



Hart Local Plan 2011 - 2032: Strategy and Sites

Background Document: Establishing the Local Plan Scope and Priorities

November 2015

Hart Local Plan 2011 - 2032

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1 Purpose of this Document

1.1 The purpose of this background paper is to set out a review of the relevant issues to be addressed in the Hart Local Plan: Strategy and Sites 2011 – 2032, and therefore to inform the scope, or key issues that should be addressed through the Local Plan. These issues help to inform the development of the Local Plan Strategic Priorities.

2 Background

2.1 In September 2013, the Council withdrew the Hart Core Strategy. This set out the strategic framework for future development in the Borough up to 2029. Work has now begun on a new Hart Local Plan which will be prepared in two parts, the first being a Strategy and Sites Document. Although the Core Strategy was relatively recently withdrawn there are a number of reasons why the scope of the Local Plan (Strategy and Sites) and Priorities for the Local Plan should be reviewed. These include:

- The need to reflect up to date national planning policy and guidance such as the National Planning Practice Guidance published in March 2014;
- The need to take account of more up to date statistical evidence such as that arising out of the 2011 Census;
- The need to take account of more up to date emerging Local Plan evidence such as the Strategic Housing Market Assessment undertaken jointly with Rushmoor and Surrey Heath Councils;
- The opportunity to take account of comments made on the withdrawn Core Strategy;
- The need to reflect strategic economic priorities being established through the Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership.

3 National Policy/Guidance

3.1 The National Planning Policy Framework¹ (NPPF) and National Planning Practice Guidance² (NPPG) set out that Local Plans must be based on an adequate, up-to-date and relevant evidence base (NPPF para 158). Local Plans should set out a vision and a framework for the future development of the area (ID 12-001-20140306) and should focus on key/critical issues that need to be addressed (ID 12 – 002 and ID 12 – 009). At the initial evidence gathering stage, one of the tasks is to formulate initial aims and objectives for the Local Plan (ID 12 – 005) and to set out the strategic priorities for the area and the policies that address these (ID 12 – 009).

3.2 The NPPF (paragraph 156) identifies that the Local Plan should set out the strategic priorities for the area including:

- The homes and jobs needed in the area;
- The provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development

¹ Available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

² Available at <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/>

- The provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management; and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
- The provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities; and
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape.

4 Identifying Key Issues for the Hart Local Plan: Strategy and Sites

4.1 Issues relevant for consideration in the Local Plan were identified through the following means:

- A review of the challenges and priorities identified in the withdrawn Core Strategy, and the comments that had been made on them (see Appendix 1);
- A scoping of key national planning policy documents (see Appendix 1);
- A scoping of key regional and sub-regional documents (see Appendix 1);
- A scoping of key County wide studies (see Appendix 1);
- A scoping of key local strategies (HDC) (see Appendix 1);
- Feedback on the Housing Options Consultation, 2014;
- The findings of the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping report; and
- Emerging evidence.

4.2 The **Sustainability Appraisal Scoping** Report can be viewed at http://www.hart.gov.uk/sites/default/files/4_The_Council/Policies_and_published_documents/Planning_policy/SA%20Scoping%20Report.pdf. The responses to the **Housing Development Options** Paper can be viewed at <http://www.hart.gov.uk/local-plan-consultation-responses>. The emerging Local Plan **evidence base** can be viewed at <http://www.hart.gov.uk/Evidence-base>.

4.3 The attached Appendix shows the key issues arising from key national, regional and local studies which are considered relevant to the preparation of the Local Plan. Many of these issues are common across documents. This is not a fully inclusive list of all the studies which will inform the preparation of the Local Plan but provides an overview of key documents to ensure that the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites is covering all relevant strategic spatial strategy issues.

4.4 The Appendix does not include legislation, and may be updated at a later date to include messages from the emerging evidence base, any subsequent changes to national policy or guidance and any new local, county or regional strategies. Other plans and strategies which will inform the Local Plan include those from infrastructure providers and from specialist bodies such as Historic England and Natural England. These are not set out here but will be used to inform the preparation of an Infrastructure Delivery Plan, and draft Local Plan policies.

4.5 In addition to the above, there is a range of demographic and other data which will inform the development of policies. Statistical evidence is used in the preparation of many of the background evidence studies such as the Strategic Housing Market Assessment and the Employment Land Review and is not specifically referenced in this document, but will influence how each of the key issues are dealt with based on the circumstances local to Hart District. Feedback from consultations will also influence the scope and content of the Local Plan as it is prepared.

4.6 Following the scoping of relevant documents, the next stage in determining the issues which are relevant for the Local Plan to consider has been to review the existing Key Issues identified in the withdrawn Core Strategy against the scoping of the issues listed above to decide whether they are still relevant.

Table 1: Review of the Withdrawn Core Strategy Key Issues

	WITHDRAWN CORE STRATEGY KEY ISSUE (Table 3, page 19 of withdrawn Core Strategy)
1	The need to make provision for the new homes needed in the area
Summary Comments	<p>The delivery of new homes, and in particular meeting objectively assessed housing needs is a key objective of national policy as set out in the NPPF and NPPG and other national policy documents such as Fixing the Foundations³. The role of housing growth is seen as a key issue by the Enterprise M3LEP in meeting future economic growth aspirations as set out in the Strategy for Economic Growth, 2014.</p> <p>In line with the NPPF, a Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) has been undertaken jointly with Rushmoor and Surrey Heath to identify housing needs across the housing market area. This is based on the most recent demographic and economic forecasts. This demonstrates a clear need for new housing in Hart, and across the wider housing market area, to meet future demographic and household changes and to meet economic needs.</p> <p>The Council's Housing Strategy identifies measures to provide housing for local needs, including affordable housing, and a number of measures that the Housing Service in partnership with others will undertake.</p> <p>The SA Scoping Report identified an ageing population, a lack of affordable housing, the need for specialist housing and for provision for travellers.</p> <p>In response to the Housing Development Options consultation in 2013, a wide range of responses were received. These included many recognising the need for new homes but with concerns about the impact on the landscape, infrastructure and quality of life in Hart. Comments were received promoting a higher housing number than that identified in the emerging evidence base as well as comments from those looking to reduce the number.</p> <p>The delivery of quality housing to meet local needs is also a Corporate Priority and delivering a range of affordable and low cost housing options is one of the priorities of the Hart SCS.</p>
Conclusion	The planned provision of new homes is a key issue that must be addressed

³ Available at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/443897/Productivity_Plan_print.pdf

