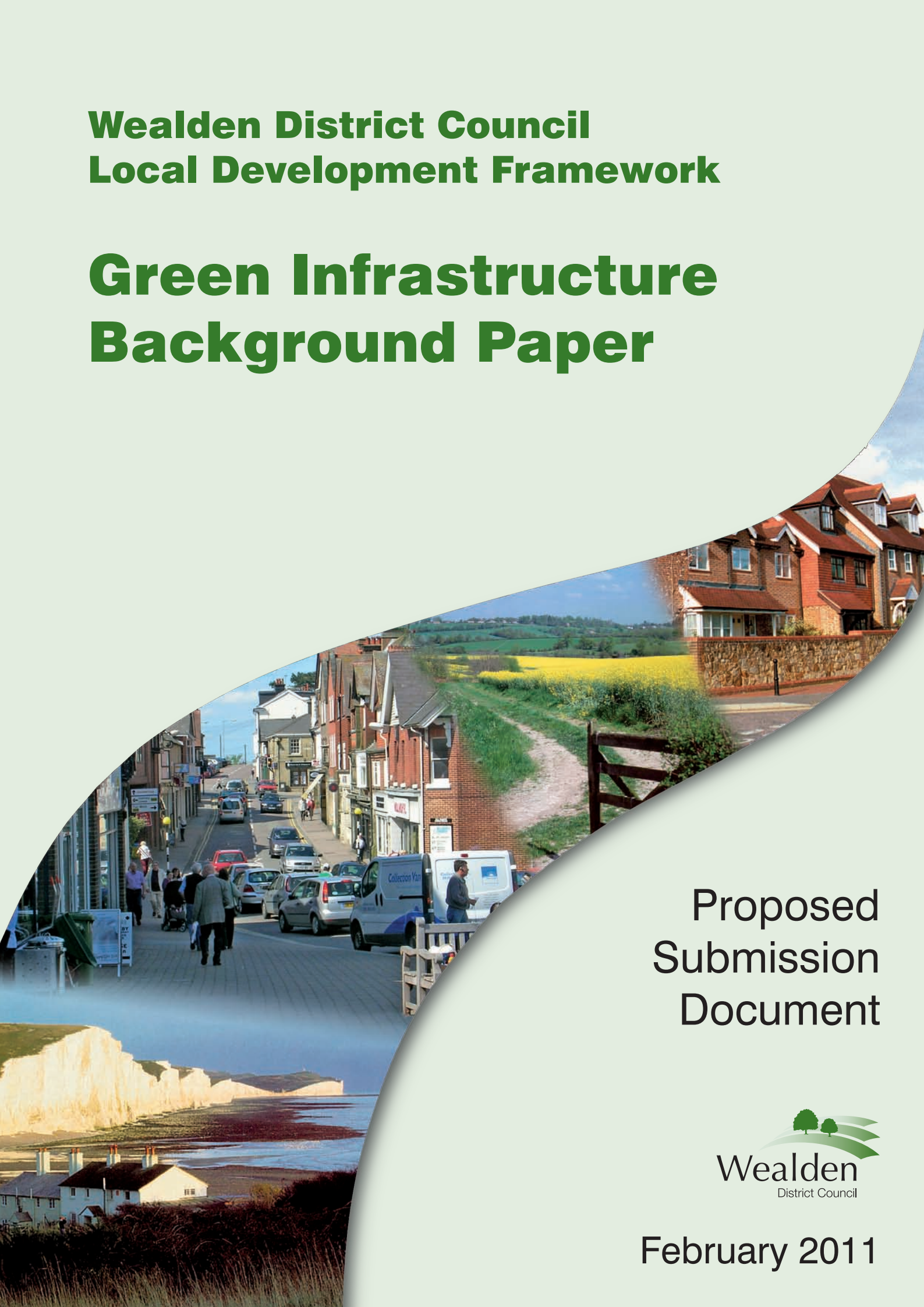
Wealden District Council
Local Development Framework

Green Infrastructure Background Paper



Proposed Submission Document

Wealden District Council

February 2011

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If you, or somebody you know, would like the information contained in this document in large print, Braille, tape/CD or in another language please contact Wealden District Council on 01323 443322 or info@wealden.gov.uk



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1 Background

1.1 The Council has prepared a series of background papers to accompany the Proposed Submission Core Strategy. The papers cover a range of issues and provide technical and detailed information, derived from a number of our specialist studies, which informs the content of the Proposed Submission Core Strategy.

These background Papers are:

BP1: Development of the Proposed Submission Core Strategy

BP2: Managing the Delivery of Housing

BP3: The Economy and the Provision of Jobs

BP4: Provision for Gypsies and Travellers

BP5: Biodiversity

BP6: Green Infrastructure

BP7: Summary of Town Masterplanning Documents

BP8: Summary of Core Strategy Consultation and Participation

BP9: Assessment of the Proposed Submission Core Strategy under the Habitat Regulations

BP 10: Sustainability Appraisal of the Proposed Submission Core Strategy

BP 11: Infrastructure Delivery Plan

BP12: Equalities Impact Assessment

BP13: Implementation and Monitoring Framework

1.2 This Background Paper, entitled Green Infrastructure, provides information and analysis on how relevant policy, guidance and evidence has been used to inform the Core Strategy vision, objectives and policy in relation to the provision and enhancement of green infrastructure.

1 Background

2 Introduction

2.1 This paper represents the first stage of Wealden's Green Infrastructure Strategy by setting out Wealden's green infrastructure assets and exploring a number of key issues surrounding green infrastructure in Wealden. This includes gathering and analysing local evidence in regards to the state of the environment and quality of existing green infrastructure assets.

2.2 The final section on recommendations outlines Wealden's approach to green infrastructure, at a District level and sets out our commitment to ensure that development is designed in a way that contributes to networks of green space and to the provision of green infrastructure, especially where there is an identified need. This in turn will help to create functional and connected places with a distinctive and attractive character, and will contribute to the creation of sustainable communities within Wealden District.

2 Introduction

3 What is green infrastructure?

3.1 As defined in Planning Policy Statement12: Local Spatial Planning[1] (PPS12) "green infrastructure is a network of multi-functional green space, both new and existing, both rural and urban, which supports the natural and ecological processes and is integral to the health and quality of life of sustainable communities".

3.2 Green infrastructure provides a new proactive approach to planning and where, rather than focusing on specific areas of land, there is now a requirement to consider the wider environment and the connections between spaces. The aim of green infrastructure planning is therefore to ensure that a network of multifunctional green space is provided both in and around urban areas, to strengthen the relationship between market towns, settlements and the surrounding countryside.

3.3 Green infrastructure can provide many social, environmental and economic benefits and functions including:

- Enhancing the quality of places;
- Providing space for biodiversity;
- Aiding flood and water management;
- Creating sporting, recreation and leisure opportunities;
- Supporting people's health and well-being;
- Helping people to grow food, bio fuels and other natural products;
- Helping areas adapt to climate change;
- Providing visitor attractions;
- Supporting economic growth;
- Enhancing land and property values;
- Increasing accessibility;
- Supporting labour productivity.

3.4 Green infrastructure can include both new and existing green spaces, which should pass through and surround the built environment. A key important factor however, is the creation and maintenance of linkages between green spaces.

3.5 In accordance with Natural England Guidance[2], green infrastructure can include:

- Parks and gardens - including urban parks, country parks and formal gardens;
- Natural and semi-natural urban greenspaces - including woodlands, urban forestry, scrub, grasslands (e.g. downlands, commons and meadows) wetlands, open and running water, wastelands and derelict open land and rock areas (e.g. cliffs, quarries and pits);
- Green corridors - including river and canal banks, cycleways, and rights of way;

1 Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Spatial Planning (Department of Local Communities and Government, 2008)
2 Green Infrastructure Guidance (Natural England, 2009)

- Outdoor sports facilities (with natural and artificial surfaces, either publicly or privately owned) - including tennis courts, bowling greens, sports pitches, golf courses, athletics tracks, school and other institutional playing fields, and other outdoor sports areas;
- Amenity greenspace - including informal recreation spaces, greenspaces in and around housing, domestic gardens and village greens;
- Provision for children and teenagers - including play areas, skateboard parks, outdoor basketball hoops and other more informal areas (e.g. 'hanging out' areas, teenage shelters);
- Allotments, community gardens, and city (urban) farms;
- Cemeteries and churchyards;
- Accessible countryside in urban fringe areas;
- River and canal corridors; and
- Green roofs and walls

3.6 However, in accordance with both National and Regional Guidance, green infrastructure does not include the provision of indoor sports or recreation facilities. It is important however, not to overlook the obvious social and well-being benefits that these types of facilities can bring. The Council's PPG17 Assessment (Kit Campbell Associates, December 2008, amended April 2010), analysed indoor leisure facilities as well as outdoor provision, including community halls, swimming pools and sports halls. The Council's recent Leisure Options Appraisal (PMP Genesis consultants, December 2009), also analysed both indoor and outdoor leisure provision, with a view to the potential production of a long term leisure strategy. It is therefore important to remember that the outdoor leisure facilities considered here, form only part of a wider picture in terms of leisure provision across the District.

4 Methodology

4.1 National Policy / Strategy / Guidance has been reviewed for the purpose of identifying requirements in respect of green infrastructure matters which the Local Development Framework and our Core Strategy in particular, will need to address at both a strategic and local scale.

4.2 The Wealden Sustainable Community Strategy has also been reviewed to determine the relationship between green infrastructure benefits and the long-term objectives of the Strategy. Key priorities and areas of potential conflict between planning for green infrastructure and the long-term vision for the District were also identified.

4.3 Both the outcome of the Wealden Issues and Options Consultation Paper from 2007 and the Spatial Development Options Consultation 2009 have been examined in respect of comments received which are felt to have a bearing upon green infrastructure provision**.**

4.4 Other local plans and strategies relevant to green infrastructure have also been reviewed to ensure that local plans and strategies are considered and integrated into the process of identifying objectives, deficits and green infrastructure policy direction.

4.5 Existing information and evidence in relation to green infrastructure has been reviewed to understand the District's current provision of green infrastructure. In particular the District commissioned Kit Campbell Associates to provide a strategic overview and detailed inventory of such assets across the District[3]. Copies of that report are available on the Council's website[4]. This included detailed consultation with our parish and town councils to verify the information coming forward from this work.

4.6 To provide a coherent understanding of Wealden's green infrastructure, it was necessary to divide Wealden's green infrastructure resources into a number of different themes. These themes include open space and accessibility, green corridors and access links, landscape character, biodiversity, , ecosystems, hydrology and climate change and cultural heritage.

4.7 In relation to Wealden's open space, evidence was reviewed in relation to the quantity of provision, the quality of provision as well as the accessibility of natural and semi-natural green space within the District. Using the existing evidence, current deficiencies and current need / demand were identified at three different scales; District wide, District area[5] and at a local scale covering the five main towns. Due to the rural nature of some of Wealden's settlements, it was not felt necessary for the purpose of the Core Strategy to provide in depth analysis of those smaller settlements. These settlements will therefore be addressed through the District area analysis at this stage[6].

3 Wealden PPG17 Assessment (Kit Campbell Associates, December 2008, amended April 2010).
4 Evidence Base for Core Strategy www.wealden.gov.uk
5 Areas within the district were identified based on how far people are willing to travel to access types of open space.
6 Please note that the green infrastructure strategy will be a living document and will be updated in more detail at the Strategic Sites DPD and at the Development and Site Allocations DPD.

4.8 Apart from open space analysis, it is not possible to fully quantify deficiency in and need for, green infrastructure and its functions. Therefore, the other themes (Biodiversity, Landscape etc) were analysed to identify whether there are any apparent issues surrounding the green infrastructure asset or indeed the function which they provide which could contribute to policy formulation.

4.9 Within each of the themes, priorities, opportunities, key issues and challenges were identified to inform the overall green infrastructure Proposed Submission Core Strategy objectives.

4.10 Finally our options for a green infrastructure policy were tested within the Sustainability Appraisal of the Proposed Submission Core Strategy and a preferred policy option identified.

5 National Planning Policy

5.1 The inclusion of green infrastructure in national planning policy is an important landmark in strategic and environmental planning. It represents the Government's commitment to meeting its sustainable development objectives. This in essence seeks to ensure that development should be delivered in a way which protects and enhances the natural environment and provides places which contribute to quality of life and health and well-being of those living and working in the community.

5.2 Currently, national planning policy on green infrastructure is set out in a number of Planning Policy Statements (PPS's).

PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development

Establishes sustainable development to be the core principle underpinning planning and outlines the Government's commitment to developing sustainable communities, protecting the natural and historic environment, the prudent use of natural resources and promoting sustainable economic development. The guidance identifies that development plan policies should take account of the protection of important and valued landscapes, biodiversity and the provision of open space.

Supplement to PPS1: Planning and climate change

Underlies the benefits that can be achieved from existing and new opportunities for green infrastructure to urban cooling, sustainable drainage systems and to the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity.

PPS7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas

Sets out the Government's planning policies for rural areas, including country towns and villages, agriculture, landscape, forestry and tourism and leisure. Broadly speaking the document emphasises the role of the planning system in rural areas to ensure the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and improving quality of life.

PPS9: Biological and Geological Conservation

Sets out the Government's planning policies on the protection of biodiversity and geological conservation. The policy requires Local Authorities to protect, conserve and enhance certain sites, habitats and species and calls for an integrated approach in planning for biodiversity. This includes protecting, restoring and creating networks of natural habitats as part of a wider strategy for protecting and enhancing open space and access routes such as canals and rivers, including those within urban areas. The policies suggest that all development should have at least a neutral, if not beneficial impact upon biodiversity. Further detail on how this can be achieved is given in the accompanying best practice guidance to this PPS.

PPS12: Local Spatial Planning

Establishes that the Core Strategy should be supported by evidence of what physical, social and green infrastructure is needed to deliver sustainable communities. The evidence should cover who will provide the infrastructure and when it will be provided. (This will be an ongoing process through the development of other DPDs).

PPG17: Sport and Recreation

Requires Local Authorities to undertake open space audits and assessments. The guidance confirms that such assessment can be used to inform green infrastructure planning at both the strategic and local scale.

PPS25: Development and Flood Risk

Sets out the Government's policy on development and flood risk management. It specifically refers to making the most of the benefits of green infrastructure for flood storage, conveyance and sustainable drainage systems (SUDS) and re-creating functional floodplains and setting back flood defences.

Planning Policy Consultation paper: Planning for a Natural and Healthy Environment

In March 2010, the Department for Communities and Local Government published a Planning Policy Consultation paper on a new Planning Policy Statement: Planning for a Natural and Healthy Environment. The two key objectives of this new PPS are to bring together related policies on the natural environment and open and green spaces and to deliver for the first time, planning policy on green infrastructure. The document also encompasses the vision and objectives of a number of cross governmental documents including the Governments strategy on the quality of place, the Government's forestry policy, its Soil Strategy and a number of other strategies relating to obesity, health, play and the water environment. In addition, the Government signed the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention, which became binding from March 2007. The consultation document also incorporates these legislative requirements.

5.3 It is expected for the revision of the policy statement to be published in the later months of 2010 however, currently the new coalition government has announced that the PPS's are subject to a possible review. Therefore, it is currently uncertain whether the proposals within the consultation PPS will be taken forward.

5 National Planning Policy

6 National and Regional Green Infrastructure Guidance

National green infrastructure guidance

6.1 At a national level, Natural England's Green Infrastructure Guidance[7] sets out its position in relation to green infrastructure planning and delivery, which is increasingly recognised as an essential part of sustainable spatial planning. This is due, in no small part, to the role of green infrastructure as a 'life support system', able to deliver multiple functions and to play a key part in adapting to and mitigating climate change. The Guidance advises Local Planning Authorities as to how to address such matters within their LDFs.

6.2 The document sets out the importance of green infrastructure and the drivers for it, the functions it fulfils, the benefits it provides and how successful delivery can be achieved. The guidance advocates the importance of integrating green infrastructure into the spatial planning process from an early stage.

South East Green Infrastructure Framework

6.3 At a regional level, the South East Green Infrastructure Partnership[8] has produced a Framework[9] to guide planners in the South East on how to plan, provide and manage green infrastructure. The Framework incorporates the views of key green infrastructure stakeholders and makes suggestions as to how Local Planning Authorities should address these within their spatial planning framework and associated documents. Similarly to Natural England's Guidance, the Framework seeks to establish green infrastructure as an integral and essential component of sustainable communities, to develop a common understanding of the role and importance of green infrastructure and provides detailed guidance on how it can be delivered through the planning system and local partnerships, including securing funding for its creation and long term maintenance.

7 Green Infrastructure Guidance (Natural England, 2009) www.naturalengland.org.uk
8 The South East Green Infrastructure Partnership www.naturalengland.org.uk
9 South East Green Infrastructure Framework www.gos.gov.uk

6 National and Regional Green Infrastructure Guidance

7 The South East Plan

7.1 When adopted, the Council's Core Strategy will form part of the development plan, together with the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) the South East Plan. Guidance suggests that it is not therefore, necessary for Local Development Documents, including the Core Strategy, to replicate the policy framework contained within the South East Plan.

7.2 The South East Plan addresses green infrastructure to secure a regional and sub regional strategy. It is a prominent feature and is presented as a crosscutting policy (CC8) in the Plan to ensure that connected networks of green spaces around new and existing development are treated as integral to the planning and design process.

7.3 The new Coalition Government is proposing to revoke RSS through The Localism Bill. The Localism Bill was introduced before parliament on 13th December 2011 and it is anticipated for it to receive Royal Ascent sometime in 2011.

7.4 Should the RSS be revoked the Local Development Framework will not be able to rely upon the strategic policies contained within the RSS. Therefore, it is necessary to justify a Green Infrastructure policy without the frame work of the South East Plan, based on robust and credible evidence.

7.5 For this reason the South East Plan has been reviewed to assess whether there are any areas in planning for green infrastructure that may need to be covered within a Core Strategy policy for green infrastructure, should the South East Plan be formally revoked in the future, and where there is evidence to justify the inclusion in the Core Strategy. It is important however, to emphasise that the guidance and Policy referred to in section six above remains in force.

7.6 Prior to the South East Plan, the impetus for green infrastructure planning was contained in a number of national Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) (as outlined in section six above). These planning policies each separately concentrated on different components of the natural environment, for example, biodiversity, landscape, open space and the water environment.

7.7 Whilst this guidance and these separate policies go some way towards delivering the many components of green infrastructure, as outlined in Natural England's guidance, they do not necessarily make the connection between the multi-functionality of green infrastructure. Neither do they necessarily advocate a strategic policy approach for the creation, protection and management of networks of green space. This is the basis of the Policy in the South East Plan and therefore this paper considers the need, based on local evidence, as to whether this needs to be included as part of the Core Strategy Policy.

Green Infrastructure: a suggested way forward

7.8 The consultation PPS confirms the Government's commitment to a broader scale approach to planning for the natural environment and open and green spaces and represents an essential part of the Government's commitment to meeting sustainable development objectives. Whilst, it is currently unknown whether this PPS will continue to

be developed under the new coalition government, there is certainly a call and a requirement for an integrated and broad approach for planning for the natural environment and green infrastructure. This is advocated both through Natural England's Guidance and the South East Green Infrastructure Framework.

7.9 Despite the potential revocation of the South East Plan, it is therefore considered both appropriate and justified to continue the planned strategic approach to green infrastructure planning through working with adjacent local authorities, ensuring that the benefits of green infrastructure are delivered via a strategy that is in line with national policy and guidance and the South East Green Infrastructure Framework. The purpose will be to boost the sustainable development of settlements, meet the vision and objectives of Wealden's Sustainable Community Strategy (including those based around well-being), increase environmental capacity and to help adapt to climate change.

8 Wealden Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS)

8.1 Wealden District Council's Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) does not currently provide a vision or priority specifically relating to green infrastructure. However, it does provide a number of themes, vision elements and priorities that can be closely linked with the environmental, social and economic benefits of green infrastructure. Green infrastructure can therefore significantly contribute towards meeting the vision and priorities contained in the Wealden SCS.

8.2 The contribution that green infrastructure planning can make in delivering the Wealden SCS can be seen in Appendix 1, which sets out in tabular form the contribution that green infrastructure planning and its functions can make to delivering the SCS and wider SCS objectives.

