

Thanet District Council

**Sustainability Appraisal of Thanet
District Council Local Plan**

**Sustainability Appraisal Scoping
Report**

Issue 1

This report takes into account the particular instructions and requirements of our client.

It is not intended for and should not be relied upon by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.




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The Arup Campus
Blythe Gate
Blythe Valley Park
Solihull B90 8AE
United Kingdom

ARUP

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⁴ <http://www.kent.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/91197ED9-F552-4D4D-9206>

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Baseline Data

Glossary of Terms

2004 Act	Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004
AAP	Area Action Plan
DBERR	Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government

DMC	Decision Making Criteria
DPD	Development Plan Document
GIS	Geographical Information System
Interim Advice, 2005	Interim Advice Note on Frequently Asked Questions, OPDM 2004
LDD	Local Development Document
LDF	Local Development Framework
LDS	Local Development Scheme
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ODPM Draft SA Guidance, 2005	Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents, Guidance for Regional Planning Bodies and Local Planning Authorities, ODPM 2005
ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
RBMP	River Basin Management Plan
RSDF	Regional Sustainable Development Framework
RSS	Regional Spatial Strategy
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SCI	Statement of Community Involvement
SEA	Strategic Environment Assessment
SEA Directive	European Directive 2001/42/EC
SEA Regulations	The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SI2004 no. 1633)
SFRA	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
SOA	Super Output Area
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
TDC	Thanet District Council
WFD	Water Framework Directive

1 Preamble

The purpose of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is to promote sustainable development through better integration of social, environmental and economic considerations into the preparation of planning documents.

This SA Scoping Report forms the first stage in the SA process for documents forming part of the new Thanet Local Plan. The report sets the context and methodological approach for producing the documents by:

- Identifying other plans, policies and programmes that may influence the content of the documents.
- Gathering relevant baseline information to inform the documents.
- Identifying social, environmental and economic issues and problems that need to be addressed.
- Developing a framework for appraising the documents to identify the key sustainability effects.

This report provides an update to the Scoping Report produced in 2009 that formed the basis for assessing the Council's Core Strategy and subsequently its Draft Housing Allocations DPD. It is considered appropriate to review and update the 2009 Scoping Report to ensure it provides an up to date and relevant framework for the assessment and allowing consultees a further opportunity to consider and respond to its content. Key drivers for the update include:

- Introduction of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and revocation of Regional Spatial Strategies and the national Planning Policy Statements (PPS/PPG).
- The move from an LDF comprising Core Strategy and Housing / Site Allocations DPD to a district-wide Local Plan incorporating strategic policy and site allocations and development management policies allocations.
- A need to update the evidence base and review new legislation, policies and guidance including:
 - Localism Act 2011
 - Flood and Water Management Act 2010
 - Natural Environment White Paper: The Natural Choice, securing the value of nature, 2011
 - The Plan for Growth, March 2011
 - Updated Local Transport Plan for Kent

Your Comments

This Scoping Report provides a focus for statutory consultation. Thanet District Council (TDC) would like to invite your comments on this report. Our contact details are:

By post	Telephone, e-mail and other services
Strategic Planning Thanet District Council PO Box 9 Cecil Street Margate CT9 1XZ	Telephone 01843 577591 e-mail local.plans@thanet.gov.uk For telephone recording, transcription and translation services – please contact the numbers/e-mail above.

2 Introduction

2.1 Local Development Framework Background

Following the introduction of the NPPF and the Localism Act 2011 significant changes have been made to this scoping document to reflect the evolution of the planning policy framework for Thanet from an LDF comprising a Core Strategy and Site Allocations and Area Action Plans to a single Local Plan.

The new Local Plan will set out the planning policy for Thanet. It will include the 'Strategy' for spatial development of Thanet up to 2031; the Council's policies for managing development in the District, and sites for achieving development requirements, including other land use designations such as the AONB. The purpose of the Local Plan is to provide a spatial strategy for development in Thanet and to provide a responsive and flexible supply of land for housing, employment and other uses, the future of town centres and other issues such as the role of Kent International Airport. It is both strategic and site specific and so the SA process will tackle these two aspects so that each is assessed appropriately. It is required to be in conformity with national planning policy and will act as a sound basis for local people to build upon with Neighbourhood Plans if they wish to do so, as is being proposed by Government.

While such matters have been subject to previous consultation, they are to be re-considered and re-consulted upon in light of changed circumstances including new planning policy guidance issued by Government.

As well as providing a strategic vision to guide development in Thanet, the emerging Local Plan will also provide a comprehensive set of generic development management quality development policies to replace those currently saved from the Thanet District Local Plan, which will act as the basis for determining planning applications.

The most recent stage of consultation was completed for the Draft Housing Allocations Policy on 1st March 2013. The Council are currently consulting on issues and options for future growth and detailed policies. After this stage, the Council will consult on a preferred option, with a draft plan and site allocations.

The Council expects to undertake a formal consultation on the publication document in Summer 2014, prior to the submission of the Local Plan to the Secretary of State.

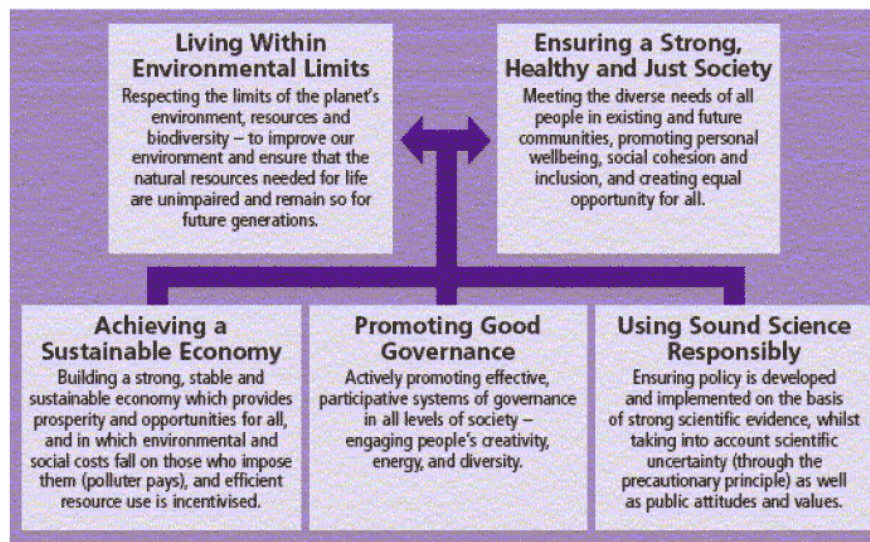
This Scoping Report is an update of the Scoping Report published in 2009. This is an opportunity to present a review of sustainability issues that exist in relation to the emerging Local Plan and identify those that should be a particular focus of the SA. It has been revised to update the baseline information, trends and issues for the District and includes revisions to the layout of the report to improve the presentation of the information to assist with the sustainability appraisal of the Council's Local Plans. It identifies baseline information on a wide range of topics, bringing together key issues from the evidence base, drawing out key trends and objectives for the area. A key output of the Scoping Report is the sustainability framework which will be used to appraise plans and proposals, as they emerge.

2.2 Sustainable Development and the LDF

Under the *Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004* (the Act), Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is mandatory for Local Development Documents as part of the plan making process. The process of undertaking SA assists planning authorities to fulfil the objective of integrating sustainable development principles into the plan making process and should not be seen as a separate activity.

There are a number of different definitions of sustainable development. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) refers to the UK Sustainable Development Strategy *Securing the Future* in relation to its five 'guiding principles' of sustainable development: living within the planet's environmental limits; ensuring a strong, healthy and just society; achieving a sustainable economy; promoting good governance; and using sound science responsibly.

Figure 2-1 Guiding Principles in the UK Sustainability Strategy - Securing the Future.



Source: *Securing the Future*, HMG 2005

Sustainable development in England will be achieved partly through the planning system and by the policies within the NPPF assisting in fulfilling a number of roles under three dimensions:

- “an economic role – contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right type is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth and innovation; and by identifying and coordinating development requirements, including the provision of infrastructure;
- a social role – supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by providing the supply of housing required to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by creating a high quality built environment, with accessible local services that reflect the community's needs and support its health, social and cultural well-being; and
- an environmental role – contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; and, as part of this, helping to improve biodiversity, use natural resources prudently, minimise waste and pollution,

and mitigate and adapt to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.”¹

Spatial plans such as Thanet District Council’s Local Plan encompassing Core Strategy and Site Allocations can have a significant role in achieving the objectives of sustainable development. The 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act² requires planning bodies, in preparing plans, to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.

2.3 SA and SEA and Requirements for the Local Plan

2.3.1 Sustainability Appraisal

Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is an iterative process that identifies and reports on the likely significant effects of a plan. It achieves this by testing the performance of the plan against a series of environmental, social and economic objectives which define sustainable development. This process will identify the adverse sustainability issues that need to be mitigated and the opportunities for enhancement and subsequently provides the basis for improving the performance of plans. It is a systematic and transparent process for informing decision making.

In the context of the Local Plan

*‘the purpose of SA to promote sustainable development through the better integration of sustainability considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans. It should be viewed as an integral part of good plan-making and should not be seen as a separate activity’.*³

SAs help planning authorities to fulfil the objective to promote sustainable development in the preparation of plans, and the 2004 Act makes SA mandatory for all DPDs (including Local Plans) and SPDs. In addition, SA helps planning authorities to deliver more effective DPDs and SPDs that can address the significant issues facing them

2.3.2 Strategic Environmental Assessment

The European Directive 2001/42/EC (SEA Directive) came into effect in the UK on the 21st July 2004 in the form of *‘The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SI2004/1633)’*. These regulations require that a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is undertaken on a range of plans and programmes, including certain planning documents. The objective of the SEA Directive is:

‘to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans ... with a view to promoting sustainable development’ (Article 1, SEA

¹ National Planning Policy Framework, Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012

² The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act: 2004

³ Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents: ODPM, November 2005

Directive).

The SEA Directive, Annex II suggests the significance of effects of a plan relates to the characteristics of the plan as well as its implications. Annex II defines the criteria for determining the likely significance of a plan in regard to the following characteristics:

- *The degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources;*
- *The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy;*
- *The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development;*
- *Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme; and,*
- *The relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste-management or water protection).*

In relation to these characteristics it is clear the Local Plan can have a significant impact and influence when considered in the context of the SEA Directive. Therefore, in its preparation, Thanet when preparing DPDs and SPDs planning authorities must conduct an assessment in accordance with the SEA Directive.

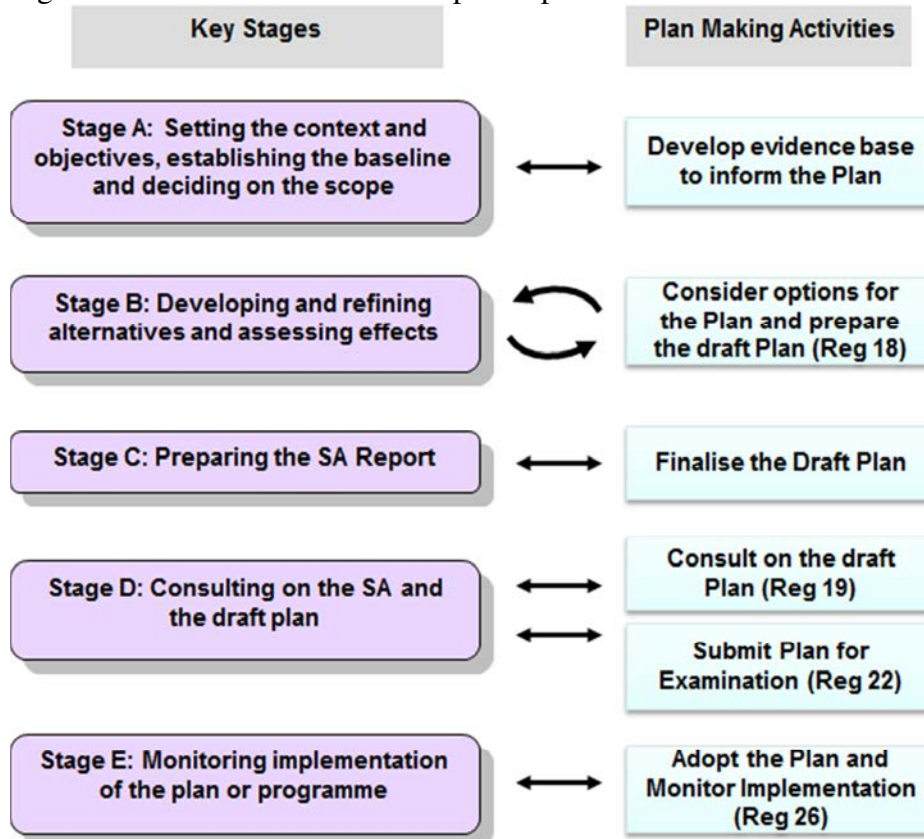
2.4 SA Process

2.4.1 Combined Sustainability Appraisal and SEA Process

Although the requirements to carry out SA and SEA are distinct, the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG, formerly ODPM) Plan Making Manual 2, the DCLG SEA Practical Guide (2005) and the Sustainability Appraisal Guidance (2005) propose that both can be satisfied through a single appraisal process⁴. They have produced guidance to ensure SAs meet the requirements of the SEA Directive whilst widening the Directive's approach to include economic and social issues as well as environmental. The DCLG are currently reviewing all their planning guidance including their Plan Making Manual, however in the meantime it remains valid. The guidance proposes that where reference is made to SA (in the application to LDFs) it should be taken to include the requirements of the SEA Directive. It should be noted that herein where reference is made to SA it should be taken to include the requirements of the SEA Directive. In practice these two processes are generally combined, provided that the matters relating to the Environment Report required by the SEA are clearly defined. The link between this combined process and its application to DPDs is illustrated in Figure 2.2.

⁴ <http://www.pas.gov.uk/pas/core/page.do?pageId=152450>

Figure 2.2 The SA and Plan development process.



Source: Planning Advisory Service.

The Guidance emphasises the importance of the following areas in conducting appraisals:

- *Collecting and presenting baseline information;*
- *Predicting the significant effects of the plan and addressing them during its preparation;*
- *Identifying reasonable plan options and their effects;*
- *Involving the public and authorities with social, environmental and economic responsibilities as part of the assessment process; and,*
- *Monitoring the actual effects of the plan during its implementation.*

2.4.2 Key Stages of the SA Process

The SA process, as defined in the DCLG SA and SEA Guidance 2005, must be applied to all DPDs and SPDs. This process is outlined below:

- Stage A: Set the Context and objectives, establish the baseline and decide on the scope
- Stage B: Appraising the effects of the plan (options, preferred options (draft policies and draft plan)

- Stage C: Preparing the SA Report to document the Appraisal process;
- Stage D: Consulting on the draft plan and the SA Report; and
- Stage E: Monitoring the implementation of the Plan.

A number of defined tasks are involved in each of these stages. This Scoping Report sets out to discharge the requirements under Stage A, as detailed in Section 2.5 below. The intended approach to other Stages and their respective tasks are detailed in Section 6.

