



# Worthing Borough Council

## Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

March 2015





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## Part A: Introduction

This report is structured as follows:

**Table 1: Report Structure**

Part A: Introduction	Chapter 1	Explains the purpose and process of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and the approach being taken to Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) and Health Impact Assessment (HIA).
	Chapter 2	Sets out the context of the Local Plan and what it is seeking to achieve.
Part B: Topics	Chapters 3-15	These are arranged by topic with each chapter containing sections setting out the sustainability context, baseline, likely projection without a Plan and key issues.
Part C: The SA Framework	Chapter 16	Sets out the proposed SA Framework including proposed objectives.
Appendix		Contains a full list of relevant PPPSI's at the national, regional, sub-regional and local levels along with a summary of their objectives.

## 1.0 Sustainability Appraisal Process

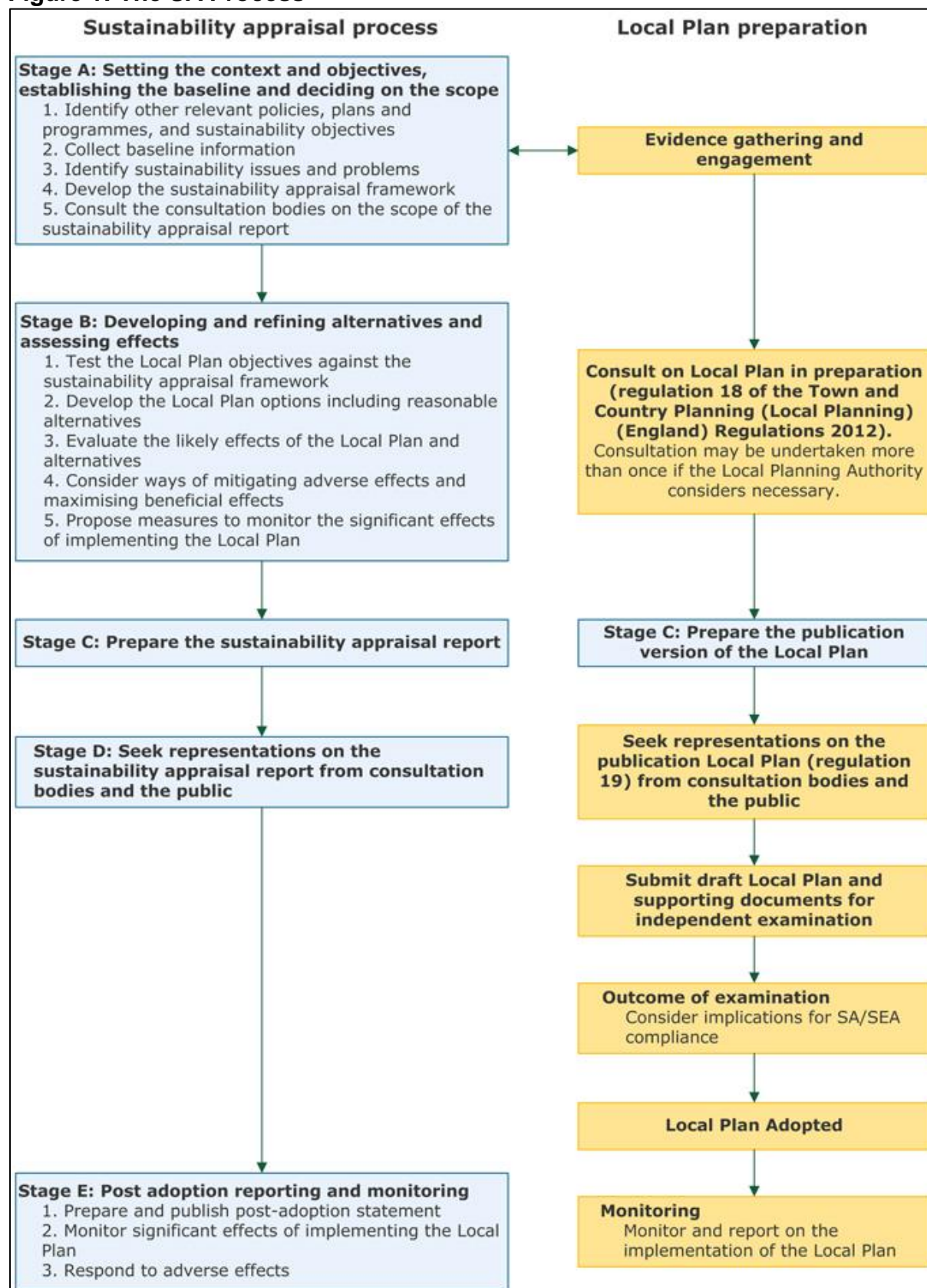
### Purpose of Sustainability Appraisal

1.1 SA is integral to the preparation and development of a Local Plan and is a requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004). The role of Sustainability Appraisal is to promote sustainable development by assessing the extent to which the emerging plan, when judged against reasonable alternatives, will help to achieve relevant environmental, economic and social objectives.

1.2 In line with the Planning Practice Guidance, Sustainability Appraisal should meet all the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004) (which implement the Strategic Environmental (SEA) Directive 2001/42/EC), so a separate strategic environmental assessment is not required.

1.3 The SA is an iterative process which needs to be integrated into the various stages of plan making. Figure 1 below sets out the SA process in relation to Local Plan preparation. The first step is to establish the scope of the SA. The scoping stage sets the context, establishes the baseline and by identifying relevant sustainability issues proposes a framework including objectives, which the Local Plan will be assessed against. This is identified as Stage A in Figure 1.

**Figure 1: The SA Process**



Source: National Planning Practice Guidance Paragraph: 013 Reference ID: 11-013-20140306

1.4 Table 2 below indicates how this scoping report meets the requirements of the SEA Directive and Stage A of Figure 1:

**Table 2: Requirements of the SEA Directive**

<b>SEA Directive requirement</b>	<b>The SA process</b>	<b>Chapter in Scoping Report</b>
a) An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plans or programmes	A1. Identify other relevant policies, plans, programmes, and sustainability objectives	Scoping Report Chapter 2 Scoping Report Chapters 3-15 (context sections) Scoping Report Appendix: List of relevant PPPSI's.
b) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme	A2. Collect baseline information	Scoping Report Chapters 3-15 (baseline and projection sections)
c) The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected	A3. Identify sustainability issues and problems	Scoping Report Chapters 3-15 (projection and issues sections)
d) Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC	A3. Identify sustainability issues and problems	Scoping Report Chapters 3-15 (baseline, projection and issues sections)
e) The environmental protection objectives, established at international, community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation	A4. Develop the SA Framework	Scoping Report Chapter 16

1.5 Once the scope of the SA has been established, the framework will be used to assess the emerging Local Plan objectives and options. SA Reports will be published and consulted on alongside versions of the Local Plan to meet the requirements of stages B, C, D and E of the SA process set out in Figure 1.

1.6 SA considers not only the environmental effects of a plan but also the plan's wider economic and social effects. It will help assess how the plan will contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.

1.7 The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 identifies issues that should be assessed. These were used to inform the content of

this Report and expanded to also include social and economic effects. This Scoping Report therefore considers the following topics:

- Air Quality
- Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure
- Climate Change Adaptation and Flood Risk
- Climate Change Mitigation and Energy
- Community and Wellbeing (including equality and health)
- Economy and Employment
- Historic Environment
- Housing
- Landscape
- Soils
- Transport
- Waste
- Water

1.8 An integrated appraisal process to incorporate Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) and Health Impact Assessment (HIA) will be undertaken to ensure that all groups affected by the Local Plan are accounted for. More detail on these assessments is provided below.

### **Equality Impact Assessment**

1.9 The Equality Act 2010 aims to ensure that everyone has a fair chance in life. It contains a requirement for Local Authorities to consider the diverse needs and requirements of the communities in the borough when planning its services. Local Authorities also have a duty under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act, 2000, Disability Discrimination Act, 2005 and the Equality Act, 2006 (Gender Equality) to positively promote race, disability and gender equality.

1.10 Adur and Worthing Councils, use EqIA, where appropriate, in order to improve the work of the Councils. The purpose of the Assessment is to improve the work of the Councils by making sure it does not discriminate and that, where possible, it promotes equality. It is a way to ensure the likely impacts on the people who live and work within Worthing are carefully considered.

1.11 Carrying out an assessment means that as far as possible, any negative consequences of a strategy, policy or service are eliminated or minimised and opportunities for promoting equality are maximised. The assessment aims to consider impacts on groups with the following protected characteristics which are identified by the Equality Act 2010:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Race / Ethnicity
- Religion or belief (including lack of religion or belief)
- Sex
- Sexual Orientation
- Pregnancy and Maternity
- Marriage and Civil Partnership

1.12 Like the SA/SEA process, EqIA is an iterative process:

**Table 3: The Equality Impact Assessment Process**

Stage 1: Screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify the purpose and aims of the 'policy' to be assessed and the need and scope for an EqIA.</li> </ul>
Stage 2: Scoping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of existing data;</li> <li>Assess the impact or effects of the policy on equality target groups. Decide when further assessment is necessary.</li> </ul>
Stage 3: Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consideration of effects of plan on equality groups;</li> <li>Consideration of mitigation or methods to further promote equality;</li> <li>Consultation and further research;</li> <li>Repetition of previous stages as necessary.</li> </ul>
Stage 4: Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation of an Action Plan</li> </ul>
Stage 5: Publication and Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline future arrangements for monitoring and review.</li> </ul>

### Health Impact Assessment

1.13 HIA is intended to help make decisions by predicting the health consequences if a proposal were to be implemented. In addition to assessing the health consequences it also produces recommendation as to how the good consequences for health could be enhanced and how the bad consequences could be avoided or minimised.

1.14 HIA consists of 6 steps in a process similar to SA/SEA and EqIA:

**Table 4: The Health Impact Assessment Process**

Stage 1: Screening	Decide whether a proposal requires assessment by HIA
Stage 2: Scoping	Clarify the questions to be answered by the HIA and how the assessment will be carried out
Stage 3: Appraisal and assessment	Decide what the health impacts will be and how big by considering each pathway by which the proposal could impact on health
Stage 4: Recommendations	For each option make recommendations as to how good health consequences could be enhanced how bad health consequences could be avoided or minimised and how health inequities could be reduced.
Stage 5: Publication and Review	Communicate the findings of the HIA to the decision makers.
Stage 6: Monitoring	Evaluate the quality of the HIA highlighting lessons for future HIAs. Monitor which proposals and if possible assess whether any predictions made were correct.

1.15 EqIA and HIA are increasingly being undertaken and good practice is beginning to emerge. The Council has incorporated these assessments into the SA process within the Community and Wellbeing topic and through the inclusion of equality and health objectives in the SA framework.



**Consultation**

1.16 Consultation on the scope of SA is a legal requirement of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004). In accordance with the Regulations and to meet the requirements of stage A5 in Figure 1, the consultation bodies which in England are English Heritage, Natural England and the Environment Agency, have been consulted on this report for 5 weeks. In addition specialists within the Council have been consulted in relation to the EqlA and HIA. The results of this consultation will determine the final scope of the SA.

## 2.0 What is the Plan seeking to achieve?

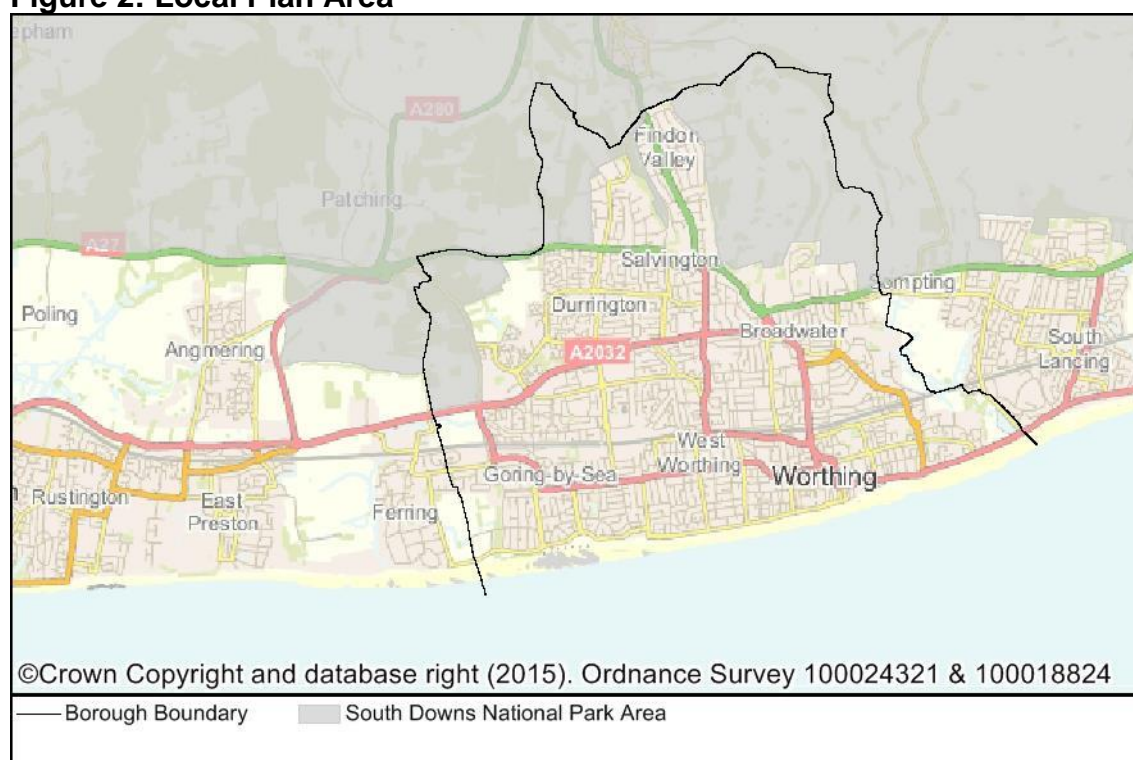
2.1 The current adopted Development Plan for Worthing is the Worthing Core Strategy and this was intended to cover the period to 2026. However, whilst this was adopted relatively recently in 2011, this was prior to the publication of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012) (NPPF) which is now a material consideration at the local level.

2.2 Not only is there a statutory duty on the Council to produce a Local Plan but failure to do so could impact on a number of the Council's priorities including economic and social regeneration as well as the delivery of affordable housing. The Council needs to ensure it has a clear strategy to manage and co-ordinate development, attract inward investment and secure improvements to infrastructure.

2.3 A revised Local Development Scheme has been prepared to incorporate a full Plan Review. A new Local Plan will replace the current Worthing Core Strategy and will guide development in the borough for a 15 year period after document adoption.

2.4 The Local Plan will not cover the part of the borough that is designated as the South Downs National Park (SDNP).

**Figure 2: Local Plan Area**



2.5 The Local Plan will be drafted with the objectives of the NPPF in mind and would seek to:

- Support major regeneration projects to tackle deprivation
- Support businesses in creating jobs and regenerating neighbourhoods
- Seek to meet the housing needs of our communities
- Seek to safeguard the borough's environmental assets.

2.6 It is expected that this SA Framework would also be utilised for other Development Plan Documents (DPDs) that, if necessary, may be produced alongside the Local Plan.

## **Part B: Topics**

The following chapters set out the context, baseline, projection and issues for each topic. The findings from each of these have informed the SA Framework in Part C.

### **3.0 Air Quality**

#### **Context**

3.1 Air quality improvements are the focus of the EU Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution (2005), which aims to cut the annual number of premature deaths from air pollution-related diseases by 40% by 2020 (using 2000 as the base year). In addition to this, the EU Air Quality Directive 2008/50/EC places stringent air quality monitoring requirements upon member states. Nationally, the NPPF presents a clear message for the planning system to prevent new and existing developments contributing to unacceptable levels of air pollution, whilst suggesting that Plans should contribute towards national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs).

3.2 The Environment Act 1995 and the Air Quality Regulations as amended (2002) require Local Authorities to assess air quality and where necessary declare AQMAs and produce Air Quality Action Plans. The Sussex Air Quality and Emissions Mitigation Guidance (2013) was developed by members of the Sussex Air Quality Partnership (Sussex-air). The guidance supports the principles of the partnership to improve air quality across Sussex and encourage emissions reductions to improve the environment and health of the population.

#### **Baseline**

3.3 In Worthing, the Grove Lodge AQMA was declared in July 2010 for a breach of the Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) annual mean objective as specified in the Air Quality Regulations 2000. The Order covers the A27 near the Grove Lodge roundabout. The air quality issues are largely due to the number of vehicles using the road (especially HGVs, LGVs and diesel cars), combined with the stop/start nature of the driving conditions.

