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| Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report |
| Tendring District Council |
| .June 2015 |

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**INTRODUCTION**

This report sets out the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal of the Tendring District Local Plan. This report will be consulted upon between 19th June and 31st July 2015.

**Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment**

Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is about asking at various intervals during plan preparation: “how sustainable is my plan?”. A range of objectives are established and all options are assessed against these objectives to compare their environmental, economic and social effects and ultimately to assess how sustainable an option is. Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), SA is mandatory for Local Plans.

As well as SA, Local Plans must also undergo a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with European Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes. The objective of SEA, as defined in the Government’s guidance on strategic environmental assessment, is: *“to provide for a high level of protection of the environment* *and contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the* *preparation and adoption of plans….with a view to promoting sustainable* *development”* (Article 1)*.*

There is a distinct difference between SA and SEA. SA examines all sustainability related effects including social, economic and environmental impacts, as opposed to SEA which is focused primarily on environmental impacts. Clearly there is some overlap between these two processes and it is therefore best practice to incorporate the requirements of the SEA Directive into the SA process.

**Scoping**

The SEA Directive requires the following information, which is covered in this

Scoping Report:

* The relationship of the plan with other relevant plans and programmes [Annex I(a)].
* The environmental protection objectives established at international, Community or national level, which are relevant to the plan and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation [Annex I(e)].
* Relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan [Annex I(b)].
* The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected [Annex I(c)].
* Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan including in particular those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/ECC and 92/43/EEC [Annex I(d)].

**Tendring District Local Plan**

The Tendring District Local Plan (2007) is referred to as the saved plan and the Tendring District Local Plan: Proposed Submission Draft (2012) is referred to as the draft plan. The Pre-Submission Focused Changes Document (2014) is referred to in this report as the Focused Changes Document.

The Adopted plan was adopted by the Council in December 2011 and still remains part of the development plan. However, since the publication of the National planning Policy Framework (NPPF) the adopted plan no longer entirely conforms to national guidance. The plan also only had a working life up until 2011; As a result of this the Council commenced preparing a new local plan to replace the adopted plan.

The Draft local plan was published in November 2012. Following the eight week consultation on the draft plan which ended on 7th January 2013, and in response to comments from the public and some preliminary advice from the Planning Inspectorate, the Council proposed a number of Focused Changes before the plan was to be submitted for formal examination. The Focused Changes document began its six week public consultation period on 6th January 2014, and ended on 17th February 2014. The result of this second consultation raised objection from key stakeholders which meant that the Council had to reconsider the housing provision within the draft plan. The council, within its draft and Focused Changes iterations of the plan allocated land for some 6000 new dwellings over the plan period. The Council’s evidence shows that the level of growth that needs to be planned for is significantly higher; more than 12,000 new homes.

In order to address these issues, in mid 2014 the Council set up a Local Plan Committee made up of a cross-party membership. At the time of writing the Committee had met five times and had provisionally agreed the need for 12,000 homes, board locations for strategic growth and many of the emerging policies.

At the next Local Plan Committee meeting to be held in July, the Members will be presented with a draft version of the new local plan for consideration before it is consulted on over the summer.

**Sustainable Development**

Sustainability and sustainable development are commonly used terms and itis important to consider what sustainable development actually means.The European Commission, through its 2009 review of the EU SustainableDevelopment Strategy, defines sustainable development as follows:

*Sustainable Development stands for meeting the needs of present generations without jeopardizing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs – in other words, a better quality of life for everyone, now and for generations to come. It offers a vision of progress that integrates immediate and longer-term objectives, local and global action, and regards social, economic and environmental issues as inseparable and interdependent components of human progress. Sustainable development will not be brought about by policies only: it must be taken up by society at large as a principle guiding the many choices each citizen makes every day, as well as the big political and economic decisions that have. This requires profound changes in thinking, in economic and social structures and in consumption and production patterns.*

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the following definition of sustainable development:

*At the heart of the National Planning Policy Framework is a presumption in favour of sustainable development, which should be seen as a golden thread running through both plan-making and decision-taking. For plan-making this means that:*

* *local planning authorities should positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of their area;*
* *Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change, unless:*
* *any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or*
* *specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted. For decision-taking this means approving development proposals that accord with the development plan without delay; and*
* *where the development plan is absent, silent or relevant policies are out of date, granting permission unless:*
* *any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or*
* *specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted*

**Consultation**

The Council welcomes your representations on this Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report. Within the Scoping Report there are number of questions you are invited to answer. A complete list of questions can be located at ‘Next Steps’ on Page 27

Please email comments to: planning.policy@tendringdc.gov.uk.

Alternatively, please use the postal address below:

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**The closing date for this consultation is 31st July 2015.**

**REVIEW OF RELEVANT PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES**

A review of relevant plans and programmes was undertaken and is included in appendix 1. The list of documents reviewed is outlined below.

**International**

Review of the European Sustainable Development Strategy (2009)

European Commission Biodiversity Strategy (2012)

Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice (2003)

**National**

Adapting to Climate Change: Ensuring Progress in Key Sectors (2013)

National Planning Policy Framework (2012)

National Planning Practice Guidance (2014)

DECC National Energy Policy Statement EN1 (2011)

DCLG Neighbourhood Planning (2012)

JNCC/Defra UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework (2012)

Mainstreaming Sustainable Development (2011)

DCLG Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2012)

PPS5 Planning for the Historic Environment Practice Guide (2010)

Flood and Water Management Act (2010)

Safeguarding our Soils (2009)

Community Infrastructure Levy Guidance (2013)

UK Marine Policy Statement, HM Government (2011)

**Regional**

Anglian Water Business Plan 2015-2020 (2012)

Draft Water Resources Management Plan 2015-2040 (2014)

Haven Gateway Water Cycle Study: Stage 1 Report (2008)

Anglian River Basin management Plan (2009)

Haven Gateway Programme of Development: A Framework for Growth 2008-2017 (2007)

Haven Gateway Integrated Development Programme (2008)

South East LEP Growth Deal and Strategic Economic Plan (2014)

**County**

Living Landscapes, Essex Wildlife Trust

Combined Essex Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (2013)

Essex Design Guide (2005)

North Essex Catchment Flood Risk Management Plan (2009)

Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan (second phase) (2011)

Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley Management Plan 2010-2015

Commissioning School Places in Essex 2013/18 (2014)

Developer’s Guide to Infrastructure Contributions (2010)

Education Contribution Guidelines Supplement (2010)

Vision for Essex 2013-2017: Where Innovation Brings Prosperity (2013)

Corporate Outcomes Framework 2014-2018 (2014)

Essex and Southend Waste Local Plan (2001)

Essex and Southend Waste Replacement Local Plan (adoption expected 2015)

Essex Minerals Local Plan (2014)

The Essex Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2020 (2011)

A12/A120 Route Based Strategy (2013)

Essex Transport Strategy: The Local Plan for Essex (2011)

ECC Development Management Policies (2011)

Essex Economic Growth Strategy (2012)

The Greater Essex Integrated County Strategy (2010)

**Local**

Sustainable Development, Tendring District Council Local Plan Proposed Submission Draft (2012) (as amended by the 2014 Focussed Changes)

Positive Vision for the Tendring District, Tendring District Council Proposed Submission Draft (2012) (as amended by the 2014 Focussed Changes)

Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2009)

Haven Gateway Water Study: Stage 2 Report (2009)

Tendring Open Space Strategy (2009)

Landscape Character Assessment, Vol 1 & Vol 2 (2001)

Affordable Housing Viability Study (2010)

Viability Testing (2013)

Clacton Town Centre Vision (2009)

Celebrate-on-Sea – ‘Putting the fun back into Clacton’ (2010)

Infrastructure Study, Part 2 (2010)

Tendring District Historic Characterisation Project (2008)

Tendring Geodiversity Characterisation Report (2009)

Habitat Regulations Assessment Survey and Monitoring, Year 3 Interim Report (2012)

Climatic Change Strategy 2010-2016

Tendring Economic Strategy (2013)

Strategic Housing Market Assessment Update (2013)

Retail Study Update (2010)

Addendum to Gypsy/Traveller Study (2011)

Tendring Employment Land Review (2013)

**Neighbouring Authorities**

Colchester’s Core Strategy (2008)

Babergh Adopted Core Strategy and Adopted Policies (2011-2031) (2014)

**BASELINE ENVIRONMENT**

This section outlines the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected by the Tendring District Local Plan. Further to this, Appendix 2 includes a number of indicators.

**General Characteristics**

Data from the 2011 Census puts the District population at approximately 138,100 with a density of 4.1 people per hectare. The predominant ethnic group is White British with 97.6% of the population describing themselves as such. The ethnic minority population was 2.4% which in terms of numbers equates to a population of approximately 3,314 people. This is lower than both the estimates for both the East of England and Essex.

The whole population of the Tendring District is projected to grow by 14.4% (from 2011 Census numbers) to approximately 158,000 by 2031. Recent decades have seen a trend towards an ageing population in the District and this is projected to continue in the future. The percentage of over 65s in Tendring is higher than both the East of England and Essex percentages. The number of people over age 65 years is projected to increase by 34.1% between 2013-2031. In contrast, the proportion of the population aged under 5 years is projected to remain the same at 4.4% in the period 2013-2031.

Based on figures taken from the 2011 Census, there were 62,105 households in the Tendring District, 10% were 1 bedroom, 38% were 2 bedrooms, 36% were 3 bedrooms, 12% were 4 bedrooms and 4% were 5 bedrooms or more. Of these, 73.7% were privately owned, 16.2% privately rented, 8.4% socially rented, 0.4% in shared ownership and 1.3% living rent-free. County wide 71.4% of homes were privately owned. Average household size in the district was 2.2 people, slightly lower than the national, regional and county, averages of 2.4 people. The average number of rooms was 5.4, according to the 2011 Census.

The projected need for housing for the Tendring District is 713 dwellings per year (SHMA 2013) during the period 2014-2031. A net of 209 dwellings were completed between 31 March 2013 and 1 April 2014, of which 3 were affordable housing units. A net of 1221 dwellings were completed over the past 5 years (2009/10 – 2013/14), which averages 244 dwellings per annum. The net number of completions in Essex for 2013/14 was 2860 and neighbouring Colchester and Babergh districts net dwellings built in the period 2013/14 were 725 and 291 and their 5 year averages (2009/10 – 2013/14) were 709 and 234 respectively.

The average property price in September 2012 in Tendring was £180,408 (a 5.2% increase from 171,476 in 2008) and is noticeably lower than average prices in England (£253,816) and Essex (£251,258). The SHMA 2013 Update observed that, due to the requirement for significant deposit to access a mortgage, few households aspiring to home ownership would have access to sufficient funds to purchase a home in the District. The Update identifies a notable increase in the proportion of households in the private rented sector and a decrease in all other tenure groups with owner-occupiers with a mortgage recording the biggest fall.

**Economic Characteristics**

The Tendring District is connected to a network of major roads via the A120, A133 and A137, which provide routes to Chelmsford, London, the M25, Stansted Airport and the Port of Felixstowe.

Transportation provision in the District includes 14 railway stations with connections to Colchester, Chelmsford, Ipswich, Norwich, Stratford and London. The average journey time between Clacton-on-Sea and London Liverpool Street is 1 hour 26 minutes. During 2014-2015 Abellio Greater Anglia invested £1.5 million to improve performance and service consistency across the network, £10,000 for customer-focussed service improvements and £300,000 to repair and upgrade rolling stock. A £170 million line upgrade programme is expected to be completed in 2015.

There are numerous bus routes throughout the District including frequent inter-urban routes linking villages to the larger urban areas of the District and the large town of Colchester in the adjoining borough. The dispersed geography of the District means that these services are stretched and causes a reliance on the use of private cars. One of the challenges to future development in Tendring is to minimise the dominance of the car as a main mode of travel.

The 2011 Census, travel to work results reflect the dominance of the car as a main means of transportation indicating that 76.6% of residents own one or more cars or vans. The Census finds that 64.9% of residents drive to work and 5.5% are car passengers. Other modes of travel of work are train 5.3%, bus 2.3%, taxi 0.5%, motorcycle 0.8%, bicycle 3.1%, walk 11.1%, other methods 0.7% and 5.5% of residents work from home. These figures are comparable to those for both England and Essex other than train travel figures which are lower than those for Essex (10.6%) and drive to work figures which are higher than both England and Essex (57% and 50.5% respectively). This equates to 23% of residents using either public transport, cycling, walking or other methods to travel to work. 68% of the working population work in the Tendring district with 16% working in Colchester and 5% commuting to London. This would indicate that there is a potential for the uptake of more sustainable forms of transport.

The District is home to the Harwich International Port which has developed into a highly efficient, multi-purpose freight and passenger port handling bulk and container ships as well as roll-on, roll-off ferries and cruise ships. Harwich is one of the major UK ports for ferry and cruise tourism, with passenger figures for 2012-2013 showing an increase of 18% from 671,000 to 795,000. During 2014 a total of 43 port calls were made by cruise ships at the port. Harwich is also one of the leading UK freight ports for bulk and container ships. The figures for 2012-2013 showed an increase of 14% in tonnage of freight which passed through the port from 3,189 to 3,638 thousand tonnes. The port also supports the off-shore renewables industry providing an installation base for the Gunfleet Sands wind farm and support facilities for the installations at Foreness Point, Kent and Greater Gabbard off the coast in Suffolk.

In 2013 permission was granted for the expansion of Bathside Bay to create the new Harwich International Container Terminal, a small boat harbour with sheltered moorings and public amenity space. The new terminal is expected to include 1,400 metres of quayside, a 14.5 metre deep approach channel able to accommodate increasingly large container ships, 50 plus gantry cranes, a container storage yard and rail terminal. Bathside Bay also has the potential to be a multi-functional site for the manufacture and assembly of wind turbines. The expansion of Bathside Bay, with the provision of amenity and commercial space as well as port expansion will provide jobs at the port and in supporting industries both during construction and once in operation.

The industry class employing the most people in Tendring, according to Nomis data (2013), was the professional, administrative and secretarial class which accounted for 36.1% of jobs, followed by caring, leisure and customer services 24.8%, skilled trades 15% and technical and associated professional 10.5%.

The quantitative projection for new retail floorspace in the Tendring district to 2025, as identified in the Retail Study Update 2010, indicates that the major requirement for capacity will be in the Clacton urban area and identifies that 1,490 sqm of convenience and 14,410 sqm of comparison retail floorspace will be required. The study indicates that creating the additional floorspace in the centre of Clacton, rather than the expansion of out-of-centre stores, would present an opportunity to strengthen and protect the vitality of the Town Centre and to encourage and support sustainable shopping patterns across the District.

The Study also identifies that no convenience floorspace is required in the towns of Frinton-on-Sea, Walton-on-the-Naze, Dovercourt, Harwich, Manningtree and Brightlingsea, but that there is a total comparison retail floorspace requirement of 7,961 sqm in these areas. The Study indicates that location of additional floorspace in the town centres would improve market share, sustain vitality and viability and attract visitors, with the provision that any expansion should be in keeping with their unique and historic environments.