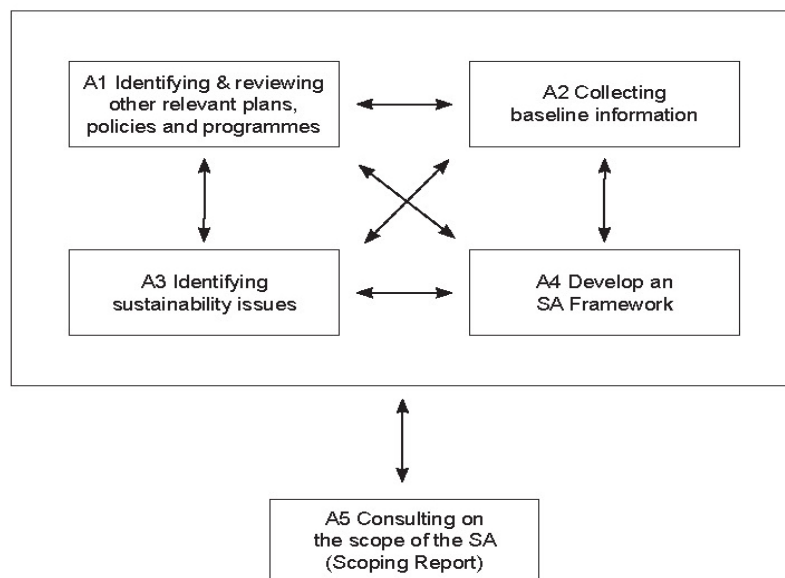
2.5 Approach, Contents and Structure of the Scoping Report

This Scoping Report documents Stage A. In so doing, Stage A consists of a number of key tasks:

- Task A1: Identifying and reviewing other relevant plans, policies and programmes;
- Task A2: Collecting baseline information;
- Task A3: Identifying sustainability issues;
- Task A4: Developing an SA Framework; and,
- Task A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA.

The interrelationship of these tasks is illustrated in Figure 2.3 It is noted that in order to develop the SA Framework, the key mechanism by which the Local Plan is to be appraised in terms of its inherent sustainability, there is a strong emphasis on baseline context. This is manifest in data on environmental, social and economic aspects contained within Stage A1 as it relates to policy, Stage A2 in terms of information on the region and Stage A3 in respect of sustainability challenges and opportunities which may be influenced by the Local Plan.

Figure 2-2 The Relationship between SA Tasks in Stage A of the SA Process.



Source: Adapted from Figure 3 of the ODPM SA Guidance, 2005

2.6 Contents and Structure of this Report

This Scoping Report provides the information required for appraising the emerging Local Plan related to planning policy and site allocations.

The following information is provided:

- Section 3: A review of international, national, regional, sub regional and Thanet wide plans, policies and programmes (See also Appendix A);
- Section 4: A baseline for Thanet and identification of the key sustainability issues;
- Section 5: An SA Framework applicable to the Local Plan for Thanet, including SA Objectives, Decision Making Criteria (DMC), indicators and targets, as well as Matrices for Appraisal (See also Appendix B); and,
- Section 6: Information on the next steps of the SA process.

The Scoping Report lays the foundation for the SA and focuses on the context of the plan, in this case the Local Plan. The Scoping Report also acts to assess the plan's context in a holistic manner in order to determine if the plan's objectives contribute towards sustainable development.

This Scoping Report is an update of the scoping report published in 2009.

2.7 Policy Context

This Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and the development of the Thanet Local Plan takes account of recent changes to the Planning System, including

- The Localism Act 2011 which provides for the introduction of Neighbourhood Plans and the 'revocation' (abolition) of regional spatial strategies (in the case of Thanet the South East Plan)
- The National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) which simplifies national planning guidance, reemphasises the role of planning in supporting economic development, and requires each Local Planning Authority to produce a single Local Plan, with additional and supplementary planning documents only used when necessary.

At the time of writing (February 2013) Ministerial statements indicate that further changes to the planning system may be forthcoming, designed to promote economic development.

3 Relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes

3.1 Requirement and Scope

The Local Plan and the SA itself will be influenced by many different plans and programmes. This is recognised by the SEA Directive which requires a review of relevant plans and programmes to be completed in the preparation of documents such as those included in the LDDs and the SA.

‘the plan’s relationship with other relevant plans and programmes’ and ‘ the environmental protection objectives, established at international, (European) 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’.

Directive 2001/42/EC - SEA Annex 1 (a), (e)

The first stage of completing the SA is therefore to review relevant international, national, regional and local, policy guidance, plans and strategies. This review seeks to:

- Ensure the Local Plan and the SA framework is in line with the requirements of relevant plans and policies. Identify inconsistencies or constraints to be dealt with;
- Identify sustainability objectives, and key targets and indicators that should be reflected in the SA; and,
- Provide baseline data.

3.2 Document Review for Thanet

The 2009 Core Strategy Scoping Report identified a substantial list of PPPs that were subsequently subject to a comprehensive review for the SA.

This list has been comprehensively reviewed, updated and rationalised by removing redundant or irrelevant policies, plans and programmes, so as to focus on those that are key and most recent and relevant. This list is summarised in Table 3.1 below. The identification of relevant PPPs is an on-going process and the list will be updated once new PPPs become available and will be included in any subsequent SA Reports.

A more detailed review of plans and policies listed within table 1 is provided in Appendix 1 ‘SA Review of Plans and Programmes’.

Table 3.1 Plans and Programmes

INTERNATIONAL/ EUROPEAN
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An European Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 (2011) • EU Energy Efficiency Plan 2011 • The Copenhagen Conference 2009 • European Landscape Convention 2009 (Became binding in 2007) • (The Air Quality Framework Directive) 1996, and subsequent Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC) June 2008 • EU Directive 2008/1/EC: Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control • European Flood Risk Directive 2007 • European Sustainable Development Strategy, May 2001 • European Water Framework Directive, 2000 • European Waste Framework Directive 92/43/EEC and daughter directives e.g.; Landfill Directive 99/31/EC • Delhi Summit on Sustainable Development • Kyoto Climate Change Protocol, 1997 • European Sustainable Development Strategy • European Spatial Development Perspective • Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992 • European Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora (The Habitats Directive) 1992 • European Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds • European Directive on Ambient Air Quality Assessment and Management • Convention on the protection of Archaeological Heritage
NATIONAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Planning Policy Framework, March 2012 • Health and Social Care Bill 2012 • Healthy Lives, healthy People White Paper 2011 • The Public Health White Paper 2011 • The Localism Act 2011 • National Planning Statements: Energy, Transport and Waste (2011-2012) • Water for Life 2011 The White Paper • Climate Resilient Infrastructure 2011 • Carbon Plan 2011 • Natural Environment White Paper – The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature (2011)

- Laying the Foundations: A Housing Strategy for England, November 2011
- Confident Brighter Communities, 2010
- Noise Policy Statement for England, 2010
- National Infrastructure Plan, 2010
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2010
- Flood and Water Management Act, 2010
- UK The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan: National strategy for Climate Change, July 2009
- Renewable Energy Strategy, 2009
- Soil Strategy for England, 2009
- Flood Risk Regulations, 2009
- Be Active: be healthy – A plan for getting the Nation Moving, 2009
- Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales, 2009
- The Planning Act, 2008
- Play Strategy for England ,2008
- Climate Change Act, November 2008
- Energy White Paper – Meeting the Energy Challenge 2007
- Habitats Regulations for England and Wales (amended) 2007
- Waste Strategy for England, 2007
- Heritage Protection for the 21st Century – White Paper 2007
- Code for Sustainable Homes DCLG 2006
- River Basin Planning Strategy: Water for Life and Livelihoods (Consultation), EA - Jan 2005
- Safer Places: The Planning System and Crime Prevention 2004
- Sustainable Communities: 2003
- Rural Strategy, 2004
- The Housing Act 2004
- Sustainable Communities Plan 2003
- The Homelessness Act 2002
- A biodiversity strategy for England 2002
- Waste Not Want Not – A Strategy for tackling the waste problem in England 2002
- The Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981) as amended (most notably by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000
- Waterways for Tomorrow, 2000
- Air Quality Strategy for the UK. Working together for clean air, DETR – Jan 2000
- Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England’s Wildlife and ecosystem

services

- The UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy: Securing the Future:
- Saving Lives: Our Healthier Nation (White Paper), 1999
- Making Space for Water: Taking Forward a Government Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in England.
- Saving Lives: Our Healthier Nation White Paper DoH, 1999

REGIONAL

- South East Biodiversity Strategy 2009
- River Basin Management Plan – South East River Basin District 2009
- Minerals Strategy: Proposed Alterations to Regional Guidance
- The South East Regional Sustainability Framework (RSF), 2008
- Destination South East – Tourism and related sport and recreation
- England Rural Development programme (South East Regional Chapter)
- Regional Economic Strategy, 2006
- Regional Housing Strategy, 2005
- Sustainable Communities in the South East: Building for the Future
- Harnessing the Elements - South East Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy May, 2003
- Sustainable Communities in the South East, 2003

COUNTY

- Local Transport Plan for Kent, 2011-2016
- South East Local Enterprise Partnership Business Plan 2011-2015
- Growing the Garden of England: Environment and Economic Strategy, 2011
- Growth without Gridlock Integrated Transport Strategy for Kent, 2010
- Kent Design Guide
- Kent County Council Environment Strategy, 2010
- Kent County Council Framework for Regeneration, 2009
- Kent Prospects 2007
- Active Lives: The Future of Social Care in Kent 2007
- Kent County Council Equality Strategy, 2007
- Kent Health and Affordable Warmth Strategy (2005-2008)
- Kent economic report- A review of the local economy and its Social and Environmental Context 2004
- Bold Steps for education and commissioning . Plan for education provision in Kent 2012-2017

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kent Biodiversity Action Plan 1997 • Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy • Kent Waste Local Plan (Saved Policies) 1998 • Kent Minerals Local Plan (Saved Policies) 1986-1997 • Local Partnership Vision and Business Plan
SUB COUNTY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Kent Sustainable Communities Strategy, 2009 • East Kent Homelessness Strategy, 2008 • East Kent Partnership Strategy, 2005 • East Kent Local Investment Plan • Cams Stour Catchment Plan • Canterbury City Council LDF • Dover District Council LDF • North East Kent European Marine Sites
LOCAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanet Council Corporate Plan 2012-2016 • Thanet District Council Transport Plan 2005-2011 • Southern Water Strategic Direction Statement 2007, updated March 2011 • Thanet District Council Housing Strategy, 2006 • Thanet District Adopted Local Plan ,2006 • Bus Strategy for Thanet • Thanet District Strategic Flood Risk Assessment • Thanet District Council Contaminated Land Strategy • From Audit to Action – Thanet Crime and Disorder Audit Strategy: 2005 to 2008 • Thanet District Council Policy on Flood and Coastal Defence • A Sustainable Community Strategy for East Kent, 2009

The review process provided a valuable source of information and a framework for developing different components of the SA:

- At a high level, key national policies (including the National Planning Policy Framework) and sub-regional (county) plans, provided the planning context for Thanet;
- Local documents provided a valuable source of baseline information, and identified local priorities and objectives as well as conditions that the Local Plan and SA should adhere to; and,
- Several documents including existing appraisals provided sustainability objectives and indicators and guided the development of the SA Framework.

3.2.1 NPPF Review: Local Plan and Development Context

The Local Plan must be in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework. The NPPF came into force on 27th March 2012 and emphasises the importance of the planning system to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It sets out how planning process can accomplish this by meeting a number of requirements that are listed below:

- 1. Building a strong, competitive economy;
- 2. Ensuring the vitality of town centres;
- 3. Supporting a prosperous rural economy;
- 4. Promoting sustainable transport;
- 5. Supporting high quality communications infrastructure;
- 6. Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes;
- 7. Requiring good design;
- 8. Promoting healthy communities;
- 9. Protecting Green Belt land;
- 10. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change;
- 11. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment;
- 12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment; and
- 13. Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals.

Many of these policy areas overlap with the SA objectives that have been developed for this SA. As a result the SA process can help to inform the development of the Local Plan and potentially identify areas where the Local Plan might not comply with the NPPF.

4 Baseline Situation and Key Sustainability Issues

4.1 Scope and Purpose of the Baseline and Key Issues

The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 require a discussion of the ‘relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme’ (Annex 1 (b)). In the case of SA the baseline and identification of key issues must also consider social and economic aspects in addition to the environmental issues specified in the SEA Directive.

The baseline review provides the basis for predicting and monitoring the effects of the LDDs. The sustainability issues identify positive or negative issues for Thanet relevant to the Local Plan that has the capacity to influence, optimising enhancement opportunities and minimising detrimental impacts associated with the plan.

The collation of baseline data and identification of sustainability issues has been completed for Thanet as a whole and is therefore relevant to all documents in the Local Development Scheme. The baseline situation and key issues for Thanet will inevitably change over time and so it is important that it is monitored and regularly revised.

4.2 Collating Baseline Information and Identifying Sustainability Issues for Thanet

4.2.1 Approach and Format

The baseline for Thanet was collated in a number of iterative stages:

The review of plans and policies listed in Appendix A provided an initial understanding of the current situation in Thanet in terms of environmental, social and economic performance and enabled key sustainability issues for Thanet to be identified. This subsequently assisted in the development of the SA Framework.

Indicators were developed for each of the SA Objectives in the framework. Both qualitative and readily available quantitative information was collected for each of the SA Objectives.

It should be recognised that due to the interrelationships between the SA Objectives, the baseline data is often relevant to more than one objective. The data collection focused on identifying:

- The current situation in Thanet;
- The trend for Thanet; and
- Regional and national comparisons.

4.2.2 Problems and Constraints

Every effort has been made to provide an accurate baseline review. Production of the baseline has been effective at providing an understanding of current issues, and there is generally enough information available to enable an informed and detailed appraisal. However, during the collection of baseline data some problems were encountered placing limitations on data. This included:

- As the scope of the information required is wide, data has not been available for a number of indicators;
- The consistency between data sources;
- The availability of historic data;
- The availability of up to date information;
- As a result of the scale of data it has not always been possible to divide information up in a way which optimises its value e.g. by geographic area or by different communities or groups. For example, environmental data is often collected at a high level and it has not always been possible to collate at a more localised level;
- Thanet is interlinked socially, economically and physically to adjacent areas and while trans boundary issues are important and need to be considered in the appraisal process, it was not possible to represent such complex issues in the baseline data collation; and,
- The baseline situation in Thanet is ever changing, and so baseline data can quickly go out of date, including information contained for this Scoping Report.