3.4 Monitoring and modelling have confirmed levels of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) are exceeding, and predicted to continue to exceed, the annual average objective for NO<sub>2</sub> around Lyons Farm, Grove Lodge and Offington Corner (A27/A24 junction). As a result, on the 14 December 2014 the Grove Lodge AQMA was expanded and the Worthing Borough Council Air Quality Management Area No.2 was declared. The Order incorporates the eastern end of Crockhurst Hill from the eastern boundary of Durrington Cemetery towards Offington Corner Roundabout, Offington Corner Roundabout, Warren Road, 1-3 Warren Farm Place, 1 Links Road, Hill Barn Lane, 17 Mansfield Court Sanditon Way, Grove Lodge Roundabout, Grove Lodge, 1-2 Grove Lodge Cottages, 22-27 Lamorna Grove, Upper Brighton Road leading onto the Sompting Bypass, up to and including the Downlands Retail Centre, and Lyons Way. Following the declaration an air quality action plan is required. This will contain measures designed to try to reduce levels of pollutants in the area.

**Figure 3: Air Quality Management Area**



### Projection

3.5 The expansion of the AQMA suggests that air quality issues are worsening due to a combination of increased levels of traffic congestion and the growth in popularity of diesel vehicles. Without a Local Plan opportunities may be missed to identify links between the air quality action plan and local development. Unplanned development may further exacerbate air quality issues and could prevent identification of cumulative impacts or identification of strategic initiatives to support sustainable forms of transport.

### Issues

3.6 The review of the wider context and analysis of baseline information has identified the following sustainability issues and problems:

- Poor air quality exists at the A27 and the area affected is expanding.
- Traffic congestion is prevalent along main road networks.
- The national growth in diesel vehicles is reflected locally.
- Source apportionment shows that HGV's and LGV's whilst making up only 3% of traffic in the AQMA, produce over 30% of the NO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

### Summary

3.7 Worthing has a high quality environment which is highly valued however areas affected by air quality issues are expanding. It is important that local air quality

is protected from further deterioration and where possible air quality is improved. Air quality in Worthing is closely linked with transport issues specifically traffic congestion on the roads. It is therefore important that links are drawn between this and Chapter 13: Transport. Air quality can be affected through the promotion of sustainable methods of transport to enable people to reduce the use of the car and highways mitigation to ensure further development does not exacerbate levels of traffic congestion.

## 4.0 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure

### Context

4.1 Protection and enhancement of biodiversity is promoted through several pieces of EU legislation, which include the EU Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC and the EU Wild Birds Directive 2009/147/EC. The importance is further emphasised by the EU Biodiversity Strategy (2011), which aims to deliver on the established Europe-wide target to 'halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020'. Within England the NPPF requires planning authorities to plan positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of ecological networks and 'green infrastructure'. Supplementary to this the Natural Environment White Paper (2011) emphasises the importance of a healthy natural environment to sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal well-being. At a local level the Sussex Biodiversity Action Plan (2010) (BAP) identifies species and habitats most under threat, and sets out an agenda for action.

### Baseline

4.2 The Plan area is bordered by the SDNP to the north and the coastline to the south which provide valuable access to large areas of open space and a variety of habitats. The main habitat types within Worthing are deciduous woodland, lowland calcareous grassland intertidal mudflat and ancient woodland. These provide important habitat for species. The majority of these are located within the National Park.

**Table 5: Habitats**

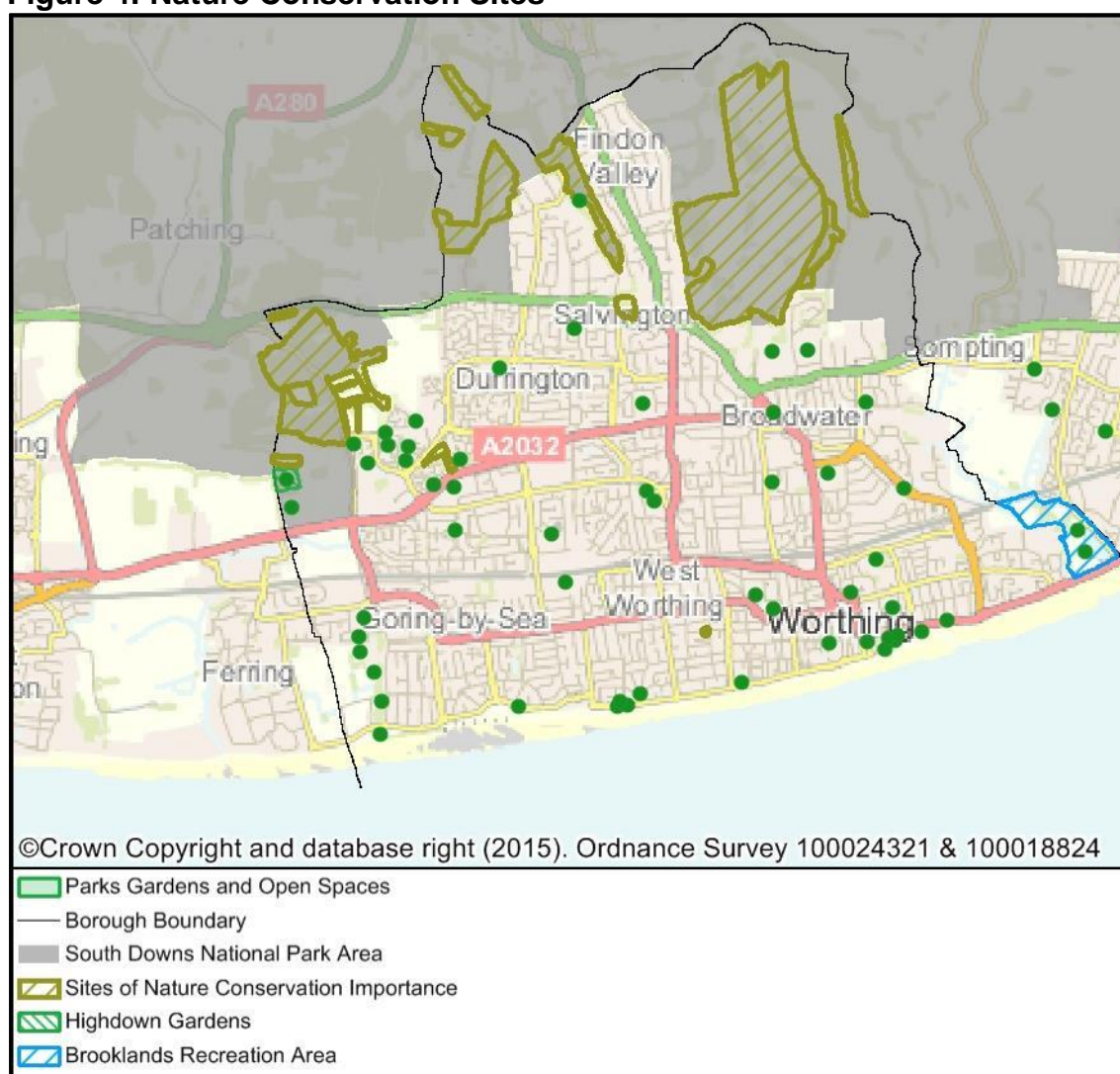
Habitats	Area of habitat in Worthing (ha)	% of Worthing
Ancient woodland	67.5	2.0
Coastal & floodplain grazing marsh	0	0.0
Coastal saltmarsh	0	0.0
Coastal sand dunes	0	0.0
Coastal vegetated shingle	0	0.0
Deciduous woodland	135.4	4.0
Ghyll woodland	0	0.0
Intertidal chalk	0	0.0
Intertidal mudflat	75.9	2.2
Lowland calcareous grassland	98.6	2.9
Lowland fen	0	0.0
Lowland heathland	0.1	0.0
Lowland meadow	0	0.0
Maritime cliff and slope	0	0.0
Reedbed	0	0.0
Saline lagoon	0	0.0
Traditional orchard	0.6	0.02
Wood-pasture and parkland	21.1	0.6



4.3 The SDNP covers 24.1% of Worthing. Outside of the Park, Worthing is a largely urban area with approximately only 275ha of the Local Plan area outside of the Built Up Area boundary. Areas of open space around Worthing provide links to the National Park. They also create an almost continuous strip of open space and farmland from the coast to the Park to the east of the Borough and create a break along the coastline between Worthing and Ferring to the west.

4.4 In 2013 the SDNP Authority carried out an Access Network and Accessible Natural Green Space (ANG) Study looking at access to the natural environment through local green spaces. The study concluded that Adur and Worthing are amongst the most poorly served authority areas with regards to access to the natural environment as virtually all accessible natural green space is located within the SDNP to the north or along the coastline to the south.

**Figure 4: Nature Conservation Sites**



4.5 The nearest European Designated Site is the Arun Valley which is a designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (designated under the EC Habitats Directive), Special Protection Area (SPA) (designated under the EC Birds Directive) and Ramsar Site (wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention). At a national level, Cissbury Ring Site of Special Scientific Interest



(SSSI) (best examples of the UK's flora, fauna, or geological or physiographical features) is located in Worthing but within the SDNP. There are no international or national designated sites within the area covered by the Local Plan.

4.6 Within Worthing there are a number of parks and locally designated sites with four Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) (sites designated by local authorities as being of local conservation interest) at St Michael's Graveyard, Ham Farm Wood, Offington Cemetery and Titnore and Goring Woods Complex. These sites are of high value for biodiversity, with habitats and species that are uncommon in the county and sometimes further afield. There are also two main rivers the Ferring Rife, towards the western boundary and the Teville Stream towards the eastern boundary which flows through the Brooklands Recreation Area both providing valuable habitat.

### **Projection**

4.7 Without a Local Plan further unplanned development may threaten the small areas of remaining biodiversity. There will also be less opportunity to develop and expand networks of green infrastructure.

### **Issues**

4.8 The review of the wider context and analysis of baseline information has identified the following sustainability issues and problems:

- There is limited open space within and around Worthing. Development pressures may further threaten the biodiversity within these areas.
- The links between the urban area and the South Downs to the north and coastline to the south will become increasingly important wildlife corridors and green infrastructure networks which will need to be protected and enhanced.

### **Summary**

4.9 Although there are a limited number of designated sites within the Plan Area, there are a number of smaller parks, gardens and open spaces spread throughout the built up area which provide highly valued green spaces for local communities and biodiversity. However there are limited corridors and networks linking these sites and most accessible natural green space is located to the south or north of Worthing. It is recognised that green infrastructure provides multi-functional benefits and therefore there are close links between this chapter, landscape and health. Whilst it is acknowledged that it is unlikely development will result in a net gain in biodiversity, opportunities may exist to enhance existing habitats and improve networks and wildlife corridors.

## **5.0 Climate Change Adaptation and Flood Risk**

### **Context**

5.1 The avoidance and reduction of flood risk is championed by the EU Floods Directive 2007/60/EC. This requires Member States to assess all water courses and coastlines for risk and to plan adequate measures to reduce the risk. The Flood and Water Management Act (2010) implements the recommendations from Sir Michel Pitt's Review of the floods in 2007. The main aim of the Act is to improve flood risk management and it places a series of responsibilities on Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA's). The LLFA in this area is West Sussex County Council. The River Adur Catchment Flood Management Plan (2009) considers all types of inland flooding, from rivers, groundwater, surface water and tidal flooding. The Beachy Head to Selsey Bill Shoreline Management Plan (2006) considers flooding from the sea. The Environment Agency, Arun District Council, Worthing Borough Council and Adur District Council in partnership have undertaken a review of how to manage the coastline between the River Arun and the River Adur. The final River Arun to Adur Flood and Erosion Management Strategy (2010) sets out the plan to manage flood and erosion risks along this coastline.

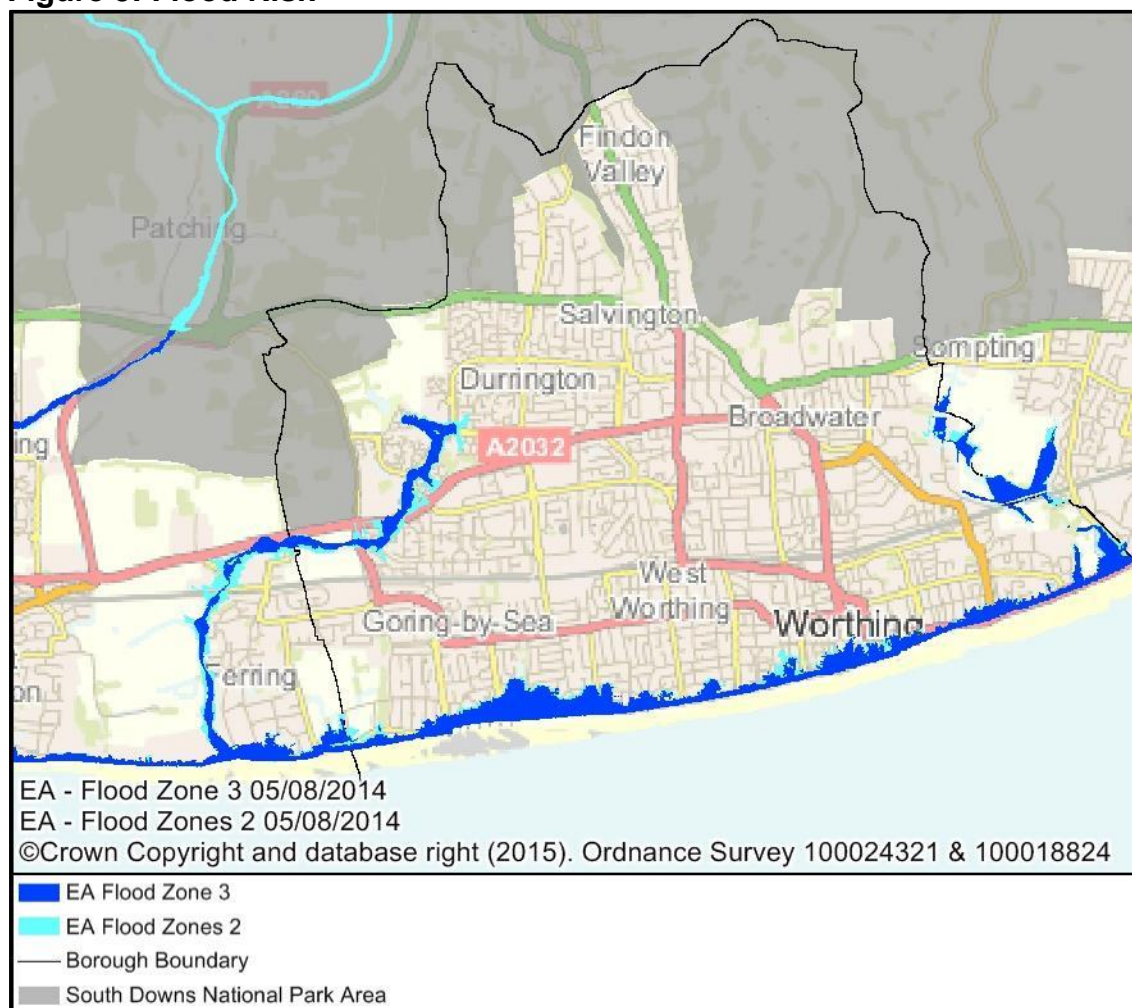
5.2 The UK Climate Projections 2009 (UKCP09) gave projections of future changes to the climate in the UK to the end of this century. It identified a number of possible risks and impacts, such as a risk of increased flooding and high temperatures causing buildings to overheat in summer. To better understand the specific risks that climate change poses to the UK, the first UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) was completed in 2012 which gives a detailed analysis of 100 potential effects of climate change. The NPPF directs development to areas of lowest flood risk first and requires that development permitted should be safe and not increase flood risk to others taking into account the effects of climate change across the lifetime of development.

### **Baseline**

5.3 The south of Worthing borders the sea and along the coastline there is a high probability of flooding as a result of wave overtopping. There are also areas of high and medium flood risk associated with the two main rivers – the Ferring Rife and the Teville Stream. Parts of Worthing are also at a high risk of flooding from surface water. The Adur and Worthing Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2012) shows in the future the areas at risk of flooding are likely to increase as a result of climate change and sea level rise.

5.4 The West Sussex Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (2011) aims to provide a high level overview of flood risk from local flood sources. It identifies Worthing as a location considered to have substantial future flood risk from surface water.

