during the next 50 years building a range of new infrastructure and a further £2.1 billion reducing leaks and customer water use by 2050. It aims to reduce leaks by 36% by 2040, then 50% by 2050 and 56% by 2075 and customer water use/demand to 124 litres a day by 2040 and 112 litres a day by 2050.	Water Resources Management Plan | South East Water (engagementhq.com)

REGIONAL		
Policy and Plans		
Transport and Accessiblity		
Transport for the South East Transport Strategy for the South East (2020)	The Plan's vision is: • By 2050, the South East of England will be a leading global region for net-zero carbon, sustainable economic growth where integrated transport, digital and energy networks have delivered a step-change in connectivity and environmental quality; and • A high-quality, reliable, safe and accessible transport network will offer seamless door-to-door journeys enabling our businesses to compete and trade more effectively in the global marketplace and giving our residents and visitors the highest quality of life The Plan also sets out its 3 strategic goals as : • Economic: Improve productivity and attract investment to grow our economy and better compete in the global marketplace; • Social: Improve health, safety, wellbeing, quality of life, and access to opportunities for everyone; and • Environmental: Protect and enhance the South East's unique natural and historic environment	TfSE-transport-strategy.pdf (transportforthesoutheast.org.uk) Transport Strategy - Evidence base - Transport for the South East
Transport for the South East. A Strategic Investment Plan for the South East (March 2023)	The plan sets out their 30 year vision for the region which aligns with and supports government priorities to • rapidly decarbonise the transport system • improve public healthoutcomes • reduce congestion • improve road safety • level up left behind communities • facilitate sustainable economic growth in the south east The plan sets out a series of interventions that seek to address the key investment priorities for the south east.	SIP-1.pdf (transportforthesoutheast.org.uk)
Transport for South East Future Mobility Study (July 2021)	The study sets out how new and emerging transport technologies can help to achieve their vision of a better connected, more inclusive, more productive and more sustainable South East.	Future-mobility-strategy-Final-report.pdf (transportforthesoutheast.org.uk)

REGIONAL		
Policy and Plans		
Transport and Accessiblity		
Transport for South East. Future Mobility Study: strategic plan	The strategic plan has been developed to set out the approach and resources needed to deliver future mobility. It provides an action plan and a monitoring and evaluation framework.	Future-mobility-strategy-strategic-plan.pdf (transportforthesoutheast.org.uk)
Environment		
South Downs National Park Authority. People and Nature Network. Green Infrastructure in the South Downs National Park and the Wider South East (March 2020)	The PANN seeks to achieve coordinated and strategically planned provision for green infrastructure and natural ecosystem services for communities and nature throughout the entire region. The document is an introduction to how this coordinated and cross-sectoral approach to environmental master planning and regeneration has been developed.	PANN-GI-in-the-SDNP-and-wider-SE-FINAL.pdf (southdowns.gov.uk)
South Downs National Park Landscape Character Assessment 1 (Updated January 2023) and Technical Papers (October 2021)	The interactive mapping and written report aim to inform and guide positive landscape change. Supporting a landscape led approach to planning and design within the National Park.	South Downs National Park Landscape Character Assessment1 (arcgis.com) South Downs Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) 2020 Technical Papers - South Downs National Park Authority

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Policy and Plans		
Environment		
South Downs National Park Viewshed Characterisation and South Downs National Park : View Characterisation and Analysis (November 2015)	The interactive map and written report provide evidence on views, as well as providing a visual way into understanding the Landscape Character Assessment. The study is intended to support Development Management, provide a baseline against which future landscape change could be monitored, provide evidence about the setting of the park, support the SDNP in working to protect and enhance the Special Qualities of the NP.	South Downs National Park Viewshed Characterisation South Downs National Park: View Characterisation and Analysis
South Downs National Park Authority Tranquility Study (2017)	Study to identify which areas within the National Park have the greatest or least tranquility.	13-04-17-South-Downs-National-Park-Tranquillity-Study.pdf (southdowns.gov.uk)
Mapping of the South Downs International Dark Skies Reserve and their Tranquility Study	Mapping of the results of the South Downs National Park Tranquility Study and the Dark Night Sky Zones.	Landscape Character Area map - South Downs National Park Authority

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Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
Wealden Corporate Plan 2023 - 2027	The Corporate Plan sets out the following priorities: • Engaged communities – Will support and involve all communities within Wealden in decision-making about their area and how services are delivered; • Sustainable environment – Seeks an environment that is not only protected but also enhanced and is committed to be net-zero carbon in tackling climate change; • Thriving economy – Will enable Wealden's local economy to vibrant and diverse by ensuring business and employment opportunities for all making the district attractive to live and visit ; and Ambitious Council – To deliver on commitments around engaged communities, a sustainable environment and a thriving economy by being transparent and accountable.	The Councils Corporate Plan - Wealden District Council - Wealden District Council
Environment Strategy for East Sussex 2020	The overall aim of this Strategy is to: "Protect and enhance our natural and built environment for current and future generations and tackle and adapt to climate change". It identifies its five priority environmental themes, and their associated long term aims as: • Climate change – East Sussex to remain within its science-based carbon budget; • Natural capital – Achieve a growing and resilient stock of natural capital; • Air quality; • Water - Achieve a resilient and sustainable water supply for consumers and the environment; and Resource efficiency - Achieve a more circular economy.	Environment Strategy 2020 | East Sussex County Council
Adopted Wealden Core Strategy (2013)	The Core Strategy aims to deliver 450 homes per annum over the plan period with 1300 dwellings in Hailsham, 1000 dwellings in Uckfield, and 650 dwellings in Stone Cross and 700 dwellings in Polegate. The Strategy allocates some 40,000 sq metres of employment land, principally in Hailsham, Polegate and Uckfield and promotes provision of an additional 17,000 sq m of retail floorspace, centred upon Uckfield and Hailsham.	Adopted_Core_Strategy_2013_for_web.pdf (wealden.gov.uk)

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Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
Wealden Corporate Plan 2023 - 2027	The Corporate Plan sets out the following priorities: • Engaged communities – Will support and involve all communities within Wealden in decision-making about their area and how services are delivered; • Sustainable environment – Seeks an environment that is not only protected but also enhanced and is committed to be net-zero carbon in tackling climate change; • Thriving economy – Will enable Wealden's local economy to vibrant and diverse by ensuring business and employment opportunities for all making the district attractive to live and visit ; and • Ambitious Council – To deliver on commitments around engaged communities, a sustainable environment and a thriving economy by being transparent and accountable.	The Councils Corporate Plan - Wealden District Council - Wealden District Council
East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton and Hove Waste and Minerals Plan (2013)	The waste and minerals planning strategy for East Sussex is set out in a series of documents collectively known as the Waste and Minerals Local Plan. It identifies the following as its strategic objectives: • achieve decline rates of growth of all waste, reduce the amount of waste produced, drive the management of waste up the hierarchy by reusing and recycling waste material; • prudent and efficient use of minerals; • make timely provision for the sustainable management of waste and production of minerals to meet forecast requirements of the Plan Area; • protect and enhance the environment, communities and health minimising impacts on the built and natural environments; • manage waste and minerals at an appropriate scale; • ensure that sustainable waste management objectives are considered in all plans, strategies and proposals in the Plan Area and that the design , construction and operation of all new developments promotes sustainable waste management; • dispose of waste to land as a last resort and seek appropriate after-use of land disposal sites to achieve conservation and enhancement of the environment; • ensure facilities are designed, located and operated in a manner that takes the implications of climate change, and in particular rising sea levels, into account.	The Waste and Minerals Plan (adopted 19 February 2013)

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Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
Air, Noise and Light		
Wealden Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR) 2022	The Council monitors the air quality in the district to ensure that it either meets or exceeds DEFRA Air Quality Objectives. The Report conclude that there are no issues with air quality within the district and there are no Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) identified in Wealden.	Monitoring air quality - Wealden District Council - Wealden District Council
Biodiversity		
Ashdown Forest Vision and Management Strategy 2021-2031	This Strategy sets out its vision as: "Ashdown Forest is a jewel in the crown of the Sussex landscape for our and future generations. Ashdown Forest is treasured by local, regional, and international communities for its extraordinary nature and culture. It is a cornerstone of a bigger, better, and more interconnected landscape. It is a place where people understand and enjoy the natural environment around them, and where wildlife and people thrive together". It identifies its 3 strategic aims as : 1. Protect, enhance and broaden - To enhance and protect Ashdown Forest's unique natural, cultural and historical value. 2. Collaborate and engage - To collaborate and engage widely and effectively. 3. Welcome and inspire - To welcome everyone and inspire people about Ashdown Forest including our visitors, our stakeholders and our team.	Ashdown Forest Vision and Management Strategy 2021-2031
The Sussex Local Nature Partnership - Natural Capital Investment Strategy	The Strategy identifies its commitment to biodiversity within the natural capital approach as its overarching principle. It outlines its approach to directing investment in nature, across the terrestrial, coastal and marine environments, for the next 5 year period and beyond.	Microsoft Word - Natural Capital Investment Strategy_Summary_Feb2020.docx (sussexlnp.org.uk)
Wealden Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) (2018)	A HRA is undertaken to assess the potential effect of a plan against the conservation objectives of European Sites including Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Ramsar Sites. There are a number of sites designated as sites of European importance located within Wealden District. These include: Ashdown Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC); Ashdown Forest Special Protection Area (SPA);	Wealden Habitats Regulations Assessment

	Pevensey Levels SAC; and Pevensey Levels Ramsar site. Work on the emerging HRA is underway.	

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Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
Biodiversity and Geodiversity		
Wealden Green Infrastructure Study 2017	This Study assesses the quantity, quality and accessibility of the Districts green assets that contribute to the green infrastructure network. From this audit, the evidence identifies deficiencies within the network and makes recommendations for the provision and enhancement of green infrastructure to provide a coherent and accessible network for the benefit of both people and nature. The assessment also provides baseline information to inform the production of a Green Infrastructure Strategy for the District.	Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure - Wealden District Council - Wealden District Council
Climate Change		
North Wealden Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and Eastbourne and South Wealden Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRAs) 2022	The SFRAs provides evidence of flood risk in the district with a view to avoiding development in areas of highest risk. The SFRA covers existing flood risk as well as future flood risk taking into account the latest climate change allowances for peak rainfall, peak river flow and sea level rise. The SFRA also provides advice on applying the sequential and exceptions test required by the NPPF and advice for applicants undertaking individual site level Flood Risk Assessments (FRAs).	North Wealden Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
Annual greenhouse gas emissions report 2021-22	This report gives an annual summary of emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) from the County Council's operations, stated as carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e) emissions. The report follows guidance from the Department of Food, Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) on how we should measure and report on these emissions. Emissions are reported by financial year (from April to the following March).	Annual greenhouse gas emissions report 2021-22 | East Sussex County Council
Catchment Flood Management Plans (2019)	These Plans provide an overview of the flood risk across the river catchment and recommended ways of managing the risk now and over the next 50 to 100 years. Two Plans cover Wealden:	Catchment flood management plans - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

	• Cuckmere & Sussex Havens • Ouse, Sussex	

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Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
East Sussex Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2016 – 2026	This Strategy sets out how East Sussex County Council's approach to managing local flood risk for the ten year period 2016 – 2026. The long-term aim of the strategy is to provide a co-ordinated approach to managing local forms of flood risk in East Sussex. This is defined as flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses.	Local flood risk management strategy | East Sussex County Council
Community and Health		
East Sussex alcohol harm reduction strategy 2021-2026	This Strategy states five ambitions to get families the support they need to reduce the number of children (almost 2000) living with an alcohol dependent adult by a quarter 2026. The ambitions include: **Ambition one:** reduce number of people drinking above Chief Medical Officers recommendation 14 units per week (risky drinking population). (Appendix 2.1) **Ambition two:** Improve access to treatment services for people who could be benefiting (reduce those who are dependent on alcohol with unmet need of 84% (Appendix 2.2) to 75% by 2026). **Ambition three:** reduce the 5,224 people who are dependent drinkers by a quarter to 4,000 by 2026 **Ambition four:** Increase holistic support for parents and children, reducing number of children living with an alcohol dependent adult by 25% from 1,960 to 1,470 by 2026. **Ambition five:** reduce alcohol related harm in Hastings: Hospital admissions (narrow measure) to be similar to national average by 2026. Alcohol specific mortality in Hastings to be similar to the East Sussex average. The Strategy also sets out the four guiding priority areas as: • Encouraging a healthy relationship with alcohol; • Protecting children, young people, and their families; • Making effective treatment and recovery accessible to all who need it; and Creating safe environments in East Sussex	East Sussex alcohol harm reduction strategy 2021-2026
East Sussex whole system healthy	The East Sussex healthy weight plan is aimed at increasing the number of people in the county who have a healthier weight and are completing recommended levels of physical activity	East Sussex whole-system healthy weight plan 2021-2026 | East Sussex County Council

weight plan 2021-2026		
LOCAL		
Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
East Sussex Health and Social Care Plan (April 2020)	The key aims of the Plan and partnership are to: • Break down barriers between health and social care; • Improve the health and wellbeing of local people; and Reduce health inequalities.	Item 6 - Health and Social Care Plan.pdf (eastsussex.gov.uk)
Healthy Lives, Healthy People: East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy	This strategy highlights the plans for health and care services in the county. The strategy signosts to other key strategies and plans with the aim of providing an integrated approach across the NHS, local government and the wider voluntary and independent sector.	Healthy lives, healthy people: East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy | East Sussex County Council
Health and Housing - Annual Report of the Director of Public Health in East Sussex (2019/20)	This report sets out the strategic recommendations to address health and the housing crisis in East Sussex. The identifies the 3 strategic recommendations as: • To make all housing and neighbourhoods healthy; • To make all homes healthy; and To make people healthier in their homes	Health and Housing
Connecting People and Places. Bringing Communities together in East Sussex- Annual Report of the Director of Public Health in East Sussex (2022/23)	This report highlights the importance of social connections and the impact loneliness can have on people's health and wellbeing. It also shares the findings and recommendations of a collaborative COVID 19 recovery project.	Annual Public Health Report 2022/23 - Connecting People and Places | (eastsussexjsna.org.uk)
East Sussex Joint Strategic Needs Assessment	East Sussex Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) identifies the current and future health and wellbeing needs and strengths of local communities. This resource help to	East Sussex Joint Strategic Needs Assessment JSNA

	inform decisions and plans to improve local people's health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities in East Sussex.	

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Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment		
Adopted Neighbourhood Plans in Wealden (2019-2021)	The purpose of Neighbourhood Planning is to give local people and businesses a greater say in how the places they live and work should change and develop over time. The following Neighbourhood Plans have been 'made' (adopted) and are relevant in terms of their local lists. • Hailsham Neighbourhood Plan (2021) • Hellingly Neighbourhood Plan (2021) Hertmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan (2019)	Hailsham Neighbourhood Plan 2021 Hellingly Neighbourhood Plan 2021 Hertmonceux Parish Neighbourhood Plan 2019
Conservation Area Character Appraisals (Wealden) (2019 - 2020)	Appraises the different character areas within the district considering the detailed description of the character area, buildings and materials details, the character area's contribution of the national environment and the significance of the setting of the conservation area.	Conservation Areas within Wealden

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Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
Sussex Standards for Historic Building Archaeology (2019)	The Standard seeks to: • promote transparency and consistency in the quality and detail of heritage information submitted with planning applications and applications for other regulatory approvals; • give planning authorities and other regulatory bodies greater confidence in the information provided when they consider proposals for development or land management that potentially affect historic buildings; • encourage proportionality of response to the scale of development; and ensure a good historic environment 'legacy', including appropriate records following development.	Sussex Standards for Historic Building Archaeology
Sussex Archaeological Standards (2019)	This Standard sets out the recommended practice and procedures for undertaking archaeological investigations in connection with the planning and development management process in East and West Sussex including Brighton and Hove.	Sussex Archaeological Standards
Wealden Design Guide (2008)	The purpose of this Guide is to encourage a higher standard of design for development within the district.	DGpart1.pdf (wealden.gov.uk) DGpart2.pdf (wealden.gov.uk)
Historic Environment Records	For each County - Historic Environment Records (HER) are sets of data linked to a geographical information system (GIS). It can be used to assist in the analysis of the landscape and, when combined with the Historic Landscape Characterisation, looks at the archaeological evidence as well as historic use to determine how the landscape has changed. The HER contains a summary of known historic assets.	The Historic Environment Record (HER)

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Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
Economy, Employment and Skills		
Economic Development Strategy 2023-2033	This Strategy sets out the economic development strategy for the district and outlines five priority themes that are as follows: • For Wealden's town centres to adapt to residents and visitor's needs, providing places to work, socialise and enjoy, whilst optimising dwell time and spend; • Enterprising Wealden: to maintain a resilient and growing business base to ensure business and employment opportunities for all; • Skills and employment to support the existing and future workforce, whilst helping to enable partners and employers to develop robust working practices to success; • Support the tourism sector by increasing overnight stays and visitor spend, whilst promoting Wealden as an attractive place to visit; and • Net Zero Wealden: to support the development of, and opportunities arising from the transition to net zero, and ensure our businesses are ready for the impacts of climate change.	Economic Development Strategy 2023-2033
East Sussex County Council Organisation Plan 2022 to 2026	The Plan identifies all the primary schools and secondary schools in East Sussex including Wealden and provides a commentary on the capacity of schools for the time period in the following parts of Wealden: Crowborough; Hailsham; Heathfield; Polegate and Willingdon; Stone Cross, Hankham, Pevensey and Westham, Uckfield; and Rural Wealden.	School Organisation Plan 2022 to 2026 for East Sussex
Employment and Economic Study Eastbourne and Wealden (2022)	This study identifies the current commercial property market demands and trends for different segments of the economy and its spatial distribution for each local authority. This includes an analysis of existing industrial estates in the district. The document also provides a quantitative recommendation for the amount of floorspace required in each local authority for office, industrial and warehouse/ distribution uses.	Employment and Economic Study Final Report April 2022 (wealden.gov.uk)
Industry Cluster Study (2016)	This study was undertaken to assist in developing an approach to business engagement, retention and creation, in particular exploring the opportunities from the clustering of complementary industries such as low carbon and environmental goods and services (also often referred to as cleantech).	LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTERSHIPS REPORT (wealden.gov.uk)

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Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
East Sussex Growth Strategy 2014 -2020	This Strategy sets out the East Sussex County Council vision for a more innovative, productive and faster growing East Sussex economy. The strategy was built around three pillars that includes: • Business - Enabling business growth, particularly of 'high value' businesses; • Place – A significantly valued asset to the East Sussex Economy; and People – Meeting the skill needs of business and supporting residents to reach their full potential.	East Sussex Growth Strategy
Housing		
East Sussex Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs Assessment	This study assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople and boat dwellers for the East Sussex local authorities of Eastbourne Borough Council, Hastings Borough Council, Lewes District Council, Rother District Council and Wealden District Council, and the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) for the period of 2021-2040.	East Sussex Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs Assessment (wealden.gov.uk)
Wealden Local Housing Needs Assessment (2021)	This Assessment examines the future need for housing in the district and its sub areas. As well as overall housing need, the report examines affordable housing need and makes recommendations on the mix of housing and the needs for specific groups.	Wealden Local Housing Needs Assessment
Housing Strategy 2020 -2025	The Housing Strategy key priorities seeks to increase housing supply, improve housing quality and provide housing support and advice within the district. The strategic objectives identified are underpinned by the following key principles: • Reducing inequality – making sure that services are welcoming and responsive to the needs of Wealden's whole community. • Improving neighbourhoods – making sure services contribute to creating safe sustainable communities. • Accountability to local people – making sure that local people are involved in decisions about the services that affect them. • Value for money – making sure services are efficient and provide maximum impact. Partnership working – making sure the Council works with other agencies that can help improve the quality of life residents in the District.	Housing-Strategy-2020-to-2025.pdf (wealden.gov.uk)

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Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
Wealden Homelessness Strategy 2018-2023	This Strategy's priorities seeks to prevent homelessness in the district and meet the Council's obligations under the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017, securing accommodation for homeless households and providing support for homeless households.	Wealden Homelessness Strategy
Wealden Local Plan – Viability Study (2017) An up to date Viability Study will be published to accompany the new Local Plan.	This Assessment tests viability of a sample of the total number of allocated sites, and creates an assessment of a typical, hypothetical site in the case of each of the Villages and Towns with Development Boundaries – representing the type of sites that are most likely to come forward in these locations.	H11.-Wealden-Local-Plan-Viability-Assessment-August-2017-1.pdf
Housing Needs Survey Report: Wealden District: Settlements in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (2016)	The aim of the Study is to quantify the extent and nature of the need for affordable housing in the 10 parishes and 16 settlements that form the geographical basis for the study. The 3 objectives of this study were to: • To determine the total number of households 'in need' of affordable housing in each of the 10 specified parishes and each of the 16 specified settlements, based on an assessment of their current circumstances and an inability to afford to rent or purchase a suitable property on the open market; • To identify how many of those households 'in need' of affordable housing also met the Wealden District Council financial requirements for inclusion on the Housing Register and which possessed an identifiable local connection to the parish in which they are located; To provide an analysis of the appropriate form of affordable housing tenure for each of those households classified as 'in need' of affordable housing.	Housing Needs Survey Report: Wealden District: Settlements in AONB
Wealden Older Persons Housing & Support Strategy 2008-28	This Strategy sets out a plan for the development of a range of local housing-related options for older people within Wealden District Council in response to locally assessed needs. It covers housing, including extra care, and support services including housing related support and is designed to provide a framework for commissioning.	Microsoft Word - Wealden Strategy final version.doc

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Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
Landscape and Townscape		
East Sussex Landscape Character Assessment 2016	Aims: • To identify the unique combination of landscape, biodiversity, geological, cultural and economic activity that defines each county landscape character area. • To provide a county-wide consistent landscape character assessment framework as a background for more detailed assessments • To identify problems and pressures for each character area, formulate a vision and provide landscape action priorities	Download – East Sussex Landscape Character Assessment | East Sussex County Council
Landscape Character Assessment for Wealden District (2022)	The aim of this Assessment is to provide a comprehensive and up to date strategic district scale landscape evidence base to help inform the production of the new Local Plan and provide a framework for more detailed landscape studies and sensitivity assessments. The assessment is intended to inform work on policy development and development management, guiding development and landscape change that is appropriate to local character and the qualities of the landscape. The findings can be used to consider landscape character when considering any type of change. This includes opportunities for conserving existing character, strengthening, and enhancing character as well as opportunities for creating new character.	Wealden-LCA.pdf
High Wealden AONB Guidance on the selection and use of colour in development (2017).	The purpose of this document is to provide direction and guidance on the selection and use of colour in development within the High Weald AONB. 'Development' includes any building work, ranging from home extensions and conversions through to house building, fencing, agricultural and industrial premises, retail and office buildings. It also includes infrastructure associated with transport and utilities.	High Wealden AONB colour study