	through the Local Plan Strategy and Sites document. Since the withdrawal of the Core Strategy, Government Policy and guidance now makes it clear that need should be considered across the Housing Market Area.
2	The need for specialist accommodation particularly for older people and/or the disabled
Summary Comments	<p>The NPPF (and supported in the NPPG) makes it clear that the housing needs of all groups should be met, including those needing specialist housing but also for other groups in the community.</p> <p>The SA Scoping Report identifies that the population is increasingly ageing and the housing needs of this group will need to be met.</p> <p>The SHMA identifies that future demographic changes in the District, particularly an ageing population will require the future provision of specialist housing, but also sets out the needs of other groups.</p> <p>The Hart Housing Strategy includes actions recognising the need to meet the housing needs of older people.</p> <p>The need to provide housing for an ageing population was identified in the responses to the Housing Development Options paper.</p> <p>As part of the consideration of the Core Strategy, the Council recognised this as a key issue and in conjunction with Hampshire County Council, proposed a new Policy on Specialist Housing for consideration by the Local Plan Inspector.</p>
Conclusion	The need for housing to meet the needs of all sectors of the population is a key issue for Hart that should be addressed through the Local Plan in combination with other agencies and through other strategies. This should not necessarily be limited to providing specialist accommodation but will need to include housing needs for others including families, single persons and those needing low cost housing.
3	The need to facilitate sustainable economic growth in the context of the Enterprise M3 Local Economic Partnership, taking into account Hart's role within the economically buoyant Blackwater Valley and its proximity to Basingstoke and the need to provide for local shopping need in town, district and local centres to serve the needs of existing and future residents and to maintain the vitality and viability of those centres.
Summary Comments	<p>The need to plan positively for economic growth is a key element of Government Policy in the NPPF, and supported in the NPPG and other national policy documents such as Fixing the Foundations. Similarly, the NPPF supports town centres as being the focus for town centre uses. Local authorities are required to identify and plan for future employment and town centre needs through local plans.</p> <p>The Strategic Economic Plan for the Enterprise M3 LEP sets out the strategic growth priorities for the LEP area.</p> <p>The SA Scoping Report identified that employment rates and wages are high by comparison, but there are high levels of car commuting which have an impact on congestion and rail capacity.</p> <p>The Council has undertaken an Employment Land Review (ELR) jointly with Rushmoor and Surrey Heath, as together the three authorities form a Functional Economic Area (FEA). The ELR identifies the level of future employment land that is required over the plan period. In addition, the Council has commissioned a Retail and Leisure Study to assess future capacity for</p>

	<p>additional retail and leisure floorspace over the plan period. Once completed, these will inform the level of employment and retail development needed over the plan period.</p> <p>Support for businesses and strengthened town and village centres is also a Corporate Priority and reflect priorities in the Hart SCS along with the need to support the rural economy. The Council also has a recently adopted Economic Development Strategy which sets out priority areas for action over the next 3 years.</p>
Conclusion	National planning guidance makes it clear that the delivery of economic growth, and the vitality of town centres are key issues which should be addressed through local plans. Local, and LEP wide evidence supports preparation of local policies on these issues.
4	The need to ensure that the impacts on infrastructure (including transport, education, and community leisure facilities) arising from new development are adequately mitigated where necessary through infrastructure improvements.
Summary Comments	<p>The NPPF and supported by the NPPG includes the expectation that appropriate infrastructure will be provided alongside new development and expects close engagement to take place with infrastructure providers. The capacity of infrastructure in the District is a key concern of local residents as seen through the consultation responses to the Housing Development Options Paper.</p> <p>The Council has produced an Infrastructure Delivery Plan (being updated alongside preparation of the Plan) to identify future development needs arising from new development, working closely with infrastructure providers. In addition, other evidence such as the Transport Assessment, Playing Pitch Strategy, and Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study will identify infrastructure improvements and provision required to support additional development.</p> <p>Transport infrastructure needs will be informed by documents produced by Hampshire County Council as the highway authority including the Local Transport Plan.</p> <p>The need to ensure that infrastructure needs are met is a Corporate Priority.</p>
Conclusion	The provision of new infrastructure is a key issue that must be dealt with through the Local Plan to ensure delivery alongside new development. Infrastructure provision is recognised in national policy, is a concern of local residents and will be a requirement of infrastructure providers looking to provide for the needs arising from new development proposals.
5	The need to promote a healthy rural economy, and to maintain the viability of rural communities.
Summary Comments	<p>The NPPF places strong emphasis on supporting economic growth in rural areas and the protection of local social and community facilities. The SA Scoping identifies that some village centres are at risk from larger centres outside the District and that there are development pressures on settlements.</p>
Conclusion	Given the predominantly rural nature of Hart, and the existing role of the rural economy, this is a key issue that should be considered through the Local Plan. However. The NPPF places emphasis on healthy and sustainable communities in both urban and rural areas so some changes to this are reflected in the

	wording of the priorities set out later.
6	Given the need for new development, how to protect the separate character and identity of Hart’s settlements and landscapes.
Summary Comments	<p>The NPPF seeks the protection and enhancement of valued landscapes. Responses to the Housing Development Options paper identified the need to protect the character of existing settlements as far as possible as an issue of concern to local residents.</p> <p>The SA Scoping identifies that the landscape is largely rural and contains a range of landscape types.</p> <p>Evidence including the Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment and the Hart Landscape Capacity Study identify existing landscape characters in Hart and the capacity of different landscapes to accommodate new development.</p>
Conclusion	Housing evidence and the need to meet future housing needs means that potential housing options will include the development of greenfield sites on the edge of settlements, including both relatively small scale sites and/or potentially more significant sites if the options of either an urban extension or a new settlement are progressed. The impact of different options on the landscape and the character of settlements is therefore a key issue to be addressed through the development of the Local Plan.
7	The need for development to be well-designed, creating safe, inclusive and cohesive environments where new housing is successfully integrated with existing communities.
Summary Comments	<p>The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 includes (as amended) a requirement that local plans must consider the desirability of achieving good design.</p> <p>The NPPF, supported by guidance in the NPPG, places emphasis on the need for good quality, inclusive design in new developments which create safe and accessible environments and supports the development of robust policies in Local Plans.</p> <p>A number of responses to the Housing Development Options paper emphasised the need for good design and integration of new development. The need for quality housing is identified as a Corporate Priority</p>
Conclusion	The design of new development has a significant impact on local amenity, quality of life, health and wellbeing and local character and should be considered through the Local Plan in line with legislative requirements and national policy.
8	The need to promote and improve sustainable transport particularly given the relative lack of sustainable transport options in what is a largely rural area, the pressure on highway infrastructure including the M3 motorway and its junctions in Hart (4a and 5) and a railway network at capacity at peak periods.
Summary Comments	<p>The NPPF, supported by guidance in the NPPG, identifies that transport policies have an important role to play in facilitating sustainable development and in contributing to wider sustainability and health objectives.</p> <p>The SA Scoping Report identifies that there are high levels of car use for commuting, and the rural nature of the District makes sustainable travel difficult.</p> <p>The Local Transport Plan and the Fleet Town Access Plan set out a range of</p>

	<p>measures, including physical improvements to improve sustainable travel choice and improve transport infrastructure</p> <p>The Council will undertake a new Transport Assessment which will identify the potential impacts of new development and whether these can be mitigated. In response to the Housing Development Options paper, there were concerns regarding the impact of new development on the road network and on public transport capacity.</p> <p>The need to provide infrastructure, including transport infrastructure, is identified as a Corporate Priority and support for the Fleet TAP and initiatives to promote alternative means of travel are priorities in the Hart SCS.</p>
Conclusion	The delivery of sustainable transport options and the provision of adequate infrastructure to support new development, is supported by national and local policies and strategies and is a key issue that needs to be addressed through the Local Plan.
9	The need to deal with climate change both in terms of mitigation and adaptation.
Summary Comments	<p>The Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires local plans to include policies relating to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change. The NPPF identifies that adapting to climate change is a core planning principle, and local planning authorities should adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change.</p> <p>The SA Scoping identifies that carbon dioxide emissions per capita per household are high compared to the South East and UK averages. There is also a higher than average demand for gas and electricity in homes in Hart. Measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change are a priority of the Hart SCS. The need to reduce waste production, increase recycling and reduce energy consumption are Corporate Priorities.</p>
Conclusion	There is a legislative requirement for the Council to consider climate change through the Local Plan. Climate change is a key national and local issue upon which the development of the Local Plan can and should have an influence and this is therefore a key issue which should be addressed in the Local Plan.
10	The need for development to be safe from flooding.
Summary Comments	<p>The NPPF with supporting guidance in the NPPG identifies the need to take account of flood risk as a core principle and sets out that inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided by directing development away from areas of highest risk but where development is necessary, by making it safe without increasing risk elsewhere.</p> <p>The SA Scoping identifies that there are small areas with a higher risk of fluvial flooding which affects all of Hart's main settlements.</p> <p>The Council is undertaking a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment which provides evidence of areas at risk of flooding from all sources, and along with the Hampshire Flood Risk Strategy will provide a basis for informing the location of development, the development of planning policies and the future use of Sustainable Drainage Systems.</p>
Conclusion	The need to consider the location and design of new development to ensure that it is safe from flooding and does not increase flood risk is a national and local issue and should be addressed through the Local Plan.
11	The need to protect and enhance water quality and the ecological status of