8 Wealden Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS)

9 Overview of Wealden's Green Infrastructure Strategy

Introduction

9.1 Wealden is a large rural district situated in a diverse and, in terms of formal designations (National park, AONB) largely protected landscape. It is an important location for biodiversity and its five main market towns and many villages support communities through the provision of housing, jobs, culture and leisure provision. For these broad reasons it is important to provide a green space strategy that is responsive to the character and distinctiveness of Wealden Districts environment and one that is fit for purpose in relation to the rural context of the area. It is also an area under some pressure for growth and it is accordingly important that green infrastructure is properly integrated into the planning process to not only conserve and enhance such assets but to also provide for increased opportunities and connectivity between them.

9.2 The first stage for green infrastructure planning is to provide a coherent understanding of Wealden District's existing green infrastructure by collecting, mapping and analysing existing data. This has been achieved through a map based audit and characterising Wealden District's local environment into a number of different themes. The themes include open space, access, landscape character, cultural heritage, biodiversity, and also socio-economic characteristics[10]. The purpose of this task is to break down the multifaceted concept of green infrastructure into workable and manageable components and differing functions to establish the green infrastructure baseline within the District.

9.3 This first stage of understanding Wealden District's environment and existing green infrastructure will form part of the green infrastructure strategy and will provide the evidence base on which to provide a broad policy within Wealden District's Core Strategy. This first stage will also provide a number of 'hooks' on which to develop any future green infrastructure strategy for the District through subsequent Development Plan Documents.

9.4 The characterisation provides a strategic overview of the wider study area and at this stage, only limited distinction has been made between the wider District and Wealden's five market towns (with the exception of landscape character, open space and access). No distinction has been made between the wider district and Wealden's settlements and hamlets. This is due to the much smaller levels of growth proposed within Wealden's Proposed Submission Core Strategy. However, similar to Wealden's towns, a more detailed consideration of green infrastructure provision could be undertaken at a later stage to look at the application of broad policy to a number of the District's settlements and the District as a whole.

9.5 The following sections provide a brief overview of the existing baseline of green infrastructure provision across the District and identify some broad key issues and opportunities under each of the themes. This in turn leads to the identification of green infrastructure objectives.

10 Socio-economic characteristics have not been included in this paper. However, an understanding of the Socio-economic characteristics of the District is summarised in the Core Strategy 'District Profile' Background Document which can be accessed at www.wealden.gov.uk

9 Overview of Wealden's Green Infrastructure Strategy

10 Open space and accessibility

10.1 This section describes the provision of open space (including outdoor sports and recreation facilities) within Wealden District. It looks at open space on three levels, District wide, District area and also looks in more detail at the provision of open space in Wealden's five main towns. The breakdown of the Wealden areas and Parish boundaries considered for the purpose of the PPG17 assessment is provided in Appendix 2.

10.2 A PPG17 assessment was completed for Wealden in December 2008[(11)] and carried out by specialist consultants. The assessment provides a summary of the quality, quantity and accessibility of open space, sport and recreation provision across the District. Parishes were consulted as part of the process of completing the PPG17 assessment. All parishes were originally contacted in December 2003/January 2004 as part of the original PPG17 assessment work. In September 2007, Wealden District Council held a workshop for all Town and Parish Councils focusing on good practice for parks, play areas and green spaces. All parishes were contacted again in summer 2009 to check and update the PPG17 data for their area.

Quantity

10.3 The PPG17 Assessment has identified that Wealden District has approximately 48,293,160 sq metres of open space. This includes open space within a number of types (as outlined in the South East Green Infrastructure Framework and in paragraph 4.5). A summary of the provision of open space in each type within Wealden District in accordance with the PPG17 Assessment is outlined in table 1 below.

Table 1 Total open space provision in Wealden District

Open space type	Amount (sq m)	Percentage of District
Parks and gardens	7,739,898	0.925
Natural and semi-natural green space	32,472,207	3.884
Outdoor sports facilities (playing field/ recreation grounds)	6,483,141	0.775
Amenity greenspace	884,846	0.105
Play facilities	55,744	0.006
Youth facilities	14,013	0.001
Allotments	215,022	0.025
Cemeteries and churchyards	427,932	0.051
Total	48,293,160	5.776

Source: Wealden District Council PPG17 Assessment

11 Wealden PPG17 Assessment can be accessed at www.wealden.gov.uk

Quantity and accessibility of open space

10.4 The PPG17 assessment report identifies quantity standards for the provision of different open space types in the District. The standards provide a basis in which to consider whether there is a deficiency in open space within certain areas of the District.

10.5 The PPG17 Assessment also derives distance thresholds for all categories of open space and provides an analysis, which looks at how easy it is for potential users to access such spaces. Distance thresholds are a measure of the likely catchment area of different forms of open space provision, using appropriate modes of transport.

10.6 The following conclusions can be drawn from the PPG17 report with regards to the quantity of open space provision at a District level and accessibility to these spaces for its population. A more detailed breakdown of the current situation for the five main towns and other PPG17 identified areas is further outlined in Appendix 3. The tables in appendix 3 show (on a District area and town basis) the locations where there is a deficit or surplus of open space types in relation to quantity standards and accessibility standards. However, detailed in table 2 below is a brief summary of the findings from the PPG17 Assessment. The table shows that there is a quantity deficiency in certain types of open space across the District as well as deficiencies in accessibility to certain types of open space within the five main towns.

Table 2 Open space quantity and accessibility deficiencies for Wealden areas

Open space type	PPG17 suggested quantity standard (per person)	Quantity deficiency	Accessibility deficiency
Parks and gardens	4.25 sq m	Crowborough, Hailsham, Polegate, Uckfield, South West Area, Western Area	All five main towns
Natural and semi-natural green space	3.75 sq m	Hailsham	All five main towns
Outdoor sports facilities (playing field / recreation grounds)		Crowborough, Hailsham, Polegate, South East Area	Crowborough, Hailsham, Heathfield
Amenity greenspace	4.0 sq m	Crowborough, Hailsham, Heathfield, Polegate, North East and South West	Crowborough, Heathfield, Polegate, Uckfield

Play facilities	0.325 sq m	Crowborough, Heathfield, Polegate, North East Area and North West Area,	All five main towns
Youth facilities	0.15 sq m	Hailsham, Heathfield, Polegate, North East area, North West area and Western area	Crowborough, Hailsham, Heathfield and Polegate
Allotments	1.5 sq m	Crowborough, Hailsham, Heathfield, Polegate, North West Area,	All five main towns
Cemeteries and churchyards	3.0 sq m	Open space to be provided in alternative forms	All five main towns

10.7 In relation to accessibility alone (and therefore not including the quantity standard analysis), the overall conclusion for Wealden using the PPG17 distance thresholds is that:

- 70% of properties within the District lie within a 5 minute walk of at least one green space forming part of the green network;
- 85% of properties within the District are currently within a ten-minute walk of at least one green space forming part of the network**.**

Accessibility - Natural England Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt)

10.8 Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard [(12)](ANGSt) provides a set of benchmarks for ensuring access to places near to where people live. The benchmarks are set to assist local planning authorities to develop policies which recognise and enhance the contribution that natural and semi-natural green space can make to sustainability including human health benefits. The standards differ from those standards detailed in the Wealden PPG17 Assessment and recommend that people living in towns and cities should have:

- an accessible natural greenspace of at least 2 hectares in size, no more than 300 metres (5 minutes walk) from home;
- at least one accessible 20 hectare site within two kilometres of home;
- one accessible 100 hectare site within five kilometres of home;
- one accessible 500 hectare site within ten kilometres of home; and
- one hectare of statutory Local Nature Reserves per thousand population.

12 Natural England's ANGSt recommends that people should live within a certain distance of a certain sized accessible green space. Further details can be found at the Natural England Website www.naturalengland.org.uk

10.9 The standards are driven on the basis that access to good quality open space has a link to reduced physical and mental health problems through increasing levels of physical activity and enabling the enjoyment of open space and nature[13]. Further information regarding this can be found at the Natural England Website[14].

10.10 The report 'An analysis of accessible natural greenspace provision in the South East'[15] has identified the level of accessible greenspace provision across the South East and within the Wealden District using the ANGSt standards approach set out above. The standard was used to assess the level of accessible natural greenspace[16] provision in both urban and rural areas. The results from the study for Wealden District are detailed below and compared to the East Sussex area and South East region as a whole:

Table 3 ANGSt analysis results for Wealden, East Sussex and the South East Region

% of households	Wealden District Council	East Sussex County	South East Region
Within 300m of a 2ha+ site	9%	20%	20%
Within 2km of a 20ha+ site	79%	74%	66%
Within 5km of a 100+ site	70%	79%	77%
Within 10km of a 500ha + site	90%	61%	46%
Meeting all ANGSt requirements	7%	6%	8%
Meeting none of the ANGSt requirements	1%	3%	10%
Served only by linear greenspace	0%	3%	4%

10.11 As can be seen from table 3, 91% of Wealden households do not have access to an accessible greenspace of 2 hectares in size within walking distance. This is below both the county and regional average.

13 Understanding the relevance and application of the Access to Natural Green space Standard (May, 2008) www.naturalengland.org.uk

14 Natural England www.naturalengland.org.uk

15 An analysis of accessible natural greenspace provision in the South East (Patrick McKernan, Forestry Commission and Matthew Grose, High Weald AONB Unit, February 2007) www.forestry.gov.uk

16 For the purpose of the study the following assets were used: Natural and semi-natural greenspaces (including woodlands, urban forestry, scrub, grasslands), green corridors (including river and canal banks) and country parks.

Quality and value of open space

10.12 With regards to the quality[17] and value[18] of open space provision in the District the PPG17 assessment found that there are a number of sites across the District which could benefit from improvement to bring them up to at least average quality and value standard. Each is assessed out of a potential maximum of 100%. The table below details the average quality and value scores identified within the PPG17 Assessment. It is worth noting that there is considerable difference between the quality and value of individual sites and there is a clear need to increase the quality and value of sites across the District.

Table 4 Quality and value of open space within the District

Open space type	Average quality score	Average value score
Parks and gardens	89%	55%
Natural and semi-natural green space	72%	49%
Outdoor sports facilities (playing field / recreation grounds)	82%	47%
Amenity greenspace	79%	43%
Play facilities	77%	70%
Youth facilities	67%	21%
Allotments	48%	75%
Cemeteries and churchyards	88%	53%

Broad key Issues and opportunities

10.13 The PPG17 Assessment identifies a number of key issues and opportunities in relation to open space and outdoor sports facilities, to their future enhancement, and provision. In broad terms, these include:

- There is an identified need to improve and enhance Wealden District's provision of open space, and outdoor sport and recreation facilities in relation to both the quality of some sites and also the value of certain sites.
- There is a need to provide additional open space across the district, but mainly in Wealden's five main towns. This is especially the case as increased housing and employment provision, and associated population growth within the towns will further increase the demand for and pressures upon open spaces and sport and recreational facilities;

17 Quality relates to the range of features or facilities on the site (e.g. trees, shrubs or seats) and their condition on a spectrum from “fit for purpose” to “needs major capital investment”.

18 Value is nothing to do with monetary value but refers to the value of a site to people and bio-diversity; to its cultural and heritage value; and to its strategic value - for example, by providing a sense of open-ness in a densely developed area.

- There are also clear gaps in accessibility to different forms of open space, sport and recreation provision across the District. In particular, there is limited provision, and therefore access to, park like spaces;
- There is an opportunity to provide additional open space in locations that would improve accessibility to open space;
- Both the PPG17 report and The Forestry Commission ANGSt report highlights that there is a lack of accessible natural greenspace within 300m walking distance within certain areas of the District. There is therefore a greater need for the provision of small sites, close to where people live. This need could be met by either working to make existing sites accessible for public use or by the creation of new small sites; including in association with proposals for growth /development;
- There are a number of much larger towns and cities that influence the role and function of Wealden's towns through sport and leisure provision including Tunbridge Wells to the north of the District and Eastbourne to the south of the District. Therefore, the provision of sport and leisure facilities within these larger towns and the role that they play needs to be considered through joint working within the green infrastructure strategy.

10.14 Further to the above broad key issues, the PPG17 Assessment has identified a number of district wide priorities for the provision of open space. The priorities identified within the report include:

- The provision of additional allotment plots in the eastern and western parts of Crowborough; the western part of Hailsham; Heathfield; and the northern part of Polegate;
- Priorities for additional outdoor sports provision should include:
    - additional bowling green provision in Crowborough and the northern part of Polegate;three new Artificial Turf Pitches should be located in Crowborough, Hailsham and Uckfield. In addition the two existing pitches should be updated to meet the needs of its users;
    - grass pitches in the District should be enhanced;
    - There is a need for more floodlit facilities including pitches, tennis and multi courts. It should be noted that floodlighting technology has improved in recent years to reduce light spill. Additional floodlit facilities provide an opportunity to increase the use of existing and new facilities.
    - There is a deficiency in multi-sport court provision across the District.
    - There is a lack of specialist sports facilities.

- Accessibility to children's play space should be increased through the provision of a limited number of major equipped play areas in each of the District's five main towns. These should be located either in parks or recreation grounds;
- Multifunctional green space should be enhanced across the District to ensure that they are of good quality and value for its users.
- Accessibility to different forms of multifunctional green space should be improved across the District.

- There is a need for more parks and gardens within the main settlements. Therefore, the creation of more 'park-like' space should be a priority.
- There should be at least two teenage facilities within each of the main towns.
- There is a need to enhance the environmental and social quality of green infrastructure within the District to meet the needs of its users;
- There is a need to improve the connectivity of green spaces to create a green space network.

10.15 The above outlined priorities and mechanisms for site specific delivery will be considered in more detail in future Local Development Documents and in particular the council's proposed Strategic Sites DPD. The Council will need to decide or confirm the quantity standards in which decisions will be based upon, whether focusing on the ANGST standards and / or the local quantity standards set out within the Wealden PPG17 assessment.

10.16 Please note that the Council is aware that certain open spaces and recreational or sporting facilities are missing from the PPG17 Assessment and / or new sites have since been developed or sites have been improved. The Council as part of its ongoing green infrastructure work will endeavour to update this information as part of its green infrastructure strategy.

10 Open space and accessibility

11 Green corridors and access links

11.1 The PPG17 Assessment identified a number of green corridors within the District. These included two small green corridors located within Stone Cross and the Cuckoo Trail, which passes through Horam, Hailsham and Polegate. The Cuckoo Trail is considered to be of high quality and value in relation to its ecological, amenity, educational and recreational contribution. There is also the Forest Way in the north of the District.

11.2 The multifunctional approach to green infrastructure requires that there is adequate provision for public access to the countryside through the provision of paths, trails and cycle routes.

11.3 The District is served well in relation to Public Rights of Way[19] (PROW) with just under 2000km of way marked routes located within the District. In most areas public rights of way are the main, if not only, method by which the public can access the countryside. In rural Wealden, PROW link villages and sites of interest, provide views and make an important contribution to the rural economy. As described in association within Landscape, in the next section, Wealden's urban areas are well connected through the provision of pathways and bridleways to the surrounding countryside.

11.4 There are many walks within the District, from short strolls to long distance routes as well as two national cycle routes. In order to build a picture of existing links, data has been collected in relation to National Trails, way marked routes and Sustrans Routes, in addition to PROWS and bridleways. These trails and routes are detailed in table 5. Some of these links cross the District border.

Table 5 Waymarked routes and trails in Wealden District

Feature	Summary
Waymarked routes and trails	
1066 Country Walk	50km walk running from Rye to Pevensey, exploring sites linked with the Battle of Hastings and includes Pevensey, Westham, Willingdon and Wartling.
South Downs Way National trail	161km walk which follows ancient paths across the South Downs from Eastbourne to Winchester including Alciston, Berwick, Long Man, Cuckmere Valley, Alfriston and Willingdon.
Sussex Border Path	256km route exploring the inland border of Sussex from Thorney Island in West Sussex to Rye including Forest Row, Hartfield and Withyham.

19 Public rights of way are the public footpaths, bridleways, restricted byways and byways open to all traffic that criss-cross England & Wales, often on private land. They can be in towns or in remote countryside. They can be narrow paths or wide tracks. All public rights of way are highways in law.

Sussex Ouse Valley Way	42km continuous path starting at the river Ouse at Lower Beeding in West Sussex to Seaford Bay in East Sussex it includes Fletching and Isfield.
Tunbridge Wells Circular	44km circular walk passing through Frant, Withyham and Eridge Green.
Vanguard Way	This 107km runs from Croydon to Newhaven running through Wealden District.
Wealdway	130km walk from Gravesend, Kent to Eastbourne. The walk passes north - south through the District including the Ashdown Forest.
Cycling	
South Coast Cycle Route 2	The route runs from Brighton to Camber including the Cuckmere Valley, Alfriston, Berwick, Arlington and Polegate.
London to Eastbourne Route 21	The route runs from London to Eastbourne running north to south through the district including Eridge, Heathfield, Hailsham and Polegate. The route also includes the Forest Way, which runs from East Grinstead to Groombridge.

Source: East Sussex County Council[20].

11.5 In addition to the long distance walks that pass through the District there are also a number of identified walks within Wealden. These are detailed in the Wealden publication 'Wealden walks'[21] and also the 'Short walks off the Cuckoo Trail'[22] publication. There are also a number of short cycle trails off the Cuckoo Trail[23].

11.6 Further information about PROW, bridleways, walks and cycle routes in and around Wealden can be found on the East Sussex County Council website[24].

Key issues / opportunities

11.7 With Wealden being predominately rural the majority of towns and settlements have good access routes to the surrounding countryside.

11.8 East Sussex County Council, are responsible for recording, protecting and maintaining those public rights of way within their boundaries. It is also their duty to prepare a PROW improvement plan[25] and to implement the plan. The plan identifies aims and

20 East Sussex County Council www.eastsussex.gov.uk
21 Wealden walks www.wealden.gov.uk
22 Short walks off the Cuckoo trail www.eastsussex.gov.uk
23 Off the Cuckoo trail: Circular cycle rides www.burwash.org
24 East Sussex County Council Website www.eastsussex.gov.uk
25 Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2007 - 2017 www.eastsussex.gov.uk

targets to deliver a better network of paths across the county including within Wealden District and to also improve access to the countryside.

11.9 The Wealden PPG17 Assessment identifies that improvements could be made to the quality and access to natural green spaces, such as by providing better signage and interpretation and better access for people with disabilities, looking at surfacing and the use of gates rather than stiles.

11.10 Opportunities to improve access routes and create green corridors around Wealden's main towns are explored further within the key opportunities under the landscape section.

11 Green corridors and access links

12 Wealden District's landscape

Introduction

12.1 Wealden's landscape is one of the Districts most valuable assets and resources. Wealden has a diverse landscape including some of the most attractive countryside in England. This is exemplified by the designation of the South Downs National Park and the High Weald AONB which formally recognise the national significance of landscape quality in these areas which together account for over 60% of the area of Wealden. The Low Weald and the Coastal Levels are also valued landscapes.

12.2 A holistic understanding of the landscape and environmental setting and sensitivities as they relate to green infrastructure, is critical to understanding character and place and its contribution to sustainable development. Its primary role is to ensure that design principles respond to landscape character and for opportunities to be identified which can contribute to enhancing the landscape and contributing to multifunctional networks of green space.

12.3 The following datasets have been used to build a picture of Wealden's landscape character:

- National character areas (2004);
- The South Downs Management Plan (2008);
- The High Weald AONB Management Plan (2009);
- East Sussex County Council Landscape Assessment (2004); and
- Wealden District Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2009).

12.4 At a strategic level the landscape character of Wealden is formed by four landscape character areas, and by the character areas identified within both the East Sussex County Council Landscape Assessment and the Wealden District Council's Landscape Character Assessment.

National Character Areas

12.5 The National Character Areas approach examines the local distinctiveness of each part of England. The boundaries are based on the distribution of natural features and wildlife and on the land use patterns and human history of each of the areas.

12.6 Using the National Character Areas, geologically Wealden District can be divided into four broad zones. A map outlining these character areas can be found in Appendix 4:

- **The South Downs National Park**- Characterised by its tilted layers of soft chalk, chalk related habitats, woodland and river valleys and supporting a high diversity of plants and animals. The South Downs has recently been designated a National Park. The landscape is classically of rolling chalk downland, dry valleys and flint villages.

These characteristics are reflected in the management plan for the South Downs and provide the basis for the effective management of the area[26].

