

Worthing Local Plan
Glossary & Acronyms

Active Travel	Active travel means making journeys by physically active means such as walking or cycling.	Article 4 Direction	A direction made under the Town and Country Planning Acts to remove all or some of the permitted development rights on a site or area.
Affordable Housing	NPPF defines affordable housing as social rented, affordable rented, intermediate housing, starter homes and discounted market sales housing, provided to eligible households whose needs are not met by the market.	Assets of Community Value Register (ACV)	Land or buildings nominated by a local voluntary or community group and which the council decides meets the requirements to be listed as an asset of community value.
Affordable Rented Housing	Affordable rented housing is let by local authorities or private registered providers of social housing to households who are eligible for social rented housing. Affordable Rent is subject to rent controls that require a rent of no more than 80% of the local market rent (including service charges, where applicable).	Biodiversity	The term given to the variety of life on earth, and the natural pattern that it forms through interactions with each other and the rest of the environment.
Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP)	A document produced by local authorities to improve air quality in an Air Quality Management Area that they have designated.	Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)	An internationally recognised programme addressing threatened species and habitats, which is designed to protect and restore biological systems.
Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA)	Areas designated by local authorities because they are not likely to achieve national air quality objectives by the relevant deadlines (NPPF definition).	Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA)	A targeted landscape-scale area for conserving biodiversity as part of an ecological network.
Ancient woodland	An area that has been wooded continuously since at least 1600 AD.	Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM)	A BREEAM assessment uses recognised measures of performance to evaluate a building's specification, design, construction and use. The measures include aspects related to energy and water use, the internal environment (health and well-being), pollution, transport, materials, waste, ecology and management processes.
Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)	An annual report setting out the performance of policies based on core and local indicators. It also measures the progress of planning documents set out in the Local Development Scheme. The monitoring period is 1 April to 31 March.	Buffer zones	Defined as zones that protect core areas, restoration areas and 'stepping stones' from adverse impacts in the wider environment.

Build to Rent	Purpose built housing that is typically 100% rented out. It can form part of a wider multi-tenure development comprising either flats or houses, but should be on the same site and/or joining the main development. Schemes will usually offer longer tenancy agreements of three years or more, and will typically be professionally managed stock in single ownership and management control.	Contextual Safeguarding	Contextual safeguarding is an approach to safeguarding that responds to young people's experiences of harm outside of the home, for example, with peers, in schools and in neighbourhoods.
Built Up Area Boundary	This identifies the area of Worthing which is predominantly urban in character and within which development of brownfield land may normally be appropriate, including infilling, redevelopment and conversions.	Community Facilities	May be defined as community venues, cultural buildings, places of worship, education and health facilities, and pubs where evidence demonstrates they have a community value.
Carbon Neutral	Offsetting or compensating for carbon emissions (for example from burning fossil fuels) by schemes such as planting trees to absorb carbon or through careful use of design to promote energy efficiency.	Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	A levy allowing local authorities to raise funds from owners or developers of land undertaking liable new building projects. Money raised can be used to support development by funding infrastructure that the council, local community and neighbourhoods want.
Climate Emergency	An acknowledgement of a situation in which urgent action is required to reduce or halt climate change and avoid potentially irreversible environmental damage resulting from it.	Community Right to Bid	If the owner of land or buildings that are listed as assets of community value wants to sell them, they must contact the Council who will notify the community group that nominated the asset. After the six month moratorium period, the owner can sell to whomever they choose.
Conservation Area	An area of special architectural or historic interest identified by the Local Planning Authority.	Community Right to Build Order (CRBOs)	A special type of Neighbourhood Development Order. If a community wants to construct or rebuild community buildings such as a community centre or community-led housing, a Community Right to Build Order could be used.

Contaminated Land	Land is contaminated when it has substances in, on or under it that (could) significantly harm human health, living organisms, ecological systems, or pollute controlled waters.	Energy Hierarchy	A classification of energy options, prioritised to assist progress towards a more sustainable energy system. The highest priorities cover the prevention of unnecessary energy usage. The sustainable production of energy resources is the next priority. Depletive and waste-producing energy generation options are the lowest priority.
Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000	Supplementary legislation relating to nature conservation and access to the countryside in England.	Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	A procedure to be followed for certain types of project to ensure that decisions are made in full knowledge of any likely significant effects on the environment.
Custom Build Housing	A type of self build home facilitated in some way by a developer.	European Protected Species (EPS)	Species that are protected by European Directives under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. The Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre holds records for protected species.
Designated heritage asset	For example - a World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden or Conservation Area.	Exception Test	A method of managing flood risk while still allowing necessary development to occur. It is applied following application of the Sequential Test where it is not possible or consistent with wider sustainability objectives for development to be located in zones of lower probability of flooding.
Development Plan Document (DPD)	A type of Local Development Document that contain policies and proposals for development, and are subject to consultation and independent examination. They carry significant weight in determining planning applications.	Extra Care Housing	Extra Care housing provides a tenure range of self-contained accommodation which provides flexible care and support arrangements to meet the increasing needs of people as they get older and/or become more disabled whilst enabling them to live independently. This type of care offers higher levels of support than sheltered housing, resulting in it being a popular alternative to care homes.
Duty to cooperate	Requires local councils to work together when preparing their local policies and plans, to ensure that 'bigger than local' issues which cross local boundaries are dealt with properly.		
Ecosystem services	The benefits provided by ecosystems that contribute to making human life both possible and worth living.		