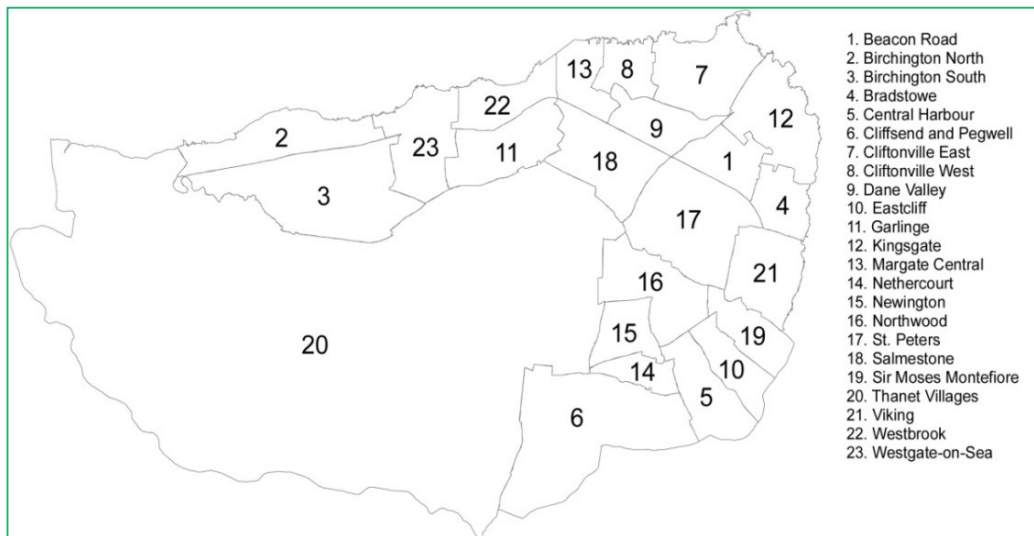
4.2.3 Future Baseline

Further consideration should be given to how data could be made available for the on-going data collection required during the implementation and monitoring of the Local Plan. This could include expanding the data managed through the central computerised resource for Thanet linked to Geographical Information Systems (GIS), consistency of data type, aligning indicators across Thanet and where possible in the Region and other areas, and the collation of new or evolving indicators.

4.3 Baseline Situation in Thanet

A review of the Thanet baseline conditions is given below, making comparisons on topics such as housing, employment, education and cultural heritage between Thanet, Kent, the South East and England.

In order to make comparisons between the different areas within Thanet, Wards, which are electoral districts that form part of the UK administrative hierarchy, have been utilised. The different Wards of Thanet are shown in Figure 4.1

Figure 4.1 Thanet District Electoral Wards⁴

4.3.1 Geography and Situation

The District of Thanet is located on the east coast of England and on the north eastern tip of Kent. Bounded by the English Channel to the north, east and south, the District is predominantly coastal. The District is bordered by the City of Canterbury District to west, and the Dover District to the south.

Thanet comprises three main urban areas: Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate, all located on the coast. Interspersed between these are a number of villages and hamlets. As a consequence of the position of the three towns, almost the entire coastal area accommodates substantial built development. From Birchington, via Westgate-on-Sea, Margate, Cliftonville, Kingsgate to Ramsgate there is limited unused seafront.

The key transport networks into the area include the duelled A299 Thanet Way, which connects to the M2, the A28 Canterbury Road which links with the city of Canterbury and the A256 which serves as the link to District of Dover. Kent's international airport, formerly RAF Manston, is a hub for international travel. Ferry services (predominantly freight) are operated by Transeuropa ferries to the Continent from Port Ramsgate⁵.

4.3.2 Demographics

Thanet's population has gradually increased in recent years with a net in-migration offsetting a negative natural change (births to deaths). In 2011, the population was estimated at 134,186 with 64,555 males and 69,631 females⁶.

Of these, around 79,000 are aged 16-64 (a proxy for the working age population)

⁴ <http://www.kent.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/911197ED9-F552-4D4D-9206>

⁵ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thanet>

⁶ <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk>

The population of children and young people is similar to the England average for boys and lower for girls aged below 10, but has a higher than average for both boys and girls for 10 to 19 year olds. Thanet's population exhibits a considerable smaller proportion of under 50s compared to the England profile. As a popular coastal location, Thanet attracts people of retirement age with the largest section of the local population are the over 64's accounting for 40% of residents⁷. The related effect of high numbers of elderly residents is a low, and decreasing, proportion of people of working age, between 16 and 64, and a lower than average percentage of residents aged between 0 and 15⁸. This demographic skew towards an older population has been a characteristic of the area since at least the 1991 census.

4.3.2.1 Population projection

Population projections from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) show a rise in all age groups over the next five years (except the 5 to 19 range) with the largest percentage rise occurring in the 65+ age group. This is predicted to increase by 12% in 2015. The overall population projected increase for Thanet for 2015 is 3.3% and would result in the size of population just under 136,000. This will have an impact on health services because people over 60 will generally have greater health needs and service usage. In the coming years the population over 65 and 85 is expected to grow significantly placing increased demand on local health services. Thanet's seaside location and relatively low property prices attract high numbers of unemployed and asylum seekers to the District. These dependent and vulnerable groups have led to, especially in the more deprived areas, a highly transient population abundant with people with support needs.

Figures from the Office of National Statistics show that the population of Thanet is predominantly white, although there are increasing concentrations of people from different Black and Minority BME backgrounds.

Table 4.1 Population by ethnicity, 2011- Thanet

	Thanet		England	
	Number	%	Number	%
All people	134,186	100%	53,012,456	100%
White	128,194	95.5%	45,281,142	85.4%
BME	5,992	4.5%	7,731,314	15%

Source: 2011 Census Table KS201EW

Thanet has a number of ethnic minority populations. National census data from 2011 shows the largest of which 'White other' makes up 4.2%. 9 More detailed figures of ethnicity breakdown showing 'white: other Eastern European' to be the largest ethnic minority with 0.85% of the total population. Thanet's ethnic minorities are not evenly distributed across the District, but rather concentrated in the wards that are the most socially and economically deprived. One such group

⁷ <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

⁸ Thanet Local Plan Background Paper: Housing.

⁹ http://www.kent.gov.uk/your_council/kent_facts_and_figures/equalities_and_diversity/ethnic_profile.aspx

categorised as ‘white: other white’ have high representations in Cliftonville West (18.2%) and Margate Central (8%) and. This clustering of ethnic minority populations is likely to be a result of net in-migration from EU countries into the more socially and economically deprived areas of Thanet.

4.3.3 Economic Trends and Performance

In a study of resilience to economic downturns Thanet was poorly rated at 295th out of 324 districts¹⁰. From 2002 to 2007 Kent saw an increase of 11.9% in VAT registered companies compared to an increase of just 1.7% in Thanet during the same period.

In 2011 3,875 VAT companies were registered in Thanet across a number of industries including Wholesale and Retail (730 companies), Construction (510 companies), Hotels and Restaurants (390 companies) and Manufacturing (220 companies) 6. Overall for Thanet the number of business ‘births’ have increased 3.9% from 2010-2011, although the % growth is considerably less than on average across Kent, (15.1%), and in Great Britain as a whole (11.7%)¹¹. Also, business deaths are down compared to last year, and the decline in Thanet 10.9% was higher than the decline in Kent (-4.5%) was lower than nationally (-8.0%)⁷.

According to 2011 Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) data Thanet’s employment growth in 2011 was -2.36%. The South East figure was -1.06% and England’s figure was -0.25%. The recession has contributed to this as the whole country has seen negative growth in the national economy for a number of years. Figure 4.4 shows a decrease in business survival rates between 2012 and 2011.

Table 4.2 Thanet Key Economic Indicators

Thanet Economic Indicators	2009	2010	2011	2012
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	14.9	17.2	17.6	17.3
Unemployment rate (%)	3.2	5.1	5.2	5.6
Median Gross weekly Workplace earnings (£)	383.7	375.9	370.3	392.1
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings (£)	426.3	423.4	402.9	412.5
Employment Rate (%)	63.5	70.9	73.2	70.5
Total Employees	39,600	40,100	38,700	39,700
Stock of businesses	3,650	3,625	3,630	3,560
3-year Business Survival Rate (%)	59.8	61.9	63.4	60.4
GVA per Head (£)	12,601	13,250	13,602	13,239
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	9.7	9.4	9.7	9.4
% NVQ4+	21.7	17.3	20.7	24.5

Source: Kent Economic Indicators 2012

¹⁰ "Thanet least resilient to economic woe, research finds". BBC News. 9 September 2010

¹¹ <https://shareweb.kent.gov.uk/Documents/facts-and-figures/Economy/Business-Demography-2011.pdf>

Since 2001 Thanet's GVA (Gross Value Added) increased from £9,405 per capita to £13,239 (38.5% increases). However, the Thanet figures are still significantly lower than the Kent average¹².

Tourism is an important sector in Thanet's economic performance supporting 10% of the workforce and worth 2.5 million.¹³ Tourism and the green sector are growing and comprise a larger proportion of total businesses in comparison to the South East region and England.

Public Services, including education and health are the largest employer in the district, accounting for 35.3% of the workforce⁶. The proportion of people that are home working is relatively high in the District. Skilled trades and caring, leisure and other service occupations are dominant, and Thanet has fewer professional and managerial occupations than the South East and also England although the number of people employed in these occupations has been rising for the last few years.

4.3.4 Employment

Thanet's history of economic problems is reflected in a persistently high unemployment rate, which has consistently been above regional and national averages. During the growth period between 1995 and 2007 the unemployment numbers decreased, and at a slightly faster rate than national rates and by 2007 the gap between the unemployment rate in Thanet and that in Kent (and England) was the smallest it had been for a decade. However following the 'credit crunch' in 2007 and the subsequent economic recession that has struck the national economy in late 2008 the progress made in closing the gap with national economic performance achieved over the previous decade has been reversed. Thanet has been hit particularly hard with unemployment increasing faster than regional and national rates. With unemployment levels at almost three times that of the south east and twice the national average a significant and increasing gap between the rates of unemployment in Thanet, peaking in February 2012 at 6.1% compared to Kent 3.2% the South East (2.4%) and National (3.7%)¹⁴ averages remains. Thanet also has the highest youth unemployment rate in the Kent County Council area at 13.4% of 18 – 24 year olds.

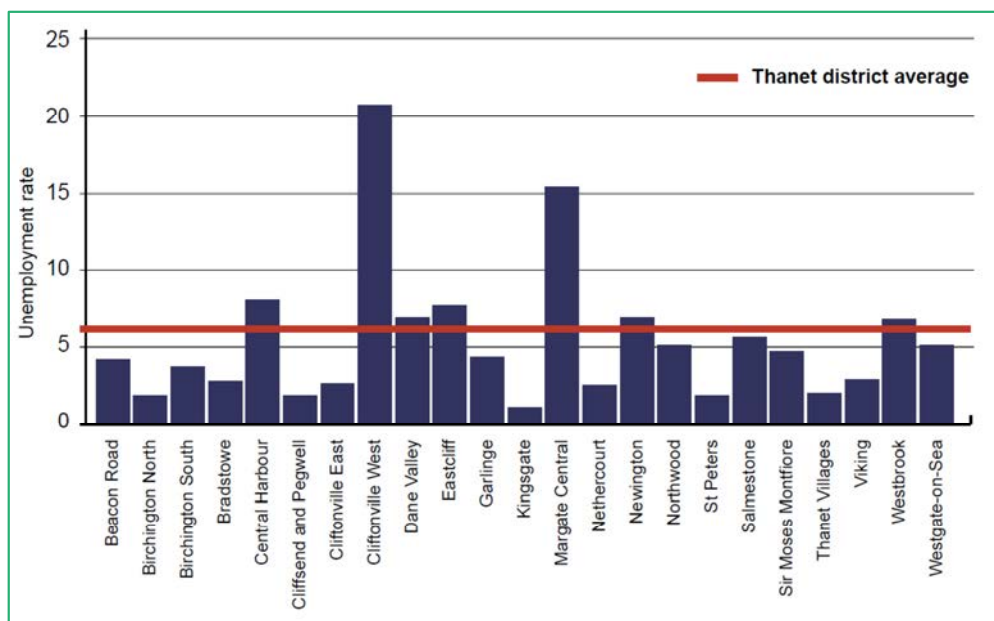
A clear disparity in the employment rates and types can be seen between the different Thanet wards, and is shown in Figure 4.2. Comparing the deprived area of Cliftonville West against the relatively affluent Thanet Villages, for example, shows that Thanet Villages have a substantially higher economically active population (76.8%) compared to Cliftonville West (64.7%). This social gap is highlighted further when comparing employment by occupation that shows the Thanet Villages having 16.9% working as managers and senior officials, and 11 % working as professionals compared to 12.2% and 6.9% respectively for Cliftonville West⁷. The differences in employment trends are not restricted to comparisons between rural and urban wards. Comparing Cliftonville West against Eastcliff, another predominantly urban ward close to Ramsgate, shows that Cliftonville West has 5.2% less economically active people than Eastcliff⁷

¹² www.thanet.gov.uk

¹³ www.thisiskent.co.uk

¹⁴ www.kent.gov.uk : Business Intelligence Statistical Bulletin – January 2013

Figure 4.2 Thanet Ward Unemployment Rates



Source: *nomisweb.co.uk*

Only 75.1% of Thanet's population were classed as economically active compared to 79.3% in the South East and 76.7% of the population for England and Wales⁷. Of those in work, the percentage of residents employed in professional occupations, as managers or senior officers in Thanet is just under the national average of 42.7% at 42.4%¹⁵. Residents employed in administrative, secretarial and skilled trade occupations make up 23.4% of the population, 1.7% higher than the national average.

Around a quarter of all enterprises in the area have turnover below the VAT threshold – this includes a significant number of self-employed people. Nationally over 30% of employees work for a business that employs 200 or more workers. In the Thanet area it is less than 20%. By contrast, over a quarter of people work in a firm employing less than 10 people, nationally it is one fifth¹⁵.

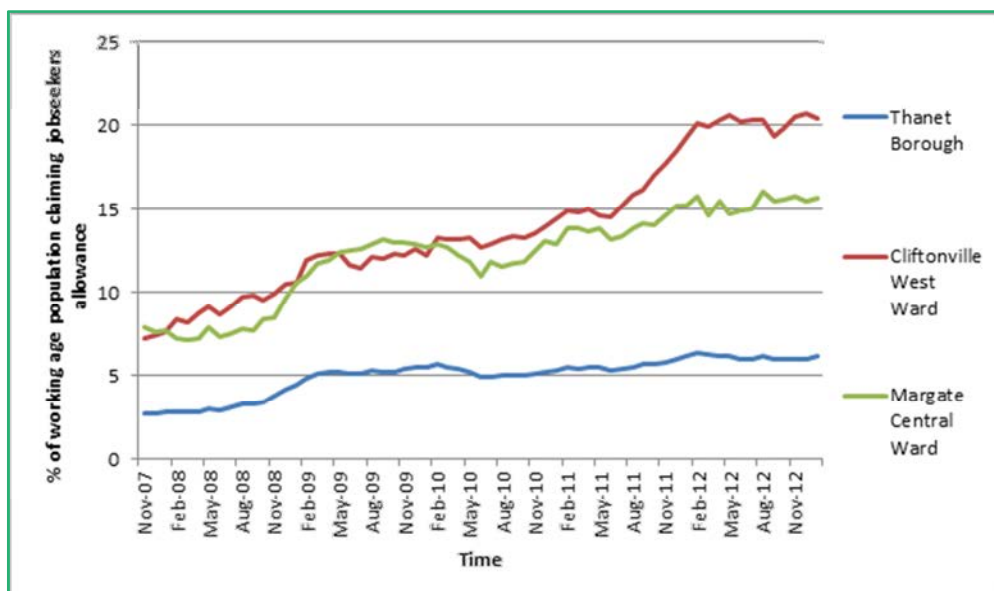
The differences in employment trends are not restricted to comparisons between rural and urban wards. Comparing Cliftonville West against Eastcliff, another predominantly urban ward close to Ramsgate, shows that Cliftonville West has 7.8% less economically active people than Eastcliff⁷.