	water bodies.
Summary Comments	<p>The NPPF supported by the NPPG identifies the need to minimise pollution and enhance the local environment including biodiversity.</p> <p>The SA Scoping identifies that the quality of water in some waterbodies need to be improved to meet the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and River Basin Management Plans.</p> <p>The protection and enhancement of the natural environment is a Corporate Priority.</p>
Conclusion	This is a key issue as set out in the documents above and should continue to be identified in the Local Plan.
12	The need to protect and enhance biodiversity including the protection of sites designated for their ecological importance. This includes the need to ensure that new development does not adversely affect the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA).
Summary Comments	<p>The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 places a duty on all public authorities to have regard to the purpose of conserving biodiversity. The NPPF supported by the NPPG sets out that plans should plan positively for the enhancement and management of biodiversity and that the impact on biodiversity should be minimised. Hart contains part of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA) which is protected by European and British legislation and its importance is recognised in the NPPF.</p> <p>The SA Scoping identifies that the SPA is a constraint to development in the north-east and east of the District, and there are a range of national and locally designated sites which affect large parts of the District.</p> <p>The Hart Biodiversity Action Plan identifies important habitats in Hart and sets out an on-going action plan.</p> <p>The protection of biodiversity is one of the priorities in the Hart SCS.</p>
Conclusion	In order to comply with relevant legislation, the Local Plan will need to demonstrate that there has been appropriate consideration of biodiversity in preparing the Local Plan and that there is no significant effect upon the SPA. Hart contains a range of areas of ecological importance and the protection of these is also relevant for inclusion within the Local Plan.
13	The need to protect and enhance the district's green infrastructure.
Summary Comments	<p>The NPPF identifies that Local Plans should set out a strategic approach, and plan positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure.</p> <p>The Council is undertaking the preparation of a Playing Pitch Strategy and Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study which will inform the need for the protection of existing greenspace, and the provision of new greenspace as part of the Local Plan process. The provision of open space through the provision of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) provides important areas of informal recreation opportunities.</p> <p>The HCC Countryside Access Plan highlights the importance of access to open space.</p>
Conclusion	The District has an extensive green infrastructure network which provides a range of benefits. The importance of GI is recognised at a national and local level and should therefore continue to be a key issue to be addressed by the Local Plan.

14	The Hart Leisure Centre is in need of investment or replacement.
Summary Comments	This scheme is now being progressed.
Conclusion	Delete this as a specific Key Issue, however, the need to ensure adequate recreational and open space provision is provided alongside new development will need to be considered as part of the Local Plan. This will be informed by the Studies referred to in 13 above.
15	There is a need for a strategic Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) in the west of the District to facilitate development in that part of the district which cannot currently buy into existing SANG for the purposes of SPA mitigation.
Summary Comments	Depending on the location of future development it is likely that a number of new SANG will be needed over the plan period.
Conclusion	Delete this as a Key Issue as it is picked up under Issues 12 and 13.

4.7 The outcome of this exercise is that the majority of these remain as key, or critical issues that the Local Plan should address. However, the scoping exercise has identified an additional key issue in relation to the protection of the historic environment which is not identified in the issues above.

Table 2: Proposed additional Key Issue

Issue	Detail	Comments
Historic Environment	The need to protect and enhance the Districts heritage assets and their settings.	<p>The NPPF supported by further guidance in the NPPG requires Local Plans to include a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment. Historic England has produced guidance for developing Local Plans.</p> <p>The SA Scoping identifies that there are important historical assets in Hart.</p> <p>Hart District has a wealth of heritage assets and in line with national guidance is a key issue that should be addressed through the Local Plan.</p>

4.8 The following table sets out the Draft Key Issues that should be considered in preparing the Hart Local Plan Strategy and Sites 2011 – 2032.

Table 3: Draft Key Issues for the Hart Local Plan: Strategy and Sites:

	Key Issue
1	The need to make provision for the new homes needed in the area.
2	The need for housing to meet the needs of all sectors of the community particularly for older people and/or the disabled.
3	The need to facilitate sustainable economic growth in the context of the wider Enterprise M3 Local Economic Partnership area, and the Functional Economic Area within which Hart sits, and the need to provide for healthy town, district and local centres to serve the needs of residents.
4	The need to ensure that the impacts on infrastructure (including transport, education, and community leisure facilities) arising from new development are adequately mitigated where necessary through infrastructure improvements.
5	The need to promote a healthy rural economy, and to maintain the viability of rural communities.
6	The need to deliver development, where possible, which respects the separate character and identity of Hart's settlements and landscapes.
7	The need for development to be well-designed, creating safe, inclusive and cohesive environments where new housing is successfully integrated with existing communities.
8	The need to promote and improve sustainable transport particularly given the relative lack of sustainable transport options in what is a largely rural area, the pressure on highway infrastructure including the M3 motorway and its junctions in Hart (4a and 5) and a railway network at capacity at peak periods.
9	The need to deal with climate change both in terms of mitigation and adaptation.
10	The need for development to be safe from flooding and not to increase the risk of flooding.
11	The need to protect and enhance water quality and the ecological status of water bodies.
12	The need to protect and enhance biodiversity including the protection of sites designated for their ecological importance. This includes the need to ensure

	that new development does not adversely affect the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA).
13	The need to protect and enhance the District’s green infrastructure.
14	The need to conserve and enhance the District’s heritage assets and their settings.

5. Setting Draft Strategic Priorities

5.1 Based on the outcome of the above, and having regard to national policy guidance and the scoping of other relevant documents as set out in the Appendices, and in paragraph 4.1 the Strategic Priorities in the withdrawn Core Strategy were reviewed and re-drafted as set out in Table 4. In drafting revised Strategic Priorities, regard has also been had to the delivery of a Hart Vision 2032. The following Vision has been drafted by Hart District Council for early community engagement. It is likely the Vision will be refined as work on the Local Plan progresses and as a result the Strategic Priorities may also need to be reviewed.

5.2 The most relevant draft Strategic Priority number(s) (as set out in Table 5) have been set out in bold against the relevant part of the Draft Vision.

Draft Hart Vision 2032

In 2032 Hart will have remained an attractive, largely rural, area with thriving towns and villages (5, 8) and a variety of landscapes (7). Hart’s residents will be enjoying an excellent quality of life in a high quality environment (5, 6, 10)

Hart will have played its role in meeting the development needs of its housing market and functional economic area. This includes meeting the need for affordable housing, accommodation for the elderly, and other forms of specialist housing (1, 2, 3).

Hart’s economy will be thriving, making its contribution to the growth aspirations of the Enterprise M3 Local Economic Partnership. There will be new jobs and new business premises that meet local needs. In particular it will be a place where small businesses can flourish. It will have successful town and village centres, and a strong rural economy (4).