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Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
High Weald AONB Management Plan 2019-2024	The role of this Management Plan is to provide a means by which all public bodies can judge and be judge on their duty to have regard to the conservation of the AONB. It also provides a guide for residents, businesses and visitors on the actions they can take to help safeguard the AONB. The Management Plan sets out the five year objectives for conserving the High Weald AONB in relation to: • Geology, landform and water systems – a deeply incised, ridged and faulted landform of clays and sandstone with numerous gill streams; • Settlement – dispersed historic settlement including high densities of isolated farmsteads and late Medieval villages founded on trade and non-agricultural rural industries; • Routeways – a dense network of historic routeways (now roads, tracks and paths); • Woodland – abundance of ancient woodland, highly interconnected and in smallholdings; and • Field and Heath – small, irregular and productive fields, bounded by hedgerows and woods, and typically used for livestock grazing; with distinctive zones of lowland heaths, and inned river valleys.	AONB Management Plan - High Weald High Wealden AONB Management Plan
Landscape and Ecological Assessment Study (2017)	This study details ecological and landscape information for specific sites and areas within the district. It was used to assist in the identification of potential sites for future development ion the now withdrawn local plan, as well as to inform the development of site-specific ecological and landscape policies.	Landscape - Wealden District Council - Wealden District Council
South Wealden – Landscape and Ecological Assessment Study (2017)	This study details ecological and landscape information for specific sites and areas within the south of the district. It was used to assist in the identification of potential sites for future development in the now withdrawn local plan as well as to inform the development of site-specific ecological and landscape policies. The assessment covers the settlements of Hailsham, Polegate and Willingdon, Lower Horsebridge, Hellingly, Magham Down, Lower Dicker and Upper Dicker. The scope of the study comprises landscape and ecological assessments of a number of sites that were previously submitted to the SHELAA process as available for potential development.	Landscape - Wealden District Council - Wealden District Council

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Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
Soils, Land and Minerals		
Wealden District Council webpages – Land that may be contaminated	Provides details of how the Council deals with issues of contaminated land.	Land that may be contaminated - Wealden District Council - Wealden District Council
Water		
Cuckmere and Pevensey Levels Abstraction Licencing Strategy (2019)	This Strategy sets out how the Environment Agency manages water resources in the catchment. The key objective is to ensure that RBMP objectives for water resources activities are met and that a deterioration in water quality / quantity is avoided.	Cuckmere and Pevensey Levels abstraction licensing strategy - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Wealden Green Infrastructure Study 2017	The purpose of this Study is to assess the quantity, quality and accessibility of the current Green Infrastructure provision within Wealden District, and identify opportunities for addressing deficiencies From this audit, the evidence identifies deficiencies within the network and makes recommendations for the provision and enhancement of green infrastructure, including blue infrastructure, to provide a coherent and accessible network for the benefit of both people and nature.	Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure - Wealden District Council - Wealden District Council
Guide to Sustainable Drainage Systems in East Sussex (2015)	This guide explains what SuDS are, why they are important and the process of designing and implementing SuDS within the East Sussex environment. It also sets out the drainage approval process and its requirements in relation to SuDS. In addition, it highlights the multiple benefits of SuDS to developers, residents and the environment of East Sussex.	Sustainable drainage systems | East Sussex County Council

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Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
Transport and Accessibility		
Wealden Local Plan Transport Study (WLPTS) (2018)	The WLPTS (2018) was undertaken to assess the impacts of the development proposals set out in WDC's Proposed Submission Wealden Local Plan August 2018 (WLP) on Wealden's highway network connectivity and capacity.	K1. Wealden Local Plan Transport Study 2018 1.pdf
A27 Corridor Feasibility Study (2015)	This study summarises the evidence gathering phase (Study Stage 1) of the A27 Feasibility Study. The evidence assessment was used to identify the following intervention specific objectives to refine the geographic area of interest: • Reduce travel time and improve journey time reliability in the key hotspot areas; Reducing severance and pollution impacts; • Enabling local planning authorities to manage the impact of planned growth and in doing so support the wider economy; • Providing safer roads which are resilient to delay and which are able to adequately cater for the impacts of adverse weather; • Minimising impacts on the natural environment and optimising environmental opportunities and mitigation; and • Providing opportunities for improved accessibility for all users.	A27 corridor feasibility study report 1 of 3: evidence report (publishing.service.gov.uk)
East Sussex County Council (third) Local Transport Plan (2011-2026) The fourth East Sussex Local Transport Plan is being prepared and will run from 2024 to 2050.	The vision for this Plan includes delivering a high quality environment. It recognises that most of the air pollution in the county is generated by road traffic and includes measures that focus on reducing emissions. This includes reducing the need to travel; the promotion of different modes of transport; and supporting local authorities to carry out air quality reviews and the preparation of air quality action plans. Key action is the development of an East Sussex Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan.	Our Local Transport Plan | East Sussex County Council

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Policy and Plans		
Policy or plan	**Summary of objectives and targets**	**Source / link**
Transport and Accessibility		
East Sussex County Council Bus Service Improvement Plan (October 2021)	Sets out the plans and supporting policies of ESCC to improve bus services, working in close cooperation with neighbouring Local Transport Authorities and with stakeholders. It outlines how the County Council and bus operators can achieve the overarching goal of the National Bus Strategy- to grow bus patronage.	Bus Service Improvement Plan for East Sussex County Council | East Sussex County Council
Waste		
East Sussex Joint Waste Strategy 2014 - 2025	This Strategy aims to: • Reduce the amount of waste produced; • Increase the amount of waste reused, recycled and composted; • Reduce the amount of waste landfilled; • Recover more value from our waste; • Provide waste services that offer value for money, i.e. that are good and affordable, and are accessible to everyone; • Review and continuously improve our waste services to ensure they remain environmentally sustainable and affordable; and • Manage waste as close as possible to its source, ideally within the county And by 2025 the Strategy will: Recycle and compost 60% of the household waste produced.	WasteStrategyfinal_Cabinet20.02.14 (lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk)

Wealden District Council

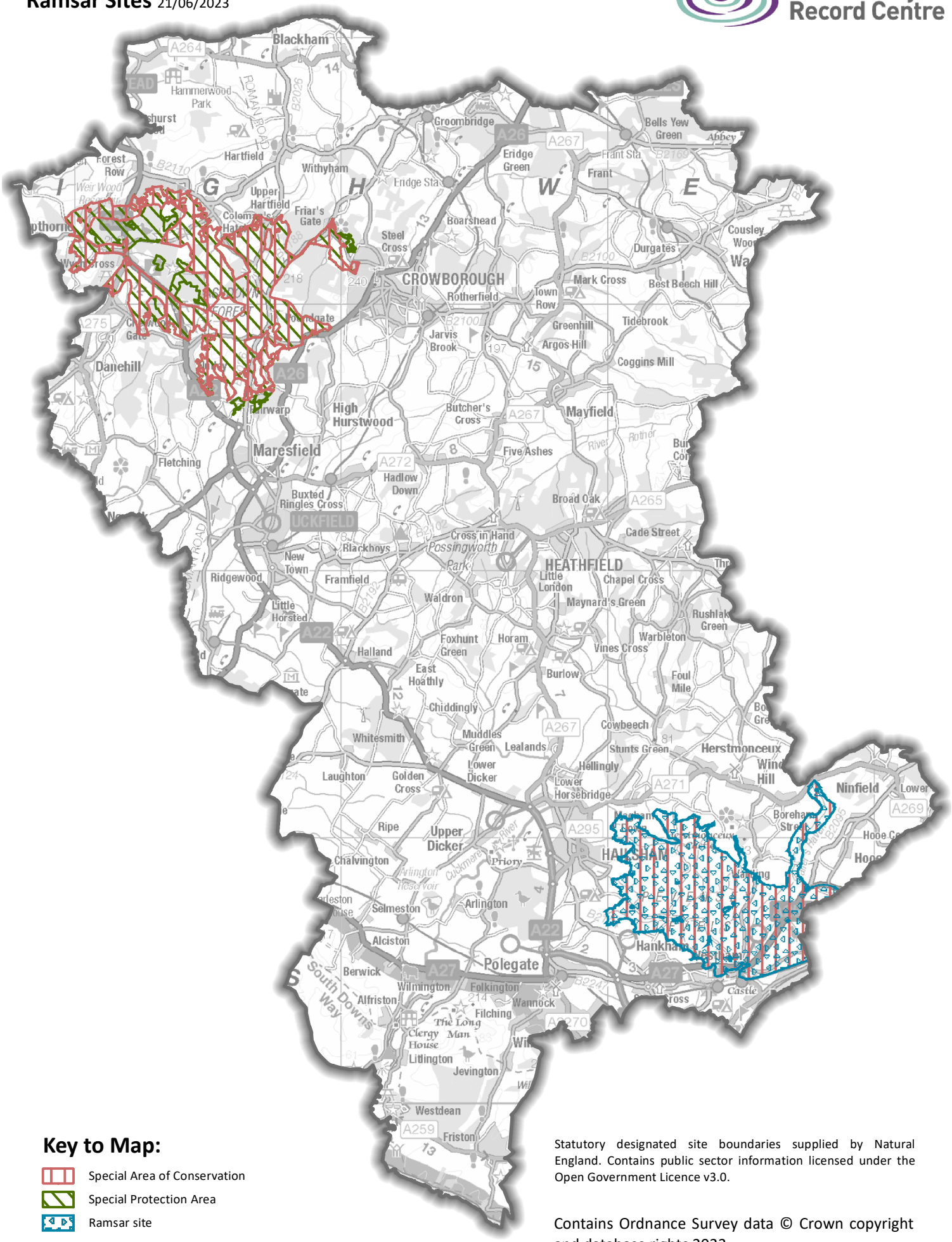
Wealden Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Appendix B Biodiversity and Geodiversity Maps

Wealden
District Council

Map 1 Wealden District - SACs, SPAs and Ramsar Sites 21/06/2023

Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre



Key to Map:

- Special Area of Conservation
- Special Protection Area
- Ramsar site

Statutory designated site boundaries supplied by Natural England. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

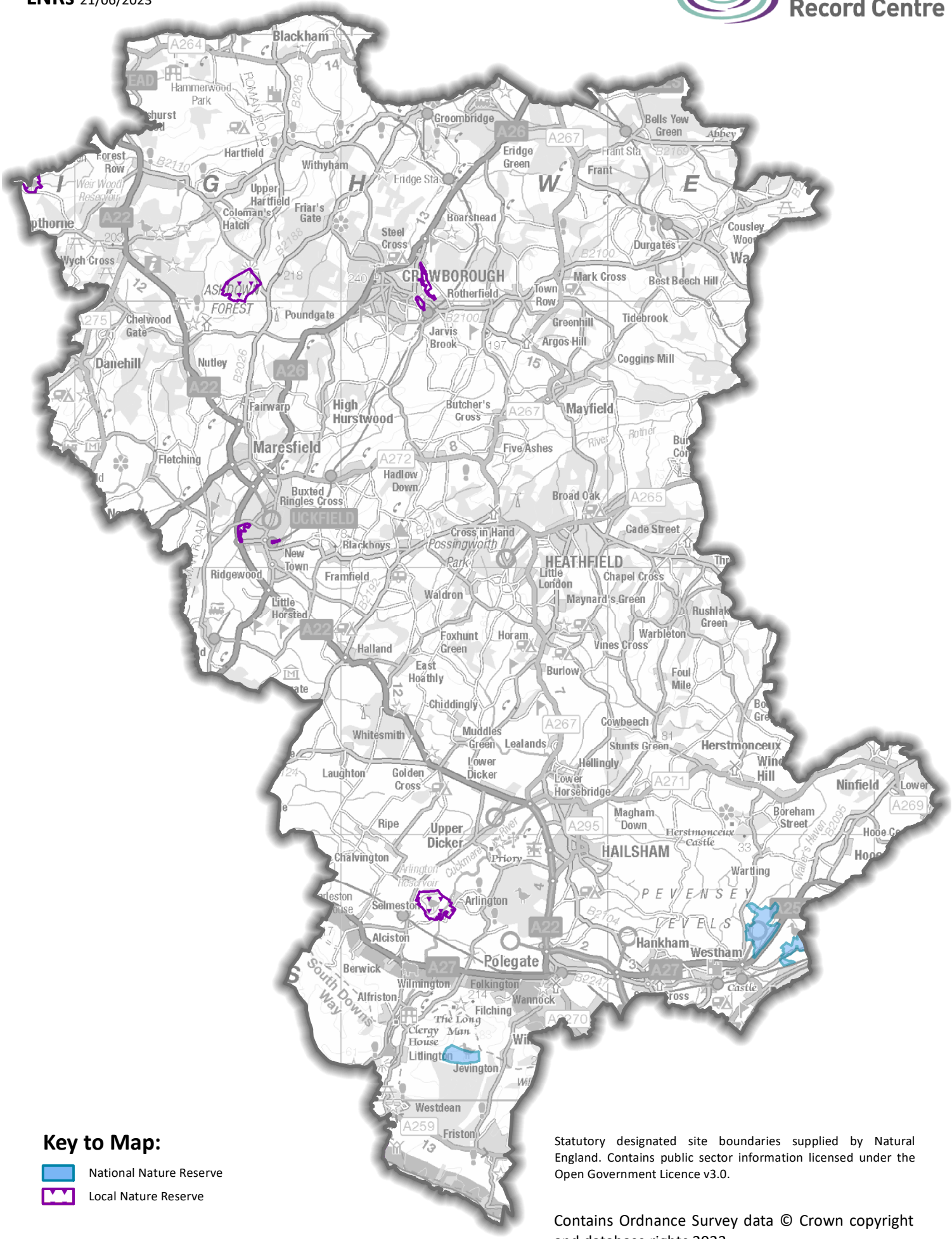
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N

0 5 10 Km

Map 2 Wealden District - NNRs and LNRs 21/06/2023

Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre



Key to Map:

- National Nature Reserve
- Local Nature Reserve

Statutory designated site boundaries supplied by Natural England. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

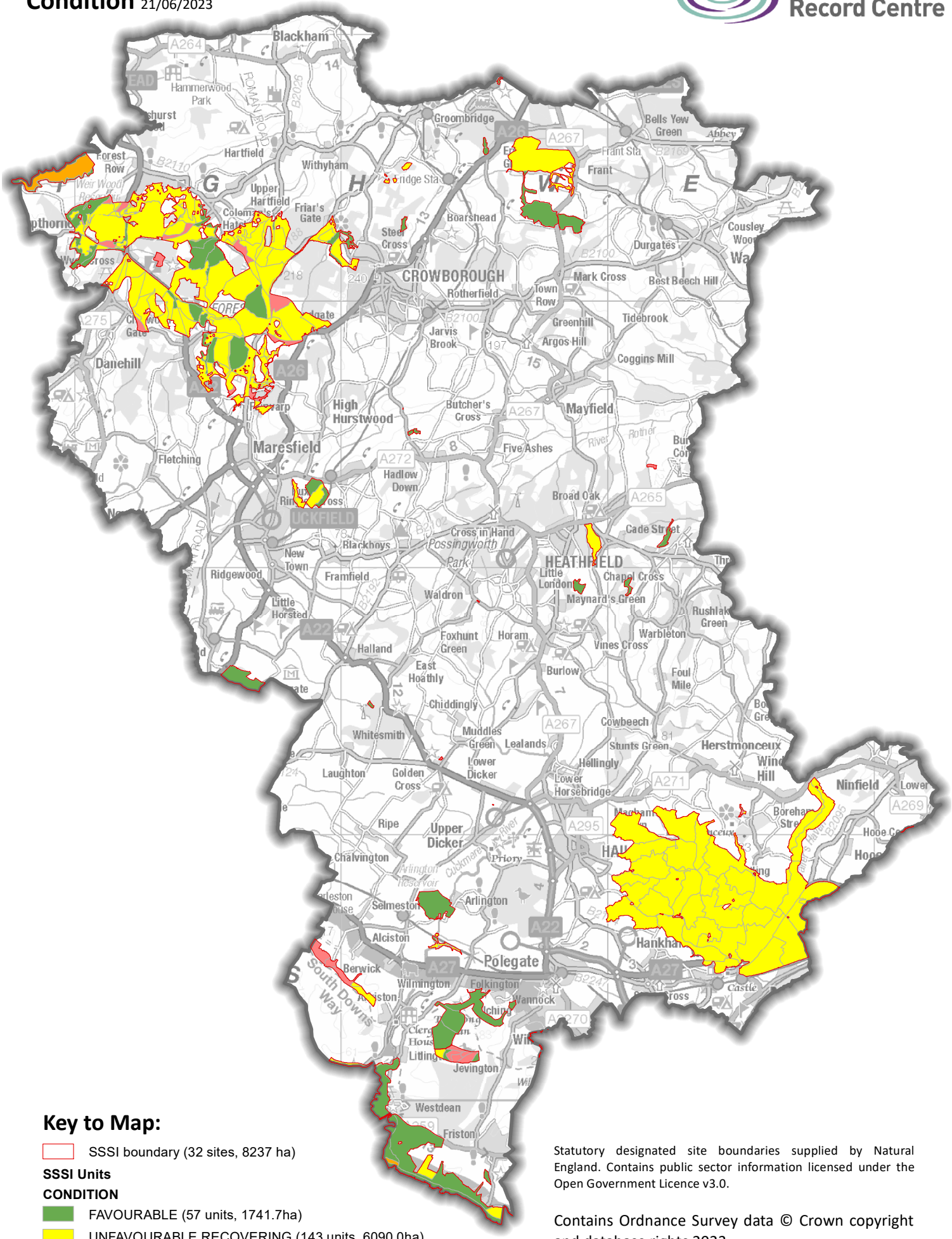
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Map 3 Wealden District - SSSI Unit Condition 21/06/2023

Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre



Key to Map:

SSSI boundary (32 sites, 8237 ha)

SSSI Units

CONDITION

- FAVOURABLE (57 units, 1741.7ha)
- UNFAVOURABLE RECOVERING (143 units, 6090.0ha)
- UNFAVOURABLE NO CHANGE (3 units, 122.2ha)
- UNFAVOURABLE DECLINING (27 units, 283.4ha)

Statutory designated site boundaries supplied by Natural England. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

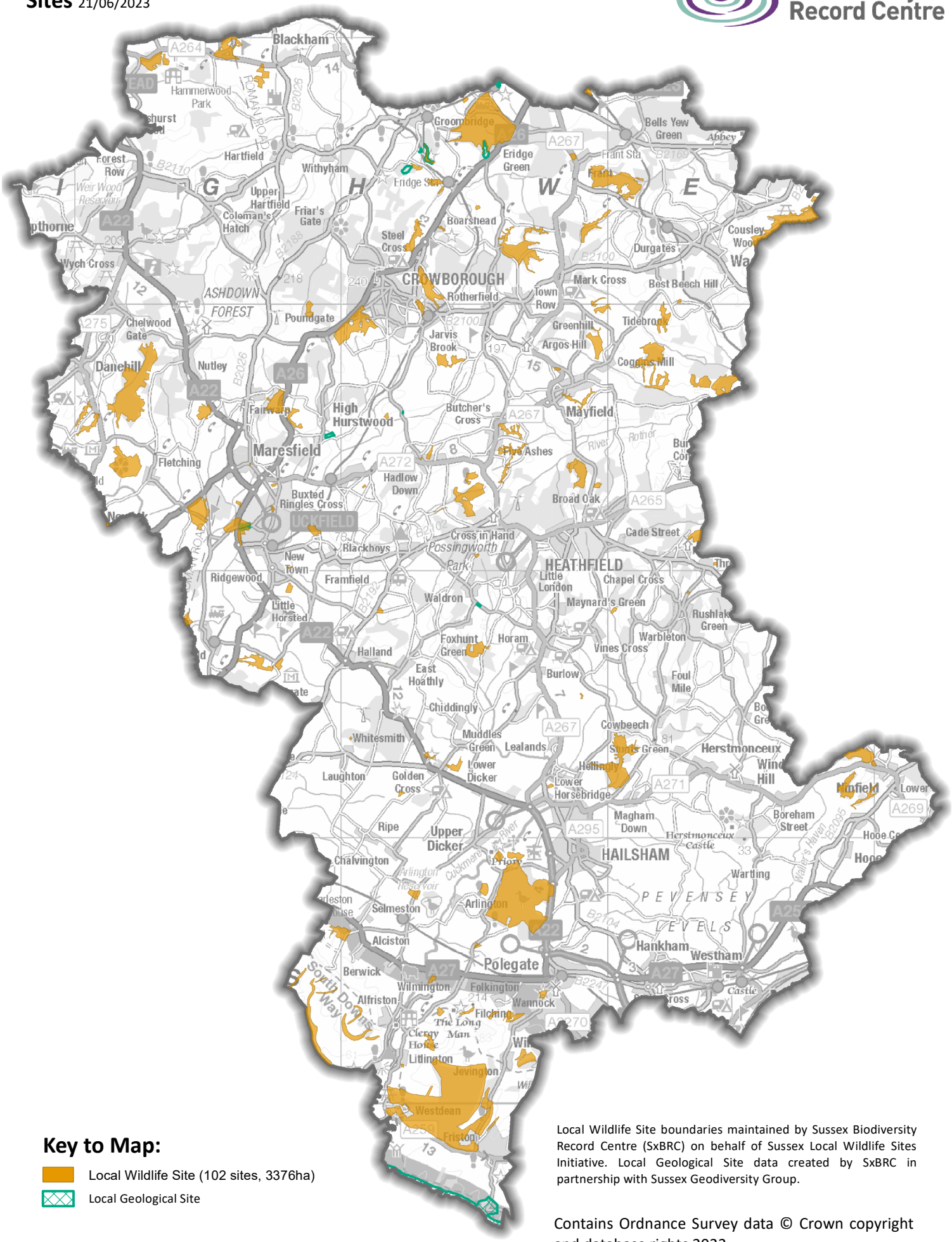
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Map 4 Wealden District - Local Wildlife Sites & Local Geological Sites 21/06/2023

Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre



Key to Map:

- Local Wildlife Site (102 sites, 3376ha)
- Local Geological Site

Local Wildlife Site boundaries maintained by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre (SxBRC) on behalf of Sussex Local Wildlife Sites Initiative. Local Geological Site data created by SxBRC in partnership with Sussex Geodiversity Group.