Note: Official figures such as the official labour market statistics (Nomis) are based on the idea of a 'working age'. For most figures the age bracket 16-64 has been used to measure this, but changes to retirement age make this an estimate rather than exact number for 'working-age'.

¹⁵www.thanet.gov.uk/business/thanet_regeneration__board/draft_economic_growth_strategy/thanets_economy.aspx

The following chart shows Job Seeker Allowance (JSA) claimant rates since November 2007. The rates for the two wards have not reduced in line with the district and national rates.

Figure 4. 3 Percentage of Working Age Residents claiming job seekers allowance from 2007 to 2013



Source: *nomisweb.co.uk*

Since 2007 the percentage of the working age population claiming Jobseeker's Allowance has increased from 2.7% in November 2007 to 6.1% in January 2013. At a ward level this trend is also evident. However in the last 18 months Cliftonville West Ward has experienced even greater increases than the District as whole or other similar wards such as Margate Central with approximately 1 in 5 people of working age claiming the Jobseeker's Allowance.

4.3.4.1 Employment Space and Land Provision

The estimated stock of employment premises shows that the number of premises in Thanet is spread evenly across the three main employment uses, namely offices, factories and warehouses, at approximately 500 premises each. These amounts compare reasonably well with the rest of the districts in the East Kent Area, being greater than the amounts in Dover and Shepway, and not significantly less than that of Canterbury and Ashford. However, in terms of the number of office premises, the majority of other districts in Kent have a greater number of offices than the other employment generating uses, with only Gravesham having a lower stock of office premises, in Kent, than Thanet.

Thanet contributes much more significantly with industrial stock than office stock, in terms of overall floorspace, being close to the median of all south east districts. Other than new retail developments which have taken place across East Kent, there has been little new commercial development, when compared to the rest of the south-east. In terms of the amount of floorspace available in the district, in April 2008 there was approximately:

- 100,000 m² office floorspace,
- 335,000 m² of factories and
- 155,000 m² warehousing space.

The total amount of employment floorspace is the second lowest out of the East-Kent Districts, with only Shepway having less. Like the overall stock, the amount of Office floorspace in Thanet is lower than the other districts, with office accounting for only 17% of the stock in the district. Factories account for 56% of the stock, whilst warehouses account for 26% of the stock¹⁶.

In terms of changes to stock of employment premises figures taken from the Thanet Employment Land Review 2010 suggest there was an increase of 17,000m² between 2005 and 2008, which is equivalent to 3% of the stock. This is the highest overall increase compared to other districts in East Kent. The largest gain in Thanet was in Office space adding 15,000 m² to its stock, a similar amount to Ashford. A decrease was seen in the amount of factory floorspace across all Districts with the exception of Dover. Thanet saw a loss of 5,000 m², less than Ashford and Canterbury, but more than Shepway.

Due to the lack of new development, supply tends to be dominated by poorer, second hand buildings, rather than new or refurbished accommodation. Land values remain depressed in East Kent peripheral locations, whilst values in more active commercial locations have improved. The depressed values are primarily a result of an over-supply of land, and poor infrastructure. The average value for industrial land in 2006, in Dover was £180,000 and Thanet £150,000 per acre.

Vacancy levels provide an indication of the balance between supply and demand for employment premises. Consultation with the council has revealed that vacancies are limited, particularly since the demolition of Grupo Antolin.

Employment land allocations established over previous Local Plan periods have remained vacant, and there is strong competition from elsewhere in Kent Thanet has a significant amount of land available in public ownership that is serviced and available for development. Thanet District Council is currently reviewing its strategic site allocations within the Employment Land Review which is being carried out as part of the Local Plan process.

4.3.5 Education and Skills

In 2011 8% of people in Thanet aged 16-64 had no qualifications compared to a regional average of 7.9 and national average of 10.6% and whilst 29% of residents have a qualification at NVQ4 or higher this is still significantly lower than the regional 36.9% and the national average of 32.9 %⁷.

GCSE results for 2011 show 69.1% of pupils obtained 5+GCSEs at Grade A-C, which compared poorly in relation to other Kent districts including Dover 74.2% and Canterbury 77.1%

The distribution of residents in possession of qualifications is uneven across the District. Within the Ward of Newington, 53.5 % of people are without a qualification or level of qualification is not known. This is the worst in Thanet, 17.7% worse than the national average and 17.4% worse than the nearby Bradstowe Ward. Margate Central and Sir Moses Montefiore also have far fewer

¹⁶ Thanet Employment Land Review 2010

residents with higher qualifications, 9.0% and 9.5% respectively, than both the National average (20.4%) and that of Bradstowe (20.5%).

4.3.6 Transport

4.3.6.1 Existing Transport Network

Thanet has long been perceived as isolated from London, the M25 and access to other parts of the country. The District and County Councils, Government and European agencies have realised that considerable investment would be needed to overcome this perception. In recent years a number of transport connections have improved significantly. Thanet is connected to the UK motorway network via the A299 Thanet Way (a dual carriageway), which links the District to the M2. The A254 (Ramsgate Road) and A255 (St Peters Road) connect Margate to Ramsgate and Broadstairs. The recently completed East Kent Access Road (A256) provides a fast connection to the A20/M20 at Dover and to the Port of Dover and Channel Tunnel. The Access Road also links Thanet with other major economic assets such as Manston, Kent's International Airport (6 miles from Margate), the Port of Ramsgate and Discovery Park to the UK's main arterial road network in less than 60 minutes. Additionally, the introduction of High Speed 1 rail services in 2009 has reduced commuting from central London to Ramsgate to 76 minutes and Margate to 88 minutes.

Whilst the district does have a number of good transport links it is still on the periphery of Kent and the South-East, and in particular its proximity to London is poor compared to the rest of the south-east.

4.3.6.2 By Air

Thanet's Manston Airport is of regional significance. At present it handles mainly freight. Manston Airport predominantly handles freight, catering for around 32,000 tonnes a year and forecast to grow to 400,000 tonnes by 2033¹⁸.

In addition to freight cargo the airport operates a developing number of chartered passenger services to selected destinations. It has a runway capable of handling fully laden Boeing 747s. In 2011 figures indicate that it handled 37,000 passengers and 27,000 tonnes of freight per annum. Dutch airline KLM has recently signed up to run a shuttle service to Schipol Airport in Amsterdam where a significant number of onward connections can be accessed by UK customers. A Masterplan for the Airport produced in 2009 estimated a significant increase in passenger and freight numbers for the airport to 2033 along with details of future airport expansion such as a new terminal building. The airport is currently up for sale and the estimates for growth proposed in the Masterplan have not been achieved.

Lydd Airport near Ashford is easily accessed from Thanet. The Airport is currently awaiting the Public Inquiry decision on its application to extend its runway as well as a new terminal building capable of processing 50,000 passengers per year. The proposed developments may have knock on effects and implications for the Thanet district in terms of economic regeneration, infrastructure improvements and traffic.

¹⁸ Freight action plan

4.3.6.3 Private transport

Although there is some peak hour congestion, Thanet generally enjoys comparatively free-flowing traffic conditions despite over half (55.8%) of work journeys being made by car. Access to private transport is an indicator of the social disparity within Thanet, and within some of its Wards, such as Margate Central, the proportion of households without a car or van are significantly higher (52.94%) than both the national and Thanet averages at 25.8% and 29.8%⁶ respectively. It is expected that the extensive network of bus services in the area is a result of the low car ownership rather than a positive encouraging factor to low private car ownership.

4.3.6.4 Public transport

Thanet has two bus service providers, Stagecoach and Eastonways. Eastonways is an independent bus and coach operator providing regular services between the three main towns and the surrounding villages using distinctive “Island Hoppa” buses. Bus usage nationally, which was declining, has now started to grow. Closer examination reveals that growth in London and the other metropolitan areas disguises a drop elsewhere. Bus use in Thanet, however, remains relatively high (10% of trips in 1998) with an annual growth of around 2% year on year¹⁹.

4.3.6.5 Community Transport

Thanet Community Transport Association provides accessible minibuses for residents who are unable to use other public transport. This is a door-to-door dial-a-ride service timetabled to operate to/from selected destinations each day.

4.3.6.6 By Rail

Within Thanet District, the rail network connects the main centres of population via seven stations. These provide links within Thanet, to other major centres in East Kent as well as to London and beyond. The principal stations are Ramsgate, Broadstairs and Margate, with routes in three directions:

- London via Faversham and Chatham;
- London via Canterbury and Ashford;
- Dover and Folkestone via Sandwich.

In addition the Introduction of the High Speed Domestic Rail Service at the end of 2009 has reduced the travel time to London St Pancras from Ramsgate via Ashford to 76 minutes. For purposes of comparison, the mainline journey time to London Victoria is around 2 hours and to London Charing Cross up to 2 hours and 30 minutes.

Limited facilities currently exist for the carriage of cycles, although the recently introduced Class 375 units do have wheelchair spaces, which can be used for cycles. The Channel Tunnel Rail Link has benefited the UK as a whole but has led to substantial job losses in the in the cross channel ferry industry.

¹⁹ Thanet District Transport Plan 2005-2011, Thanet District Council

4.3.6.7 By Sea

Ramsgate Port handles both passenger and freight traffic. Foot, car and coach passengers can make one of six daily crossings to Ostende in Belgium. The Port is operated by Thanet District Council. Ramsgate Marina also enables private vessels to be moored.

4.3.6.8 Pedestrians

Thanet has a road network which mostly accommodates footways on both sides, not only in the main towns and seaside villages but also along the distributor routes connecting them. Public Rights of Way network offers walkers (and sometimes horse riders and cyclists) a good connection across open countryside to the coast, rural settlements and end destinations, with some circular walks offering superb views of both coast and countryside combined. The Thanet Coastal Path follows the longest stretch of chalk coastline in the country, the route having been set up in the 1990s.

In March, 2004 Thanet District Council published its Walking Strategy 'Feet First'. This is intended to compliment Kent County Council's 'Walking Strategy for Kent' published in 2001. 'Feet First' seeks to separate the infrastructure for walking from promoting walking, for whatever purpose. It includes an agreed network of multi-purpose walking routes to be developed and on which work has now commenced.

4.3.6.9 Commuting

With regards to people commuting into the district to work, this is the lowest in Kent, with 87% of people working in the District also living there. This indicates that Thanet has a small employment catchment and cannot attract a large number of people from outside the district to work there, demonstrating the relative lack of employment opportunities. In contrast only 38% of people who work in Dartford also live there. More people therefore travel out of the district to work, than those that travel to work in Thanet. The total number of people working in Thanet District is 40,694 (2001). This net out-commuting suggests that there are insufficient jobs to meet the needs of the local population, let alone attract employees from outside of the District. Table 4.3 summarises the amount of commuting out of the district.

Table 4.3 Commuters Out of Thanet

Destination	Number	Percentage
Within Thanet	36,812	74%
Dover	4218	9%
Canterbury	3673	7.4%
Greater London	1293	2.4%
Inner London	847	1.6%
Shepway	435	0.9%
Swale	449	0.9%
Ashford	403	0.9%

Destination	Number	Percentage
Maidstone	379	0.8%
Other in Kent	334	0.6%
Outer London	331	0.6%
Medway	272	0.5%
Other outside Kent	189	0.4%

Source: TDC Employment Land Review May 2010

Approximately 30% of people living in the District commute out of Thanet to work. Out-commuting levels are the greatest to Dover and Canterbury, with a significant number also commuting to London.

Thanet District Council are currently preparing their transport strategy and associated transport plans with a horizon period up to 2031, and is consistent with the emerging Local Plan, hence the previous Transport Plan 2005-2011 represents most recent data in most cases.

4.3.7 Deprivation

The area of the Coastal South East is identified as having economic underperformance as a result of its relative remoteness, isolation, deprivation, ageing population, transient population, poor quality housing and limited agglomeration advantages resulting from a restricted (180°) hinterland.

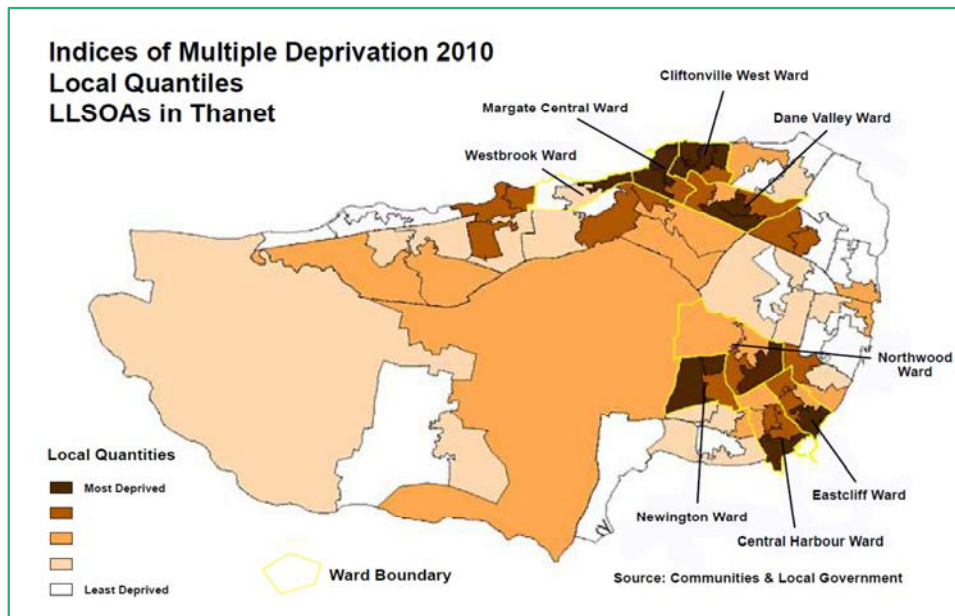
Thanet's long-term economic and social problems have resulted in high levels of deprivation shown in high unemployment and low levels of education. The 2010 Indices of Multiple Deprivation consist of seven domains of relative deprivation and are constructed using 36 variables. These domains are:

- Income
- Barriers to housing
- Health and disability
- Crime
- Education
- Living environment
- Employment

These indices show that compared to other English districts Thanet had become relatively more disadvantaged since the 2007 data release and remained in England's 20% most deprived districts. Thanet is the 65th most deprived local authority district in England (out of 354), moving it within England's top 20% deprived. It is the 2nd most deprived local authority district in the South East Region (out of 67) and is the most deprived district in Kent. Thirteen of Thanet's wards (57%) rank within the 20% most deprived in Kent and includes the most disadvantaged Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) in Kent, Margate Central ward, closely followed by Cliftonville West and then Newington²⁰

²⁰ <https://shareweb.kent.gov.uk/Documents/facts-and-figures/Deprivation/id2010-kent-ward-level.pdf>

Figure 4.4 Indices of Multiple Deprivation for Thanet



Source: *Thanet Commissioning Plan 2012-2014: (taken from Kent public health observatory website).*

Levels of car/van ownership are a key indicator of deprivation. Approximately 30% of the district's population live in households with no cars/vans compared to just 20% for the whole KCC area. However, the percentage of households with access to 1 car/van is similar to the average for the KCC area showing that few households have second and third cars. This has implications for accessibility for particular groups as when the car is being used (for example during the working day) other household members (often women and children) do not have access to the car and must rely on public transport. Likewise, where households have no car/van reliance on other forms of transport is high.