In meeting development needs, effective use will have been made of appropriate previously-developed land so that greenfield development will have been limited to that identified as needed in the Local Plan. New developments will have been built to a high level of environmental and design standards, respecting local character and distinctiveness and providing measures to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change. The coalescence of settlements will have been avoided (4, 7, 10, 11).

The district’s social, physical and green infrastructure will have been enhanced to support the changing population. New schools will have been built so that local demand at both primary and secondary level is catered for. The quality and value of community and leisure facilities will also be maintained and enhanced. In particular a new leisure centre at Fleet in a country

park setting, coupled with an improved leisure centre at Frogmore will provide an outstanding leisure offer. (5, 8, 9)

The best of Hart’s natural, built and heritage assets will have been protected, and where possible enhanced. These assets include the Thames Basin Heaths and other protected habitats, the chalk downland in the south west of Hart, riverine environments, Historic Parks and Gardens, Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments. These features help define the distinctive character of Hart. (6, 7)

Table 4: Review of the withdrawn Core Strategy Priorities and proposed new Priorities

Withdrawn Core Strategy Priority	Comments	Revised Draft Priority
To enable the delivery of 4,253 new dwellings between 2011 and 2029. These homes will be delivered in an effective and timely manner, will maximise the use of existing infrastructure and access to facilities and services, and will be developed at densities which make the most efficient use of land whilst responding to the existing built environment.	<p>The delivery of new homes is a key issue that should be addressed by the Local Plan as set out in the Key Issues table. Since the Core Strategy, new evidence has been prepared through the Strategic Housing Market Assessment which will need to be reflected in the priority.</p> <p>In order to help to meet the housing needs of the Housing Market Area (Hart, Rushmoor and Surrey Heath), joint working will be required. Hart can particularly help delivery in the other authorities by helping provide SPA mitigation through the provision of SANG. A new priority in relation to this is therefore proposed.</p>	<p>To deliver all the objectively assessed housing need for Hart in planned locations across the District between 2011 and 2032⁴.</p> <p>To continue to work with Rushmoor and Surrey Heath on meeting the objectively assessed housing need for the Housing Market Area as a whole, for example through the provision of SANG that can facilitate housing in those areas. In order to comply with statutory requirements, when it is clear what (if any) the level of unmet need is across the housing market area, we will seek to help to meet this in a way that fits into our strategy.</p>
To aid the delivery of housing that meets the needs of all sectors of the community including the provision of affordable and	This is a key issue for the District as identified in the key issues table above. This remains a priority for the Local Plan but some	To provide new homes of a mix of sizes and tenures to meet the current and future needs of Hart’s residents,

⁴ The final housing figure is to be determined through duty to cooperate discussions with Rushmoor and Surrey Heath Councils and evidence on housing capacity in Hart

<p>market housing to meet local needs in both urban and rural areas of the district. New homes should be provided in a way that promotes sustainable communities, providing a mix of house sizes, types and tenures to meet identified needs, and should respond to the changing demographic profile of the district.</p>	<p>amendments are proposed to the wording to recognise the ageing population and to simplify the priority.</p>	<p>including a viable mix of affordable housing, and new homes to meet the needs of an ageing population</p>
<p>To support economic growth and the vitality and viability of Hart’s settlements by:</p> <p>Providing for local shopping need in town, district and local centres to serve the needs of existing and future residents and</p> <p>Providing for a range of sizes and types of employment land and premises in the right locations to respond to changes in economic activity ad demand and supply, the location of new residential development and the specific needs of the rural economy.</p>	<p>The need to plan for and support economic growth is a key issue as set out previously and should therefore be a priority for the Local Plan to address.</p>	<p>To support economic growth and the vitality and viability of Hart’s settlements by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing for local shopping need in town, district and local centres to serve the needs of existing and future residents; and - Protecting and providing a range of size and types of employment land and buildings, including those supporting the rural economy, to meet future needs and to contribute to economic growth in Hart and the wider area.
<p>To ensure that infrastructure needs (including community services and facilities) arising from the growth in Hart are provided in a timely and co-ordinated manner which keeps pace with development.</p>	<p>Infrastructure needs are of national and local interest as set out in the key issues table, and this should therefore continue to be identified as a priority issue which the local plan should address. It is proposed to make specific reference to the issues of education infrastructure needs within</p>	<p>To seek to ensure that transport, social and physical infrastructure, required to support new development is delivered in a timely and coordinated manner. Through partnership working with the education authority (Hampshire County Council)</p>

	<p>this overarching priority on infrastructure.</p>	<p>to plan for the provision of sufficient primary and secondary school places, including new schools where required.</p>
<p>To promote a living, working countryside.</p>	<p>A strong rural economy is promoted by national planning policy. However it is considered that these issues are picked up in the economic growth priority and in the amendments of the wording to promoting healthy and sustainable local communities.</p> <p>A reworded priority is proposed referring to the promotion of healthy and sustainable communities and also including reference to sport and recreation facilities, and to green infrastructure within this priority.</p>	<p>To promote healthy and sustainable local communities through protecting and enhancing community, sport, recreation and leisure facilities, and the delivery of a multi-functional green infrastructure network across the District.</p>
<p>To protect and enhance the natural, urban and historic environment and to maintain the separate character and identity of Hart's settlements and landscapes.</p>	<p>Hart has a range of important natural and historic assets which contribute to the character of the District and to individual places. This is supported by national and local policies and strategies as a key issue and should continue as a priority. However, the scoping of the key issues identified that the historic environment needed greater emphasis as an issue. It is therefore proposed to separate out the built and historic environment and the natural environment into two priorities.</p>	<p>To conserve and enhance the distinctive built and historic environment in Hart including the protection of heritage assets and their settings, and the protection of the character and identity of settlements, including through protection from coalescence.</p> <p>See also Priority under flooding and biodiversity.</p>
<p>The need for development to be well-designed, creating safe inclusive and cohesive environments where new housing is successfully</p>	<p>As set out in the Issues table, the Government has placed increased emphasis on good design in national planning guidance and this</p>	<p>To ensure new development is well –designed creating safe, inclusive environments and taking account of</p>

integrated into existing communities.	should therefore be a local plan priority supported by relevant design policies.	character, local distinctiveness and sustainable design principles.
To put in place a sustainable transport network which supports the growth in Hart and links existing and new development, prioritises walking, cycling and public transport and provides a genuine choice of modes. Traffic management measures will minimise the impact of new development on the existing network. Additional road capacity will be introduced where appropriate.	As set out in the key issues table, the transport impacts of new development should be a key consideration in the Local Plan, both in terms of considering the mitigation required by new development and other transport measures which can be delivered through the Local Plan. The opportunity is taken to simplify the wording of the priority.	To maximise opportunities for sustainable transport infrastructure alongside new development, including facilities for walking, cycling and public transport, and the delivery of measures to minimise, or accommodate the impact of new development on the existing network.
To achieve climate change mitigation and adaptation.	As set out in the Issues table, there is a legislative requirement for mitigation of, and adaptation to climate change to be considered through local plans. This issue is of national and local importance and is therefore supported as one of the key priorities for the Local Plan, having links to other issues including flooding, design and biodiversity.	To provide measures for adapting to the impacts of climate change and reduce the contribution of new and existing development to the causes of climate change including more efficient use of energy and natural resources and increased use of renewable low carbon energy infrastructure.
To reduce the probability and impacts of flooding.	As set out in the Issues table flooding is a key issue and should be a priority objective for the Local Plan.	To protect and enhance: The natural environment including landscape character;
To protect water quality and aquatic ecosystems from the impact of new development and to promote the sustainable use of water and other natural resources.	As set out above. It is proposed that a more comprehensive priority be included which combines both of these issues.	Water quality, water supply, and groundwater and minimise the probability and impacts of flooding in the District, including through directing development away from areas most at risk and ensuring appropriate mitigation measures such as Sustainable Drainage Systems are included within the
To protect and enhance biodiversity.	As set out in the Issues table, this is a Key issue and an important priority for the Local Plan to address. It is proposed to extend the wording of this priority to better reflect the	