Family Housing	A family home is generally considered to be a 3(+) bedroom dwelling with a suitable layout and level of internal space together with accessible usable amenity space to meet family needs. This can apply to appropriate flats.	Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA)	Refers to the several distinct stages of Assessment which must be undertaken to determine if a plan or project may affect the protected features of a habitats site before deciding whether to undertake, permit or authorise it.
Green infrastructure	Network of multi-functional green space (urban & rural) which is capable of delivering a range of environmental and quality of life benefits. Can include green areas & water bodies, providing a network of interconnected habitats to enable dispersal of species across the wider environment.	Health Impact Assessment (HIA)	Process which ensures that the effect of development on both health and health inequalities are considered and responded to during the planning process.
Gypsy & Traveller	For the purposes of planning policy “gypsies and travellers” means: Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family’s or dependants’ educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people travelling together as such.	Heritage Asset	A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest.
Habitats Directive	European Directive to protect biodiversity by conserving natural habitats and species of wild animals and plants. Any plan, project or programme on/near a Natura 2000 site must undergo an HRA (see below).	Historic environment	All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time.
		Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)	A property rented out by at least 3 people who are not from 1 ‘household’ (eg a family) but share facilities like the bathroom and kitchen.
		Housing Delivery Test (HDT)	Measures net additional dwellings provided in a local authority area against the homes required, using national statistics and local authority data. The Secretary of State will publish the HDT results for each local authority every November.
		Housing Implementation Strategy	Provides a summary of the council’s approach to managing the delivery of housing over the Plan period and sets out how a 5-year supply of housing will be maintained to meet the planned target.

Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)	Plan setting out infrastructure required to meet with the need of proposals in DPDs, including which agencies will be responsible, when it will be delivered, costs, sources of funding, and any constraints.	Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)	A body, designated by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, established for the purpose of protecting and improving the conditions for economic growth in an area.
Intermediate Housing	Homes for sale and rent provided at a cost above social rent, but below market levels subject to certain criteria.	Local Development Scheme (LDS)	Statement of the Council's programme for the production of Local Development Documents.
Internationally designated sites	Internationally designated sites include: Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) / Special Protection Areas (SPA) / Ramsar.	Local Green Space	Green areas of particular importance to local communities that are designated in Local Plans so that they are protected from development.
Legally protected species	Species protected by law. The Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre holds records for protected species in Sussex.	Local Geological Sites (LGS)	The most important places for geology and geomorphology outside statutorily protected land.
Listed Building	Listing marks a building's special architectural / historic interest, and brings it under the consideration of the planning system, so that it can be protected for future generations.	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	Areas that are declared and managed for nature conservation, and provide opportunities for research, education, or contact with nature.
Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)	The LCWIP supports the development of safe routes for cycling and walking and increase uptake of cycling and walking. It also provides: a network plan which identifies preferred routes and core zones for further development; and a prioritised programme of infrastructure improvements for future investment.	Local Plan (LP)	The plan for the future development of the local area, drawn up by the local planning authority in consultation with the community. There are two Local Plans pertinent to Worthing Borough. This is because the northern part of the borough includes some of the South Downs National Park - the Park Authority produces a Local Plan to cover that area.
		Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)	Group of public, private and community organisations and individuals responsible for preparing the Council's Sustainable Community Strategy.