Thanet's coastal towns have also been subjected to a wider trend of declining seaside resorts. The 2008 report "England's seaside towns – a benchmarking study" Thanet was reported as amongst the weakest economies of 37 seaside towns and as the most disadvantaged of those with populations over 100,000 people. Consequently wages in the district are lower than the rest of Kent with a median weekly full time wage being £412.50 in 2011 compared to £546.20 in Kent and £554.40 for the South East region. However a number of regeneration strategies and policies are in place to reverse this decline, including the draft Economic Strategy.

4.3.8 Housing

Approximately 5% of Thanet's population live in the District's rural settlements. The remaining 95% reside in the coastal urban belt including the towns of Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate. Forecast demand for housing from 2011 to 2031 is 3,714 (zero net migration) and 11,648 (short term migration)²¹.

²¹ Thanet District Council – Housing Topic Paper 2013 (Local Plan evidence base).

4.3.8.1 House Tenure and Type

Based on Office of National Statistics data (2011 Census) of the 59,513 households in Thanet District 62% are owned. Of the remaining 12.6% of the households are socially rented and 25.4% are privately rented or rent free households. When this is compared to the 2001 Census data it is apparent that there has been a noticeable change in the type of tenure. For example in 2001 70% of households were in private ownership therefore there is a current trend of people moving away from private ownership and/or delaying moving on to the housing ladder. The percentage mix of dwellings in Thanet District is set out below based on data from the 2011 census:

- Detached homes (19.6%)
- Semi-detached homes (28.1%)
- Terraced homes (22.7%)
- Purpose built flats (17.5%)
- Flats in converted buildings (9%)
- Flats in commercial buildings (1.6%)
- Caravans and other mobile temporary structures (1.4%)

(Note: due to rounding the % values do not equal 100%).

Again, there has been a noticeable shift in the mix of housing since the previous with a greater proportion of the housing mix being flats rather than houses and bungalows. This is partially a factor of the housing market which has seen investors looking towards flats and apartments as preferred investments during the last decade.

4.3.8.2 Household size

Data collated by the Office of National Statistics illustrates numbers of people living in households in Thanet District and these are illustrated in Table 4.3 below. Of the households in the District 70% are one or two person households

Table 4.3 Comparison of Household size

	Thanet	South East	England
All Household Spaces With At Least One Usual Resident	59513	3555463	22063368
1 Person in Household	20646	1023154	6666493
2 People in Household	20566	1247950	7544404
3 People in Household	8516	551773	3437917
4 People in Household	6281	492843	2866800
5 People in Household	2312	167581	1028477
6 People in Household	861	53824	369186
7 People in Household	204	11742	88823
8 or More People in Household	127	6596	61268

4.3.8.3 Housing Market

The housing market has undergone a number of changes over the last decade and beyond. This is clearly illustrated by Figure 9 below which shows a general trend of increasing numbers of sales which peaked in 2007 and then slumped significant to below the 1996 level where it has remained.

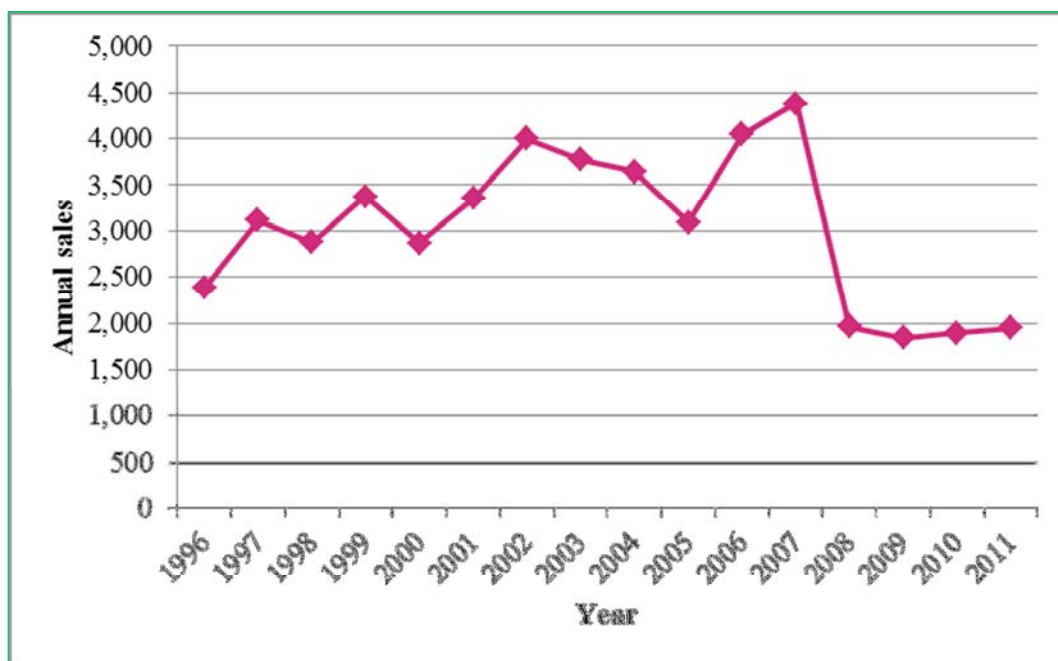
4.3.8.4 Housing Condition

The percentage of local authority dwellings that fall below the ‘Decent Homes standard has been falling over the last decade. Since 2010 none of the Council’s dwellings are below this standard. There is no data on private dwellings to compare. However, there is evidence that the energy efficiency of private sector housing is increasing (from an averages score of 40 in 2001 to 55 in April 2011 Source CLG 2013).

The Private Sector Housing Strategy refers to a housing condition survey from 2002. It showed:

- 16.2% are privately rented in Thanet. This is a very high percentage compared to 8% in the South East and 8.9% in England as a whole;
- 70.7% are owner occupied which quite closely mirrors the situation in England but is slightly less than the South East at 77%;
- 7.3% are owned by Housing Associations, which is higher than England at 4.6% and the South East at 6%; and
- 935 properties are long term empty. There are approximately 2489 vacant dwellings altogether. (HIP return as at 31st March 2007).

Figure 4.5 Number of house sales per year within Thanet District

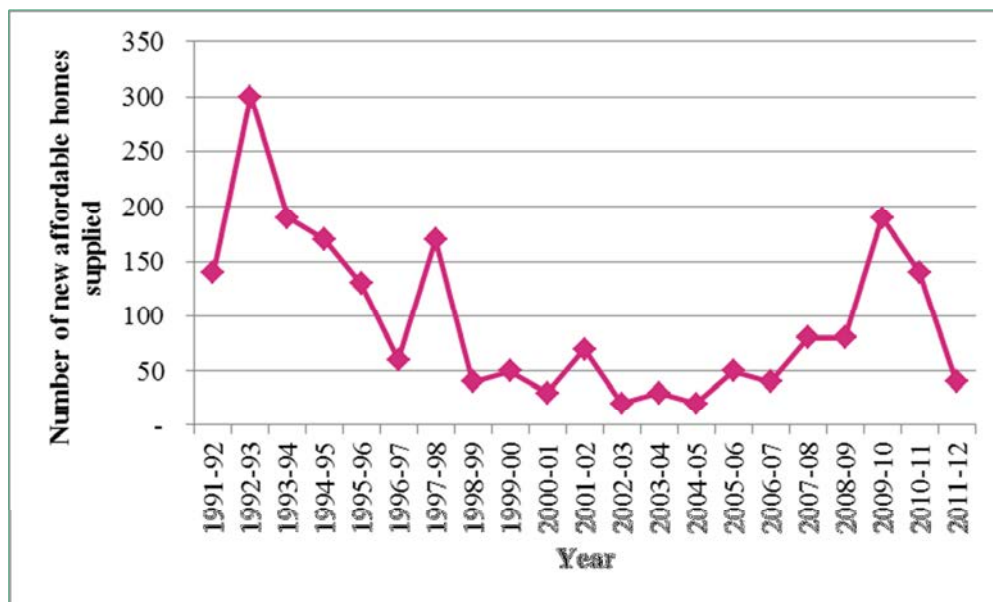


Source: CLG Statistics 2013

4.3.8.5 Affordability

The number of new affordable homes provided each year in the District are illustrated in Figure 4.6 below. The trend has varied significantly since 1991 and is driven by factors such as the availability of residential developments to provide affordable homes.

Table 4.6 Additional affordable homes provided in Thanet each year



Source: CLG Housing Statistics 2013.

4.3.8.6 Existing Need

As part of the evidence base for the Local Plan the Council has commissioned forecasts of the possible future demand for housing based on population and economic changes over the life of the plan. As part of this forecast a number of scenarios have been developed based on growth from Thanet's 2011 housing stock. Scenarios have been developed to reflect the degree of uncertainty regarding the existing and future needs because these, to a certain extent, are beyond the control of the Local Plan. However it is able to influence and support growth hence why this data is included in this Scoping Report.

Table 4.4 Indicative forecast for net new dwellings over the life of the Plan.

Scenario	Implied net dwellings 2011-2031 (and implied annual average)
1 Economic Baseline	9,639 (482)
2 Economic Risk-Based	7,600 (380)
3 Economic Policy-On	11,791 (590)
4 Zero Net Migration	3,714 (186)
5 Short term Migration	11,648 (582)

Source: Thanet District Council, 2013

4.3.8.7 Homelessness

Of the 59,513 households in Thanet 0.002% are classified as homeless and there is a general trend of homelessness declining since 2007 when the current statistical data was collected.

4.3.9 Health

In general the health of people living in Thanet is worse than the average for England. The comparatively poor health of people within Thanet cannot just be attributed to the number of older residents with 23.36% of people suffering an illness that limits their day-to-day activities²². This is higher than the average for in the South East region at 15.71% and 17.64% in England and Wales.

Life expectancy for both men and women is lower than the England average. The life expectancy (from birth) for males is 76.4 compared to the southeast average of 79.7 and the national average of 78.2 and the life expectancy (from birth) for women is 81.8 compared to a regional average of 83.5 and a national average of 82.2²⁴ Those people considered to be in very good health in Thanet is 40.7% compared to national average of 47.2%¹².

There are inequalities in health within Thanet. Life expectancy is 12.3 years lower for men and 7.2 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Thanet than in the least deprived areas²⁵.

The health of Thanet's residents shows geographical trends with 2% of people in Cliftonville West being defined as having 'Very bad health' compared to just 1.7% of those in Thanet, 1.0% in the South East and 1.2% National averages. Those people with a limiting long-term illness are highest in Westgate-on-Sea with more than 1 in 4 people suffering (27.89%) compared to Thanet Villages which at 19.01% is the lowest in the district but still higher than the Kent and Medway Health Authority (17.01%), South East (15.47%) and National (17.93%) averages.

Although the early death rate from cancer has improved over the last ten years, it has remained higher than the England average. Smoking kills over 300 people per year in Thanet and the rate of hospital admissions for alcohol-related harm is worse than the England average (over 2,800 hospital stays per year)²⁶.

4.3.10 Community Involvement and Cohesion

Turnout in the Thanet District Council Election in 2011 was 42%, a 7% improvement on the 2007 election when the turnout was 35%¹².

The components of population change based on the 2011 census estimate a net migration for Thanet of 270 which represents a population increase of 0.2% similar to the increase for Kent⁶. Thanet has high number of migrants, asylum seekers and unemployed. These groups tend to be associated with a highly

²² Office of National Statistics, Long-term health problem or disability 2011.

²⁴ http://www.kent.gov.uk/your_council/kent_facts_and_figures/area_profiles.aspx

²⁵ Thanet Clinical commissioning group 2012-2014

²⁶ Thanet Health profile 2009

transient population and have negative impact on social cohesion and the sense of community.

As part of Thanet District Council's attempts to improve community involvement and cohesion, and as part of the requirements set by Central Government, Thanet has a Statement of Community Involvement which describes and sets out actions to improve Thanet's sense of community with strong emphasis on consultation and public involvement.

4.3.11 Crime and Safety

Thanet has much higher overall levels of crime compared to the Kent Average with the highest recorded crimes in 2010/2011 being violence against person offences, followed by criminal damage offences.⁶ However crime has reduced within the district by 22% since 2006, resulting in nearly 3,000 less crimes being committed anti-social behaviour continues to be a big issue for residents with more than 8,000 incidents reported to both the police and the council every year²⁷.

For the 12 month period ending September 2012 Thanet had marginally above the national highest rates of crime in Kent, peaking between July and September at 76.1 per 1000 residents compared to an average of 57.7 per 1000 for the Kent force and an average for England and Wales of 66.86. From September 2009 to September 2012 the quarterly reported crime rate in Thanet fell only marginally from 20.74 to 20.35 per 1000 residents²⁸.

The most recent available data concerning Fire and Rescue Services is for 2006 and indicates the Kent Fire service responded to 1,641 incidents including 267 primary fires (i.e. dwelling, non-derelect buildings, road vehicles and other outdoor buildings). This constitutes a reduction from the previous year²⁸.

4.3.12 Biodiversity and Green Spaces

Thanet has number of local, national and international protected areas for conservation and habitat protection (listed in Appendix D1). These environmentally designated areas are concentrated along the 32km of attractive chalk cliff and sandy beach coastline and include internationally important feedings grounds for birds and rare chalk reef and cave habitats. Details of the designations are given below.

4.3.12.1 Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay Ramsar Site

This is a coastal site, consisting of a long rocky shore, adjoining estuary, dune, maritime grassland, saltmarsh, and grazing marsh. The site supports internationally important numbers of wintering turnstone *Arenaria interpres*, nationally important numbers of a breeding seabird, and four waders: ringed plover, golden plover, gray plover, and sanderling. Large numbers of migratory birds use the site for staging. Large numbers of nationally scarce invertebrate

²⁷ Thanet District Council Corporate Plan 2012-2016

²⁸ www.police.co.uk

species occur at the site. Human activities include recreation, bait collection, agriculture, livestock grazing, fishing, and hunting²⁹.

4.3.12.2 Sandwich Bay Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

The site is designated primarily for its sand dune habitats (~35% of total area) the area also includes improved grassland (10%) and salt marshes (15%). The habitats that are the primary reason for the sites designation are; Embryonic Shifting dunes where the dominate species is *Elytrigia juncea*; Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenria*; and, fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation³⁰.

4.3.12.3 Thanet Coast SAC

The site is designated primarily for the reef habitats that support unusual communities. The longest stretch of coastal chalk in the UK the site represents 20% of the UK resource of this type and 12% of the EU resource. This site contains an example of reefs on soft chalk along the shore. Thanet has sublittoral chalk platforms that extend into the littoral and form chalk cliffs. The sublittoral chalk reefs within the site are comparatively impoverished, owing to the harsh environmental conditions in the extreme southern area of the North Sea, but they are an unusual feature because of the scarcity of hard substrates in the area.

Species present include an unusually rich littoral algal flora, essentially of chalk-boring algae, which may extend above high water mark into the splash zone in wave-exposed areas. Thanet remains the sole known location for some algal species³⁰.