**Figure 5: Flood Risk**



### Projection

5.5 Flooding is likely to increase in the future. Development may result in an increased flood risk elsewhere if all sources of flood risk are not properly considered. Opportunities may be missed to improve management of local flood risk through the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), particularly on the redevelopment of brownfield sites.

### Issues

5.6 The review of the wider context and analysis of baseline information has identified the following sustainability issues and problems:

- Climate change will lead to sea level rise and more frequent and extreme weather events. This is likely to result in more severe and widespread flooding from a variety of sources including surface water.
- The areas at risk of flooding are likely to increase in the future as a result of climate change.

### Summary

5.7 Worthing's location on the coast means flooding and coastal erosion is an issue that faces the town and this is likely to increase in the future with sea level rise. Across Worthing, surface water is also a significant risk. Surface water drainage and

the implementation of appropriate SuDS schemes are therefore key considerations for the development of sites. To enable Worthing to adapt to climate change it is important that the likely impacts are identified so measures can be taken. In addition to increased flooding, more extreme weather events as a result of climate change mean more severe and widespread droughts are expected. It is therefore important that this chapter is considered in conjunction with Chapter 15: Water which considers water resources.

## 6.0 Climate Change Mitigation and Energy

### Context

6.1 The objective of promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy production has been the focus of EU legislation including EU Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of use of energy from renewable sources and the EU Directive 2010/31/EC on the energy performance of buildings. In the UK, the Climate Change Act 2008 has set legally binding targets on reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the UK by at least 80% by 2050 and 34% by 2020 against the 1990 baseline. The NPPF highlights the important role planning can have in achieving substantial reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and supporting the delivery of low carbon and renewable energy. Locally, the Adur and Worthing Sustainability Strategy (2010) considers energy and the associated carbon dioxide equivalent emissions as one of six key themes, setting targets and an action plan for improvement.

6.2 As a result of the Government's Housing Standards Review: Technical Consultation (2014), it was announced that any necessary technical standards, including many of the requirements of the Code for Sustainable Homes, will as far as possible be consolidated into Building Regulations. The Government sought views on the draft technical standards in autumn 2014. The outcome of this consultation has not yet been announced.

### Baseline

6.3 Per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Worthing were 4.6 tonnes in 2012 with 2.1 tonnes from domestic sources. This is lower than the per capita total across West Sussex County at 6.2 tonnes and the South East at 6.7 tonnes. Between 2005 and 2012 per capita totals of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Worthing show a downward trend.<sup>1</sup>

### Projection

6.4 The downward trend in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions may not be maintained unless there is continued support and commitment to high energy efficiency standards and renewable energy schemes.

### Issues

6.5 The review of the wider context and analysis of baseline information has identified the following sustainability issues and problems:

- There is a need to develop renewable energy sources, and reduce greenhouse gases.
- It is important that the downward trend in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is maintained.
- Depending on the outcome of the Housing Standards Review consultation the Council will need to consider the local policy position.

### Summary

6.6 The role of planning in reducing greenhouse gas emissions has been recognised. Worthing has low per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions compared with the rest of the county. However it is important that plans for further growth continue to support delivery of renewable energy and consider the impact of development on emissions.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/local-authority-emissions-estimates>

## 7.0 Community and Wellbeing (including equality and health)

### Context

7.1 Social inclusion is promoted in the EU through the renewed European Sustainable Development Strategy (2006) and is considered one of the seven key challenges for the EU within the strategy. Within the NPPF, paragraph 17 states that a core planning principle is to 'take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all'. The NPPF also emphasises the need to: facilitate social interaction and create healthy, inclusive communities; promote retention and development of community services / facilities; ensure access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation; and promote vibrant town centres.

7.2 Planning for good health is high on the agenda, in light of The Marmot Review (2010) into health inequalities in England, which concluded that there is 'overwhelming evidence that health and environmental inequalities are inexorably linked and that poor environments contribute significantly to poor health and health inequalities'. This research highlights the benefits of access to green space has for good health and wellbeing. Planning for good health can complement planning for biodiversity (green infrastructure) and climate change mitigation (walking/cycling).

7.3 Locally the West Sussex (2008) Sustainable Community Strategy for 2008-2020 highlights essential areas for improvement which include reducing the West Sussex contribution to climate change, improving access to high quality education, reducing the difference in life expectancy between different demographics and increasing safety in West Sussex. The Adur and Worthing (2010) Waves Ahead Sustainable Community Strategy for 2010-2026 focuses on reducing inequalities and improving life expectancy. It is being implemented through four theme groups and, at the most local level, through Neighbourhood Action Plans:

1. Better health and wellbeing for all
2. Feeling safe and included
3. Strengthening the local economy and improving job prospects
4. A better place to live, work and enjoy, with better amenities

### Baseline:

7.4 The Adur & Worthing Community Profile 2014<sup>2</sup> indicates that Worthing has a population of 104,600 of which 50,384 are male and 54,256 female. The population density varies greatly but on average is much higher compared with both England and the South East and is over double that of Adur District. The population increased by around 7% between 2001 and 2011, which was one of the highest increases in West Sussex. Over the five year period from 2008-13, there was a net movement of 766 persons per year to Worthing from other parts of England.

7.5 The largest ethnic groups in both Adur and Worthing have remained unchanged since 2001 and are:

- White; British
- White; Other White
- Asian/Asian British; Other Asian

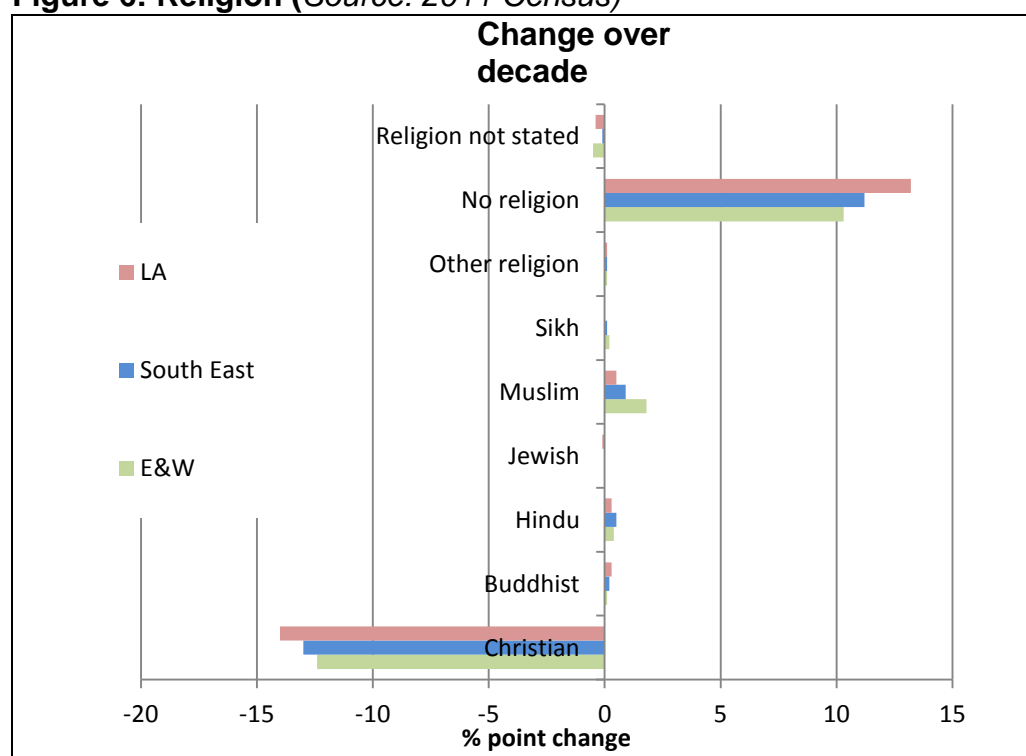
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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.adur-worthing.gov.uk/media/media.123248.en.pdf>

Between 2001 and 2011 the proportion of White; British' decreased by 4.7% and there was an increase in the ethnic group White; Other White. This is consistent with the rest of West Sussex.

7.6 Similar to Coastal West Sussex as a whole, Worthing has an above average proportion of people in age groups over 65 and a lower proportion of people in their 20s and early 30s compared to the national average. However over the 2001-11 decade Worthing's population got 'younger' with the strongest population growth of people in their 40s.

**Figure 6: Religion (Source: 2011 Census)**



7.7 The 2011 Census shows that 58.1% of the population of Worthing consider themselves as Christian; the next largest religious group is those that consider themselves to have no religion 30.2% which is above the proportion across the South East. Over the last decade, consistent with the rest of England and Wales there was a reduction in the number of Christians and a corresponding increase in the numbers stating no religion.

7.8 The health of people in Worthing is varied compared with the England average. However Department for Health (2014) identify about 15.2% (2,800) of children in Worthing live in poverty.<sup>3</sup> Average life expectancy for both men and women is similar to the England average. However there is an 8.1 year gap between the wards with the highest and lowest life expectancies.

7.9 The 2014 Community Profile indicates 25.1% of adults in Worthing are obese which is above the national average. Obesity in Worthing has increased over recent

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.apho.org.uk/resource/view.aspx?RID=142410>



years from 20.4% in 2003-2005. Hospital stays for alcohol related harm or self-harm have also increased slightly in recent years and are significantly worse than the England average. Nearly one in five adults in Worthing has a long term limiting illness or disability compared with 17.6% nationally.

7.10 Crime in Worthing is decreasing with 7,543 crimes committed in Adur & Worthing in 2013, a decrease of 868 from the previous year. The most common crime was anti-social behaviour which saw a decrease of 1468 incidents. The highest crime rate in Worthing was in Central Ward with the lowest in Goring Ward.

7.11 However based on the 2011 Census Worthing had the third highest percentage of 16+ year olds with no qualifications in West Sussex. From 2010/2011 to 2011/2012 the proportion attaining 5+ GCSEs Grade A-C decreased by almost 10% to 49.9% compared with 58.4% across the rest of West Sussex and 59% across England. In particular the results for Central Ward were especially low (33%).

### **Projection**

7.12 If the population continues to increase this will need to be accommodated. Without a Local Plan in place that seeks to deliver sustainable levels of growth, development, or a lack of development, may unintentionally affect groups based on race, gender, disability, age or religion. It is also possible to assume that health inequalities may worsen.

### **Issues**

7.13 The review of the wider context and analysis of baseline information has identified the following sustainability issues and problems:

- With the largest population growth among people in their 40s and significant proportion of over 60's the ageing population will have implications for demands on health and social care.
- Some areas of Worthing are in the 10% most deprived in England. Educational attainment is relatively low and indicators of health show this is worsening. Inequalities relating to health, education and crime need to be addressed.
- Worthing already has a high population density and the population is continuing to increase. This could result in potential health impacts unless adequate housing, open space and community facilities are provided.

### **Summary**

7.14 The population in Worthing is at a higher density than neighbouring areas and numbers continue to grow. There is a significant proportion of people over the age of 60 and recent growth among those in their 40s mean that meeting the needs of an ageing population is going to become an even greater challenge in the future. Within Worthing the baseline identifies pockets of inequalities relating to life expectancy and educational attainment. These Wards also experience the highest crime rates, although crime is decreasing overall. In terms of health obesity rates are high and links can be drawn between this and a lack of accessible natural open space.

7.15 In relation to equalities, it has not been possible to gain reliable data on sexual orientation to establish a baseline or identify trends.



## 8.0 Economy and Employment

### Context

8.1 The NPPF outlines the Government's commitment to ensuring sustainable economic growth. As such, planning policies are encouraged not to overburden investment in business but to address potential barriers to investment such as lack of infrastructure and housing. The NPPF defines economic development as development including those within the B Use Classes, public and community uses and main town centre uses (but excluding housing development). Plans are also encouraged to avoid long term protection of sites for employment use if they are not likely to be used for this purpose.

8.2 The Adur & Worthing Economic Plan 2013 – 2023 highlighted key economic priorities as support business, develop growth, enhance the business environment, advance local skills, encourage sustainability and promote health and wellbeing.

8.3 The Economic Plan was informed by the 'Economic Strategy for West Sussex 2012-2020' prepared by the County Council. The Strategy is clear that: *"To some extent, West Sussex is not one economy, but three [The Gatwick Diamond, Coastal West Sussex and Rural West Sussex], each with its own set of challenges and opportunities."* Coastal West Sussex is characterised as being one of the most sought after places to live in the United Kingdom. Worthing is at its geographical centre and sandwiched between the major commercial centres of Brighton and Portsmouth. The area is within easy reach of Gatwick Airport and London. It has a diverse range of small and growing businesses and specific niches in advanced engineering, tourism, food and drink and marine related activities.

8.4 Another important document is the Strategic Economic Plan published in March 2014 by the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). It sets out ambitions for sustainable economic growth and details investments and proposals for realising ambitions. The Plan sets out to "focus on just those areas where we know we can have most impact and will deliver a major transport, housing and infrastructure programme to drive growth".

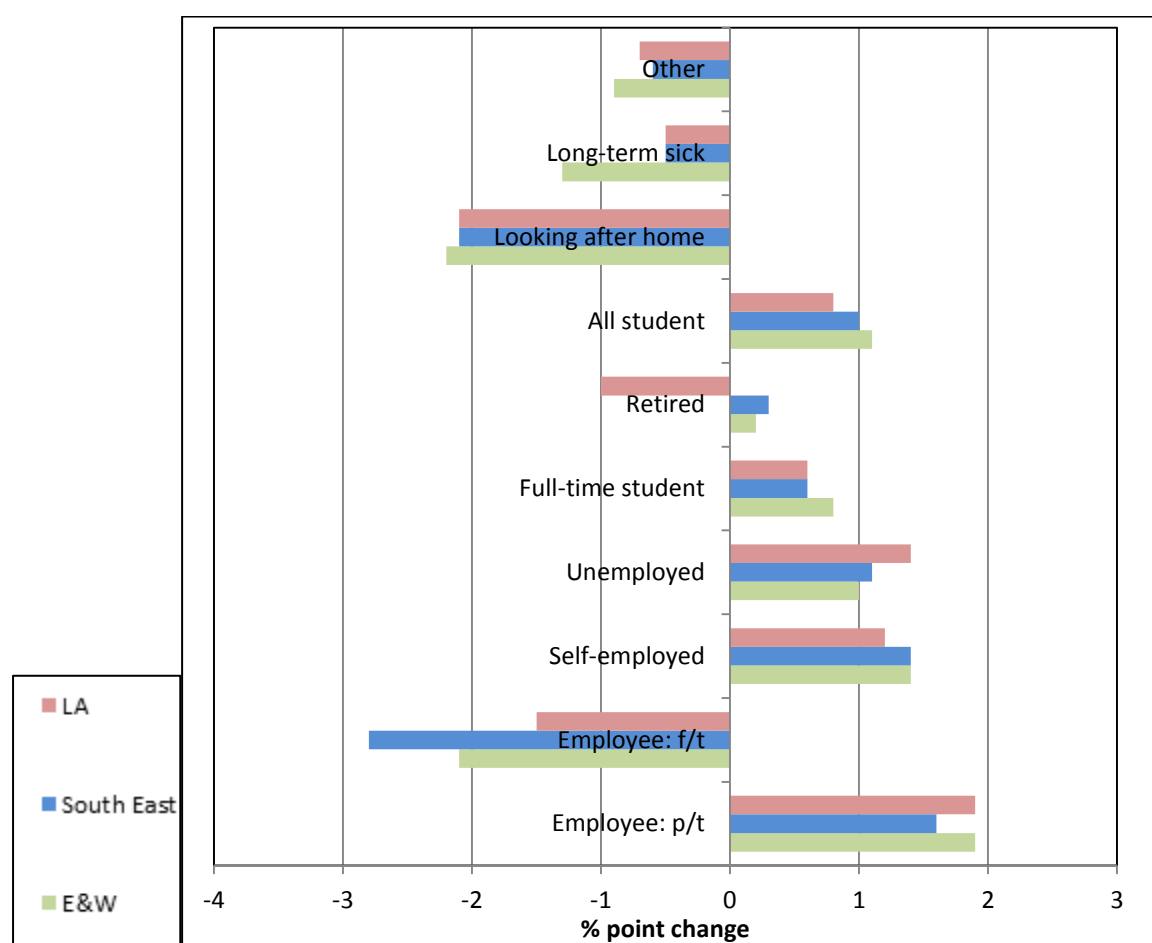
### Baseline

8.5 75% of the population of Worthing is economically active with 70% in employment, slightly below the South East and national figures. A significant proportion of the population is also retired (27.7%)<sup>4</sup>. However based on the 2011 Census Worthing had the third highest unemployment rate in West Sussex. During July 2013 – June 2014 5.2% of Worthing residents were unemployed. This was a reduction from 6.6% the previous year and although still slightly higher than the regional percentage is below the national level of 7.8%.