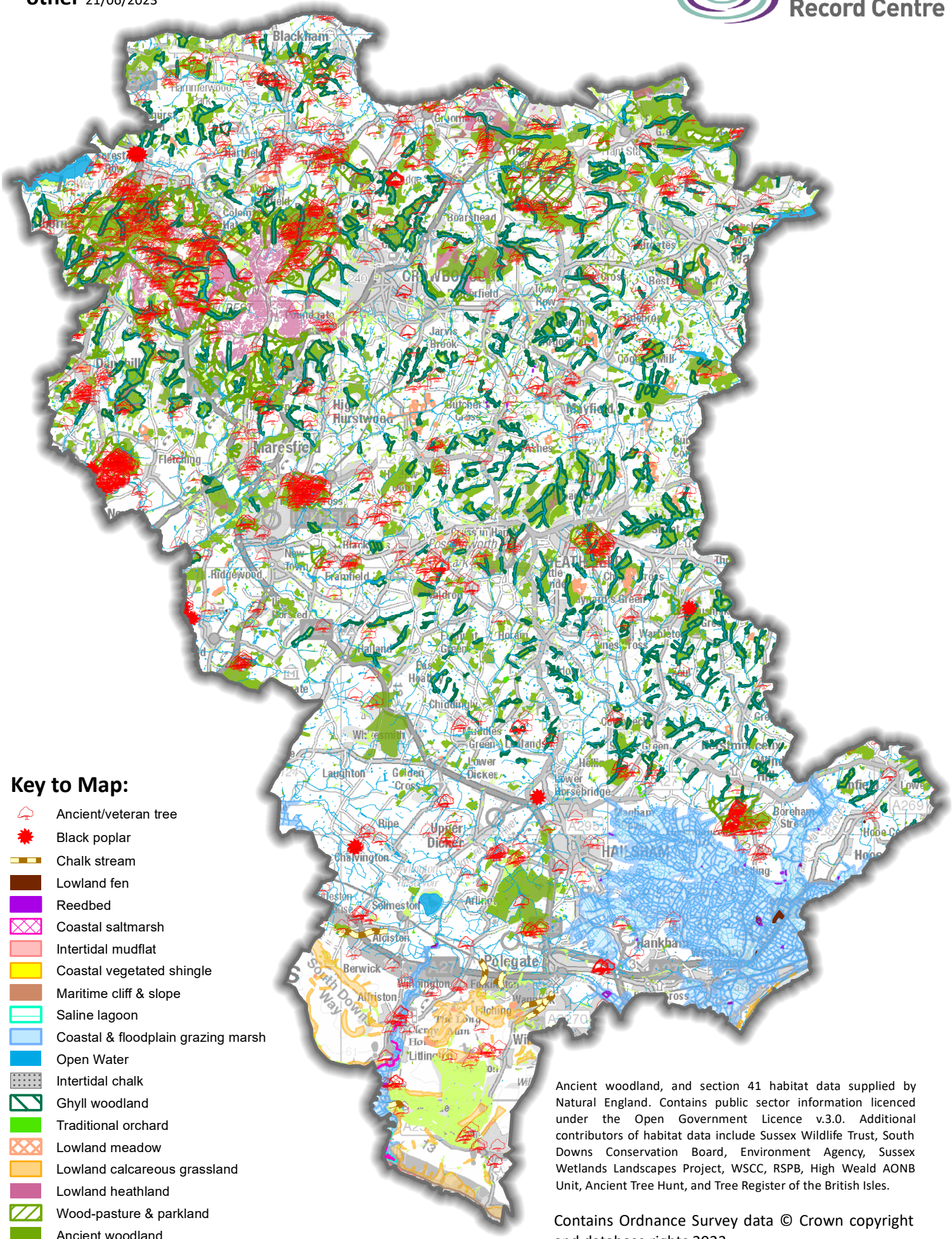
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Map 5 Wealden District - Section 41 habitats and other 21/06/2023

Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre



Key to Map:

- Ancient/veteran tree
- Black poplar
- Chalk stream
- Lowland fen
- Reedbed
- Coastal saltmarsh
- Intertidal mudflat
- Coastal vegetated shingle
- Maritime cliff & slope
- Saline lagoon
- Coastal & floodplain grazing marsh
- Open Water
- Intertidal chalk
- Ghyll woodland
- Traditional orchard
- Lowland meadow
- Lowland calcareous grassland
- Lowland heathland
- Wood-pasture & parkland
- Ancient woodland
- Deciduous woodland

Ancient woodland, and section 41 habitat data supplied by Natural England. Contains public sector information licenced under the Open Government Licence v.3.0. Additional contributors of habitat data include Sussex Wildlife Trust, South Downs Conservation Board, Environment Agency, Sussex Wetlands Landscapes Project, WSCC, RSPB, High Weald AONB Unit, Ancient Tree Hunt, and Tree Register of the British Isles.

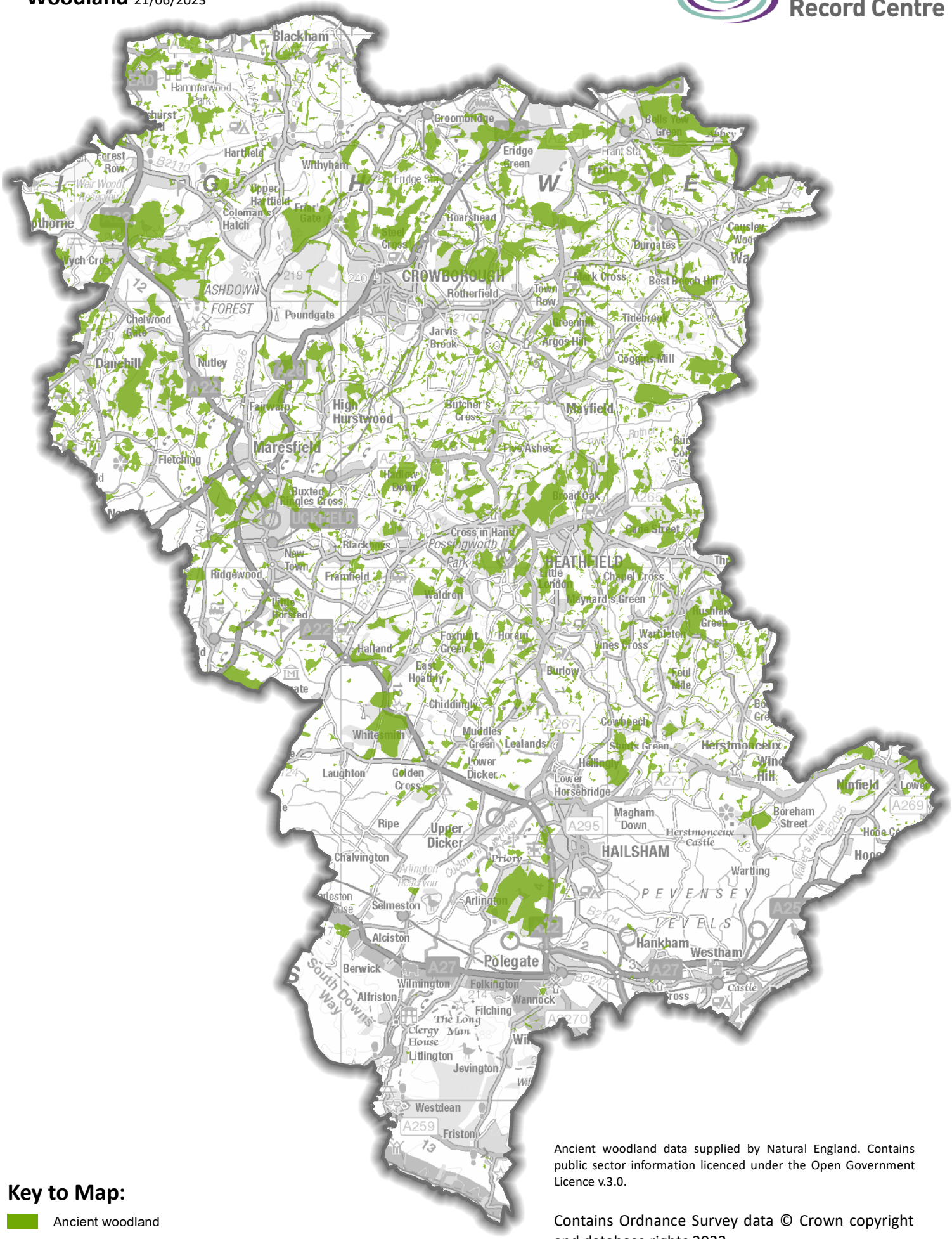
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Map 6 Wealden District - Ancient Woodland 21/06/2023

Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre



Key to Map:

Ancient woodland

Ancient woodland data supplied by Natural England. Contains public sector information licenced under the Open Government Licence v.3.0.

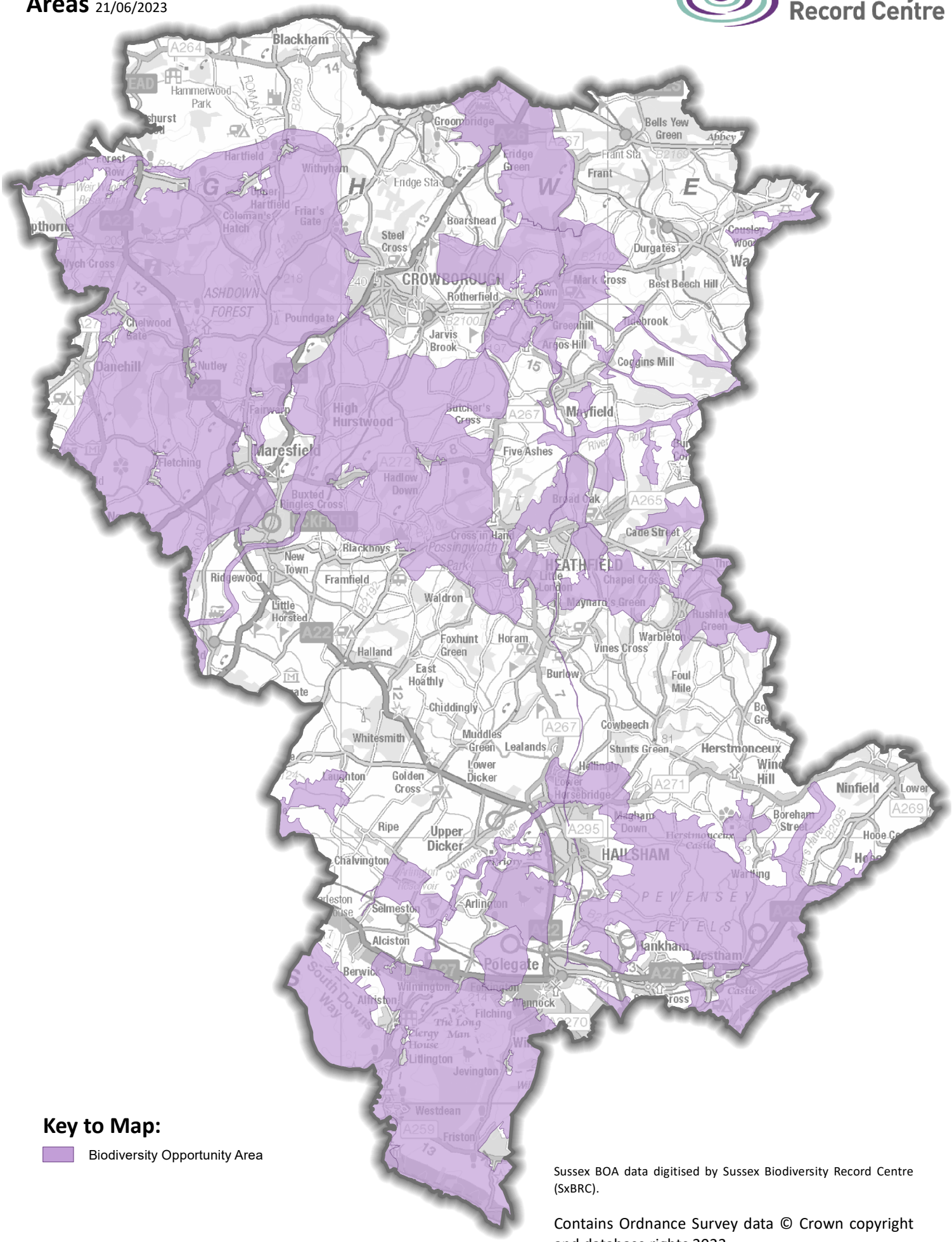
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Map 7 Wealden District - Biodiversity Opportunity Areas 21/06/2023

Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre



Key to Map:

Biodiversity Opportunity Area

Sussex BOA data digitised by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre (SxBRC).

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Wealden District Council

Wealden Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Appendix C
SEA Directive Checklist

Wealden
District Council

Appendix C - SEA Directive Checklist

A Sustainability Appraisal is required Under Section 19(5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (the 2004 Act). Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of all Local Development Documents (LDD), including Development Plan Documents (DPD), is mandatory.

Sustainability Appraisals also need to satisfy the requirements of the European Directive 2001/42/EC (transposed into the UK legislation by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, Regulation 12), which requires formal Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of certain plans and programmes that are likely to have significant effects on the environment. The focus of SEA is environmental effects.

Whilst the Directive defines the environment broadly, in that it includes factors such as population, human health and cultural heritage, SA goes further by examining all the sustainability related effects of plans, whether they are social, environmental or economic. SA under the 2004 Act incorporates the requirements of the SEA Directive.

The requirements of the Directive and the location of the information within the SA report are set out overleaf.

Appendix C - SEA Directive Checklist

Information required in the Environment Report according to the SEA Directive		
Preparation of an environmental report in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated. The report shall include the 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, its stage in the decision-making process and the extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in that process to avoid duplication of the assessment (Article 5.2). The information to be given in the report is set out in Article 5 and Annex I of the Directive as follows:		
SEA Directive Requirements		**Location in SA Report**
a	An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plan and programmes	
b	The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme	
c	The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected	
d	Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC	
e	The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation	
f	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. These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects)	
g	The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme	
h	An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information	
i	A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Article 10 Sections 2 and 9	
j	A non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings.	

Appendix C - SEA Directive Checklist

SEA Directive Requirements		Location in SA Report
Consultation:		
	• authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the environmental report (Art. 5.4).	
	• authorities with environmental responsibility and the public shall be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the accompanying environmental report before the adoption of the plan or programme (Art. 6.1, 6.2)	
	• other EU Member States, where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that country (Art. 7).	
Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultations into account in decision-making (Art. 8) Provision of information on the decision:		
	When the plan or programme is adopted, the public and any countries consulted under Art.7 shall be informed and the following made available to those so informed: • the plan or programme as adopted • a statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme and how the environmental report pursuant to Article 5, the opinions expressed pursuant to Article 6 and the results of consultations entered into pursuant to Article 7 have been taken into account in accordance with Article 8, and the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with the measures decided concerning monitoring (Art. 9 and 10)	
Monitoring		
	• of the significant environmental effects of the plan's or programme's implementation (Art. 10)	
Quality assurance:		
	• environmental reports should be of a sufficient standard to meet the requirements of the SEA checklist Directive (Art. 12).	

Wealden District Council

Wealden Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Appendix D
SA Scoping Report Consultation Responses

Wealden
District Council

Appendix D – SA Scoping Report Consultation Responses

ID Consultee	Issue	Summary of Comments	WDC Response	Proposed Changes
STATUTORY CONSULTEES				
SASR25 Environment Agency	PPPs Appendix A	The Environment Agency are satisfied that all relevant plans, policies and programmes relevant to our remit have been included.	Comments noted.	None
	Chapters 5 to 18	To the best of our knowledge the baseline data seems up to date and accurate. We are aware that a level 2 strategic flood risk assessment is currently being undertaken. Once this has been completed the data within it should be used in the sustainability appraisal.	Comments noted. We will use the latest data from the Level 2 strategic flood risk assessment as relevant to the SA once it becomes available alongside any other relevant evidence.	None
	Chapters 5 to 18	The Consultee is pleased to see that the key sustainability issues, relevant to our remit, have been identified in relation to climate change, biodiversity, water resources, flooding and soil and land contamination.	Comment noted.	None
	Chapter 19 –Table 19.1	The Consultee agrees with the SA objectives identified and thinks that the indicators set out in the SA framework are appropriate.	Comment noted.	None
	Chapter 19	It is the Environment Agency's view that the appraisal methodology is appropriate, clear and complete. The EA has a range of data that can be used to monitor the Local Plan some of which has been identified. A range of data is available as open data including the water quality status for individual Water Framework Directive water bodies. These are available on the Catchment Data Explorer. Data can also be provided on the number of planning decisions against EA advice in relation to flood risk.	Comment noted and we report data on planning decisions within the Authority Monitoring Report annually.	None
SASR37 Historic England	Any other comments	Historic England is content that the Scoping Report for the district's Local Plan adequately covers issues that may arise in respect of the potential effects of proposed development sites on heritage assets. Historic England has prepared generic guidance with regards the local plan process which the Council may find helpful historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/heag036-sustainability-appraisal-strategic-environmental-assessment/	Link to guidance added to Appendix A	Amended

Appendix D – SA Scoping Report Consultation Responses

ID Consultee	Issue	Summary of Comments	WDC Response	Proposed Changes
LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
SASR12 Heathfield & Waldron Parish Council	PPPs Appendix A	The Consultee recommends the inclusion of other relevant non-government plans such as: • National Trust (NT) inputs - reports etc. • The Canal and River Trust (CRT) • Network Rail Control Period 7 Strategic Business Plans • UKHSA strategic plan 2023 to 2026 • OECD - Employment Outlook 2023, and others • SuDS information (Susdrain etc.) • RICS - The future of sustainable building materials • Regional, and Company specific plans for water and sewerage services, gas and electricity supply.	The Council will consider further information / data on sustainability	To be considered as the Council's evidence base progresses as relevant
	Chapter 4	Some additional sustainability sources should be considered from UK Universities such as- Sussex, Sheffield, Cardiff, UCL, Anglia Ruskin, Imperial College	The Council will consider further pieces of work on sustainability including those published by universities as relevant.	To be considered as the Council's evidence base progresses as relevant
	Chapter 19	The objectives and indicators set out in the Sustainability Framework are considered appropriate but would like the district's priorities to be kept in mind including sustainability and climate change.	The emerging Local Plan will be informed by the SA and other evidence base work. Sustainability and climate change are key issues, which are considered as part of the SA.	None
		The Sustainability Methodology is considered suitable, but prioritisation is unclear.	The SA regulations require the assessment of the likely significant social, economic and environmental impacts of the plan. No SA Objective has priority over the other.	None
SASR13 Crowborough Town Council	PPPs Appendix A	There is no appendix 1 so we think this should read Appendix A	Comment noted.	None
		Given the acceleration of the climate change crisis and missing the target of no more than 1.5 degrees, is it possible for Wealden's net zero target to be brought forward from 2050?	Although Wealden's net zero target is currently 2050, the Council will seek to use the opportunity of the new Local Plan to implement a stronger policy approach on climate change to enable the target to be met sooner if possible.	None

Appendix D – SA Scoping Report Consultation Responses

ID Consultee	Issue	Summary of Comments	WDC Response	Proposed Changes
LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
		Health and Care Act. While laudable, the reality is that there are not sufficient NHS doctors and dentists already and it seems that the District has no ability to improve the situation.	Matters relating to the requirement for infrastructure provision, including NHS healthcare provision will be taken into account in the development of the local plan policies and SA. All infrastructure provision will be dealt with through the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP), which will support the new Local Plan.	None
		Welcome policies to deliver water and dispose of waste water without polluting our streams and rivers but can Wealden control this.	Noted. Wealden works in partnership with Southern Water who are the statutory undertakers.	None
		Support the delivery of good public transport but can this not only be delivered by national govt.	East Sussex County Council is the highway authority. The Council works in partnership with the County Council to help identify and address shortfalls in public transport. The new Local Plan provides the opportunity to boost sustainable travel options and this will be a key consideration as the Plan progresses. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) will also set out the transport needs for the district to support growth. This will also be facilitated by East Sussex County Council's Local Transport Plan 4, which has just been released for consultation.	None
		We would like to see a stronger statement of wellbeing for all our residents.	Noted. This will be considered as part of the plan-making process.	None
		There appears to be a lack of attention to the needs of teenagers.	This matter will be considered in the evidence base and Local Plan policies.	None
	Any other comments	The corporate plan is to be renamed.	The Corporate Plan has been renamed the 'Council's Plan'.	None
	Baseline	The data of social deprivation appears dated.	The data is the most up-to-date data available.	None
	Any other comments	Why is there no consultation with our own local groups such as the Alderbrook and Jarvis Brook Residents Associations, Clued up, Wealden Senior Citizens partnership, CAB, Foodbanks?	Noted. A Local Plan database is held of organisations and individuals who have expressed an interest in the Local Plan preparation. To be notified of all Local Plan information, please register here Overall, this was a public consultation and the Council advertised the consultation widely in	None

Appendix D – SA Scoping Report Consultation Responses

ID Consultee	Issue	Summary of Comments	WDC Response	Proposed Changes
LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
			accordance with its Statement of Community Involvement.	
	Any other comments	Is there not more up to date information on the cost of living crisis and the impact of Covid.	There is no data in relation to the impact of Covid, however, there is data released by the Local Government Association between 2019 and 2023 on the cost of living crisis, which covers years both during and post covid. We have updated the report accordingly.	Amended
	Chapter 11 Economy	Is it still the case that the north is better off due to out commuting to centres of economic high performance?	This is a complex issue and is considered within our evidence base such as the Employment and Economic Study for Eastbourne and Wealden (2022) and Economy Study and the Wealden Local Housing Needs Assessment (2021) for example.	None
		Would like to seek a review of the reduction of the conservation area in Crowborough.	This matter is noted by officers but goes beyond the scope of the SA Scoping Report. Conservation Areas were reviewed in 2017 and there is not a plan to review these further currently. Further information can be found in the Draft Crowborough Conservation Area Character Appraisal (Nov 2020): https://www.wealden.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/heritage/conservation-areas/	None
	Sustainability Issues & Objectives	All very laudable but how will it be delivered?	The new Local Plan will set out the strategy and policies for future development, which will be tested through the SA. Each SA objective has sustainability indicators attached to enable future monitoring of delivery. (see Table 19.1 SA Framework).	None.
	Indicators & SA Methodology	No new home should be flooded.	Flood risk will be addressed in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and the relevant Local Plan policies. Development in the floodplain will be avoided and where appropriate, flood defences will be expected to be incorporated in new developments.	None

Appendix D – SA Scoping Report Consultation Responses

ID Consultee	Issue	Summary of Comments	WDC Response	Proposed Changes
LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
		Should all new housing provide office space given the new trend of working part of the week from home.	Housing and employment requirements will be considered as part of the evidence base, the SA and the relevant Local Plan policies.	None
		Clearly a lot of work has gone into producing this document but it is very dense and without expertise difficult to respond to. We don't know if this is prescriptive but a rethink on how it is laid out so that it is more easily accessible to the public would be appreciated.	As far as possible, we ensured that the Scoping Report was clear and non-technical, enabling the content of the report to be understood by a wide range of audiences in the local community. We will continue to consider the accessibility and readability of work associated with the Local Plan as far as we can.	None
		There are lot of good ideas but there are tensions: build more houses to meet demand but retain green fields when we are told most new housing will have to be in green fields.	It is part of the Local Plan process to deal with these tensions and provide a balanced strategy to deliver sustainable development for the district. The SA will be used to assess different options to enable the most sustainable outcome possible.	None
		There is no methodology or leadership in this document as to which laudable statement should now be given priority or carry the most significant weight. Perhaps that comes within the Local Plan itself?	The Scoping Report sets out the methodology of the SA in Chapter 19, which has been prepared in accordance with the regulations and guidance. The strategy for the District and the potential growth options will be developed as part of the plan-making process and will be tested through the SA. The Scoping Report sets out the proposed approach not the policy decisions.	None
		We hope that the Local Plan will be ambitious in delivering swimming, sports halls and other health and fitness opportunities.	All infrastructure requirements to support future growth will be considered as part of the SA & Local Plan process.	None
SASR15 Willingdon and Jevington Parish Council	Chapter 14 Water	Upgrading the Water, Pollution and Sewage requirements due to over building in the area.	The Council is working with South East Water to ensure that the water supply is sufficient, and Southern Water (the wastewater provider) to understand the current capacity for waste water and to understand whether shortfalls exist and identify opportunities to improve treatment works to support future growth where this is identified to be required.	None

Appendix D – SA Scoping Report Consultation Responses

ID Consultee	Issue	Summary of Comments	WDC Response	Proposed Changes
LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
	Chapter 8 Health & Wellbeing Pages 56 & 57	Recreational facilities in Willingdon have not been sufficient for many years. The new Leisure centre north of Hailsham will not be easily accessible to our residents if the proposed centre is moved north of the Boship roundabout due to the lack of public transport.	Matters relating to the requirement for infrastructure provision including recreational facilities will be considered in the evidence base, the SA and local plan policies. This includes the accessibility of facilities for both existing and new residents.	None
	Chapter 8 Health and Wellbeing Page 59	The Parish Council has actively been pursuing options and ideas for extra Cemetery land for years but to no avail. The PC wants to secure future Cemetery space in Willingdon for residents.	Comments noted. Matters relating to the requirement of infrastructure provision, including burial space will be considered as part of the plan-making process.	None
	Chapter 8 Health and Wellbeing Page 62, 8.54	Willingdon has been omitted in the identified gaps in open space provision. There is plenty of room for improvement in Local parks and gardens, Country parks, nature reserve, common or woodland, play areas for children, teenage provision, general amenity greenspace, allotments, additional Cemetery land, civic spaces & outdoor networks.	These issues have been noted by Officers and will be considered in the evidence base and the preparation of the Local Plan.	None
	Chapter 8 Health and Wellbeing Page 63	There is a lack of facilities in Willingdon for: Care Homes, Poor access to medical facilities e.g. getting doctor's appointments, lack of heath & well-being and no of mobility access in green spaces.	Noted. All infrastructure requirements to support future growth will be considered as part of the SA and the Local Plan processes.	None
	Chapter 9 Housing Page 72 9.42	The analysis suggests there is a current shortfall of accommodation with which the PC strongly agree. The Members feel strongly that one of the main reasons for lack of accommodation is that WDC keep allowing loft conversions and extensions to the existing bungalows. Willingdon has no sheltered or retirement housing and it would be valuable to Willingdon to have a retirement village. Residents that have lived in the area all their lives should be entitled to stay in Willingdon and therefore provision should be made to accommodate older persons.	Noted. All matters relating to housing deliverability and supply will be considered further as part of the plan making process including housing for older people. The Local Plan provides the opportunity to identify a sufficient supply of sites to meet local housing needs across the District.	None.
	Chapter 10 Education & Skills Page 81	Concerns about the current oversubscribing of the schools in Willingdon, without the added stress of accommodating more children once all the proposed developments start being built. The data does not consider the different catchment areas and the impact this has on the schools.	Noted. The Council is working with East Sussex County Council as the education authority, and local schools in the district, to ascertain where capacity exists and where demand is likely to be greatest to	None.