- **The Pevensey Levels** - A low-lying wetland habitat dominated by heavy clay soils. The area is characterised by rivers, streams, ponds and large water bodies as well as areas of grazing marsh. The Pevensey Levels are rich in biodiversity.
- **The Low Weald** - Characterised by broad low lying and gently undulating clay vales. It is a small scale intimate landscape enclosed by small woodlands, a patchwork of fields and hedgerows. It is essentially rural in character and settlements are mainly villages or small hamlets;
- **The High Weald** - Characterised by two bold sandstone ridges running east - west. The northern ridge runs from the Ashdown Forest to Wadhurst with Crowborough Beacon being the highest point of the High Weald. The area is geologically complex with numerous streams, valleys, ghylls and scattered outcrops of Sandstone nodes. A unique landscape of rolling ridges and deeply incised valleys. There is a mosaic of woodlands, small fields divided by hedgerows and thick shaws, sunken lanes and scattered villages. The majority of the High Weald is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

East Sussex Landscape Character

12.7 At a County level, the East Sussex County Landscape Assessment[27] divides the County's landscape into 40 character areas. A number of these character areas relate to Wealden District. The assessment also looks at four of Wealden's towns: Crowborough, Hailsham, Heathfield and Uckfield and examines the relationship between the townscape and its surrounding countryside. The character areas do not take into account local authority boundaries.

12.8 A summary of the landscape character areas located within Wealden is outlined in table 6 below.

Table 6 Summary of Wealden's Landscape Character Areas

Character Area	Location of character area	Description
The Upper Medway Valley	Covers the Medway Valley from Weirwood reservoir to Groombridge	The individually distinctive main villages of Hartfield, Forest Row and Groombridge lie in the valley. The area is strengthened by the tree fringed winding river and by Forest Way Country Park.
The Ashdown Forest	Lying between Crowborough, Forest Row and Maresfield	The Ashdown Forest lies between Crowborough, Forest Row, Maresfield and Nutley and is the largest area of lowland health in the South east. The Ashdown Forest is a fragile, biodiversity rich landscape which is visually prominent with long

26 Further information on the South Downs Management Plan can be found at www.southdownsonline.org
27 East Sussex County Landscape Assessment (2008) www.eastsussex.gov.uk

		views in and out of the area. The area is of great nature conservation and scenic value.
Upper Ouse Valley	Lies between Wivelsfield Green and Buxted	Uckfield, Maresfield, Five ash Down and Framfield are located in this area together with Danehill in the North West Corner. The landscape consists of low ridges and wider valleys covered by streams and woods. The valley system includes the River Ouse, Longford Stream and River Uck.
Central High Weald	Lies South of Tunbridge Wells and east of Crowborough	Tunbridge Wells and Crowborough exert a strong influence on the neighbouring countryside. There are urban fringe influences around the towns and villages including Rotherfield and Wadhurst. Conservation and enhancement of the village setting and improving the surrounding landscape is identified as being important.
South Slopes of the Weald	Falling south of Heathfield to Battle Ridge towards the Low Weald and Pevensey Levels	Heathfield, East Hoathly and Blackboys are situated within this intricate and small scale landscape. It is characterised by deeply dissected north south ridges, valleys, ghylls and country lanes connecting scattered development and villages. The rural villages are remote and tend to be ribbon development. Herstmonceux and Ninfield are also located in this area.
Upper Rother Valley	Runs from Isenhurst to Wadhurst and across to Hurst Green	The valley of the River Rother dominates the landscape and is overlooked by ridges and spurs with ghylls and shaws. Mayfield is located on a prominent ridge and there are long views too and from the village. Broad Oak straddles the ridge which forms the southern boundary.
Eastern Low Weald	Runs from Ringmer to the west of Polegate	The west side of Hailsham, the majority of Polegate, Lower Horsebridge and Upper Dicker are located in this area. The area is more open , flat and less wooded compared to the Western Low Weald. The area contains the Upper Cuckmere River and Arlington reservoir and Abbots and Vert Wood. Country lanes in the area provide recreational access to the countryside. There are many small remote and unspoilt villages. However, intrusive development along main roads has detracted from the area.
Pevensey Levels	Includes the Pevensey levels	The east side of Hailsham is located within this area. The landscape is dominated by grazing marsh

		and reeds. There is little or no development on the floodplain and villages are scattered around the ridge top roads which afford long views across the Levels. Both Pevensey and Westham is situated in this area.

District Landscape Character Assessment

12.9 At a District level, East Sussex County Council has undertaken a Landscape Character Assessment and Development option evaluation study for Wealden District Council. This study builds upon the National Character areas and the East Sussex County Landscape Assessment by assessing Wealden's landscape character at a more detailed level and within particular search areas. The assessment further identifies landscape quality and value and assesses the sensitivity and capacity for the landscape to accept change. The methodology used by the Consultant's has been endorsed by Natural England.

12.10 The study areas include the areas around the towns, up to 1 km radius and villages (up to 0.5km). The study also identifies opportunities for enhancing green infrastructure provision.

Summary of the landscape character of Wealden's five towns

12.11 Below is a summary of the landscape character for each of the main towns within the District. Further information can be found in the Wealden Landscape Character Assessment[(28)].

12.12 **Crowborough** is located within the Central High Weald Character Area and is the highest town in the County blanketing the crest of the main Wealden ridge east of the Ashdown Forest. Crowborough is surrounded by high quality countryside and the majority (apart from areas to the south) is designated as within the High Weald AONB.

12.13 **Heathfield** is located within the South Slopes of the High Weald Character area and is surrounded by high quality countryside, much of which is designated as High Weald AONB. The town occupies a hillcrest position on the main High Wealden ridge.

12.14 **Uckfield** lies within the Upper Ouse Landscape Character Area within the Low Weald. The town lies within gently rolling countryside on the southern edge of the High Weald. The nature of the landscape surrounding Uckfield is varied and intricate. The landscape is a rich mosaic of woods, shaws, ghylls, small fields and hedges. Buxted park is located to the north east of the town. A number of streams cross the Uckfield area and converge on the River Uck, which passes east to west through the centre of the town.

12.15 **Hailsham** is situated between the Eastern Low Weald and the Pevensey Levels character areas. Hailsham is a medieval market town and provides a historic focus for the surrounding villages and countryside. The town sits on a slight rise in the flat landscape

28 Wealden District Council: Local Development Framework Landscape Character Assessment (ESCC, February 2009) www.wealden.gov.uk.

of the low Weald and has extensive views to the High Weald and the Downs as well as across the levels to the east. The surrounding countryside is fairly flat with abundant small woods, hedges and shaws. Hedges and hedgerow trees are important components of the towns surrounding landscape.

12.16 **Polegate** lies at the meeting point of four character areas, the Eastern Low Weald, the Wilmington Downs and the Pevensey and Eastbourne Levels. The town of Polegate is surrounded by a number of different landscapes including the Eastern Low Weald to the northwest, the Wilmington Downs to the southwest and the Pevensey Levels to the east. To the west, the town enjoys excellent views to the South Downs National Park. To the north of Polegate, between the A22 and A27, the land rises to a broad gentle ridge patterned with fields, hedges and tree belts. The A27 Polegate bypass traverses the north of the town.

12.17 **Stone Cross** lies between the open levels to the west, which forms part of the gap between Stone Cross and Polegate. An open buffer area between the A27 by-pass to the north which is influenced by urban fringe uses and a hard urban edge to the countryside and the Mountney Levels to the east which form an important open gap between the village of Pevensey and Stone Cross.

General key Issues and opportunities

12.18 Pressure for development imposes pressure on Wealden's often-sensitive rural landscape. This includes the visual sensitivity of the South Downs and the High Weald AONB and the fragile landscapes and designations of European significance of the Ashdown Forest and Pevensey Levels.

12.19 There are urban fringe influences around Wealden's towns and villages. Conservation and enhancement of the village setting and improving the surrounding landscape is therefore an important consideration and an opportunity for the creation of a positive landscape edge through the provision of or strengthening of green networks. The provision of future development on the edge of towns and villages therefore has the potential to address and enhance the visual appearance of towns and villages.

12.20 Wealden's countryside provides benefits to surrounding communities including through recreation opportunities, the provision of water and the provision of local produce.

12.21 Parts of Wealden's landscape suffers from recreational pressures such as the erosion of sandstone outcrops through walking and rock climbing and also recreational related pressures on the biodiversity features of the Ashdown Forest. Notwithstanding this, Wealden also has a large amount of countryside, which has good recreational potential. It is important to maximise recreation in places where it can be best absorbed and ensure that, through a combination of this and sound visitor management, sensitive landscapes and associated features are protected and managed effectively.

12.22 Wealden is well served by rights of way. There are opportunities to strengthen and enhance the connectivity between potential development and the surrounding valued landscape through the creation or enhancement of footpaths. This can benefit health,

well being as well as strengthening people's and the communities appreciation of the natural environment.

12.23 There are a number of threats to Wealden's landscape. These include the fragmentation of habitats, a rapidly decreasing extent of farmland, non-agricultural use of farmland, lack of traditional land management, agricultural intensification and a lack of traditional grazing. It is therefore important to ensure that Wealden's landscapes and habitats are managed appropriately and enhanced where possible.

12.24 Wealden's landscape is characterised by woodlands, including a high percentage of formally designated Ancient Woodlands, and hedgerows. Also, Ancient Meadows are an important characteristic of Wealden. These features need to be protected, enhanced and restored as a valuable landscape asset. This can also contribute to green corridors and mitigate the visual impact of development.

12.25 Through the provision of development, opportunities exist to enhance degraded landscapes and contribute to biodiversity. This can also mitigate against future climate change.

Key issues and opportunities for Towns

12.26 **Crowborough.** There is scope to conserve and enhance the lower quality landscape structure around Crowborough through improved management or through development and associated mitigation. There may also be scope to improve the existing urban edges through the provision of new development and green infrastructure.

12.27 Crowborough's surrounding countryside is of great amenity value as it is well served with footpaths and is accessible from the urban area. Opportunities exist to protect valued landscape features and to enhance / create green corridors in areas to the south of the town.

12.28 **Heathfield.** Surburban spread to the south of Heathfield town centre lacks local identity and focus of character. It is considered that opportunities exist to enhance and conserve the AONB landscape.

12.29 Tilsmore Woods located to the north of Heathfield are a valuable amenity and semi-natural ancient woodland. The area to the East of Heathfield is occupied by Heathfield Park and a wooded area is also located to the south west of the town. Through the provision of footpaths the town connects well with its surrounding countryside.

12.30 **Uckfield.** Urban fringe influences are evident around Uckfield although the wooded character softens the visual impact of the town in places. The Uckfield bypass cuts across the west of the town and provides both visual and noise intrusion.

12.31 There are opportunities in Uckfield for urban fringe development to provide and enhance green corridors and reinforce the countryside gap. In addition, links to the countyside and existing green infrastructure could also be strengthened.

12.32 **Hailsham.** Whilst Hailsham has expanded in recent decades, some of its urban areas are intrusive within the countryside and it could be suggested that some of Hailsham's suburban growth currently lacks focus or character. There are also areas of poorly managed land to the east of Hailsham. An opportunity exists to address these issues through the provision of green infrastructure associated with further growth of the town

12.33 The countryside surrounding Hailsham is visually and physically accessible especially Abbots and Wilmington Wood to the south of the town. These are valued recreational areas. The Cuckoo Trail green corridor also passes through Hailsham which provides access to the countryside for both walkers and cyclists between Polegate and Heathfield.

12.34 Opportunities exist within Hailsham to create better links between development and green infrastructure provision, to restore and improve degraded landscapes by increasing woodland area and preserving landscape features. Opportunities also exist to create multifunctional green networks around existing tree belts and hedgerows.

12.35 **Polegate.** Some of Polegate's rural landscape has been degraded by urban fringe pressures including urban fringe uses and commercial development. The relatively recent road development at Cophall roundabout to the west of the town has also resulted in the loss of landscape structure.

12.36 Opportunities exist to strengthen Polegate's landscape structure and mitigate the visual impact of the A27 through the provision of open space and the creation of multifunctional green networks. There is also an opportunity to better link development and green space through the provision of access routes and to seek to enhance landscape opportunities in respect of the nearby National Park.

12.37 **Stone Cross.** The north of Stone Cross currently presents a hard urban edge to the countryside although planting along the A27 reduces its impact from the Pevensey Levels and the road. There are also some urban fringe influences to the east of the town which impact on the rural character of the areas close to the built up edge. Similar to Polegate, opportunities exist to strengthen green infrastructure in and around the Stone Cross area including the linking of existing footpaths and re-planting of woodland.

12 Wealden District's landscape

13 Biodiversity

13.1 This section describes Wealden Districts biodiversity resource. Within Wealden's landscape there is a range of international, national and local designations for nature conservation and wildlife. Individual datasets for sites of biodiversity interest have been used in order to build a picture of Wealden District's biodiversity resource.

Overview of Biodiversity assets located within Wealden District

13.2 The following information summarises Wealden's Biodiversity assets. Further information and a review of these assets can be found in the Biodiversity Proposed Submission Core Strategy Background Paper.

- European Protected Sites of Nature Conservation importance:
    - Special Area of Conservation (SAC) - Ashdown Forest
    - Special Protection Area (SPA) - Ashdown Forest
    - Ramsar Site - Pevensey Levels[29]
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest - 32 sites
- National Nature Reserves - 2 sites
- Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS) - 14 sites
- Local Nature Reserve - 6 sites
- Sites of Nature Conservation Importance - 97 sites
- Ancient woodland - 14.15 % of Wealden District
- Legally protected Species
- UK BAP Habitats and Species (19 habitats and 242 species recorded in Wealden[30])
- S41 Habitats and Species of principal importance[31]
- Biodiversity Opportunity Areas - 20 areas within Wealden
- Veteran Trees and woodland
- Important networks of habitats
- Previously Developed land.

Key issues and opportunities

13.3 European and National legislation and guidance including that contained within PPS9 sets out how sites of biodiversity and geological importance will be protected and enhanced. Furthermore, Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 places a statutory duty on all local authorities to have regards to biodiversity in the carrying out of all their functions. To this end, a green infrastructure strategy is an ideal tool that can assist Wealden District Council in meeting its statutory duty through the extension of ecological networks to link areas of high biodiversity value

29 The Pevensey Levels are currently being considered by the UK Government as a possible SAC. Further information can be found on the Natural England Website, http://www.naturalengland.org.uk
30 It is possible that further BAP habitats and species are present in Wealden but not currently recorded.
31 Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities NERC Act 2006

to their surrounding environment. This in turn, allows new areas to be colonised as well as helping species to adapt to climate change or other changing conditions.

13.4 Future development within Wealden has the potential to contribute to the further fragmentation and loss and deterioration of important habitats and species. The creation of green networks as part of a green infrastructure strategy can help to mitigate against fragmentation, biodiversity loss and climate change in accordance with national planning policy.

13.5 Wealden District is situated in a diverse landscape spanning three geological areas, namely the High Weald, the Low Weald and the South Downs. Wealden's varied geology and its rural countryside environment provides an excellent resource to support a rich variety of habitats and wildlife. This is evident from a high coverage of around 15% of the District being classed as either an international, national or local designated site. International and national sites have a high level of protection afforded to them through their designations, legal obligation and statutory nature conservation policy. These areas form significant green infrastructure assets due to their high biodiversity value, although there is considerable scope to further improve the District's biodiversity assets.

13.6 There is opportunity through the Wealden's green infrastructure strategy to ensure the continued protection, restoration and maintenance of the Districts statutory and non-statutory sites. This can be achieved by supporting relevant bodies and through partnership working with the relevant agencies.

13.7 Conflict can often occur between the conservation objectives of a site of biodiversity importance and using a site for recreational use. Through a green infrastructure strategy there is an opportunity to protect those sites which are biologically sensitive and require a high level of protection and sensitive management, whilst balancing improved accessibility to sites and increased human interaction with nature.

13.8 The provision of additional green infrastructure can also help to meet the requirements under the Habitats Regulations in relation to the Ashdown Forest SAC, where it has been identified by Natural England that the provision of Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space (SANG) is required to avoid adverse effects on the site as a result of the location of additional development in the area. In the case of the Ashdown Forest SAC, the purpose of a SANG is to protect the biodiversity of the site by off setting additional recreational pressures, especially dog walking that may result from an increased population.

13.9 In addition to a high percentage of designated sites, there are also numerous Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitats present within the District. The South East Biodiversity Forum has incorporated the majority of these areas in the identification of Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs)[32]. Outside of the formally designated sites these areas are considered to be the most important areas for habitat enhancement, restoration and creation of BAP habitats and will provide Wealden with an opportunity to positively contribute to national BAP targets, create links between sites of biodiversity value to allow

32 Please note that BAP Habitats also exist outside BOA also.

species to respond to changing conditions such as climate change and also increase the quality of habitats within the District.

13.10 Whilst BOAs are useful in directing conservation efforts, they are not the only locations where biodiversity can be increased or enhanced. Development that successfully plans for and subsequently incorporates biodiversity into its design can also contribute to the creation of wildlife corridors and can contribute to the restoration of degraded habitats. This is particularly important in the more urban areas where existing green infrastructure can also be enhanced so that they can better contribute to the ecological network of green space.

13.11 Both existing and new green spaces such as urban verges, amenity planting and formal landscaped zones has the potential to be of value when considering green corridors through urban areas. Whilst these habitats do not have as much value as natural habitats they are very useful when planning links to rural areas. There is therefore an opportunity to carefully consider the use of these areas to be of more value for biodiversity including the improvement of existing planting as maintenance is carried out together with the careful consideration of planting with more colourful and appealing species to assist in climate change adaptation.

13 Biodiversity

14 Ecosystems, hydrology and climate change

Introduction

14.1 The natural environment provides a number of key functions and a range of fundamental benefits to maintain sustainable conditions in both the urban and rural environment. Of particular relevance to green infrastructure, these key functions include climate regulation, air quality, flood management and water quality.

14.2 The purpose of this section is to provide an overview of functional ecosystem services within Wealden District to aid in the analysis of green infrastructure deficiency and need and to also identify the opportunities that may exist to provide associated benefits to the District.

Air Quality

14.3 As part of a multifunctional landscape, green infrastructure has the ability to reduce the effects of air pollution and improve air quality[33]. Woodland and natural habitats act as deposition sinks for air pollution especially particulate matter and Nitrogen Oxide. Vegetation also assists in the reduction of Carbon Dioxide through the process of photosynthesis**.**

14.4 Under Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 local authorities have a duty to review[34] and assess[35] air quality on a regular basis and manage air quality by declaring an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) where air quality standards exceed the objectives set out in the revised Air Quality Strategy (2000). Wealden District's Local Air Quality Management Progress report (2008 - 2009)[36] has identified that there has been no air quality exceedances to date and that it is unlikely that air quality objectives will be exceeded in future years. It has not been necessary therefore for Wealden District Council to declare an Air Quality Management Area.

14.5 PPS23 requires local authorities to consider the potential sensitivity of an area to adverse effects from air pollution in relation to the environment, habitats, natural resources and peoples health and quality of life. This includes an assessment as to whether new housing or industrial developments are likely to have an impact on local air quality. To date, the District has had no new major housing developments or industrial sites, that may have an impact on local air quality.

14.6 However, the effect of future development on air quality is especially relevant to the Ashdown Forest SAC where the Appropriate Assessment for the Core Strategy has identified that the critical load of the Ashdown Forest is currently being exceeded in relation to Nitrogen deposition. This has the potential to effect the integrity of the site and its nature conservation interests. Appropriate management and / or mitigation will be required to

33 Countryside Agency and Groundwork (2004) The Countryside in and around Towns, Countryside Agency and Groundwork
34 A review of air quality means a consideration of the level of pollutants in the air for which objectives are prescribed in the Air Quality Regulations for England as amended (2002) as well as an estimate of likely future levels
35 An assessment of air quality is the consideration of whether estimated levels for the relevant future period are likely to exceed the levels set in the objectives.
36 Please see the Wealden website: www.wealden.gov.uk

address the air quality issue on the Ashdown Forest. This will need to include measures to ensure that a future increase in development in the surrounding areas does not exacerbate the current problem.

14.7 There is an opportunity for the provision of green infrastructure to assist in the mitigation of the effects of air pollution across the District. This in turn can provide health benefits to local communities and can assist in the preservation of the environment.