4.3.12.4 Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay Special Protection Area (SPA)

Approximately 83% of the area is classed in terms of habitat as tidal rivers, estuaries and mud flats however also has an area of improved grassland (10%). The area also consists of tunnels, caves, intertidal rock, and open coastline including bays, pools and rocky reefs. The SPA designation is supported by a number of breeding bird populations included *Sterna abifrons* (0.3% of the GB breeding population), *Pluvialis apricaria* (0.2% of the GB population) and *Arenaria interpres* (1.4% of the GB population)³⁰.

4.3.12.5 Sandwich and Pegwell Bay National Nature Reserve (NNR)

One of only 88 national nature reserves not managed by Natural England, the Sandwich and Pegwell Bay NNR is maintained by Kent Wildlife Trust. The reserve is a mixture of natural, semi-natural and artificial habitats. Natural habitats include; eroding chalk cliffs and wave cut platforms to the north of Pegwell Bay, inter tidal mudflats, developing beaches, sand dunes and salt marsh. Semi-natural habitats include ancient dune pasture and coastal scrubland while the re-created grassland of the Pegwell Bay Country Park, along with ponds, dykes and ditches

²⁹ http://www.ramsar.org/profile/profiles_uk.htm

³⁰ Joint Nature Conservation Committee, <http://www.jncc.gov.uk>

are artificial habitats. The intertidal mudflats support nationally and internationally important numbers of waders and wildfowl³¹.

4.3.12.6 Thanet Coast SSSI

This site, extending almost uninterrupted from Swalecliffe to Ramsgate comprises mainly of unstable cliff and foreshore, with smaller areas of salt marsh, coastal lagoons, coastal gill woodland and cliff-top grasslands. Noted for its bird populations, the area supports internationally and nationally important numbers of wintering birds. Sanderlings *Calidris alba* and ringed plovers *Charadrius hiaticula* and grey plovers *Pluvialis squatarola* are present in national important numbers.

Associated with various constituent habitats of the site are outstanding assemblages of both terrestrial and marine plant species, including communities of marine algae that are of limited occurrence elsewhere in the British Isles. Invertebrates are also of interest and there are recent records of 3 nationally rare and nationally scarce species³¹.

Approximately 92.63% of the SSSI area has been classified as ‘unfavourable recovering’ in a recent assessment.

4.3.12.7 Sandwich Bay to Hacklinge Marshes SSSI

This site contains the most important sand dune system and sandy coastal grassland in South East England and also includes a wide range of other habitats such as mudflats, saltmarsh, chalk cliffs, freshwater grazing marsh, scrub and woodland. Associated with the various constituent habitats of the site are outstanding assemblages of both terrestrial and marine plants with over 30 nationally rare and nationally scarce species, having been recorded. Invertebrates are also of interest with recent records including 19 nationally rare and 149 nationally scarce species. These areas provide an important landfall for migrating birds and also support large wintering populations of waders, some of which regularly reach levels of national importance. The cliffs at Pegwell Bay are also of geological interest³¹.

62.28% of the SSSI area has been classified as ‘favourable’ in a recent assessment.

As well as the statutorily designated sites Thanet also has 8 Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI's) that are designated and maintained by the Kent Wildlife Trust. A description of each is given below:

4.3.12.8 Monkton Chalk Pit

Large, deep chalk pit, disused for many years, now managed as a nature reserve by the Thanet Countryside Trust and very important in terms of wildlife in the Thanet area¹⁴.

³¹ <http://www.english-nature.org.uk>

4.3.12.9 St Peter's Churchyard, Broadstairs

A large churchyard lined with mature sycamore, beech, ash and line trees. Most of the area is generally unmanaged and has developed into a wilderness of secondary woodland with patches of open, rank grassland and scrub.

4.3.12.10 Golf Course Roughs, Kingsgate

The roughs of North Foreland Golf Course comprise an area of considerable interest. They include unimproved and semi-improved chalk grassland, and the importance of the site is enhanced by its proximity to the coastal areas at North Foreland and Foreness, which form part of the Thanet Coats SSSI¹⁴.

4.3.12.11 Woods and Grassland, Minster Marshes

A small mosaic of habitats close to Minster railway station included:

- Areas of rough grassland with ant hills and a wide range of common herbs and grasses;
- Scrubby areas close to the railway line with heavily silted ponds;
- A small copse with mixed broadleaved trees comprising ash, alder, hawthorn and willow; and,
- A large, heavily silted pond occurs on the western margin of the copse, with large alder coppice stools and much willow¹⁴.

4.3.12.12 Ash Level and South Richborough Pasture

An extensive area of low lying agricultural land with interconnecting dyke systems, mostly situated to the south e of the River Stour. The area is crossed by the old drove roads edged with well-established hedgerows of hawthorn and blackthorn and containing the occasional oak. Old counter walls with their unimproved grassland also form an important feature. Many of the fields have been drained or converted to arable or improved pasture in recent years, but some semi-improved or rough pasture remains, particularly in the area south of Richborough Farm and that south of Richborough Power Station¹⁴.

4.3.12.13 St Nicholas Wade Churchyard

Chest tombs and headstones within the churchyard are set amid grassland. The grassland is generally well managed but herb-rich, with an area of ranker grassland containing nettle (*Urtica dioica*) and elder scrub present in the southern corner.

4.3.12.14 St Mary Magdalene Churchyard

This churchyard contains semi-improved grassland which is managed in the main area in front of the church entrance but is rank and unmanaged in the rest of the yard. Where the grassland is managed it supports a number of common meadow plants such as hardhead (*Centaurea nigra*), and oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*).

4.3.12.15 Ramsgate Cemetery

A very large cemetery, together with its equally large adjacent extension, contains a large expanse of well-managed short grassland which varies from being calcareous at the southern end to neutral towards the north. It probably represents on the largest areas of semi-improved grassland outside SSSIs in the Thanet District.

In addition to the designated areas a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) exists for the Kent Area. BAPs were created as the UK Government's response to the Convention on Biological Diversity signed in 1992. The documents describe the UK's biological resources and commit to detailed plans for the protection of these resources. These plans have been separated into Habitat Action Plans (HAPs) and Species Action Plans (SAPs). Details of the HAPs and SAPs are included in appendix D1.

Under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) Article 6 any plan or project likely to have a significant effect on an area of conservation, especially where that area is of international importance, shall be subject to an assessment of any likely adverse effect in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the instance of the Local Plan, due to the number of internationally designated sites and the District wide scope, an assessment under the Habitats Directive may be required

AMR data for 2010-2011 shows there has been no change in areas designated for their intrinsic environmental value including sites of international, national, regional, and sub-regional significance. Maintenance continues at the new site of local significance that was designated during the last reporting year namely, Cliftonville Grassland, Foreness Point.

As a result of staff cuts the biological monitoring programme at The Sandwich and Pegwell Bay National Nature Reserve has been greatly curtailed. It is anticipated that butterfly transect data will be available for inclusion in next year's AMR.

4.3.12.16 Green spaces and Corridors

With the exception of inter-tidal habitats, only some 4% of the District's land area is comprised of semi-natural habitats. This does not compare well with other districts in Kent. This is due to the very high quality of agricultural land in the area which has meant that historically the island has been very intensively farmed leading to the low level of natural habitats. An Open Space Audit undertaken in 2005 describes the quantity, quality and access to natural and semi natural space provision in the area.

There is an existing level of provision of 0.95 ha per 1000 population. Comparison with English Nature Standards shows this equates to 1.05ha below

the recommended provision. The recommended minimum standard of future provision for Natural/Semi-Natural Greenspace is 2ha per 1000 population. This could be achieved with the provision of new community woodlands and by transferring other space within parks and Informal Recreation areas to natural and semi natural Greenspace.

Quality of provision was rated as ‘good’ by local residents (26.67%). According to the survey that the majority of Thanet residents walk to natural Greenspace facilities, with An average distance travelled to access natural green space of 2.25 kilometres. This meets recommended provision for access applied by Natural England.

The Green Corridors provide opportunities in Thanet to link both rural and urban communities together. Linear green space in Thanet plays an important role as wildlife corridors in addition to their wider amenity green space role and natural and semi natural open space.

The audit undertaken has revealed that there are 2 Green Corridors within Thanet, although these have not been formally designated.

Development and enhancement of Green Corridors will not only benefit biodiversity, but can contribute to the health of Thanet’s community and workforce by and be intrinsic to the promotion of cycling and walking in the District.

4.3.13 Climatic Factors

The East of England typically experiences ‘long summers, mild winters and a long growing season (fn)’. Rainfall tends to be linked to topography (with areas at higher elevation experiencing more rainfall) and droughts can be common in low lying areas of the region. Thanet being in the East of England Region, experiences a similar climate although is likely to also experience some variation in short term weather pattern.

4.3.13.1 Climate Change

Rising to the challenge: the impacts of climate change in the South East: Technical Report ³² produced for the UK Climate Impacts Programme (UKCIP) identifies the changes in climate that will be evident in the South East by the 2080’s. These include;

- It will be warmer all year round, with most of the warming in summer and autumn;
- Winters will be wetter, and summers will be drier;
- It will be sunnier in the summer, and this, with the higher temperatures, will mean a large increase in summer evaporation;
- It will be windier, with an increased risk of severe storms;
- The sea level in the English Channel will be 54 centimetres above its present level.

The impact of this change in climate will be water shortages during periods of high demand that will threaten and dry out wetland habitats and lead to increased

³² Rising to the challenge: The impact of climate change in the South East: Technical Report, UNCIP, 1999

pollution as river flows diminish. There is also likely to be more damage from flooding and floodplains may become more dangerous places to live, and coasts and lower river reaches are expected to face a higher frequency of storm surge tides. Erosion is set to increase which in Thanet may have serious impacts on the Cliff features that hold environmental designations.

The report does however highlights potential advantages for the region with the changing climate with opportunities for farmers, for example, to grow navy beans, soya and sunflowers in many places. The tourism and recreation industries to could benefit considerably from warmer conditions with increasing visitor numbers as traditional European destinations become too hot.

The key cause of anthropogenic climate change is widely acknowledged to be the release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere from the combustion of fossil fuels. In order to be able to evidence progress being made on climate change and other environmental improvements, the Government has set a number of National Indicators which have been adopted by the Council and, in a number of cases, by The Public Services Board (or Kent Partnership), featuring as part of the suite of 35 KA2 indicators. As they are new, there is currently no baseline data available for most/all of these³⁶

The UK Government has set a framework for CO₂ reduction up to 2050 through The Climate Change Act 2008. This legislation sets targets for greenhouse gas emission reductions through action in the UK and abroad of at least 80% by 2050, and reductions in CO₂ emissions of at least 26% by 2020, 34% by 2020, 50% by 2023, 60% by 2030 and 80% by 2050 against a 1990 baseline. The South East Plan aims to reduce the regions carbon emissions by at least 25% by 2015.

Thanet District council began monitoring district GHG emissions from 2008-2009, which acts as baseline for subsequent GHG reporting. For 2011-2012 Thanet's total net emissions were calculated to 3790 (tonnes of CO₂e), a showing 12.9% net decrease compared baseline figures.³³

The Council is beginning to look into climate change adaptation and mitigation opportunities for Thanet. The District Council has developed a Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan for Thanet for 2009-2011. To drive forward its commitments to meeting targets and delivering actions outlined in this plan, the council has developed a 'Going Green Group'. Thanet is seeking to develop a new Climate Change Strategy as part of the new Local Plan and associated development and planning policies to ensure development can contribute to reducing GHG emissions in line with government targets and minimising vulnerability and providing resilience to the impacts of climate change.

4.3.14 Energy and Renewable Sources

The development of low carbon and renewable energy sources is a crucial part of the UK's strategy to minimise the future consequences of climate change. A review of Renewable Energy provision and opportunities across the region was undertaken by Kent County Council in 2011. As a result AECOM were

³³ thanet.gov.uk

commissioned to assess availability of renewable resources in the county and wider associated social and economic benefits.

In addition plans are in place to redevelop a derelict brownfield power station site at Richborough, as a new hub for green energy production for Kent. This will provide a significant opportunity for Thanet to meet its climate change and greenhouse gas emissions targets. Thanet District Council has developed an indicator as part of its AMR to monitor planning applications specifically for renewable energy by installed capacity and type. The latest available AMR for 2010-2011 states that during the current reporting year, one solar park involving photovoltaic of 4-5 Megawatts was granted planning permission. Targets for Renewable Energy provision are not as yet established.

4.3.15 Air Quality

Thanet generally has very good air quality. However, there are two busy junctions which show levels of nitrogen dioxide above the recommended health objective. In both cases the main source of pollution is from road transport. To help tackle the problem the Council decided to declare an urban wide Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) on 17th November 2011 which encompasses the two exceedance areas at The Square, Birchington and High Street St Lawrence, Ramsgate. The decision to replace the existing AQMAs with one wider urban AQMA was taken to enable a more strategic approach to action planning and effective management and integration of air quality considerations into transport planning and development control.

Thanet District Council operates four automatic monitoring stations situated at two roadside sites, one urban background site and one suburban background location. The stations at Boundary Road, Ramsgate, and The Square, Birchington, measure nitrogen dioxide and PM10 and are next to main roads. The other two sites (College Road, Margate and Marston Airport, Ramsgate) measure nitrogen dioxide only. All four sites are within the new Thanet Urban AQMA boundary. Since the previous fourth round Updating and Screening Assessment in 2009 an additional, temporary automatic monitoring station was set up in St Lawrence which was operational for six months from September 2010 to March 2011. All four sites measured concentrations below the objective in all years³⁴.

4.3.16 Flooding

Thanet's Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SRFA 2009) details flood risk information across the district and particularly the extensive coastline, as well as site-specific levels to inform the Sequential Test and the site allocation process. Key information from this report includes are summarised as follows:

- Tidal flooding poses the greatest risk to the Thanet.
- River Stour – within the Stour valley, the tidal extent of the river provides a greater risk than a fluvial flood event – the combined fluvial and tidal flood zone should be used to determine greatest level of risk
- Wantsum Channel is at risk from fluvial and tidal flooding

³⁴http://www.thanet.gov.uk/environment__planning/environmental_health/air_quality_monitoring/assessment_of_air_quality.aspx

- Groundwater flooding is not considered to be an issue of strategic concern.
- Areas of residual flood risk have been identified as Margate Old Town, Dreamland, Birchington (Minnis Bay)
- Groundwater flood risk is not a significant problem – although the district predominately overlies a chalk aquifer, ground elevations are generally high so water table is at significant depths from the surface.