Appendix D – SA Scoping Report Consultation Responses

ID Consultee	Issue	Summary of Comments	WDC Response	Proposed Changes
LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
		Both Willingdon schools are oversubscribed now according to the data.	ensure that sufficient school places are made available to support future growth.	
	Chapter 1 Water /Pollution	The Members noted that despite planning permission being granted to Southern Water to upgrade the Hailsham South WwTW's in January 2020, this has not happened yet. The existing systems cannot cope with the amount of wastewater and is extremely oversubscribed due to the continuous building of houses in this area. No improvements have been made to accommodate all the excessive sewage.	Comment noted. Southern Water is the wastewater provider in the district. The Council is working in partnership with Southern Water to understand where capacity exists and to understand any shortfalls. .	None
	Chapter 17 Transport	The data provided highlights the casualties from the already busy congested roads that are in the whole of Willingdon. There is a lack of public transport through Willingdon. There is a lack of parking in Jevington and the road can get very congested and dangerous especially at the weekends. WDC need to provide better car parking provision. There is not enough bus provision through Jevington to help the environmental impact from vehicle use.	The Council is actively engaging with East Sussex County Council and other transport infrastructure providers and operators such as National Highways on an ongoing basis to ensure the district's infrastructure requirements are addressed by the new Local Plan. The SA will also consider the issues around public transport, parking and highway safety concerns.	None
	SA Objectives & Indicators	All new houses should be provided with solar panels and this should be a WDC policy	Noted. This matter will be considered as part of the evidence base and development of planning policies.	None
		There should be construction of new reservoirs before any new houses are built in this area.	Noted. The Council is working in partnership with South East Water the delivery body for new reservoirs and will safeguard land should a new reservoir be required within the District.	None
SASR20 Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (TWBC)	PPPs Appendix A	Do not consider there to be any relevant plans, policies or programmes which have not been included.	Comments noted.	None
	Baseline data	Additional sources of data which could be considered include: • Excess winter mortality • Long term vacant dwellings • People who provide unpaid care • 3-year business survival rates • Priority B-Lines – the Buglife project includes B-Line pollinator routes through Wealden.	Data has been added to the SA Scoping Report at chapter 8, chapter 9, chapter 5, chapter 11. In relation to Priority B-Lines, paragraph 15.49 has been updated to include 'other relevant projects' rather than talking to the Priority B-Lines project. There are many projects that can be considered as part of future green infrastructure and biodiversity work.	Amended

Appendix D – SA Scoping Report Consultation Responses

ID Consultee	Issue	Summary of Comments	WDC Response	Proposed Changes
LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
		It is also noted that previous comments for the draft SA Scoping Report July 2020 made two suggestions which have not been included: • Reference to historic assets being important from a mental health and wellbeing perspective. • The Economy and/or Transport, Connectivity and Communications chapter/s could mention the economic impacts of access to useful broadband speeds.	Noted. New wording relating to the specific matters raised has been added in the relevant chapters. Chapter 12 – para 12.10-12.11 Chapter 17 – 17.42	Amended
	Chapter 6 Climate Change	The net zero target for WDC is 2050, whilst for TWBC it is a more ambitious 2030.	Comment noted.	None
	Chapter 19	The sustainability objectives and indicators are considered appropriate.	Comment noted.	None
	Chapter 19	It is noted that the proposed scoring system for the WDC SA ranges from - - to + +. It is considered by TWBC that it could be worth expanding the range from - - - to + + +.	Comment noted. We consider the proposed scoring ranges appropriate and have received advice on this matter.	None
	Any other comments Chapter 7 Air, Light & Noise	Whilst it is acknowledged there are no AQMAs in Wealden District, reference should be made to the nearby A26 AQMA in Tunbridge Wells in the Air, Light and Noise chapter. Any traffic implications on the A26 to and from the northern part of WDC will have an impact on the AQMA.	Noted. The text has been amended at para 7.5 to acknowledge the AQMA in Tunbridge Wells	Amended
	Any other comments	It is good to see that most of the comments made by TWBC for the draft SA Scoping Report July 2020 have been addressed and included where relevant within this version.	Comments noted.	None
SASR22 Hailsham Town Council (Troy Planning)	PPPs Appendix A	Pleased to note that the list of International Plans, Policies and Programmes makes reference to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Localism Act, the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations and the Future Building Standard. Neighbourhood Plans should also be reviewed and aspirations reflected within the Local Plan.	Comments noted.	None
		Reference to the Quality of Life Framework published by the Quality of Life Foundation in 2021 is omitted. The inclusion of the Framework is pertinent given suggested	The Quality of Life Framework has been added to Appendix A under National – Guidance and other Reference Documents and Sustainability Indicator	Amended

Appendix D – SA Scoping Report Consultation Responses

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
		Sustainability Objective SO16 relating to 'Quality of Life & Place'.	(SO16), reference is also made at the Key PPPs section under Chapter 8 (Health and Wellbeing).	
		The Scoping Report should refer to the TCPA Guidance to 20-minute Neighbourhoods, which should be reflected in policies within the Local Plan to help make sustainable, healthy, active and inclusive places.	The guidance has been added to Appendix A under National – Guidance and other Reference Documents and reference made at the Key PPPs section under Chapter 17 Transport	Amended
		Sport England has recently published their updated guidance on Active Design, prepared with support from Active Travel England (ATE). Key documents published by ATE should also be referenced. These include: • Gear Change; and • Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy	The suggested documents have been added to Appendix A under National Guidance and other Reference Documents and National Government Strategies and Plans respectively, and reference made at the Key PPPs section under Chapter 17 Transport, Connectivity and Communications.	Amended
		BREEAM Communities sustainability framework should be considered.	The 'BREEAM Communities sustainability framework' has been added to Appendix A.	Amended
	Chapter 8 Health and Wellbeing	The health of residents is an important component of the SA process. Information on health can be obtained at constituent level based on NHS digital data (see link below). It is not clear whether this or similar information is included within the baseline. The Town Council recommends that this information is utilised as appropriate https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/constituency-data-how-healthy-is-your-area	Similar data was sourced from the ONS Census 2021 and East Sussex in Figures for the Scoping Report Update. However, for areas where there are identified concerns the more detailed evidence provided by the House of Commons Constituency Data will be assessed as part of the delivery the Health Impact Assessment Policy thresholds. Para 8.4 has been amended accordingly.	Amended
	Chapter 17 Transport	Although the Scoping Report makes reference to walking and cycling levels, which the Report notes as being low, it does not consider the potential take up of cycling. The Propensity to Cycle Tool is helpful and can be used to indicate where interventions might be targeted. The Tool can be accessed via the link below: https://www.pct.bike/ WDC needs to take a lead in shaping change and communicating the benefits of modes of travel that are not reliant on the private car.	Noted. East Sussex County Council as the highway authority is responsible for the Cycle Network, with the future plans for the district included within the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP). Sustainable travel will be a key consideration in the new Local Plan including identifying key locations for sustainable travel improvements.	None
	Chapter 6 Climate Change	The Community Carbon Calculator developed by IMPACT, developed by the Centre for Sustainable Energy and partners, can be used to visualise the carbon footprint, by	Officers have noted this data source and will consider it further as part of the plan-making process.	None

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
		type (e.g.: development, transport etc) at local authority, ward and parish level, and thus where action needs to be taken to tackle climate change: https://impact-tool.org.uk		
	Chapter 19 Table 19.1	SO1: The objective is framed around by the district being net zero-carbon by 2050 'or sooner'. This is poorly defined and lacks ambition. Although 2050 is the legally binding target that the UK Government has committed to, WDC should be more proactive in moving towards zero-carbon. This is crucial in Wealden given the sensitive nature of the environment and impacts on assets such as the Ashdown Forest and Pevensey Levels. These assets cross-boundaries and thus impacts and mitigations need to be considered at the 'wider-than-District' level.	Comment noted. Although the Wealden's net zero target is 2050, the Council will use the opportunity of the new Local Plan to implement a stronger policy approach on climate change to enable the target to be met by 2050 or sooner. The Council will shortly be updating its Climate Change Action Plan and will obtain climate change evidence to support plan-making.	None
		SO3: Flood Risk is not just related to climate change but also the way in which we change our environment. The prevalence of hard standings in our urban environments, including the paving over of front gardens, exacerbates the risk of flood risk from surface water run-off. It is not clear that the objective fully recognises this.	The wording of SO3 states 'taking account of climate change' The DMC 3.1 relates to flooding from all known sources taking account of climate change and DMC 3.4 Encourages best practice measures for managing flood risk (SuDS and other flood alleviation measures). The SO is considered appropriate.	None
		SO9: This objective refers to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and geodiversity. With the requirement for biodiversity net-gain established in the Environment Act, the Town Council suggests that the objective should also cover new and expanded areas of biodiversity.	Sustainability Objective S09 refers to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and geodiversity in a broad context, which would include any new or expanded areas. The DMCs provide further detail on the protection and enhancement needed. The objective is therefore considered adequate.	None
		SO10: This objective is about landscape and townscape, but the objective itself only refers to landscapes.	Noted. 'Townscapes' has been added to Sustainability Objective S10 (Landscape and Townscape)	Amended
		SO13: This objective is framed such that 'efficient patterns of movement' are referenced first. This could be inferred by some to mean that any issues in respect of traffic flow, speeds and volume are addressed and which support use of the private car, particularly for shorter journeys. In line with Government guidance, the Town Council suggest that	Noted. The name of the Objective is Sustainable Travel and Accessibility which is supported by several DMCs the first of which is to reduce the need to travel by car. The objective is therefore considered adequate.	None

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	Chapter 19 Table 19.1	the objective is reframed such that reference to active travel features first, followed by public transport, and then other modes.		
		SO17: This objective refers to 'improving access to societies resources'. The Town Council questions what is meant by 'societies resources'. If it means social and community infrastructure, then this needs to be clear	Noted. Wording changed to: 'To tackle social deprivation by improving access to essential services and facilities, supporting diversity and equality for all.'	Amended
		SO3: The indicators do not capture efforts to manage and reduce vulnerability to flood risk. These should consider the mitigations put in place.	Noted. The potential mitigation measures are not currently monitored by the Council. Schedule 3 of the Flood & Water Management Act, which is expected to make SuDS mandatory for new development will be introduced in 2024	None
		SO8: This objective refers to the quality of and connectivity between green infrastructure. However, the indicators do not provide a way of measuring this as they simply refer to the quantum of infrastructure and distances to it.	Noted. The Council does not have the resources to measure the quality of green infrastructure. A new indicator has been added at 8.6: Quantity of open spaces provided through residential developments annually (Council Records).	Amended
		SO9: The Indicators only refer to biodiversity net-gain in respect of strategic allocations. The Town Council questions why the indicator is limited to strategic allocations only and how these are defined. It is clear that the Natural England biodiversity metric applies to all development classified as 'major' and that there is an expectation that net-gain should be delivered by development of all sizes, with a Small Sites toolkit also prepared as part of the Natural England Metric. This should be reflected in updates to the Indicators.	Noted. The Council is aware that BNG is to be applied to a wide variety of sites, including smaller sites. However, to monitor all sites for BNG (including the smallest sites) is resource intensive and the Council is aiming to ensure that at least all the sites included within the Local Plan meet the aim of this indicator. We have updated the indicator to cover 'allocations' in the Local Plan.	Amended
		SO10: It is entirely unclear how and why records of completions are to be used as a measure of protection for and enhancement of urban and rural landscapes. It does not reflect the balance of needs across the district, nor the quality of development that might come forward, and how this could help strengthen land and townscapes. This is	Noted. Sustainability indicators need to be measurable and quantifiable. The indicators identified within SO10 are considered to be quantifiable and show the levels of development within nationally designated landscapes, and how development is distributed over time to those landscapes. It is noted	None

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	Chapter 19 Table 19.1	reflected in some of the questions posed under the list of Decision Making Criteria and thus need carrying across into the Indicators.	that a number of issues associated with landscape/ townscape are qualitative and therefore unlikely to be monitored reliably, given that the quality/lack of quality of a development is not viewed in the same way by all. Given the above, the sustainability indicators associated with this SA Objective are considered appropriate and measurable.	
		SO11: It is unclear why the indicators refer to assets 'at risk' but not the total number and location of recorded assets as it is these that help determine the historic value of an area. It is also unlikely that additional assets will be added on a year-on-year basis, and thus the Town Council questions the relevance of this as an indicator. It is also noted that the Objective refers to Cultural heritage as well as historic assets. However, the indicators do not explicitly refer to culture. It is asked how WDC intends to measure this.	Noted. The indicator identifies all heritage assets 'at risk' as defined by Historic England within Wealden District and this does change on a year on year basis and outlines where historic assets require support (i.e. the less heritage assets on the 'at risk' register, the better). This is a measurable and achievable sustainability indicator that has been used by Wealden District council for some time as part of the adopted Wealden District Core Strategy Local Plan (February, 2013). There is limited information on cultural assets within the District other than those that have been designated nationally (i.e. historic parks and gardens, schedule monuments, battlefields) and would be covered through the Sustainability Indicators already identified.	None
		SO13: The first five indicators listed are all geared towards car use, with the time frames outlined (30 minutes) effectively supporting suburban sprawl and inefficient, car-based developments. The objectives and associated indicators should be encouraging and supporting active and sustainable travel and the timeframes used should be reflective of this. The Town Council recommends that the travel times and distances are developed further, recognising that people will be willing to travel different distances for different facilities, reflecting the role and function of the facility, e.g.: local parks should be close to	Noted. The first five indicators listed for SO13 are not geared towards car use and instead endeavour to capture the modes of transport used for different types of travel (i.e. commuting for work, food shops etc.). The aim is of course to reduce the use of private motor vehicles, and this will be reflected in the indicators provided. In terms of the timings identified within the Sustainability Indicators and the information intended to be used, the Department for Transport (DfT) currently utilises 15 and 30-minute	Amended

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	Chapter 19 Table 19.1	home, primary schools should be within a ten-fifteen minute walk, and secondary schools might be further away.	distances for local authority information, 15 mins has therefore been added to the indicator.	
		SO14: It is noted that the indicators cover a range of housing types and tenures, including self and custom build. However, in terms of self and custom build, it only captures new applicants on the Register. The Town Council questions what this will actually help indicate. Unless plots are being provided, codes and passports prepared, the opportunity for self and custom build housing is diminished, which in turn could limit applicants to the Register. The Indicators should therefore also capture the availability of plots for self and custom build, the take-up and delivery of these.	Noted. The Council is required under legislation to hold a self-build and custom build register and this information is provided on our website. The other monitoring indicators suggested are inherently difficult to measure as the take up/purchasing of plots cannot be recorded by the local planning authority as these are private transactions. However, the Council can confirm the number of new self-build and custom build plots granted planning permission (secured through a Section 106 agreement) during the monitoring period. This is to be added to the Sustainability Indicators.	Amended
		SO16: Only two sustainability indicators are presented for this objective. Both relate to crime, yet the objective is about much more than safety, extending to the quality and attractiveness of place. It is also noted that the Decision Making Criteria listed alongside this criteria refer to 'secured by design' principles. However, Appendix A of the Scoping Report does not include this under the list of documents relevant to the SA.	Noted. Reference to 'Secured by design principles' made at Policy Decision Making Criteria for SO16 (Quality of Life and Place) and Appendix A will be updated accordingly.	Amended
		SO19: The indicators refer to change of use in town centres. Given the revision to the Use Classes Order, changes of use within Use Class E are not something that WDC can control, unless WDC has or is proposing to issue an Article 4 Direction. It is thus not clear how useful such an indicator will prove to be. Equally, the percentage of residents living within 30 minutes of a centre tells us very little, and certainly not whether they are making use of and contributing to the economy of the centre. Has WDC considered other indicators, such as visitors to the centres, the frequency and length of visit, the purpose of the visit and expenditure per visit?	Noted. The Council will continue to monitor retail floorspace through the new Local Plan, as it has previously done this in recent years as part of its AMR process. It is contended that the number of residents living within 30 minutes of a town centre (particularly when using a sustainable transport mode such as walking or cycling) is important and can demonstrate (if this indicator increases) a propensity for expenditure within our town centres, albeit that this would need to be seen alongside other sustainability indicators. For other sustainability indicators, such as visitors to the centres, the frequency and length of visit or expenditure per visit,	None

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
	Chapter 19 Table 19.1		the Council would not have the resources to undertake this annually as required through the AMR process and cannot rely on any other local information to tackle this.	
		The proposed method follows a standardised approach common to the Local Plan process. The Town Council notes that the SA process can be long and complex, and often impenetrable to many people. This is evident in the Scoping Report which, itself, is almost 190 pages long (excluding appendices). The Town Council supports the use of interactive mapping and presentation of data in digital formats to help communicate and interrogate the outcomes of the assessment and, more importantly, how this is informing decisions in the Local Plan.	Noted. The Council is aware of the push towards digitalisation of the planning system and will address this as far as we are able for this Local Plan.	None
	Any other comments Any other comments	WDC has an excellent opportunity through the new Local Plan to embed approaches to sustainable development into policies and choices around future growth and investment in infrastructure. The Town Council is concerned that, as currently framed, the objectives and indicators do not go far enough towards this and instead risk supporting the status-quo.	The Council will ensure that the new Local Plan is based upon and reflects the need to deliver sustainable development, with clear policies showing how this will be achieved. The SA will test the proposed policies to ensure that sustainable development is suitably addressed and can be delivered.	None
		Work on the production of successful Neighbourhood Plans should be taken into consideration.	Noted. This will be considered.	None.
SASR28 Mayfield & Five Ashes Parish Council	PPPs Appendix A	This is a thorough and conscientiously produced document which considers all relevant policies and programmes.	Comment noted.	None
	Chapters 8 Health and Wellbeing	Can the following data be included: - Section 8 - how many patients per doctor are registered with the various medical practices. It is obvious that provision is under stress in many areas, this will help to identify the particularly difficult areas.	The number of patients registered at specific practices fluctuates and would only reflect the figures at one moment in time. For specific and up to date information, it is recommended that this information is gathered from NHS Digital – Patients Registered at a GP Practice available at https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/patients-registered-at-a-gp-practice These figures are updated on a monthly basis and reflect a more	Amended

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			accurate picture of the current position at a local level. Additional wording has been added to Paragraph 8.26	
	Chapter 14 Water	Whilst there are many helpful statistics here, you do not seek to identify frequency and duration of water supply problems/shortages. This is becoming a particular problem in a number of areas, of which Mayfield is one.	Noted and we are aware of the issues experienced by residents. The Council is working with water companies to try and help resolve the issues experienced.	None
	Sustainability Issues and Objectives	It is vital that Wealden produce a local plan ASAP. Not having one means, among many other disadvantages, we have much less control over where developers can build houses. Wealden must find five years supply of housing land to control where house building takes place.	Noted. We are currently developing a new Local Plan, which will provide an overarching planning framework for the local area. The Plan will provide the opportunity to identify a sufficient supply of sites to meet our needs.	None
		Sustainability of local communities is affected by housing availability, especially housing which is affordable (not just affordable housing). Policies should be developed which allow priority to such housing and discourage expensive ones especially in an area where housing is so expensive.	Comment noted. The emerging Local Plan will be viability tested to ensure the policies it contains are viable and an appropriate level of affordable housing can be provided.	None
	Chapter 14 Water	It is critical that policy emphasis is given to water supply especially in those areas where shortages occur 2-4 times per year (such as Mayfield). The policy emphasis must be to encourage South East Water to increase supply.	Noted. The issue of water supply will be addressed through appropriate evidence, local policies and the SA and ongoing discussions with SE Water.	None
	Chapter 19	The sustainability objectives and indicators set out in the SA Framework are appropriate and the methodology is suitable, clear and complete.	Comment noted.	None
	Chapters 5 Population & Community 8 Health & Wellbeing	In a predominantly rural area which has an increasingly elderly population, sustainability strategy must be directed to expanding the capacity of GP surgeries where new patients are not being taken on, encouraging the setting up of new surgeries and helping all surgeries to refurbish to ensure that they are allowed to stay open.	Noted. The Council works in partnership with the Integrated Care Board. Infrastructure including the availability of GP surgeries will be considered as part of the plan-making process.	None
	Chapter 11 Economy	Improving the viability of local economies so that they are able to support local services.	Noted. This will be considered as part of the plan-making process.	None