Internet shopping has become a major competitor to town centre shopping. In 2014 74% of all adults in the UK bought goods or services on-line, an increase of 21% from 2008. Increases in on-line shopping choice will mean traditional retailers and service providers will need to compete not only in price and range but also in service and expertise. Town centres will need to provide an attractive, mixed-use shopping experience to retain and increase their share of consumer spending.

Approximately 74.3% of the population aged 16-64 was economically active in the Tendring District during the period of October 2013-September 2014. Model based unemployment figures for the District during this period show that the unemployment rate was 8% which is somewhat higher than that for England 6.5%, the East 5.3% and Colchester Borough at 5.7%. These figures are based on a proportion of the District’s economically active population.

The District rates relatively high on the Index of Multiple Deprivation at 81 out of 326 districts, rank 1 being the most deprived. It is estimated that approximately 18% of people in the District live in seriously deprived neighbourhoods. This estimation is somewhat higher than that of the neighbouring Borough of Colchester (5%) and Babergh District (1%). The rate of households considered to be homeless or in priority need in the Tendring District was 0.64 per 1,000 households in the period 2012/2013. This is lower than the national average of 2.37 per 1,000 and is the lowest in Essex, the highest being Harlow at 3.75 per 1,000.

The Cultural, Visitor and Tourism sector, which encompasses a range of activities including visitor attractions, leisure facilities, food and accommodation, plays an important role in the District’s economy. This sector is worth more than £276 million per annum to the economy and is estimated to provide 3,000 jobs and around 350 businesses across Tendring. The majority of jobs (approx. 8%) and businesses (approx. 10%) in this sector are located in and around Clacton which is a similar concentration to the national average. In most of the rest of the towns in Tendring businesses operating within this sector are slightly more concentrated than the national average.

There are 64 Residential Care Homes in Tendring the highest number in any district in Essex and the care sector is the second highest employer in the District. With the population of over 65s projected to rise by 39% during the Local Plan period (2016-31) consideration will need to be given to the needs of an ageing population to encourage independent living and provide assisted living for those who require it. Development will need to assure that accommodation for our ageing population is integrated into communities to ensure that older people do not become isolated.

**Social Characteristics**

In 2012 there were 1,365 births in the Tendring District. Life expectancy in the District has been estimated as 78 years for men and 82 years for women, this is slightly lower than the estimates for England (men 79 years, women 83 years), the East (men 80 years, women 83 years) and Essex (men 80 years, women 83 years).

There are 47 maintained schools in the district, 40 primary schools and 7 secondary schools. There are 2 adult education centres offering a range of courses from beauty therapy and arts and crafts to training courses aimed at the business community.

Essex County Council has a statutory responsibility to ensure there are sufficient school places available every year, that there is diversity across the school system and parental preference is maximised. Commissioning School Places in Essex 2013-2018, published in 2014, sets out the requirement, supply and demand for places in maintained primary and secondary schools to 2018 and is updated annually to ensure projections of demand and capacity are as accurate as possible.

In 2013 there were 9,318 primary school pupils and 8,608 secondary school pupils. The 6 schools providing sixth form education had 1,307 pupils over the age of 16.

Primary school numbers, as forecast in the Commissioning Schools for Essex document, are set to rise in the five year period 2013-2018 to 9,928 (6.5% increase), with housing 10,750 (13.4% increase) due to rising births and new housing, requiring plans to be developed with local schools to increase the provision in the district.

Overall pupil numbers in secondary schools in Clacton are predicted to decline in the period 2013/18 to 8,000 (7.1% decrease) with housing 8,395 (2.5% decrease). However, demand for year 7 places in Clacton is forecast to increase from 2017/2018 onwards once pupils from anticipated new housing are included in the forecast. Pupil numbers in secondary schools/academies in the rest of the District are forecast to remain stable. The impact of any new housing in the locality of these schools will be closely monitored to ensure there are sufficient school places to meet any increase in demand.

Educational achievement in the District, based on 2011 Census, indicates that 16.2% of the working age population had achieved Level 2 standard and 15.9% had achieved Level 4 and above. Level 2 qualifications cover, amongst other things, five ‘O’ Level passed, 5 or more GCSEs (grades A-C), NVQ Level 2 and School Certificate, Level 4 and above qualifications cover foundation to masters level degree, doctorate, NVQ Level 4, qualifications in medicine, dentistry, nursing, teaching. Both Level 2 and Level 4 attainment was below the average for Essex at 17.2% and 23% respectively.

Crime data taken from the ONS publication regarding the number of offences recorded by the police, by community Safety Partnership/Local Authority level, year and offence group for the years 2013 to 2014 show that crime in Tendring has risen overall form 8,963 to 9,162 (2.2%). The number of domestic burglaries, recorded as a total number, was down from 586 to 541 (-7.6%). The crude crime rate per 1000 population was 65.

The community has access to a wide range of Council-run services including three leisure centres with swimming pools, sports centres, recreation grounds, country parks and the Princes Theatre, with an 820 seat auditorium which hosts local events as well as attracting national and international entertainers.

The Council also provides Careline, a subscription based service, which provides support to elderly, infirm or disabled clients, or people of any age living alone, who want to live independently in their own homes. Through a system of alarm buttons and sensors clients have access to 24/7 support, advice and assistance. The Council and the Careline Service have signed a service agreement with the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service to support the residents of the District. During Careline assessment appointments residents will be asked if they want a home visit from the Fire Service and, during Home Safety Visits, the Fire Service will enquire whether residents wish to be referred to Careline.

**Ecological Characteristics**

The District has large areas of unspoilt open countryside and a wealth of attractive natural and historic landscapes including areas of importance to nature conservation, particularly around its coast and estuaries. It also contains many buildings of historic and architectural importance, many of which are found in Conservation Areas. These assets are key to the District’s attractiveness and its tourist economy but, at the same time, are sensitive to the development pressures stemming from new jobs and homes needed to meet local demands and address the social and economic issues facing the district.

The District has a rich geodiversity which is varied and largely irreplaceable. There are 10 sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) in the District, notified specifically for their geological value. SSSI status, designated by Natural England, gives legal protection to sites in England of special interest, due to their wildlife and geology, under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended 1985). SSSI status enables Natural England to oversee the conservation and enhancement of these sites and ensure that damage is not being caused by neglect or poor management. The geologically important SSSIs in Tendring are: Ardleigh Gravel Pit, Clacton Cliffs and Foreshore, Harwich Foreshore, Holland on Sea Cliffs, Little Oakley Channel, Colne Point Shingle Spit, St Osyth Gravel Pit, St Osyth Marsh, Wrabness London Clay Cliffs and Foreshore and The Naze Cliffs.

The Naze at Walton, the most easterly peninsular in Essex, is a stunning and increasingly rare example of natural and wild coastline of geological and biological importance which benefits both visitors and wildlife alike. It is an important site for migrating and nesting birds including many rarities and the perfect place for an introduction to marine wildlife with harbour porpoises out to sea, grey seals in the backwaters and a whole host of species to be found on the beaches and in the mud pools. The 70 foot high cliffs, an internationally important Site of Special Scientific Interest, made up of London Clay, Red Crag and Thames sands contain many fossils, such as shark’s teeth, shells and wood, which can frequently be found on the beaches. The Naze is rich in history and is dominated by the iconic Naze Tower, built in 1720 by Trinity House to mark the premonitory to shipping approaching Harwich Harbour. The Tower is now open to the public during the summer months and provides a gallery for the display of works by local artists and craftspeople and boasts a 360 degree view of the surrounding land and seascapes from its viewing platform.

Tendring District Council, in partnership with Essex Wildlife Trust, The Naze Protection Society and The Naze Tower, has set up a £1.2 million Naze Heritage Project to protect and help secure the future of the Naze. In 2011 the first phase of the Naze Heritage Project ‘the Crag Walk’, a 110 metre long viewing platform, was completed. This provides protection from coastal erosion and a stable educational and public access viewing platform from which the public can view the geology of the cliffs. The second phase of the Project, the Naze Education and Visitor Centre, which will provide facilities for education, understanding of the natural environment and the ecological and historic importance of the Naze, is expected to be open to the public in the spring of 2016.

With over 60 Kilometres of coastline, the District contains a number of areas at high risk from tidal flooding and coastal erosion. The Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan (SMP), prepared in partnership between the Environment Agency, Essex County Council and District Councils, is a strategy for managing flooding and coastal erosion over the next 100 years, in three time periods of 0-20 years, 20-50 years and 50-100 years. The main aims of the SMP are to protect all dwellings and key infrastructure against flooding and erosion, to sustain the quality of the natural and historic environment and to allow natural shoreline evolution where possible to take place. The SMP sets out four strategies to support these aims:

* Hold the Line (HtL) – hold the existing line of defences by maintaining or increasing the standards of defences,
* Advance the Line (AtL) – Build new defences seaward of the existing defences,
* Managed Realignment (MR) – allowing or enabling the shoreline to move with associated management to control or limit the effect on land use and the environment, and;
* No Active Intervention (NAI) – no investment in coastal defences or operations.

The ‘Hold the Line’ strategy, maintaining the existing defence line, can be seen in the Coastal Protection Scheme between Clacton and Holland on Sea. In 2014 the Clacton to Holland on Sea Coastal Protection Scheme was implemented to provide protection to more than 3,000 homes and commercial premises which would be at serious risk from erosion by the sea during the next 100 years. The £36 million Scheme, funded by the Environment Agency in partnership with Tendring District Council and Essex County Council, covers an area of 5km of coastline from Clacton Pier to Holland Haven. The Scheme will see the installation of 23 fish-tail groynes to combat the effects of erosion and 950,000 cubic metres of sand and shingle beach recharge to replace the substantial amount of beach frontage lost in this area. The groynes will create 22 attractive new beaches in separate bays which can be enjoyed by both residents and visitors at all states of the tide and will encourage greater use of these beaches. Phase 1 of the Scheme was completed in January 2015 providing seven sandy bays, and Phase 2 is expected to be completed by the end of 2015.

The countryside in the District is one of its key assets both in terms of tourism and the living environment for our residents. The Council, working with the Essex Wildlife Trust, has identified over 100 Local Wildlife Sites (LoWS) in the Tendring District including meadowland, grasslands, churchyards and ancient woodlands. LoWS are areas of land with significant wildlife value which provide important wildlife refuges and a green infrastructure network and, although these sites are not protected by law, they are worthy of nature conservation and are protected by planning policy. During the Local Plan period, the Council will work with developers, the Essex Wildlife Trust and other partners to protect LoWS and to create new wildlife habitats as an integral part of new development and as stand-alone projects such as the recent tree planting scheme north of Elmstead Market.

In the north west of the District is the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), designated for conservation due to its significant landscape value. Made famous by the paintings of Constable and Gainsborough, its traditional grasslands, wildflower meadows and hedgerows provide an opportunity for both residents and visitors to enjoy the peace and beauty of what are among some of England’s most precious and vulnerable landscapes. The District is also home to the Stour, Orwell and Colne Estuaries and Hamford Water, SPA and RAMSAR sites, designated for the conservation and protection of the habitats of migratory and endangered birds, scarce plants and invertebrates and for the conservation of wetlands and are sites of national and international importance. The Council will work in partnership with adjoining authorities to ensure the management of these sites and their protection from development which would harm or otherwise fail to protect their sensitive character and natural beauty.

**Heritage Characteristics**

Our District has more than 960 Listed Buildings. Buildings can be listed for either their historic or architectural importance. The District also benefits from 27 Scheduled Monuments which include above and below ground features, 4 Historic Parks and Gardens and 9 Protected Lanes, preserved for their historic indication of ancient road patterns in the District. The District also contains 20 Conservation Areas.

The historic centres of Harwich, Manningtree, Mistley and St Osyth contain many impressive and unique historic buildings and monuments examples of which include the St Osyth Priory Gatehouse (Scheduled Monument, Grade 1 Listed building) an important example of a monastic building of the Augustinian order whose façade is one of the best preserved examples of knapped flint and stone flushwork to be found in East Anglia. The impressive 18th Century Mistley Towers (Scheduled Monument Grade 1 Listed building), the remains of a church designed by Robert Adam and The Harwich Redoubt (Scheduled Monument Grade ll\* Listed building) a circular fort which supported 10 gun embrasures, completed in 1810 to defend the harbour against invasion during the Napoleonic War. These are just a few examples of the heritage assets within the District. Within these historic centres there is a greater likelihood of archaeological remains due to their complex history and development of their communities over many centuries. These centres are sensitive to development in much the same way as is the ecology of an environmentally important area

The Council realises the importance of the conservation, management and enhancement of the historic environment and its integration into development within the District for the enjoyment of future generations.

**Socio-Environmental Characteristics**

In 2013/14 27% of all household waste was recycled, reused or composted and is slightly lower than that for 2011/12 and 2012/13 average which was 28%. This figure is quite low compared to that suggested by the Government’s Waste Policy Review which sets a target for recycling of 50% by 2020. The Council has promoted recycling by sending leaflets to households, providing recycling boxes for paper, card, plastic bottles and cans, and food waste caddies. The Council also supports the Tendring Reuse and Employment Enterprise and the Tendring CVS Scheme where surplus household items (furniture, electrical goods) can be donated and reused through the local community sector or supplied to those in need.

Tendring’s potable drinking water comes from Ardleigh Reservoir. The reservoir covers 120 acres and, as well as providing the District drinking water, is also used for recreational activities including sailing and fishing and is home to the University of Essex Rowing Club. National daily domestic per capita water consumption, according to the WWF, is 150 litres. Nationally, we are expected to reduce the per capita consumption of water to 130 litres (or less) by 2030. In 2010 amendments to the Building Regulations required that new dwellings do not exceed a per capita consumption of water of more than 125 litres per day.

Greenhouse gas emissions generated by Council operations have decreased in the years 2009-2012. In 2009/2010 the Council’s total Carbon Dioxide emission was 3,276 tonnes and in 2011/12 the total was 3,032 tonnes, whereas per capita emissions in the District have risen slightly from 5.4 tonnes in 2009 to 5.5 tonnes in 2012. The Council is committed to tackling climate change by reducing Carbon Dioxide emission both from Council operations and throughout the District. In 2010 the Council produced a Climate Change Strategy which outlined the predicted climate change risks to the District and the actions that can be taken to reduce these risks. The Strategy concentrates on the reduction of Carbon Dioxide emissions as this is the gas released in the largest quantities, has a long term effect in the atmosphere and is the greenhouse gas we have the most control over. The key aim of this Strategy is to engage with partners and the public to cut Carbon Dioxide emissions by reducing energy use, to make more efficient use of energy and to promote non fossil fuel technologies and alternatives to fossil fuels both in Council operations and within local communities. The Council will expect developers to demonstrate measures to be incorporated to maximise sustainability and energy efficiency in all new development.