Local Wildlife Sites (LWS)*	Areas designated as being of local conservation interest and value. They often create a web of stepping stones and corridors for wildlife, forming key components of ecological networks. (* previously known as Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNICIs))	Major development	Defined as: 10 or more houses, or sites of 0.5 hectares or more where it is not known if the development will have 10 or more houses; the provision of a building or buildings where the floorspace to be created is 1,000 sqm or more; or development on sites of 1 hectare or more.
Localism Act 2011	This Act removed the formal regional tier of planning in England, and in its place introduced the Duty to Cooperate.	Material consideration	When a decision is made on a planning application only certain issues are taken into account; these are called 'material considerations'. The weight attached to each matter when reaching a decision is a matter of judgement for the decision taker.
Low Carbon Energy	A term attributed to energy generated in a way that produced very low levels of carbon per unit in relation to conventional energy generation techniques.	Mitigation / mitigation hierarchy	Aims to prevent net biodiversity loss by following these steps in order: 1. Avoid 2. Mitigate 3. Compensate
Low / Zero Carbon Development	Zero carbon developments achieve no net emissions by reducing carbon emissions through use of on-site renewable energy generation, and balancing any imports with exports to the National Grid to achieve a zero balance.	National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	The NPPF, originally published in March 2012 and revised in February 2019 sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It should be read alongside other national policies.
Main town centre	Retail development (including warehouse clubs and factory outlet centres); leisure, entertainment and more intensive sport and recreation uses (including cinemas, restaurants, drive-through restaurants, bars and pubs, nightclubs, casinos, health and fitness centres, indoor bowling centres and bingo halls); offices; and arts, culture and tourism development (including theatres, museums, galleries and concert halls, hotels and conference facilities).	Nationally designated sites	Nationally designated sites include: Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI); National Nature Reserve (NNR); National Park (NP); Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM); Listed Building; Registered Parks & Gardens.
		Natural capital	Collective term for biodiversity and the ecosystem services it provides.
		Nature Improvement Area (NIA)	Inter-connected networks of wildlife habitats intended to re-establish thriving wildlife populations and help species respond to impacts of climate change.

Net gain	Net gain (in relation to biodiversity) is development that leaves biodiversity in a better state than before.	Priority habitats and species	Species and Habitats of Principle Importance that are protected through the planning system.
Non-Motorised User (NMU)	A non-motorised user is someone walking or cycling, or a horse rider.	Primary Shopping Area (PSA)	The area where retail development is concentrated and generally comprises the Primary Shopping Frontage and those Secondary Shopping Frontages which are adjoining and closely related to the primary shopping frontage.
Open Space	Open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity.	Ramsar sites	Wetlands of international importance.
Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004	The Act which replaced old style local plans and structure plans with 'local development plans'.	Registered Park and Garden	A garden or designed landscape of special historic interest listed in Historic England's 'Register of Parks and Gardens.'
Planning Obligation	Legally enforceable obligation entered into under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to mitigate the impacts of a development.	Registered Provider	Registered providers include local authority landlords and private registered providers (such as not-for-profit housing associations and for-profit organisations).
Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)	PPG is updated as needed to provide the most up-to-date advice on the interpretation of the NPPF published by the Government.	Residential Care Homes / Nursing Homes	A care home is a residential setting where a number of older people live, usually in single rooms, and have access to on-site care services. A home registered simply as a care home will provide personal care only - help with washing, dressing and giving medication. Some care homes are registered to meet a specific care need, for example dementia or terminal illness.
Pollution	Anything that affects the quality of land, air, water or soils, which might lead to an adverse impact on human health, the natural environment or general amenity. Pollution can arise from a range of emissions, including smoke, fumes, gases, dust, steam, odour, noise and light.		
Previously Developed Land (PDL)	The NPPF defines this as land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure, including the curtilage of developed land and any associated fixed surface infrastructure.		

Retirement Living (also known as Sheltered Housing)	Housing often as a group of purpose-built flats or bungalows, with limited communal facilities such as a lounge, laundry room and guest room. It does not generally provide care services, but provides some support to enable residents to live independently. This can include 24 hour on-site assistance (alarm) and a warden or house manager.	South Downs National Park (SDNP)	National Parks are protected areas designated by Natural England. The SDNP was designated in 2010. The South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) manages the park, including planning controls.
Scheduled Ancient Monument	A scheduled monument is a “nationally important” archaeological site or historic building, given protection against unauthorised change.	South East Marine Plan	The Plan will guide those who use and regulate the marine area to encourage sustainable development while considering the environment, economy and society.
Self Build Housing	Homes built or commissioned by individuals or groups of individuals for their own use, either by building the home on their own or working with builders.	Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)	Areas given special protection under the European Union’s Habitats Directive, which is transposed into UK law by the Habitats and Conservation of Species Regulations 2010.
Sequential Test - Flooding	A risk based approach to assessing flood risk, which gives priority to sites in ascending order of flood risk i.e. lowest risk first.	Special Needs Housing (also known as Supported Living)	Special needs housing is a term generally used to describe situations in which people (often younger adults with special needs such as a learning disability or mental health condition) usually rent their home, and their personal care or support is arranged separately. This means they can change their support without having to move, or move and take the same support with them. People have the security of tenure and can claim a wide range of welfare benefits. Supported living can be delivered in a range of settings, including individual flats or homes, self-contained flats on the same site, shared accommodation, and extra care housing. The individual, a private landlord, a housing association, a local authority or a charity may own the property.
Setting of a heritage asset	The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve.		
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Sites designated by Natural England as they are a representative sample of the nation’s best habitats, and are given a high level of protection through both the planning and legal systems to conserve their wildlife or geology.		
Social Rented Housing	Housing is owned by local authorities and private registered providers for which guideline target rents are determined through the national rent regime.		