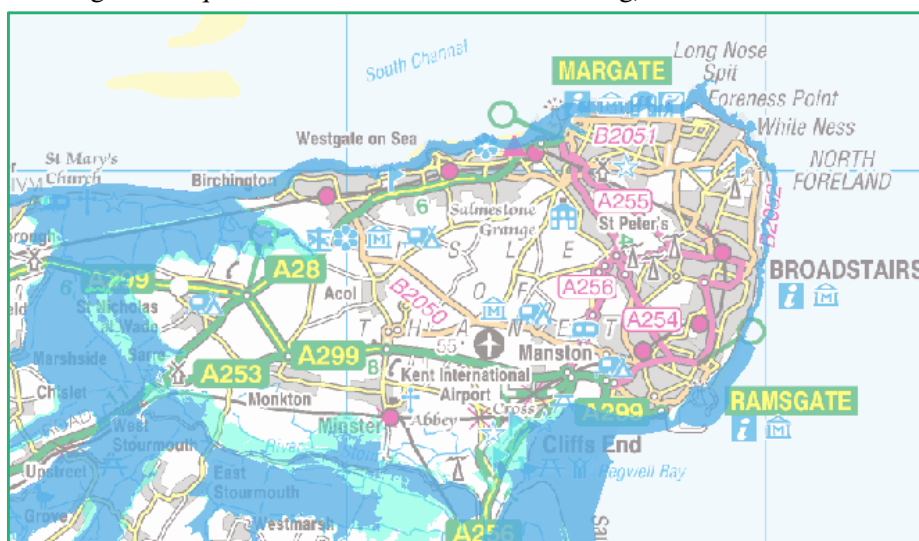
Surface water flooding is localised and site specific so not assessed at a strategic level (but is detailed in the forthcoming Surface Water Management Plan).

4.3.16.1 Fluvial Flooding

The River Great Stour's floodplain forms the western boundary of the district western. This floodplain occupies the Wantsum Channel, which is a broad low lying feature which separates the Isle of Thanet from the rest of Kent. Historically this was a tidal channel that totally separated Thanet from mainland Kent. However, it is no longer flooded as part of daily tidal cycles due to the protection of sea defences along its boundaries. Despite this there remains a tidal flood risk and modelling which has led the Environment Agency to define the Wantsum Channel as being of Fluvial/ Tidal flood Zone 3. Figure 4.8 shows the flood risk to Thanet. It can be seen that the original channel creating the Isle of Thanet is a significant flood risk as well as the coastal stretches³⁵.

The SFRA also provides the results of modelling of sensitivity to climate change in the coastal domain and as well as the predicted impacts to flood zones 2 and 3 for the year 2026, 2080 and 2115 for each of the key urban areas (KUAs). The SFRA also addresses Flood Risk for pas well as 'Potential Development Sites' as identified in the R25 Land Survey and H1 Site Survey undertaken by Entec in 2008. There is no available data to indicate the number of dwellings that are at risk of flooding and no data available to show how many new developments incorporate Sustainable Drainage Systems.

Figure 4.7 Risk from river and sea flooding assuming no defences (blue indicates flooding and turquoise the extent of extreme flooding)



Source: Environment Agency

³⁵http://maps.environmentagency.gov.uk/wiyby/wiybyController?x=531500.0&y=181500.0&topic=floodmap&ep=map&scale=3&location=London,%20City%20of%20London&lang=_e&layerGroups=default&textonly=off

4.3.17 Water Quality and Water Resources

Southern Water supplies water and wastewater services to Thanet. When planning new development and growth it is important to consider both local and strategic wastewater infrastructure. Local infrastructure generally comprises local sewers which are funded by the development whereas strategic infrastructure encompasses trunk sewers, pumping stations and wastewater treatment works and is normally funded by the water company. Capacity in the sewerage system is finite and the spare capacity available (headroom) varies from location to location.

Nearly 70% of Thanet's water is taken from underground aquifers, 23% from rivers and 7% from storage reservoirs³⁶. The Stour Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (2003) assesses the water availability for each river stretch and groundwater aquifer. Thanet's main water resource is abstraction from the chalk aquifer. The Stour CAMS identifies Thanet's water availability status as over-abstacted. However, the update of October 2006 states that the current abstractions should not have a detrimental impact on the nearby European Marine Sites.

A River Basin Management Plan for the South East River Basin District (2009) has produced under the Water Framework Directive. It identifies the pressures facing the water environment, which prevent a 'good' status being achieved. These issues include:

- Point source pollution from sewage treatment works;
- The physical modification of water bodies;
- Diffuse pollution from agricultural activities;
- Diffuse pollution from urban sources;
- Water abstraction;
- Flood protection/coastal erosion;
- Physical modification – urbanisation;
- Physical modification – wider environment; and
- Physical modification – land drainage.

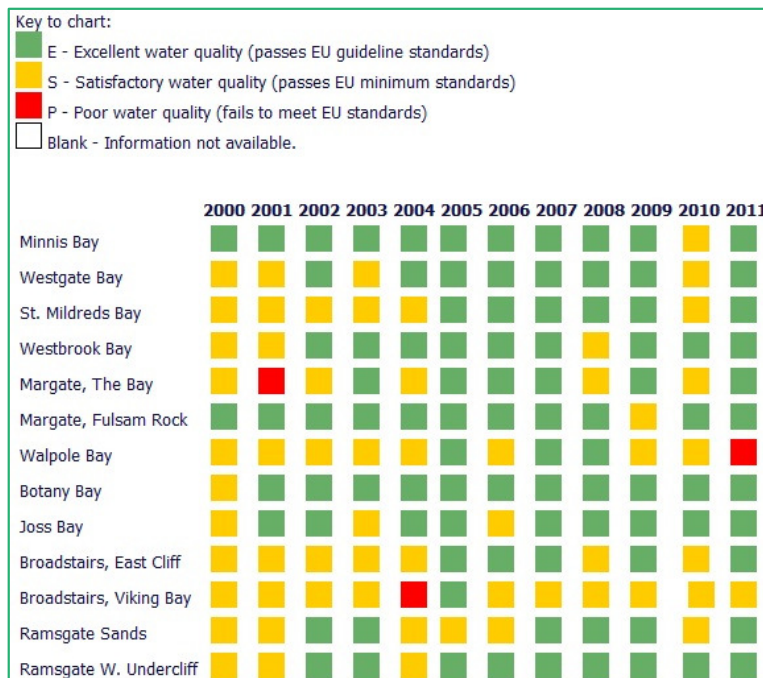
The Water Framework Directive requires special protection for areas identified under other EU Directive and waters used for the abstraction of drinking water. The River Basin Management Plan describes the objectives for each protected area and assesses compliance with them. It also describes the actions needed to achieve and maintain compliance. Thanet has a number of protected areas as listed in the table below:

4.3.18 Coastal Waters

Thanet has 13 beaches which have been designated as 'Bathing Waters' and are independently tested weekly from May to September by the Environment Agency. Sea Waters are tested for bacteria, and beaches are assessed for cleanliness, dog control, wheel chair access, provision of facilities and provision of life saving equipment to meet EC bathing water standards. A Blue Flag award is given to areas that meet those standards. Water quality has overall improved since 2000, however in 2010 fewer coastal waters were recorded as being excellent than in previous year.

³⁶ Thanet District Council: (Draft) Water Cycle Report - January 2013

Figure 4.8 Thanet water quality from 2000-2011.



Source: Thanet District Council Water Cycle Report January 2013

4.3.19 Cultural Heritage and Material Assets

There is an extensive and rich variety of building forms, character and heritage within the built-up area of Thanet. The urban areas range from the ‘urban village’, such as Pegwell and St Peter’s, to the modern shopping centre and bright lights of Margate, the wooded areas and special atmosphere of Broadstairs to the historic harbour, lively marina and cross-Channel port of Ramsgate. There is also a diversity of heritage throughout Thanet’s villages¹⁴.

To maintain this cultural heritage Thanet has 20 conservation areas, 14 scheduled monuments and 1 registered park and garden (listed in Appendix D) as well as 2,600 Listed Buildings and a number of archaeological sites dating back to pre-historic times. The District also has associations with important historical figures including JMW Turner, AW Pugin, Sir Moses Montefiore, Charles Dickens, Karl Marx and Vincent Van Gogh.

The Council has adopted a Statement of Community Involvement, which sets out the council’s commitment to community involvement in all aspects of town planning, including matters pertaining to Thanet Conservation Areas.

4.3.20 Landscape and Townscape

A landscape Assessment Survey made by the District Council in 1991 described a gently undulating landscape with few dominant natural features, shaped largely by arable farming, combined with a historical lack of tree cover. However areas of high landscape value do exist such as the Pegwell Bay and Former Wantsum Channel where uninterrupted long views of the sea and marshes along the undeveloped coastline exist¹⁴.

As part of the last Local Plan (2006) detailing conservation of the Townscape and Landscape character of Thanet, TDC has identified six landscape character areas;

- Pegwell Bay;
- The Former Wantsum Channel;
- The Former Wantsum North Shore;
- The Central Chalk Plateau;
- Quex Park; and
- The Urban Coast.

Thanet district also includes 3 Regionally Important Geological Sites.

In previous local plans, the Council has sought to protect these important landscapes. The protection of Thanet's important landscapes is to be continued in the emerging Local Plan. To gain a more up to date picture of Thanet's Landscape Character Areas, site surveys were carried out in 2012³⁷ and compared with 1993 study to identify any views that may have changed. Of the 22 views surveyed 14 were considered not to have changed since the 1993 survey. In summary:

Two views were considered to have improved as the cooling towers at Richborough Power Station have been demolished so no longer form part of the landscape.

One view was considered to be more built up as Thanet Earth is now visible

The 2006 Thanet Local Plan allocated a site for residential development of 100 new dwellings in Minster within the Wantsum Channel North Shore landscape character area. The development has been completed and is visible from one view visited in the 2012 survey; however it is well screened and has not made a significant visual impact.

In recent years, the Kentish Flats and Thanet offshore wind farms have been constructed, providing a new feature to the landscape.

4.3.21 Waste

Almost 4 million m³ of solid waste is disposed of in Kent every year (equivalent to 300,000 lorry loads) and this goes mainly to landfill³⁸. As a result of economic development and rising standards of living, the volume of waste produced could be expected to increase. However, the recent trend for Kent as a whole has seen a reduction in the collected volume of municipal waste and in the amount of waste generated per household, although there is some volatility at district level. The volume of MSW in Kent peaked in 2004 and has declined each year subsequently, giving a reduction of 10.9% 2004 to 2009. The reduction in MSW produced per household has been greater (-12%), and the volume of MSW arising has therefore declined despite continued growth in the number of Kent households.

Thanet's total waste arising's decreased between 2008/09 and 2009/10 from 45,348 (tonnes) to 43,872, despite an increase in dwelling stock. The MSW per dwelling for Thanet in 2009/2010 was 0.68 (tonnes), the lowest amount of waste per dwelling across the Kent districts. The reason for this and variations across the

³⁷ Landscape Character Area Topic Paper - August 2012

³⁸ Kent Waste Local Plan (Saved Policies)

district is unclear, but may in part be attributed to local collection method and also to local differences in the mix of household types.

The environmental issues raised by the treatment and disposal of waste are matters of great public concern and waste management can have various unsustainable impacts (e.g. aquifer damage, atmospheric emissions and energy use).

The Annual Monitoring Report for South East England 2008-09 compares the percentage of MSW sent for reuse, recycling or composting from all local authorities in the region. The average for Kent is slightly above the regional average, but there are marked variations between district councils. However this report describes Thanet as being one of the lower performing authorities in terms of recycling/ composting.

4.4 Key Sustainability Issues for Thanet

The SEA Directive confirms that the Environmental Report should include the following information:

'any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC'³⁹.

The examination of policy and baseline characteristics, as detailed in Chapters 3 and 4 has allowed sustainability issues to be identified which may be influenced the emerging Local Plan.

Presented in Table 4.6 are the Key Sustainability Issues for Thanet. It should be noted that to assist in transparency, sub issues have been included for each of the key issues. These provide an indicator of the particular facet of financial, environmental and societal (the three core elements of sustainability) that the issue is most relevant to. This is helpful in developing relevant objectives and indicators during SA Stage A4.

³⁹ Annex I (c)

Table 4.5 Key Sustainability Issues for Thanet

Key Sustainability Issue	Sub Issue	Description	Validation	Source
ECONOMY	Economic Development	<p>Support for industrial and employment development at key sites within the District.</p>	<p>Existing evidence suggests that Thanet is a net exporter of labour with a workplace ratio of 1.19. Bearing in mind the limitations of the data, further analysis suggests that the workplace ratio could be closer to 1.10.</p> <p>Currently Thanet has significant out migration of the 16-39 age groups. Our forecasts promisingly suggest that more roles are likely to be created which align with the occupation profile of this younger age group which help to reduce the level of out-migration. Economic development at business Parks such as Manston Park, Eurokent and Thanet Reach along with economic development at employment sites adjacent to the Sandwich corridor expected to be available as services employment land within the Local Plan.</p> <p>The main demand and growth is coming out of the local market, and therefore should be supported. There is insufficient supply of property to meet this demand. Relatively little interest from companies wishing to relocate to Thanet, or large inward investors.</p> <p>Priority should be given to allocating land for delivering economic development, protecting sites for industrial and commercial uses where there is a good prospect of employment use, consider upgrading or improving existing sites and working to overcome barriers to delivering sites, including identifying infrastructure planned and necessary to support economic growth. In particular relation to employment land provision, sufficient employment land must be provided through the redevelopment of brownfield land and refurbishment of existing stock, to provide new and flexible employment space.</p>	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes</p> <p>Thanet Local Plan</p> <p>Employment Land Review</p> <p>Experian Economic and Employment Assessment – Thanet District Council, 2012</p>

Key Sustainability Issue	Sub Issue	Description	Validation	Source
		Create and maintain local employment opportunities centred on fairly paid jobs.	<p>Thanet has relatively high levels of unemployment, and social and economic deprivation. Thanet’s history of economic problems is reflected in a persistently high unemployment rate. Total, unemployment rates increased since 2009, and peaked at 6.4% in February 2012. Figures for 2012 show unemployment to have slightly decreased to 5.6%. There is a significant and increasing gap between the rates of unemployment in Thanet compared to Kent (3.2%), the South East (2.4%) and National (3.75%)⁴⁰ averages remains.</p> <p>There are fewer people with professional jobs in Thanet than in Kent and England.</p> <p>Skilled trades, caring, leisure and customer service, and other service occupations are more dominant in Thanet than in Kent and South east.</p>	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes</p> <p>Thanet Local Plan</p> <p>Local Futures 2004</p> <p>Draft Employment Topic Paper</p>
		Development of grant funding packages for firms investing in Thanet.	<p>Thanet is part of the Grow East Kent initiative which includes funding for existing and new start businesses as well as businesses looking to move to area.</p> <p>Thanet is also part of the East Kent Priority Area for Regeneration</p>	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes</p> <p>Thanet Local Plan</p>
		Ensuring that the strategic future of Ramsgate supports commercial diversification and capital investment as well as providing a strong revenue stream for Thanet District Council.	<p>Thanet retail centres are considered unattractive investment areas for major retailers due to relative isolation, limited catchment and the current high dependence on larger retail centres outside the Thanet region. However major changes have occurred since 2000 to the provision of retail floor space in Kent and this has had an impact on expenditure spent outside the Thanet region.</p> <p>Of the traditional centres. Ramsgate has the largest turnover at £67million</p>	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes</p> <p>Thanet Local Plan</p>