Increase in development and use of renewable energy has seen the installation of both off and on-shore wind farms in the District. The Dong Energy Gunfleet Sands 48 turbine Off-shore Wind Farm has the capacity to provide approximately 100,000 homes with ‘clean electricity’ in the years to come making a considerable reduction in Carbon Dioxide emissions. The wind farm is maintained and operated from a base in Brightlingsea by locally recruited staff. The 5 turbine on-shore Wind Farm at Earls Hall has the capacity to generate ‘clean electricity’ for approximately 6,300 homes and will reduce Carbon Dioxide emissions by 15,000 tonnes per year. Approval has also been given for Solar Farms in Wix and Bradfield which together will have the capacity to generate ‘clean electricity’ for approximately 3,409 homes and reduce Carbon Dioxide emissions by 6,525 tonnes per year. Whilst the Council supports and encourages proposals for renewable energy installations it realises that turbines and solar arrays can be large structures which can potentially cause visual and/or noise impacts and will ensure that such installations are carefully located to mitigate the impact renewable energy infrastructure has on residents.

**Likely evolution without the Local Plan**

Planning law requires that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Local Plan’s provide certainty to those involved in the development of land. Without a Local Plan no real local policy would exist and could lead to ‘planning by appeal’, where, in effect, the Planning Inspectorate rather than the District Council would make planning decisions.

Local Plans must set the objectively assessed need for housing. Housing targets are no longer set at regional level and so without a Local Plan the Council will not be able to set and meet its objectively assessed housing need, in deed this is now the case.

Monitoring has shown that the number of affordable homes delivered has reduced in recent years, principally due to viability issues. Without a Local Plan that includes a requirement and target for affordable housing very limited numbers of affordable homes would be delivered. To ensure that affordable housing can continue to be delivered in the future the Council has proposed within its emerging Local Plan to reduce its affordable housing target from 40% to between 10 and 25%. This figure was determined through a District wide viability testing exercise.

With an adopted up-to-date Local Plan in place the Council has the mechanism to direct new development toward centres which include shops, transport links and other public services. This in itself reduces the reliance on the private motor car. Without a Local plan in place planning applications are judged on their own merits on a case-by-case basis. This does not bring about the above sustainable modes of transport and again, this is already beginning to be the case in our District.

Tendring District has a wealth of natural environments, which includes coastal sites notified at European and international level through to local wildlife sites, which provide habitats in the urban and rural areas. Whilst it is likely that the most important environmental sites would continue to be protected through international, Community and national law there is a risk that local wildlife sites, which do not have statutory protection, would be lost to development without a Local Plan protecting them.

As part of the emerging Local Plan the Council will be allocating a number of strategic large-scale housing sites which constitute urban extensions to some of our settlements. With proposed development of this scale comes a significant level of infrastructure. This can take the form of new education, healthcare and employment facilities as well as roads and other ancillary development. Various studies have demonstrated the high cost of providing such infrastructure. Without a Local Plan the Council would have no mechanism to require developers provide such infrastructure.

Within the adopted 2007 Local Plan very few sites were allocated for housing as at the time there was sufficient land available within urban settlements on previously developed or ‘brownfield’ sites. This situation has changes meaning that the Council now needs to look at undeveloped or ‘greenfield’ sites adjoining settlements. These greenfield sites require comparatively more infrastructure than brownfield sites and also have potential environmental constraints. Planning policies within the emerging Local Plan not only suggest the amount of infrastructure but also direct development away from the most sensitive areas of land within the District.

To conclude, the likely evolution without a Local Plan would be: planning by appeal, very limited numbers of new affordable homes, dispersed patterns of development that would increase the need to travel, failure to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change, loss of biodiversity, infrastructure shortfall, and adverse impacts on landscape character.

1. **Have we excluded any topics from the baseline information?**
2. **Are there any indicators missing from the Baseline Data table in Appendix 2?**
3. **Are there any other likely effects without the evolution of the Local Plan?**

**KEY SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES**

As part of the SA it is necessary to identify the key sustainability issues facing the area that the Local Plan should address. These issues have been identified through the collection and analysis of the baseline data, evidence.

**General Issues**

The projections show that the population will grow by more than 14% by the end of the Plan period. The number of house completions is also predicted to increase. This increase in population is the catalyst for a number of other sustainability issues within the District within the Plan period. These include additional pressure on public services such as education, health and transport. The additional housing will also promote environmental and climate change pressures. All these issues are detailed below.

As well as an overall increase in population over the Plan period, we can also expect to see an ageing population within the District. This will also increase pressure on health provision and the care industry.

**Economic Issues**

Whilst rail services have received significant upgrades in the recent years, the same cannot be said for the District’s bus network. With an increase in population, many of whom will be older people who may choose not to drive; the pressure on public transport (especially buses) will only increase. Moreover, with the relatively low number of people who work from home and the relatively high number of people who drive, the District is clearly a car-centric place to work. There is scope therefore for more sustainable modes of transport within the District. This can be helped by the planning system that can incentivise working from home, public transport and development located close to transport interchanges.

The international port at Bathside Bay has been given planning consent to expand during the Plan period. This is rather a ‘double edged sword’ in sustainability terms. On the one hand it has the potential to increase carbon dioxide emissions through the increased traffic generated and could well have environmental impacts within the SSSI and SPA. On the other hand there could be environmental benefits from the aspect of the development which supports the offshore wind industry and, increased employment provided by the development would boost the local economy and help reduce deprivation in the area.

Within Clacton the Council’s own study found that comparison retail floorspace was set to increase within the plan period. Should this be directed to the centre of Clacton rather than an out of town it will assist in the reduction of the use of the private motor car. Within other towns in the District it was found that convenience retail floorspace will be required throughout the Plan period. This will increase the vibrancy and vitality of these smaller towns and also increase tourism within the plan period. It is apparent that the level of internet shopping will increase during the Plan period. This is likely to have a significant impact on the traditional forms of retail and make-up of town centres.

At the time of writing, levels of deprivation in the District were relatively high, particularly when compared to regional and national figures. The development of affordable, well designed houses with associated jobs will help in this cause.

As the second highest employer in the District, the care industry is set to expand over the Plan period. The development Plan will need to incorporate the needs and aspirations of an ageing population in the District.

**Social Issues**

The provision of housing to meet local needs is a major issue in our District. Identifying the objectively assessed housing need is also an important issue.

Meeting the demand for affordable housing, including allocation of sites for gypsies and travellers, will also need to be considered and met within the Plan period. It will be increasingly important to match the population growth with economic growth within the District.

Essex County Council Education Authority state that the numbers of primary and secondary pupils will increase up to 2018. These increases are significant and will have knock-on impacts in terms of sustainability. These impacts include increased vehicle movements which increase carbon dioxide emissions, further pressure on health and the implicit pressure on the education system.

According to ONS figures crime in the District has risen in recent years by just over 2%. With an increasing population, it may be that this figure will continue to rise. Planning can play a big part in kerbing this increase through developments that design out crime.

**Ecological and Heritage Issues**

Maintaining and enhancing the natural and built environment of the District (including the historic and built heritage) is very important to the residents and communities of Tendring. The cost of maintaining our finite heritage is also a potential issue. All future developments will need to take account of current cultural and heritage assets as well as continuing to protect and enhance them. One key consideration will be the preservation of countryside areas and strategic green gaps between settlements.

Whilst many of the ecologically important sites have protection under national and international law, the same cannot be said for the locally designated sites. It will be an important issue for the Council to consider how significant new development will be on these sensitive sites throughout the Plan period.

Climate change is increasing the magnitude and frequency of intense rainfall events that cause flooding and the risk of flooding from the River Colne and Stour which are also heightened by increased winter precipitation. There is a risk of flooding from a number of sources: fluvial, tidal and pluvial. Tidal flood risk is concentrated along the coastal frontage including Harwich, Parkeston Jaywick and Brightlingsea, which are all low lying. Tidal flood sources are the most dominant in Tendring and tidal flooding can result from a storm surge, high spring tides or both events combined over defended and undefended land. This being said, the Council in partnership with other key stakeholders is tackling tidal flooding by the insertion of new flood defences between Holland-on-Sea and Clacton. The main pathway of fluvial flooding is from high river flows resulting in out of bank flows. Flood defences and control structures could potentially fail and actually increase flood risk. Pluvial flooding can occur as a result of severe storms, which create run-off volumes that temporarily exceed the natural or urbanised sewer and drainage capacities, creating flash flooding. This is likely to increase as a result of higher intensity rainfall, more frequent winter storms and increased urban development.

**Socio-Environmental Issues**

Climate change is leading to more frequent droughts with consequent reduced water availability which, added to the relatively high amount of water consumed by residents within the District, could lead to water shortages. In terms of greenhouse gas emissions, the Council has, in the past few years, reduced its carbon dioxide emissions. However, the per capita emissions in the District have increased slightly in the same period.

Large scale renewable energy schemes are an environmental and social issue. Many communities resist large scale renewable energy schemes due to concerns about landscape impact, noise and visual impact.

In the year 2013/14 households within the District recycled 27% of waste. This is on the way to the Government’s target of 50% by 2020.

1. **Are there any other sustainability issues facing our District that we have not identified?**

**SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK**

The SA framework consists of sustainability objectives and assessment criteria which provide a way of checking whether the proposed Local Plan and its objectives and options are the best possible ones in terms of sustainability and are used to assess the social, environmental and economic effects of a plan.

The SEA themes that each SA objective relates to have been listed in the final column to demonstrate that the SA Framework incorporates all of the SEA Directive’s themes.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Objectives** | **Assessment Criteria** | **Indicator** | **SEA Themes** |
| 1. To provide decent and affordable homes for all | Will it provide the homes needed to support the existing and growing population? | The number of net additional dwellings | Material Assets |
| Will it provide more affordable homes across the District? | Affordable housing completions |
| Will it deliver a mix of housing types to meet the diverse needs of the District? | % of residential completions that are two or three bedroom |
| Will it deliver well designed housing? | Achieving minimum space standards for all housing types |
| 1. To ensure that development is located sustainably and makes efficient use of land | Will it promote regeneration? | Losses of industrial land in key business and regeneration areas | Material Assets  Climatic Factors  Landscape |
| Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development delivered |
| Will it reduce the need for development on greenfield land? | % of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land |
| Will it provide good accessibility by a range of modes of transport? | % of new development within 30 minutes of community facilities |
| Will densities make efficient use of land? | Amount of development > 30 dwellings per hectare |
| 1. Harness the District’s economic strengths | Will it improve the delivery of a range of employment opportunities to support the growing population? | Amount of floorspace developed for employment | Material Assets  Population  Cultural Heritage |
| Will it contribute to the Cultural, Visitor and Tourism sector? | Money the sector brings to the local economy |
|  | % of jobs related to this sector |
| Will it enhance the vitality and viability of town centres? | Total amount of floorspace generated for town centre uses |
| Will it sustain the rural economy? | Location of new residential and employment development |
| 1. Minimise transport growth whilst capturing the economic benefits of international gateways | Will it reduce the need to travel? | % of new dwellings within 30 minutes public transport time of local services | Population Climatic Factors Air  Human Health |
| Will sustainable modes of transport increase? | % of journeys to work by private car |
| % of journeys to work by public transport, walking and cycling |
| Will it promote development of the ports? | Number of applications permitted for non-port related development within the port designated areas |
| 1. To build stronger more resilient sustainable communities with better education and social outcomes | Will it provide access to education, recreation and community facilities? | Provision of social infrastructure and services on allocated sites | Population  Human Health Landscape |
|  | contributions received towards community facilities |
| Will existing open spaces be protected and new open space be created? | Open space provision ha/1000 population |
| Contributions received towards open space provision |
| Will levels of educational attainment improve? | % of total working age population educated to Level4 and above |
| % of total working age population with no qualifications |
| Will it reduce actual crime and the fear of crime? | Number of offences per 100,000 population |
| 1. Protect and enhance natural, historic and environmental assets | Will listed buildings and sites of potential archaeological importance be protected or enhanced? | Number of listed buildings at risk | Cultural Heritage Landscape Biodiversity Geodiversity Flora, Fauna |
|  | Archaeological evaluation undertaken prior to development |
| Will conservation areas be protected or enhanced? | Number of Conservation Areas |
| Does it provide areas of accessible green space to allow the dispersal of species? | Provision of suitable accessible natural greenspace identified through appropriate assessments |
| Will it protect or enhance designated areas of the countryside and coastal environment? | Amount of development affecting designated areas |
| Number of SSSIs in favourable condition |
| Will it protect Greenfield land? | % of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land |
| 1. Reduce contributions to climate change | Will it reduce greenhouse gas emissions? | % reduction in Carbon Dioxide emissions | Climatic Factors Human Health Soil, Air, Water |
| Will sustainable design and construction techniques be employed? | % of new dwellings built to at least level 3 of the Code for Sustainable Homes |
| Will it lead to an increased proportion of energy needs being met from renewable resources? | Renewable energy capacity installed by type |
| Will it reduce pollution? | Number of Air Quality Management areas |
| Number of Blue Flags and Quality Coast Awards |
| Number of potentially contaminated sites |
| 1. To conserve and enhance natural resources and reduce climate change impacts | Will water quality be maintained or improved? | Percentage length of estuary quality classed as Good | Human Health Water, Soil Waste Biodiversity |
| Will it reduce the risk of flooding? | Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood defence grounds or water quality |
| Does it minimise waste and increase rates of reuse and recycling? | % of household waste recycled |
| Will it deliver SuDS and improve drainage? | Number of SuDS schemes approved |

Whilst the SA of the Local Plan is a chance to start from the beginning and review all previous SA work undertaken there is no merit in ignoring previous SA work that is still relevant. Accordingly the SA framework from the Council's previous SA work has been used as a starting point.

The objectives and assessment criteria have been amended to take into account comments from the evidence base; the review of relevant policies, plans and programmes; and past SA experience. The indicators have been amended to reflect the indicators monitored as part of the AMR. This will ensure that the SA can be annually monitored over the lifetime of the plan.

1. **Are the sustainability issues adequately reflected in the SA Framework?**
2. **Will the sustainability objectives and assessment criteria ensure that the sustainability of our plan options are robustly tested and is the wording of the objectives optimal for appraisal purposes?**
3. **If not what changes should be made to the Framework?**
4. **Are there any monitoring indicators that should be added?**

**NEXT STEPS**

In accordance with Regulation 12(5) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programme Regulations (2004), when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information that must be included in an environmental report, the Council as responsible authority must consult Natural England, the Environment Agency and English Heritage for a 5 week period. We would also like to invite other stakeholders to comment on this Scoping Report.

The closing date for the public consultation is 31st July 2015. All comments received will be carefully considered and where necessary amendments will be made. Questions are included throughout this report as a focus for consultation, and are set out below.