	<p>significance of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area.</p>	<p>design of new developments;</p> <p>Biodiversity in Hart including ensuring appropriate mitigation is in place to avoid any adverse impact of new development upon the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area.</p>
<p>To ensure that Hart contains a strong network of well-connected and multifunctional green infrastructure which provides an attractive environment in which to live, work and spend leisure time, providing benefits for health and opportunities for formal and informal recreation.</p>	<p>Green infrastructure, like other forms of infrastructure should be provided alongside new development. It also has a role to play in other priorities including biodiversity, and the new priority relating to the provision of healthy and sustainable communities.</p> <p>Delete specific priority on green infrastructure and incorporate into the priority relating to healthy and sustainable communities as set out earlier in this table.</p>	
<p>To ensure the renewal or enhancement of the formal leisure facilities in Hart.</p>	<p>This is in progress and it is suggested that this is deleted as a specific Priority.</p> <p>Specific priority to be deleted, and reference incorporated into a priority on healthy and sustainable local communities as set out earlier in this Table. The completion of new leisure facilities is reflected in the draft Vision.</p>	
<p>To promote the provision of a strategic Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace in the west of the district.</p>	<p>It is likely that new SANG will be needed in a number of locations in the District. These will form part of the Green Infrastructure network and link to the Biodiversity priority.</p> <p>The need to protect the SPA is picked up in the revised</p>	

	priority on biodiversity.	
	Priority to be deleted.	

Table 5: List of Draft Strategic Priorities

1	To deliver all the objectively assessed housing need for Hart in planned locations across the District between 2011 and 2032.
2	To continue to work with Rushmoor and Surrey Heath on meeting the objectively assessed housing need for the Housing Market Area as a whole, for example through the provision of SANG that can facilitate housing in those areas. In order to comply with statutory requirements, when it is clear what (if any) the level of unmet need is across the housing market area, we will seek to help to meet this in a way that fits into our strategy.
3	To provide new homes of a mix of sizes and tenures to meet the current and future needs of Hart’s residents, including a viable mix of affordable housing, and new homes to meet the needs of an ageing population.
4	To support economic growth and the vitality and viability of Hart’s settlements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing for local shopping need in town, district and local centres to serve the needs of existing and future residents; and • Protecting and providing a range of size and types of employment land and buildings, including those supporting the rural economy, to meet future needs and to contribute to economic growth in Hart and the wider area.
5	To seek to ensure that transport, social and physical infrastructure required to support new development is delivered in a timely and coordinated manner. Through partnership working with the education authority (Hampshire County Council) to plan for the provision of sufficient primary and secondary school places, including new schools where required.
6	To conserve and enhance the distinctive built and historic environment in Hart including the protection of heritage assets and their settings, and the protection of the character and identity of settlements, including through protection from coalescence.
7	To protect and enhance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The natural environment including landscape character; • Water quality, water supply, and groundwater and minimise the probability and impacts of flooding in the District, including through directing development away from areas most at risk and ensuring appropriate mitigation measures such as Sustainable Drainage Systems are included within the design of new developments; and,

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity in Hart including ensuring appropriate mitigation is in place to avoid any adverse impact of new development upon the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area.
8	To promote healthy and sustainable local communities through protecting and enhancing community, sport, recreation and leisure facilities, and the delivery of a multi-functional green infrastructure network across the District.
9	To maximise opportunities for sustainable transport infrastructure alongside new development, including facilities for walking, cycling and public transport, and the delivery of measures to minimise, or accommodate the impact of new development on the existing network.
10	To ensure new development is well –designed creating safe, inclusive environments and taking account of character, local distinctiveness and sustainable design principles.
11	To provide measures for adapting to the impacts of climate change and reduce the contribution of new and existing development to the causes of climate change including more efficient use of energy and natural resources and increased use of renewable low carbon energy infrastructure.

Appendix 1:

National, Regional, County and Local Plans and Strategies

This scoping should also be read in conjunction with the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report which also scopes relevant national, regional and local strategies.

This scoping provides a very brief highlight of the scoped documents – their full content will be taken into account in developing the Local Plan. Other policies, plans and strategies may also have informed the scope of the Plan.

The Scoping will be updated to take account of any changes to national, regional, County or local policies, plans and strategies as the Local Plan progresses.

Summary of Comments on the Priorities set out in the Withdrawn Core Strategy

Priority 1 – Housing numbers

- Object to Priority 1 (number of new homes)
- Priority 1 should replace 'responding' to 'reflecting' the existing built environment.
- Priority 1 should include the words 'at least'
- The vision and priorities do not connect – the housing figure should be higher

Priority 4 - Infrastructure

- It is hoped that infrastructure will keep pace with development

Priority 5 - Countryside

- Add to point 5 to state "To promote a living, working countryside sustainably"

Priority 6 – Natural, urban and historic environment

- Priority 6 suggests there will be no infill
- Priority 6 (Historic environment) supported

Priority 7 - Design

- Priority 7 supported

Priority 8 - Transport

- Priority 8 – need to be specific on traffic management measures

New priorities

- Should have a new priority protecting conservation areas
- Should have a new priority on education
- There should be a flood risk policy which is reflected in the Strategic priorities
- The Strategic Priorities should be amended to give greater emphasis to the protection of heritage assets.

Scoping of relevant National Policies for the Local Plan

NATIONAL POLICIES		
DOCUMENT	PRIORITIES/KEY MESSAGES	IMPLICATIONS FOR THE LOCAL PLAN
National Planning Policy Framework and associated Ministerial Statements	<p>Sets out national planning policy based around a presumption in favour of sustainable development. This means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Planning Authorities should positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of the area <p>Must meet objectively assessed development needs unless adverse impacts would outweigh the benefits or specific policies in the Framework indicate development should be restricted.</p> <p>Sets out 12 Core Planning principles to be taken into account, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proactively drive and support sustainable economic development (including meeting housing, business and other development needs) • Seek high quality design • Take account of the different roles and character of different areas • Support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate • Contribute to conserving and enhancing the natural environment and reducing pollution • Encourage the effective use of land and promote 	<p>In responding to the NPPF, the Local Plan must set out a presumption in favour of sustainable development. The evidence must identify the objectively assessed development needs for the District and the Local Plan strategy (including vision, policies and allocations) must endeavour to meet this within the policy framework set out within the NPPF.</p> <p>The Plan will be tested against its consistency with national planning policy.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope includes: Development needs (housing and economic growth) Vitality and viability of town centres Infrastructure Design Protection and enhancement of the built and natural environment (heritage)</p>