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
	Air, Light and Noise	Sources of existing light pollution should be acknowledged and their mitigation should be given greater prominence, including domestically-generated pollution.	Noted. This will be considered as part of the plan-making process.	None
SASR33 Fletching Parish Council	Chapter 5 Population & Community	The document identifies that the 'out-migration of young people will continue due to the lack of affordable homes and availability of suitable higher-paid employment opportunities in the district'. The site of affordable homes and new employment opportunities (eg new business parks) will need to be very carefully identified and positioned. With people living longer and an ageing demographic the Plan identifies that there will be a lack of healthcare facilities and services, as well as a lack of adaptable housing and specialist housing accommodation. While highlighting these issues, the document again does not appear to put forward adequate solutions to overcome them.	The Scoping Report sets out the baseline data and the methodology that will be used in the SA to assess the Local Plan it does not set out draft policies. All matters relating to housing, including affordable housing will be addressed in the evidence base, the SA and development of local plan policies.	None
	Chapter 7 Air, Light & Noise	It would seem to be wise to put any new development close together, where there is public transport to avoid extra commuter traffic for those travelling to work. Sites in Polegate and towards Eastbourne would be more suitable. An additional problem of air pollution is the damage to the eco system and wildlife.	The location of development, transport and the environment will be considered as part of the plan-making process.	None
	Chapter 8 Health & Wellbeing	English Health Index says Wealden has highest positive score in East Sussex but is doing less well regarding personal well-being, access to services and difficulties in daily life, which are going to be dealt with in the Local Plan. The key priorities for future planning in this area will be dealing with ageing population, improving local transport links, encouraging young people to come and creating things for them to do.	Matters relating to the requirements for social infrastructure provision will be addressed in the evidence base, the SA and development of local plan policies.	None
SASR33	Chapter 9 Housing	The revised NPPF proposes that "there may be exceptional circumstances relating to the particular characteristics of an authority which justify an alternative approach to assessing housing need; in which case the alternative used should also reflect current and future demographic trends and	Noted. There is an expectation that the standard method will be used to calculate the local housing need figure and that any other method will be used only in exceptional circumstances. The Council has considered whether exceptional circumstances exist	None

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Fletching Parish Council		market signals". Within this in mind, it would be prudent to define, including within the SA Scoping and process, the nature of such exceptional circumstances and characteristics as a thread through all policy making at the outset.	within its housing evidence base and none have been identified.	
	Chapter 9 Housing	Greater and clearer emphasis is needed on a policy for mix of dwellings by specified percentages, in order to increase small homes of 1 and 2 beds which are most needed. Larger 4 and 5 bed homes are not needed, and their provision is an inefficient use of scarce land resources	Matters relating to housing, including housing mix will be addressed in the evidence base, the SA and development of local plan policies.	None
		Given the ageing population, more explicit policy percentage requirements for lifetime homes and wheelchair accessible homes are required e.g. 10%.	All matters relating to housing, including requirements for lifetime homes and wheelchair accessible homes will be addressed in the evidence base, the SA and development of local plan policies.	None
		Affordable housing percentages should be set within a more effective policy framework. Affordable housing policy should provide for a full mix of social rent, discounted market rent and discounted market sale including by analysis of disposable household income criteria.	Matters relating to housing, including affordable housing will be addressed in the evidence base, the SA and development of local plan policies.	None
	Chapter 10 Education and Skills	Paragraph 10.18 makes no reference to the impending closure of Holy Cross primary school in Uckfield, nor to the outline planning that has been granted for a new primary school in Ridgewood. These are important aspects of the primary education landscape in and around Uckfield.	The Council has provided the school capacities for both primary and secondary education within Uckfield (p82). This shows capacity for schools within Uckfield for both primary and secondary places. The Council will continue to consider the education landscape working in partnership with East Sussex County Council and further information will be provided in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan that will accompany the Local Plan.	None
		Bullets 1 & 4 of the Key Sustainability Issues on p84 seem contradictory – what is the message being conveyed?	Bullet point 1 on page 84 confirms that the district has a lower level of highly qualified residents (at level 4 or above) than the national average. However, bullet point 4 on page 84 confirms that the district still has a higher percentage of residents at level 4 or above than any other category, so both the key	None

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SASR33 Fletching Parish Council			messages are accurate. This is shown in full at Table 10.1, p77.	
	Chapter 11 Economy	The spatial pattern of development implied by the SA Scoping appears in part to be incorrectly analysed and justified. The Employment and Economic Study – Eastbourne and Wealden by Iceni is relevant. The SA Scoping (at para 11.6) wrongly paraphrases the Strategic Economic Plan 2014 thus: the SEP "sought to support the upgrade of the route between Eastbourne and Lewes, to improve connectivity to the A23/M23 and to enhance the accessibility of Newhaven port. Employment growth along the A22/ A27 corridor at the Ashdown Business Park (Maresfield), Uckfield, Hailsham, Polegate, Willingdon and at Sovereign Harbour (in Eastbourne) were all supported and this will be considered in the Local Plan". The SA Scoping, in identifying Key Sustainability Issues (page 92), omits the critical conclusion of both the SEP 2014 and the Employment and Economic Study – Eastbourne and Wealden namely that investment and spatial preference for employment growth should be on the A22/A27 South Wealden corridor in close proximity to Eastbourne and not in the less sustainable and relatively remote location around Uckfield. The Scope of the Local Plan (page 93) should explicitly make this clear since this is a critical matter of sustainability.	The SA Scoping Report does not set out the spatial pattern of development, this will be developed as part of the emerging Local Plan process. The Employment and Economic study is referenced at **para 11.5**. Any decisions on the allocation of employment floorspace will be made via the Local Plan. However, in market terms, it is noted under paragraph 13.17 of the Employment and Economic Study for Eastbourne and Wealden (April 2022) that in spatial terms, there is a need to make provision '*across the district as all towns within both northern and southern industrial estates are essentially full'*. The Strategic Economic Plan (2014) is not a land use plan and does not allocate land for development. It merely identifies growth corridors across the LEP area. It should also be noted that the East Sussex Growth Strategy (December, 2014) under paragraph 1.3 also confirms that '*we have three corridors where there is the greatest capacity to unlock major new commercial and residential development. These are the A21/A259 Hastings-Bexhill corridor,* ***the A22/A26/A27 Eastbourne-Polegate-Uckfield-Crowborough corridor*** *and the Newhaven Clean Tech and Maritime Corridor (emphasis added).* The SA Scoping Report states at p96, bullet point 2, that the Council needs to '*provide new employment allocations, particularly along the A27/A22 corridor, to deliver against the Council's requirement for new employment floorspace'*.	None
	Chapter 11 Economy	The Employment and Economic Study substantially overestimates the total amount of land required. It is noteworthy that low development land density ratios for	The Employment and Economic Study confirms (para.9.17) that to calculate the land requirements to support net changes in employment, the	None

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SASR33 Fletching Parish Council		offices and industrials are used by Iceni. Whilst commonly used in the past, the result is that land would be used inefficiently. Or to put it another way, too much land is allocated because inefficient use is being locked in. Industrial floorspace is converted to a land requirement at an average density ratio of only 0.45. In other words 22,222 sq m of (often green field) land are used to provide only 10,000 sq m of commercial floorspace.	appropriateness of recent development in the district has been revisited and it is considered suitable to apply the plot ratios listed in that paragraph, which is consistent with Wealden's previous 2018 Economy Update report. Any likely requirement for employment floorspace will need to incorporate other land uses, such as green infrastructure, landscaping, parking, access roads, turning spaces for warehouse development etc., which should also consider the likely design of the building (i.e. set back from the road, height etc.). It should also be noted that this is only an estimate of the land requirement, and that each industrial/office/warehouse development will be considered on its own merits in terms of land take.	
	Chapter 11 Economy	On commuting, the SA Scoping relies on 2011 Census Data which is out of date in respect of modern post Covid ways of working including working from home. The data also does not identify the catchment areas of the travel patterns, for example how many commuters are in sectors or employment that are only available in subregional centres such as London, Crawley and major towns outside the District. Such employment is not capable of "transfer" to the District. Thus the crude figure of 28% (para 11.13 and which is out of date) is an overly blunt instrument with which to assess the reality of current and future employment and travel patterns.	The SA Scoping report and the Employment and Economic Study utilise the latest Census data available at the time, which was the 2011 census. The Council will seek to update any relevant information from the Census 2021 as it is released, but commuting flows by local authority have not yet been published (at the time of writing). The Council (at para 11.1 SA Scoping Report) considers the Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA) of Wealden District, which includes Travel to Work Areas (TWAs) and the relationship of Wealden District's residents to employment outside of the district. This is outlined in further detail in the Council's the Employment and Economic Study, Section 2.	None
	Chapter 11 Economy	It is necessary for the SA Scoping to make explicit that major commercial development will not be sited in Biodiversity Opportunity Areas shown in Map 7 (see comment on Section 15). This matter should be identified	The Scoping Report sets out the baseline data and the proposed methodology for the SA. Any decisions on the allocation of employment floorspace are to be made in the Local Plan. Biodiversity Opportunity	None

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SASR33 Fletching Parish Council		as a Key Sustainability Issue and be reflected in the Scope of the Local Plan (page 93).	Areas (BOA) are only one of a host of factors that the Council needs to consider prior to selecting or not selecting a site for an employment allocation.	
	Chapter 12 Cultural, Heritage & Historic Environment	Fletching is one of 41 conservation areas in Wealden and the Council is working on a management plan for these areas.	Noted.	None
		Neighbourhood Plans can put forward their own local list of non-designated heritage assets which don't meet the criteria for designated heritage assets and which will give them special consideration in planning decisions.	This issue has been noted by officers, but the scope of the Fletching Neighbourhood Plan will be determined by the Parish Council.	None
		Part of the Local Plan will be to ensure "development responds sensitively to the landscape and visual characteristics of the site and it's setting enhancing character and views leading to positive impacts on the quality, character and local distinctiveness of the landscape…" could be applied to larger development plans.	Comment noted. All landscape sensitivity matters will be addressed through the appropriate Local Plan policies, the relevant evidence and as part of the SA.	None
	Chapter 14 Water Chapter 14 Water	Local councils must insist that government put in place proper legislation to penalise water companies from wasting water through leaks, dumping untreated waste etc. Or, have a method of putting a water company into "special measures" similar to hospitals, schools etc. to force them to provide the essential product/service.	Comment noted. This goes beyond the scope of the Local Plan, however, the Council will continue to work with utility providers and lobby government where possible.	None
		The local plan relies on data from the EA, why? The Environment Agency is not fit for purpose, is totally underfunded and under-staffed. The council must inform the government and insist that relevant up-to-date data is produced that would be usable for the local plan.	The EA is a statutory consultee who the Council must consult on a wide variety of matters relating to its strategic, operational and regulatory responsibilities for flood risk, water quality, water resources, waste management and controls on certain chemicals.	None
	Chapter 15 Biodiversity	The SA Scoping fails to put the issue of biodiversity, which is essential to all survival including that of humans, at the heart and centre of policy making and sustainability appraisal. Rather Section 15 adopts the traditional and narrow focus which has already been shown to have demonstrably failed.	The purpose of the SA Scoping is to set out the baseline data available, to identify key sustainability issues to inform the development of policies, not make policy decisions. The baseline data considered under Chapter 15 looks extensively at the ecological and biodiversity baseline of the District to inform the SA process.	None

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
SASR33 Fletching Parish Council	Chapter 15 Biodiversity	The traditional approach is to designate a hierarchy of limited protected areas. What this approach does not do is, firstly, to assess the baseline in detail across the District as a whole and, secondly, to make fully informed judgements well before land allocations are made. The site specific ecological and other environmental impact assessment is wrongly left until development of an allocated site has already been brought forward in the planning application process. This is too late for a proper relative ecological and environmental assessment of all sites to be undertaken.	The SA Scoping sets out the ecological and biodiversity baseline of the District, which will be used to inform the Local Plan. Site specific ecological assessments are undertaken as part of planning applications, which are considered against the policies within the Local Plan to ensure proper account is taken of biodiversity. The Council's biodiversity duty has been strengthened through the Environment Act 2021 to ensure at least 10% biodiversity net gain (BNG) is achieved as part of development. This is in addition to statutory biodiversity requirements i.e. following the mitigation hierarchy of avoid, mitigate and compensate.	None
		The hierarchy approach gives inadequate weight to the critical issues of corridors and networks which are essential for sustaining and repairing biodiversity.	The Council will consider green and blue corridors and networks as part of our evidence base and response to biodiversity conservation and enhancement, as well as through a Green Infrastructure Strategy.	None
		There is a lack of holistic thinking in the SA Scoping in striking an appropriate long-term and sustainable balance between the short-term convenience of development and the longer term needs of reducing GHG emissions and enhancing biodiversity.	Linkages between biodiversity and GHG emissions reductions are well established and will be looked at as part of the evidence base work to develop Local Plan policies.	None
		The SA Scoping document fails to qualify economic and other development by explicit acknowledgment of the constraint of Biodiversity Opportunity Areas where such development should not take place. Such Areas should be the starting point in considering sustainable spatial patterns of development.	The Scoping Report makes reference to Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs) in para 15.37 and Appendix B Map 7, which will be fully considered in developing the Local Plan policies and any site allocations, as well as our approach to conserving and enhancing biodiversity within the District.	None
	Chapter 16 Landscape and Townscape	Generally modern development plans, especially in rural areas, designate a structure of strategic and local gaps between and around settlements. It is surprising that no reference is made to this issue in Section 16 of the SA Scoping. Given the predominantly rural character of Wealden represented by distinct and separate towns,	The purpose of the Scoping Report is to set out the baseline data and key sustainability issues, which will be used to inform the development of policies, not make policy decisions. Policies to protect landscapes and townscapes will be looked at as part of policy development for the Local Plan.	None

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ID Consultee	Issue	Summary of Comments	WDC Response	Proposed Changes
LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
SASR33 Fletching Parish Council		villages and hamlets, the SA Scoping should explicitly anticipate and provide for such commonly used designations in order to protect important landscapes and to prevent inappropriate coalescence of settlements and to prevent urban sprawl.		
		The issue of design is critical to the acceptance of new development by communities and the creation of long-term sustainable buildings.	Policies on design and long-term sustainable development will be developed as part of the Local Plan polices.	None
		The SA Scoping states that there is a need for greenfield development in rural landscapes for renewable energy development. Such development can and should be accommodated in urban open areas and on large urban and rural buildings. Thus, it is inappropriate for the SA Scoping to use rural greenfield development as the starting point. Loss of productive agricultural land should be avoided and rural landscapes should not be the starting point.	The SA Scoping Report states as one of the key sustainability issues that: “The response to the climate emergency is likely to increase pressure for renewable energy developments on greenfield sites within rural landscapes”. It does not state that there is a need for greenfield development in rural landscapes for renewable energy development. Local Plan policies will be developed for the delivery and development of renewable energy and as part of the evidence base and decision-making process, impacts on landscape will be taken into account.	None
	Chapter 17 Transport	Whilst the SA Scoping acknowledges the importance of transport modes other than the car, it does not engage adequately with the imperative of siting all development close to strong public transport networks. Given the character of networks across the district, this emphasis needs to be drawn out more clearly.	This matter has been noted by Officers and will be considered as part of the plan-making process.	None
		Although the need for safer roads and more sustainable travel is acknowledged statements such as ..."Ensure new development provides appropriate contributions towards transport infrastructure and community services, etc... " it does not go far enough to explain how this will be achieved. The Transport, Connectivity and Communications section, although it adequately identifies the problems does not go anywhere near far enough in setting out how the problems will be solved.	The purpose of the Scoping Report is to set out the baseline data available and to identify key sustainability issues, so that the policies can be developed, not make policy decisions. The need for safer roads and more sustainable travel is an important consideration in the plan making process. As such, these issues will be considered through the evidence, SA and Local Plan.	None

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ID Consultee	Issue	Summary of Comments	WDC Response	Proposed Changes
LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
SASR35 South Downs National Park Authority	Chapter 7 Air, Light and Noise	Regarding key message five, 'To identify and protect tranquil areas which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise', it is noted that tranquillity has multiple factors, noise being but one of these. See evidence: 13-04-17-South-Downs-National-Park-Tranquillity-Study.pdf (southdowns.gov.uk)	Comment noted. Bullet point five has been amended to: 'To identify and protect tranquil areas including those which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise'. The study has been added to Appendix A.	Amended
		We welcome reference to the South Downs National Park designation as an International Dark Sky Reserve (IDSR). As part of the last bullet, it is asked that reference is added to protecting the IDSR. Light spill and sky glow from development outside the IDSR may impact the quality of dark night skies in the IDSR area.	Comment noted. Key sustainability issues section, bullet point 5, page 36 has been amended accordingly.	Amended
		Mapping of the Tranquillity Study and IDSR can be found on our Landscape Qualities Mapping https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/planning-policy/south-downs-local-plan/policies-map/landscape-character	Noted. Link added to Appendix A.	Amended
	Chapter 15 Biodiversity	We flag the South Downs People and Nature Network (PANN) as evidence to support GBI work. The PANN identifies Natural Capital Investment Area 7, Hailsham to Eastbourne, and a series of GBI opportunities and challenges for this area.	Noted. Reference added at paragraph 15.44 and Appendix A.	Amended
	Chapter 16 Landscape & Townscape	Reference to the European Landscape Convention (ELC) is supported. In addition, reference should be made to Section 62 of the Environment Act 1995 under which all relevant authorities, including Wealden District Council, are required to have regard to the purposes of the South Downs National Park.	Noted. Reference is now made to the Environment Act 1995 (Section 62) at the Key PPPs section and in Appendix A.	Amended
		It should be noted that both impacts to the National Park area itself and impacts to its setting are relevant considerations as per the duty of regard and national policy requirements. The wording of paragraph 16.1 should be amended accordingly.	Noted. Paragraph 16.1 has been updated accordingly and proposed amendments to bullet points have been made.	Amended

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
		The South Downs Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) 2020 and the Viewshed Study are relevant evidence in understanding of the impact to the National Park.	Added to PPPs – Appendix A	Amended
	Chapter 19 Table 19.1	The following amendment would address earlier points raised: 'Limit the impact of light pollution? Including not adversely affecting the International Dark Skies Reserve'.	SO7 Pollution (Criteria 7.6) has been amended.	Amended
		The following amendment would address earlier points raised: 'Impact upon ~~the setting~~ of the South Downs National Park and its setting.'	SO10 Landscape & Townscape (Criteria 10.3) has been amended.	Amended
SASR46 East Sussex County Council	Chapter 17 Transport Chapter 17 Transport	Please refer to the following national, regional & local transport policy documents:- **National** • DfT - National – Decarbonising Transport – A better green Britain – 2021 (This should sit alongside the 2020 document – Setting the Challenge.) • Inclusive Transport Strategy 2018 • DfT Gear Change August 2020 & DfT Cycling Walking Investment Strategy (2nd 2021) • DfT Bus Back Better 2021 • DfT Road Investment Strategy 2 2020 – 2050 **Regional** • TfSE Transport Strategy 2020 • TfSE Strategic Investment Plan 2023 • TfSE Future Mobility Strategy 2023 **Local** • Emerging ESCC Local Transport Plan 4 2024 – 2050 • ESCC Bus Service Improvement Plan 2021	The following National and Regional Documents are included in Appendix A: • Decarbonising Transport 2021 and 2020 (page 32) • Road investment Strategy 2020-50 (page 33) • Inclusive Transport Strategy 2018 (page 34) • TfSR Transport Strategy 2020 (page 49) • Emerging ESCC Local Transport Plan 4 2024 – 205 (page 63) The other documents listed will be added to Appendix A and Chapter 17 where appropriate.	Amended
		Recommend changes to the text of the key messages at page 148 of the Scoping Report to ensure alignment with LTP4 and the Local Plan.	Noted. Key messages text has been amended as suggested.	Amended
		Suggest amendments to the text for the following paragraphs – 17.2, 17.3, 17.5, 17.6, 17.8, 17.9, 17.10, 17.22, 17.23, 17.37, 17.42	Noted. Text has been amended as suggested.	Amended

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
		Please include the rail network on the map.	The map was not created by the Council therefore this cannot be included. The rail network will be shown on relevant maps for the Local Plan such as the key diagram, for example.	None
	Chapter 3 (SA Process)	It is noted that Wealden District Council has decided not to undertake a separate Health Impact Assessment (HIA) of the Local Plan and that the HIA will be integrated into the SA. It is therefore important that the full scope of health and wellbeing impacts, particularly those affecting vulnerable groups and associated with health inequalities, are adequately covered within the SA. An HIA can help maximise the health benefits of a plan as well as minimise potential harm, the SA will therefore need to make sure that opportunities for all potential health and wellbeing benefits are fully realised.	Noted. The likely significant impacts of health and wellbeing will be closely assessed under Sustainability Objective (SO)15 of the SA Framework to ensure health and wellbeing impacts are fully incorporated as would be for an HIA. Equally, the relevant Local Plan policies will ensure that potential health and wellbeing impacts as well as opportunities are addressed appropriately.	None
	PPP Appendix A	A list of additional plans, policies and programmes, that have not been included in Appendix A and are considered relevant to the SA, has been provided for inclusion.	The list of plans, policies and programmes have been added where they were not already included to Appendix A, where considered relevant.	Amended
	Chapter 2 Sustainable Development	Expand this section to specify what health impacts have been worked through (i.e. healthy lifestyles, air quality, connectivity etc) to ensure health is fully incorporated as would be for an HIA.	Noted. The SA Framework provides a number of Objectives that are either directly or indirectly relevant to health. This includes SO1 and SO2 relating to climate change, SO7 pollution, SO8 green and blue infrastructure, SO10 landscape and townscape, SO12 digital infrastructure, SO13 sustainable travel and accessibility, SO14 housing, SO15 health and well-being, SO16 quality of life and place, SO17 social deprivation, SO18 economy and employment, SO19 town and village centres, SO20 education and skills.	Amended
	Paragraph 4.5	Add ‘Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF)’ to list of baseline data sources: Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF); https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/public-health-outcomes-framework	Noted. The ‘Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF)’ will be added to the list of baseline data sources at paragraph 4.5	Amended

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
	Chapter 5 Population & Community Page 12	Healthy, inclusive and safe places' is much broader than preventing 'fear of crime'. Health, inclusive and safe spaces are not just centred around crime but about connectivity walkability, accessibility, sociability and community. They unlock opportunities for healthy ageing, playing, working and living.	Noted. Key messages, bullet point one has been amended to reflect this comment and bullet point two has been deleted to avoid repetition.	Amended
		Include reference to creativity in relation to cultural wellbeing.	Noted. Reference has been made.	Amended
		Incorporate children and young people and women and girls into enabling and supporting healthy lifestyles.	Noted. The text refers to local health and wellbeing needs so this is not considered necessary.	None
		Include data on the proportion of population that is 'working age adults' now until 2039 to support the data on the local picture. Page 18 does show population change but how many are in employment and what types of employment and sectors?	Noted. There is a more detailed table contained within the Wealden Local Housing Need Assessment (August, 2021) at page 70, Table 6.15 that shows a population change 2019 to 2039 by five-year age bands for Wealden based on the 2018 SNPP. The SA Scoping also reports on the economic activity within Wealden, as well as the types and sectors of employment Wealden residents are employed in under section 11 (Economy) as of the 2011 and 2021 census (see Table 11.1, 11.2 and 11.4 at pages 89 and 90). The Council has projections showing employment change and rate of change by sector for Wealden District within its Employment and Economic Study for Eastbourne and Wealden (April 2022) and this has now been included.	Amended
	Chapter 5 Population & Community	How many are supported by health and social care? In addition is there any data on Carers?	Noted. This information has come from the Wealden Local Housing Needs Assessment, but there is no further information on carers. Paragraph 9.25 and 9.26 of the SA Scoping report outlines the likely accommodation needs of the older population until 2039 (i.e. extra-care housing, housing with support and residential/nursery care bed spaces), but there is no specific information on how many will be supported by health and social care.	None