1. **Have we excluded any topics from the baseline information?**
2. **Are there any indicators missing from the Baseline Data table in Appendix 2?**
3. **Are there any other likely effects without the evolution of the Local Plan?**
4. **Are there any other sustainability issues facing our District that we have not identified?**
5. **Are the sustainability issues adequately reflected in the SA Framework?**
6. **Will the sustainability objectives and assessment criteria ensure that the sustainability of our plan options are robustly tested and is the wording of the objectives optimal for appraisal purposes?**
7. **If not what changes should be made to the Framework?**
8. **Are there any monitoring indicators that should be added?**

Once scoping is finalised and the Sustainability Framework is set work will begin on appraising options. Building on the partnership approach which commenced with the scoping workshop, stakeholders from a number of specialisms, covering a range of SEA topics, will be invited to assist in the appraisal of options. This will help to ensure that the appraisal is based on expert opinion.

**APPENDIX A: REVIEW OF RELEVANT PLANS AND PROGRAMMES AND SUSTAINABLE OBJECTIVES**

**International**

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| SEA Theme | Document title, author & date | Summary | Relevant aims, objectives, targets, priorities for the Local Plan & SA |
| All | Review of the European Sustainable Development Strategy, European Commission, 2009 | The Commission adopted the review of the EU Strategy for Sustainable Development in 2009 and has mainstreamed the objective of sustainable development into a broad range of its policies. The EU has taken the lead in the fight against climate change and the promotion of a low-carbon, resource efficient economy. In many areas unsustainable trends still persist and efforts to reverse these trends need to be intensified. The review takes stock of EU policy measures in the areas covered by the EU SDS and launches a reflection on the future of the EU SDS and its relation to the Lisbon strategy.  The Commission defined sustainable development as: meeting the needs of present generations without jeopardizing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs – in other words, a better quality of life for everyone, now and for generations to come. | The European Council in December 2009 confirmed that “Sustainable development remains a fundamental objective of the European Union under the Lisbon treaty. As emphasised in the Presidency’s report on the 2009 review of the Union’s Sustainable Development Strategy, the strategy will continue to provide a long term vision and constitute the overarching policy framework for all Union policies and strategies. A Number of unsustainable trends require urgent action. Significant additional efforts are needed to:   * curb and adapt to climate change * decrease high energy consumption in the transport sector * reverse the current loss of biodiversity and natural resources. |
| Biodiversity, flora, fauna, soil, water | EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, European Commission, 2012 | The European Biodiversity Strategy 2020 is an ambitious strategy to halt the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the EU by 2020. The strategy stresses the need to integrate biodiversity concerns into all EU and national sectoral policies, in order to reverse the continuing trends of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation.  There are six main targets and 20 actions to help Europe reach its goal. | The six main targets cover:   * Full implementation of EU nature legislation to protect biodiversity * Better protection for ecosystems and more use of green infrastructure * More sustainable agriculture and forestry * Better management of fish stocks * A bigger EU contribution to averting global diversity loss. |
| All | Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice (2003) | This document outlines the European Commission Action Programme for the environment and outlines the four environmental priorities and the actions that can be taken to address them.  The document states in short that we need to aim for a society where waste can be recycled or disposed of safely, air pollution and the use of pesticides is greatly reduced and the natural environment is protected.  The following are the four areas identified for action:  Tackle climate change  Protect nature and wildlife  Address environmental and health issues  Preserve natural resources and manage waste | Tackling Climate Change objectives:  In the short to medium term we aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions  by 8% compared with 1990 levels by 2008-12 (as agreed at Kyoto);  In the longer term we need to reduce global emissions even further by approximately 20-40% on 1990 levels by 2020;  For the first time the Programme recognises the need to tackle the long term goal of a 70% reduction in emissions set by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  Protecting Nature and Wildlife objectives:  Protect and where necessary restore the structure and functioning of natural systems;  Protect our most valuable habitats through extending the Community’s Natura 2000 programme;  Put in place action plans to protect biodiversity;  Develop a strategy to protect the marine environment;  Extend national and regional programmes to further promote sustainable forest management;  Introduce measures to protect and restore landscapes;  Develop a strategy for soil protection;  Co-ordinate Member States’ efforts in handling accidents and natural disasters. |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Address Environment and Health issues:  Improve our understanding of the link between environmental pollution and human health through better research;  Look at health standards to account for the most vulnerable groups in society;  Reduce the risks from the use of pesticides;  Develop new strategy on air pollution;  Reform our system for controlling the risk from chemicals.  Preserve Natural Resources and Manage Waste:  Identify hazardous substances and make producers responsible for collecting, treating and recycling their waste products;  Encourage consumers to select products and services that create less waste;  Promote markets for recycled materials;  Develop and promote a European Union-wide strategy on waste recycling,  with targets and monitoring to compare progress by Member States;  Develop specific actions, under an Integrated Product Policy approach, to promote the greening of products and processes. One example is the promotion of intelligent product design that reduces the environmental impacts of products from their conception to the end of their useful life.  . |
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**National**

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| SEA Theme |  |  |  |
| Climatic factors | Adapting to Climate Change: Ensuring Progress in Key Sectors, Defra, 2013 | This strategy highlights how the climate is changing which likely to impact on everyone in some way during their lifetime. The strategy states that there have always been natural fluctuations in climate, but the current rates of change are far greater than those experienced in recent history. The strategy suggests that all organisations can benefit from considering the risks to their operations and assets for climate change and consider the actions necessary to adapt and that adaptation (changing behaviour) should be built into planning and risk management. The strategy confirms that ‘persons or bodies with a function of a public nature’ and ‘statutory authorities’ (reporting authorities) should be taking appropriate action to adapt to the future impacts of climate change. | Adaptation (changing behaviour) should be built into planning and risk management. |
| All | National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), DCLG, 2012 | The NPPF was published on 12 March 2012 and replaces almost all of the previous national planning policy included in Planning Policy Statements and circulars. A copy of the NPPF can be viewed through the link below.  <http://democracy.tendringdc.gov.uk/akstendring/images/att2021.pdf> | The 12 core planning principles of the NPPF are summarised below:   * Be genuinely plan led * Not simply be about scrutiny * Proactively drive and support sustainable economic development * Always seek to secure high quality design * Take account of the different roles and character of different areas * Support the transition to a low carbon future * Contribute to conserving and enhancing the natural environment * Encourage the effective use of land * Promote mixed use developments * Conserve heritage assets * Actively manage patterns of growth * Support local strategies to improve health |
| All | National Planning Practice Guidance, DCLG, 2014 | Planning Practice Guidance was published by the DCLG in March 2014. The guidance cover a wide range of issues and cannot be summarised here therefore a link to the guidance is included below.  <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/> | NPPF core planning principles, above, are relevant. |
| Climatic factors | National Energy Policy Statement EN1, DECC, 2011 | This statement sets out the Governments’ overarching policy for the delivery of major energy infrastructure. It sets out the need for a reduction in carbon emissions and the role and potential impacts of various types of low carbon/renewable energy. The statement includes the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) decision making process. | Legally binding target to cut greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% by 2050, compared to 1990 levels. |
| All | Neighbourhood Planning, DCLG, 2012 | This document provides a brief summary of neighbourhood planning including the five key stages: defining the neighbourhood, preparing the plan, independent check, community referendum and legal force. | Although this document does not contain any aims, objectives, targets or priorities it is important that the Local Plan and Sustainability Appraisal recognise the key role of neighbourhood planning. |
| Biodiversity Flora, Fauna | UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework, JNCC/Defra, 2012 | This framework sets out the common purpose and shared priorities to address the challenges of biodiversity loss. The Framework states that in 2010, globally, we fell short of the target to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss, but it was an Important driver for conservation action, including in the UK where we saw improvements in the populations of widespread bats and breeding woodland birds, in the condition of protected sites and in the area of land managed under environmental schemes. | In Nagoya, Japan, in Autumn 2010 the 192 parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity renewed their commitment to take action to halt the alarming global declines of biodiversity and to ensure that by 2020 our natural environment is resilient and can continue to provide the ecosystem services that are essential for life.  Vision: By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering essential benefits for all people.  Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society.  Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use.  Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity.  Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystems.  Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building. |
| All | Mainstreaming Sustainable Development – the Government’s vision and what this means in practice, Defra, 2011 | This document sets out the coalition government’s vision of and commitment to sustainable development, which means making the necessary decisions to realise the vision of stimulating economic growth, tackling the deficit, maximising wellbeing and protecting our environment, without negatively impacting on the ability of future generations to do the same. The vision builds on the principles that underpinned the 2005 SD strategy and states that the Government’s commitment to sustainable growth, economically and environmentally. | Sustainability is recognised as a core strategic priority. |
| Population | Planning Policy for traveller sites, DCLG, March 2012 | This documents sets out the Government’s planning policy for traveller sites. | The government’s 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.  The Government’s aims in respect of traveller sites are:   * That local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning * To ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through identification of land for sites * To encourage local planning authorities to plan for site over a reasonable timescale * That plan-making and decision-taking should protect Green Belt from inappropriate development * To promote more private traveller site provision while recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites * That plan- making and decision-taking should aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective for local planning authorities to ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies * To increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply * To reduce tensions between settled traveller communities in plan-making and planning decisions * To enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure * For the local planning authorities to have due regard to the protection pf local amenity and local environment |

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| Cultural  Heritage | PPS5 Planning for the historic environment practice guide, DCLG, March 2010 | Although the NPPF supersedes Policy PPS5 this Practice guide remains a Government endorsed document which is relevant and useful in the application of the NPPF.  This practice guide sets out the Government’s objectives for the conservation of the historic environment. The guide recognises the unique place the historic environment holds in England’s cultural heritage and the multiple ways it supports and contributes to the economy, society and daily life. It explains that the historic environment provides a tangible link with our past, contributes to our sense of national, local and community identity and through all this enhances the quality of our daily lives. | The aims are:  That the value of the historic environment is recognised by all who have the power to shape it; that the government gives it proper recognition and that it is managed intelligently and in a way that fully realises its contribution to the economic, social and cultural life of the nation (The Government’s statement on the Historic Environment for England 2010) |
| Water | Flood and Water Management Act 2010 | The Act aims to create a simpler and more effective means of managing flood risk and erosion, help improve the sustainability of our water resources and protect against potential drought. The Act builds on the recommendations of the Pitt Review into the 2007 floods and places new responsibilities on the Environment Agency, local authorities and property developers (amongst others) to manage the risk of flooding. | The basic aims of the Act are:   * The Environment Agency is responsible for developing and applying a national flood risk management strategy. * Local authorities are required to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management in their areas. These local strategies must include the risk of flooding from surface water, water courses and ground water. * The Act introduces the requirement for developers of property to construct sustainable drainage systems. |
| Soil | Safeguarding our Soils, Defra 2009 | This document sets out Defra’s vision and strategy for management of the country’s soils. The document states that some degree of soil sealing is unavoidable during development, but that poor construction practices can lead to further soil degradation and contamination. Soils can be compacted during construction through machinery use and are at risk of erosion from rain and wind. Compacted soils in urban areas can increase the risk if run off and surface water flooding. Soils can become contaminated with building waste and this contamination can mean that soils cannot be re-used on site and have to be disposed of. | * Ensure soil ecosystem services are fully valued in the planning system * Ensure the appropriate consideration is given to the protection of good quality agricultural soils from development * Encourage better management of soils through all stages of construction |
| Material Assets | Community Infrastructure Levy Guidance, DCLG, April 2013 | This document sets out national guidance for the implementation of CIL. Section 206 of the Planning Act 2008 (The Act) confers the power to charge the Community Infrastructure Levy on certain bodies known as charging authorities. The charging authority’s responsibilities, if they decide to levy the Community Infrastructure Levy, will be to:   * Prepare and publish a document known as the ‘charging schedule’ which will set out the rates of Community Infrastructure Levy which will apply to the authority’s area. This will involve consultation and independent examination. * Apply the levy revenue it received to funding the provision of improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure to support the development of its area, and; * Report to the local community on the amount of levy revenue collected, spent and retained each year. | The Government expects that charging authorities will implement the levy where their ‘appropriate evidence’ includes an up-to-date relevant Plan for the area in which they propose to charge. |
| Biodiversity fauna, flora, water, climatic factors | UK Marine Policy Statement, HM Government, March 2011 | This Marine Policy Statement (MPS) is the framework for preparing Marine Plans and taking decisions affecting the marine environment. It will contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom marine area. It has been prepared and adopted for the purposes of section 44 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.  The process of marine planning will:   * Achieve integration between different objectives; * Recognise that the demand for use of our seas and the resulting pressure on them will continue to increase; * Manage competing demands on the marine area, taking an ecosystem-based approach; * Enable the co-existence of compatible activities wherever possible; and * Integrate with terrestrial planning. | The MPS will facilitate and support the formulation of Marine Plans, ensuring that marine resources are used in a sustainable way in line with the high level marine objectives and thereby:   * Promote sustainable economic development; * Enable the UK’s move towards a low-carbon economy, in order to mitigate the causes of climate change and ocean acidification and adapt to their effects; * Ensure a sustainable marine environment which promotes healthy, functioning marine ecosystems and protects marine habitats, species and our heritage assets; and * Contribute to the societal benefits of the marine area, including the sustainable use of marine resources to address local and social economic issues. |