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<sup>4</sup> Source: Office for National Statistics

**Figure 7: Change in Economic Activity 2001-2011**  
 (Source: Office for National Statistics, 2014)



8.6 In 2014 the gross weekly pay for full time workers was £508 for residents of Worthing. This was higher than residents of neighbouring local authorities but below the average for the South East.

8.7 89% of employees are in the services industry, compared with 6% in manufacturing and 2% in construction and energy/water. This has remained largely unchanged for the last 5 years (ONS, 2014). Within the services industry around 42% of jobs are in the Public Administration, Education & Health sectors, 20% of jobs are within the Financial & Business Services sector and 15% in retail. As with most other areas, the Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants sector also provides a significant proportion of jobs (22%).

8.8 There are 8 business parks, trading estates and industrial estates in Worthing. Since 2009, the vacancy rate has fallen from 8.5% to 4.5% in 2013. In 2009 60% of office floorspace was located out of the town with 15% on the edge of the town centre and 25% within the town centre. However, since this time it is estimated that 60% of out-of-town stock has reduced. There continues to be a limited supply of serviced offices within the town.

8.9 In 2010, there were 3,990 businesses in Worthing. This was 11% of the total business stock in West Sussex. Since this time the number has reduced and there

are currently 3,255 businesses, the majority of which are micro. The number of business births in Worthing for 2011 is below the level for 2007 at 395, and proportionately it is lower than the birth rate both regionally and nationally. Death rates at 580 for 2011 are significantly higher than in 2007. The proportion of business deaths at over 15% is higher than both the South East and England averages and a marked increase on 2007, where the proportion in Worthing was 9.6%.

8.10 Tourism has long been an important sector of the economy and short breaks, events held in the town and corporate demand help to generate business for the town's hotels and guesthouses. In 2013 approximately 3.3 million tourism day trips were made to Worthing an increase of 1.2% from 2012. These generated a further £74.2 million (5.9%) in trip expenditure from 2012.

### **Projection**

8.11 Without a Local Plan in place that will consider economic needs including employment land, the pressure for housing may lead to a lack of employment land which will constrain economic growth and investment. There may also be issues relating to the need for housing to meet the demand generated by local employers which could impact on economic growth aspiration.

### **Issues**

8.12 The review of the wider context and analysis of baseline information has identified the following sustainability issues and problems:

- Shortage of good quality unconstrained employment land to attract investment.
- With continuing losses of office space in out-of-town locations, it is important to retain the heart of the office market within the town centre and key edge-of-centre locations.
- Low levels of skills and educational attainment among the population with few links to higher education institutions.
- A significant proportion of the population is retired.
- Reliance on services industry to provide employment.
- The need to balance housing and employment demands.

### **Summary**

8.13 Pressures for housing have resulted in the loss of office space, particularly among those located outside the town centre. A balance needs to be found between these competing demands to enable sustainable growth. The area has a vibrant local economy of which tourism is an important sector and the services industry provides the majority of jobs. However business start-ups are low and there is a lack of incubation space.

## 9.0 Historic Environment

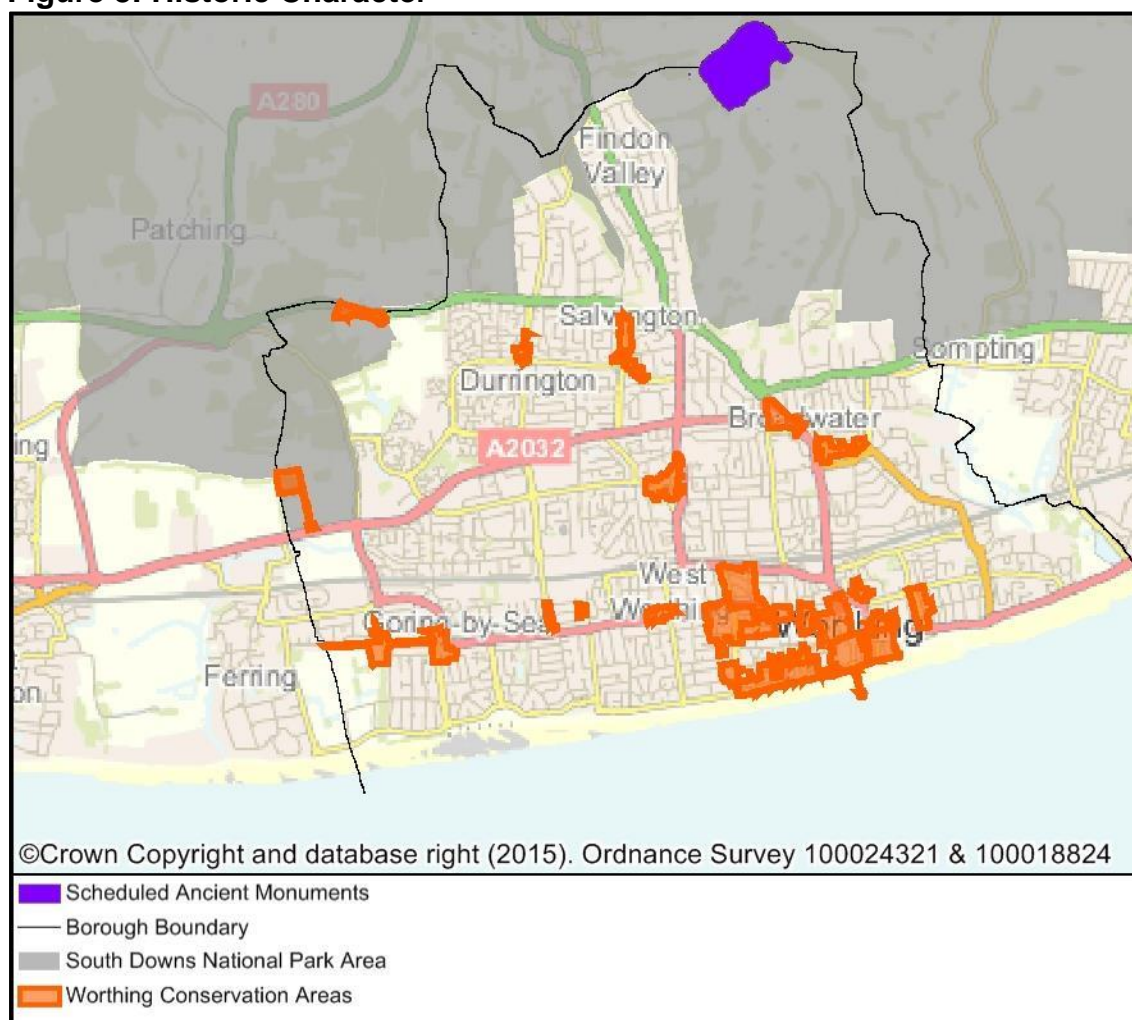
### Context

9.1 The NPPF establishes a need to set out a 'positive strategy' for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including those heritage assets that are most at risk. Heritage assets should be recognised as an 'irreplaceable resource' that should be conserved in a 'manner appropriate to their significance', taking account of 'the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits' of conservation, whilst also recognising the positive contribution that new development can make to local character and distinctiveness.

### Baseline

9.2 Worthing has many important areas of historic character and heritage together with sites of archaeological importance. Worthing Borough has 26 designated Conservation Areas to cover areas of special architectural or historic interest.

**Figure 8: Historic Character**



9.3 There are 360 Listed Buildings within Worthing, including three Grade I buildings:

- Church of St Mary, Broadwater Road, Broadwater;

- Castle Goring, Arundel Road, Worthing (within the SDNP);
- The Old Palace, South Street, West Tarring.

Currently there are three buildings on the English Heritage 'Heritage at Risk' register:

- St Botolph's Church, Lansdowne Road, Worthing;
- Holy Trinity Church, Shelley Road, Worthing;
- Castle Goring, Arundel Road, Worthing (SDNP).

The Council has also identified a number of buildings which are of local interest because of their contribution to the character of the area in which they are located.

9.4 Historic parks and gardens are areas that are formally laid out and landscaped and which are valued for their contribution to the local scene or for historical reasons. There are a number of areas within Worthing that are of considerable local interest or which contribute significantly to its pleasant and unique character. Highdown Gardens (which is located within the SDNP) is included on the English Heritage Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of special historic interest. A Register of Parks and Gardens of Local Historic Interest has also been compiled to help ensure that these areas are adequately safeguarded and protected.

9.5 There are numerous sites within Worthing that have archaeological interest and, although they are not scheduled sites, they are worthy of protection and preservation. Many have been designated as "Archaeologically sensitive areas" by West Sussex County Council.

### **Projection**

9.6 Conservation Areas and other heritage assets could be adversely affected by insensitive development.

### **Issues**

9.7 The review of the wider context and analysis of baseline information has identified the following sustainability issues and problems:

- Heritage assets at risk from neglect, decay, or development pressures.
- The need to conserve and enhance designated and non-designated heritage assets and the contribution made by their settings.
- Accommodating change and growth whilst sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and the valued character of a place.

### **Summary**

9.8 Worthing has a distinct historic character particularly in the town centre where most Conservation Areas are located. It is important that this is conserved and enhanced.

## 10.0 Housing

### Context

10.1 The NPPF seeks to ensure a wide choice of high quality homes, with more opportunities for home ownership, in order to create sustainable, mixed communities. There is a need to plan for a mix of housing based on the local demography and the needs of the different groups within the local community. The NPPF recognises that larger developments are sometimes the best means of achieving a supply of new homes. The Adur and Worthing Housing Strategy (2012) which covers the period up to 2017, outlines a list of priorities for the local area. This includes:

- balancing the local housing market,
- meeting the need for affordable homes,
- preventing homelessness,
- providing housing support and
- promoting a healthy private sector.

### Baseline

10.2 Worthing has a total dwelling stock of 48,630 homes in 2013. 65% of the housing stock in Worthing is made up of houses (21% Terraced, 23% Semi-detached, 21% detached). Flats comprise approximately 35% of Worthing's dwelling stock and are more strongly represented than other house types in the borough. This is a considerably higher proportion than is seen across Coastal West Sussex and is also reflected in population density.

10.3 Owner occupation is the most common tenure type in Worthing accounting for 70% of households. The percentage of owner occupying households in Worthing fell between 2001 and 2011 from 77% in 2001 to 70% in 2011, due to a reduction in the number of homes owned outright. The private rented sector in Worthing accounts for 19% of households – notably higher than the other Coastal West Sussex authorities. The proportions of social rented properties are similar to levels seen elsewhere in the sub-region.

10.4 House prices are broadly similar in Adur and Worthing and the highest demand is for semi-detached and terraced homes. The demands for housing through the Housing Registers across Adur and Worthing have always outweighed the supply of available housing. The majority of housing stock in Adur and Worthing is private, with only 9.6% of housing in Worthing in the social sector. The majority of households on Adur and Worthing's housing waiting list require smaller one and two bed properties but there is also a significant need for larger family sized dwellings given their limited supply.

10.5 Supported and sheltered housing also provide an important resource for elderly and vulnerable people. At this stage it has not been possible to establish a baseline for sheltered or supported housing in Worthing. This will be reviewed and updated where possible for the draft SA Report.

### Projection

10.6 Without a Local Plan in place the right mix or sufficient level of new homes may not be provided. This would potentially have further economic and social effects.

### **Issues**

10.7 The review of the wider context and analysis of baseline information has identified the following sustainability issues and problems:

- There is a continued need to provide housing to meet the needs of existing and future residents at a reasonable price.
- The housing stock comprises of a high proportion of flats but demand is for houses.
- The demand for housing through the housing register continues to exceed supply.

### **Summary**

10.8 Housing supply is a critical issue for Worthing and will be a key component of the Local Plan. It will be important to ensure that the right mix of housing is delivered and made available to all groups.

## 11.0 Landscape

### Context

11.1 The European Landscape Convention (ELC) was the first international treaty to be exclusively devoted to all aspects of European landscape and covers both rural and urban areas. The ELC came into force in the UK in March 2007. It defines landscape as: “*An area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.*” It recognises that the quality of all landscapes matters – not just those designated as ‘best’ or ‘most valued’. The NPPF refers to the need to protect and enhance valued landscapes and the distinctive character and landscape of the undeveloped coast. It identifies that major development should be avoided in designated areas, unless in the public interest.

### Baseline

11.2 Worthing is bordered by the SDNP to the north. Known as Britain’s Breathing Spaces, National Parks are areas of spectacular landscape that include mountains, meadows, moorlands, woods, coasts and wetlands. As a National Park, the SDNPA has statutory duties and socio-economic responsibilities to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area and promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the Park by the public.

11.3 Outside of the National Park, Worthing Borough occupies the coastal plain, extending from Ferring to the west, and Lancing to the east. The only breaks in an almost continuous band of urban development along the coast are at the far eastern and western ends of Worthing. These open areas are also coupled with undeveloped coastline. Inland, the settlement pattern comprises extensive settlement and twentieth century suburbs which extend to the foot of the South Downs. The town is bounded along most of its eastern edge by large-scale, industrial use buildings, beyond which are small scale pasture fields with vegetated streams and ditches.

### Projection

11.4 Although the NPPF will ensure that nationally protected landscapes are given significant weight in the planning process, unplanned development may unintentionally adversely affect the local landscape character of Worthing.

### Issues

11.5 The review of the wider context and analysis of baseline information has identified the following sustainability issues and problems:

- The need to maintain and enhance the high quality natural landscape
- The need to conserve and enhance the character and setting of Worthing’s urban areas and its relationship with the coast and SDNP.

### Summary

11.6 The natural landscape around the built up area provides an important resource for both the setting and character of the urban areas both within and adjacent to Worthing as well as for biodiversity, health and wellbeing.



## 12. Soils

### Context

12.1 The European Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection (2006) seeks to protect and where contaminated restore soils. The NPPF calls upon the planning system to protect and enhance soils. It should also prevent new or existing development from being 'adversely affected' by the presence of 'unacceptable levels' of soil pollution or land instability and be willing to remediate and mitigate 'despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate'.

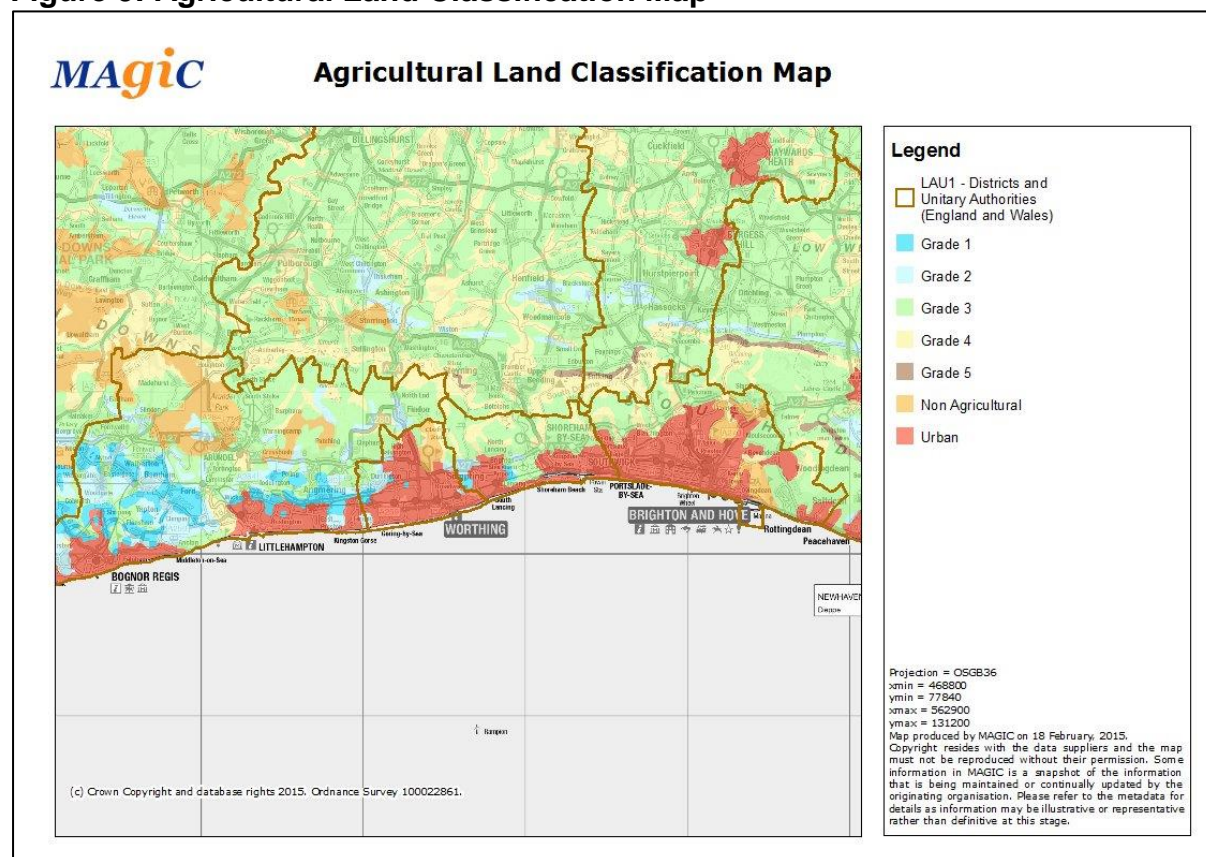
12.2 The NPPF calls for planning policies and decisions to 'encourage the effective use of land' through the reuse of land which has been previously developed, 'provided that this is not of high environmental value'. The value of best and most versatile agricultural land should also be taken into account.