Climate change

14.8 In 2008, Carbon dioxide accounted for approximately 85 per cent of the UK's man-made greenhouse gas emissions[37].

14.9 According to the Department of Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), Wealden's CO2 emissions from road transport are higher than for the rest of East Sussex and for the South East as a whole. This is due to the rural nature of the area coupled with high levels of car ownership. Total per capita emissions are, however, lower than for the South East as a whole, which is likely to be due to the relative lack of high CO2 producing industrial and other processes within Wealden.

14.10 The UK Climate Impacts Programme (UKCIP) has produced a range of climate predictions for the South East. From these 'climate change scenarios', there is an expectation for summers to be hotter and drier with a risk of more frequent droughts and winters to be milder with more rainfall and an increased risk of flooding. There is also an expectation that there will be more extreme weather events, higher sea levels and storm surges.

14.11 Climate change will affect both people and their livelihoods and also the ability for plants and animals to survive in Wealden District in years to come. There is therefore a need to ensure that measures are taken to reduce the effect of climate change through adaptation and mitigation.

14.12 The provision of suitable green infrastructure has the potential to assist in climate change adaptation and mitigation in a number of ways. This includes:

- Creating cooler microclimates especially in more urban areas through the provision of trees and woodland thus reducing the need to cool buildings through the provision of shading and evaporative cooling;
- Providing habitats, "green corridors" and a more permeable landscape to help wildlife adapt to climate change[38];
- Improving carbon storage - e.g. through landscape scale planting schemes;
- Reducing the risk of flooding in the District through the better management of surface water run-off and the storage of flood water;

37 UK Climate Change Sustainable Development Indicator: 2008 Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Final Figures (Department of Energy and Climate Change, February 2010)

38 Further information on helping biodiversity adapt to climate change and the role of the planning system can be accessed at www.naturalengland.org.uk

- Reducing vehicle carbon emissions through the provision of sustainable transport corridors, traffic management measures and providing local recreational opportunities to reduce the need to travel;
- Supplying biomass or bio fuels to directly replace fossil fuels; and
- Increasing local food production to reduce the transportation of food.

The role of trees and woodland

14.13 Trees and woodland have a vital role to play in climate change adaptation and mitigation. This is due to their ability to absorb CO^2 from the atmosphere through photosynthesis and reducing the amount of CO^2 emissions in the atmosphere.

14.14 Whilst it is not possible for the UK to become Carbon neutral through afforestation alone, so called carbon sinks associated with trees and woodland have the potential to contribute to climate change mitigation during the time that policies and climate change initiatives are developed to reduce green house gas emissions.

14.15 Wealden District has a number of significant woodland areas located across the District and as the effects of climate change take place, the role of trees and woodland will become more important, especially in the more built-up areas of Wealden.

14.16 Opportunities may exist to restore and expand Wealden's woodland. Furthermore, opportunities may exist to increase the number of trees located within Wealden's more built up areas. Both new trees and woodland should be located to maximise the contribution that they can make to climate change adaptation and to the strengthening of the green infrastructure network.

The water environment in Wealden

14.17 There are a number of river water bodies located within the District. The main rivers and their catchment areas are outlined within table 7 below.

Table 7 Main River Catchments within Wealden District

South Wealden	North Wealden
The **Cuckmere River** rises from tributaries around Heathfield and flows south through the South Downs to its outfall into the English Channel west of Eastbourne. The lower catchment is tidal and the upper catchment is fluvial with many tributaries. The catchment is predominately rural with a few urban areas including Heathfield, Hailsham and Alfriston.	The **River Uck** rises from tributaries surrounding Huggets Furnace and flows south west and is joined by the High Hurstwood Stream, two tributaries from the northwest and east before flowing through Uckfield. The River Uck flows through Uckfield where it is joined by the Framfield Stream from the south. It then flows south alongside a dismantled railway before turning west. After passing through a series of weirs it branches into the Isfield Mill Stream before both watercourses exit the

	study area. This catchment includes the larger urban area of Uckfield and the smaller urban areas of Buxted and Hadlow Down.
The **Pevensey Levels** consists of a network of artificially drained channels and constitutes some of the most low lying topography in the area. Pevensey Bay and parts of Hailsham are within the catchment area.	The **River Ouse** rises in the Mid Sussex District and flows in a south east direction forming the western boundary of the WDC SFRA study area. It flows through the study area near Fletching and then flows south along the study boundary. It is joined at Sharpesbridge by the Shortbridge Stream and converges with the River Uck and the Isfield Mill Stream north of Isfield. The catchment includes the urban areas of Nutley, Danehill, Maresfield and Isfield.
The **Willingdon Levels** is the low lying area between the South Downs to the west and the Pevensey Levels to the east. The catchment is heavily urbanised including the towns / settlements of Eastbourne, Willingdon and Polegate.	The **River Medway** flows from the Sevenoaks District along the northern boundary of the WDC SFRA study area and enters the study area near Groombridge, where it is joined by an unnamed tributary from the south. The Medway flows along the Sussex Border path and passes the village of Hartfield to the south. It continues west and flows through the centre of Forest Row. The River Medway catchment includes the urban areas of Forest Row, Rotherfield Groombridge and Hartfield.There has been significant historic flooding along the River Medway; notably in 1960, 1968 and 2000.
Wallers Haven is the eastern most catchment . It drains an upland catchement of grazing marsh into the Pevensey Levels.	The **River Teise** flows from the Tunbridge Wells District to the northeast of the Wealden District. It flows along the north-eastern boundary near Bayham Lake. The River Teise does not flow through Wealden District however, its catchment's and headwaters are located within Wealden. Approximately 30% of the River Teise catchment area is within the Wealden District. The catchment includes the urban area of Wadhurst and a number of smaller rural settlements.

	The **River Rother** rises near Mayfield in the east of Wealden District. It flows in an easterly direction before flowing into Rother District. 30% of the River Rothers catchment area is within the Wealden District. The catchment of the River Rother includes the urban area of Mayfield and a number of smaller rural settlements.

14.18 The District's water environment or blue infrastructure is a key component of the green infrastructure network. There is potential through Wealden's green infrastructure strategy to enhance river corridors and improve the water environment including water quality, habitats and biodiversity.

14.19 Under the Water Framework Directive, the Environment Agency has produced a plan[39], which looks at the pressures facing the water environment in the South East River Basin. The plan highlights that 81% of surface water in the South East River Basin District does not meet good ecological status or overall status. There is therefore potential within any green infrastructure strategy to address water quality, improve the water environment and assist in meeting the targets of the South East River Basin Management Plan to help address the water pressures faced in the South East.

Flood risk

14.20 Green infrastructure has the ability to assist in flood risk mitigation through the enhancement or re-creation of functional floodplains, water meadows and the provision of multi-functional Sustainable Drainage (SuDS) Techniques. The combination of water management with green infrastructure provision can assist in flood storage and conveyance which in turn can reduce the causes and impacts of flooding whilst providing landscape and wildlife benefits and contributing to the overall green network.

14.21 Flood risk within Wealden is assessed within the following documents:

- Eastbourne Borough Council and Wealden District Council SFRA Final Level 1;
- Eastbourne Borough Council and Wealden District Council SFRA Final Level 2;
- Wealden District Council SFRA Final Level 1; and
- SFRA Level 2 Uckfield.

Flood risk - Key Issues

14.22 Where information is available, the Wealden SFRAs have identified a number of areas across the District which are potentially at risk from flooding. These areas are shown in the flood risk maps located in the Wealden SFRA Reports[40].

39 Water for life and livelihoods: River Basin Management Plan South East River basin District (Environment Agency, December 2009) www.environment-agency.gov.uk

40 The Wealden SFRA Reports can be accessed at www.wealden.gov.uk

14.23 Flooding in the District is not just limited to rivers but arises from a number of different sources including pluvial (rainfall), groundwater, sewer and also flooding from artificial sources such as reservoirs. Each type of flooding presents its own type of risk and management solution.

14.24 Some areas currently defended from flooding may in the future be at risk due to the effects of climate change, deteriorated or aged flood defences or by the changing of flood defence strategies.

14.25 In summary, the main areas of fluvial and tidal flood risk within the specific catchment areas in the South of the District include:

- **Cuckmere River** - Flooding occurs fairly frequently to a small number of properties, although there are no major urban areas at risk. The areas susceptible to flooding include an area to the east of Alfriston, west of Litlington and west of Westdene. The settlement of Horam floods from the Cuckmere River due to a lack of capacity of road crossings. Parts of Hellingly are also often flooded due to a number of properties being located on the floodplain.
- **Pevensey Levels** - The area is predominantly rural consisting of extensive drainage networks and floodplain;
- **Willingdon Levels** - Polegate and developments on the margins of the Willingdon Levels are considered to be at flood risk. Past flooding has occurred as a result of lack of capacity of the river systems in the area; and
- **Wallers Haven** - There is no identified flood risk to properties from the Wallers Haven, although some transport links may be exposed;

14.26 Other sources of flooding in the south of the district include:

- Groundwater flooding has been noted to have taken place in Alfriston and West Dean;
- The areas surrounding Polegate, Willingdon, Eastbourne and Hailsham suffer from flooding as a result of lack of capacity in the existing drainage infrastructure and/or the speed at which storm water is delivered to the Brooks; and
- The areas around Pevensey and Willingdon suffer from flooding through overland flow.

14.27 The main areas of fluvial flood risk in the north of the District include:

- River Ouse / River Uck - Major flooding events have previously occurred in Uckfield due to channel capacity being exceeded;
- River Medway - Previous flooding events have occurred in Forest Row, Hartfield, Groombridge, Eridge Station and Bells Yew Green due to general causes such as insufficient channel capacity, constrictions at structures(eg bridges), debris blockages or inappropriate development in areas vulnerable to flooding;

- River Teise - There have not been any flooding incidences to date within the Wealden area; and
- River Rother - There have not been any flooding incidences to date within the Wealden area.

14.28 Other sources of flooding in the north of the District include:

- In the north of Wealden 14% of flooding incidents have occurred as a result of drainage problems. In addition, 11% of the recorded incidents were as a result of overland flow which occurred due to an insufficient drainage network;
- Uckfield is identified at being at risk of flooding from overland flow from urban areas. Buxted is also at risk of overland flow; and
- The settlements of Uckfield, Crowborough, Mayfield, Wadhurst, Forest Row and Hartfield have suffered from flooding as a result of lack of capacity in the existing drainage infrastructure and / or the speed at which storm water is delivered to watercourses.

Key opportunities within Wealden District

14.29 A number of specific recommendations are made within both the South and North Wealden SFRAs. Some of these recommendations are area specific whilst some are more general and relevant across the board. A summary of the general recommendations are outlined below:

- Flood mitigation measures should be incorporated into the design of buildings and developments. This can include the provision of green roofs / walls and SuDS.
- Especially where the expansion of developed areas takes place, strategic flood storage areas should be considered where necessary, practicable, viable and deliverable. This can assist the ability of drainage systems to convey water and protect the water quality of watercourses, especially during storm events. Strategic flood storage areas should particularly be considered in areas of the High Weald and South Downs to reduce flood risk to the towns and villages; and
- Opportunities should be sought to alleviate flooding from surface water run-off including the consideration of SuDS and their incorporation into development schemes. This can also improve biodiversity, water quality and provide amenity benefits.

14.30 Flood risk throughout Wealden District is intensified by poor conveyance of some structures such as bridges or culverts. With the impact of climate change flooding caused by poor conveyance is expected to increase. To help mitigate this, a number of recommendations have been made. These include:

- returning culverted rivers to a natural system. This can also increase peoples enjoyment of the watercourse as a feature (as opposed to hiding it in a concrete channel);
- upgrading of culverts or bridges;
- improve existing local defences;
- safeguard floodplains from development;

- where practical, viable and deliverable consider opportunities to restore natural river forms and floodplains; and
- where appropriate, mitigate flood risk through the development of flood storage schemes. This may also provide an amenity benefit.

Flood risk - Area specific opportunities

14.31 The Wealden SFRAs identify a number of area specific recommendations. These are outlined below:

- River corridors should be reintroduced especially in Hellingly and Lower Horsebridge, to restore floodplain and reduce flooding impacts on local infrastructure;
- Within the Ouse catchment area and specifically between Uckfield and Crowborough, there are opportunities to reduce flood risk and improve water quality through the use of SuDS within new housing developments; and
- There is an opportunity to restore sections of the floodplain upstream of Uckfield to increase the flood storage capacity and reduce the risk of flooding downstream[41].

14.32 There is an opportunity to create a more natural river corridor through the removal of flood embankments of the River Rother. This would provide flood storage opportunities to reduce the impact of flooding at higher risk locations elsewhere in the River Rother catchment area.

41 See Section 11 of the RiverAdur and Ouse CFMP Consultation Draft Plan.

15 Cultural Heritage and Historic Landscape

Introduction

15.1 This section describes Wealden Districts cultural heritage. The connection between cultural heritage and green infrastructure derives from the ability of green infrastructure to provide public amenity spaces that conserve, enhance and preserve the cultural value of places and their settings and by supporting, or creating, a sense of place and identity.

15.2 The following datasets have been used to build a picture of Wealden's cultural heritage:

- Listed Buildings;
- Conservation Areas;
- Historic Parks and gardens;
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments;
- Historic landscapes; and
- Heritage coast.

Listed Buildings

15.3 Listed Buildings are buildings of special architectural or historic interest. They are designated and protected by the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 and designations are presently administered by English Heritage. Within the District there are a total of 2612 listed buildings. There are three types of listed status. The table below outlines the status of Wealden District's listed buildings:

Table 8 The status of Wealden District's Listed Buildings

Grade of listed building	District total	Explanation
Grade I	52	Grade I buildings are of exceptional interest, sometimes considered to be internationally important. Just 2.5% of listed buildings are Grade I.
Grade II*	108	Grade II* buildings are particularly important buildings of more than special interest. 5.5% of listed buildings are Grade II*.
Grade II	2452	Grade II buildings are nationally important and of special interest. 92% of all listed buildings are in this class and it is the most likely grade of listing for a home owner.

Conservation Areas

15.4 Wealden has a total of 34 Conservation Areas[42] within the District. These Conservation Areas are located in the towns and villages outlined in the table below:

Table 9 Conservation Areas within Wealden District

Alciston	Pevensey and westham	Forest Row
Alfriston	Ripe	Framfield
Berwick	Rushlake green	Frant
Cade Street	Selmeston	Hartfield
Chiddingly	Waldron	Mayfield
East Dean	West Dean	Maresfield
East Hoathly	Church Street, Willingdon	Rotherfield
Hailsham	Wilmington	Uckfield
Helingly	Cousley Wood	Wadhurst
Jevington	Crowborough	Withyham
Litlington	Danehill	
Old Heathfield	Fletching	

Historic Parks and gardens

15.5 The table below outlines the Historic Parks and Gardens within Wealden District. In total there are 22 Historic Parks and Gardens, which cover an area of 2232 hectares. Of these 22, one is Listed as Grade I, nine are Grade II listed, and 12 are listed as grade II*.

Table 10 Historic Parks and Gardens within Wealden District

NAME	GRADE	AREA_HA
BAYHAM ABBEY	II	368.11
GROOMBRIDGE PLACE	II*	43.04

42 The statutory definition of a conservation area is " an area of special architectural interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance".

PENNS IN THE ROCKS	II*	26.13
CHARLESTON MANOR	II*	6.40
HERSTMONCEUX CASTLE AND PLACE	II*	148.35
HORSTED PLACE	II	8.97
BROCKHURST	II*	9.85
WYCH CROSS PLACE	II*	47.60
CALVERLEY PARK AND CALVERLEY GROUNDS	II	14.56
ERIDGE PARK	II*	546.02
ROTHERFIELD HALL	II*	27.22
BUCKHURST PARK	II*	215.36
WOOTTON MANOR	II	28.90
HAMMERWOOD PARK	II	81.50
SHEFFIELD PARK	I	208.32
HEATHFIELD PARK	II	144.55
KIDBROOKE PARK	II	65.65
WADHURST CASTLE	II	58.85
BUXTED PARK	II*	172.98
THE HOO	II*	0.41
GLEN ANDRED GARDEN	II*	5.25
FRANT COURT	II	3.82
	Total	2231.82

Scheduled Ancient Monuments

15.6 There are a total of 102 Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the District. Ancient monuments are protected under the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Secretary of State has responsibility for compiling and maintaining the Schedule.

Historic Landscapes

15.7 Work is currently underway on the Sussex Historic Landscape Characterisation which is being undertaken by East Sussex County Council. Once published the document will provide a detailed assessment of historic features in Sussex on a landscape character area basis. It is anticipated that this assessment will be used for the further assessment of Wealden District's cultural assets and will contribute to the District's overall green infrastructure strategy.

15.8 Wealden has a number of historic landscapes including the High Weald, Low Weald, South Downs, Ashdown Forest and Pevensey Levels. Wealden District is also home to the designated 'Sussex Heritage Coast' of the Seven Sisters.

Key issues and opportunities

15.9 To create and integrate access links to Wealden's cultural heritage within development.

15.10 Many sites of cultural importance are located on private land however it is possible that, working with landowners, that access to these sites could be improved.

15.11 To improve connectivity between sites of cultural importance. This could include pedestrian / cycle links for Wealden communities and visitors.

15.12 Important to conserve and where possible improve the setting of Wealden's designated cultural heritage including landscape improvements.

16 GI objectives - what are we seeking to achieve?

Introduction

16.1 Broad objectives have been identified using information contained in the environmental characterisation and deficiency analysis. These objectives respond to the key issues and opportunities identified within the green infrastructure themes.

16.2 By 2030, and throughout the Core Strategy period Wealden will;

- Protect, improve and enhance Wealden's existing green infrastructure;
- Provide additional green infrastructure to meet the needs of Wealden's existing and future population;
- Improve the connectivity of Wealden's existing green infrastructure network;
- Seek to improve the visual appearance of Wealden's urban and rural landscapes;
- Improve accessibility to green infrastructure to benefit local communities and visitors to the District;
- Increase the opportunities for healthy living within the District;
- Maximise the provision of green infrastructure to contribute to biodiversity, healthy ecosystems and to address climate change; and
- Protect and improve the setting of Wealden's cultural heritage and the provision of information relating to key features available to both residents and visitors.

16 GI objectives - what are we seeking to achieve?

17 Policy elements

17.1 National policy promotes the protection, enhancement, restoration and creation of green spaces and networks to enhance both the natural and built environment and contribute to the quality of place and life. National policy also provides the impetus for other green infrastructure functions including the provision of open space and recreational facilities, consideration of landscape, sustainability, climate change and a number of other associated functions.

17.2 The Core Strategy and wider Local Development Framework can further these green infrastructure objectives by addressing key local issues, identifying opportunities and providing support and guidance through appropriate policies in which a successful green infrastructure network can be delivered.

17.3 The key issues and objectives outlined within this green infrastructure background paper can be summarised as follows:

- Implementing national policy and national / regional guidance in relation to green infrastructure and biodiversity;
- Implementing the recommendations of Wealden's PPG17 assessment;
- Supporting and integrating the objectives of local management plans and strategies associated with green infrastructure;
- Protecting and enhancing both the social and environmental quality of the existing network of green space provision within the District;
- Providing additional multi-functional green space in areas that will improve Wealden's current deficiencies;
- Ensuring that a sufficient range of high quality, safe and accessible multi-functional green spaces are provided across the District;
- Provide green infrastructure in locations that can address and improve the visual impact of both existing and proposed development on the District's rural and urban landscape;
- Conserving and enhancing Wealden's sites of biodiversity value;
- Improving the connectivity of the green space network for wildlife through the restoration of natural habitats and the creation of wildlife corridors within Wealden's more urban areas;
- Maximising the potential of green infrastructure provision in locations within the district that can contribute to the adaptation and mitigation of climate change including the enhancement and improvement in quality of Wealden's ecosystem services such as water, land and air and supporting the aims and objectives of local partner organisations in water and flood management through the provision of appropriate features such as Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS); and
- Improving the connectivity and access links between Wealden's social, environmental and cultural heritage through the provision of and enhancement of footpaths and cycle links.

17 Policy elements

18 Testing of policy Direction

Issues and options Consultation (July 2007)

18.1 Public engagement and consultation has been an important element of developing Wealden's Core Strategy. An Issues and Options consultation took place in July 2007 in order to determine the possible growth options which Wealden District Council should address in more detail. Both the public and statutory consultees and other interested parties were invited to make comments on the Issues and Options Paper.