**Regional**

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| **SEA Theme** | **Document, title, author, date** | **Summary** | **Relevant aims, objectives, targets, priorities for the Local Plan & SA** |
| Water | Anglian Water Business Plan 2015-2020, December 2012 | This document summarises the Anglian Water business plan for 2015-2020 and beyond. The Plan explains customer’s expectations for the provision of a safe, clean and reliable water supply, affordable bills, reduction in leakage levels and assuring that future water supplies meet the demand of increased housing growth.  Over the plan period Anglian Water will spend £4.746m to maintain safe, clean water supplies, address the challenge of population growth and changing weather patterns whilst holding the increase in average household bills to at least 1.8% p.a. below inflation. | Promote water efficiency.  To halve the embodied carbon in new assets they build by 2015, from a 2010 baseline. |
| Water | Draft Water Resources Management Plan 2015-2040, Anglian Water, 2014 | This management plan sets out how Anglian Water are going to maintain the balance between supply and demand over the next 25 years., as well as deal with the longer term challenge of population increase, climate change and growing environmental needs. Over the next 25 years, Anglian Water’s supply-demand balance is at risk from growth, climate change and the reductions in deployable output that they will make to restore abstraction to sustainable levels. In the worst case, the impact could approach 567 Ml/d, equivalent to approximately 50% of the water they put into supply in 2012/13. They also have to manage the risks from drought, deteriorating raw water quality and the impact of cold, dry weather on their distribution system and customer supply pipes. | Anglian Water’s aim is to ensure the needs of customers and the environment are met by maintaining a flexible, adaptive plan of sustainable and affordable water resource management. |
| Water | Haven Gateway Water Cycle Study: Stage 1 Report, Royal Haskoning on behalf of the Haven Gateway Partnership | This study was commissioned to ensure that water supply, water quality, sewerage and flood risk management issues can be properly addressed to enable the substantial growth proposed in the East of England Plan (EEP) to 2021 to be accommodated in a sustainable way. The study covers wastewater collection and treatment; water resources and supply; water quality and environmental issues; flood risk management; and demand management. | The objectives are to ensure that:   * Adequate water supply and waste water infrastructure is in place to support housing and employment growth planned for Haven Gateway Sub Region (HGSR) to 2021 in the emerging East of England Plan and the HG Programme of Development Framework for Growth. * Any additional infrastructure is provided in accordance with a strategic rather than a piecemeal approach. * There is a strategic approach to the management and use of water. * The environment has sufficient capacity to receive increased waste water discharges. * The potential for grey water reuse and implementation of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) is fully realised. |
| Water | Anglian River Basin Management Plan, Environment Agency, 2009 | This management plan is about the pressures facing the water environment in this river basin district, and the actions that will address them. It has been prepared in consultation with a wide range of organisations and individuals and is the first in a series of six- year planning cycles. The plan focusses on the protection, improvement and sustainable use of the water environment. | * By 2015, 16 per cent of surface waters (rivers, lakes, estuaries and coastal waters) in this river basin district are going to improve for at least one biological, chemical or physical element. * By 2015 19 per cent of surface waters will be at good ecological status/potential and 45 per cent of groundwater bodies will be at a good status. * At least 30 per cent of assessed surface waters will be at a good or better biological status by 2015. |
| Material Assets | Haven Gateway Programme of development: A Framework for Growth 2008-2017, Haven Gateway Partnership, 2007 | This joined up framework is a project management tool to guide the local delivery of an increased supply of housing and economic development, is a means of articulating key infrastructure needs to support this growth and forms a basis for growth funding from government. | The aims are:   * To promote the development of the Haven Gateway as a New Growth Point. * To demonstrate how port expansion and other employment growth can be integrated with housing growth within the unique estuarine setting of the Gateway. * To facilitate the delivery of housing and employment growth and infrastructure investment proposed in the EEP and the Regional Economic Strategy. * To establish a basis for support from central government and other agencies and a mechanism for prioritising bids for investment within the Have Gateway New Growth point. |
| Material Assets | Haven Gateway Integrated Development Programme, Haven Gateway Partnership, December 2008 | This document provides a single delivery plan for capital-led investment which will allow for appropriately phased development in the period to 12021 and, indicatively, beyond. | Vision for the Haven Gateway:  A high quality environment for its residents, workers and visitors by capitalising on its location as a key gateway, realising its potential for significant sustainable growth, addressing its needs for economic regeneration, creating an additional focus for growth of high-tech, knowledge based employment and protecting and enhancing its high quality, attractive natural assets. |
| Material Assets | South East LEP Growth Deal and Strategic Economic Plan, March 2014 | This plan outlines the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) ambition to spearhead, with Government, a massive £10 billion investment programme into East Sussex, Essex, Kent, Medway, Southend and Thurrock over the next 6 Years to generate 200,000 private sector jobs and finance 100,000 new homes.  The proposal is about the renewal of the physical and intellectual capital of our area. Alongside the upgrade of our roads, railways, harbours and homes, we put forward plans to raise educational and skills attainment to develop a workforce poised to grasp the new business and high-kevel job opportunities presented by our growth sectors and industries. | By 2021, the aim is to:   * Generate 200,000 private sector jobs an average of 20,000 a year or an increase of 11.4% since 2011; * Complete 100,000 new homes, increasing the annual rate of completions by over 50% compared to recent years; and * Lever investment totalling £10 billion, to accelerate growth, jobs and homebuilding. |

**County**

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| **SEA Theme** | **Document title, author & date** | **Summary** | **Relevant aims, objectives, targets, priorities for the Local Plan & SA** |
| Landscape, Biodiversity, Flora, Fauna | Living Landscapes, Essex Wildlife Trust | Due to the threats to wildlife from climate change and development, the Trust is looking to move outwards from nature reserves and conserve wildlife over a much large area. The Trusts Living Landscapes vision is to restore, recreate and reconnect wildlife habitats so that the species living within them can move through the landscape more easily and continue to thrive long into the future. It realises that open green spaces are of great benefit to the health and wellbeing of the population. More than 80 Living Landscapes have been identified in the county of Essex. | * Restore, recreate and rebuild Living Landscapes. * Reconnect people to nature. * Provide a network of wildlife corridors and green spaces that can be enjoyed by all. |
| Water | Combined Essex Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy, Environment Agency, 2013 | Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS) set out how the Environment Agency will manage the water resources of a catchment and contribute to implementing the Water Framework Directive (WFD). The objectives of the Directive include prevention of deterioration of the status of water bodies and protecting, enhancing or restoring all water bodies with the aim to achieving good status. | The Water Framework Directive’s main objectives are to protect and enhance the water environment and ensure the sustainable use of water resources for social and economic development. Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS) set out how the EA will manage the water resources of a catchment and contribute to implementing the WFD. |
| Material assets, Landscape Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna, Cultural Heritage | Essex Design Guide, Essex Planning Officers Association, 2005 | This guide is an update to the Essex Design Guide for Residential Areas, published in 1973 and updated in 1997. The 1973 guide was produced as a response to concern about the appearance of new housing areas at the time and was designed to encourage best practice in the design and layout of residential development, the standards of which were refined in the 1997 version. This document (2005) is intended to help those responsible for producing the built environment understand that housing development should have a sense pf place, be legible, pedestrian friendly and sustainable to create successful living environments. | The objectives are:  A site appraisal is required for all sites.  Any residential development larger than 500 dwellings must provide an element of mixed use development.  Sustainability issues must be addressed.  The layout and structure of the development must be legible and permeable.  There is a need for continuity of built frontage in developments over 20 dwellings per hectare.  Schemes must be designed with crime prevention in mind.  Car free residential development should be promoted. |
| Water | North Essex Catchment Flood Risk management Plan, Environment Agency, 2009 | This Plan gives an overview of the flood risk in the North Essex CFMP area and sets out the EA’s preferred plan for flood risk management over the next 50 to 100 years.  It identifies flood risk management policies to assist decision makers in the catchment.  There is a section on Clacton-on-Sea and Harwich in the Plan which identifies 95 properties, a small amount of mainly grade three agricultural land and one railway station are at risk form the 1% annual probability of river flood. The probability of river flood in Harwich has been reduced through upstream flood storage and through the Harwich pumping station. | Aims:   * Working with local authorities to influence the location, layout and design of development and re-development to reduce the risk of flooding. * Promote resilience and resistance measures for those properties already in the flood plain. * Maintenance of road drainage and sewer systems. * Maintaining and improving existing floor defences and structures. |
| Water | Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan (second phase), Environment Agency, 2011 | The Shoreline Management Plan is a high-level policy document aimed at managing the shoreline, its flood and erosion defences and the effects of shoreline management on land use and the environment for the next 100 years. | The Key aims are:   * To reduce the threat of flooding and erosion to people and their property. * To benefit the environment, society and the economy as far as possible in line with the Government’s ‘sustainable development principles’. |
| Landscape | Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley Management Plan 2010-2015, Dedham Vale AONB & Stour Valley Project | This plan sets out guidelines to co-ordinate the management of the area to protect and enhance its natural beauty. This management plan runs form 2010-2015 (a plan to over the period 2016-2020 is being prepared). The plan includes a delivery plan to enhance the qualities of the area. The production of this management plan meets the statutory duty placed on the local authorities under the Countryside and rights of Way Act 2000 to produce such a plan for local authorities that have part of their administrative area designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. | It is the aim of this plan that by 2025 the Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley is recognised as a distinctive working landscape (one that maintains a viable agricultural production as its core function), and retains its special character. This character should be understood and appreciated by those that choose to live in, work and visit the area. |
| Material Assets | Commissioning School Places in Essex 2013/18, Essex County Council, April 2014 | This document sets out the requirement for places in maintained primary and secondary schools in Essex until 2018. The document, updated annually, provides details of the current organisation of school places and gives forecasts for future pupil numbers and the considerations that need to be made when commissioning future school places to ensure supply will match demand. | Achieve a balance between the number of places available and the number of pupils for whom they are required. |
| Material Assets | Developer’s Guide to Infrastructure Contributions 2010 Edition, Essex County Council, 2010 | This document details the scope and range of the financial contributions towards infrastructure which Essex County Council may seek from developers, through section 106 agreements, in order to make development acceptable in planning terms. A formulaic approach has been used for County Services wherever possible.  Contributions will be sought towards the following infrastructure:   * early years & childcare * the schools service * community services * libraries * adult learning * youth services * archives * adult social care * highways and transportation * waste management * green infrastructure * public art | The Developer’s Guide is an integral component of ECC’s overall vision for Essex called Essex Works, seeking the best quality of life in Britain. |
| Material Assets | Education Contribution Guidelines Supplement, Essex County Council | The Education Contribution Guidelines Supplement is a companion document to the Essex County Council Developer’s Guide to Infrastructure Contributions and contains additional information regarding educational contributions  Monies and/or land may be sought toward providing facilities for childcare, early years, primary school, secondary school and post-sixteen provision. Works in lieu of contribution may be accepted in some circumstances, subject to EU Procurement regulations. Developments may also be required to contribute towards school transport and the provision of safe routes to schools.  Housing developments including a net increase of ten or more dwellings may be expected to contribute. Commercial developments likely to employ twenty five or more people may also be expected to contribute towards early years and childcare provision. | Rough levels of contribution that can be expected:  Based on April 2009 costs the ‘worst case scenario’ is £8,823 per house and £4,411 per flat. For early years & childcare contributions towards commercial development the figure is £548 per employee. |
| All | Vision for Essex 2013-2017: Where Innovation Brings Prosperity, Essex County Council | This document sets out a new vision for Essex articulating ECCs commitment to the county, the principles that will guide ECCs work and the priorities in which ECCs work will be routed. | Essex County Council’s Vision: We want Essex to be a county where innovation brings prosperity.  The challenges ahead strengthen the resolve to:   * Increase educational achievement and enhance skills; * Develop and maintain the infrastructure that enables residents to travel and businesses to grow; * Support employment and entrepreneurship across our economy; * Improve public health and wellbeing across Essex; * Safeguard vulnerable people of all ages; * Keep communities safe and build community resilience; and * Respect Essex’s environment. |
| All | Corporate Outcomes Framework 2014-2018 Essex County Council, February 2014 | Essex County Council’s Corporate Outcomes Framework – outlined in their Vision For Essex - translates their Cabinet’s political ambitions into a set of outcomes and supporting indicators that can guide the work of commissioners across the ECC.  The ‘Whole Essex’ outcomes set out what the ECC want to achieve for Essex as a whole and how progress will be monitored. It will be for the ECC’s elected members and Commissioners to determine how best to secure this progress. | Essex County Council has set out their Vision for Essex – a vision of a county where innovation brings prosperity.  7 Outcomes:   * Children in Essex get the best start in life. * People in Essex enjoy good health and wellbeing * People have aspirations and achieve their ambitions through education, training and life-long learning * People in Essex live in safe communities and are protected from harm * Sustainable economic growth for Essex communities and businesses * People in Essex experience a high quality and sustainable environment * People in Essex can live independently and exercise control over their lives |
| Waste | Essex and Southend Waste Local Plan, Essex County Council, 2001 | The Essex and Southend Waste Local Plan sets out the policies and proposals for waste management in accordance with the Government’s principles of sustainability. Six key waste management sites are identified and the plan outlines how planning applications for waste management facilities are considered. | Objective:  Consistent with the aims of sustainable development to achieve a balance between:  Minimising waste by recycling/composting and other means;  Making adequate provision of necessary waste management facilities; and  Safeguarding the environment of Essex and the quality of life of its residents. |