### Baseline

12.3 Only 8% (275ha) of land within the Plan area is outside of the Built Up Area boundary. Therefore, most land within Worthing is brownfield.

12.4 There are significant pockets of potentially contaminated land in the east of Worthing as a result of historic landfill activities and smaller pockets throughout the Built Up Area from historic industrial uses.

**Figure 9: Agricultural Land Classification Map**



12.5 The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) map reflects the fact that land in Worthing is predominantly in urban use. However outside of these areas, the map

shows there are small areas of Grade 1 and 2 Agricultural Land located within the gaps to the east and west.

### **Projection**

12.6 The current Worthing Core Strategy (2011) focuses on the regeneration of brownfield sites which is likely to result in remediation of contaminated land in some areas. As development pressures increase, the consideration of development on greenfield sites may impact high grade agricultural land.

### **Issues**

12.7 The review of the wider context and analysis of baseline information has identified the following sustainability issues and problems:

- Previous focus on brownfield sites means there are a limited number of opportunities remaining to meet housing need on brownfield sites as evidenced in the Council's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) (2014).
- There are areas of high quality Grade 1 Agricultural Land on greenfield sites around Worthing. This is an important resource for food production that should be recognised and protected in favour of lower quality land.
- There are significant areas of contaminated land along the eastern boundary.

### **Summary**

12.8 The majority of land is brownfield with small pockets of high grade agricultural land to the east and west of the urban area.

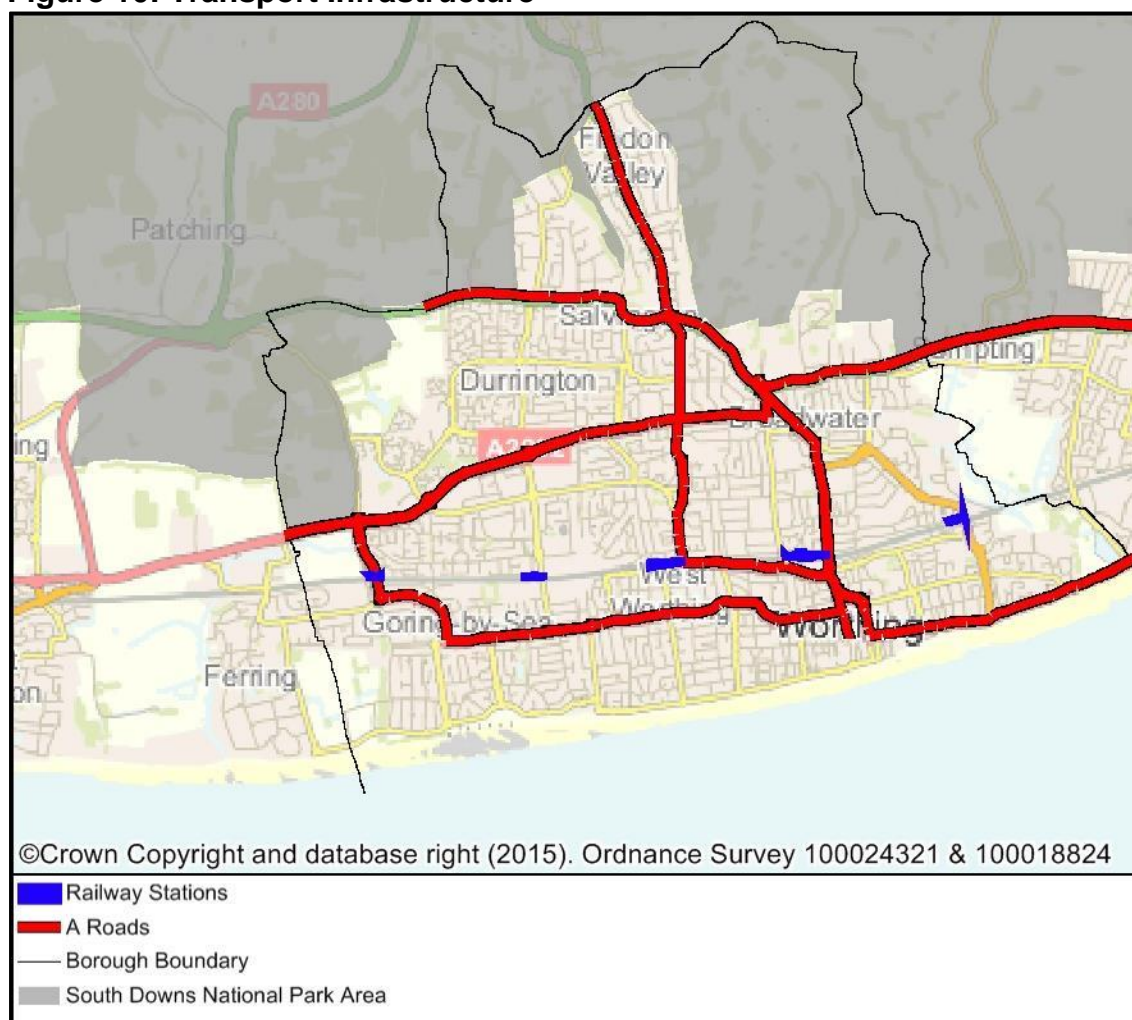
## 13.0 Transport and Accessibility

### Context

13.1 The need to minimise travel and improve access to sustainable modes of transport in England is emphasised by the NPPF. Under the NPPF Local Plans are encouraged to minimise journey lengths for all activities such as employment, shopping and leisure. Additionally, the local transport system should be balanced to favour sustainable transport modes (including walking, cycling and public transport). Effective planning for sustainable transport will also bring other sustainability benefits such as achieving health objectives. Locally the West Sussex Transport Plan 2011-2026 sets out to increase the use of sustainable modes of transport, improve network efficiency in order to reduce emissions and delays, minimise the impact of HGVs on the local community, improve safety for all road users and reduce traffic emissions.

### Baseline

**Figure 10: Transport Infrastructure**



13.2 The A27 trunk road passes through the town, there is often significant congestion along this section of the road which causes long delays and has resulted in the designation of an AQMA (see Chapter 3). Further south, the A259 predominately carries local traffic but also acts as an alternative route to the A27.

The A24 runs north from Worthing. The Brighton Agglomeration Noise Action Plan (2014) also identifies roads are also a key source of noise in Worthing.

13.3 There are 5 train stations within the borough providing rail connections to the east (Brighton), and the west (including Chichester, Portsmouth and Southampton). There is also a reasonably good rail service to London. The local bus network is extensive, but journey times and punctuality can be affected by congestion. Worthing has a relatively high level of cycling compared to other towns, but there is potential to develop cycle links to the National Park and extend the coastal network further to improve links with neighbouring communities.

### **Projection**

13.4 Road congestion is likely to worsen without improvements affecting residents, businesses, visitors and commuters.

### **Issues**

13.5 The review of the wider context and analysis of baseline information has identified the following sustainability issues and problems:

- Road congestion during peak periods affects many parts of the highway network throughout Worthing, disrupting journey times and causing poor air quality. Particular problems are on main routes into the town centre (A259 and A24) and along the A27.
- The current provision of pedestrian and cycling facilities across the town could be improved to help support and maintain sustainable travel.
- The current rail services are also at capacity during peak times.

### **Summary**

13.6 Road congestion is a problem in and around Worthing which is affecting local air quality and impacting residents, businesses and visitors. The need to address this and explore opportunities to improve sustainable methods of transport will be an important consideration for the Local Plan.

## 14.0 Waste

### Context

14.1 The EU Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC requires that the waste hierarchy is observed and is a material consideration in determining individual planning applications. The Government Review of Waste Policy in England also contains actions and commitments for key actors, which includes local authorities, to work towards a zero waste economy.

14.2 The West Sussex Waste Local Plan (2014) includes an aspiration to achieve zero waste to landfill by 2031. Across West Sussex there are over 50 built waste facilities, however further new facilities are required for the transfer, recycling, and treatment of waste streams other than Municipal Solid Waste.

### Baseline

14.3 In 2012/13 approximately 34% of household waste collected in Worthing was sent for reuse, recycling or composting which was significantly below the national average of 41.97% and was a decrease from the previous three years (36.6% in 2011/12, 36% in 2010/11, 37.18% in 2009/10). There is a household waste recycling site located in the Hambridge Industrial Estate in the east of Worthing.

### Projection

14.4 Rates of recycling have been decreasing. This is likely to continue unless measures are put in place to reverse this trend. Without mitigation measures, there is likely to be increased waste generated as a result of an increasing population and related housing and employment growth.

### Issues

14.5 The review of the wider context and analysis of baseline information has identified the following sustainability issues and problems:

- The reuse of building materials should be promoted to reduce the amount of construction waste generated.
- There has been a decrease in the recycling rate. Improvements are needed and measures to promote recycling encouraged to reduce the proportion of waste sent to landfill.
- It will be important to reduce the amount of waste produced to avoid further amounts sent to landfill as a result of population growth.

### Summary

14.6 It will be important to ensure that any implications of the Local Plan are considered in terms of increased waste that may be produced as a result of development or increased populations and how these could affect recycling rates.



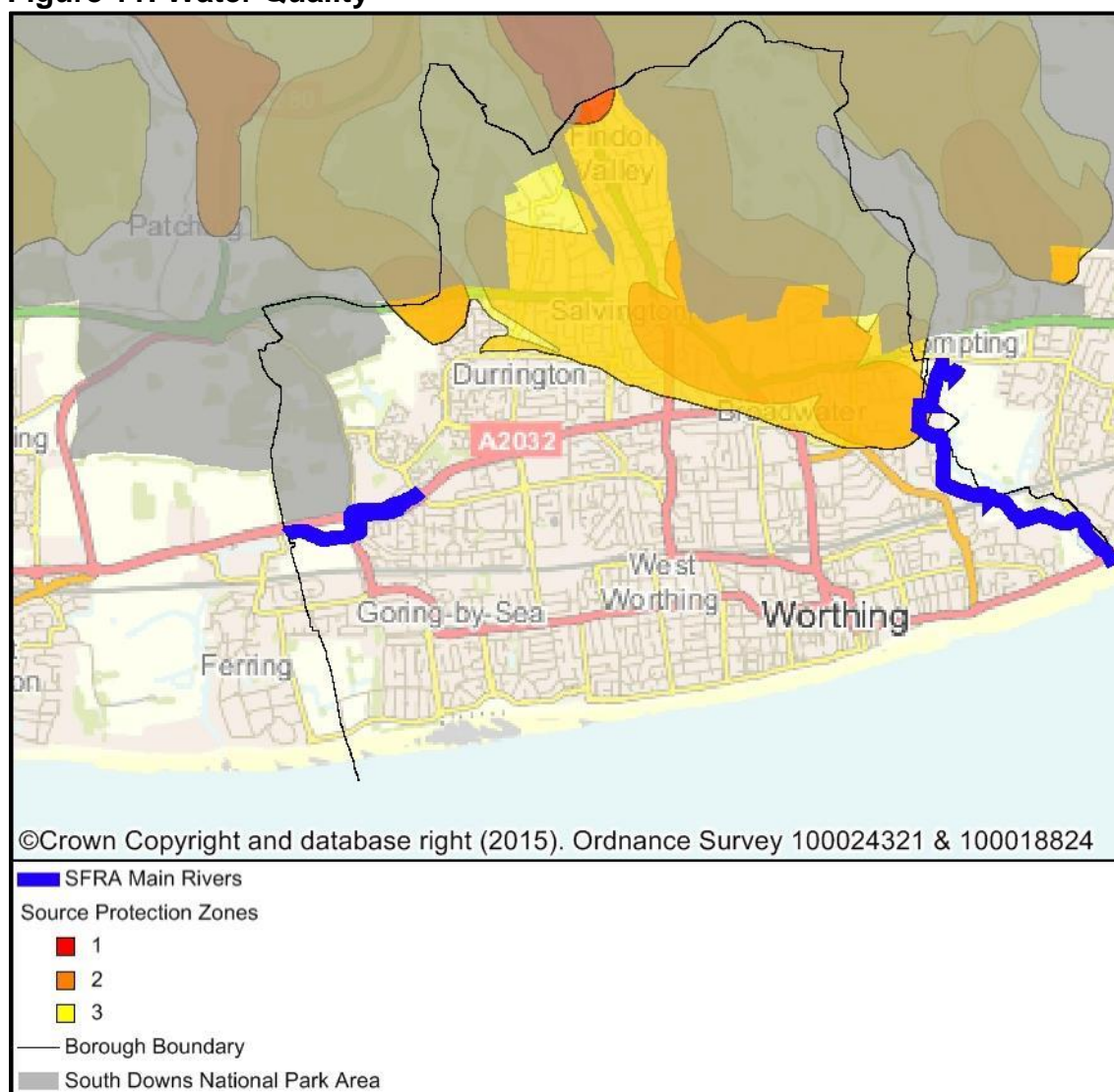
## 15.0 Water

### Context

15.1 The protection and enhancement of water quality and quantity is driven by the Water Framework Directive (WFD) (2000/60/EC), which requires a catchment-based approach to water management. The Framework Directive applies to coastal, transitional, surface water bodies and groundwater. It requires the achievement of 'good status' by an assigned deadline and no deterioration. At the national level, the NPPF requires that planning decisions prevent existing and proposed development from contributing to or being at unacceptable risk from water pollution. The NPPF also emphasises the important role that can be played by SuDS and water efficiency design measures. At a local level, the Arun and Western Streams Catchment Plan and Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy consider the actions needed to achieve good status and the sustainability of current abstraction rates.

### Baseline

**Figure 11: Water Quality**



15.2 There are two main rivers Worthing which are also designated waterbodies under WFD; the Teville Stream in the east and the Ferring Rife in the west. The South East River Basin Management Plan (2009) contains the main issues for the water environment and information on what needs to be done to tackle these issues. The Teville Stream is currently classified as bad status for fish. It is culverted for long stretches and flows through industrial areas before draining through Brooklands Lake and into the Sea. The Ferring Rife is part of the Arun (lower) waterbody. The waterbody is a heavily modified waterbody currently classified as moderate potential due to hydrology. The section in Worthing flows through a mixture of suburban areas and open fields. The coastline along Worthing is designated as bathing water currently achieving the higher standard.

15.3 In the north of Worthing there is a Source Protection Zone. These are defined for groundwater sources such as wells, boreholes and springs used for public drinking water supply. These zones show the risk of contamination from any activities that might cause pollution in the area. The majority of Worthing apart from a central band is also located on a principal aquifer comprising of two groundwater bodies. The groundwater in the area is therefore sensitive to pollution. Both groundwater bodies are currently classified as poor quantitative quality due to their impact on surface waters. Within the Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy the area is defined as 'water not available for licensing'.

### **Projection**

15.4 The requirements of WFD and Catchment Plans already in place are likely to result in an improvement in water quality.

### **Issues**

15.5 The review of the wider context and analysis of baseline information has identified the following sustainability issues and problems:

- There is already a shortage of water resources which is impacting on the local ground and surface waters. This is likely to worsen as a result of further growth.
- Vital groundwater supplies, coastal bathing waters and rivers are vulnerable to pollution and failing to reach quality targets.

### **Summary**

15.6 Worthing has important groundwater, surface water and marine reserves some of which are in poor condition. It is important that these are protected as part of development and measures taken to improve their quality and quantity.

## Part C: The SA Framework

The framework has been informed by the information and issues identified in the topic chapters within Part B.