18.2 The Issues and Options Paper did not provide a specific consultation question addressing green infrastructure. However, the paper did ask specific questions on a number of green infrastructure related elements. The responses to the Issues and Options green infrastructure elements are detailed below.

Open space, sport and recreation

18.3 Question 28a of the Issues and Options Consultation asked whether the LDF should include proposals for quality parks in each of the main towns at locations to meet local deficiencies. There was virtually unanimous support for this proposal, with the only points of disagreement relating to how parks would be allocated or implemented. Particular support was evident from the consultation in respect of any proposed growth at Polegate. It was also felt that the improvement of existing parks is also important.

18.4 Question 28b related to the delivery and improvement of recreational facilities and asked whether developer contributions should be secured for recreational facilities to meet local standards. This option also resulted in fairly universal support. Those who disagreed thought that it should be the responsibility of the Council to fund improvements rather than developers. There was also support for the setting of local priorities rather than using the National Playing Fields Association Standards with the caveat for local priorities to be in line with any PPG17 assessment. Some also emphasised that any future policy should include a commuted sum for the maintenance of facilities, whilst others thought that a policy should include specific issues or requirements such as allotments and other facilities.

18.5 Question 28c of the document asked whether a new plan should protect indoor and outdoor sports facilities but allow some flexibility of alternative equally suitable provision which could be made elsewhere. Approximately 95% of respondents agreed with this option. Support for this option was qualified by concerns about needing to have regard to the PPG17 assessment and to also embrace facilities for cultural performance arts.

Wealden District's landscape

18.6 There was not a direct question within the Issues and Options Consultation relating to landscape and green infrastructure. However, question one asked for comments to either agree or disagree that some development should be allowed in the AONB to meet housing need. This particular question received the most responses out of all of the questions. This suggests that Wealden's landscape is a very important asset to those

who live, work and visit the District. Overall, considerable support was received for the protection of the High Weald and South Downs AONB (now national Park) and the general landscape character of the district. Respondents also highlighted that there is a need for future development to be carefully designed together with creating appropriate buffer zones to protect the existing landscape. It was also recognised that landscape outside the designated areas can also be sensitive to development.

Consultation overview

18.7 Overall, a number of conclusions can be drawn from the Issues and Options consultation, which indirectly supports the objectives and impetus for the provision of green infrastructure within the District. From the comments received from the consultation there was a general consensus for the following:

- Protection of both the rural and urban environment;
- Promotion of sustainable transport;
- Addressing accessibility and deficiency in services and facilities;
- The prioritisation of quality of life, opportunities, health and prosperity of existing residents;
- Adapting to climate change;
- Improving opportunities and access to open space and recreational facilities;
- Addressing social and cultural well-being and managing resource demands;
- Protecting the character of towns and villages, not just countryside and heritage;
- Addressing Wealden's designated and undesignated landscape by protecting Wealden's landscape character; and
- Addressing water quality and flood risk.

Spatial Options Consultation (2009)

18.8 In July 2009 the Council undertook a Core Strategy Spatial Development Option Consultation. The purpose of the consultation was to further the development of the Council's agreed spatial strategy by providing the opportunity for the local community, Parish and Town Councils, other statutory consultees and key organisations to comment on the strategic aims and alternative options for future housing and employment growth in the District and other key issues. Whilst there was not a specific question relating to green infrastructure, a number of headline issues became apparent from the analysis of responses. These are detailed below.

18.9 **Green infrastructure** - The need to promote green infrastructure in order to secure quality of life and biodiversity benefits was raised. Issues included water supply, flood risk and the need to protect the Ashdown Forest were seen as a priority. A further issue raised by respondents was to ensure that community infrastructure was provided to meet current need and demand and to also serve the level of growth proposed. There was a call, particularly from Town and Parish Councils, to review Section 106 thresholds and adopt an effective policy to secure developer contributions to provide tangible benefits to communities including adequate facilities for children and play, the provision of sports, leisure and cultural facilities and also the need to address air quality.

18.10 Wealden District's Landscape - Support was received towards the protection of natural areas, Wealden's unique rural landscape and villages, appropriate protection of the Low Weald, minimising the impact of development on Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) and the protection of the South Downs National park.

18.11 Accessibility - A reoccurring response was to improve access to services and also reduce the reliance and environmental impact of the car.

18 Testing of policy Direction

19 Sustainability Appraisal

19.1 It is a requirement of the existing legislation that all DPDs shall formally undergo a process of Sustainability Appraisal (SA). As part of the SA process of Wealden's Proposed Submission Core Strategy, the green infrastructure policy has been appraised. The likely effects of the implementation of the policy are considered to have significant beneficial effects for the SA framework. Green infrastructure can underpin a healthy, productive and motivated population and through its enhancement, can help to address issues of deprivation and inequality as well as environmental issues such as biodiversity and flood risk.

19.2 Furthermore, the SA has highlighted that green infrastructure is dynamic, must be strategically planned for, invested in and managed at a local level, if it is to function in underpinning and provide for a prosperous and sustainable economic future.

19 Sustainability Appraisal

20 Delivery of policy

20.1 Wealden's green infrastructure network will be delivered through:

- National and local planning policy;
- Working with Parish and Town Councils, the Local Strategic Partnership and other partner organisations and groups to identify priorities and opportunities for the provision and improvement of green infrastructure;
- The provision of a green infrastructure strategy for the District;
- Working with developers, particularly on strategic sites, to identify opportunities for enhancement of green infrastructure; and
- The provision of green infrastructure within development schemes and where appropriate through planning obligations including contributions for off site provision and improvements (where it is not possible to satisfactorily deliver on site gains) or public sector funding.

20.2 The range of indicators that can be used to monitor the effectiveness of a green infrastructure policy will be further developed through consultation with key stakeholders and partner organisations / groups. However, below are details of some examples as to how a green infrastructure policy may be monitored:

- Local Area Agreement Targets and National Indicators;
- Evaluation of provision against provision standards;
- Evaluation of provision against accessibility standards including the Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGSt) set by Natural England;
- User or visitor surveys;
- Site visits to assess the quality and value of green infrastructure assets;
- The monitoring of biodiversity related planning conditions;
- Monitoring of relevant targets / outputs from relevant management plans and strategies;
- The improvement of existing facilities;
- The provision of new green infrastructure assets including the number of green infrastructure planning applications;
- The condition of designated biodiversity sites;
- A change in areas of biodiversity importance including a change in areas designated for their intrinsic environmental value including sites of international, national, and local importance;
- A change in area and populations of BAP habitats and species;
- The amount of land managed primarily for biodiversity purposes and the uptake of biodiversity related management schemes;
- The biological quality of water courses.

20 Delivery of policy

21 Conclusion and recommendations

21.1 Green infrastructure is increasingly seen as an integral and essential component in contributing to and creating sustainable communities, providing a wide range of ecosystem services, quality of life and health benefits. This is reflected through its reference within a number of National planning policies as well as a priority driven from a number of organisations such as Natural England, The Environment Agency, The Sussex Wildlife Trust and The Forestry Commission.

21.2 Within its Local Development Framework, Wealden District Council will be producing a number of Local Development Documents. It will be appropriate for Wealden to consider how best to deal with improving and contributing to a green infrastructure network in more than one of these documents.

21.3 The Core Strategy will however, be the overarching Local Development Document that sets out the key elements of the planning framework for Wealden and it is therefore, appropriate for the Core Strategy to consider a Policy to provide the overarching direction to Wealden's overall vision and objectives in relation to green infrastructure. This will then provide the broad scope in which further work and more detailed policies can be drawn up and be integrated with the Core Strategy in other DPDs.

21 Conclusion and recommendations

22 Recommended policy

22.1 Taking into account all of the key issues and opportunities covered within this paper, a suggested broad green infrastructure policy for Wealden's Proposed Submission Core Strategy is as follows. This overarching policy provides the strategic policy direction for the provision and enhancement of a green infrastructure network and provides the basis for the continued and further development of a green infrastructure strategy which can be delivered via future DPDs:

Policy WCS13 Green Infrastructure

The District's existing network of green infrastructure will be protected, improved and enhanced by the implementation of a Green Infrastructure Strategy, ensuring a multifunctional, accessible network which maintains and improves biodiversity and landscape character, increases opportunities for healthy living and contributes to healthy ecosystems and climate change objectives.

Development proposals will not be permitted which would result in the loss of existing open space or harm to Wealden's network of green spaces unless measures are incorporated within the development that will either mitigate the effects of development or alternative and suitable provision is made that is accessible, of good quality and value to its users, in an appropriate location, at an appropriate scale and nature and would positively contribute to the overall network of green space.

All new residential development will be required to contribute to the green infrastructure network and make provision for new open space. Where the scale of development would be too small to make on-site provision, the Council will seek developer contributions either towards the improvement of existing open spaces or towards the provision of open space elsewhere.

22.2 The Council will liase with partners as to how best to take a green infrastructure strategy forward.

22 Recommended policy

Appendix 1

Figure 1 Contribution of Green Infrastructure planning in delivering the SCS and wider Sustainable Community objectives.

Sustainable Community Strategy objectives and priorities	Green Infrastructure Functions						
	Biodiversity conservation and enhancement, (mitigate potential impacts of new development)	Creating a sense of place and appreciation of valuable landscapes and cultural heritage	Increase recreational opportunities, access to / enjoyment of the countryside and support healthy living	Improve water resources and flood management (sustainable design)	Contribute to climate change through adaption and mitigation of impacts	Sustainable transport, education and crime reduction	Production of food, fibre and fuel
Environment vision: A healthy, rich and diverse environment based on sustainable principles for everybody							
Recognise and adapt to climate change and its impact on Wealden, including management of CO2 emissions, the demand for water and the provision of adequate water resources, including new resources where there is environmental capacity.	✓			✓	✓		
Support flood risk assessments and appropriate plans to reduce flood risk and make space for water; and providing of a network of green spaces to buffer the effects of climate change on wildlife	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Strive for the provision of adequate environmental infrastructure to be in place before more houses are built	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Protect, maintain and enhance both rural and urban environments	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Encourage support for farmers, other landowners and managers who maintain the landscape and contribute to the quality and visual attractiveness of rural environments	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Encourage the sale of local food and non-food products including bio-diesel					✓	✓	✓
Support efforts to ensure that proposed new development takes account of the appearance and unique character of the area	✓	✓					

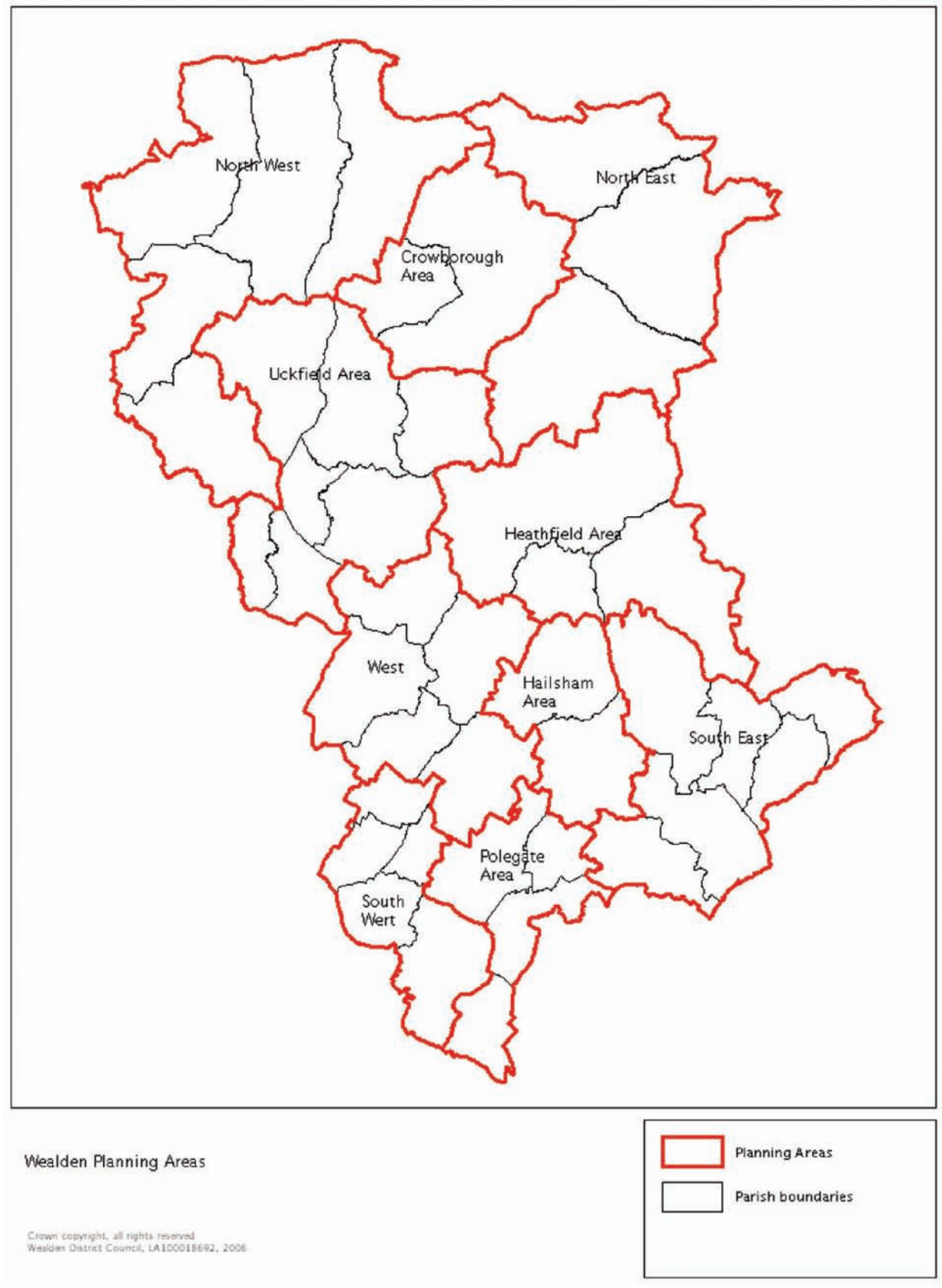
Appendix 1

Encourage improved facilities for pedestrians and adequate provision of high quality, accessible open space, to include facilities for children's recreation in safe, central locations with minimal nuisance to neighbours, a safe and comprehensive network of footpaths, bridleways, and rationalised signage and street furniture		✓	✓		✓	✓	
Maintain and improve public open space for people and wildlife, to include the general tidiness, maintenance of verges, removal of litter, tree planting and maintenance of existing trees and planting schemes	✓	✓	✓				
Health and Social Care vision: Reduce health inequalities, provide appropriate information and advice and access to health and social care services in order to maximise the potential for good health and well-being							
Support social inclusion, especially in rural areas, and seek to promote innovative ways of addressing exclusion and health inequalities			✓		✓	✓	
Promote five key areas of health improvement: reducing the number of people who smoke; tackling obesity; improving sexual health; improving mental health and well-being; and reducing harm and encouraging sensible drinking.			✓		✓	✓	
Housing vision: Enough decent, affordable homes to meet the needs of everyone who lives in or needs to live in the District							
Support the Local Development Framework Core Strategy and Wealden Design Guide to set standards and provide a means to strengthen the case for good design which is in keeping with local character. The Guide should address issues around sustainability, quality of life and the flexibility to encourage and allow new patterns of working	✓						
Encourage planning authorities to secure benefits from developers to contribute to adequate infrastructure in line with housing development including water, energy, transport and the provision of new jobs and services that provide for the needs of an ageing population	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Influence the Local Development Framework to allow villages to expand in order to provide small scale developments, and allow higher density dwellings (e.g. terraced houses) in rural areas providing the design and layout is appropriate and includes suitable provision for open space and parking	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Promote initiatives to address the 'Respect' agenda and activities to combat anti-social behaviour						✓	
Cultural Activities, Sport and Leisure vision: A broad range of opportunities to improve quality of life, health and well-being, including sport, leisure, recreation and the arts							
Promote, support and increase community participation in a wide range of sport, leisure and cultural activities in the Wealden District, through partnership working including that of the Wealden Community Sports and Leisure Network (CSN)			✓			✓	
Explore, enhance and encourage opportunities for the development and marketing of green spaces and play opportunities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Explore, enhance and encourage opportunities for the development and marketing of green tourism and address potential conflicts of interest between visitors and residents	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Explore how attractive, well equipped, multi-purpose community facilities, such as village halls, can be put to a wider variety of uses			✓		✓	✓	
Prosperity vision: a prosperous and sustainable local economy that is dynamic, flexible and maintains the environmental qualities of the area							
Support existing and emerging businesses in order to encourage a thriving range of sectors which will provide more employment opportunities as a prerequisite for enhancing quality of life in Wealden	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Encourage small, clean, high-skill businesses with minimal transport needs, e.g. the knowledge-based sector			✓		✓	✓	
Support efforts to ensure that adequate employment opportunities are in place or under development where more houses are to be built	✓		✓			✓	

Ensure that appropriate support and infrastructure is available for the small and micro businesses which tend to predominate in the area	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Encourage partners to ensure the five core towns are attractive as local retail and service centres	✓	✓				✓	
Community safety vision: Residents and visitors to Wealden are confident of their safety and free from the fear of crime							
Encourage design for, and enforcement, of appropriate speeds through villages and on new estates including traffic calming and pedestrian safety.						✓	
Influence the Local Development Framework to ensure that the design of housing and communal facilities enhances community cohesion and the feeling of well-being	✓	✓	✓			✓	
Promote community safety and the reduction of the fear of crime as a high priority for public, private and voluntary sector services						✓	
Transport and Access vision: improved accessibility for all and reduce the impact of traffic on people and places							
Address safety and congestion issues generated by the 'school run', for example by encouraging a greater proportion of school journeys on foot or by bike			✓		✓	✓	
Lobby for and encourage more integrated public transport to allow interchange wherever possible between rail, bus, community transport, shared cars, cycling and walking, with appropriate facilities to promote their safe use			✓		✓	✓	
Encourage improved access to rail stations by all modes of transport, including provision of adequate parking facilities			✓		✓	✓	

Appendix 2


North West
North East
Crowborough Area
Uckfield Area
Heathfield Area
West
Hailsham Area
South East
Polegate Area
South Wert
Wealden Planning Areas
Planning Areas
Parish boundaries
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Appendix 2

Appendix 3

A detailed breakdown of the PPG17 Assessment for the quantity and accessibility of open space within Wealden District

Explanatory note: The PPG17 Assessment was used to assess the provision of open space within the District. The following tables provide a summary of the assessment results for the District Areas outlined on the map in Appendix 2. In addition, a further assessment has been undertaken for each of the Parish areas (and north and central ward in Heathfield) for each of the towns to assess each towns local need. However, it should be realised that the towns often act as hubs for the surrounding villages, especially in relation to specialist sports and leisure facilities. It is not therefore, substantiated to look at the towns at a town area basis alone, as the towns often provide an open space function which exceeds its parish boundary. However, the analysis does provide a basis for future work in relation to increased housing and employment provision and associated population growth within these town areas. The following population figures were used to assess whether there is a surplus or deficit of open space within each of the areas and towns.

Population figures for the purpose of the assessment

Area	Area population figure	Town population figure	Ward Figures
Crowborough	23, 013	19,939	N / A
Hailsham	21, 113	19,658	N / A
Heathfield	15, 224	11, 406	North and central ward 7,722
Polegate	16, 113	7, 929	N / A
Uckfield	23, 262	13, 697	N / A
North east	9, 742	N / A	N / A
North west	12, 644	N / A	N / A
South east	13, 163	N / A	N / A
South west	1, 503	N / A	N / A
Western	4, 167	N / A	N / A

Explanation of tables detailed in Appendix 3

The first section of each of the tables looks at the quantity of open space (blue). The second part of the table (yellow) looks at accessibility to different types of open space provision and the third section (green) provides an overall policy recommendation as detailed in the PPG17 Assessment.

Quantity standard: Outlines the PPG17 derived quantity standard for different forms of open space provision. The quantity standard provides how much provision in square metres should be provided for each person within the district.

Parish current quantity: The information detailed in this column goes one step further than the PPG17 assessment and breaks down the current provision within the Parish boundary for each of the main towns. (Please note that in relation to Heathfield this is broken down further into the North and Central ward). The aim of this is to show how much open space is located within each of the towns.

Parish surplus / deficit: This column details whether there is a surplus or deficit of different forms of open space in square metres. The figure is derived by multiplying the quantity standard with the Parish population figure minus the parish current quantity.