| Waste | Essex and Southend Waste Replacement Local Plan, Essex County Council, adoption expected 2015 | The Replacement Waste Local Plan sets out the vision, strategy and policies for waste management in Essex and Southend until 2032. As well as locations for the provision of waste management sites it also sets out the key development management policies against which waste planning applications will be considered. The Plan includes:  The Waste Core Strategy, setting out the long-term direction for waste development and the plan to deliver this strategy  Development Management Policies for waste planning particularly when considering applications  Strategic Site Allocations for waste-related development  Non-strategic Site Allocations for other preferred sites for waste processing plus any associated safeguarding  The Policies(previously Proposals) Map  The Preferred Approach Document (for consultation Jan-Feb 2015) sets out the proposed vision and strategy and objectives for waste management in Essex and Southend. | Preferred Approach Strategic Objectives:  SO1: To work with partner organisations to maximise waste prevention.  SO2: To increase quantity as well as the quality of waste that is re- used, recycled and recovered to meet our local targets.  SO3: to achieve net self-sufficiency by 2031 and a substantial reduction on the disposal of London’s waste.  SO4: To safeguard and encourage the enhancement of existing strategic waste facilities.  SO5: To allocate suitable sites to meet the capacity gap by additional transfer stations, construction and demolition and recycling, composting, treatment facilities and landfill.  SO6: To reduce carbon emissions by energy recovery and utilisation and by reducing transport distances.  SO7: To maximise opportunities for sustainable economic growth by using waste as a resource for local industry and as a source of energy.  SO8:  To ensure new waste facilities are sustainably designed and well operated to reduce potential adverse effects. |
| Soil | Essex Minerals Local Plan, Adopted July 2014 | The strategic priorities of the Plan, to 2029, are to deliver a vision and agreed objectives for the County of Essex and have been prepared to support and encourage sustainable development. They provide the essential framework to ensure the right amount of minerals development takes place in appropriate locations, and at the right time, whilst respecting the constraints and maximising the opportunities provided by our unique environment. To this end, the Plan identifies Preferred and Reserved Sites for future development. The strategy provides an investment, delivery and decision making framework for the minerals industry, Partner local authorities, public bodies and other interested stakeholders. | Aims & Strategic Objectives:   * To promote sustainable development * To promote reduction in greenhouse gas emissions including carbon and to ensure new development is adaptable to changes in climatic conditions. * To promote social inclusion, human health and wellbeing. * To promote the efficient use of minerals by using them in a sustainable manner and reducing the need for primary mineral extraction. * To protect and safeguard existing mineral reserves, existing permitted mineral sites and Preferred and Reserved Sites for mineral extraction, as well as existing and proposed sites for associated mineral development. * To provide for a steady and adequate supply of primary minerals to meet future requirements. * To protect and enhance the natural, historic and built environment in relation to mineral extraction and associated development. * To reduce the impact of minerals extraction and associated development on the transport system. |
| Biodiversity, Flora, Fauna | The Essex Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2020, Essex Biodiversity Project, 2011 | The Biodiversity Action Plan has been in operation since the mid 1990’s and has proven to be an effective way of working within Essex, developing practical projects on the ground with partners and involving every sector and level of the community. From 2012 when the Government launched its Biodiversity 2020 Strategy the original target based approach has been replaced with “Outcomes” 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.  Action Plans are included for different habitat groups. | Vision for Arable Field Margins:  An actively farmed countryside that benefits biodiversity and the farming community. The uptake and implementation of Environmental Stewardship is widespread and successful.  Land use is sustainable and rich in wildlife with an increase in habitat diversity and species.  Linear habitats are encouraged and sympathetically managed as biodiversity corridors between fields of crops and alongside roads, drains, rivers and other features.  Arable fields and crops themselves are managed with techniques to reduce the use of pesticides and other chemicals.  Vision for Hedgerows:  Hedgerows and associated linear habitats are encouraged and appropriately managed as biodiversity corridors between fields of crops and alongside roads, drains, rivers and other features.  Arable crops and margins are managed appropriately with techniques to reduce the use of pesticides and other chemicals.  Buffer zones and other measures are adopted to reduce erosion and pollution of the wider environment.  Vision for Essex Traditional Orchards:  Safeguarded, improved and extended habitats appreciated for their wealth of wildlife.  The decline in orchards has been halted and sites are restored and recreated with appropriate traditional varieties and management techniques in place.  Educational activities reconnect communities with their orchard heritage through creation of school and community orchards and other initiatives.  Vision for Essex Lowland Heathlands and Dry Acid Grasslands:  Existing heaths have been extended and are managed in a favourable way, with grazing animals wherever possible.  Extensive heathlands recreated in areas where this habitat had become fragmented or lost altogether.  Heathland sites are appreciated by the public as places for quiet recreation and to see wildlife.  Populations of key national and Essex species have increased and are spread more widely throughout the county.  Vision for Essex Lowland Meadows:  Safeguarded, improved and extended lowland meadows habitats appreciated for their wealth of wildlife.  Lowland meadows and grasslands are encouraged and sympathetically managed for their biodiversity and as corridors between fields of crops and alongside roads, drains, rivers and other features.  Existing grasslands extended and managed in a favourable way, with grazing animals and appropriate cutting regimes where possible.  Vision for Essex Ponds:  Village and farm ponds are managed for biodiversity and have been re-created or re-established where beneficial and sustainable.  Buffer zones and other measures are adopted to reduce erosion and pollution from the wider environment.  New clean water ponds are created to help those lost through man-made and natural processes.  Populations of key national and Essex pond-associated species have increased and are spread more widely throughout the county.  Vision for Essex Floodplain and Coastal Grazing Marsh:  Safeguarded, improved and extended habitats appreciated for their wealth of wetland wildlife.  Water levels are managed to benefit wildlife at all seasons.  Populations of key national and Essex species have increased and are spread more widely throughout the county.  Vision for Essex Lowland Raised Bogs:  Safeguarded, improved and extended raised bog habitats appreciated for their wealth of wetland wildlife.  Water levels are managed to benefit wildlife at all seasons.  Populations of key national and Essex Species are spread more widely throughout the county.  Vision for Essex Reedbeds:  Safeguarded, improved and extended habitats appreciated for their wealth of wetland wildlife.  Water levels are managed to benefit wildlife at all seasons and sites restored and used to hold water in the landscape and benefit wildlife.  Populations of key national and Essex species have increased and are spread more widely throughout the county.  Vision for Essex Coastal Saltmarsh:  Coastal saltmarsh has been enhanced and extended, in response to sea level rise and other threats creating a sustainable network for wildlife.  Sustainable development on all parts of the coastline has created a coastal environment that benefits people and wildlife.  The importance of coastal and marine biodiversity for tourism and the local economy has been recognised. |
| Material Assets | A12/A120 Route Based Strategy, Highways Agency, march 2013 | This strategy shows that the A12/A120 has national, regional and local significance. It supports the national and regional economy through providing the link between London and the South East to the Ports of Harwich and Felixstowe, and then into Europe. Locally it is used as a commuter route, serving the growing towns of Chelmsford, Colchester and Ipswich.  The strategy shows that the A12/A120 is an ageing route which has several key maintenance issues. It will also be functioning above capacity by 2021and will clearly struggle to keep up with demand if the large amount of growth proposed for the towns and cities is built. There is a significant amount of growth planned along the route both in terms of jobs and houses. The key areas are around Chelmsford and Colchester.  The strategy, whilst not identifying specific schemes, has identified key areas that need to be reviewed and investigated both in the short and long term. This includes assessing the capacity of those junctions that will be affected by the planned growth. | In order to reduce the number of incidents and improve journey reliability, the strategy has identified the following key areas to improve in the short term:   * Improved management of the route. * Improved technology along the route. * Improvements to lay-by and road user facilities. * Collision reduction and incident management maintenance. * Junction improvements. * Development of an investment strategy for the route.   Long term priorities:   * Develop and deliver a junction optimisation strategy. * Direct access to the route. * Improvements to local roads. * Investigate a major upgrade to the A120 between Braintree and Marks Tey. |
| Material Assets | Essex Transport Strategy: The Local Transport Plan for Essex, Essex County Council, June 2011 | This, the third Local Transport Plan, explains the approach for transport in Essex.  The vision for the plan is for a transport system that supports economic growth and helps deliver the best quality of life for residents of Essex.  To this aim the plan, wider in scope than previous plans, will see Essex County Council working in collaboration with borough and district councils, local communities and other organisations to provide transport services which effectively and efficiently respond to local needs, achieve sustainable long term growth and provide good value for money to local taxpayers. | Strategic Transport Priorities:   * Identifying an agreed and deliverable solution to address congestion at the Thames Crossing and adjacent M25 junction 30/31; * Lobbying Government for enhancements to the A12; * Lobbying Government for enhancements to the A120 to access Harwich Port and between the A12 and Braintree; * Lobbying Government for additional capacity on the Great Eastern Main Line and West Anglia mainline to accommodate growing commuter demand, the provision of competitive journey times for Essex Thameside services and an enhanced local role in rail franchise process.   Countrywide Priorities:   * Reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured on Essex roads; * Continuing to work with Essex Casualty and Congestion Board; * Working with partners to promote a safe and secure travelling environment; * Maintaining the Essex highway network and other transport assets; * Keeping the transport network safe and operational; * Managing the impact of planned works on the highway network;   Transport Priorities for the Haven Gateway:   * Providing the transport improvements needed to accommodate housing and employment growth in a sustainable way. * Tackling congestion within Colchester (including the provision of Park & Ride facilities). * Improving the availability, reliability and punctuality of local bus services. * Improving the attractiveness of public spaces to support regeneration, particularly within the coastal towns; * Improving and promoting cycle networks and improving the availability of travel choices and the awareness of them; * Improving journeys for commuters travelling to London from Colchester and Braintree, particularly by improving access to railway stations and improving facilities for passengers; * Improving transport access to Harwich to enable low carbon expansion of the port and wind port. |
| Material Assets | Development Management Policies, Essex County Council, February 2011 | For many years Essex has had Transport Development Control Policies to deal with development pressures, which have served the County well. These policies reflect the balance between need for new housing and employment opportunities, the regeneration and growth agenda and protecting the transport network for the safe movement of people and goods.  This document contains 22 development management policies. The document has been adopted as Essex County Council Supplementary Guidance. | Aims:   * Protect and maintain a reliable and safe highway infrastructure. * Improve access to services in both rural and urban locations. * Offer where possible alternative travel options to the private car. * Support and enhance public transport provision. * Address the impact of commercial vehicles on the highway network and communities. * Support the aims and objectives of the County Council as the Highway Authority. |
| Material Assets | Essex Economic Growth Strategy, Essex County Council, September 2012 | Essex County Council’s Economic Growth Strategy (EGS) seta out an economic vision for the County and how this can be taken forward. Building upon the ambition in Essex Works, the County Council’s Corporate Plan, the EGS is a step change in ECC’s approach to growth. It shows what ECC propose to do, working with partners, to unlock growth now, secure jobs and earnings tomorrow and create the conditions for long term economic growth and strengthening communities. The EGS sets out how the County Council will lead efforts to promote economic growth, building on the County’s proximity to London and excellent international transport links.  The EGS vision and economic growth ambition is:  Essex is an economically vibrant and successful entrepreneurial county. Our economic vision is of a county where businesses and our residents can grow and fulfil their potential, making Essex the best place to live and work. | Objectives:   * Essex businesses are enabled and supported to be more productive, innovative and grow, creating jobs for the local economy; * Essex businesses are enabled to compete and trade internationally; * Individuals are equipped and able to access better paid jobs through an education and skills offer that meets the need of businesses; * The life chances of people in our most deprived areas are improved to be ensuring that residents are able to access jobs and public services; and * Securing the highways, infrastructure and environment to enable businesses to grow.   Principles:   * Aim high: We will set high ambitions for all our work with businesses, colleges and our residents. * Promote and economy driven by knowledge, skills and innovation: Our economic success will depend on businesses that harness knowledge and expertise to transform brilliant ideas into commercial opportunities. * Think global, act local: International markets are our greatest opportunity as well as our greatest threat. Our businesses need to be at the cutting edge of technological change with world class skills to compete in the world economy. * Promote environmentally sound growth: Environmentally sound economic growth is creating new opportunities for Essex businesses. New markets include the development of renewable energy sources and energy conservation, and enabling more energy efficient car and public transport. * Improve infrastructure: We will continue to promote transport, communications and utility infrastructure improvements that are essential to Essex businesses. * Be a voice for Essex: Make the case to Government and other public agencies for the freedoms, powers and the investment and/or financial tools that we need to realise our economic potential. We will also celebrate Essex as a place to live, work and visit. |
| Material Assets | The Greater Essex integrated County Strategy, Essex County Council, December 2010 | The Integrated County Strategy (ICS) provides a shared and agreed vision for Greater Essex, to identify the real priorities and outcomes needed to achieve increased economic growth. By producing the ICS. Greater Essex is taking a clear lead in responding to the current economic climate. When there is limited money available it is essential that investment is effectively prioritised. The ICS will ensure that any funding available to Essex is invested in projects and priorities which are most likely to generate long term economic growth.  The aim of the ICS is to develop a collection of priorities that is agreed by all partners, and closely relates to the key strengths and weaknesses of Greater Essex and which can direct investment to achieve the greatest benefits to the area. This document outlines how the ICS priorities were developed. | Vision:  The ambition for greater Essex is to create a highly performing and competitive economy that makes a significant contribution to UK economic growth and recovery, provides for the successful regeneration of Essex communities and provides a high quality of life for our residents.  The key transformational changes required to deliver this vision are:  GE1 – Delivering sustainable growth by providing for a balanced pattern of development which promotes housing choice, provides affordable housing and properly matches homes with jobs, infrastructure and public services and creates prosperous places.  GE2 – Providing for a transition to a low carbon economy which reduces carbon consumption, provides for low carbon development, updates energy infrastructure, supports business innovation, improves the supply of ‘low carbon’ related skills and exploits UK markets for low carbon products and services.  GE3 – Strongly supporting those key economic sectors and drivers which are likely to provide for significant economic and employment growth over the long term, economic inward investment opportunities which in turn provide for increased local income and prosperity and act as levers to promote regeneration.  GE4 – Significantly improving the quality of life for our residents by regenerating town centres and local communities; increasing the number, quality and choice of local jobs; improving the skills levels of the resident workforce; making best use of the opportunities provided by the London job market and providing a high quality natural and built environment.  GE5 – Substantially improving connectivity by promoting more sustainable travel patterns, introducing urban transport packages to increase transport choice, providing better public transport infrastructure and rail/bus services, enhanced inter-urban transport corridors, providing improved digital infrastructure including broadband and by improving mobile phone coverage. |