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
	Chapter 5 Population & Community	Consider the inclusion of local economy and employment opportunities as a Key Sustainability issue, particularly as transport networks hinder opportunities for the area. We know that it may be difficult for health and social care workers to be able to travel and want to provide in the area given the challenges of access to the area. There may also be lack of opportunities for SMEs and businesses to establish themselves in the area?	Comment noted. Additional bullet points have been included under 'Key Sustainability issues' to cover the matters discussed.	Amended
	Chapter 6 Climate Change	A key consideration that is missing as a 'health impact' is the need to recognise that there are health risks to human population, especially within vulnerable groups. These impacts are not evenly distributed, and significant inequalities exist. The third UK climate change risk assessment, an independent report by the Climate Change Committee, outlines some of the major health impacts of climate change facing the UK. These include increases in the frequency of extreme weather events, rising temperatures, flooding, vector borne disease as the climate becomes most hospitable to animal-borne infectious diseases, food security and safety, poor air quality and disruption to water supplies. Some of these risks will also have an impact on the delivery of health and social care services in the UK.	Comments noted. Text added to 'Key Messages'.	Amended
		Also need to reflect environmental hazards as a threat to population health as well as broader risks as outlined in the UK climate change risk assessment.	Noted. Last bullet point under 'Key Sustainability Issues' has been updated to take account of the matter raised.	Amended
		The wording should be expanded to include reference to design features that can maximise opportunities to mitigate effects of climate change (for example, trees and biodiversity).	Noted and agreed. Bullet point 9 under 'Scope of Local Plan' has been amended.	Amended
	Chapter 7 Air, Light and Noise	'Minimising and mitigating air pollution so as to reduce the potential for higher temperatures which in turn leads to poorer air quality' should be included as a 'Key Message'.	Comment noted. Text has been included as an additional bullet point under the 'Key Messages' section.	Amended

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
	Chapter 8 Health and Wellbeing	This chapter should also include baseline data from: • Active Lives survey - adults (Breaks down inactivity levels to MSOA) https://www.activesussex.org/insight-and-funding/active-lives-survey-adults/ • Obesity levels to Ward level for YR: YR Obesity data • Y6 Obesity data: Y6 Obesity data	Noted. Additional wording which refers to the baseline data from Active Lives survey has been included at paragraph 8.36.	Amended
		Figures and descriptions for 'Adult Obesity' are missing and should be included alongside children's obesity to give a complete picture in Wealden. There are 16 indicators in the Public Health Outcomes Framework which relate to obesity. Reference should be made to Childhood obesity: a plan for action - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk). Figures and descriptions for 'Adult Obesity' should also be included alongside childhood obesity. See Adult obesity: applying All Our Health - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)	Noted. Table 8.5 has been added relating to the indicators identified in the comments from the Public Health Outcomes Framework. Additional data has been included for adult obesity along with reception and year 6 pupils. References have been added to Appendix A	Amended
	Chapter 8 Health and Wellbeing	This section is not considered to cover 'Wellbeing' as wellbeing is a much broader area. This would benefit from being linked to the earlier paragraph, 'Access to Indoor Sports and Leisure Facilities', on page 58.	Noted and amended.	Amended
	Chapter 8 Health and Wellbeing	Social Isolation and Loneliness is likely to be an issue for the area and should be included, particularly in light of the ageing population living for longer with, for example, more complicated conditions and transport access issues.	Noted. Text has been updated.	Amended
	Chapter 9 Housing	Include reference to 'Lifetime Adaptable Homes' that provide good access to communities.	Comment noted. An additional bullet point has been added	Amended
	Chapter 6	Suggest the addition of 'increased levels of poor health in some sectors of the population due to poor air quality/increasing heatwaves'	Comment noted. An Additional bullet point which takes account of the suggested text has been added.	Amended
	Chapter 7	Include reference to mental health as part of bullet point four.	Comment noted and bullet point four under Key Messages has been amended.	Amended
	Chapter 5 Pages	Should include impact and need for measures which support older people, disabled and younger people not just limited to housing and access to health services but also regarding transport and neighbourhood design. For	Noted. Bullet point one under both Key sustainability issues has been amended	Amended

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
		example; dementia friendly environments, wider paths, benches etc.		
	Chapter 8 Health and Wellbeing	Obesity is more of an issue than the document is presenting. Reference to Wealden's Health and Wellbeing Strategy is misleading by saying that obesity in children is no longer considered as one of the four main priorities. The last point under 'Key Sustainability Issues' therefore should reflect that obesity levels are still significant for the district. All levels are not significantly lower than the national average, at a Ward level some Wards have obesity higher than national and the district average (for YR and Y6). This should also be reflected in the 'Scope of the Plan'.	Noted and agreed. Paragraphs 8.28 and 8.30 have been amended accordingly.	Amended
		Access to food growing opportunities needs to be included in this chapter. Not to be limited to increasing healthier eating but also include the benefits to physical and mental health and wellbeing.	Noted. Consideration has been given to the recommendation and an additional paragraph has been added to include food growing opportunities.	Amended
		The chapter should include the benefits of increased physical activity both to physical and mental health and including helping and reducing long term illnesses.	Comment noted and Scope of Plan section has been amended to include an additional bullet point.	Amended
	Chapter 19 Table 19.1	Amendments to the following objectives and supporting indicators have been suggested: SO2 Climate Change Adaptation SO7 Pollution SO8 Green and Blue Infrastructure SO13 Sustainable Travel and Accessibility SO15 Health and Wellbeing SO16 Quality of Life & Place	Comments noted and the objectives have been amended, where appropriate.	Amended
		Amend 13.12 Provision and retention of key services and facilities within easy access of communities.	The suggested text was considered but remains unchanged. However, text has been moved from DCM 13.12 to DCM 13.11.	Amended
	SO14 Housing	Add additional criterion: Create well designed, resilient homes.	The additional criterion has not been added under S014 (Housing) as it has been covered under both the 'Climate Change' and 'Quality of place' sections.	None

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
	SO15 Health and Wellbeing	With regard to 15.4 Impact a designated Local Green Space (LGS) it is unclear what is meant, is this in the right place should it be in green and blue infrastructure section?	Wording under DCM 15.4 has been considered and remains unchanged as the impact is community focussed.	None
		Consider adding residents with long term illness – Projections from East Sussex in Figures Limiting life-long illness projections (dwelling-led) 2020-2035	Noted. The Council currently has its own information for the District from the LHNA it has undertaken (see Table 5.9, page 18 of the SA Scoping Report) and evidence in terms of accommodation needs for older people and those with disabilities until 2039 (see paragraphs 9.24 to 9.26 of the SA Scoping Report). As indicators are intended to form part of the AMR for the Wealden Local Plan and updated annually, it is not considered that this proposed indicator will be appropriate for the SA Framework.	None
	Chapter 10 Education and Skills page 76	Fifth bullet point under Key Messages should state: '…require more capacity for further primary, secondary and special school places in the future'.	Comment noted and the fifth bullet point under key messages has been amended.	Amended
	Figure 10.2 Page 79	The chart included is actually for primary places in the town (see figure 10.1). WDC should replace this with the correct chart from the ESCC School Organisation Plan (SOP)	Noted and agreed. This has been amended.	Amended
	page 85	The second bullet point in 10.22 should state: '…where there is a need for more secondary, primary and special school places…'	Comment noted and the second bullet point in 10.22 has been amended.	Amended
	Chapter 10 Education and Skills page 85	The statement under Data Gaps in 10.23 is not strictly correct. School capacity forecasting is not limited to 2026, but this is what is published in the SOP which covers a four year period. An updated SOP will be published later this year and will take forecasts forward to 2027. What is uncertain, and should be flagged as a data gap, is the likely quantum and location of future development coming forward in WDC's emerging Local Plan and the potential impact this will have on education provision in the district.	Noted. Paragraph 10.23 has been amended.	Amended
	Baseline paragraph 4.5	It is recommended that the report sources data to the original source rather than purely East Sussex in Figures	Comments noted and updated.	Amended

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PARISH COUNCILS				
		(ESiF). For example, "Office for National Statistics, 2021 Census". This will be particularly important as the ESiF website will be changing in the next few months and specific bookmarks will no longer work to tables of data.		
	Footnotes	Original sources should be cited for footnotes 48, 49, 50, 62, 72, 91, 148, 149; and tables 17.1, 17.2, 17.3	Noted. Footnotes have been amended.	Amended
	Chapter 17 Transport	Remove reference to EsiF; 'The number of households within the district owning one or more cars has increased from 50,042 in 2001 to 54,875 in 2011 to 61,047 in 2021, ~~according to East Sussex in Figures~~. This is an increase of 11,005 in the twenty year period'.	Noted. Reference to EsiF has been removed.	Amended
	Chapter 17 Transport	Cite original source: 153, 154 and 155 Sussex Safer Roads Partnership. The road casualty data could be updated. ESCC have yet to update the data on ESiF but the Sussex Safer Roads Partnership will have more up-to-date data.	The original data source for references 153 and 154 Sussex Safer Roads partnership Data Portal is available at https://ssrp.shinyapps.io/dataportal/ Last accessed 03/10/2023 However, Sussex Safer Roads Partnership reference for reference 155 will be updated at a later date. Tables 17.8 and 17.9. have been amended.	Amended
	Chapter 18 Waste page 163	The impact of pandemic, when more people were at home in 2020/21, could be noted in relation to household waste arisings.	Noted. This will be updated when the data becomes available from East Sussex County Council.	None
	HRA	Figure 4.1 would benefit from a Legend	Agreed, however, this is not possible at this time. The map is instead labelled.	None
SASR47 Rother DC	Any other comments	Rother District Council reviewed the revised SA/SEA Scoping Report and has no comments to make.	Comment noted.	None
SASR49 E. Sussex CC (LLFA)	Any other comments	East Sussex County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) has no comments.	Noted.	None

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ORGANISATIONS				
SASR17 Southern Water	Chapter 14 Water Chapter 14	Please add the following text to the end of para 14.4 "To accommodate this Southern Water has invested £30m upgrading Hailsham North and Hailsham South WwTW's. This allows for increased flow from new developments to at least 2030.'	Paragraph amended.	Amended
		Propose the text at para 14.9 is changed to: 'In terms of tackling pollution from wastewater, in the Cuckmere and Pevensey Levels catchment, Southern Water completed significant works in December 2021 at the Hailsham North and South WwTWs to enable a high-rate biological treatment process that is capable of meeting the tighter permits from the Environment Agency. This investment to achieve a high-quality effluent will improve water quality within the Pevensey Levels.'	Paragraph amended at 14.16.	Amended
		Propose the text at 14.10 is changed to: 'In proposing locations for new development, account should be taken of the drainage systems which don't necessarily follow administrative boundaries. Development in South Wealden may connect to the Eastbourne wastewater system as the nearest point. The cumulative impact of all development proposed to drain to a wastewater treatment works will need to be considered by the incumbent Water and Sewerage Company as part of impact scenarios and investment planning. It is critical for planning authorities and utility companies to work together to understand the timing and phasing of developments in order that optimal and sustainable investment is made in the required infrastructure.'	Paragraph amended at 14.17	Amended
	SA Methodology Chapter 19	Sustainability indicators do not seem to be proposed to monitor decision making criteria 3.3 and 3.4 and wondered if these might be developed.	The decision-making criteria for 3.3 and 3.4 relate largely to the implementation of natural flood management solutions and SuDS. Planning policies within the Local Plan are likely to require SuDS in all development, so additional indicators are considered unnecessary.	None

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ORGANISATIONS				
SASR19 Richborough Estates (Pinnacle Planning)	Policies, Plans and Programmes Appendix A	The plans, policies and programmes listed at Appendix A of the SA Scoping Report are comprehensive and are all considered relevant to the SA of the Local Plan but should be kept up to date during the plan process and be signposted within the SA.	Comments noted. Appendix A will be updated as new evidence emerges. Any updated evidence will be published on the Council's website. As an iterative process the SA will be signposted with any updated and/or superseded guidance.	None
	Chapter 11 Economy	Richborough has land interests in Polegate, Wealden and therefore supports recognition for the A22/A27 Eastbourne - South Wealden Growth Corridor. Attention is also drawn to other baseline data sources that support the case for the Growth Corridor, which are more up to date than the 2014 LEP including the Employment and Economic Study for Eastbourne and Wealden Districts (EES) in 2022 (Iceni) which is listed at Appendix A of the SA Scoping Report. The report recommends that "at least one large allocation is made (10ha+) in the A22/A27 area to help meet needs in this better-connected location" to meet employment land needs. The EES updates the potential social and economic benefits of the Growth Corridor from that referenced in the LEP 2014 document (page 42) to 9,240 new jobs and 17,800 homes (EES paragraph 3.2).	Noted. Text at paragraph 11.5 and footnote have been amended.	Amended
	Chapter 11 Economy Paragraph	Para. 11.15 confirms new industrial units at Polegate have seen a fast take up of floorspace which takes advantage of accessible links to the A22/A27. The Iceni report highlights that "further delivery in this area would be met well by the market".	Noted. Additional wording has been added to para 11.5.	Amended
	Chapter 19	SO14: Housing, states that the objective is "To provide housing that meets local needs". It is assumed that this refers not only to the type of housing but also to meeting Wealden's overall housing requirement during the plan period (to 2040), in line with the latest available evidence. The objective should be altered to acknowledge the need to meet the specific housing needs in full, including the	Noted. SO14 refers to the type and tenure of housing needed within the District, as well as meeting as much of its housing needs that the District can provide sustainably. DMC 4 has been amended to state: 'Ensure that an appropriate mix of dwelling size, type and tenure is provided'	None

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ORGANISATIONS				
		right type and tenure of housing, including the potential for unmet from neighbouring authorities.		
	Chapter 19	SO18: Economy and Employment states that the objective is "To maintain high levels of employment and encourage sustainable economic growth across the district including higher value jobs." The objective only refers to encouraging district-wide sustainable economic growth. Reference to cross boundary growth opportunities and county-wide economic growth plans should be included to ensure an effective SA of the Local Plan is undertaken. References should also be added to the "decision making criteria" at Table 19.1 of the SA.	The Council has worked on its economic evidence base jointly with Eastbourne Borough Council, in the Employment and Economic Study for Eastbourne and Wealden (April 2022) and is actively working with other neighbouring local authorities on the economy. The Council has also made reference to a number of local and regional economic plans as part of the SA Scoping Report. The objective relates to the Wealden District Local Plan and therefore the district area only (outside of the South Downs National Park (SDNP) and this is currently reflected in the SA Objective. Although it is recognised under paragraph 20 and 21 of the NPPF that employment and other commercial development are strategic issues and need to take account of any relevant cross boundary issues, it is not considered that this needs to be explicit in the SA objective itself. The Council will continue to explore all cross-boundary issues with its neighbouring local authorities as part of its Local Plan.	None
	Chapter 19	The SA methodology is suitable, clear and complete but should allow for the timely incorporation of an additional appraisal of the Local Plan if there is new evidence base documentation, a new NPPF is published or the Levelling Up and/or Regeneration Bill receives Royal Assent.	Comment noted. The Council will consider and take forward the most relevant and up to date evidence as part of plan-making. The SA is an iterative process to allow for any changes in circumstances over the course of the development of the plan.	None
	Any other comments	Richborough wishes to express support for the two sections titled "Scope of the Local Plan" in respect of the Housing and Economy chapters (SA Scoping Report, pages 75 and 93 respectively).	Support noted.	None
		It is critical that the Local Plan identifies an appropriate housing requirement that ensures existing and future residents have access to a mix of housing that meets their	Comments noted. As part of the evidence base and policies for the new Local Plan, we will be looking at housing requirements that ensures existing and	None

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ID Consultee	Issue	Summary of Comments	WDC Response	Proposed Changes
ORGANISATIONS				
	Chapters 9 Housing	needs. The reference to maximising opportunities to deliver new homes in sustainable locations is supported and Richborough wishes to work closely with Wealden Council Officers to deliver a residential-led mixed use scheme at land north and west of the A27 at Polegate in accordance with the aspirations for the A22/A27 Growth Corridor.	future residents have access to a mix of housing that meets their needs.	
	Chapters 11 Economy	Richborough strongly supports the inclusion of the reference to "providing new employment allocations, particularly along the A22/A27 corridor, to deliver against the Council's requirement for new employment floorspace" and considers Polegate to be ideally located to deliver new employment opportunities.	Noted.	None
SASR21 NatureSpace Partnership	Policies, Plans and Programmes Appendix A	Attention is drawn to the Great Crested Newt District Licensing Scheme, for which Wealden District Council hold the licence that has been granted by Natural England (NatureSpace are the delivery partner). Suggest that data, including maps, associated with this scheme would provide a strong evidence base for the emerging local plan. At present, it is not included within Appendix A	Comments noted. Data from this scheme together with other biodiversity information/ data will be utilised in the production of the relevant evidence base that will inform and support the new Local Plan. The Great Crested Newt District Licensing Scheme has been added to Appendix A.	Amended
	Baseline Data Chapter 15 Biodiversity	The Council is also in receipt of baseline data with regard to the use and implementation of the above licence. Data is available in the form of Impact Risk Zone and Strategic Opportunity Area maps of the District, which have been produced in consultation with the Council and other relevant bodies prior to applying for the Council's District Licence application to Natural England.	Comments noted. Great Crested Newts are incorporated into the Section 41 Species category within Table 15.9. However, as this is a specific scheme, additional text has been included at paragraph 15.33	Amended
SASR24 Gladman Developments	Any other comments	Process points are made regarding the SA and the need for it to be an iterative process, which complies with the necessary regulations and guidance to inform the plan.	Comments noted and agreed.	None
SASR27 Martin Grant Homes Ltd	Chapter 19 SO14 Housing	SO14 to 'provide housing that meets local needs' is supported, it is important that the Decision Making Criteria (DMC) reflect this. DMC 14.1 should be amended. Rather than just 'contribute to housing supply it should 'Ensure	Noted. The Council considers the current wording of DCM 14.1 is appropriate. The level of local housing need to be met is a matter for the Local Plan	None

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ORGANISATIONS				
(Turley)		sufficient homes are provided to meet at least local housing need'		
	Chapter 19 – Table 19.3 Compatibility Assessment	Questions the scoring of the compatibility assessment and suggests that the scoring is amended.	The purpose of the compatibility assessment is to assess any potential areas of conflict between the sustainability objectives that should be taken into account when undertaking the appraisal. The X score represents areas of possible conflict or tension as explained in the key.	None
SASR30 Grosvenor Property UK Limited (Stantec)	PPPs Appendix A & Baseline Data	Regard should be had to the spatial strategies, plans and programmes of neighbouring authorities that affect and influence the baseline data and policy response of WDC.	The relevant Regional and Local Plans, Policies and Programmes (PPPs) which could have implications for the SA and Local Plan were identified and reviewed as part of the Scoping process (Appendix A) and will be considered in the development of policies where appropriate.	None
		A key issue identified in the scope is out migration of young people and out commuting for work. By return, unmet housing needs across the HMA will affect Wealden. The strategic context needs to be understood and addressed. A sustainable pattern of development will not be met in isolation.	Noted. Such matters will be considered as part of the SA and the Local Plan.	None
		The Government has signalled an intention to review the approach to setting housing requirements. Until such time as any revised approach is confirmed, the SA should have regard to the need to meet needs as identified in the application of the standard method and address unmet needs from adjacent authorities, which will include having regard to the plans and programmes of those authorities.	Noted. The emerging SA will take account of the most relevant and up to date evidence.	None
		The adopted local plan is out of date and we would question the relevance of the adopted local plan in informing the SA.	The adopted Local Plan is the current plan until the new Plan is adopted, therefore reference will be made to these policies as relevant.	None

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ORGANISATIONS				
	Chapter 19 Sustainability Methodology & Framework	The SA will accompany the emerging Wealden Local Plan and the Scoping Report fails to be considered against the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the "SEA Regulations") and Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (the "Act"), which sets out requirements for SA. We should also be mindful of the intention of the Government to review the SEA/SA process. The details of which have yet to be published but it may well be that a revised approach and procedures will be published which may need to be taken into account subject to any transitional arrangements.	The SA is being prepared in line with the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive as set out in Chapters 1, 2 and 19. The requirements of the SEA Directive will ensure that sustainable development is integrated in the formulation of the development plan and consideration is given to social, economic and environmental factors. The Local Plan is being prepared under the existing regime, which requires a plan to be submitted by June 2025 and will therefore use the current SEA/SA process as set out in the Scoping Report until this is no longer the case.	None
		Whilst it is recognised that the aim of the scoping stage is to set the context for and propose a proportionate approach, the methodology needs to ensure that the SA does assist in guiding development to meet the needs of the community in a robust and transparent way.	The Scoping Report has set out a robust methodology in Chapter 19 in accordance with the regulations and guidance, which will be used to assess the new Plan's strategy, objectives, policies and site allocations.	None
		Further detail is required as to the methodology which will be utilised to apply the Sustainability Appraisal Framework. The methodology should confirm the approach to assessing the likely significant effects on the environment following implementation of mitigation. Detail is required as to how and whether the level of mitigation would be applied consistently across the assessment of the Plan. As the SA progresses more detailed appraisals of policy and site options should be undertaken.	Chapter 19 of the Scoping Report clearly sets out the SA Framework and proposed methodology as required by the regulations and guidance, which includes the need to take into account mitigation measures. The SA will set out further detail on how the mitigation measures have been addressed in the assessments. The SA is an iterative process and the level of detail in the appraisal will increase as the preparation of the Local Plan progresses.	None
		The SA needs to provide clarity regarding the temporality of the likely significant effects. It is clear that the Local Plan will have varying impacts over different time periods (whether that be short, medium or long term impacts).	The methodology, including timescales and the need to address temporality is set out in Chapter 19 in accordance with the regulations and guidance.	None
		The SA scope identifies the need to assess cumulative/synergistic effects, but further detail is required as to how this will be achieved.	Noted. This will be considered as part of the SA.	None

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ORGANISATIONS				
		The Sustainability Objectives rightly emphasise the need for Climate Change to be addressed and is a theme which runs through the objectives. However, the intersection between Climate Change and other facets of sustainability, in particular health and wellbeing of current/future residents needs to be expressed. It is recommended that additional linkages are provided between the climate change and health and wellbeing objectives to ensure that they are cognisant of potential future societal change.	Noted. The need to strengthen linkages will be considered as part of the SA.	None
SASR31 Pevensey & Cuckmere Water Level Management Board	SA Methodology & Framework	Recommends the inclusion of Development Control and Regulation Information for Local Authorities at https://www.wlma.org.uk/uploads/WMA_Information_for_Local_Planning_Authorities.pdf	Comment noted. This has been added to Appendix A.	Amended
		The Lead Local Flood Authority is a statutory consultee on sites of 10 dwellings or more. The Pevensey and Cuckmere Water Management Board works closely with the LLFA when determining planning permissions so would also like to see this as an indicator	Comment noted and suggested text has been added to Sustainability Indicator 3.2 under SO3 to refer to Environment agency and LLFA.	Amended
		Consultee would like Pevensey Marshes to be considered in sustainability indicator 4.2	Comment noted and Pevensey Marshes has been added to sustainability indicator 4.2 under SO4.	Amended
	Chapter 14 Water Chapter 15 Biodiversity	Concerns about treated effluent & decline in ecology - this also links to 15.14 on biodiversity. Concern is raised about the Pevensey Levels which is home to the Ramshorn Snail and Fen Raft Spider and about water quality in the marsh systems that could affect the stability of the Ramshorn Snail and Fen Raft Spider.	Paragraph 14.4 makes clear the connection between treated effluent and decline in ecology within the Pevensey and Cuckmere catchment. In the interest of avoiding repetition, biodiversity issues are kept to Chapter 15. The Council is keenly aware of the status of the SAC / Ramsar site and the species it supports, and this will be addressed through appropriate policies within the new Local Plan. Text has been added to paragraph 15.15 for completeness. The Council will also undertake a Habitats Regulations Assessment that will consider the impact of the Local Plan on the Pevensey Levels SAC / Ramsar site and will ensure mitigation should	Amended