### 16.0 Objectives

16.1 Table 6 below sets out the list of objectives and corresponding criteria which form the SA Framework. The Framework proposes 14 objectives which will be used to assess options for the Local Plan and any subsequent DPDs.

**Table 6: The SA Framework**

Objective		Supporting criteria <i>Will the site/policy proposal under consideration...</i>	Commentary and topics covered
1. Environmental Quality	To protect and improve air, soil and water quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Protect current standards and where possible contribute to an improvement in air quality by addressing increases in emissions and traffic congestion?</li><li>• Seek opportunities to remediate contaminated land by prioritising redevelopment of brownfield land?</li><li>• Ensure no deterioration of water quality and promote opportunities to improve the quality of ground surface and coastal waters?</li></ul>	In some areas measures show pockets of poor air, soil and water quality. This has been attributed to historic management, land uses and traffic congestion. It is important that these resources are protected and opportunities taken to improve their quality as part of development.
2. Biodiversity	To conserve, protect and enhance natural biodiversity (flora and fauna), green infrastructure networks and natural open space.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improve and extend networks of green infrastructure?</li><li>• Maintain and, where possible, increase the area of accessible open space?</li><li>• Conserve and enhance existing biodiversity, ensuring no net loss?</li></ul>	There are limited open green spaces and green infrastructure networks within Worthing. Whilst it is recognised that it is difficult for development to result in a net gain of biodiversity, there may be opportunities to enhance existing habitats. Access to open space can also positively affect health and wellbeing.



Objective		Supporting criteria <i>Will the site/policy proposal under consideration...</i>	Commentary and topics covered
3. Climate Change Mitigation	To contribute to climate change mitigation by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote low/zero carbon development?</li> <li>• Limit or reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and other air pollutants?</li> <li>• Promote recycling, reuse and reduction of materials to reduce the levels of waste to landfill?</li> </ul>	Further growth and development is likely to cause increased emissions and waste without mitigation. Due to the links between waste and climate change mitigation a decision was made to combine these topics and issues within this one objective.
4. Climate Change Adaptation	To ensure the effects of climate change on Worthing are identified and measures taken to adapt.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage effective management of demand for water and greater efficiency in water use?</li> <li>• Promote the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)?</li> <li>• Minimise the risk of flooding to and from development taking account of future flood risk and sea level rise?</li> <li>• Direct development away from areas most at risk of flooding?</li> </ul>	Climate change will result in more extreme weather events including more frequent and severe floods and droughts. The baseline data shows that parts of Worthing are already at risk of flooding from a variety of sources. This was therefore considered a significant issue that was discretely different to both climate change mitigation and environmental quality.

Objective		Supporting criteria <i>Will the site/policy proposal under consideration...</i>	Commentary and topics covered
5. Landscape and Character	To conserve and enhance landscape character and quality of the historic, built and natural environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conserve and enhance natural landscape and countryside?</li> <li>• Protect the character and distinctiveness of individual settlements?</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the relationship of the built up area with the SDNP and undeveloped coastline?</li> <li>• Protect heritage assets?</li> </ul>	The importance of maintaining the character and distinctiveness of settlements and protecting and enhancing local landscapes particularly in relation to the SDNP and coastline has been identified. The historic environment is also an important component of the character of the built environment. These issues have been incorporated into this wider objective that covers both character and landscape. It is recognised that there will be links between this and the biodiversity objective which seeks to protect and enhance natural open space.
6. Health	To help people become more active, healthier and live longer and reduce inequalities in health and wellbeing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help secure necessary health care services and facilities that are accessible for all particularly those who need it most?</li> <li>• Facilitate healthy and more active communities through access to indoor and outdoor sport facilities for all groups?</li> <li>• Promote walking and cycling within and between communities?</li> </ul>	The NPPF recognises the role of planning in creating healthy communities. Pockets of Worthing suffer with deprivation in relation to health. In these areas life expectancy is relatively shorter and linked to a range of poorer health behaviours and outcomes including obesity. An integrated SA is being undertaken and for this reason a separate objective relating to health was required.

Objective		Supporting criteria <i>Will the site/policy proposal under consideration...</i>	Commentary and topics covered
7. Crime and Public Safety	To create safe sustainable environments which promote social cohesion, security and reduce fear of crime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help to ensure crime prevention measures are incorporated into new and existing development?</li> <li>• Promote sustainable mixed use environments?</li> <li>• Protect and improve the safety of existing communities?</li> </ul>	Good quality design is recognised by the NPPF as a key component of sustainable development. Worthing generally has a low crime rate however anti social behaviour is a key issue particularly in wards with higher levels of deprivation.
8. Equality	To advance equal opportunities and ensure equal access to services to minimise discrimination, poverty and social exclusion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help to minimise discrimination related to age, gender disability, race, faith, location and income?</li> <li>• Promote equal access to public facilities and services?</li> <li>• Address issues highlighted by the Index of Multiple Deprivation dataset?</li> </ul>	An integrated SA is being undertaken which incorporates EqlA. Therefore it was considered important that a separate objective was included to consider how the Plan impacts on key groups. There are also cross overs between this objective and health, employment, housing and community objectives in terms of equal access and opportunities for all.
9. Housing	To provide high quality, homes for all, which includes a range of size, types and tenures that are appropriate to local needs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support increased dwelling completions to meet the local need?</li> <li>• Deliver a mix of housing to meet needs of key local groups including Gypsies and Travellers?</li> <li>• Help to reduce the number of households on the housing register?</li> </ul>	There is significant need for housing in Worthing. In line with the NPPF a key purpose of the Local Plan will be to meet this need as far as is sustainable and in line with other considerations. It is important that the housing proposed meets the local need in terms of mix and affordability.

Objective		Supporting criteria <i>Will the site/policy proposal under consideration...</i>	Commentary and topics covered
10. Communities	To create and support sustainable vibrant communities where people enjoy living.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve accessibility to key services and facilities?</li> <li>• Provide access to new leisure, recreational, or cultural activities?</li> <li>• Encourage mixed and balanced communities?</li> <li>• Promote inclusive design?</li> </ul>	It is important that neighbourhood communities are created and supported through the provision of social as well as physical infrastructure. Good design is recognised as key in creating inclusive developments.
11. Education	Raise educational achievement and skills levels to enable current and future residents to remain in work, and access good quality jobs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure adequate provision of skills/training facilities?</li> <li>• Improve accessibility to existing educational facilities?</li> <li>• Facilitate the provision of new high quality educational facilities?</li> </ul>	There is relatively low educational attainment and skills in Worthing. It is important that residents of all ages and abilities can fulfil their potential and have the skills needed to fulfil their own objectives and secure employment.
12. Economy	To attract and sustain inward investment and support sustainable growth of industry to improve the resilience and diversity of the local economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate a sustainable visitor economy?</li> <li>• Support existing businesses and enable expansion where necessary?</li> <li>• Create places for business to relocate and invest?</li> <li>• Increase the number, variety and quality of employment opportunities?</li> </ul>	Economic growth is a key priority the Council. There is currently a strong service sector and visitor economy. A large number of companies in Worthing are micro businesses. It is important that these are supported and appropriate employment space available for expansion.

Objective		Supporting criteria <i>Will the site/policy proposal under consideration...</i>	Commentary and topics covered
13. Town Centre(s)	Improve the range, quality and accessibility of key services and facilities, and ensure the vitality and viability of existing centre(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on achieving vital and viable town centres?</li> <li>• Facilitate regeneration of deprived areas and key sites?</li> <li>• Help to improve accessibility to existing services/facilities?</li> <li>• Secure new infrastructure and/or encourage better use of existing?</li> </ul>	The Plan area is predominantly urban and most land available is brownfield. It is therefore important that redevelopment contributes to the improvement of existing town centre(s).
14. Infrastructure	To deliver and ensure necessary infrastructure is in place to support the future growth of Worthing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce congestion on roads and improve public transport links to/from Worthing?</li> <li>• Ensure infrastructure has sufficient capacity to support new communities and businesses by phasing new development?</li> <li>• Deliver good quality infrastructure to promote economic growth?</li> </ul>	It is critical that the necessary infrastructure is in place to support further growth and create high quality places that attract and retain inward investment.

16.2 The compatibility of the objectives has been tested in the matrix below to identify any conflicts:

### Table 7: Compatibility of SA objectives

[illegible]

Key: ✓ = compatible

X = potential conflict

blank = no relationship

16.3 From examination of the matrix above it is apparent that many objectives are compatible which means that they strengthen and support each other. The limited space available and likely need for greenfield development means there is conflict between housing and most environmental objectives. The potential for conflict has also been identified between delivering new homes versus other types of development.

16.4 There was also some conflict between the economy and the costs involved in improving environmental quality and climate change mitigation, however the social and economic benefits of having attractive communities, access to green space or networks and adapting to climate change was also recognised. It will be important the right balance between these objectives is sought.

16.5 The following section (17: Methodology) helps to explain how the potential conflicts between different objectives can be considered and addressed.



## 17.0 Methodology

17.1 The SA framework will be used to assess Local Plan options. A consistent and transparent approach will be taken to assess how each plan/policy/site option performs against the objectives. A colour coding system will be used to score options against the SA objectives according to whether they have a positive or negative impact:

**Table 8: Scoring Criteria**

Green	Positive impact/consistent with sustainability objectives
Amber	Mixed impacts/potential for conflict with sustainability objectives
Red	Negative impact/conflict with sustainability objectives
-	Neutral – no particular impact
?	Uncertain, unable to determine impact

17.2 Matrices will be used to present the findings of the appraisal along with more detailed commentary. These will be based on the following template which will allow for options to be compared. The cells will contain the overall score according to the above coding system. The additional row at the bottom and column on the right will provide extra space for comments and enable recommendations from the SA to be identified:

**Table 9: Matrix template**

	Policy/Option		Comments:
SA Objectives	e.g. A	e.g. B	
1			
2			
etc.			
Comments:	<i>Allows space for commentary summarising the findings of each option and also recording any recommendations or mitigation for the Plan</i>		

17.3 In carrying out the appraisal the following criteria will be used to determine whether there are any likely significant effects:

- The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of effects
- Cumulative nature of the effects
- The risks posed
- The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects
- The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected

17.4 SA is an iterative process and it is expected that as the Plan progresses the options and information available will become more detailed. In some circumstances there will be uncertainties and it may not be possible to predict significant effects. In these situations this will be made clear through the scoring and where possible comments will be made on merits (or otherwise) in more general terms.

## Next Steps

17.5 This Scoping Report will be subject to consultation for a 5 week period with the statutory consultation bodies identified in paragraph 1.16. Following the close of consultation, all comments will be considered and will help influence the final SA Framework.

17.6 The next stage will be to undertake assessment and prepare a draft SA Report which will be published alongside the draft Local Plan. The draft SA Report will meet the requirements of the SEA Directive and Stages B and C of Figure 1 as set out below:

**Table 10: SEA/SA Stages**

SEA Directive requirement		The SA process
<b>f)</b> The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors		B1. Test the Local Plan objectives against the sustainability appraisal framework.
<b>g)</b> The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce, and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme		B2. Develop the Local Plan options including reasonable alternatives.
<b>h)</b> An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information		B3. Evaluate the likely effects of the Local Plan and alternatives
<b>i)</b> A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Article 10		B4. Consider ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects.
<b>j)</b> A non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings		B5. Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan
		C. Prepare the sustainability appraisal report.

17.7 The draft SA Report will also contain any updates or amendments to the baseline information. These updates or amendments will be due to new data sources

being released, new monitoring arrangements being established, or due to comments received during the consultation period.

17.8 The draft SA Report will evaluate all realistic and relevant options for the strategy, policies and sites to be contained within the draft Local Plan. All realistic and relevant options will be appraised against the Sustainability Framework (objectives and criteria) in order to determine the most sustainable option. This will ensure that the draft Local Plan is the most sustainable plan overall, given all options. The draft SA Report will also include indicators to monitor the effects of implanting the Local Plan.

17.9 The draft SA Report will be made available for consultation to seek representations from consultation bodies and the public alongside the draft Local Plan to meet the requirements of Stage D shown in Figure 1.

## APPENDIX: List of relevant policies, plans, programmes, strategies and initiatives (PPPSI)

### INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Air	<a href="#">EU Air Quality Directive 2008/50/EC</a>	European Union	2008	<p>Merges most existing legislation into one Directive.</p> <p>Main objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New air quality objectives for PM2.5 (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives – exposure concentration obligation and exposure reduction target</li> <li>• The possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values</li> <li>• The possibility for time extensions of three years (PM10) or up to five years (NO2, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission.</li> </ul>
Air	<a href="#">EU Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution</a>	European Union	2005	<p>Aims to cut the annual number of premature deaths from air pollution related diseases by 40% by 2020</p>
Biodiversity	<a href="#">European Biodiversity Strategy</a>	European Commission	2011	<p>This strategy is aimed at reversing biodiversity loss and speeding up the EU's transition towards a resource efficient and green economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The EBS emphasises the important role of spatial planning in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.</li> <li>• In addition to the EBS, the European Commission has prepared several Biodiversity Action Plans (e.g. for natural resources, fisheries, agriculture).</li> </ul>

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Biodiversity	<a href="#">EU Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC</a>	European Union	1992	<p>The main aim of the EU Habitats Directive is to promote the maintenance of biodiversity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This requires Member States to take measures to maintain or restore natural habitats and wild species at a favourable conservation status, introducing robust protection for those habitats and species of European importance.</li> <li>• In applying these measures Member States are required to take account of economic, social and cultural requirements and regional and local characteristics.</li> </ul>
Biodiversity	<a href="#">EU Wild Birds Directive 2009/147/EC</a>	European Union	1979 codified 2009	The long term protection and conservation of all bird species naturally living in the wild. It is this directive that creates Special Protection Areas.
Energy	<a href="#">EU Directive 2009/28/EC on promotion of use of energy from renewable sources</a>	European Union	2009	This Directive sets out a number of measures to encourage the use of energy from renewable sources and to achieve energy efficiency and renewable energy targets.
Energy	<a href="#">EU Directive 2010/31/EC on the Energy Performance of Buildings</a>	European Union	2010	<p>To promote the energy performance of buildings and building units. Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The adoption of a methodology for calculation of the energy performance of buildings;</li> <li>• The application of minimum requirements on the energy performance of new buildings. Aim is nearly zero energy buildings by 2020;</li> <li>• The application of minimum requirements on the energy performance of existing buildings that are subject to major renovation;</li> <li>• Energy certification of buildings</li> </ul>
Flood Risk and Coastal Erosion	<a href="#">EU Floods Directive 2007/60/EC</a>	European Union	2007	This Directive requires Member States to assess if all water courses and coast lines are at risk from flooding, to map the flood extent and assets and humans at risk in these areas and to take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce this flood risk. It also reinforces the rights of the public to access this information and to have a say in the planning process.