	<p>mixed use developments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote mixed use developments • Conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance • Manage patterns of growth to maximise alternative means of travel • Support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing and deliver community and local facilities to meet needs. <p>Detailed national policy is set out for a number of planning topics. The NPPF also identifies the process and evidence required for preparing Local Plans.</p> <p>Of note is that para 119 of the NPPF states that the presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where development requiring appropriate assessment under the Birds or Habitats Directives is being considered, planned or determined.</p> <p>The Government has also produced a number of topic specific policy statements which should be read in conjunction with the NPPF including on Planning for Schools, Sustainable Drainage Systems and Starter Homes.</p>	<p>assets, biodiversity, green infrastructure) Climate change Flooding Pollution Sustainable and healthy communities Sustainable travel</p>
<p>Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, 2015, DCLG</p>	<p>The overarching aim is to ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers, in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic way of life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community. Local Planning authorities should set pitch targets for gypsies and travellers and plot targets for travelling showpeople which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs. Sets out a range of criteria to take into account when setting policies for travellers including</p>	<p>The Local Plan will need to reflect national policy on Travellers and will set out relevant policies and if necessary, allocations.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Identification of Traveller needs and appropriate policies/allocations to meet</p>

	promoting peaceful and integrated co-existence, access to health and education and impact on the local environment, impact on infrastructure and the need to avoid areas of flood risk.	those needs.
National Planning Practice Guidance	The NPPG provides additional detail to the NPPF. Sets out that Local Plans should make clear what is intended to happen over the life of the plan, where and when this will occur and how it will be delivered. Covers relevant topics for inclusion in the Local Plan including: advertisements/air quality/climate change/historic environment/design/town centres/flood risk/health and wellbeing/housing need and assessments/economic needs and assessments/natural environment, noise/open space/renewable and low carbon energy/viability and water supply, wastewater and water quality. The NPPG sets out more detail for implementing the policies within the NPPF, including more detail on the content local Plans, and detailed guidance on developing policies on different policy topics.	Guidance in the NPPG is a key consideration in the preparation of the Local Plan since it supports policies in national planning policy. Local Plan Scope: As for NPPF

OTHER NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS		
Fixing the Foundations: creating a more prosperous nation, 2015	Sets out the Government's approach to improving productivity and economic growth including through changes to the planning system and increasing the level of housebuilding. Includes initiatives introduced through further legislation and guidance such as in relation to starter homes.	The Local Plan must reflect the Government's approach to economic growth at the local level. Local Plan Scope: Housing level and mix Economic development
The Water Framework Directive	The WFD aims to ensure surface, coastal and groundwater bodies achieve 'good' quality status, through	The Local Plan should contain policies which help to meet the water quality

<p>And</p> <p>River Basin Management Plans (Environment Agency)</p>	<p>a Programme of Measures outlined in River Basin Management Plans.</p> <p>River Basin Management Plans should consider the location of new development and the implications for water quality and sustainable water management. These were first prepared in 2009 and consultation has recently taken place on revisions due to be adopted December 2015.</p> <p>The relevant Plan for Hart District is the Thames River Basin Management Plan.</p>	<p>objectives set out in the Water Framework Directive and the Thames River Basin Management Plan.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Water quality Water management Sustainable Drainage Systems Biodiversity</p>
<p>Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services, 2011</p>	<p>Sets out the strategic direction for biodiversity in England. It encourages planning to take a strategic approach to planning for nature and also mechanisms for protecting water ecosystems including habitats and species.</p> <p>Overarching objective: - <i>'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'</i></p> <p>Outcomes delivered through action in four areas: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a more integrated large-scale approach to conservation on land and at sea <p>Including - <i>increasing the proportion of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) in favourable condition.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • putting people at the heart of biodiversity policy • reducing environmental pressures <p>Including - <i>Planning and Development – Through reforms of the planning system, we will take a strategic approach to planning for nature. We will retain the protection and improvement of the natural environment as core</i></p>	<p>National policy on the protection and improvement of biodiversity will be reflected in the Local Plan and other strategies such as the Biodiversity Action Plan.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Biodiversity Protection of nationally important habitats</p>

	<p><i>objectives of the planning system. We will pilot biodiversity offsetting, to assess its potential to deliver planning policy more effectively.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improving our knowledge <p>Outcome 1 – Habitats and ecosystems on land (including freshwater environments)</p> <p>1A. Better wildlife habitats with 90% of priority habitats in favourable or recovering condition and at least 50% of SSSIs in favourable condition, while maintaining at least 95% in favourable or recovering condition;</p>	
<p>The Natural Choice: Securing the value of Nature White Paper, 2011</p>	<p>Set out a framework for protecting and enhancing the natural environment. Identifies the value that the natural environment plays in economic prosperity and health and well-being.</p> <p>Supported partnership working and included the establishment of Local Nature Partnerships and the designation of Nature Improvement Areas and Local Green Areas.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will need to recognise the value of the natural environment as set out in Government publications.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Green infrastructure Biodiversity Climate Change Design Flooding related policies</p>
<p>UK Climate Change Risk Assessment: Government Report, 2012 (CCRA)</p>	<p>Arising out of the Climate Change Act 2008, this outlines the Government's views on the main issues raised in the Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) Evidence Report (an independent analysis funded by UK Government and Devolved Governments), to highlight actions already in place to manage the risks identified in the CCRA, and to outline UK Government plans for the future, including the role that planning can play.</p>	<p>In considering the approach to climate change, consideration must be given to national policy on measures relating to climate change adaptation and mitigation.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Sustainable construction Flood risk/Sustainable Drainage Systems Infrastructure Green Infrastructure</p>

Climate Change National Adaptation Programme, 2013	<p>The Governments response to the CCRA above, setting out policies and proposals to meet the risk identified. Includes focus on Flood risk management, spatial planning, local infrastructure and Making Homes and Communities more resilient.</p>	<p>Water quality As above.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Sustainable construction Flood risk/Sustainable Drainage Systems Infrastructure Green Infrastructure Water quality</p>
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Scoping of Regional Policies and Guidance for the Local Plan

DOCUMENT	PRIORITIES/KEY MESSAGES	IMPLICATIONS FOR THE LOCAL PLAN
<p>The Regional Spatial Strategy: The South East Plan, 2009</p>	<p>The Plan provided a spatial framework for the region for the next 20 years to 2026. The Plan was revoked in 2013 with the exception of Policy NRM6 Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area.</p>	<p>The Hart Local Plan should be in conformity with the Regional Spatial Strategy so will need to reflect the content of Policy NRM6.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area</p>
<p>Strategy for Growth and Action Plan 2013, Enterprise M3 LEP</p>	<p>The Strategy has four components. The central objective is the growth of business but supported by investments in enterprise support, innovation capacity, skills development, infrastructure and place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Enterprise: Maintaining and growing the business base. The priority is the expansion of the existing business base – removing the constraints on growth - but new inward investment projects in high growth sectors and new business ventures are also part of the strategy; ■ Innovation: Delivering accelerated economic growth through positive action to promote innovation and growth in high value industries, The area has a strong base to develop innovation and to support the advancement and adoption of new technologies but it is stretched and needs to expand further; ■ Skills and Employment: Ensure that investment in skills and employment support meets the needs of employers. The education and skills profile of the Enterprise M3 area is strong when compared to national averages but the growth in the labour market and skills 	<p>The Local Plan should be prepared in co-operation with the LEP on cross boundary issues such as economic growth. The Plan will need to reflect the economic ambitions and actions set out in the EM3 Strategy for Growth.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Economic development needs evidence Employment sites Rural economy</p>