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ORGANISATIONS				
			this be identified to be required as part of this process.	
	Chapter 14 Water para. 4.17	The Ramshorn Snail habitat is in the unmanaged watercourses on the marsh. Infilling of these watercourses through development, impacts its habitat. This is linked to 14.17 Modifications & Structures - Giving wetlands and rivers greater space to function naturally. There is also concern that parts of the Cuckmere catchment have limited conveyance and capacity to take further run off from development making sustainable drainage on new development a high priority.	Chapter 14 is concerned with water issues and biodiversity is addressed within Chapter 15. Paragraph 14.17 states that in the future, rivers, wetlands, estuaries and coasts will need greater space and freedom to function naturally and to provide greater resilience from continued economic and effects of climate change. Additional text has been added to paragraph 14.8 regarding SuDS. Text has also been added to paragraph 15.14. The requirement for SuDS will also be considered in the Local Plan.	Amended
SASR34 Enplan	Chapter 9 Housing	There should be specific reference to the opportunities which strategically planned large scale development can bring in delivering sustainable communities. These sites can support other facilities and services which residents require on a daily basis, encouraging local living and reducing the need for longer distance travel, in turn supporting Wealden's low carbon future objectives.	Noted. It is recognised that strategically planned larger scale development can bring about the delivery of sustainable communities and this is supported in the NPPF at paragraph 73 subject to criteria. Amendments have therefore been made to paragraph 9.30, Bullet Point 7 of the SA Scoping Report.	Amended
	Chapter 17 Transport	This section could also acknowledge the opportunities for developments to provide for local employment opportunities and co-working spaces to provide residents with the option to avoid commuting all together. This is particularly pertinent as a legacy of the Covid-19 pandemic, with employers offering more flexible working arrangements.	This matter has been noted by Officers and will be considered as part of the plan-making process.	None
		Sustainability Objective SO13 'Sustainable Travel & Accessibility' sets out the initial decision-making criteria for appraising the LP. This framework should acknowledge the latest Government thinking with regards to the 'Vision and Validate' modern transport planning method, as set out in the DfT's 'Decarbonising Transport – A Better Greener Britain' plan.	Officers have noted these comments and will continue to work in partnership with East Sussex County Council on highways matters as well as consider them further as part of the plan making process. The planning method will be referred to in the Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan.	None

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ORGANISATIONS				
		An important aim of a vision-led approach is to maximise the number of trips that can be “internalised” or contained within an attractive community boasting numerous amenities to enable local living. This helps to significantly reduce the need for private vehicle movements, mitigates carbon emissions, whilst unlocking active travel modes and enhancing local businesses.	Officers have noted these matters and will consider them further as part of the plan making process.	None
SASR42 Pevensey & Cuckmere Water Level Management Board (WLMB)	Chapter 6 Climate Change	It is imperative that the pumping stations are operating optimally to sustainably manage flood risk to communities, businesses, infrastructure, and the Pevensey Levels designated site. The pumping stations are reaching the end of their design life and require significant investment to continue operating. The WLMB is developing a business case to seek funding to replace these pumps and two Environment Agency operated pumps that serve the Pevensey Levels, the Pevensey Water Management Improvement Scheme. This project is also considering improvements to climate change adaptation which complement the pumps. Additionally, it will also benefit biodiversity and communities in terms of health and well-being.	Noted. New text has been added at paragraph 6.23.	Amended
	Chapter 14 Water	The WLMB would like to highlight the importance of safeguarding the water quality within the Pevensey Levels. Water quality has significant impacts on the protected features of the levels and also the spread of non-native invasive species, such as floating pennywort. The spread of floating pennywort on the levels within the area east of Hailsham is affecting the biodiversity of the watercourses and also leading to the death of livestock on the grazing marshes.	Noted. Additional wording has been added at paragraph 14.3.	Amended
	Chapters 14 Water and 15 Biodiversity	It would be beneficial for biodiversity and the improvement of water quality, if opportunities to create wetlands around the levels are considered when development is put forward. Biodiversity net gain could be used as a driver for	These matters have been noted by officers for further consideration within the local plan policies. Water quality, space for water and biodiversity will be	None

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ORGANISATIONS				
		offsite constructed wetlands and other nature based solutions. The Local Nature Recovery Strategy will be looking for opportunities to map these sites to create linkages for wildlife across the county.	considered through the Sustainability Appraisal, the appropriate evidence bases and the Local Plan.	
	Chapter 6 Climate Change	The flooding issues around the River Cuckmere are a concern to the WLMB as it makes it difficult for the catchment to drain following significant rainfall events. The WLMB is currently in discussions with both Natural England and the Environment Agency to establish the long term objective for the river and its valley.	Comments noted. Managing flood risk is a key consideration for the new Local Plan. Flood risk around the River Cuckmere will be taken into account in the SFRA and appropriate Local Plan policies and will be closely assessed through the SA.	None
SASR43 Nevill Estate Company Ltd (Kember Loudon Williams)	Chapter 6 Climate Change	The following should be emphasised within the 'Scope of the New Local Plan' section: Spatial Growth and Location of Growth: The planned location, scale and nature of future growth across the District has a direct correlation with movement and by association pollution and environmental harm. It is essential that the Council sets out its stall early in the new plan that all growth will be underpinned by the principles of sustainability with access to services and employment opportunities within existing villages and towns or within new developments.	Comments noted. This will be considered as part of the plan-making process.	None
		Integration /Mixed Use Development - Support integration and mixed-use developments across the district to minimise the number and length of journeys to places of work, shopping, leisure and education. It should be referenced at paragraph 6.36.	No amendment as the Council considers that this point is covered through point 2 in relation to sustainable development and being close to employment, services and facilities. This is also a matter for the Local Plan.	None
		Consideration should be given to developing new homes that support remote working, with flexible, dual use spaces / integrated office / workspaces designed in from the outset.	Noted. Consideration will be given to these issues in the development of the plan policies, which will be tested by the SA.	None
	Chapter 9 Housing	The baseline data and the key sustainability issues identified are accepted but the following issues should be emphasised: • Sustainable Village Growth • Rural Housing	Comments noted. These issues raised will be considered in the development of the plan policies and assessed within the SA.	None

ID Consultee	Issue	Summary of Comments	WDC Response	Proposed Changes
ORGANISATIONS				
		• Rural Exceptions • Affordable Rural Housing		
	Chapter 11 Economy	The baseline data and the key sustainability issues identified are accepted but the following issues should be emphasised: • careful provision is made for economic growth and development across the whole district: including the designated landscapes. • the role of the rural economy • economic policies for the protected areas – particularly the High Weald - that introduce flexibility and support for local business growth • the role of tourism and recreation in the rural economy • rural diversification	Comments noted. The issues raised will be considered in the development of the plan policies and assessed within the SA.	None
	Chapter 16 Landscape	The baseline data and the key sustainability issues identified are accepted but the following issues should be emphasised: • The high Weald is a living and working landscape • Provision must be made to facilitate sustainable housing and economic growth within the High Weald • Policies should be developed to support housing allocations in and around the larger AONB villages and towns to enable younger generations to remain.	Comments noted. The issues raised will be considered in the development of the plan policies and assessed within the SA.	None
SASR44 Coal Authority	Any other comments	As Wealden District Council lies outside the defined coalfield, the Planning team at the Coal Authority has no specific comments to make.	Noted	None
SASR48 Network Rail	Chapter 17 Transport	Network Rail supports the key messages which highlight the opportunities that could be provided in the new Local Plan. The need for considering transport issues from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals is emphasised. Network Rail are keen to engage with the Council and the County Council as early as possible to ensure that any projects or schemes that could help	Support and comments noted.	None

ID Consultee	Issue	Summary of Comments	WDC Response	Proposed Changes
ORGANISATIONS				
		support to resolve transport issues are highlighted for inclusion within the Plan, or for new development.		
		Improving linkages between settlements and rail stations is a key aim in helping to support access to the rail network for users and the development of proposals through the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) and are essential in providing for improved access opportunities. The provision of routes are encouraged as close to rail stations as possible to provide an opportunity for modal shift and a safe and efficient route to the rail network. Network Rail encourage the review of the LCWIP and that it is extended to run with the Local Plan timeline to ensure a coherent approach towards delivery.	Noted. The Council will engage with Network Rail and East Sussex County Council as Highway Authority including any updates to the Local Transport Plan 4 and LCWIP. The issues raised will also be considered in the development of plan policies and assessed within the SA as relevant.	None
		Network Rail is supportive of Wealden's references to improving choices for active and sustainable travel modes and this approach should remain as an integral part of the Local Plan as it moves forward towards adoption. The SA clearly sets out that this approach can only be effective with an up-to-date Local Plan in place.	Support and comments noted. The issues raised will be considered in the development of the plan policies and assessed within the SA.	None
		Network Rail notes the reference to 'ensure new development provides appropriate contributions towards transport infrastructure'. It is essential that an effective and implementable approach to securing contributions and other sources of third-party funding is set out within the Plan. Network Rail can assist the Council with this and re-investing developer contributions within the rail network to improve it for residents of Wealden. Network Rail would encourage the continued engagement of the Council with key stakeholders.	Comments noted. Developer contributions associated with infrastructure provision will be considered as part of the Local Plan and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.	None
	Chapter 19 Table 19.1	The indicators set out in the Methodology and Framework section of the report for SO13 are a useful starting point and these can be developed as the Plan progresses further and more information becomes readily available.	Comments noted.	None

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ORGANISATIONS				
SASR50 Wealden Food Partnership	Chapter 6 Climate Change	This section should also include working with existing famers already producing food to support them to develop more climate friendly practices and to link with their local communities to develop growing spaces accessible to local communities. The Food Partnership is already working with farmers that have developed growing plots for their communities and has also provided grants to farms to develop these spaces successfully. This model could be rolled out, linking communities to their farms, understanding where food comes from, how to grow it, what grows well, and promoting healthy eating and cookery education. Given the rural nature of Wealden and the number of farms across the district, farms need to be included in how we develop better growing spaces to support communities to grow locally, addressing a number of key areas including food security.	Comments noted. Growing food locally will be considered as part of plan-making. Other matters raised, whilst important are outside the scope of plan-making.	None
	Chapter 8 Health and Wellbeing	This section fails to mention food production and having access to fresh and healthy produce being key to a heathy lifestyle, which ultimately impacts positively on the need to access health services, reduces obesity, and increases the understanding of the importance of eating a well-balanced diet. Wealden Food Partnership is working to highlight this issue and is supported through Public Health at ESCC linking crucially to the Healthy Weight Plan and linking communities to their local food through education programmes and projects and linking farmers better to their local communities.	Noted. Local food production is mentioned in relation to climate change and obesity is considered amongst other health matters. Healthy food can come from a number of sources and we can support the production of healthy food through allotments and community initiatives through the Local Plan.	Amended
	Chapter 11 Economy	This section doesn't mention farms specifically as local businesses, but instead lumps them in with energy and water. What data is there regarding the number /type of farms across Wealden, the type of food produced for the local economy/communities, and how the number of people employed. This data is seen as crucial in feeding into the Local Plan and is missing in this appraisal	Table 11.1 in the Economy Chapter of the Scoping Report, sets out that the agricultural, energy and water employment category in Wealden saw an increase of 5.1% between the 2011 and 2021 censuses. Table 13.1 also sets out further details on the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) in Wealden District. Furthermore, encouraging local food	None

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ORGANISATIONS				
		document. The data would give an accurate picture of how much land is managed for food production and whether Wealden can 'feed itself' for the future, linking to the food security agenda, and feeding into how we better manage land in relation to climate change.	production and providing food growing opportunities will be addressed through the SA (Sustainability Objectives 1 and 15) and through appropriate Local Plan policies. The Council does not hold data on how many farms there are within Wealden or what food is produced.	
	Chapter 16 Landscape & Townscape	The Wealden Landscape Character Assessment 2022 was developed to create a comprehensive strategic district-scale landscape evidence base to inform the Local Plan. As above, does this include/provide data on the number and types of farms etc. across the district. This data is important in understanding better how our landscape is made up, and creating a baseline for future understanding in how land is used for food production	The Landscape Character Assessment does not provide information on the number and type of farms. It considers the District's landscape character and provides guidance on how to avoid or minimise landscape impacts from development.	None
	Chapter 18 Waste	The Food Partnership would like food waste to be included in this section. This is a huge and challenging area and links directly to the increasing amount of supermarket food waste ending up in landfill, and challenging how this can be reduced through linking better to communities and local projects and programmes such as foodbanks and community fridges. Farms should also be included in relation to food waste, and how this can also be reduced.	Comments noted. The Council does not hold any specific baseline data on food waste from supermarkets and/or farms that could be included in the Waste Chapter section. This matter goes beyond the scope of the Local Plan.	None
	Any other comments	There is missing data and evidence on the lack of local infrastructure for farmers including no abattoir in East Sussex and the current threat to the remaining cattle market and the impact this is having on the farming community and food production. These issues are a definite challenge facing food production and good land management within the district. Without investment in these areas, we are in danger of losing farms, investment in regenerative farming and rewilding programmes, and thus food production for the local economy.	The Council does not hold data in relation to infrastructure for farmers. Encouraging local food production and providing food growing opportunities will be addressed through the local plan policies as relevant and will be assessed by the SA.	None

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
SASR1 Christine Tilford	Any other comments	The respondent is concerned about the impact of 'over development' on infrastructure, utilities and the environment within the district.	Future growth and the requirement for infrastructure will be considered as part of the Local Plan and policies will be assessed in the SA.	None
SASR2 Rupert Cutler	PPP – Appendix A	Suggests the inclusion of water and sewerage requirements.	This will be considered as part of the Local Plan Evidence base.	None
	Baseline Data	Suggests the inclusion of the construction of new reservoirs.	South East Water is the delivery body for new reservoirs. The Council will work in partnership with South East Water and will safeguard land should a new reservoir be required within Wealden District.	None
	Sustainability Issues and Objectives	Water shortage and over concentration of building around poor road infrastructure with congestion and pollution should be considered.	The SA Scoping report identifies Wealden as an area of water stress. The issues of water supply and management, transport infrastructure and pollution will be addressed as part of the Local Plan and assessed in the SA.	None
	Sustainability Framework	Considers expansion within the district should be considered as part of the country as a whole, including jobs and infrastructure improvements	It is not the responsibility of the Council to consider the country as a whole, however, national policy is considered as part of plan-making. The provision of jobs and infrastructure, as relevant to Wealden district and the surrounding area is considered as part of the evidence base, the SA and local plan policies.	None
SASR3 John Leng	Any other comments	The response largely focuses on how local services, the provision of jobs, the environment, amenities and infrastructure within the district can cope with vast influxes of people from outside the district and more development.	Matters relating to the requirement for local services, jobs, the environment and infrastructure provision will be taken into account in the evidence base, the SA and local plan policies.	None

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
SASR4 Stephen Hall	Chapter 6 Climate Change and Chapter 9 Housing	All new dwellings should be required to have solar roof panels, with their roofs optimally orientated. All new dwellings should be required to have a gravity connection to the existing public sewer because of the lifetime carbon footprint of running and maintaining pumped sewage infrastructure.	These specific issues have been noted by officers and will be considered as part of the plan making process.	None
	Chapter 14 Wastewater	In order to "improve the infrastructure" of wastewater (and reduce river pollution) there should be no new dwellings connected until the required improvements have been identified and implemented. Specific mention should be made to Redgate Mill WWTW, which serves the majority of Crowborough and is the 2nd worst performing in the R Medway catchment area.	Southern water is the wastewater provider in the district. The Council will work in partnership with Southern Water to understand the current capacity shortfalls and identify opportunities to improve wastewater treatment works as required to support future growth.	None
	Chapter 14 Water	The River Medway itself should be specifically identified along with the Rother and Cuckmere.	New text added at paragraph 14.8-14.15	Amended
	Any other comments	Not an easy document to access.	Noted. The Council has sought to make the document as accessible as possible. Officers will consider how to improve the access of documents in further stages of the Local Plan process.	None
SASR5 Jane Kersel	PPP	There needs to be a policy around driving speeds. There is an ongoing issue with roadside gullies not being kept clear by the council, and inability to mend roads correctly so constant large potholes further eroding roads and our cars. More homes being built will increase the inadequately maintained road surfaces.	National Highways and East Sussex County Council as the Highways Authority are responsible for determining speed limits. They are also the responsible authority for potholes and the clearance of roadside gullies.	None
		Pollution from surface water runoff is a significant factor in compromising the water quality standards. Nothing is mentioned on how this will be reported, managed and effectively sorted	The purpose of the SA Scoping report is to set out the baseline data of the current state of the District. These specific issues will be considered as part of the plan making process and will be assessed by the SA.	None

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
		No new large housing developments should be allowed until a new reservoir has been built. Sewage for new housing needs to be reconsidered grey water from baths/kitchen taps reused for toilets and the garden.	South East Water is the delivery body for new reservoirs and is working in partnership with the Council to safeguard land should a new reservoir be required. Southern Water is the wastewater provider and the Council is working in partnership to improve wastewater treatment works to support future growth.	None
	Sustainability Issues and Objectives	Document fails to address: Permeable landscape design to prevent excess water runoff; Tree protection orders and need for tree planting plans; and Key sustainability building practice for builders/developers.	These matters are addressed in the SA Framework under Flood Risk DMC 3.4; Biodiversity DMC 9.7 and Climate Change adaptation 2.2, which will be used in the assessment of the plan policies and site allocations.	None
	Chapter 19 Table 19.1	Considers the SA Framework is insufficient and is only paying lip service to the issues. Need a committed dedicated and comprehensively enforced strategy	The SA Framework has been prepared in accordance with the legislation and guidance for SA. Its purpose is to assess the sustainability impacts of the proposed policies and allocations within the local plan. A monitoring framework will also be used to assess delivery.	None
	Chapter 19 - Table 19.3	On page 187 of the scoping report, there is no clarity between housing and pollution /and water resources and water quality.	Page 193 sets out the compatibility assessment of the sustainability objectives to identify potential areas of tension which should be considered when preparing the local plan. The matrix identifies that the compatibility is mixed/uncertain.	None
	Chapter 19	Considers the methodology needs far more detail and less waffle. Much of the documentation seems to negate itself.	The SA Methodology has been drafted in line with the regulations and guidance and is therefore considered suitably robust and appropriate for use in the SA.	None
	Any other comments	The consultee questions the expertise of the officers responsible for the report in relation to sustainability, ecology and community development and considers a more ambitious approach to delivery is needed.	The SA is carried out by suitably qualified planning officers using evidence prepared by experts. The Scoping report is not setting out the approach to delivery, this will be set out in the draft Local Plan which will be tested in the SA.	None
SASR6 Felicity Instone	Any other comments	Concerns raised regarding the current rate of building new houses including: • lack of water supply and sewage disposal problems	Comments noted. These matters will all be considered in the development of the Local Plan	None

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
		• difficulty in getting medical appointments • traffic congestion • air pollution • lack of affordable housing • size and type of housing • need for brownfield development • impact of climate change and the environment • encroachment of development upon villages and countryside	strategy and policies and will be tested through the SA.	
SASR7 **Peter Gilks**	Any other comments	Considers commenting on Planning in this country a waste of time and that the government will order whatever it wants as if it was a dictatorship. The general public has no say whatsoever regards the absurdity of the plans.	The consultation on the Scoping Report provided the opportunity for stakeholders and the public, including local residents, to participate in the plan making process and to have an input in its direction. The Council has an obligation to consider the representations (comments) received alongside the available evidence to consider how the emerging Local Plan and other development plan documents should be developed.	None
SASR9 **Paul Lovatt-Smith**	Sustainability Issues	Concerned about the large, private housing developments on greenfield sites, populated by inward migration of mainly elderly people, concentrated in one part of the district (the low weald) placing additional pressure on already over-stretched infrastructure and services, ruining the environment in the process and failing to provide the affordable housing local people need.	Comment noted. These matters will all be considered in the development of the Local Plan strategy and policies and will be tested through the SA to minimise the impact wherever possible and provide suitable mitigation measures.	None
SASR10 **Christine Hanson**	PPP Appendix A	The set of policy documents referenced appears thorough, however, it is not clear what weight will be given to environmental concerns when assessed against housing need. There is, therefore, a danger that the environmental concerns will be minimised when the Local Plan is produced.	The SA will consider the social, economic and environmental effects of the Local Plan policies and site allocations and identify any likely significant impacts of the proposals as required by the SEA Regulations. Where impacts are identified mitigation measures and cumulative impacts need to be considered.	None

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
	Chapter 5 Population & Community 5.5	• There appears to be no baseline data relating to migration IN to Wealden (external migration). • Local knowledge indicates that many of the new developments (particularly around Stone Cross) have been occupied by people moving from London and the home counties, taking advantage of lower house prices, the trend for flexible working from home and ability to commute from Polegate or Westham to London. • There is also no data on the number of homes purchased by 1st time buyers.	Noted. Table 5.6 added. Information is not available on the other two points.	Amended
	Chapter 5 Population & Community 5.2	Population growth estimates, indicating a rising older population seem to have taken ageing into account but not factored in the potential for the existing 75+ age bracket to be reduced through naturally occurring life expectancy.	Paragraph 5.2 of the SA Scoping Report summarises the differences in Wealden District to its age structure between the 2011 and 2021 censuses and this is shown at Table 5.1. This information factors in natural mortality rates for those over 75+.	None
	SA Methodology	On page 187 of the scoping report, there is no clarity between housing and pollution /and water resources and water quality. It is implied that there is no relationship between housing and flood risk.	The compatibility assessment of the sustainability objectives identifies potential areas of tension, which should be considered when preparing the local plan. The matrix identifies that the compatibility between the objectives of housing and pollution is mixed/uncertain.	None
	Any other comments	Consultee concerned that the SA Scoping report allows for consideration of "land banking" and the number of sites with planning consent that developers are choosing not to build on or complete. The Local Plan should enable planners to take into consideration areas where planning consent has been granted, to withhold consent until building is in progress and not to consider further applications from housebuilders who are not "building out".	Matters relating to land banking, build out rates and completions are beyond the scope of the SA Scoping Report. Detailed information on sites that have planning consent are available on the Council's website. In addition, information on planning consents, build out rates and completions are presented in the Council's latest Authority Monitoring Report (AMR), which is also available on the Council's website. Legislation does not currently allow for consent to be withheld.	None
	Any other comments	• Would like more detail on the size/type of homes required, to ensure that consents are given for the	The Local Plan evidence base, in particular, the Wealden Local Housing Needs Assessment (August 2021) sets out the housing mix requirements through	None