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
General / cross-cutting	<a href="#">European Directive 2001/42/EC (SEA Directive)</a>	European Union	2001	<p>Sets out the detailed requirements of environmental assessment required for plans such as the Local Plan.</p> <p>The Sustainability Appraisal accompanying the Local Plan must comply with the requirements of this legislation.</p>
General / Cross-cutting	<a href="#">Renewed European Sustainable Development Strategy</a>	European Commission	2006	<p>The strategy focuses on the following challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change and clean energy</li> <li>• Sustainable transport</li> <li>• Sustainable consumption and production</li> <li>• Conservation and management of natural resources</li> <li>• Public health</li> <li>• Social inclusion, demographics and migration</li> <li>• Global poverty and sustainable development challenges</li> </ul>
General / cross-cutting	<a href="#">EU Seventh Environmental Action Programme</a>	European Union	2014	<p>It sets out a vision of where it wants the Union to be by 2050:</p> <p>"In 2050, we live well, within the planet's ecological limits. Our prosperity and healthy environment stem from an innovative, circular economy where nothing is wasted and where natural resources are managed sustainably, and biodiversity is protected, valued and restored in ways that enhance our society's resilience. Our low-carbon growth has long been decoupled from resource use, setting the pace for a safe and sustainable global society."</p> <p>It identifies three key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital</li> <li>• to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy</li> <li>• to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing</li> </ul>

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Landscape	<a href="#">EU Landscape Convention on the protection of Archaeological Heritage (Revised)</a>	European Union	2007	The Convention exists to encourage the sustainable protection, management and planning of the European landscape as the context for people's lives and as part of their common heritage. It is a forward-looking convention, aiming to create better landscapes for the future. English Heritage believes that the best future landscapes will be those in which history and culture are readily legible by everyone.
Noise	<a href="#">EU Environmental Noise Directive 2002/49/EC.</a>	European Parliament and Council	2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To define a common approach intended to avoid, prevent or reduce on a prioritised basis the harmful effects, including annoyance, due to exposure to environmental noise; and</li> <li>To provide a basis for developing Community measures to reduce noise emitted by the major sources, in particular road and rail vehicles and infrastructure, aircraft, outdoor and industrial equipment and mobile machinery.</li> </ul>
Soil	<a href="#">European Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection</a>	EU	2006	<p>The strategy is seeking to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish common principles for the protection and sustainable use of soils.</li> <li>Prevent threats to soils, and mitigate the effects of those threats.</li> <li>Preserve soil functions within the context of sustainable use.</li> <li>Restore degraded and contaminated soils to approved levels of functionality.</li> </ul> <p>Strategy includes proposals for a EU Soil Framework Directive the main draft elements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A requirement to consider the impact that new policy will have on soils while they are being developed.</li> <li>A requirement to reduce the risks relating to soil erosion, organic matter decline, compaction, salinization and landslides.</li> <li>A requirement to prevent soil contamination.</li> </ul>



Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Waste	<a href="#">EU Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC</a>	European Union	2008	<p>This Directive provides the overarching legislative framework for the collection, transport, recovery and disposal of waste, and includes a common definition of waste. This Directive will force the construction industry to separate waste onsite. The Directive will force waste collectors to separate waste and this will knock on to industry. It may encourage more specialist waste collection and disposal contractors to be formed, which will have cost implications to the construction contractors and may force the construction industry to look at ways to minimise waste. Article 4 of the revised Waste Framework Directive requires that the waste hierarchy is observed and it now is a material consideration in determining individual planning applications.</p>
Water	<a href="#">EU Water Framework Directive (River Basin Management Plan) 2000/60/EC</a>	European Union	2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expands the scope of water protection to all waters, surface waters and groundwater.</li> <li>• Achieve 'good status' for all waters set by assigned deadline.</li> <li>• Water management based on river basins 'combined approach' of emission limit values and quality standards</li> <li>• Getting the prices right for the abstraction and distribution of fresh water, and for the collection and treatment of waste water</li> <li>• Getting citizen involvement to influence the direction of environmental protection.</li> </ul> <p>The Local Plan should contribute to the enhancement and protection of surface and groundwater. This includes risks from pollution, new and over abstraction.</p>

## NATIONAL CONTEXT

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Air	<a href="#">The Environment Act 1995 Part IV + Air Quality Regulations 2000 + 2002 Amendment</a>	Central Government	1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Placed the requirement on the Secretary of State to produce the National Air Quality Strategy; and</li> <li>Established the statutory requirement for Local Authorities to carry out local Review and Assessments of air quality and where necessary declare Air quality Management Areas and produce Air Quality Action Plans.</li> </ul>
Biodiversity	<a href="#">Wildlife and Countryside Act</a>	Central Government	1981	The Council has a duty under section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to conserve and enhance the designated flora and fauna of SSSIs.
Biodiversity	<a href="#">Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services</a>	Central Government - DEFRA	2011	<p>This document sets out how the quality of the environment on land and at sea will be improved over the next ten years. Whilst it is a government strategy, it depends on delivery by a range of agencies including local authorities.</p> <p>The aim for this strategy is to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people. The aims include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a more integrated large-scale approach to conservation on land and at sea</li> <li>putting people at the heart of biodiversity policy</li> <li>reducing environmental pressures</li> <li>improving our knowledge</li> </ul>
Biodiversity	<a href="#">Marine Policy Statement</a>	Central Government – DEFRA	2011	The UK vision for the marine environment is for 'clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas'.

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Biodiversity	<a href="#">Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006</a>	Central Government – DEFRA	2006	Establishes a duty on all public bodies to have regard to biodiversity conservation when carrying out their functions.
Biodiversity	<a href="#">Natural Environment White Paper “Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature”</a>	Central Government - DEFRA	2011	To ensure that the benefits of high quality natural environments are available to everyone.
Biodiversity	<a href="#">Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010</a>	Central Government	2010	To transpose Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (EC Habitats Directive) into national law. Containing five Parts and four Schedules, the Regulations provide for the designation and protection of 'European sites', the protection of 'European protected species', and the adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European sites.
Climate	<a href="#">The Carbon Plan</a>	Central Government - DECC	2011	Sets out how the UK will make the transition to a low carbon economy, covering issues such as low carbon buildings, transport and energy.
Climate	<a href="#">Climate Change Act</a>	Central Government - DECC	2008	The Act sets legally binding targets on reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the UK by at least 80% by 2050 and 34% by 2020 against a 1990 baseline.
Climate	<a href="#">The UK Climate Projections 09 (UKCP09)</a>	Central Government – DEFRA	2009	The UKCP09 Projections provide a basis for studies of impacts and vulnerability and decisions on adaptation to climate change in the UK over the 21st century. Projections are given of changes to climate, and of changes in the marine and coastal environment
Climate	<a href="#">The UK Climate Change Risk Assessment</a>	Central Government – DEFRA	2012	Gives a detailed analysis of potential effects of climate change.

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Cultural Heritage and Landscape	<a href="#">Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England (2010)</a>	Central Government	2010	<p>This document sets out the following vision:</p> <p>That the value of the historic environment is recognised by all who have the power to shape it; that Government gives it proper recognition and that it is managed intelligently and in a way that fully recognises its contribution to the economic, social and cultural life of the nation.</p>
Economy	<a href="#">The Plan for Growth</a>	Central Government – HM Treasury + BIS	2011	<p>Government's economic policy objective is to achieve strong, sustainable and balanced growth that is more evenly shared across the country and between industries. Four overarching aims are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to create the most competitive tax system in the G20</li> <li>• to make the UK one of the best places in Europe to start, finance and grow a business</li> <li>• to encourage investment and exports as a route to a more balanced economy; and</li> <li>• to create a more educated workforce that is the most flexible in Europe.</li> </ul>
Economy	<a href="#">Local Growth White Paper</a>	Central Government - BIS	2010	As part of shifting power to local communities and business sets up Local Enterprise Partnerships.
Energy	<a href="#">Energy Acts</a>	Central Government	2008 + 2011	These Acts cover carbon capture and storage, renewable energy, feed-in tariffs, smart metering and renewable heat incentives. The 2011 Act also introduces the Green Deal as a means of financing energy efficiency improvements.
Energy	<a href="#">UK Fuel Poverty Strategy and Annual Monitoring Reports</a>	Central Government – DECC and Fuel Poverty Action Group	2002	<p>Aim 4, Objective 2 is to promote energy efficiency in new and converted residential buildings.</p> <p>Aim 4, Objective 3 is to improve the energy efficiency of listed buildings.</p> <p>Encourage the use of Combined Heat and Power plants for residential use. Develop urban regeneration policies to tackle those properties capable of being made energy efficient at reasonable cost.</p>

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Flood Risk and Coastal Erosion	<a href="#">Flood and Water Management Act 2010</a>	Central Government	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide better protection from flooding and better management of water supplies</li> <li>To provide protection for land features that may affect flood risk</li> <li>To implement a new permitting requirement with regard to drainage systems</li> <li>To ensure that a new lead role for local authorities in managing local flood risk (from surface water, ground water and ordinary watercourses) is implemented and a strategic overview role for all flood risk for the Environment Agency (EA).</li> </ul>
General / cross-cutting	<a href="#">Planning &amp; Compulsory Purchase Act 2004</a>	Central Government	2004	<p>Clause 38 places a duty on Local Authorities to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.</p> <p>It also sets out the statutory requirement for the SA of Development Plan Documents.</p>
General / cross-cutting	<a href="#">Indices of Multiple Deprivation</a>	Central Government - DCLG	2010	<p>Deprivation can be addressed through a number of spatial policies relating to employment, housing and health as well as through targeting specific areas.</p>
General / cross-cutting	<a href="#">National Planning Policy Framework</a>	Central Government - DCLG	2012	<p>Sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied.</p> <p>At the heart of the NPPF is a presumption in favour of sustainable development. For plan-making this means that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>local planning authorities should positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of their area;</li> <li>Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change, unless: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or</li> <li>specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
General / cross-cutting	<a href="#">Localism Act</a>	Central Government - DCLG	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community rights: New community rights will ensure that community organisations can nominate important local assets for inclusion on a list of assets to be maintained by the local authority.</li> <li>Neighbourhood planning: New rights will allow local communities to shape new development by coming together to prepare neighbourhood plans.</li> <li>Housing: Councils will get the flexibility to better manage their housing stock by adapting to meet local needs.</li> <li>General power of competence: The Localism Act includes a 'general power of competence'. This gives local authorities the legal capacity to do anything an individual can do that isn't specifically prohibited.</li> </ul>
General Guidance	<a href="#">BREEAM</a>	Buildings Research Establishment	Updated biennially . Major update in 2008.	Programme sets the standards for development schemes to attain, so minimising their environmental impact, in particular through the implementation of energy and water efficiency techniques. BREEAM standards are particularly useful in relation to non-residential development.
General Guidance	<a href="#">The Code for Sustainable Homes: Setting the standard for sustainability in new homes</a>	Central Government - DCLG	2008	The Code for Sustainable Homes was introduced to improve the overall sustainability of new homes by setting a single national standard within which the home building industry can design and construct homes to higher environmental standards and offers a tool for developers to differentiate themselves within the market.
General Guidance	<a href="#">Planning policy for travellers' sites.</a>	Central Government - DCLG	2012	Local authorities should make an assessment of need and work collaboratively to develop fair and effective strategies to meet that need through identification of land for sites.
Noise	<a href="#">Noise Policy Statement for England</a>	Central Government - DEFRA	2010	<p>Through the effective management and control of environmental, neighbour and neighbourhood noise within the context of Government policy on sustainable development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to avoid significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life;</li> <li>to mitigate and minimise adverse impacts on health and quality of life; and</li> <li>where possible, to contribute to the improvement of health and quality of life.</li> </ul> <p>The application of the Noise Policy Statement should mean that noise is properly taken into account at the appropriate time. The application of the NPS should also ensure that noise is considered alongside other issues and not in isolation.</p>

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Population and Human Health	<a href="#">Healthy Lives Healthy People White Paper</a>	Central Government - DH	2010	Responds to the findings of The Marmot Review. Sets out Government's strategy for public health. From 2013 local authorities will take on new responsibilities for public health. Part of this will include designing communities for active ageing and sustainability – building more Lifetime Homes, protecting green spaces and improving access to land so that people can grow their own food.
Soil and ground conditions	<a href="#">Safeguarding our soils. A Strategy for England</a>	Central Government - DEFRA	2009	The Strategy emphasises the need to protect soils and promotes the food production, biodiversity, and climate change benefits soil provides
Soil and ground conditions	<a href="#">Environmental Protection Act</a>	Central Government	1990	Part 2A provides a risk-based approach to the identification and remediation of land where contamination poses an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.
Transport	<a href="#">Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon: Making Sustainable Local Transport Happen. Local transport white paper</a>	Central Government - DETR	2011	This White Paper sets out proposals for transport improvements by Central Government. This includes encouraging people to make more sustainable transport choices through investment in infrastructure, pedestrian and cycling facilities, and public transport through a streamlined funding regime. The White Paper also seeks to decarbonise the existing transport network.
Waste	<a href="#">Government Review of Waste Policy in England</a>	Central Government - DEFRA	2011	Principal Challenges to realise long term vision of a green, zero waste economy include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preventing waste wherever it occurs.</li> <li>• Helping the community to develop and deliver local solutions for collecting and dealing with waste from households and businesses.</li> <li>• Increase of recycling of waste from households and businesses.</li> <li>• Approach to extracting recyclables from waste, generates high quality material to meet needs of reproprocessors.</li> <li>• Interface between EFW policies, RE targets, and delivering on climate and broader environmental needs.</li> <li>• Reduce landfill (especially biodegradable waste).</li> <li>• Effective approach reducing waste crime, reducing harm to the environment, human health, local communities and businesses.</li> </ul>



Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Water	<a href="#">Water White Paper – Water for Life</a>	Central Government - DEFRA	2011	<p>Sets out a new framework for making the transition to a resilient and sustainable water sector. Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reform of the abstraction regime.</li> <li>• Taking forward the new catchment based approach to water quality and diffuse pollution.</li> <li>• Consultation on national standards for SuDS and a new approval system for sustainable drainage.</li> </ul>
Water	<a href="#">Groundwater Protection: Principles and Practice</a>	Environment Agency	2013	<p>This set outs how the Environment Agency manages and protects groundwater resources. The approaches set out in the position statements will be of interest to developers, planners, permitting applicants, operators and anyone whose activities have a direct impact on or are affected by groundwater.</p>

## REGIONAL CONTEXT

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Biodiversity	<a href="#">South East Biodiversity Strategy</a>	South East Biodiversity Forum	2009	<p>The South East Biodiversity Strategy aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be a clear, coherent and inspiring vision for the South East</li> <li>• Provide a framework for the delivery of biodiversity targets that guide and support all those who have an impact on biodiversity in the region</li> <li>• Embed a landscape scale approach to restoring whole ecosystems in the working practices and policies of all partners</li> <li>• Create the space needed for wildlife to respond to climate change</li> <li>• Enable all organisations in the South East to support and improve biodiversity across the region</li> <li>• Be a core element within the strategies and delivery plans of organisations across the South East region</li> </ul> <p>The Regional Biodiversity Opportunity Areas Map identifies the areas which are priorities for the restoration and creation of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitats in the South East of England. This includes sites within Worthing.</p>
Biodiversity	<a href="#">Seeing the Woods for the Trees – A forestry and woodlands framework for South East England</a>	The Forestry and Woodlands Framework Steering Group(a range of partners from statutory environmental agencies and the forestry sector)	2009	<p>The framework focuses on four themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better places for people to live</li> <li>• Enhanced environment and biodiversity</li> <li>• A stronger contribution to the economy</li> <li>• A secure future for our woodland resources</li> <li>• The framework includes an overall vision: “<i>We want our woods to make an increasing contribution to the sustainable development of the South East region, in both rural and urban areas</i>”.</li> </ul>
Biodiversity	<a href="#">The South East Green Infrastructure Framework</a>	Natural England	2010	<p>The South East Green Infrastructure framework will seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish Green Infrastructure as an integral and essential component of sustainable communities;</li> <li>• Develop a common understanding of the role and importance of green infrastructure;</li> <li>• Help implement the South East Plan's green infrastructure policy; and</li> <li>• Provide detailed guidance on how Green Infrastructure can be delivered through the planning system and local partnerships.</li> </ul>

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Climate	<a href="#">A Summary of Climate Change Risks for South East England</a>	Climate South East	2012	Coincides with publication of UK's first Climate Change Risk Assessment, presenting a local perspective of the CCRA risks and opportunities.
Economy	<a href="#">Tourism ExSEllence: The Strategy for Tourism in the South East</a>	Tourism South East	2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To promote a 'must visit' region;</li> <li>To provide an unrivalled experience for the visitor; and</li> <li>To establish effective management and organization.</li> </ul>
Water	<a href="#">River Basin Management Plan – South East</a>	Environment Agency	2009	River Basin Management Plans are intended to protect and improve the water environment. They contain the main issues for the water environment and the actions necessary to deal with them. This plan states that all inland, estuarial and coastal waters must aim to achieve "good ecological status" by 2015. The waters in and around Worthing are assessed and a current status assigned. Some waters are in a more deteriorated state than others.
Water	<a href="#">Water Resources Management Plan 2015-40</a>	Southern Water	2014	The Water Resources Management Plan sets out in detail how Southern Water will ensure that there is sufficient security of water supplies to meet the anticipated demands of all its customers over the 25-year planning period from 2015 to 2040. It covers a number of areas including: increased demand from housing growth; the effects of climate change and the need to reduce energy use; and maintaining high levels of environmental protection.
Water	<a href="#">Drought Plan</a>	Southern Water	2013	Drought Plans are used to ensure security of public water supplies is not threatened in periods of water shortage caused by an exceptional shortage of rainfall. Depending upon the severity of the drought, actions might include campaigns to encourage reduced water use by customers, introduction of restrictions such as Temporary Bans, as well as enhanced control of leakages and reduction in water pressure.