**Local**

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| All | Sustainable Development, Tendring District Council Local Plan Proposed Submission Draft Written Statement 2012 (as amended by the 2014 Focussed Changes) | The widely recognised European definition of sustainable development is: ‘Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability for future generations to meet their own needs’. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) takes this definition a stage further by setting out three areas the planning system must address in order to achieve sustainable development; an economic role, a social role, an environmental role.  Whilst the NPPF provides a broad definition of sustainable development, every area has its own unique characteristics and the degree to which national definition of sustainable development can be achieved will vary from place to place. Therefore, in the sustainability section of this document, the Council has set out its own local definition of Sustainable Development which reflects the Council’s vision for Tendring’s future. | In Tendring ‘Sustainable Development’ means development that contributes positively towards:   * Achieving prosperity in our district by helping to address current and future economic and social challenges, particularly in our most deprived areas, and helping to bring vitality to our town centres, employment areas, tourist attractions and communities: * Meeting the housing needs of future generations who will aspire to live, work and support the economy in our district whilst managing the pressures of people moving into our area to enjoy the quality of life offered by our attractive coast and countryside – this includes achieving minimum space standards for all housing types and tenure: * Achieving a fair distribution of growth across the district in both urban and rural communities to provide a flexible range of employment and housing opportunities that respect local distinctiveness, infrastructure provision and environmental limitations, provide opportunities to bring about local improvements in our communities and incorporate measures to minimise energy consumption: * Secure ongoing protection and enhancement of our district’s natural, historic and built environment and promoting these as assets to the local economy and the quality of life for our residents: and * Maintaining a good quality of life for current and future generations of local residents by delivering efficient public services, telecommunications and other infrastructure and seeking to manage and minimise the ever increasing risk of coastal erosion and flooding. |
| All | Positive Vision for the Tendring District, Tendring District Council Local Plan Proposed Submission Draft Written Statement 2012 (as amended by the 2014 Focussed Changes) | Having considered the unique characteristics of the district and the challenge that it faces, this chapter of the Local Plan document sets out the future ‘vision’ for the district that the Council will aim to make a reality. This vision for the future underpins many of the projects, policies and proposals in this Local Plan and it reflects on the Council’s own corporate Policy. | Aims for the Vision For Tendring:  “In 2029 Tendring will be a vibrant, healthy and attractive place to live, work and visit. It will have a thriving, resilient and prosperous economy making sustainable use of its natural and historic assets, maritime connections and popularity as a visitor destination.  Tendring’s residents will have an opportunity to enjoy a safe and healthy quality of life in communities that offer a range of new housing, job opportunities and other important services and facilities, including improved retail provision. They will be able to enjoy a variety of landscapes including unspoilt coast, the open countryside with its elements of natural beauty, a wealth of wildlife areas where biodiversity has been improved and enhanced and a diverse range of attractive historic settlements and assets. The district will be the home to people of all ages and abilities, providing a range of activities, attractions and facilities that will appeal to the active retired and the young residents of working age. The district will also provide for the specialist needs of all people ensuring, in particular, that children and young people have the opportunity for a good start in life.  Clacton-on-Sea will have seen the greatest change over the last 15 years having been re-invented as a 21st Century year-round resort. As the largest urban area the town will have seen a fair share of the of the district’s growth in new housing and commercial activity and a number of landmark developments in the town centre. There will be visible signs of regeneration including a quality range of shops, restaurants, hotel accommodation and other services, attractive public spaces and new and improved leisure facilities. There will have been a significant investment in new roads, schools and medical facilities and whilst the town will still be popular for retirement, the population structure will be more balanced with younger families able to live and find work in the town.  Harwich and Dovercourt will be enjoying an economic resurgence with a number of major employers operating in the area in anticipation of imminent expansion in the container port and making the most of business opportunities arising from the ongoing manufacture, assembly, transportation and maintenance of wind farm technology. As a result the housing market will have picked up over the last 15 years and a number of housing developments will have taken place. The Old Town of Harwich will offer new leisure activities and a number of visitor attractions associated with maritime history. Dovercourt Town Centre and seafront will have also improved its offer in terms of a year-round shopping and leisure experience.  Frinton-on-Sea and Walton-on-the-Naze will both be enjoying more year round prosperity whilst retaining their very distinctive, individual characteristics. Walton will have seen the biggest change with an injection of new housing, holiday accommodation, shops and leisure attractions bringing vitality to the town centre and visitor areas, with new medical facilities serving the resident population. Frinton will have seen some new homes and improvements to public spaces but will have succeeded in preserving and enhancing its special historic character and will continue to offer a unique and non-commercialised shopping and leisure experience to its residents and visitors.  The smaller towns of Manningtree, Lawford and Brightlingsea along with some of the larger villages within rural parts of the district will have seen some modest levels of new housing and employment to support local shops and services, provide for local needs and facilitate investment by local businesses in job opportunities.  In some of the district’s more remote villages, hamlets and other rural communities a flexible approach to small-scale housing developments has helped keep those communities vibrant and improvements to the telecommunications network and internet broadband services have given these areas, in particular, a new lease of life with more people able to work, shop and learn from the comfort of their own home. |
| Water | Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA), JBA Consulting, on behalf of Tendring District Council, 2009 | The SFRA enables the Council to identify sites away from vulnerable flood risk areas. Sites surrounding urban areas have been appraised for their risk from different types of flooding over a 100 year period outlined by flow models and maps. | The key objective of the SFRA is to provide an overall understanding of the risks of flooding from all potential sources, enabling the Council to select and develop sustainable site allocations away from vulnerable flood risk areas. |
| Water | Haven Gateway Water Study: Stage 2 Report, Royal Haskoning on behalf of the Haven Gateway Partnership, November 2009. | The study was commissioned in order to ensure that water supply, water quality, sewerage and flood risk management can be properly addressed and to enable the substantial growth proposed in the East of England Plan (EEP) to 2021 to be accommodate din a sustainable way. It addresses water supply and demand management, wastewater collection and treatment, flood risk management, water quality and environmental issues. | Objectives:   * Ensure that adequate water supply and waste water infrastructure is in place to support housing and employment growth planned for the Haven Gateway Sub Region to 2021 in the emerging East of England Plan and the Haven Gateway Programme of Development Framework for Growth. * Any additional infrastructure is provided in accordance with a strategic rather than piecemeal approach. * There is a strategic approach to the management and use of water. * The environment has sufficient capacity to receive increased waste water discharges. * The potential for grey water reuse and implementation of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) is fully realised. |
| Human Health, Landscape | Tendring Open Space Strategy, The Landscape Partnership, on behalf of Tendring District Council, October 2009 | This strategy has been produced to steer open space management and enhancement. The strategy is an audit and assessment of open space, sport and recreational facilities throughout the Tendring district and sets out comprehensive recommendations across all typologies. | The vision for Tendring open spaces is: A dynamic network at the heart of the community that is safe, well maintained, accessible to all, good for wildlife and fun for all ages, whilst conserving peace and tranquillity wherever possible.  The key objectives for providing this vision are:   * To provide a robust assessment of the demand for open space and recreational facilities throughout the district identifying issues of quality, quantity and availability. * Provide an analysis of identified surpluses or deficiencies and other issues of provision across the district. * Identify enhancement and accessibility needs of existing sites. * Provide clear recommendations for locally derived quantitative and qualitative standards for open space, sport and recreational facilities. |
| Landscape | Landscape Character Assessment, Vol. 1 & Vol. 2, Land Use Consultants on behalf of Tendring District Council, November 2001 | This study identifies the District’s different landscape and character areas. Character is influenced by particular combinations of geology, ecology, historic, cultural, natural and built environment. This study identifies the key characteristics of landscape types and character areas in the District and strategies for their management and conservation. | Principal objectives:   * To inform policy formulation in the current Local Plan Review. * To inform decision making in the development management process. * To guide landscape management decisions. * To promote public awareness of landscape character in the Tendring District. * To provide the basis for adoption as Supplementary Planning Guidance. |
| Material Assets | Affordable Housing Viability Study, Tribal Consulting Ltd, October 2010,  Viability Testing, Peter Brett, August 2013, reports prepared on behalf of Tendring District Council | Planning policy for affordable housing enables the Council to ask developers to provide affordable housing on site or contribute towards the provision of affordable housing. Affordable housing planning policy aims to achieve the highest level of affordable housing possible whilst not discouraging the development of private market housing. The affordable Housing Viability Study provides a detailed assessment of the viability of the Council’s proposed affordable housing planning policy. The Viability testing report is a supporting document for the potential of the introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) charge. | 30% affordable housing target which has been updated by the Viability Testing affordable housing target of 25%. |
| Culture, Heritage, Material Assets | Clacton Town Centre Vision, Intend, 2009 | This document sets out an overarching vision for future change in Clacton Town Centre. The visions key themes are for a more attractive seaside destination where visitors stay longer and spend more, a green and sustainable town and a town that respects its heritage whilst looking to the future. | Overall vision: To create a revitalised and thriving town centre which is safe and attractive and a place where people want to shop, work, live, visit and invest.  Objectives:   * Revitalised Town Centre; Create a place for the people of Clacton with new retail opportunities, community, entertainment and civic uses and a vibrant public realm. * Seafront Quarter and Sustainable Pier; Capitalise on Clacton’s greatest asset – the seafront – by creating a seafront quarter. Re-invent Clacton Pier as the Sustainable Pier with views to the new wind farms. Establish legible routes between the town centre and the seafront. * Young People; Ensure that young people have the opportunity to be more engaged socially and economically within Clacton Town Centre, allowing them to develop into active citizens who are proud to live in Clacton. * Intergenerational Relationships; Create positive relationships between the town’s older population and the growing younger cohort to create an atmosphere of trust, respect and community cohesion. * Business and Economic Activity; Increase the economic activity in the town centre by supporting business growth and employment locally. This includes making Clacton a more competitive economic location and a more obvious choice for business, customers and visitors. * Enabling Skills Improvement; Reverse the prevailing trends in relation to skills locally. Develop a culture of lifelong learning and use this to create opportunities for Clacton and it’s population. * Enabling an Active Population; Facilitate a more healthy community who take advantage of Clacton’s coastal location and favourable weather conditions to become fitter and more active. * Community Living Solutions; * Develop a long-term response to the high number of HMO’s and bed sits and the problems of those living in them to create a more cohesive and active community. |
| Culture, Heritage, Material Assets | Celebrate-on-Sea – ‘Putting the fun back into Clacton’. Intend, 2010 | This document presents a number of detailed proposals and recommendations for the rejuvenation of the Clacton seafront Area and seeks to build on the Town Centre Vision by creating an attractive seafront quarter with viable year-round leisure and entertainment facilities. | Key Objectives:   * Create a distinctive destination and a unique Clacton Brand; * Encourage investment in new development and improvements to the seafront; * Create new business and tourism opportunities; * Improve pedestrian links between the station, town centre and the seafront; * Enrich the existing character of the seafront and the town’s cultural heritage; * Phase proposals to make best use of available funding a and investment; and * Promote a new image for the town. |
| Material Assets, Human Health | Infrastructure Study, Part 2, Roger Tym & Partners with Peter Brett Associates, January 2010 | The Part 2 Infrastructure Study builds on the Part 1 Study, which provided an understanding of the issues in respect of infrastructure provision for growth areas in the Tendring District. This, the Part 2 Study, assesses the precise infrastructure requirements in more detail and provides an understanding of how they will be provided and funded, by whom and over what timescale, to inform policy in the emerging Local Plan. | Objectives:  To create an infrastructure plan, led by the production of a funding model, to show:   * What is required and how it will be provided (e.g. location, etc.); * Who is to provide it; * How it will be funded; * When it can be provided; and * Sites for assessment. |
| Landscape  Heritage | Tendring District Historic Characterisation Project, Essex County Council, 2008 | This report provides a comprehensive account of the character of the district’s historic environment and the heritage assets which contribute towards that character. It identifies the sensitivity, diversity and value of the historic environment resource within the district and the opportunity to preserve and enhance heritage assets or even incorporate them into new development for the enjoyment of future generations. | Aims:  Provide the opportunity to safeguard and enhance the historic environment as an integrated part of development within Tendring District.  Provide guidance to Planners at the early stages of development proposals.  Provide a means for local communities to engage with their historic environment. |
| Landscape Geodiversity | Tendring Geodiversity Characterisation Report, Essex County Council, 2009 | This report characterises the geodiversity of the District, describing its diversity, location, extent, significance and capacity for change and promotes its conservation. The report informs Development Policy on measures to mitigate and minimise adverse impacts, avoid unnecessary degradation and promote conservation, enhancement and restoration of geodiversity in the district. | Aims:   * Provide guidance to planners at the early stages of development proposals. * Provide the opportunity to deliver conservation of locally characterised geodiversity in the wider landscape. * Provide a basis for communities to engage with their local geodiversity. |
| Biodiversity, Flora, Fauna, Water | Habitat Regulations Assessment Survey and Monitoring, Year 3 Interim Report, Colchester Borough Council, November 2012 | In accordance with the Habitat Regulations 2004 (as amended) Colchester Borough Council, Tendring District Council and Braintree District Council (hereafter the local authorities) have all carried out Appropriate Assessments of their spatial plans. The key purpose of an Appropriate Assessment is to ascertain whether a plan or program will have an adverse effect on the integrity of a Natura 2000 site.  The Appropriate Assessment of the local authorities’ spatial plans all identified recreational disturbances, as a result of a growing population, as a potential impact on the integrity of Natura 2000 sites and agreement with Natural England to undertake a programme of surveys and monitoring of visitors at the Natura 2000 sites within Colchester Borough and Tendring District.  A 3 year baseline has been established which sets out visitor trends across the Natura 2000 sites in Colchester and Tendring. | The objectives of the study are to:   1. Establish baseline data on visitors to Natura 2000 sites in Colchester Borough and Tendring District. 2. Investigate visitor trends to Natura 2000 sites in Colchester Borough and Tendring District. 3. Identify whether there is a link between site conditions and housing completions. 4. Identify management measures needed to mitigate and manage the impacts of increased visitor numbers.   Key findings:   * During the survey period (2010-2012) there has been an increase of 143% in visiting groups across the Natura 2000 sites. * Abberton Reservoir has seen a steady increase in visitor numbers, most likely due to the opening of the new Visitor Centre. * Just under two thirds of visitors said they visited alternative sites regularly. * The most popular alternative sites to visit were Tendring coastal sites. * The majority of visitors travelled to the sites by car. * Close to home, liking the area and attractive scenery were the most popular reasons for visiting a site. * Most common purpose for visiting the sites was dog walking. * Weather and conditions under foot affect the number of visitors. * The presence of rare visiting birds significantly increases visitors to a site. * Greater numbers of larger groups visit sites at weekends than during the week. |
| Climatic Factors | Climatic Change Strategy 2010-2016, Tendring District Council | This climate change strategy sets out a framework for what will be a continuous improvement process to reduce carbon emissions and ensure, as a District as well as a Council, we are preparing for predicted changes to the climate and reducing our dependence on fossil fuels.  This strategy has been developed to produce a framework for action and will be further refined with partners to help the District reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to prepare for the effect of a changing climate. There is a need to raise awareness of what climate change means to each and every one of us, change behaviour and take action to reduce emissions. | Priorities:  Protect and enhance our environment, countryside and coast.  Objectives:   * Reduce carbon dioxide emissions. * Prepare for a changing climate. * Reduce reliance on fossil fuels. |
| Material Assets | Tendring Economic Strategy, Regeneris Consulting Ltd, on behalf of Tendring District Council, October 2013 | This document sets out a ten year Economic Strategy for Tendring. It captures the commitment of Tendring District and its partners to create growth and stimulate Tendring’s economy that will benefit businesses, residents, the workforce and visitors over the next ten years.  This strategy is part of a suite of three documents; it is accompanied by a Socio-Economic Baseline and Action Plan. The Socio-Economic Baseline provides the statistical base which has helped develop this strategy whilst the Action Plan provides details on recommended projects and how partners can work together to deliver this strategy | The Ten Year Vision:  By the end of 2023 indicators relating to employment, business creation, population and job creation will all be demonstrating strong improvement. Perceptions of Tendring will have completely changed, with the District being recognised as a dynamic location where people want to live, work and visit.  Objectives:   * Objective 1: Supporting Tendring’s growth Locations – outlines the vision for target locations over the next ten years. Based on the evidence available and consultation with stakeholders, initial target locations are Harwich, Clacton and West Tendring. * Objective 2: Targeting Growth Sectors – outlines the approach to supporting growth in target sectors in the district. The two key target growth sectors for Tendring are Offshore Energy and Care & Assisted Living. * Objective 3: Ensure residents have the Skills and Information to Participate – outlines the need to support residents so that they have the skills and aspiration to participate in the opportunities promoted within this strategy. This includes recommendations on education, skills provision and employment. * Objective 4: Support Modernisation, Diversification and Growth within the Business Base – outlines the approach to creating more dynamic, diverse and future facing business base in Tendring. Improvements in business liaison, innovation and inward investment are the focus of this objective. * Objective 5: Facilitate Population Growth where this Supports Economic Objectives – recognise the link between population and economic growth in Tendring and outlines how some housing development could stimulate economic growth in the future. |
| Material Assets | Strategic Housing Market Assessment Update, HDH Planning & Development, on behalf of Tendring District Council, May 2013 | The purpose of a Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) it to provide the Council with a robust and credible evidence base to inform local housing strategy and planning policies.  The SHMA is part of the evidence base needed to assess the objectively assessed need for housing, set out in the NPPF as ‘identifying the scale and mix of housing and the range of tenures that the local population is likely to need over the Plan period’.  The household and population projections contained within the SHMA, set over the period 2013-2029, inform the total growth proposed but do not determine it. | Projection :  Population in 2029: 157,385; number of households – 73,770, average household size – 2.13.  Objectively assessed need for housing: 685 homes per year.  Tenure of new accommodation required in Tendring: Market housing – 76.2%; Shared ownership – 2.6%; Affordable rented – 16.2%; Social rented/benefit supported – 5%.  Size of new market accommodation required: 1 bed dwellings – 10.4%; 2 bed dwellings – 31.8%; 3 bed dwellings – 46.5%; 4 or more bed – 11.3%.  Affordable Housing: net annual need 2,474.  Size of new affordable rented homes needed: 1 bed dwellings – 29.1%; 2 bed dwellings – 39.5%; 3 bed dwellings – 23.7%; 4 or more bed – 7.7%. |
| Material Assets | Retail Study Update, GVA Grimley Ltd, on behalf of Tendring District Council, September 2010 | This study is a quantitative assessment of floorspace capacity in the retail sector. The study considers the potential and requirement for new retail development in the District up to 2025. | Findings:  Comparison goods floorspace – future capacity: 2020 – 9,559 sqm net  2025 – 18,452 sqm net  Capacity for convenience goods floorspace to 2025 will only arise in the Clacton area. This can be largely attributed to the strong performance of out-of-centre food stores.  Clacton area:  2020 – 820 sqm net  2025 – 1,490 sqm net |