Area current quantity: This column summarises the existing provision audit of different forms of open space for each planning area undertaken as part of the PPG17 Assessment.

Area surplus / deficit: This column summarises the balance between existing provision and area required in square metres for different types of open space as detailed in the PPG17 Assessment. The figure is derived by multiplying the quantity standard with the Area population figure minus the area current quantity.

Distance thresholds: In this column the PPG17 distance threshold is summarised for each type of open space provision. Distance thresholds are a measure of the likely catchment area of different forms of open space provision. The distance threshold is often different for urban and rural areas. This is signified by U = urban, R = Rural and where there is no difference between the distance threshold for both urban and rural areas, and W = the whole of the district.

Accessibility deficiency: Using the PPG17 Assessment distance thresholds, this column provides, in part, a summary of the PPG17 findings and also a further analysis in relation to the areas of each town or planning area, which is outwith or not within the preferred distance threshold. This was derived from an analysis of the PPG17 Assessment maps and further Geographical Information Systems (GIS) work.

Area of deficiency: This column summaries the overall deficiency for different types of open space provision in accordance with the PPG17 Assessment findings.

Additional comments: This column provides any relevant additional comments from the PPG17 Assessment.

Policy comments: As part of the PPG17 Assessment, a set of quality standards are recommended which are derived from good practice and published guidance. The quality standards include the features or characteristics that open spaces should have and also the minimum acceptable size for new provision. On this basis the PPG17 Assessment audited existing open spaces across the district, providing information on a site-by-site basis and concluding, (based on these quality standards), whether certain sites should

be protected or enhanced either in terms of quality or value. This column summarises the PPG17 Assessment general overall findings for each type of open space provision.

Please note that the PPG17 Assessment is a document that has been written to form part of the evidence base for the Wealden Local Development Framework including the Core Strategy. As such the recommendations outlined within the document do not form policy itself, but provide a basis in which a decision on policy can be made. A future decision will need to be made as to whether Wealden District Council adopt the proposed standards or policy recommendations outlined within the document.

Appendix 3A: Crowborough Parish and Crowborough PPG17 Area assessment of open and multifunctional greenspace

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open Space Areas	**Type**	**Quantity standard**	**Parish Current quantity (Sq m)**	**Parish Surplus / deficit (Sq m)**	**PPG17 Area Current quantity (Sq m)**	**PPG17 Area Surplus / Deficit (Sq m)**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
Allotments		1.5 sq m per person	11,106	deficit 18,802 (60 plots)	11,106	deficit 23,413 (75 plots)	U = 600m /10 mins walking. R = 3,750m /10 driving	Western, central and eastern part of Crowborough	Desirable to allocate at least 2 allotment sites on the western and eastern sides of the town		Protect large site, review the need for Goldsmiths allotments
Children's play facilities	under 8's and 8-12 year olds	0.325 sq m per person	4,355	deficit 2125	5,874	deficit 1,605	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	The western side and central part of Crowborough (including Crowborough Hill and Poundfield area is outwith a 10 minute walk of a play facility.			Protect and enhance quality and value. Review the need for low quality and value sites.
	Teenage facilities	0.15 sq m per person	3284	Surplus 293	3284	Deficit 293	U = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	The majority of Crowborough is within a 10 minute cycle ride apart from the Warren Area to the west of the town.			Protect and enhance value.
Sports facilities	Bowling Green	0.2 sq m per person	1,500	Deficit 2,487 sq m (1.66 green)	3,000	Deficit 1603 (1 green)	U = 900m / 15mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Northern half of Crowborough	Desirable to allocate land for 1 green		Protect

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open Space Areas	**Type**	**Quantity standard**	**Parish Current quantity (Sq m)**	**Parish Surplus / deficit (Sq m)**	**PPG17 Area Current quantity (Sq m)**	**PPG17 Area Surplus / Deficit (Sq m)**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
	Cricket pitches and nets	5.0 sq m per person	2 adult cricket pitches, 1 junior pitch and 4 practice nets		3 Adult cricket pitches, 1 Junior pitch and 4 practice nets		U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The whole of Crowborough is within a 15 min drive, however only the southern half of the town is within a 15 minute walk of the only public pitch.	There are adequate cricket pitches for current demand		Protect Crowborough sites and enhance quality and value. Review need for Rotherfield pitch.
	Football pitches	7 sq m per person	15 Adult pitches, 1 Junior pitch	NA	17 adult pitches, 1 Junior pitch	NA	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The western part of the town is outwith a 15 minute walk to an adult pitch.	There is a need for at least one adult football pitch in the area, plus mini and junior pitches.	Needs could be met by opening up more school pitches for community use	Protect and enhance quality / value of pitches plus provide changing facilities at Sir Henry Fermore School.
	Rugby pitches (deviates from PPG17)	2 sq m per person	3 piches (1 with floodlights) and 1 junior pitch	NA	4 pitches (1 with floodlights) and 1 junior pitch	NA	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The South west of the town is outwith a 15 minute walk of a pitch (includes Beacon Community Colege pitch)	There is currently adequate provision		Protect
	Multi-courts	0.13 sq m per person	5,328 (8 courts)	Surplus of 2,736 (4 courts)	5, 328 (8 courts)	Surplus of 2,336 (3.5 courts)	W = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	Nearly all of the town is within a 10 minute cycle ride	There is currently adequate provision	It would be beneficial to promote a central venue for netball	Protect and enhance quality of Beacon Community

Appendix 3

Appendix 3

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open Space Areas	**Type**	**Quantity standard**	**Parish Current quantity (Sq m)**	**Parish Surplus / deficit (Sq m)**	**PPG17 Area Current quantity (Sq m)**	**PPG17 Area Surplus / Deficit (Sq m)**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
										possibly at the Community college.	college. Review the need for the Goldsmiths courts.
	Tennis courts	0.475 sq m per person	12,654 (19 courts)	Surplus 3,183 (4.8 courts)	12,654 (19 courts)	Surplus 1,723 (2.6 courts)	U = 900m / 15 ins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Only the north western tip and south eastern tip is outwith a 15 minute walk	There is currently a surplus of tennis courts		Protect and enhance value. Review the need for courts at Wolfe recreation ground and Crowborough Hill Tennis Club
	Artificial turf pitch	Not appropriate	1 pitch		1 pitch		W = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	There is no access to an ATP with floodlights.	2 floodlight ATPs are required in the Crowborough Area	An additional pitch should be located at either the Community College, Goldsmiths or at Steel Cross	Protect and upgrade existing pitch.
	Atheletics track	N/A	1 track		1Track		N/A	N/A	N/A	Goldsmiths in Crowborough is the only track within Wealden District	Enhance quality and value

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open Space Areas	**Type**	**Quantity standard**	**Parish Current quantity (Sq m)**	**Parish Surplus / deficit (Sq m)**	**PPG17 Area Current quantity (Sq m)**	**PPG17 Area Surplus / Deficit (Sq m)**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
Amenity greenspace		4 sq m per person	31,076	deficit 48,680	31,400	deficit 60,652	W = 600m walking	The western and southern part of the town is outwith a 5 minute walk of AGS		To be looked at as part of MFGS	Protect and enhance value and quality.
Churchyard / cemetery		3 sq m per person	33,149	deficit 26,668	40,586	deficit 28,453	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	The western and eastern sides of the town are outwith a 5 minute walk of a CC.	Not applicable	Unlikely for more CC to be built, therefore MFGS should be provided in other forms.	Protect and enhance value
Natural / semi-natural greenspace		ANGSt standard	1,428,703	NA	1,462,819	NA	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	North western and central area of Crowborough is outwith a 5 minute walk of a NGS		LSP desire to boost Biodiversity in the district.	Protect and enhance quality. Review the need for land at Steel Cross.
Parks and gardens		4.25 sq m per person	51,120	deficit 33,620	51,120	deficit 46, 685	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	South east and western half of Crowborough is outwith a 5 minute walk	Crowborough is identified as a priority area for the provision of additional parks and gardens. Wolfe Recreation ground could be enhanced	There are limited parks and gardens in the Crowborough area.	Protect and enhance quality of Silver Jubilee ground.

Appendix 3

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open Space Areas	**Type**	**Quantity standard**	**Parish Current quantity (Sq m)**	**Parish Surplus / deficit (Sq m)**	**PPG17 Area Current quantity (Sq m)**	**PPG17 Area Surplus / Deficit (Sq m)**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
									to be more park like.		
Outdoor Sports Facilities that also serve an amenity purpose by providing open-ness.	Pitches and playing fields	NA	580,911	NA	813,631	NA	N/A			OSFs are an important provision of green areas	Protect, enhance value and quality
Multifunctional Green Space totals	AGS, CC, NGS, OSF, PG		2,124,959	NA	2,399,556	NA	w = 300m / 5 mins walking	All of the town apart from an area on the western side is within a 5 minute walk of at least one greenspace.		There is a huge dependance on OSF and NGS which are located on the edge of the town	
	AGS, CC, NGS, PG	15 sq m per person	1,544,048	surplus 1,244,963	1,585,925	surplus 1,240,730					
	AGS, CC PG	11.25 sq m per person	115,345	deficit 108,969	123,106	deficit 135,790					

Appendix 3B: Hailsham Parish and Hailsham PPG17 Area Assessment of multifunctional greenspace

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	**Type**	**Provision standard**	**Parish Current quantity (Sq m)**	**Parish Surplus / deficit (Sq m)**	**Area Current quantity (Sq m)**	**Area Surplus / deficit (Sq m)**	**Distance Threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
Allotments		1.5 sq m per person	27,066	deficit 2,421 (8 plots)	27,066	deficit 4,604 (15 plots)	U = 600m /10 mins walking. R = 3,750m /10 driving	Western side and eastern tip of Hailsham is outwith a 10 minute walk			Review the need for the Station Road site. Protect the other sites.
Childrens play facilities	under 8's and 8-12 year olds	0.325 sq m per person	10,141	Surplus 3,752	11,363	Surplus 4,501	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	Poor access to 8 - 12 year old facilities in the southern half of Hailsham	Facilities for 8 - 12 year olds		Protect and enhance value. Review the need for low quality and value sites.
	Teenage facilities	0.15 sq m per person	838	Deficit 2111	838	Deficit 2111	U = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	Northern part of Hailsham is outwith a 10 min cycle	2 teenage areas required		Protect and enhance value.
Outdoor sports facilities	Bowling Green	0.2 sq m per person	1,500	deficit 2,432 (10 rinks)	3,000	deficit 1,223 (5 rinks)	U = 900m / 15mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	North east, western side and southern tip of Hailsham	1 green in the Hailsham Area.	Although not a priority it would be desirable to locate 1 green in the Hailsham Area	Protect existing sites
	Cricket pitches and nets	5.0 sq m per person	1 adult pitch	NA	2 adult pitches and 2 practice nets	NA	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	North eastern half of Hailsham is outwith a 15 minute walk but within 1 15 minute cycle	There are adequate cricket pitches	It would be desirable to enahnce the Hailsham Club site.	Protect and enhance quality
	Football pitches	7 sq m per person	3 mini and 6 adult pitches	NA	3 mini and 6 adult pitches	NA	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Northern half of the town is outwith a 15 minute walk of an adult pitch	There are adequate football pitches	the College and Thornton pitches could be levelled to maximise community use	Protect and seek to enahnce value

Appendix 3

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	**Type**	**Provision standard**	**Parish Current quantity (Sq m)**	**Parish Surplus / deficit (Sq m)**	**Area Current quantity (Sq m)**	**Area Surplus / deficit (Sq m)**	**Distance Threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
	Rugby pitches	2 sq m per person	0	NA	1 adult pitch, 1 floodlit pitch and 2 junior pitches	NA	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The majority of Hailsham is outwith a 15 minute walk of a rugby pitch. Southern part is outwith a 15 min cycle.	An additional pitch is required for Hellingly	Hellingly are seeking to rent a field for an additional pitch due to flooding and club need.	Protect
	Multi - courts	0.13 sq m per person	3,330 (5 courts)	Surplus 774 (1 Court)	3,330 (5 courts)	Surplus 585 (1 Court)	W = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	Southern edge is outwith a 10 min walk of a court.	Only 1 court is open for public use.	Existing courts could be made publicly open prior to the consideration of new courts	Protect, enhance value and review the need for the Diplocks Ball Court
	Tennis courts	0.475 sq m per person	2,664 (4 courts)	Deficit 6,673 (10 courts)	2,664 (4 courts)	Deficit 7,365 (11 courts)	U = 900m / 15 ins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	North Hailsham is outwith a 15 minute walk.	The Hailsham Tennis Club courts have a high capacity, therefore there is no practical deficit.	There are currently no publicly accessible courts within the Hailsham area.	Seek to enhance value
	Artificial turf pitch	N/A	1 sand based pitch	NA	1 sand based pitch	NA	W = 5,625 / 15 mins driving		Desirable to locate 1 water based and 1 third generation ATP in Hailsham.	The pitches should be located at the Community College.	Replace

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	**Type**	**Provision standard**	**Parish Current quantity (Sq m)**	**Parish Surplus / deficit (Sq m)**	**Area Current quantity (Sq m)**	**Area Surplus / deficit (Sq m)**	**Distance Threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
Amenity greenspace		4 sq m per	68,386	deficit 10,246	68,386	deficit 16,066	W = 600m walking	Part of the centre of Hailsham is outwith a 5 min walk		It's a priority to enhance existing amenity space.	Protect, seek to enhance value and also review the need for lower value and quality sites.
Churchyard / cemetery		3 sq m per person	44,806	deficit 14,168	67,594	Surplus 4,255	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	Northern half of Hailsham is outwith a 5 minute walk of a CC	Not applicable	Unlikely for more CC to be built, therefore MFGS should be provided in other forms.	Protect and enhance.
Natural / semi-natural greenspace		ANGSt standard	36,266	NA	36,266	NA	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	The eastern half of Hailsham is outwith a 5 minute walk of a NGS.	There is a lack of good quality NGS is Hailsham	LSP desire to boost biodiversity in the district	Provide quality sites.
Parks and gardens		4.25 sq m per person	80,612	deficit 2,934	80,612	deficit 9,118	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Northern half and central strip is outwith a 5 minute walk			Protect
Outdoor sports facilities that also serve an amenity purpose by providing open-ness.	Pitches and playing fields	NA	86,124	NA	93,871	NA	N/A				Protect and enhance value
Multifunctional Green Space totals	AGS, CC,		316,194	NA	346,729	NA	w = 300m / 5 mins walking	All of the town apart from a part in the		There are a lot of sites of low quality and low value	Protect and enhance quality and value of sites.

Appendix 3

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	**Type**	**Provision standard**	**Parish Current quantity (Sq m)**	**Parish Surplus / deficit (Sq m)**	**Area Current quantity (Sq m)**	**Area Surplus / deficit (Sq m)**	**Distance Threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
	NGS, OSF, PG							north east is within a 5 minute walk of at least one greenspace.		especially in the north of Hailsham.	
	AGS, CC, NGS, PG	15 sq m per person	230,070	deficit 64,800	252,858	deficit 63,837				There is a lack of good natural greenspaces	
	AGS, CC PG	11.25 sq m per person	193,804	deficit 27,349	216,592	deficit 20,929				there is a huge reliance on the Country park.	

Appendix 3C: Heathfield Central and North Ward, Heathfield Parish and Heathfield PPG17 Area Assessment of multifunctional greenspace

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)							Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	**Type**	**Provision standard**	**Central and north Ward Current Quantity**	**Central and north ward Surplus / deficit**	**Parish Current quantity**	**Parish Surplus / deficit**	**PPG17 Area Current quantity**	**PPG17 Area Surplus / Deficit**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
Allotments		1.5 sq m per person	0	deficit 11,583 (37 plots)	0	deficit 17,109 (54 plots)	0	deficit 22,836 (72 plots)	U = 600m /10 mins walking. R = 3,750m /10 driving	There are no allotments within the Heathfield Area			Allocate a site or sites in Heathfield for allotments
Childrens play facilities	under 8s and 8-12 year olds play facilities	0.325 sq m per person	2,012	Deficit 498	3,711	Surplus 5	4,203	Deficit 745	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	South eastern and western tip are outwith a 10 min walk			Protect and enhance value. Review the need for low quality and value sites.
	Teenage facilities	0.15sq m per person	357	deficit 801	357	Deficit 1,354	357	deficit 1,927	U = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	The whole of Heathfield and Waldron Ward is outwith a 10 min cycle.	2 areas required		Protect and enhance value
Sports facilities	Bowling Green	0.2 sq m per person	0	1,544 (1 Green)	1500	deficit 781	3000	deficit 45	U = 900m / 15mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The whole of Heathfield is outwith a 15 minute walk of a green		No need for further provision.	Protect
	Cricket pitches and nets	5.0 sq m per person	0	NA	2 pitches and 2 nets	NA	2 pitches and 2 nets	NA	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15	Heathfield is not within a 15 minute walk, however		Adequate provision across the district	Protect, enhance quality and review the

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)							Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	**Type**	**Provision standard**	**Central and north Ward Current Quantity**	**Central and north ward Surplus / deficit**	**Parish Current quantity**	**Parish Surplus / deficit**	**PPG17 Area Current quantity**	**PPG17 Area Surplus / Deficit**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
									mins driving	it is within a 15 minute drive.			need for the Waldron pitch.
	Football pitches	7 sq m per person	2 adult pitches and I junior	NA	8 pitches and 2 junior	NA	9 adult pitches and 3 junior	NA	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving			Improve changing facilities at Heathfield Recreation ground	Protect, enhance quality and value
	Rugby pitches (deviates from PPG17)	2 sq m per person	0	NA	3	NA	3	NA	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Heathfield is outwith a 15 minute walk, however it is within a 15 minute cycle/drive.	Adequate provision		Protect and enhance value and quality
	Multi-courts	0.13 sq m per person	0	deficit 1,004 (2 courts)	1	deficit 817 (1 court)	2	deficit 647 (1 Courts)	W = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	Heathfield is outwith a 10 minute walk of a multi-court		The 1 existing court is for school use only. There is a need for 3 publicly available courts in total. One additional court is therefore required.	Protect and enhance value
	Tennis courts	0.475 sq m per person	0	deficit 3,668 (5 courts)	6 courts	deficit 1,422 (2 courts)	9 courts	deficit 1,237 (2 courts)	U = 900m / 15 ins walking R =	There are no publicly accessible		There is a need for around 2	Protect enhance quality and

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)							Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	**Type**	**Provision standard**	**Central and north Ward Current Quantity**	**Central and north ward Surplus / deficit**	**Parish Current quantity**	**Parish Surplus / deficit**	**PPG17 Area Current quantity**	**PPG17 Area Surplus / Deficit**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
									5,625 / 15 mins driving	courts in Heathfield. The town is outwith a 15 minute cycle ride of public courts.		additional courts in the Heathfield area.	value or review the need for particular sites.
	Artificial turf pitch	N/A	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	W = 5,625 / 15 mins driving		Ideally pitches would be better located elsewhere in the district		
Amenity greenspace		4 sq m per person	9,913	deficit 20,975	12,022	deficit 33,602	25,726	deficit 35,170	W = 600m walking			There is only 1 amenity greenspace within Heathfield Town.	Protect, enhance quality and value
Churchyard / cemetery		3 sq m per person	7,613	deficit 15,553	18,184	deficit 16,034	23,591	deficit 22,081	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	Only a small part of the town is within a 5 minute walk of a CC.		There is only 1 CC within Heathfield town.	Protect and enhance value
Natural / semi-natural greenspace		ANGSt standard	16,843	NA	1,570,798	NA	1,592,788	NA	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	Western half is outwith a NGS		There is a lack of high quality places.	Protect, enhance quality and value
Parks and gardens		4.25 sq m per person	0	deficit 32,819	0	deficit 48476	347,891	Surplus 283,189	U = 900m / 15 mins	There is no park or		It would be desirable to enhance	

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Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)							Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	**Type**	**Provision standard**	**Central and north Ward Current Quantity**	**Central and north ward Surplus / deficit**	**Parish Current quantity**	**Parish Surplus / deficit**	**PPG17 Area Current quantity**	**PPG17 Area Surplus / Deficit**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
									walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	garden in the main town.		Heathfield Park.	
Outdoor Sports Facilities that also serve an amenity purpose by providing open-ness.	Pitches and playing fields	NA	37,423	NA	286,298	NA	368,984	NA	N/A	Half of the town is outwith a 5 minute walk.		There is a need to enhance facilities	Protect, enhance quality and value and review the need for low quality and value spaces.
Multifunctional Green Space totals	AGS, CC, NGS, OSF, PG		71,792	NA	1,887,302	NA	2,358,980	NA	w = 300m / 5 mins walking	All of the town apart from the northern tip is within a 5 minute walk of a green space		Heathfield has a surplus of greenspace however Heathfield Park dominates and there is a lack of high quality and value spaces. The green network is disjointed and limited.	
	AGS, CC, NGS, PG	15 sq m per person	34,369	deficit 81,461	1,601,004	surplus 1,429,914	1,989,996	surplus 1,761,636					

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)							Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	Type	Provision standard	Central and north Ward Current Quantity	Central and north ward Surplus / deficit	Parish Current quantity	Parish Surplus / deficit	PPG17 Area Current quantity	PPG17 Area Surplus / Deficit	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
	AGS, CC PG	11.25 sq m per person	17,526	deficit 69,347	30,206	deficit 98,112	397,208	surplus 225,938					

Appendix 3

Appendix 3D: Polegate PPG17 Area Assessment of multifunctional greenspace

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	**Type**	**Provision standard**	**Area Current quantity**	**Area Surplus / Deficit**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
Allotments		1.5 sq m per person	7,822	deficit 16,348 (52 plots)	U = 600m /10 mins walking. R = 3,750m /10 driving	The majority of the area is outwith a 10 minute walk	Main part of Polegate, north of the railway and east Willingdon	The allotments at Glen Cottage are in poor condition and allotments should be relocated.	Protect and review the need for Glen Cottage site.
Childrens play facilities	under 8s and 8-12 year olds play facilities	0.325 sq m per person	3,559	deficit 1,678	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	Northern Polegate is outwith a 10 min walk of a site for under 8's and the eastern tip and south east of lower willingdon is outwith a 10 min walk of an 8-12 year old site.			Protect and enhance value
	Teenage facilities	0.15 sq m per person	836	deficit 1,580	U = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	the norther tip is outwith a 10 min cycle.	1 area required		Protect and enhance value.
Sports facilities	Bowling Green	0.2 sq m per person	0	deficit 3,223 (13 rinks)	U = 900m / 15mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	No access within 15 minute walk		Only 1 green may be required due to close proximity to Eastbourne.	The Pleasure Ground would be a good location for a green.
	Cricket pitches and nets	5.0 sq m per person	3 pitches	NA	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Majority of Polegate and Willingdon is within 15 minute walk	Adequate pitches	Enhance pitches	
	Football pitches	7 sq m per person	5 adult pitches and 2 junior	NA	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Majority of Polegate and Willingdon is within 15 minute walk	Adequate pitches	Enhance pitches and seek dual use at polegate Primary.	Protect and enhance value. Review the need for Brightling Recreation ground pitch.