## SUB-REGIONAL CONTEXT

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Air Quality	<a href="#">Sussex Air Quality and Emissions Mitigation Guidance</a>	Sussex Air Quality Partnership	2013	<p>The guidance supports the principles of the partnership to improve air quality across Sussex. The purpose of this guidance is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a Sussex-wide approach for assessing potential air quality impacts from development and transport related emissions and provide a consistent approach to mitigating those impacts.</li> <li>• Provide technical advice to local planning authorities on how to deal with planning applications that could have an impact on air quality.</li> </ul> <p>In particular, the document aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enable early engagement,</li> <li>2. Offer clear and consistent guidance to developers</li> <li>3. Ensure better regulation by setting out the approach to undertaking air quality assessments and determining mitigation</li> <li>4. Sets out planning recommendations for air quality assessments.</li> </ol>
Biodiversity	<a href="#">Sussex Biodiversity Action Plan</a>	Sussex Biodiversity Partnership	Regularly up-dated	<p>The overall aim of the Sussex Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) is to conserve and enhance the biological diversity of Sussex and contribute to the conservation and enhancement of both national and international biodiversity.</p> <p>Objectives of the BAP are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain, and where practicable enhance, the wildlife and habitats that give Sussex its character and natural biodiversity.</li> <li>• Identify priority habitats and species which are important to Sussex and /or where there is a special responsibility to care for flora/fauna which is important on a national or international scale.</li> <li>• Set realistic, but ambitious, targets and timescales for priority habitats and species and to monitor progress of action plans against those targets.</li> <li>• Ensure that biodiversity action continues as a joint initiative, evolving in a dynamic framework for nature conservation.</li> <li>• Raise public awareness and encourage involvement in biodiversity action.</li> </ul>
Climate	<a href="#">West Sussex County Local Climate Impact Profile</a>	Climate South East	2009	<p>Aim is to gauge vulnerabilities of services within West Sussex to past weather events, thereby helping to assist adaptive efforts to improve LA resilience to these events. Includes information for each LA area including Worthing.</p>

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Community	<a href="#">West Sussex Cultural Strategy</a>	West Sussex County Council	2009	<p>The Cultural Strategy covers the arts, media, museums, libraries, the built and natural environments, heritage, sports and the visitor economy. It sets out how the cultural life of West Sussex is critical to quality of life and how it contributes to the Sustainable Community Strategy by the part it plays in achieving economic, social and environmental goals.</p> <p>It proposes five priorities for the next five-years, which are: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access and participation – to increase participation in and access for all to cultural activities</li> <li>• Learning and skills – to increase opportunities for and access to creative learning</li> <li>• Built and natural environment – to contribute to a high quality environment by promoting social, economic and cultural regeneration</li> <li>• Creative and cultural sector – to contribute to the development of the creative and cultural sector</li> <li>• Advocacy and partnership – to demonstrate the benefits and value of cultural activities and to make the necessary links between people and organisations</li> </ul>
Community	<a href="#">The Sustainable Community Strategy for West Sussex 2008-2020</a>	West Sussex Strategic Partnership (now the Public Service Board)	2008	<p>The following headlines indicate the most important things that the Partnership will work to promote, foster change and improve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A better place to live: Do more to reduce our contribution to climate change and adapt to its adverse impacts</li> <li>• Opportunity for all: Give everyone the chance to learn and develop their skills throughout their life and by helping the workforce help our companies and the economy</li> <li>• Better health for all: Reduce the difference in life expectancy in different parts of the county particularly through reducing avoidable premature deaths.</li> <li>• Staying and feeling safe: Increase everyone's safety and their feelings of security, particularly children and young people</li> </ul>
Economy	<a href="#">Coast to Capital Strategic Economic Plan</a>	Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership	2014	<p>Identifies three key priority areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance business support and skills</li> <li>• Accelerate research and innovation</li> <li>• Invest in transport, flood defences and resilience</li> </ul>

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Economy	West Sussex County Council NEET Strategy	West Sussex County Council	2009	<p>The NEET Strategy sets out the key issues which contribute to young people not engaging in Education, Employment or Training' and identifies what is needed to improve the outcomes for young people vulnerable to becoming NEET. Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A reduction in the amount of young people becoming NEET.</li> <li>• A continued reduction in the amount of young people 'Unknown' (i.e. those whose NEET status we do not know)</li> <li>• Increased flexible provision to meet demands and needs of young people - especially imaginative and innovative for those below Level 1 and for those in more rural areas</li> <li>• High quality careers education information, advice and guidance for all young people</li> <li>• Ensure as many young people as possible are made a suitable offer to maximise the impact of The September Guarantee</li> <li>• An increase in the availability of Apprenticeships</li> <li>• An Implementation Plan in place to support the Strategy, with input from organisations/partners working with young people</li> </ul>
Economy	<a href="#">Greater Brighton City Deal</a>	Greater Brighton City Region and Cabinet Office	2014	<p>The Deal will unlock more than £170 million of investment in Greater Brighton to create 8,500 jobs and grow its technology businesses. It focuses on addressing the following issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. build on the success of Brighton's tech cluster.</li> <li>2. enable growth across other areas outside Brighton.</li> <li>3. create effective governance structures for Greater Brighton.</li> </ol>
Economy	<a href="#">Supporting Economic Growth in West Sussex: An Economic Strategy for West Sussex 2012-2020</a>	West Sussex County Council	2012	<p>Strategic priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote West Sussex as a First Class Business location</li> <li>• Understand and respond to the needs of established businesses</li> <li>• Adopt and respond to new funding conditions and</li> <li>• Deliver transport and communications infrastructure</li> <li>• Make best use of land and property</li> <li>• Support the creation of a range of jobs</li> <li>• Support local people to acquire the skills that the economy needs.</li> </ul>

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Flood Risk and Coastal Erosion	<a href="#">Coastal Defence Strategy Arun to Adur</a>	Environment Agency	2000	The strategies establish a sustainable policy for the management of coastal defences between the Rivers Arun and Adur over the next 50 years.
Flood Risk and Coastal Erosion	<a href="#">Planning for the Future: Rivers Arun to Adur flood and erosion management strategy 2010 – 2020</a>	Environment Agency	2010	The River Arun to Adur Flood and Erosion Management Strategy sets out the approach to manage flood and erosion risks in the area. The strategy covers the coastline between the River Arun at Littlehampton and the River Adur at Shoreham. The Plan specifically outlines the future actions the Environment Agency will take to protect coastal frontages and river frontages.
Flood Risk and Coastal Erosion	<a href="#">Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment</a>	West Sussex County Council	2011	Aim is to provide an assessment of local flood risk across the study area including information on past floods and potential consequences of future floods. Of five flood risk clusters identified, one is located at Worthing. None of the clusters are significant enough, however, to be designated as an Indicative Flood Risk Area.
Flood Risk and Coastal Erosion	<a href="#">River Adur Catchment Flood Management Plan</a>	Environment Agency	2009	Considers all types of inland flooding from rivers, groundwater, surface water and tidal flooding.
Flood Risk and Coastal Erosion	<a href="#">Beachy Head to Selsey Bill Shoreline Management Plan 1<sup>st</sup> Review</a>	South Downs Coastal Group	2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To define, in general terms, the risk to people and the developed historic and natural environment of coastal evolution within the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) area over the next century</li> <li>• To identify the preferred policies for managing those risks</li> <li>• To identify the consequences of implementing the preferred policies</li> <li>• To inform planners, developers and others of the risk of coastal evolution and of the preferred policies when considering future development of the shoreline, land use charges and wider strategic planning</li> <li>• To comply with international and national conservation legislation and biodiversity obligations</li> <li>• To set out procedures for monitoring the effectiveness of the SMP policies</li> <li>• To highlight areas where knowledge gap exists.</li> </ul>



Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
General / Cross cutting	<a href="#">West Sussex Minerals Local Plan (saved policies)</a>	West Sussex County Council	2003	The current West Sussex Minerals Local Plan sets the development planning framework for future minerals extractions in the county. The document sets out a range of measures with respect to specific minerals to mitigate any environmental impacts caused by mineral extraction activities.
General / Cross cutting	<a href="#">Rural Strategy</a>	West Sussex County Council	2008	The aim of the Rural Strategy is to retain and enhance the quality of landscape by keeping rural areas environmentally active and vibrant and socially inclusive.
General / Cross cutting	<a href="#">West Sussex Performance Framework</a>	West Sussex County Council	2012	<p>The Performance Framework outlines the main priorities for the County Council in the next 3 years. The Performance Framework for 2012-2015 describes the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active communities</li> <li>• Think family</li> <li>• Healthy ambitions</li> <li>• Age with confidence</li> <li>• Minding our businesses</li> <li>• Building a sustainable future</li> <li>• On the move</li> <li>• Living within our means</li> </ul>
Health	<a href="#">Promoting action on health inequalities. Working together to improve the quality of life in West Sussex 2012-2017</a>	West Sussex County Council	2012	Describes the context of local health inequalities and sets out actions and approaches that will be taken to ensure they are addressed in the long term.

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Health	<a href="#">Healthy and Well in West Sussex: West Sussex Public Health Plan 2012-2017</a>	West Sussex County Council	2012	<p>Purpose is to provide a framework for improving health and wellbeing of residents of west Sussex over the next 5 years. Main aims are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give every child the best start in life measured by an increase in children's readiness for school, in particular for those most disadvantaged children</li> <li>• Reduce the rates of premature deaths and illness resulting from cardiovascular disease</li> <li>• Reduce the negative impact of being a carer on carer's mental and physical wellbeing</li> <li>• Ensure we have a sustainable prevention, wellbeing and services system across the county to support the increase in the numbers of older people</li> <li>• Enable people to develop the emotional resilience to cope with stress and manage life-changing situations</li> <li>• Enable our residents to have access to decent, warm, safe homes</li> <li>• Improve access to good jobs and reduce long term unemployment across communities</li> <li>• Increase the level of skills and qualifications of children and young people and reduce inequalities in educational outcomes</li> <li>• Reduce harm from alcohol for individuals, families and communities.</li> </ul>
Landscape	<a href="#">A Strategy for the Landscape of West Sussex</a>	West Sussex County Council	2005	The purpose of the Strategy is to protect and enhance the landscape of West Sussex as an asset for future generations. It provides details on the five National Character Areas in West Sussex.
Noise	Planning Noise Advice Document Sussex	East and West Sussex Local Authorities	2013	<p>The 'Planning Noise Advice Document - Sussex (2013)' aims to provide advice for developers and their consultants when making a planning application in East and West Sussex. The document seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• avoid significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life</li> <li>• mitigate and minimise adverse impacts on health and quality of life, and</li> <li>• where possible, contribute to the improvement of health and quality of life</li> </ul>
Noise	<a href="#">DEFRA Noise Action Plan, Brighton Agglomeration, Environmental Noise (England) Regulations 2006, as amended"</a>	DEFRA Central Government	2014	This Noise Action Plan is designed to address the management of noise issues and effects in the Brighton Agglomeration (and includes Worthing). The First Priority Locations for the Noise Action Plan includes sections of the A27 and A259 in the area.

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Transport	<a href="#">West Sussex Transport Plan 2011-2026</a>	West Sussex County Council	2011	<p>The main objective of the Plan is to improve quality of life for local residents by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promoting economic growth</li> <li>• tackling climate change</li> <li>• providing access to services, employment &amp; housing, and</li> <li>• improving safety, security &amp; health</li> </ul>
Waste	<a href="#">West Sussex Waste Local Plan</a>	West Sussex County Council	2014	<p>The Waste Local Plan covers the period to 2031. The aspiration to become a zero-waste-to-landfill county is a key element of the Plan. No new landfill sites have been allocated. The vision for the Plan will is to ensure that communities, the environment, the economy and the special character of West Sussex are protected.</p> <p>The Submission Waste Local Plan sets out four key areas which will help shape our plans for managing waste in West Sussex in the future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A vision and strategic objectives for sustainable waste management in West Sussex.</li> <li>• Nine 'use-specific' policies which will achieve the strategic objectives for the management of different waste types</li> <li>• Thirteen 'development management' policies which will ensure that there would be no unacceptable harm to the environment, economy, or communities of West Sussex</li> <li>• Six site allocations which can help us to meet the need for new facilities</li> </ul>
Water	<a href="#">Arun and Western Streams Abstraction Licensing Strategy</a>	Environment Agency	2013	<p>Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS) set out how water resources are managed at a local level. This document summarises the availability of water resources and the sustainability of current abstraction. In general the aquifers and rivers of the region are heavily committed to abstraction.</p> <p>The CAMS suggests that improved water efficiency should be a key component of all new housing developments as well as water meters in new homes. In addition, SuDS should be encouraged to reduce flood risk, improve water quality and increase groundwater recharge. This water can also be collected and reused for non-potable purposes.</p>

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Water	<a href="#">Arun and Western Streams Catchment Plan</a>	Arun and Western Streams Catchment Partnership	2014	Prepared by the Catchment Partnership with the purposes of integrated catchment management and delivery of the Water Framework Directive. The aim is to deliver improved water quality. It includes projects that contribute to meeting our targets under the European Framework Directive.

## LOCAL CONTEXT

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Community	<a href="#">waves ahead: sustainable community strategy: Worthing and Adur 2010-2026</a>	Local strategic partnership	2010	<p>The Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS), waves ahead, sets out the long term vision for the area to tackle local needs. The vision has 8 themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good access to facilities and services</li> <li>• People leading healthier lifestyles</li> <li>• Communities getting along well together</li> <li>• Good access to green space and leisure</li> <li>• Protecting and enhancing the cultural heritage</li> <li>• Education and skills development</li> <li>• A vibrant local economy</li> <li>• Sustainable development</li> </ul> <p>This vision is then structured around 4 main priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A better place to live, work and enjoy</li> <li>• Better health and wellbeing for all</li> <li>• Learning, training and employment opportunities for all</li> <li>• Staying and feeling safe</li> </ul> <p>Each priority then has actions attached to them which will be fulfilled through Council activities, including through delivery of the Local Plan.</p>
Economy	<a href="#">Adur and Worthing Economic Plan 2013-2023</a>	Adur and Worthing Councils	2013	<p>Sets out six key economic priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support Business</li> <li>• Develop Growth</li> <li>• Enhance Business Environment</li> <li>• Advance Local Skills</li> <li>• Encourage Sustainability</li> <li>• Promote Health &amp; Wellbeing</li> </ul>
Flood Risk and Coastal Erosion	<a href="#">The Adur and Worthing Strategic Flood Risk Assessment</a>	Adur and Worthing Councils	2012	<p>Shows the areas at risk of flooding from all sources of flooding now and in the future as a result of climate change and sea level rise.</p>

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
General / Cross Cutting	Sustainability Strategy	Adur and Worthing Councils	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The strategy provides a basis on which to develop objectives, targets and action plans which incorporate sustainability into all Council operations, activities, and services. It is a flexible document that will evolve to reflect changing sustainability goals and achievements.</li> <li>The sustainability strategy considers Adur and Worthing Council's "Direct Influences" i.e. their operations, buildings and services, and their "Indirect Influences", areas where it is possible to educate, guide and influence others. The planning system and the Local Plan are specifically mentioned in this latter context. These influences are discussed in six separate chapters built around six environmental sustainability themes.</li> </ul>
General / Cross Cutting	<a href="#">Adur and Worthing Council Corporate Priorities 2011-2014</a>	Adur and Worthing Councils	2011	<p>The central aims are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protecting front line services;</li> <li>Promoting a clean, green and sustainable environment;</li> <li>Supporting and improving the local economy;</li> <li>Working in partnerships to promote health and well-being in our communities</li> <li>Ensuring value for money and low Council Tax.</li> </ul>
Health	<a href="#">Action on Public Health</a>	Adur and Worthing Councils	2014	<p>Sets out a vision and priorities for action: To work more effectively alongside our communities to improve the health and wellbeing of all our neighbourhoods, particularly those most in need, in ways that cultivate innovation, self-reliance and more connected communities.</p> <p>Priorities for action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Good employment, skills and good work for all</li> <li>2. Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities</li> <li>3. Strengthen the role and impact of ill-health prevention</li> <li>4. Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and take control of their own lives</li> </ol>

Topic	Title	Author	Date	Objectives
Housing	<a href="#">Housing Strategy 2012-2017</a>	Adur and Worthing Councils	2012	<p>Housing priorities –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balance the Local Housing Market: exploit development opportunities to help meet the overall housing requirements.</li> <li>• Meet Affordable Housing Need: maximise affordable housing across a range of tenures</li> <li>• Prevent Homelessness: reduce homelessness and ensure appropriate support for those who become homeless</li> <li>• Housing Support: meet the needs of vulnerable groups.</li> <li>• Provide a high quality housing service</li> <li>• Promote a healthy private sector.</li> </ul>