**Neighbouring Authorities**

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| **SEA Theme** | **Document title, author & date** | **Summary** | **Relevant aims, objectives, targets, priorities for the Local Plan & SA** |
| All | Colchester’s Core Strategy, Colchester Borough Council, 2008 | The Colchester Borough Council Core Strategy establishes a long-term strategy to manage development, provide services, deliver infrastructure and create sustainable communities. It comprises the spatial vision and objectives, a spatial strategy, core policies and a section setting out how the strategy will be implemented and monitored. Its effectiveness will be monitored on an annual basis through the Annual Monitoring Report and it will be reviewed when necessary. | Objectives:   * Focus new development at sustainable locations to support existing communities, local businesses, sustainable transport and promote urban regeneration to protect greenfield land. * Provide the necessary community facilities and infrastructure to support new and existing communities. * Provide excellent and accessible health, education, culture and leisure facilities to meet the needs of Colchester’s growing community. * Promote active and healthy lifestyles and strive for excellence in education and culture. * Reduce the Borough’s carbon footprint and respond to the effects of climate change. * Create a prestigious regional centre and a vibrant network of district and local centres that stimulate economic activity and provide residents’ needs at accessible locations. * Provide for a balance of new homes and jobs to support economic prosperity of our growing community and reduce the need to travel outside the Borough for employment. * Provide decent and affordable housing at accessible locations to accommodate our growing community. * Provide a range of housing options to meet the diverse needs of the whole community. * Revitalise rundown areas and create inclusive and sustainable new communities. * Promote high quality design and sustain Colchester’s historic character found in its buildings, townscape and archaeology. * Improve streetscapes, open spaces and green links to provide attractive and accessible spaces for residents to live, work and play. * Focus development at accessible locations which support public transport, walking and cycling and reduce the need to travel. * Develop Colchester as a Regional Transport Node, improving transport connections and gateways within the Borough and to the wider region. * Provide excellent public transportation, walking and cycling connections between centres, communities and their needs. * Improve the strategic road network and manage traffic and parking demand. * Protect and enhance Colchester’s natural environment, countryside and coastline. * Support appropriate local employment and housing development in villages and rural communities. * Encourage renewable energy and the efficient use of scarce resources. * Reduce, reuse and recycle waste. |
| All | Babergh Adopted Core Strategy and adopted Policies (2011-2031) Local Plan Document (2014) | The Core Strategy & Policies (Part 1 of the new Local Plan) provides a high level. Strategic plan for Babergh for 20 years for 2011-2031. The policies are intended to be broad and general overarching policies outlining the strategy for growth and steering growth to sustainable locations. | Vision:  Babergh will continue to be an attractive, high quality place in which to live and work, and to visit. The local character and distinctiveness of South Suffolk will be further enhanced by a strong economy and healthier environment providing a framework for a well- connected network of places that is made up of mixed and balanced communities. |

**APPENDIX B: BASELINE DATA**

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| **Indicator** | **Tendring** | **Essex** | **East of England** | **England** | **Source** |
| Population |  |  |  |  |  |
| Population of an Area | 138,100 | 1,396.600 | 5,862,400 | 53,107,200 | Regional & Country Profiles: Population & Migration, ONS 2013 |
| Population Projection in 2021 | 157,000 | 1,542,000 | 6,458,000 | 57,688,000 | Regional & Country Profiles: Population & Migration, ONS 2013 |
| % of males | 47.8 | 49.2 | 49.5 | 49.5 | 2011 Census, ONS 2012 |
| % of females | 52.1 | 51.5 | 51.1 | 51.1 | 2011 Census, ONS 2012 |
| Total number of births | 1,365 | 16,860 |  |  | Commissioning School Places in Essex 2013/18, 2012 figures |
| Life expectancy males | 78 years | 80.2 years | 80.3 years | 79.4 years | Life expectancy at birth by Health & Local Authority, ONS 2011-2013 |
| Life expectancy females | 82 years | 83.5 years | 83.8 years | 83.1 years | Life expectancy at birth by Health & Local Authority, ONS 2011-2013 |
| Population density (people per sq km) | 409 | 403 | 307 | 408 | Regional & Country Profiles: Population & Migration, ONS 2013 |
| % of population over the age of 65 | 27.2 | 18.5 | 17.6 | 16.4 | Regional & Country Profiles: Population & Migration, ONS 2013 |
| % of population over the age of 65 in 2021 | 30.6 | 21.4 | 20.3 | 18.7 | Regional & Country Profiles: Population & Migration, ONS 2013 |
| Total people > 65 years old | 41,000 |  |  |  | 2012-based Subnational Population Projections, ONS 2014 |
| Total people > 65 years old in 2032 | 61,000 |  |  |  | 2012-based Subnational Population Projections, ONS 2014 |
| % of population in an ethnic minority group (excluding ‘other white’) | 2.4 | 5.9 | 9.3 | 14.7 | 2011 Census, ONS 2012 |
| Inflow migration | 5,687 |  |  |  | Internal Migration by Local Authority, mid-2011, ONS 2012 |
| Outflow migration | 4,920 |  |  |  | Internal Migration by Local Authority, mid-2011, ONS 2012 |
| Housing |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of Households | 62,105 | 581,600 | 2,423,000 | 22,063,000 | 2011 Census, ONS 2012 |
| Number of 1 bed households | 6,180 |  |  |  | 2011 Census, ONS 2012 |
| Number of 2 bed households | 23,328 |  |  |  | 2011 Census, ONS 2012 |
| Number of 3 bed households | 22,411 |  |  |  | 2011 Census, ONS 2012 |
| Number of 4 bed households | 7,781 |  |  |  | 2011 Census, ONS 2012 |
| Number of 5 bed + households | 2,315 |  |  |  | 2011 Census, ONS 2012 |
| % privately owned houses \* | 73.7 | 71.4 | 67.6 | 63.4 | \*Does not include shared equity households.  Census 2011, ONS 2012 |
| % rented accommodation \* | 24.6 | 26.9 | 30.4 | 34.5 | \*Does not include shared equity households.  Census 2011, ONS 2012 |
| Average household size | 2.2 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.4 | Census 2011, ONS 2012 |
| Average number of rooms | 5.4 | 5.6 | 5.6 | 5.4 | Census 2011, ONS 2012 |
| % of households with an occupancy rating of 1 or less | 2.5 | 3.00 | 3.4 | 4.6 | Census 2011, ONS 2014 |
| Housing completions per annum (net) | 244 |  |  |  | Annual Monitoring Report, Tendring District Council 2012/13 |
| Housing completions over past 5 years  2008/9 – 2012/13 | 1069 |  |  |  | Annual Monitoring Report, Tendring District Council 2012/13 |
| Average annual rate over past 5 years  2008/9 – 2012/13 | 214 |  |  |  | Annual Monitoring Report, Tendring District Council 2012/13 |
| % of residential completions on previously developed land | 54% |  |  |  | Annual Monitoring Report, Tendring District Council 2012/13 |
| Affordable housing completions | 8 |  |  |  | Annual Monitoring Report, Tendring District Council 2012/13 |
| Average house prices | 151,000 | 209,000 | 173,826 | 161,435\* | House Price Index, Land Registry June 2013  \*Average for England & Wales |
| % of households with 1 or more car or van | 76.6% | 82.00% | 81.5% | 74.2% | Census 2011, ONS 2012 |
| Average distance travelled to work km | 19.5 |  |  |  | Census 2011, ONS 2012 |
| % that travel <5km to work | 33% |  |  |  | Census 2011, ONS 2012 |
| Average gross annual pay | 23,875 | 30,657 | 28,500 | 27,702 | Annual Survey of Hours & Earnings, ONS 2013 (revised) |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Economy |  |  |  |  |  |
| % economically active | 71.7% |  | 80.3% | 77.5%\* | ONS Annual Population Survey July 2013 – June 2014  \*Great Britain |
| % in employment | 65.9% |  | 75.8% | 72.1%\* | ONS Annual Population Survey July 2013 – June 2014  \*Great Britain |
| % classed as employees | 52.8% |  | 64.2% | 61.6%\* | ONS Annual Population Survey July 2013 – June 2014  \*Great Britain |
| % classed as self employed | 12.0% |  | 11.3% | 9.9%\* | ONS Annual Population Survey July 2013 – June 2014  \*Great Britain |
| % claiming Jobseekers Allowance | 2.7% |  | 1.5% | 2.0%\* | ONS Annual Population Survey November 2014 |
| % economically active but unemployed | 7.8% |  | 5.4% | 6.8% | ONS Annual Population Survey July 2013 – June 2014  \*Great Britain |
| % economically inactive | 28.3% |  | 19.7% | 22.5%\* | ONS Annual Population Survey July 2013 – June 2014  \*Great Britain |
| % of economically inactive people classed as ‘wanting a job’ | 21.1% |  | 25.2% | 24.9%\* | ONS Annual Population Survey July 2013 – June 2014  \*Great Britain |
| % of economically inactive people classed as ‘not wanting a job’ | 78.9% |  | 74.8% | 75.1%\* | ONS Annual Population Survey July 2013 – June 2014  \*Great Britain |
| Gross average weekly income | £476.6 |  | £505.8 | £520.2 | ONS Annual Survey of Hours & Earnings – Workplace Analysis (2014) |
| Job density (jobs per person) | 0.63 |  | 0.77 | 0.78 | Nomis Official Labour Market Statistics 2012 |
| Number of VAT registered businesses | 3,905 |  |  |  | Annual Monitoring Report, Tendring District Council 2012/13 |
| Human Health |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of doctors’ surgeries | 25 |  |  |  | nhs.uk 2014 |
| Number of dentists | 14 |  |  |  | nhs.uk 2014 |
| Number of opticians | 18 |  |  |  | nhs.uk 2014 |
| Number of pharmacies | 32 |  |  |  | nhs.uk 2014 |
| Number of hospitals | 2 |  |  |  | nhs.uk 2014 |
| Index of Multiple Deprivation Rank | 81 |  |  |  | 1= most deprived  Indices of Multiple Deprivation, 2010 |
| Schools |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of primary schools | 40 |  |  |  | Tendring District Council – Education 2014 |
| Number of secondary schools | 7 |  |  |  | Tendring District Council – Education 2014 |
| Total nursery & primary school pupils | 9,633 | 108,731 |  |  | Number of pupils in schools 2013, Commissioning school places in Essex 2013/18 |
| Total secondary school pupils | 8,608 | 85,940 |  |  | Number of pupils in schools 2013, Commissioning school places in Essex 2013/18 |
| Forecast primary school pupils with housing 2017/18 | 10,570 | 118,653 |  |  | Number of pupils in schools 2013, Commissioning school places in Essex 2013/18 |
| Forecast secondary school pupils with housing 2017/18 | 8,395 | 88,354 |  |  | Number of pupils in schools 2013, Commissioning school places in Essex 2013/18 |
| Crime |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of recorded offences | 8,554 |  |  |  | Police Recorded Crime by Local Area, ONS 2013/14 |
| Number of crimes per 1,000 residents per annum | 65 |  |  |  | Police Recorded Crime by Local Area, ONS 2013/14 |
| Number of dwelling burglaries per annum | 586 |  |  |  | Police Recorded Crime by Local Area, ONS 2013/14 |
| Cultural Heritage |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of Listed Buildings | 997 |  |  |  | English Heritage, National Heritage list for England |
| Number of Listed Buildings at risk | 34 |  |  |  | English Heritage, National Heritage List for England |
| Number of Conservation Areas | 20 |  |  |  | Tendring District Council, Local Plan Proposed Submission Draft 2012 (as amended by the 2014 focussed changes) |
| Number of Scheduled Ancient Monuments | 27 |  |  |  | English Heritage, National Heritage List for England |
| Number of parks on the National Register of Special Historic Interest | 3 |  |  |  | English Heritage, National Heritage List for England |
| Biodiversity & Fauna |  |  |  |  |  |
| Areas of ancient woodland | 52 |  |  |  | Tendring District Council, Proposed Submission Draft 2012 (as amended by the 2014 focussed changes) |
| Landscape |  |  |  |  |  |
| % of residential development on greenfield land | 46% |  |  |  | Annual Monitoring Report, Tendring District Council 2012/13 |
| Parks and Gardens ha/1000 population | 0.02-2.02ha |  |  |  | Tendring Open Space Strategy, October 2009 |
| Amenity green space ha/1000 population | 0.13-0.63ha |  |  |  | Tendring Open Space Strategy, October 2009 |
| Natural & semi-natural greenspace ha/1000 population | 0.21-4.41ha |  |  |  | Tendring Open Space Strategy, October 2009 |
| Green corridors/seafront ha/100 population | 0-0.16ha |  |  |  | Tendring Open Space Strategy, October 2009 |
| Sports and playing fields, ha/1000 population | 1.39ha all pitch types |  |  |  | Tendring Open Space Strategy, October 2009 |
| Allotments, ha | 28.21 |  |  |  | Tendring Open Space Strategy, October 2009 |
| Climatic Factors |  |  |  |  |  |
| Annual average domestic consumption of gas | 13,424  kWh |  | 14,212 kWh | 14,042 kWh | Subnational Energy Consumption Statistics, Department of Energy & Climate Change 2012 |
| Annual average domestic consumption of electricity | 4,901 kWh |  | 4,343 kWh | 4,034 Kwh | Subnational Energy Consumption Statistics, Department of Energy & Climate Change 2012 |
| Total greenhouse gas emissions, tonnes | 3,032.3 |  |  |  | Tendring District Council Environment, Climate Change 2011/12 |
| Soil, Water, Air |  |  |  |  |  |
| % of domestic waste that has been recycled | 28.7% |  |  |  | Gov.UK, Waste Recycling Statistics 2012/13 |
| Floorspace |  |  |  |  |  |
| Retail (count) | 1,430 | 10,840 | 48,560 | 527,860 | Business floorspace statistics, Valuation Office Agency May 2012 |
| Office (count) | 470 | 7,260 | 33,060 | 340,890 | Business floorspace statistics, Valuation Office Agency May 2012 |
| Industrial (count) | 1,220 | 112,280 | 48,600 | 424,910 | Business floorspace statistics, Valuation Office Agency May 2012 |
| Other bulk premises (count) | 480 | 3,760 | 16,640 | 136,110 | Business floorspace statistics, Valuation Office Agency May 2012 |
| Retail sqm (000s) | 272 | 2,571 | 11,661 | 111,198 | Business floorspace statistics, Valuation Office Agency May 2012 |
| Office sqm (000s) | 63 | 1,452 | 7,850 | 89,250 | Business floorspace statistics, Valuation Office Agency May 2012 |
| Industrial sqm (000s) | 430 | 6,682 | 33,299 | 304,853 | Business floorspace statistics, Valuation Office Agency May 2012 |
| Other bulk premises sqm (000s) | 89 | 904 | 4,147 | 39,114 | Business floorspace statistics, Valuation Office Agency May 2012 |