	<p>base – and the infrastructure to develop it – could be further strengthened to ensure that employment growth aspirations are met;</p> <p>Infrastructure and Place: Many of the constraints on business growth concern infrastructure – road and rail ‘bottlenecks’ causing congestion and slow/unreliable journey times, limitations on the capacity of the rail network, a shortage of housing for local workers, differential supply of reliable high speed broadband, access and capacity issues in relation to Heathrow and Gatwick airports.</p> <p>The high level targets for the Strategy are determined by the vision and the shared objective to maintain the competitive position of the Enterprise M3 area relative to the national baseline, and improving on that. The headline targets for the period up to 2020 are:</p> <p>Jobs To increase the employment rate from 76.8 to 80%-an increase of 25,000.</p> <p>GVA To increase GVA per head from 8% to 10% above the national average through increased productivity and a focus on businesses in high value sectors.</p> <p>Business Births and Survival To grow the overall business base within the area by 2.4% (1,400 businesses) per annum.</p> <p>The Strategy is supported by a set of Strategic Actions that support the four themes.</p>	
<p>Strategic Economic Plan, 2014 – 2020, and Delivery Plan, Enterprise M3 LEP</p>	<p>Sets out a long term strategic approach to delivering economic growth in the Enterprise M3 LEP area. The long term vision is to “<i>be the premier location in the country for enterprise and economic growth, balanced with an</i></p>	<p>The Local Plan will need to reflect the economic ambitions of the LEP.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope:</p>

	<p><i>excellent environment and quality of life.</i>” This is supported by a number of measures to promote enterprise development and competitiveness, the generation and commercialisation of innovation, the growth of high value industries and the development of skills needed by employers. The measures are set out in integrated Growth Packages based around growth Towns and Step up Towns, and also the whole of the Enterprise M3 area as the primary Sci-Tech Corridor in the UK.</p>	<p>Economic development needs evidence Employment sites Rural economy</p>
<p>Working for a Smarter Future, the Growth Deal for the Enterprise M3 LEP, 2014</p>	<p>Complements the Strategic Economic Plan setting out key interventions and the freedoms needed to be successful. It includes place specific intervention packages and is the basis for seeking funding.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will need to reflect the place specific proposals set out in this document and the wider interventions around: innovation and enterprise, skills, housing and transport. This includes accelerating housing delivery above the baseline and significant growth in jobs across the EM3 area.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Economic development needs evidence Employment sites Rural economy</p>
<p>Thames Basin Heaths Delivery Framework (February 2009), Thames Basin Heaths Joint Strategic Partnership Board</p>	<p>Objectives of the Framework are to recommend: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A consistent approach to the protection of the SPA from the significant effects of residential; • The type and extent of residential development that may have a significant effect either alone or in combination on the SPA; • Key criteria for the delivery of avoidance measures 	<p>These criteria are reflected in the South East Plan Policy with which the Local Plan should be consistent.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Thames Basin Heaths SPA</p>

Scoping of Countywide Policies and Guidance that should be considered in the development of the Local Plan

DOCUMENT	PRIORITIES/KEY MESSAGES	IMPLICATIONS FOR THE LOCAL PLAN
<p>Hampshire County Council Corporate Strategy 2013 - 2017</p>	<p>The County Council’s Corporate Strategy has the following priorities:</p> <p>Health and wellbeing: Improving health and wellbeing for all</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure children and young people in Hampshire thrive and achieve their full potential. • Promote and support healthy choices for all, reducing the difference between those with the best and worst health. • Help people to manage their health conditions, giving them choice and maintaining their independence. <p>Economy: Promoting economic prosperity and protecting the environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the infrastructure and services required for economic, transport and housing growth; and promote a globally competitive environment for investment in the county. • Provide opportunities for all to develop the skills needed to play a full part in Hampshire’s economic success. • Conserve and use natural resources more efficiently, protecting Hampshire’s environment and quality of life. 	<p>The Local Plan should help to deliver these objectives.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope:</p> <p>Land use proposals that help improve health and wellbeing Economic development policies and proposals Infrastructure/community facilities Natural environment Design</p>

	<p>Communities: Working with communities to enhance local services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that customer and community feedback, together with information about levels of need are used to plan and deliver services. • Work with communities to find the local solutions that work best, giving more control over local services to communities where appropriate. • Improve access to all County Council services. • Continue to provide high quality open spaces, libraries, museums and arts services. • Help residents to feel safe and be safe by working with partners to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour. <p>Efficiency: Delivering high quality, cost-effective public services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redesign and implement new models of service delivery, ensuring that resources are targeted to where they are most needed. • Generate more income from selling and sharing services with other public sector organisations becoming more business-like in the process. • Equip the Council's staff with the right skills to manage change and deliver priorities. 	
<p>Shaping our Future together: Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 – 2018</p>	<p>Sets out 11 long-term ambitions for Hampshire to continue to prosper, providing greater opportunity for all without risking the environment.</p> <p>1. Hampshire is a globally competitive environment for</p>	<p>The Local Plan should help to deliver these objectives.</p>

	<p>business growth and investment, where everyone has the opportunity to develop their skills and play a full part in the county's success.</p> <p>2. Hampshire provides excellent opportunities for children and young people.</p> <p>3. Infrastructure and services are developed to support economic and housing growth whilst protecting the environment and quality of life.</p> <p>4. Social and affordable housing needs are met, including provision to support rural communities.</p> <p>5. Hampshire's communities are cohesive and inclusive, and vulnerable people are safeguarded.</p> <p>6. Hampshire and its partners work to reduce inequalities in outcomes for residents according to individual need and through a focus on specific areas of multiple disadvantage.</p> <p>7. Hampshire's communities can feel safe and can expect not to suffer violence or anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>8. Hampshire's residents can make choices to improve their health and wellbeing.</p> <p>9. Hampshire's environment and cultural heritage are enjoyed and celebrated.</p> <p>10. Hampshire is acclaimed for conserving and using natural resources more efficiently, and for reducing and adapting to the effects of climate change.</p> <p>11. Hampshire's residents receive excellent public services and value for money.</p>	<p>Local Plan Scope: Economic development Education Housing provision and mix Infrastructure Design Climate change Natural environment</p>
<p>Hampshire County Council: Children and Young People's Plan 2012 – 2015</p>	<p>The Plan has the five following priorities:</p> <p>1 Addressing the incidence and reducing the impact of poverty on the achievement and life chances of children</p>	<p>The Local Plan will have regard to educational needs, and health and well-being.</p>

	<p>and young people.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Securing children and young people’s physical, spiritual, social, emotional and mental health, promoting healthy lifestyles and reducing inequalities. 3 Providing opportunities to learn, within and beyond the school day, that raise children and young people’s aspirations, encourage excellence and enable them to enjoy and achieve beyond their expectations. 4 Helping children and young people to be safe and feel safe. 5 Promoting vocational, leisure and recreational activities that provide opportunities for children and young people to experience success and make a positive contribution. 	<p>Local Plan Scope: Infrastructure – education, open space, sport and leisure Design</p>
<p>Hampshire Local Transport Plan 2011 – 2030 and Implementation Plan</p>	<p>This sets out the County’s transport strategy and aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve quality of life • Protect the environment • Secure economic prosperity. <p>Main Priority 1: To support economic growth by ensuring the safety, soundness and efficiency of the transport network in Hampshire. Main Priority 2: Provide a safe, well-maintained, and more resilient road network in Hampshire as the basic transport infrastructure of the county on which all forms of transport directly or indirectly depend, and the key to continued casualty reduction.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will need to have regard to the Highway Authorities (Hampshire County Council) transport priorities and proposals, and through joint working determine the most appropriate highways policies and allocations.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Transport Assessment Transport infrastructure Locational policies Transport impact Design</p>