ID Consultee	Issue	Summary of Comments	WDC Response	Proposed Changes
LOCAL COMMUNITY				
		types of homes needed, not the ones that are most profitable to build. • Would like to see more consideration given to infrastructure needs - particularly medical and educational - and to ensure that planning consents cannot be given until after these are in place or in development.	the Local Plan. The District's requirements for housing, including the size and type, will be considered in the development of the relevant policies. The Local Plan will be supported by an Infrastructure Development Plan (IDP) which will identify the infrastructure required to support development. The phasing of development will also be considered alongside the timing of infrastructure delivery.	
SASR11 Richard Harris	Chapter 6 Climate Change	• There is a fallacy that there is a climate emergency and that the data for Wealden does not support this claim. Climate change models have proved unreliable indicators of change to date. A more wider ranging discussion is needed. • Costly efforts to reduce Wealden's carbon footprint will have no effect on the climate. • The blanketing of the rural environment with unsightly solar panels and wind turbines should be greatly resisted given that they are an expensive source of energy. • The issues of energy transmission and the disposal of non-recyclable solar panels and wind turbines every 20 years or so need to be considered. • The solution should be nuclear energy and small nuclear reactors should be accommodated in the district, with less environmental impact. • All new houses should be built with solar panels fitted as standard. • Heat pumps are inefficient and incapable of heating many existing properties while fully electric systems will be very expensive to operate. • Disagrees strongly on the timescale to achieve net zero. • There are serious issues with EV charging point capacity.	These matters have been noted by officers and will be considered further in the development of the Council's Climate Change evidence base and policies in the new Local Plan and as part of the SA process.	None

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
	Chapter 11 Economy	• The impact of recent 'growth' in this area has been more traffic congestion; more air, light and noise pollution and longer waits to see a doctor or find an NHS dentist. • The major town centres are physically constrained and cannot be expanded without massive regeneration involving demolition of large areas. • Residents are fed up with fields being destroyed by new housing estates which are changing the historical nature of these towns. • Imperative villages are not spoilt. • Larger villages have seen large increases in housing development. Settlements that lie on main roads are, in general, better suited to accommodating more housing. However, often lack amenities resulting in many more car journeys. • All large scale developments around the major towns should cease. Only small developments should be permitted around these towns and the larger villages. Only very limited infill housing should be allowed in the smaller villages. • Preferred option would be a 'new town' with environmentally sensitive community with all new modern amenities and facilities while preserving the character of the existing. The area on the west of the Wealden boundary adjacent to Ringmer would be the best location. • Second option would be the infill of the area between Hailsham and Polegate including development to the west of the A22. The area has established and fairly good transport links. Concentrating the majority of new development in this area would be the best way to minimise the overall environmental impact/damage of new housing.	These matters have been noted by officers and will be considered in the evidence base, the relevant local plan policies and the SA.	None

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
	Chapter 17 Transport	• Road transport infrastructure improvement should be confined to improving the major road junctions. • No new roads should be built [with the exception of linking the 'new town' or Hailsham south extension plan to the existing main road network. • Rail transport has very little potential for reducing the role of road vehicle use. • Apart from recreation, cycling is an impracticable form of transport. This fact must be recognised when making the constant reference to the benefits of cycling. Cycling along main roads e.g. A22 is unpleasant and dangerous. Improvements along other major routes would be extremely well received; with safe cycle paths and crossing points. • Compared to the convenience of 'jumping into the car' bus travel is greatly inferior. However, to those without a car a bus is a vital necessity that should be maintained even it requires considerable subsidy.	These matters have been noted by officers and will be considered as part of the evidence base, the new Local Plan policies and the SA.	None
	Chapter 5 Population & Community	• The local increase in population is being driven by a corresponding rise in the national population partly fuelled by uncontrolled immigration which has led to many people leaving the city centres. • A considerable increase in the number of new homes required to be built in Wealden is forecast and planned by Central Government in the coming years. • Meaningful consultation is needed on whether we want any houses built at all and if so, where.	These matters have been noted by officers and will be considered as part of the evidence base, the SA and local plan policies.	None
	Chapter 14 Water	• The area suffers from water shortages in dry periods exacerbated by the very large increase in house building in the district. • Water capacity should be a top priority when considering large scale planning applications.	These matters have been noted by officers and will be considered as part of the evidence base, the SA and local plan policies	None

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
	Any other comments	The scoping report is long and not a particularly easy read, which I believe will result in relatively few respondents from individual residents.	Comment noted.	None
SASR23 Chris Bower	Any other comments	Consultee cannot see how the proposed growth of the District can in any way be considered sustainable as the District is largely devoid of railway lines, public road transport is poor, water supplies are questionable in terms of long-term sustainability, the ability of the sewerage service to deal with wastewater discharges in heavy rain is disturbingly weak and population is projected to increase.	Matters of growth and sustainability will be considered as part of the plan-making process and will be assessed by the SA. Matters relating to the requirement for infrastructure provision, including healthcare provision will be taken into account through the evidence base, the SA and local plan policies. All infrastructure provision will be dealt with through the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP), which will support the Local Plan.	None
		Considers the SA is a tick-box exercise that has nothing to do with sustainability.	The SA is being carried out in accordance with the regulations and guidance. The SA will assess the likely significant social, economic and environmental impacts of the Local Plan policies and site allocations.	None
SASR26 Laurence Keeley	Any other comments	Consultee raises concerns regarding house prices, mortgages, building more for prisons, and the amount of housing being built on green field land. Promotes the use of Community Land Trusts.	Comments noted. The new Local Plan provides the opportunity to identify a sufficient supply of sites to meet needs and aims to balance future growth with environmental protection.	None
SASR29 Nicola Kinghorn	Chapter 6 Climate Change	Considers the target of Net zero by 2050 as very unambitious. All new buildings, commercial buildings in particular, should have the facility to use grey water and to have solar panels on their roofs?	Sustainable design and construction policies will be prepared as part of the Local Plan, which will consider such issues.	None
	Chapter 6 Climate Change Para 6.1	Emissions discussed are limited to CO2. We need to consider methane and nitrous oxide. Wealden is an agricultural area and 47% of the UK's methane, 68% of its nitrous oxide come from agriculture. This is particularly dangerous as housing is pushed into increasingly close proximity with farms, farms are expanding to impinge on existing housing.	The emissions given are CO_2e or carbon dioxide equivalent, which is the collective term used for various greenhouse gas emissions. Figure 6.2 provides the CO_2e for the agricultural sector in Wealden. Chapter 7 of the SA Scoping Report focuses on air pollution, and this includes nitrogen dioxide, amongst other air pollutants, which are monitored within the district and reported on in the Air	None

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
			Quality Annual Status Reports for the district. The latest Report can be found on our website. The relevant tables and text will be updated following the latest Report.	
	Chapter 7 Air, Light and Noise	This section is very thin on PM2.5 which is a mistake in this rural / farming area. 60% of the UK's PM2.5 comes from farming ('Science' 4/11/21) and this is important as housing comes into increasing proximity with farms.	Noted. The baseline data is taken from the latest Air Quality Annual Status Reports for the district.	None
	Chapter 7 Air, Light and Noise Paragraph 7.5	Para 7.5 asserts that 'there are no areas in the district where members of the public are exposed to concentrations of NO2, O3, SO2 , PM10 or PM2.5 in excess of the AQS objectives…'.To my knowledge the District does not have access to the equipment with which to measure PM2.5 so I do not consider it is correct to make this assertion. Particulate Matter refers only to urban sites. In this District farms are more important sites, this is a significant omission.	Noted. The Council reports on the 'air quality of the district' through the Air Quality Annual Status Reports, which cover NO2, O3, SO2 , PM10 and PM2.5. The most recent report (2023) concludes that currently there are no areas in Wealden where members of the public are exposed to concentrations of these pollutants in excess of the UK Air Quality Strategy (AQS) objectives. The methodology applied for data collection meets the Governments requirements for air quality monitoring.	None
SASR32 Simon Cramond	Chapter 2 Sustainable Development Para. 2.10	Why is the HRA only against SACs, SPA's and Ramsar sites? I would expect an HRA for site specific impacts for any development proposal above a certain threshold.	The regulations only relate to designated habitat sites i.e. SPAs and SACs. The NPPF also states that Ramsar sites should be considered in the same way as a habitat site.	None
	Chapter 6 Climate Change Para. 6.36	The local plan could do more to address adaptation to climate change eg through expanded tree planting in urban areas and towns.	Matters relating to climate change adaptation will be considered in the evidence base and development of the local plan policies, which will be assessed in the SA.	None
	Chapter 9 Housing Para. 9.20	Wealden has less than half the quantity of Social Rented tenure when compared with England and would like to know if there are plans, policies etc to address this imbalance?	All matters relating to housing tenure will be addressed in the evidence base, and development of local plan policies, which will be assessed in the SA.	None
	Chapter 4 Baseline Overview Para. 4.8 and 4.9	There is insufficient baseline data for the farming sector eg land use, types of farming, numbers of farms, number of dependent SMEs directly dependent on farming and the rural economy. As mentioned in 4.8, one of Wealden's principal assets is its high quality	Comment noted. The Council does not hold specific data for the farming sector. Table 11.1 sets out that the agricultural, energy and water employment category in Wealden. Table 13.1 also sets out further	None

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
		environment and farming/rural economy are key contributors to this environment.	details on the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) in Wealden District.	
	Chapter 7 Air, Light and Noise Para. 7.4	Extrapolating ozone data based on one site (on the southern tip of the district in a SSSI, far away from any traffic) is insufficient. Better measurement is required, especially in areas that actually have some traffic.	Comment noted. The data collected is considered sufficient and meets requirements.	None
	Chapter 8 Health and Wellbeing	There is no baseline data on NHS Dental access in Wealden and this is a major omission from the Health and Wellbeing section.	Comment noted and paragraph 8.29 added as well as Table 8.2.	Amended
	Chapter 8 Health and Wellbeing	There is no data on public footpaths and bridleways; walking and travelling along these is a major recreation and is also a factor in tourism	The data available is limited to the information in the Scoping Report. Wealden has an extensive footpath and bridleway network, which is generally maintained and managed by East Sussex County Council, however data on the levels of use and the condition of each PROW is not available.	None
SASR36 David Marlow	Chapter 4 Overview	A reference to the evidence base of Neighbourhood Plans, should be included as well as of the Local Plan.	Noted. The main data sources are listed. There are of course other data sources that are not listed here but that does not mean that such data sources are not used when appropriate.	None
	Chapter 5 Population & Community	Suggest the following tweaks are made: i. In addition to highlighting the housing needs of certain groups, meeting overall local housing needs should be highlighted. ii. The evidence points to the key demographic trend being the substantial increase in older people in the population, so this group should also be highlighted.	Comments noted. Text has been amended to take into account comments at page 13.	Amended
	Chapter 5 Population & Community	It is stated that, 'Without a Local Plan', there is "Potential for out-migration of young people to continue due to a lack of affordable homes and the availability of suitable higher-paid employment opportunities in the district." Another reason is the lack of higher education locally, both of which are cited elsewhere in the Report.	Noted. Text amended at page 20.	Amended
	Chapter 6 Climate (page 33)	Paragraph 6.6 shows a footnote 14, but this is not provided?	Noted. This was an error. Footnote 18 has been amended.	Amended

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
		It is stated that the likely evolution without a Local Plan will involve "Development comes forward in areas at risk of flooding from any source". However, there is strong national policy in the NPPF to prevent this, irrespective of a Local Plan. Rather, it is suggested that the likely evolution would be that "Development comes forward without full consideration of cumulative and downstream flood risks"	Noted. Chapter 6, Likely Evolution without the Local Plan, sixth bullet point has been amended to reflect this point.	Amended
	Chapter 16 Landscape & Townscape	The "KEY PPPs" refer to the Wealden Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) 2022, but the first quoted LCA is the East Sussex LCA. Therefore, it should refer to **"East Sussex and Wealden LCAs".**	Comment noted. Text has been amended and East Sussex Landscape Character Assessment (2016) added to the Key PPPs	Amended
		Paragraph 16.15. There should be an acknowledgment of the impact on settlement pattern, by amending the second sentence to read: **These developments can all result in a negative impact on landscape character in terms of fragmentation of the landscape, the erosion of the pattern and character of settlements, a loss of tranquillity and a decline in biodiversity.**	Noted. Paragraph 16.15 has been amended.	Amended
	Chapter 19 Table 19.1 DMC 3.2	DMC 3.2 - Avoid development in areas vulnerable to the impacts of climate change? This criterion comes under the 'Flood Risk' Objective, so would be better expressed in flood risk terms, as well as highlighting the impact of development on flood risk areas, even though development is not in them. Suggest redrafting to read: **"Avoid development in higher flood risk areas or in adjacent areas which would increase flood risks, having regard to climate change?"**	Noted. DMC 3.2 has been amended.	Amended
	Chapter 19 Table 19.1 DMC 9.9	DMC 9.9 - Seek to secure a minimum of 10% biodiversity net gain? This is a national policy requirement, so should be worded more positively, to provide encouragement to proposals that provide significant BNG; e.g. **"(Likely to) provide biodiversity net gain well in excess of minimum requirements".**	Noted. DMC 9.9 has been amended.	Amended

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
	Chapter 19 Table 19.1 DMC 10.6	DMC10.6 - Protect and enhance the settlement, its character and its setting including sensitive design? It would be appropriate to refer to the distinct identity, as well as character of settlements, and to improve the phrasing; i.e. **Protect and enhance the character, distinct identities and setting of settlements, including sensitive design?**	Noted. DMC 10.6 has been amended.	Amended
	Chapter 19 Table 19.1 DMC 14.1	DCM 14.1- There is no indicator to provide a basis for understanding what are regarded as "sustainable locations" and, therefore, how this criterion can be applied. It is suggested that it needs to include an indicator that provides the basis for assessing the sustainability of different settlements or, at least, states that this will have regard to the role and function of the settlement.	Comment noted. The wording of DCM 14.1 has been considered further but will remain the same **"Contribute to housing supply and deliver homes in sustainable locations?".** Sustainable locations will be considered as part of the Plan-making process and its associated evidence base, and the policies assessed by the SA.	None
	Chapter 19 Table 19.1 DMC 14.2	DCM 14.2 - While the Objective refers to "To provide housing that meets local needs", this is not clearly carried through into any of the criteria. It would be appropriate to expand the scope of 14.2 to read: **"Contribute to meeting local housing needs, including for affordable homes?"**	Noted. DMC 14.2 has been amended.	Amended
SASR38 and SASR39 Cherry Lavell	Any other comments	The response largely focuses on over development and the general lack of infrastructure within the district. It also notes that there is a general need to take time to consider balance of the needs of the community at large.	Future growth and the requirement for infrastructure will be considered as part of the SA and the Local Plan. The new Local Plan will take a balanced approach in addressing the development needs of the wider area.	None
		It is considered that there is a tendency for developers to dodge or circumvent the duty to provide affordable housing, and/or housing for local residents rather than wealthy incomers and build on the flood plain. The bad performance by utilities, for example water suppliers is also noted.	The Local Plan will consider infrastructure provision and improvements in parallel with new development. Affordable housing and flood risk will be taken account of in the emerging evidence, SA and Local Plan policies.	None
		The response notes that the Scoping Report is a complex document and believes it is rather unfair of the Council to expect ordinary citizens to weigh in on such	The SA is a statutory process, which must be subject to consultation. The Scoping Report consultation provided the opportunity for stakeholders, including	None

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
		esoteric matters as planning law. The response also touchs on the length of the consultation document and time it would take to read and understand the content of the document.	local residents, to participate in the plan-making process and have an input on its direction. The Council has an obligation to consider the representations received as well as the available evidence to consider how the Plan and its associated documents should be developed.	
		The Consultee would expect the views of people to be properly taken into account, and questions if the consultation is more like 'going through the motions' so that a consultation has taken place?		None
SASR40 **John Christopher Wollaston**	Any other comments	**Trust in Local Democracy:** Our elected district representatives and salaried council officers should be trusted to formulate a plan that's in accordance with the democratic wishes of the people living in Wealden because they know what is right for our district, not people who work in Bristol or Westminster.	The Council is committed to undertake meaningful involvement in the planning process and has an obligation to involve local people, including Councillors to achieve better outcomes for the delivery of its planning services. The Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how the Council will achieve effective engagement with local communities, businesses and other stakeholders on local planning decisions so that they can get involved in shaping the places where they live, work and play.	None
		Overdevelopment: Our region is possibly one of the most densely populated areas in Europe because of over development. Currently, developers are permitted to build large estates on green field sites with big houses for people moving from outside the area and not providing affordable housing for local people. Perhaps proof of being 'local' as a condition could be investigated similar to schemes in the West Country.	These issues have been noted by Officers and will be considered further as part of plan-making. Future growth and the requirement for infrastructure will be considered as part of the SA and the Local Plan.	None

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
		Moratorium: I propose that WDC immediately introduce a Moratorium on medium and large developments until the Local Plan is developed and in operation. It's been done before so isn't unprecedented. In the meantime, consideration could be given to small developments of a few affordable dwellings on an infill basis, preferably on brown field sites. This moratorium would give Wealden the opportunity to begin to mitigate the existing major issues such as: traffic congestion, state of the roads, water outages, new reservoir, sewage, flooding, access to GPs and dentists, long hospital waiting lists in conjunction with ESCC, the utilities and other agencies whose responsibility is to provide these services	Noted. This issue is beyond the scope of the SA Scoping Report. As part of the plan-making process, we are working with East Sussex County Council and other service providers on an ongoing basis to help address shortfalls in public transport, water supply, healthcare and educational facilities.	None
		Limited Available Space: Taking into consideration protected areas like Ashdown Forest, The South Downs National Park, The High Weald plus AONBs, SSIs and private estates, the situation is the Lower Weald is mainly left to bear the brunt of new housing. It's painfully obvious the Lower Weald is already massively overcrowded and the infrastructure and facilities cannot cope. So, at least a moratorium would allow time and some respite in order to restore some balance and a better quality of life for the citizens of Wealden.	These issues have been noted by Officers. The Council is committed to balancing future growth with the protection and enhancement of the district's natural environment. The issue of Moratorium is beyond the scope of the SA Scoping Report.	None

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
	Any other comments	**Types of Future Development:** • No more development on flood plains. • Priority given to brown-field sites for future development. • Agricultural land has to be a last choice option • Local parish opinion must trump all outside pressures. • Consensus must be sought at all times prior to any new development. • New dwellings and industrial buildings should have solar PV with consideration for battery storage plus solar thermal encouraged. • National Grid has insufficient capacity to carry the projected peak loads generated by new large-scale solar farms, local energy storage must be explored to help with sustainability. • Consideration should be given to vehicle to grid systems. • Waste recycling must be improved.	The types and location of future development will be considered as part of the plan-making process and tested in the SA.	None
	Any other comments	**Public Cynicism & Apapthy:** Many ask, "Are we actually wasting our time responding to this 'scoping' exercise because once again we'll be ignored?" So many have become very cynical about whether we enjoy a truly democratic local process in Wealden and wonder if the same will happen to this new plan? So often 'consultation' and 'listening' exercises tick a box in the planning process.	Noted. The Council hopes that by acknowledging and reviewing these responses it gives you some assurance that your input is valued, and that the concerns you raise are being listened to. The issues will be addressed where possible but in line with legislation, national guidance and government policy.	None
SASR45 Douglas Murray	Chapter 9 Housing	Why is there no mention of bungalow stock in the tables? There should be concern also about the numbers being converted as this has an impact on school and medical provision.	Noted. The Council has some information on bungalow stock within the district as part of the LHNA (August, 2021) (see paragraphs 10.40 to 10.48). The main findings have been added to the SA Scoping Report at paragraph 9.27.	Amended
	Chapter 17 Transport Para. 17.19 and 17.20	Modelling for vehicle movement will have been reset by the pandemic'. Work From Home and travel times and congestion eased. There are no projections of how the	Noted. The Council in conjunction with East Sussex County Council and adjoining District and Borough Councils have commissioned a Transport Study to	None

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
		road network would cope; the congestion; increased likelihood of accidents; etc. This will be important in informing scope for development in the South Weald particularly. There is no attempt to present data on traffic congestion other than for East Sussex where there is Dept. of Transport data on individual A-roads with the A2270 being awarded the most congested A-road in England prize (Baseline data 1719, 17.20) Why no breakdown to individual A-roads?	assess the impact of population growth and new development on the highways network. This modelling work will be used to inform the Local Plan and will be published accordingly. This will include a consideration of traffic both pre and post covid in accordance with the Department for Transport (DfT) Guidance.	
	Chapter 9 Health and Wellbeing	There seem limited if any metrics to guide planning - Local hospital beds per head of served population: National / East Sussex / within Wealden Number of GPs per head of population: National / East Sussex / Wealden / By Parish/Town.	The provision of local hospital beds and GPs' currently and into the future is the responsibility of NHS Sussex Integrated Care Board (ICB). The Council is working closely with the ICB in establishing where new services may be required as a result of future growth. Where an adverse impact is identified by the ICB the Council will work with developers to ensure that provision of medical facilities is included within major development design. The process for calculating demand is complicated and in general metrics are not easily available.	None
		Green space is important to our wellbeing. No statistics on erosion of Green Space per Parish due to development and proportionately how much Green Space remains in each Parish/Town.	The NPPF seeks to protect open / green spaces. The recently published Open Space Assessment report and the Open Space Parish Summaries, identify areas within the District to be improved, retained or protected.	None
		There is no indication of the costs (car parking, mileage costs/Public Transport costs) for accessing equivalent 'Green Space" in walking distance when "Green Space" in a Parish / Town is removed by development nor the Climate Change Pollution from the use of a vehicle to achieve this.	Noted. The Council does not have such specific detailed data available. However, accessibility to open space and impacts of climate change from development will be considered in the SA.	None
		There are no statistics of the extra strain placed upon existing recreational facilities from developments without playing fields (based on 6 acres per thousand population) and when those legacy playing fields are	Noted. The recently published Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Assessment Report and the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy and Action Plan have sought to identify and make recommendations	None

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LOCAL COMMUNITY				
		already only a fraction of the area required to serve the existing population?	regarding the shortfall of provision for a series of sport related facilities including playing fields, pitches, cricket squares and similar. The recommendations will be used to inform planning policies in the Local Plan. Where required development will contribute towards the delivery of new open space facilities, either as a financial contribution for the maintenance of existing provision or as new open space provision on site.	
		The information on the "Green Space" and " Playing Fields" needs to be on a Parish/Town basis to inform where there are distinct areas of Green Space /Playing fields deprivation. (This is becoming particularly relevant in the southern Parishes in the South Weald conurbations.)	The recently published Open Space Assessment report , Open Space Parish Summaries, and Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy Assessment Report identify areas within the district to be improved, retained or protected. References have been added to the report. This evidence is being used to inform the development of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and the emerging Wealden Local Plan. The Parish Summaries identify areas on a local / Parish basis.	Amended
	Any other comments	Wealden is the largest East Sussex Tier 1 Council by area and population. It has large protected areas whether designated as ANOB, SSSI, or at its borders with SDNP as well as rural areas which do not offer 'sustainable' development opportunities covering two-thirds or more of its area and having significant impact on the District planning. It would be more helpful if these zones were separately identified and the over-development in some areas more easily identified.	Noted. The SA Scoping Report sets out the baseline to inform the development of the local policies. The sustainability of policy proposals, in particular the spatial options to inform the strategy for development, will be assessed in the SA at the next stage of the Local Plan (Regulation 18), which will be published for consultation.	None
		Some data for Wealden may not be divisible by Town and Parish but should be a priority for informing for planning decisions, especially for the areas already suffering urban sprawl: e.g. Crowborough & environs and the South Weald:- Polegate, Willingdon, Stone Cross, Westham, Pevensey, Hailsham with deprivation in removal of previous and remaining rural environment.	The Council considers available data and at the scale relevant to the matter at hand in the plan-making process and also the SA.	None