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	**Type**	**Provision standard**	**Area Current quantity**	**Area Surplus / Deficit**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
	Rugby pitches (deviates from PPG17)	2 sq m per person	0	NA	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	There are no rugby pitches in the Polegate Area			
	Multi-courts	0.13 sq m per person	0	deficit 2,095 (3 courts)	W = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	There are no multi-courts in the area	Whole area		There is a need for 3 courts
	Tennis courts	0.475 sq m per person	0	deficit 7,654 (11 courts)	U = 900m / 15 ins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	There are no tennis courts in the area	Whole area	There are very good tennis facilities in Eastbourne	There is a need to provide some tennis facilities.
	Artificial turf pitch	N/A	0	NA	W = 5,625 / 15 mins driving				
Amenity greenspace		4 sq m per	43,858	deficit 20,594	W = 600m walking	Polegate is not within a 5 minute walk			Protect and enhance quality and value
Churchyard / cemetery		3 sq m per person	44,385	deficit 3,954	W = 600m / 10 mins walking				Protect and enhance value and quality
Natural / semi-natural greenspace		ANGSt standard	4,974,469	NA	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	Eastern half of Polegate is outwith a 5 minute walk of a natural greenspace.			Protect and enhance quality and value. Review the need for Parogon Field
Parks and gardens		4.25 sq m per person	0	68,480	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	No Parks and gardens within area		It would be desirable to enhance Hindslands to make more 'park like'.	

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Appendix 3

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	**Type**	**Provision standard**	**Area Current quantity**	**Area Surplus / Deficit**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
Outdoor Sports Facilities that also serve an amenity purpose by providing open-ness.	Pitches and playing fields	NA	302,813	NA	N/A			Outdoor sports facilities make up a significant part of the Polehate network.	Protect, enhance quality and value and review the need for some sites for outdoor facilities.
Multifunctional Green Space totals	AGS, CC, NGS, OSF, PG	N/A	5,365,525	NA	w = 300m / 5 mins walking	Most aeas are within a 5 minute walk		Most spaces require enhancement especially in the Stone Cross area	
	AGS, CC, NGS, PG	15 sq m per person	5,062,712	Surplus 4,821,017					
	AGS, CC PG	11.25 sq m per person	88,243	deficit 93,028					

Appendix 3E: Uckfield Parish and Uckfield PPG17 Area Assessment of multifunctional greenspace

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
PPG17 Open space	**Type**	**Quantity standard**	**Parish Current quantity**	**Parish Surplus / deficit**	**Area Current quantity**	**Area Surplus / deficit**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
Allotments		1.5 sq m per person	69,943	Surplus 49,398	87,949	surplus 53,056	U = 600m /10 mins walking. R = 3,750m /10 driving	Northern tip of the town is outwith a 10 minute walk.	Uckfield has a surplus of plots in relation to the provision standard.	There are only a handful of plots without tenants	Protect, enhance quality and value and review the need for low quality and value sites.
Children's play facilities	under 8s and 8-12 year olds play facilities	0.325 sq m per person	7,334	Surplus 2,882	14,641	surplus 7,081	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	Framfield Road and Mallard Drive area are outwith a 10 min walk			Protect and enhance quality and value. Review the need for low quality and value sites.
	Teenage facilities	0.15 sq m per person	2092	surplus 37	5,703	surplus 2,214	U = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	Uckfield town is within a 10 min cycle			Protect and enhance value
Sports facilities	Bowling Green	0.2 sq m per person	1000	deficit 1,739 (7 rinks)	5,500	surplus 848 (3 rinks)	U = 900m / 15mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The south and north eastern part is outwith a 15 minute walk.	Adequate supply		Protect
	Cricket pitches and nets	5.0 sq m per person	3	NA	10 adult pitches and 3 practice nets	NA	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The whole of Uckfield is within a 15 minute walk.	Adequate provision		Protect and enhance value. Review the need for the Hadlow Down Site as its low value and quality.

Appendix 3

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
PPG17 Open space	**Type**	**Quantity standard**	**Parish Current quantity**	**Parish Surplus / deficit**	**Area Current quantity**	**Area Surplus / deficit**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
	Football pitches	7 sq m per person	4 adult pitches and 2 junior	NA	8 adult pitches and 4 junior pitches	NA	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The whole of Uckfield is within a 15 minute walk.	Adequate provision		Protect, enhance quality and value and review the need for low quality and value sites.
	Rugby pitches (deviates from PPG17)	2 sq m per person	3 adult pitches and 1 junior	NA	3 adult pitches and 1 junior	NA	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	South and western part of the town is outwith a 15 minute walk.	Adequate provision	There is a need for better grounds maintenance and drainage.	Protect and enhance quality.
	Multi-courts	0.13 sq m per person	0	deficit 1781 (3 courts)	0	deficit 3,024 (5 courts)	W = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	There are no courts within Uckfield.	Requirement for 5 multi courts in the area.		
	Tennis courts	0.475 sq m per person	2 courts	8 courts	7 courts (5 of which are floodlit)	10 courts	U = 900m / 15 ins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Northern part of town is outwith a 15 minute walk.	Northern part of town.	Existing facilities need enhancing	Seek to enhance facilities.
	Artificial turf pitch	N/A	0	NA	0	NA	W = 5,625 / 15 mins driving		A third generation ATP		It would be desirable to locate an ATP in Uckfield.
Amenity greenspace		4 sq m per	97,156	surplus 42,368	117,992	surplus 24,944	W = 600m walking	South eastern and western tip is outwith a 5 minute walk		Most of the AGS require enhancement	Protect, enhance quality and value and review the need for low quality and value sites.

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
PPG17 Open space	**Type**	**Quantity standard**	**Parish Current quantity**	**Parish Surplus / deficit**	**Area Current quantity**	**Area Surplus / deficit**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
Churchyard / cemetery		3 sq m per person	15,120	deficit 25,971	68,345	deficit 1,441	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	The majority of the town is outwith a 5 minute walk of a CC.	NA	There is only one greenspace associated with CC in Uckfield.	Protect, enhance quality and value and review the need for low quality and value sites.
Natural / semi-natural greenspace		ANGSt standard	318,676	NA	1,195,412	NA	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	Approx. a quarter of the town is outwith a 5 minute walk of a NGS.		There is a good range of NGS and all of the town is within a 10 minute walk	Protect and enhance quality.
Parks and gardens		4.25 sq m per person	17,739	deficit 40473	20,745	deficit 78,119	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The majority of the town is outwith a 5 minute walk of a PG		There is only one park within Uckfield Town.	Protect
Outdoor Sports Facilities that also serve an amenity purpose by providing open-ness.	Pitches and playing fields	NA	466,196	NA	880,868	NA	N/A	Majority of the town is within a 5 minute walk of an OSF.		OSF make up a significant part of the Green Network in Uckfield.	Protect, enhance quality and value and review the need for low quality and value sites.
Multifunctional Green Space totals	AGS, CC, NGS, OSF, PG		914,887	NA	2,283,362	NA	w = 300m / 5 mins walking	The whole of Uckfield is within a 5 minute walk of a green space		Uckfield has an extensive green network, however, there are few green links.	

Appendix 3

Appendix 3

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
PPG17 Open space	Type	Quantity standard	Parish Current quantity	Parish Surplus / deficit	Area Current quantity	Area Surplus / deficit	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
	AGS, CC, NGS, PG	15 sq m per person	448,691	surplus 243,236	1,402,494	surplus 1,053,564					
	AGS, CC PG	11.25 sq m per person	130,015	deficit 24,076	207,082	deficit 54,616					

Appendix 3F: North East PPG17 Area Assessment of multifunctional greenspace

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space areas	**Type**	**Quantity standard**	**Area Current quantity**	**Area Surplus / deficit**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
Allotments		1.5 sq m per person	36,724	Surplus 22,111	U = 600m /10 mins walking. R = 3,750m /10 driving	A sparsely populated area is outwith a 10 minute drive to the south of the area.	The towns are the main priority for the provision of more allotments across the district.	34% of allotment plots are untenanted. This may be due to poor condition of plots or a lack of demand.	Protect sites and review the need for the allotment site located at Frant
Childrens play facilities	under 8s and 8-12 year olds play facilities	0.325 sq m per person	3,016	Deficit 150	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	Accessibility is poor across the area however there is an equipped play area for both the under 8s and 8-12s in each of the main settlements of Frant, Mayfield and Wadhurst.			Protect and seek to enhance quality and value of sites.
	Teenage facilities	0.15 sq m per person	710	deficit 751	U = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	Accessibility is poor with only one teenage area located in Mayfield.	1 teenage area required, however, priority should be in Hailsham, Heathfield and Polegate.	In rural areas the number of sites required depends on number of settlements rather than quantity standard.	Seek to enhance value of site.
Sports facilities	Bowling Green	0.2 sq m per person	6,000	Surplus 4,052	U = 900m / 15mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The majority of the North East area is within a 15 minute drive. Only the eastern tip is outwith. This area is sparsely populated.	Adequate provision		Protect sites.
	Cricket pitches and nets	5.0 sq m per person	5 pitches and 4	N/A	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R	Accessibility across the district is excellent	The present level of		Protect and enhance value. Review the need

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space areas	**Type**	**Quantity standard**	**Area Current quantity**	**Area Surplus / deficit**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
			practice nets		= 5,625 / 15 mins driving		provision is adequate.		for low quality and value sites.
	Football pitches	7 sq m per person	8 Adult and 2 junior pitches	N/A	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The whole of the north east is within a 15 minute drive of an adult football pitch. A sparsely populated area is outwith a 15 minute drive of a junior pitch and a high quality / value pitch.	There is a limited need for more pitches across the district however it would be beneficial to meet this need by opening up school pitches for community use.		Protect and enhance value. Review the need for low quality and value sites.
	Rugby pitches (deviates from PPG17)	2 sq m per person	0	N/A	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Accessibility is generally poor with only Mayfield within a 15 minute drive of a rugby pitch.	N/A	There is currently adequate provision of pitches in relation to the number of teams in the District. However, training areas and more junior / mini pitches are required.	N/A
	Multi-courts	0.13 sq m per person	7,992	Surplus 6,726 (10 courts)	W = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	Two thirds of the north east are within a 15 minute drive of a court with Frant being the ward outwith.	N/A	Floodlights are required for courts as this will increase the capacity of existing courts to accommodate additional demand from new	Protect and seek to enhance value. Review the need for low quality and value courts

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space areas	**Type**	**Quantity standard**	**Area Current quantity**	**Area Surplus / deficit**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
								development. A netball centre is required of which Mayfield College should be considered as a potential site.	
	Tennis courts	0.475 sq m per person	23 courts	Surplus of 16 courts	U = 900m / 15 ins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The whole of the norh east area is within a 15 minute drive of a tennis court.	N/A	Priority should be to maximise the use of existing courts through the provision of floodlighting, better playing surfaces. This should increase capacity on the existing courts to accommodate additional demand arising from any new development.	Enhance value of sites and review the need for low quality and low value sites.
	Artificial turf pitch	Not appropriate	0	N/A	W = 5,625 / 15 mins driving				
Amenity greenspace		4 sq m per person	14,895	Deficit 24,073	W = 600m walking	The majority of the North East area is outwith a 10 minute walk of an amenity greenspace, although the main settlements of Mayfield, Frant, Bells Yew Green and the south eastern area of Wadhurst have good access. the rest of the area is sparsely populated.	To be looked at as part of MFGS		Protect and enhance quality and value of sites. Review the need for low quality and value of specific sites.
Churchyard / cemetery		3 sq m per person	46,036	Surplus 16,810	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	The majority of the North East area is outwith a 10 minute	Not applicable	Unlikely for more CC to be built, therefore	Protect and enhance quality

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space areas	**Type**	**Quantity standard**	**Area Current quantity**	**Area Surplus / deficit**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
						walk of a churchyard/ cemetery, although the main settlements of Mayfield, Frant, Bells Yew Green and the south eastern area of Wadhurst have good access. the rest of the area is sparsely populated.		MFGS should be provided in other forms.	and value of specific sites. Review the need for low quality and value sites.
Natural / semi-natural greenspace		ANGSt standard	1,570,643	N/A	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	The majority of the north east area is outwith a 10 minute walk from a NGS with the exception of Frant.		LSP desire to boost Biodiversity in the district.	Protect and enhance quality of specific sites.
Parks and gardens		4.25 sq m per person	2,291,530	Surplus 2,250,127	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The majority of the North East area is outwith a 10 minute walk of a Park / garden, although the main settlements with the exception of Bells Yew Green have good access. The rest of the area is sparsely populated.	To be looked at as part of MFGS		Protect and enhance value of sites and review the need for low quality and value sites.
Outdoor Sports Facilities that also serve an amenity purpose by providing open-ness.	Pitches and playing fields	NA	489,214	N/A	N/A	There is good access to outsdoor sports facilities within each of the main settlements. The rest of the area is sparsely populated.	To be looked at as part of MFGS		Protect and enhance quality and value of specific sites. Review the need for low quality and value sites.
Multifunctional Green Space totals	AGS, CC, NGS, OSF, PG		4,412,318	N/A	w = 300m / 5 mins walking	There is good access to the green network within each of the main settlements		There is also good access to the countryside within the North east area	

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space areas	Type	Quantity standard	Area Current quantity	Area Surplus / deficit	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
								surrounding the settlements.	
	AGS, CC, NGS, PG	15 sq m per person	3,923,104	Surplus 3,776,974					
	AGS, CC PG	11.25 sq m per person	2,352,461	Surplus 2,242,863					

Appendix 3

Appendix 3G: North West PGG17 Area Assessment of multifunctional greenspace

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	Type	Quantity standard	Area Current quantity (Sq m)	Area Surplus / Deficit (Sq m)	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
Allotments		1.5 sq m per person	6,580	Deficit 12,386	U = 600m /10 mins walking. R = 3,750m /10 driving	The north eastern areas and southern part of the North western area are not within a 10 minute drive. These areas are sparsely populated.	The towns are the main priority for the provision of more allotments across the district.		Protect
Play and youth facilities	under 8s and 8-12 year olds play facilities	0.325 sq m per person	3,585	deficit 524	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	Accessibility is poor in the more rural areas however there is a play area for the under 8s and 8-12s in each main village (Groombridge, Hartfield, Forest Row and Danehill			Protect and enhance quality and value of sites. Review the need for low quality and value sites.
	Teenage facilities	0.15 sq m per person	385	deficit 1,511	U = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	Accessibility is poor with only one teenage area located in Forest Row.	1 teenage area required, however, priority should be in Hailsham, Heathfield and polegate.	In rural areas the number of sites required depends on number of settlements rather than quantity standard.	Protect and enhance value of site
Sports facilities	Bowling Green	0.2 sq m per person	1,500	Deficit 1,029	U = 900m / 15mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The northern parts of Forest Row, Hartfield and Withyham are outwith a 15 minute drive. However, these areas are sparsely populated.	1 green required - Possible location Forest Row.		Protect

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	Type	Quantity standard	Area Current quantity (Sq m)	Area Surplus / Deficit (Sq m)	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
	Cricket pitches and nets	5.0 sq m per person	6 pitches and 5 practice nets	N/A	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Accessibility across the district is excellent	The present level of provision is adequate.		Protect and enhance value. Review the need for low quality and value sites.
	Football pitches	7 sq m per person	3 Adult, 3 Junior and 1 mini pitch	N/A	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The whole of the north west is within a 15 minute drive of a pitch. However, these pitches are not of high quality or value. Withyham is outwith a 15 minute drive of a junior/mini pitch.	There is a limited need for more pitches across the district however it would be beneficial to meet this need by opening up school pitches for community use.		Protect and enhance quality and value. Review the need for low quality and value sites.
	Rugby pitches (deviates from PPG17)	2 sq m per person	0		U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Accessibility is poor with only a small proportion of Withyham and Fletching within a 15 minute drive of a pitch.	There is currently adequate provision of pitches in relation to the number of teams in the District. However, training areas and more junior / mini pitches are required.		N/A
	Multi-courts	0.13 sq m per person	1,998 (3 courts)	Surplus 354 (1 Court)	W = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	Half of the north west area is outwith a 15 minute drive including Hartfield and Withyham. This area is sparsely populated.	N/A	Floodlights are required for courts as this will increase the capacity of existing courts	Protect and enhance quality and value.