	<p>Main Priority 3: Manage traffic to maximise the efficiency of existing network capacity, improving journey time reliability and reducing emissions, thereby supporting the efficient and sustainable movement of people and goods. The priorities are supported by a number of policy objectives.</p> <p>Specific measures are identified for Fleet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted measures to improve capacity at congestion bottlenecks and optimise management of the highway network • Delivery of the Fleet Town Access Plan • Measures to reduce the need to travel at peak times in Fleet • Improvements to Fleet railway station • Mitigation of the travel impacts arising from new development • Investment in developing walking and cycling routes <p>And a number of measures for smaller towns which includes Harley Wintney, Hook, Odiham and Yateley:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment in developing walking and cycling • Measures to reduce peak time congestion, such as promotion of travel planning and more flexible working arrangements • Traffic management measures to mitigate adverse impacts of traffic • Improved inter-urban bus services • Support for Community Transport services • Work with Parish & Town Councils to support 	Climate change
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	community driven transport solutions	
Hampshire Transport Statements: Hart (HCC)	Sets out a transport strategy, developed from existing strategies and policies, together with a proposed schedule of transport priorities and improvements.	The Local Plan will need to be informed by, and inform, the existing and future Transport Statement for Hart, following further evidence such as any updated transport assessment. Local Plan Scope: Transport Assessment Transport policies and allocations
Fleet Town Access Plan (HCC)	The TAP identify issues of accessibility and transport in Fleet town centre and sets out a detailed plan of action with schemes for implementation. They help provide the detail of the Local Transport Plan at a local level.	The Local Plan will need to reflect, and influence, the content of the TAP where this is supported by the Transport Assessment prepared to support the Local Plan. Local Plan Scope: Transport Assessment Transport policies and allocations
Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment (HCC)	Sets out landscape assessments for Hampshire and includes a townscape assessment of Fleet.	The Strategic Hampshire Study will help inform local studies and the development of local plan policies and allocations. Local Plan Scope: Landscape Design Site allocations
Countryside Access Plan 2015	The Plan aims to improve accessibility and enjoyment of	The Local Plan will include policies

<p>- 2025 (HCC)</p>	<p>the countryside by all people, by managing a sensitive balance of different uses and nature conservation.</p>	<p>relating to green infrastructure, countryside and biodiversity.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Rural environment Biodiversity Green infrastructure Sustainable travel</p>
<p>Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan 2008 - 2011</p>	<p>Vision to provide:</p> <p>'A rich and diverse natural environment, where wildlife is conserved and the benefits of nature are available to everyone'</p> <p>Four key priorities identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biodiversity maintained and enhanced within development - Sustainable management of the natural environment - Nature contributing to health and wellbeing - Biodiversity conserved under a changing climate <p>These are supported by a number of actions.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will reflect these priorities including policies to support biodiversity by protecting habitats and species and, where possible, enhancing wildlife.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Biodiversity Green Infrastructure Natural Environment</p>
<p>Hampshire Local Flood Risk Strategy 2013 - 2028</p>	<p>Sets out the nature and extent of flood risk across Hampshire supported by an Action Plan.</p>	<p>The Hampshire wide LFRS will help to inform the Hart Strategic Flood Risk Assessment evidence which will inform policies and allocations in the Local Plan.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Flood risk policies Climate Change</p>

		Site allocations
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Scoping of Local Strategies for the Local Plan

DOCUMENT	PRIORITIES/KEY MESSAGES	IMPLICATIONS FOR THE LOCAL PLAN
Hart Corporate Plan 2014 – 2017	Sets out a number of priorities covering the Environment, Economy, and Communities.	The Local Plan should reflect the Corporate Priorities. Local Plan Scope: Design, character Natural environment Renewable energy/sustainable construction Economic development policies and allocations Housing delivery and mix policies and allocations Vitality and viability of town and village centres Infrastructure Open space, sport and leisure policies and allocations
Hart Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 - 2018	Prepared by the Hart Local Strategic Partnership, the SCS sets out a vision and priorities for the District: Vision: ‘To improve, sustain and promote the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the communities in Hart District’. Priorities: I. An Environmentally Conscious Community and a Sustainable District II. Affordable , Safe, Well-Maintained, Sustainable Housing	The Local Plan should reflect the vision and priorities of the SCS. Local Plan Scope: Climate change Biodiversity Green Infrastructure Renewable energy/sustainable development Rural economy Transport Affordable housing policies Housing Mix Design Economic development policies

	<p>III. One of the Safest Districts in the South East IV. A Beacon of Good Health V. A Diversified and Balanced Economy VI. A Sustainable and Accessible Transport System</p>	<p>Town and village centres Retail policies.</p>
Housing Strategy 2015 - 2020	<p>The Housing Strategy sets out the actions that the Council and other partners will take to meet housing need. The Strategy has four objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 – Making the most of development opportunities 2 – Helping local people to find their own housing solutions 3 – Making the best use of existing housing 4 – Creating sustainable homes and communities <p>These are supported by a number of actions including those relating to maximising the delivery of affordable housing, ensure an appropriate mix of housing, Rural Exception sites, Traveller provision, energy efficiency, good design and housing for older people.</p>	<p>The appropriate level, mix and tenure of new housing to be provided, and the most appropriate locations for this is a key element of the Local Plan which will also be informed by local evidence in the Housing Strategy.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Housing target Affordable housing policies Housing mix policies Housing allocations Specialist Housing policies Rural Exception policies Travellers policies Design Renewable energy/sustainability</p>
Preventing Homelessness Strategy, 2014 - 2017	<p>The Homelessness Strategy sets out local issues around homelessness and an action plan to reduce and prevent homelessness.</p>	<p>Local housing issues will need to be taken into account in delivering future housing needs.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Housing target Housing allocations Housing mix and tenure policies</p>
Biodiversity Action Plan 2012 - 2017	<p>The BAP identifies important species and habitats within Hart and threats and opportunities for their improvement.</p> <p>The BAP sets out four objectives:</p>	<p>The BAP reinforces the need to take into account issues of biodiversity in preparing the Local Plan.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To conserve and enhance the current resource - To identify new areas for biodiversity improvement - To raise awareness of biodiversity in the council and local community - To monitor and review biodiversity and progress of the Plan. <p>The BAP includes an Action Plan to help deliver and monitor the objectives.</p>	<p>Local Plan Scope: Biodiversity Green Infrastructure Natural Environment</p>
<p>Hart Leisure Strategy 2007 - 2017</p>	<p>The Hart Leisure Strategy links in to priorities in the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Corporate Plan. It contains a set of strategic objectives:</p> <p>SD1 - Allocating the resources to meet identified investment, development, capital and revenue funding</p> <p>SD2 - Planning strategically across the District whilst taking account of provision beyond the District's boundaries</p> <p>SD3 - Linking leisure provision into the evolving development planning framework for the District</p> <p>SD4 - Optimising the funding and delivery opportunities provided by "Section 106" developer contributions for investment in leisure provision.</p> <p>SD5 - Establishing a co-ordinated and consistent brand for leisure provision across the District</p> <p>SD6 - Investing in opportunities and facilities either in house or with partners</p> <p>SD7 - Completing an appraisal of service delivery and mechanisms used at periodic intervals</p> <p>It also contains priorities relating to partnership working,</p>	<p>The objectives of the Leisure Strategy identify the role that planning has to play in delivering improvements. The Priorities in the Leisure Strategy should be reflected in the Local Plan and policies and/or allocations used to implement them as appropriate.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Open space, sport and recreation evidence Protection of facilities Provision of new facilities Standards for new development</p>

	sport and art development resources, and to facility development and infrastructure. The Strategy is supported by District and Local Project lists.	
Hart Economic Development Strategy, 2015 - 2018	The Hart EDS sets out the current economic issues facing the District and includes an Action Plan covering the next 3 year period which seeks to address these issues and promote economic growth.	<p>The economic growth strategy in the Local Plan and the EDS must be consistent.</p> <p>Local Plan Scope: Economic development policies and proposals including for rural areas Town and village centre policies.</p>