Special Protection Areas (SPA)	Areas which have been identified as being of international importance for the breeding, feeding, wintering or the migration of rare and vulnerable species of birds. European designated sites, classified under the Birds Directive.	Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)	A study that provides information on the sub-regional housing markets and predicts levels and mix of future housing requirements in terms of tenure, number of bedrooms, etc.
Standing advice	Consistent set of pre-written advice that applies to all planning applications.	Sui generis Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO)	Where there are more than six unrelated individuals sharing amenities, this is termed an HMO in sui generis use because it is not in any particular planning use class.
Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)	Document which sets out the standards to be achieved by the Council in involving the community in the preparation of planning documents how they will be consulted on planning applications	Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)	SPDs provide detail to support policy in higher level Development Plan Documents (DPDs).
Stepping stones	Pockets of habitat that, while not necessarily connected, facilitate the movement of species across otherwise inhospitable landscapes.	Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre (SxBRC)	The Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre is a repository, custodian and manager of biodiversity and environmental information for Sussex.
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	A procedure which requires the formal environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.	Sustainable Development	Defined as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The Planning definition of sustainable development is set out in the NPPF.
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	The assessment of flood risk on a catchment-wide basis for proposed development in a district/ borough.	Town Centre Boundary (TCB)	Defined as the area on the local authority's proposal map, including the primary shopping area and areas predominantly occupied by main town centre uses within or adjacent to the primary shopping area.
Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)	A study that provides an informed estimate of land availability for housing to inform plan-making and to ensure that Councils maintain a 5-year supply of housing land.	Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDs)	A drainage system is one designed to reduce the potential impact of new and existing developments with respect to surface water drainage discharges.

Travel plan	A long-term management strategy for an organisation or site that seeks to deliver sustainable transport objectives through action and is articulated in a document that is regularly reviewed.	Water Framework Directive (WFD)	A European Directive that establishes a framework for action to manage and protect water. It requires EU member states to achieve a 'good' qualitative and quantitative status for all water bodies, and requires coordination of different EU policies.
Tree Preservation Order (TPO)	An order made by the Local Planning Authority to protect specific trees, groups of trees or woodlands in the interests of amenity.	Wildlife corridor	Areas of habitat connecting wildlife populations.
United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG)	17 interconnected goals established by the United Nations that are designed to achieve a better sustainable future for all. They seek to address the global challenges, including those related to poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice. The goals form part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.	Windfall sites	NPPF defines these as sites which have not been specifically identified as available in the Local Plan process. They normally comprise previously-developed sites that have unexpectedly become available.
Use Class	Land uses as defined in the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended).		
Viability	A development is considered viable if, after taking account of all costs (e.g. policy requirements, regulatory costs and the cost and availability of development finance) the scheme provides a competitive return to the developer to ensure that development takes place and generates a land value sufficient to persuade the landowner to sell the land for the development proposed.		

Acronyms

AMR	Annual Monitoring Report	PPG	Planning Policy Guidance
AQAP	Air Quality Action Plan	RoW	Rights of Way
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area	SA	Sustainability Appraisal
BAME	Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic	SAC	Special Area of Conservation
BOA	Biodiversity Opportunity Area	SAM	Scheduled Ancient Monument
BREEAM	Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method	SAP	Standard Assessment Procedure
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy	SDNP	South Downs National Park
DER	Dwelling Emission Rate	SDNPA	South Downs National Park Authority
DM	Development Management	SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	SFRA	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
ELR	Employment Land Review	SHLAA	Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment
EPC	Energy Performance Certificate	SHMA	Strategic Housing Market Assessment
EV	Electric Vehicle	SPA	Special Protection Area
HIA	Health Impact Assessment	SSSI	Special Site of Scientific Interest
IDP	Infrastructure Delivery Plan	SPZ	Source Protection Zone
IIP	Infrastructure Investment Plan	SxBRC	Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre
LCWIP	Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan	TER	Target Emission Rate
LGS	Local Geological Sites	TPO	Tree Preservation Order
LNR	Local Nature Reserve	TVG	Town & Village Green
LWS	Local Wildlife Site	UN SDG	United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
MEES	Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards	WBC	Worthing Borough Council
MMO	Marine Management Organisation	WFD	Water Framework Directive
MUGA	Multi Use Games Area	WSCC	West Sussex County Council
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework		

Reference footnote page 40

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