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Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	Type	Quantity standard	Area Current quantity (Sq m)	Area Surplus / Deficit (Sq m)	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
								to accommodate additional demand from new development.	
	Tennis courts	0.475 sq m per person	8	deficit 1 court	U = 900m / 15 ins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The majority of the north west are is within a 15 minute drive.			Protect and enhance value. Review the need for low quality and value sites.
	Artificial turf pitch	Not appropriate	0	N/A	W = 5,625 / 15 mins driving				
Amenity greenspace		4 sq m per person	471,497	Surplus 420,921	W = 600m walking	The majority of the North East area is outwith a 10 minute walk of an amenity greenspace, although the main settlements (apart from Danehill) have good access. The rest of the area is sparsely populated.	To be looked at as part of MFGS		Protect and enhance quality and value. Review the need for low quality and value sites.
Churchyard / cemetery		3 sq m per person	61,173	Surplus 23,241	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	The majority of the North East area is outwith a 10 minute walk of a churchyard / cemetery, although the main settlements (apart from Danehill) have good access. The rest of the area is sparsely populated.	Not applicable	Unlikely for more CC to be built, therefore MFGS should be provided in other forms.	Protect and enhance value.
Natural / semi-natural greenspace		ANGSt standard	8,527,079	N/A	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	The majority of the north east area is outwith a 10 minute walk from a NGS with the exception of Forest Row, Holtye, Wych		LSP desire to boost Biodiversity in the district.	Protect and enhance quality. Review the need

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus/deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	Type	Quantity standard	Area Current quantity (Sq m)	Area Surplus / Deficit (Sq m)	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
						Cross, Groombridge and Hammerwood. The rest of the area is sparsely populated.			for low quality and value sites.
Parks and gardens		4.25 sq m per person	4,303,981	Surplus 4,250,244	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The majority of the north west area is outwith a 10 minute walk of a park / garden with the exception of Forest Row, Hammerwood, Groombridge and Fletching.	To be looked at as part of MFGS		Protect and enhance value.
Outdoor Sports Facilities that also serve an amenity purpose by providing open-ness.	Pitches and playing fields	NA	3,230,097	N/A	N/A	The majority of the north west area is outwith a 10 minute walk of an OSF. However, the main settlements have good access. The rest of the area is sparsely populated.	To be looked at as part of MFGS		Protect and enhance value and quality. Review the need for low quality and value sites.
Multifunctional Green Space totals	AGS, CC, NGS, OSF, PG	N/A	16,593,827	N/A	w = 300m / 5 mins walking	There is good access to the green network within each of the main settlements. The rest of the area is sparsely populated.		There is also good access to the countryside within the North west area surrounding the settlements.	
	AGS, CC, NGS, PG	15 sq m per person	13,363,730	Surplus 13,174,070					
	AGS, CC PG	11.25 sq m per person	4,836,651	Surplus 4,694,406					

Appendix 3

Appendix 3H: South East PPG17 Area Assessment of multifunctional greenspace

Open space area and type					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open Space Areas	Type	Quantity standard	Area Current quantity (Sq m)	Area Surplus / Deficit (Sq m)	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
Allotments		1.5 sq m per person	23,624	Surplus 3,880	U = 600m /10 mins walking. R = 3,750m /10 driving	A sparsely populated area is outwith a 10 minute drive to the north of the area.	The towns are the main priority for the provision of more allotments across the district.		Protect and review the need for low value and low quality sites.
Play and youth facilities	under 8s and 8-12 year olds play facilities	0.325 sq m per person	4,537	surplus 259	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	Whilst sparsely populated there are large areas outwith a 10 minute walk of a playground.			Protect and enhance value.
	Teenage facilities	0.15 sq m per person	1,900	deficit 74	U = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	There is a teenage area located in Pevensey, Stone Cross and Herstmonceux. The area outwith a 10 minute walk is sparsely populated.	0 required	In rural areas the number of sites required depends on number of settlements rather than quantity standard.	There is adequate provision
Sports facilities	Bowling Green	0.2 sq m per person	2,250	Deficit 383	U = 900m / 15mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Only the southern parts of Pevensey and Westham are outwith a 15 drive.	0 required		Protect and enhance.
	Cricket pitches and nets	5.0 sq m per person	3 pitches and 3 practice nets	N/A	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Accessibility across the district is excellent	The present level of provision is adequate.		Protect and enhance value. Review the need for low quality and value sites.

Open space area and type					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open Space Areas	Type	Quantity standard	Area Current quantity (Sq m)	Area Surplus / Deficit (Sq m)	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
	Football pitches	7 sq m per person	5 Adult and 1 Junior pitch	N/A	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The whole of the south east area is within a 15 minute drive of a high quality and value adult pitch. Herstmonceux and Pevensey are not within a 15 minute drive of a junior . Mini pitch	There is a limited need for more pitches across the district however it would be beneficial to meet this need by opening up school pitches for community use.		Protect and enhance qulaity and value.
	Rugby pitches (deviates from PPG17)	2 sq m per person	0		U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Accessibility is poor with only a small part of the area being within a 15 minute drive	There is currently adequate provision of pitches in relation to the number of teams in the District. However, training areasand more junior / mini pitches are required.		N/A
	Multi-courts	0.13 sq m per person	0	Deficit 1,998 (3 courts)	W = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	The majority of the south east area is outwith a 15 minute drive.			N/A
	Tennis courts	0.475 sq m per person	1 court	Deficit 8 courts	U = 900m / 15 ins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The majority of the south east area is within a 15 minute drive aprt form Pevensey and East Dean.			Review the need for low quality and value site.
	Artificial turf pitch	Not appropriate	0	N/A	W = 5,625 / 15 mins driving				

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Open space area and type					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open Space Areas	Type	Quantity standard	Area Current quantity (Sq m)	Area Surplus / Deficit (Sq m)	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
Amenity greenspace		4 sq m per person	88,077	Surplus 35,425	W = 600m walking	The majority of the south east area is outwith a 10 minute walk however the larger settlements are within a 10 minute walk. Ninfield, Hooe and wartling are outwith a 10 minute walk. The rest of the area is sparsely populated.	To be looked at as part of MFGS		Protect, enhance value and review the need for low quality and value sites.
Churchyard / cemetery		3 sq m per person	25,816	Deficit 13,673	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	The majority of the south east area is outwith a 10 minute walk including Pevensey, Herstmonceux and Wartling. The rest of the area is sparsely populated.	Not applicable	Unlikely for more CC to be built, therefore MFGS should be provided in other forms.	Protect and review the need for low quality and value site.
Natural / semi-natural greenspace		ANGSt standard	208,910	N/A	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	The majority of the south east area is outwith a 10 minute walk of a NGS including Herstmonceux and Wartling and Ninfield. The rest of the area is sparsely populated.		LSP desire to boost Biodiversity in the district.	Protect and enhance quality and value. Review the need for low quality and value sites.
Parks and gardens		4.25 sq m per person	642,936	Surplus 586,993	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The majority of the south east is outwith a 10 minute walk with the exception of Hooe and Herstmonceux castle. The rest of the area is sparsely populated.	To be looked at as part of MFGS		Protect and review the need for low quality and value sites.
Outdoor Sports Facilities that also serve an amenity purpose by	Pitches and playing fields	NA	122,686	N/A	N/A	The majority of the south east is outwith a 10 minute walk including Pevensey Bay and Wartling. The rest of the area is sparsely populated.	To be looked at as part of MFGS	The majority of sites of low quality and value.	Protect and enhance value. Review the need for low quality and value sites.

Open space area and type					Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open Space Areas	Type	Quantity standard	Area Current quantity (Sq m)	Area Surplus / Deficit (Sq m)	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
providing open-ness.									
Multifunctional Green Space totals	AGS, CC, NGS, OSF, PG		1,088,425		w = 300m / 5 mins walking	The majority of the south east area is outwith a 5 minute walk of the green network. However, the main settlements all have access. The rest of the area is sparsely populated.		There is also good access to the countryside within the South East area surrounding the settlements including the Pevensey Levels.	
	AGS, CC, NGS, PG	15 sq m per person	965,739	Surplus 768,294					
	AGS, CC PG	11.25 sq m per person	756,829	Surplus 608,745					

Appendix 3

Appendix 3I: South West PPG17 Area Assessment of multifunctional greenspace

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	Type	Quantity standard	Area Current quantity	Area Surplus / Deficit	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
Allotments		1.5 sq m per person	8,016	Surplus 5762	U = 600m /10 mins walking. R = 3,750m /10 driving	A sparsely populated area is outwith a 10 minute drive to both the south and north of the area.	The towns are the main priority for the provision of more allotments across the district.		Protect and enhance quality of sites.
Play and youth facilities	under 8s and 8-12 year olds play facilities	0.325 sq m per person	1,529	Surplus 1,041	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	Whilst sparsely populated the majority of the area is outwith a 10 minute walk of a playground.			Protect.
	Teenage facilities	0.15 sq m per person	0	Deficit 225	U = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling		0 required.	In rural areas the number of sites required depends on number of settlements rather than quantity standard.	
Sports facilities	Bowling Green	0.2 sq m per person	0	Deficit 301	U = 900m / 15mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The southwest area is completely outwith a 15 minute drive	0 required.		N/A
	Cricket pitches and nets	5.0 sq m per person	2 pitches and 1 practice net	N/A	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Accessibility across the district is excellent	The present level of provision is adequate.		Protect and enhance quality. Review the need for low quality and value site.

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	Type	Quantity standard	Area Current quantity	Area Surplus / Deficit	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
	Football pitches	7 sq m per person	1 adult and 1 junior pitch	N/A	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	the majority of the south west is within a 15 minute drive of an adult pitch. However, access is poor to a high quality and value pitch. There is access to a junior pitch.	There is a limited need for more pitches across the district however it would be beneficial to meet this need by opening up school pitches for community use.		Protect and review the need for low quality and value site.
	Rugby pitches (deviates from PPG17)	2 sq m per person	0	N/A	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Accessibility is poor with only a small part of the area being within a 15 minute drive	There is currently adequate provision of pitches in relation to the number of teams in the District. However, training areasand more junior / mini pitches are required.		N/A
	Multi-courts	0.13 sq m per person	0	0	W = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	the whole of the south west is outwith a 15 minute drive.	Not required.		N/A
	Tennis courts	0.475 sq m per person	5 courts	Surplus of 4 courts	U = 900m / 15 ins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The whole of the south west are is within a 15 minute drive.			Protect and enhance value.
	Artificial turf pitch	Not appropriate			W = 5,625 / 15 mins driving				
Amenity greenspace		4 sq m per person	0	Deficit 6,012	W = 600m walking	The whole of the south west area is outwith a 10 minute walk		To be looked at as part of MFGS	N/A

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Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	Type	Quantity standard	Area Current quantity	Area Surplus / Deficit	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
Churchyard / cemetery		3 sq m per person	18,207	Surplus 13698	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	Each of the settlements is within a ten minute walk. The rest of the area is outwith however the area is sparsely populated.	Not applicable	Unlikely for more CC to be built, therefore MFGS should be provided in other forms.	Protect and enhance quality and value. Review the need for low quality and value site.
Natural / semi-natural greenspace		ANGSt standard	11,897,438	N/A	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	The southern part of the area is within a 10 minute walk of a NGS. The northern part is outwith.		LSP desire to boost Biodiversity in the district.	Protect.
Parks and gardens		4.25 sq m per person	0	Deficit 6,388	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The whole area is outwith a 10 minute walk of a park / garden.	To be looked at as part of MFGS		N/A
Outdoor Sports Facilities that also serve an amenity purpose by providing open-ness.	Pitches and playing fields	NA	61,208	N/A	N/A	The majority of the area is outwith a 10 minute walk of an OSF apart from Alfriston, Berwick, Selmeston and Upper Dicker, however the area is sparsely populated.	To be looked at as part of MFGS		Protect and enhance quality and value. Review the need for low quality and value space.
Multifunctional Green Space totals	AGS, CC, NGS, OSF, PG		11,976,853		w = 300m / 5 mins walking	The majority of the northern part of the south west area is outwith a 5 minute walk of the green network. However, each of the main settlements are within a 10 minute walk.		There is also good access to the countryside within the South west area surrounding the settlements.	

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Areas	Type	Quantity standard	Area Current quantity	Area Surplus / Deficit	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
	AGS, CC, NGS, PG	15 sq m per person	11,915,645	Surplus 11,893,100					
	AGS, CC PG	11.25 sq m per person	18,207	Surplus 1,298					

Appendix 3

Appendix 3J: Western PPG17 Area Assessment of multifunctional greenspace

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Area	**Type**	**Quantity standard**	**Area Current quantity (sq m)**	**Area Surplus / Deficit (sq m)**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
Allotments		1.5 sq m per person	6,135	Deficit 116	U = 600m /10 mins walking. R = 3,750m /10 driving	Approximately half of the area to the north is outwith a 10 minute drive	The towns are the main priority for the provision of more allotments across the district.		Protect site.
Play and youth facilities	Under 8's facilities and 8 - 12's facilities	0.325 sq m per person	3,437	Surplus 2,083	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	Whilst sparsely populated the majority of the area is outwith a 10 minute walk of a playground.			Protect, enhance value and review the need for low quality and value site.
	Teenage facilities	0.15 sq m per person	0	Deficit 625	U = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling		1 teenage area required, however, priority should be in Hailsham, Heathfield and Polegate.	In rural areas the number of sites required depends on number of settlements rather than quantity standard.	N/A
Sports facilities	Bowling Green	0.2 sq m per person	0	deficit 833	U = 900m / 15mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Nearly the whole of the area is within a 15 minute drive	1 green required - possible location East Hoathly Recreation Ground.		N/A
	Cricket pitches and nets	5.0 sq m per person	4 pitches and 7 practice nets.	N/A	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Accessibility across the district is excellent	The present level of provision is adequate.		Protect and review the need for low quality and value sites.

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Area	**Type**	**Quantity standard**	**Area Current quantity (sq m)**	**Area Surplus / Deficit (sq m)**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
	Football pitches	7 sq m per person	2 Adult and 2 Junior pitches	N/A	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The whole of the western area is within a 15 minute drive of a pitch, however, only the eastern edge is within the distance threshold to a high quality and value pitch. There is good access to junior pitches.	There is a limited need for more pitches across the district however it would be beneficial to meet this need by opening up school pitches for community use.		Protect and enhance value. Review the need for low quality and value sites.
	Rugby pitches (deviates from PPG17)	2 sq m per person	1 adult pitch	N/A	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	the majority of the western area is within a 15 minute drive of a pitch.	There is currently adequate provision of pitches in relation to the number of teams in the District. However, training areasand more junior / mini pitches are required.		Protect and enhance value.
	Multi-courts	0.13 sq m per person	0	deficit 666 (1 court)	W = 1,500m / 10 mins cycling	The majority of the western area is outwith a 15 minute drive.			N/A
	Tennis courts	0.475 sq m per person	3 courts	N/A	U = 900m / 15 ins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	The majority of the western area is within a 15 minute drive.			Protect.
	Artificial turf pitch	Not appropriate			W = 5,625 / 15 mins driving				
Amenity greenspace		4 sq m per person	23,015	Surplus 6347	W = 600m walking	The majority of the western area is outwith a 10 minute walk of an AGS especially the southern part. Chiddingly, East	To be looked at as part of MFGS	54% of residents within the western area	Protect and enhance quality and value. Review the

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Area	**Type**	**Quantity standard**	**Area Current quantity (sq m)**	**Area Surplus / Deficit (sq m)**	**Distance threshold**	**Accessibility deficiency**	**Area of deficiency**	**Additional comments**	**Policy comments**
						Hoathly and Halland are the only settlements within a 10 minute walk. The area is sparsely populated.		would like more AGS.	need for low quality and value spaces.
Churchyard / cemetery		3 sq m per person	32,199	Surplus 19,698	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	The majority of the western area is outwith a 10 minute walk from a churchyard / cemetery, however each of the main settlements have good access. The area is sparsely populated.	Not applicable	Unlikely for more CC to be built, therefore MFGS should be provided in other forms.	Protect and enhance value.
Natural / semi-natural greenspace		ANGSt standard	1,006,383	N/A	W = 600m / 10 mins walking	The majority of the western area is outwith a 10 minute walk of a NGS. Only Arlington and Chiddingly are within. The area is sparsely populated.		LSP desire to boost Biodiversity in the district.	Protect and enhance quality.
Parks and gardens		4.25 sq m per person	1,083	Deficit 16,627	U = 900m / 15 mins walking R = 5,625 / 15 mins driving	Apart from Chiddingly, all of the western area is outwith a 10 minute walk of a park / garden.	To be looked at as part of MFGS		Protect
Outdoor Sports Facilities that also serve an amenity purpose by providing open-ness.	Pitches and playing fields	NA	119,769	N/A	N/A	The majority of the area including Halland, Golden Cross, Arlington, Laughton, Long man are all outwith a 10 minute walk of an OSF. The area is sparsely populated.	To be looked at as part of MFGS		Protect and enhance quality and value. Review the need for low value and quality spaces.
Multifunctional Green Space totals	AGS, CC, NGS, OSF, PG		1,196,819		w = 300m / 5 mins walking	The majority of the western area is outwith a 5 minute walk of the green network. However,		There is also good access to the	

Open space area and type		Quantity of open space (Surplus / deficit)			Accessibility to open space			PPG17 recommendations	
Open space Area	Type	Quantity standard	Area Current quantity (sq m)	Area Surplus / Deficit (sq m)	Distance threshold	Accessibility deficiency	Area of deficiency	Additional comments	Policy comments
						the main settlements all have access. The rest of the area is sparsely populated.		countryside within the South west area surrounding the settlements.	
	AGS, CC, NGS, PG	15 sq m per person	1,062,680	Surplus 1,000,175					
	AGS, CC PG	11.25 sq m per person	56,297	Surplus 9,418					

Appendix 3

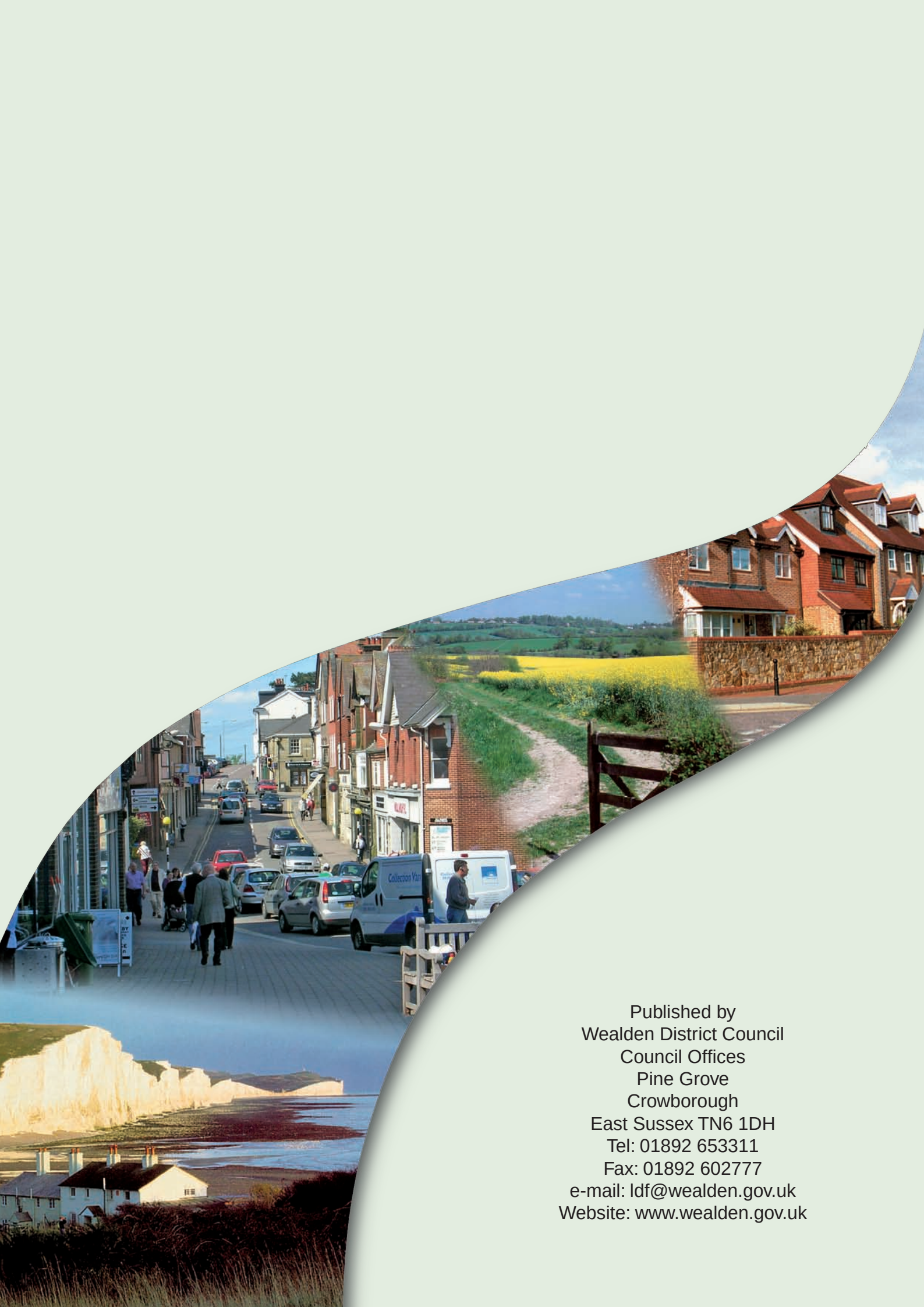
Appendix 3

Appendix 4

Landscape Character Areas



Appendix 4



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