⁴⁰ Thanet District Council Local Plan 2006

Key Sustainability Issue	Sub Issue	Description	Validation	Source
		Supporting regeneration of key areas within the District.	South East Local Economic Partnership (SE LEP) implemented in April 2011 to promote strategic economic priorities and make investments activities to drive growth and local jobs. Investment from the Governments Growing Places Fund includes first round projects across Kent and in Thanet such as ‘Live Margate, Kent	Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes Thanet Local Plan
	Economic Structure	Ensuring that improving economic prosperity provides benefits to the whole of Thanet focussing regeneration on key wards.	<p>Kent County Council’s ‘Grow for it East Kent’ scheme which is aiming to attract new businesses to locate within the sub-region as well as supporting the start up and growth of indigenous and pre-existing businesses. It is doing this by promoting the area to businesses and also providing support to new businesses and funding to support businesses looking to locate in East kent.</p> <p>The Thanet Local Plan identifies four key areas in need of special attention: Margate Old Town Area, King Street in Ramsgate, Upper High Street in Ramsgate and Cliftonville West.</p> <p>Thanet has poor housing stock with a high proportion of semi-derelict, vacant or homes in a state of poor repair. In addition there are a high proportion of multiple occupation premises which leads to pressure on parking, nuisance, noise and visual deterioration of houses and gardens.</p>	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes</p> <p>Thanet Local Plan</p> <p>Experian Economic and Employment Assessment – Thanet District Council, 2012</p>

Key Sustainability Issue	Sub Issue	Description	Validation	Source
		Ensuring that existing building stock (particularly redundant buildings) is brought into use for employment where appropriate.	<p>Create and maintain local employment opportunities centred on fairly paid jobs. There is also a dominance of employment in the public sector and whilst this has an important role to play in any economy, it is not a strong driver of growth and wealth creation. With over a third of employees working in the public sector there is a need to balance this to ensure that there is scope for the economy to grow</p> <p>At 1st April 2011 there were 3,456 empty homes in Thanet. (Source Research & Evaluation Statistical Bulletin "Vacant and empty dwellings - Annual 2010/11" Kent County Council)</p>	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes</p> <p>Thanet Local Plan</p>
		The protection and enhancement of natural assets including Blue Flag status of beaches in support of tourist economy.	<p>Tourism provides a significant contribution to the Thanet local economy and so efforts to maintain natural assets and improve its desirability as a coastal destination are required to strengthen and support future economic growth.</p> <p>Visit Kent data for 2009 indicates that there were 57 million visitors to Kent, with an economic impact of £3.2 billion as well as supporting an estimated 63,000 jobs.</p>	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes</p> <p>Thanet Local Plan</p> <p>Town Centre Retail, Leisure, Tourism and Culture Assessment, 2012</p>
		The protection and enhancement of historic assets.	<p>Scheduled monuments in Thanet include Anglo Saxon Cemeteries and remains at Monkton and Dane Valley, Salinestone Grange, Quex Park Settlements, and various ring ditches and enclosures. There are also significant amounts of listed buildings and conservation areas throughout the district.</p>	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes</p> <p>Thanet Local Plan</p>

Key Sustainability Issue	Sub Issue	Description	Validation	Source
	Economic Connectivity	<p>The development of key transport gateways to the region including the development of Kent International Airport.</p>	<p>Thanet has often been perceived to be peripheral although in reality transport infrastructure is extremely good with excellent road access to the M2 and M25 along with the new East Kent Access links to the south. The port and airport are important links to the continent and beyond and the High Speed rail link has greatly decreased commuting times to London.</p> <p>Whilst the district does have a number of good transport links it is still on the periphery of Kent and the South-East, and in particular its proximity to London is poor compared to the rest of the south-east.</p> <p>Kent International airport has a potential capacity of 1,000 million passengers per annum with 250,000 tonnes freight per annum. The Airport Masterplan developed in 2009 which estimated a significant increase in passenger (4.7 million passengers per annum) and freight (400,000 tonnes of freight) numbers for the airport to 2033 along with details of future airport expansion such as a new terminal building. To date The airport is currently up for sale and the estimates for growth proposed in the Masterplan have not been achieved. In addition, given the uncertainty regarding the government’s position on aviation within the South East, the future of the airport is uncertain. However, it remains an important economic asset and opportunity to encourage growth in Thanet.</p> <p>Facilitating further growth at the Airport and Ramsgate Port could unlock further opportunities. Current export levels from Thanet are low and therefore there could be growth potential in this area given the close proximity of Thanet to Europe coupled with transport links. There is also the potential for growth given knock on effects from the airport in terms of the supply chain.</p>	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes</p> <p>Thanet Local Plan</p> <p>Employment Land Review</p>

Key Sustainability Issue	Sub Issue	Description	Validation	Source
		Mobility and access to employment opportunities through provision of sustainable public modes of transport.	<p>Compared to a national average of 25.8% the proportion of Thanet households not in possession of a car or van is 29.8%, the 5th highest in the region. In some of the more deprived wards this is almost double this such as Margate Central (52.4%).</p> <p>Of the working age population 40% travel by private, car, van or motorbike to work., 6% travel by public transport, 9% walk or cycle and 3% work from home. These percentages are all lower than the regional and national (England) averages.</p>	Census 2011.
		Links to opportunities associated with sub-regional growth and development including major economic opportunities.	<p>Thanet has an Airport of regional significance at Manston with a potential capacity of 1,000 million passengers per annum with 250,000 tonnes freight per annum.</p> <p>The 2009 Masterplan which estimated a significant increase in passenger and freight numbers for the airport to 2033 along with details of future airport expansion such as a new terminal building. The airport is currently up for sale and the estimates for growth proposed in the Masterplan have not been achieved. In addition, given the uncertainty regarding the government’s position on aviation within the South East, the future of the airport is uncertain. However, it remains an important economic asset and opportunity to encourage growth in Thanet.</p>	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes</p> <p>Thanet Local Plan</p>
SOCIAL	Safety	Initiatives leading to greater public safety including appropriate strategies for intervention (Community Wardens, Police Community Support and Secured by Design).	<p>Approximately 91% of the Thanet population feel safe in their homes – the main focus of interest is in Margate Central Ward and Cliftonville West Ward. Local analysis has shown that the streets of Thanet are extremely safe – large areas of Thanet have had no reported crime in two years with only nine of 446 output areas reporting one crime per month.</p> <p>All three town centres are awarded the National ‘Safer Shopping Award’ with shoplifting and commercial burglary falling year on year.</p>	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes</p> <p>Thanet Local Plan</p> <p>Thanet Crime and Disorder Police Audit 2005-2008</p>

Key Sustainability Issue	Sub Issue	Description	Validation	Source
	Housing	<p>Responding the needs and requirements of the current and future housing market.</p> <p>Support the viability of existing residential developments now and in the future.</p>	<p>Over the last decade the housing market and mix of tenure has changed due to the recession and the impacts this has had on house prices. The proportion of households that are rented instead of owned or mortgaged has increased. Likewise, the annual number of housing sales has fallen to a level lower than 1996.</p> <p>This means that because there is currently less demand for housing the potential future requirements may be less than previously anticipated. However, given the long timeframe over which the Local Plan will operate (to 2031) it is quite likely that the housing market will have changed again. Therefore the Local Plan needs to consider how it can allow flexibility to address potential changes in the future and this flexibility is something that the SA will also consider during the assessment of options and alternatives.</p> <p>The Thanet Private Sector Housing Strategy indicates that the standard of the existing stock is an issue, with the private rented sector being poor in some areas, particularly in Cliftonville.</p>	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes</p> <p>Thanet Local Plan</p> <p>Urban Housing Capacity Study (Kent District council)</p> <p>2002 Local Housing Needs Study</p> <p>Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment</p> <p>Strategic Housing Market Assessment</p>

Key Sustainability Issue	Sub Issue	Description	Validation	Source
	Mobility	<p>Access to key services and employment opportunities through public transport provision.</p>	<p>The Channel Tunnel Rail Link has benefited the UK as a whole but has led to substantial job losses in the in the cross channel ferry industry.</p> <p>Transport links in Thanet have been historically poor however in recent years a number of transport connections have improved significantly. The recently completed East Kent Access Road (A256) provides a fast connection to the A20/M20 at Dover and to the Port of Dover and Channel Tunnel. The Access Road also links Thanet with other major economic assets such as Manston, Kent’s International Airport, the Port of Ramsgate and Discovery Park to the UK’s main arterial road network in less than 60 minutes. Additionally, the introduction of High Speed 1 rail services in 2009 has reduced commuting from central London to Ramsgate to 76 minutes and Margate to 88 minutes.</p> <p>The local population is well served with public transport connections. Access throughout the district is possible via the Thanet Loop bus service. This covers Margate - Broadstairs - Ramsgate – Margate i.e. all towns/centres of commercial activity</p>	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes</p> <p>Thanet Local Plan</p>
	Deprivation	<p>Levels of economic disparity within the region and need to maximise opportunities for all sectors of society. Access to employment opportunities identified as an issue in limiting the realisation of Thanet’s potential.</p>	<p>The 2010 Office of National Statistics Indices of Deprivation indicates that Thanet is ranked the most deprived District in Kent and 65th in England (out of 354), moving it within England’s top 20% deprived Districts in England in all 6 deprivation categories (employment, health deprivation, disability, educational skills and training, housing, geographical access to services and income). Per ward Margate is ranked the most deprived Ward</p> <p>Thanet Scores in the 20% most deprived 15.2 of the District’s population are separated or divorced in comparison to England and Wales being 11.7% - this is the highest rate in Kent.</p>	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes</p> <p>Thanet Local Plan</p>

Key Sustainability Issue	Sub Issue	Description	Validation	Source
	Health	<p>Maintenance of high levels of healthcare provision including dependent sectors of the community.</p> <p>Population demand on healthcare and support services (PCT initiatives).</p>	<p>The poor health of Thanet cannot just be attributed to the number of older residents of people suffering a limiting long term illness. This ranks highest in the region (of 67) and is 37th of the 376 Districts in England and Wales^{Error! Bookmark not defined.}.</p>	<p>Census 2011.</p>
	Education and Skills	<p>Access to skills development for all sectors of society. Particular demand associated with transient and dependent sectors of society.</p>	<p>39% of East Kent’s children’s homes providing care for socially excluded children are located in Thanet. A large proportion of children remain in the area through to adulthood compounding a dependency culture.</p> <p>Within Thanet 15.9% of 16-60 year olds have low or very low literacy (15% nationally) and 35.1% have low or very low numeracy (33% nationally)</p> <p>It is well evidenced that the district has a number of skills gaps. Thanet’s qualification profile is skewed towards NVQ1, 2 and 3, with all three above the county, region and UK. Promisingly it has proportionally fewer individuals with no qualifications (8.6%) this is compared to Kent at 11.4 per cent and the UK as a whole 12.2 per cent. However in terms of NVQ level 4, which is equivalent to degree level qualification, the district has proportionally far fewer residents that hold this qualification than the county, region and UK. In the South East over a third (39.7 per cent) are NVQ level 4 or above compared to 31.4 per cent in Thanet.</p>	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes review and baseline, South East Regional Integrated Regional Framework, Thanet Statement of Community Involvement</p> <p>Experian Economic and Employment Assessment – Thanet District Council, 2012</p>

Key Sustainability Issue	Sub Issue	Description	Validation	Source
ENVIRONMENT	Perceptions and Image	Need to maintain the appearance, vitality and safety of the street scene within Thanet particularly associated with town centres and coastal areas.	With their competing catchment areas Thanet's towns have struggled to retain a vital commercial core and have lost many visitor attractions resulting in the stock of guest house and hotels being reduced and converted to private residential multiple user accommodation. However, this is starting to change particularly within Old Town in Margate and Marina in Ramsgate, but in some areas of public realm the main high streets are of a poor standard.	Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes review and baseline, South East Regional Integrated Regional Framework, Thanet Statement of Community Involvement NLP Report
	Biodiversity	Protection of designated sites including; SSSIs, SPA and Ramsar site.	The Thanet coast is protected by a number of international and national conservation and biodiversity designations. These include Special Protected Areas, a Ramsar Site and Sites of Special Scientific Interest. A full list of designations made on biodiversity grounds are given in Appendix D1. Threats to rare species of birds and the Chalk Reefs are a particular concern.	Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes review and baseline, South East Regional Integrated Regional Framework, Thanet Statement of Community Involvement, Kent Biodiversity Action Plan.

Key Sustainability Issue	Sub Issue	Description	Validation	Source
	Development Pressure	Threat to areas of high wildlife, conservation and biodiversity importance from economic and social development	<p>Development within the Thanet District presents areas of conservation and wildlife importance at threat. This is particularly evident in areas of ‘coastal squeeze’ where space for development is at a premium. Also the need for open space for recreational needs places additional pressures on designated areas.</p> <p>The impact of changes to air quality resulting from this development should also be considered.</p> <p>Where possible opportunities to link and extend wildlife habitats to reduce the impact of inappropriate development should be supported. In doing so it is important to make provisions for general green space and green infrastructure in association with development needs</p>	Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes review and baseline, South East Regional Integrated Regional Framework, Thanet Statement of Community Involvement, Kent Biodiversity Action Plan.
	Coastal Management	The coastal areas of Thanet have a high conservation and landscape value and should be afforded appropriate protection.	<p>The chalk reefs in themselves justify the need to afford significant management in the protection of the coastal area. In particular threats include; increasing pressure on coastal resources from recreational use, the potential impact of coastal flood defence construction, the impact of coastal erosion, impact from urbanisation and the threat to species of regional, national and international importance, such as the turnstone.</p> <p>Groundwater Source Protection Zones exist across the district.</p>	Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes review and baseline, South East Regional Integrated Regional Framework, Thanet Statement of Community Involvement, Kent Biodiversity Action Plan.

Key Sustainability Issue	Sub Issue	Description	Validation	Source
	Water Quality	Risk to water quality	The whole of the Thanet area is classified as a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone. Furthermore nutrient runoffs may impact on inter tidal chalk reefs.	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes review and baseline, South East Regional Integrated Regional Framework, Thanet Statement of Community Involvement, Kent Biodiversity Action Plan.</p> <p>Environment Agency mapping</p>
	Climate Change and Flood Risk	Nation need to consider impacts associated with climate change and particular imperative within coastal locale. Risk of flooding must be considered in Local Plan development.	Thanet has a key advantage as flood risk does not pose a constraint to identifying sufficient housing site, commercial or industrial site opportunities.	<p>Thanet DC Corporate Themes, Plans, Policies and Programmes review and baseline, South East Regional Integrated Regional Framework, Thanet Statement of Community Involvement, Kent Biodiversity Action Plan,</p> <p>Environment Agency</p>

5 Sustainability Appraisal Framework

5.1 Purpose and Overview

The SA Framework provides a way in which sustainability effects of the Local Plan can be described, analysed and compared and is central to the SA process⁴².

The SA Framework is made up of a series of SA Objectives and Decision Making Criteria (DMC), which have been developed in this case specifically for Thanet, supported by a range of indicators and targets. The SA Framework is used as a way of checking whether the objectives and indicators are the best possible for sustainability and can be seen as a methodological benchmark against which the social, environment and economic effects of a plan can be tested.

5.2 Objectives and Decision Making Criteria (DMC)

5.2.1 Development

There were a number of key starting points for developing SA Objectives and DMC. These are outlined below:

5.2.1.1 Sustainability Objectives SEA Requirements

It is essential that the SA Framework includes the topics required by the SEA Directive. These are:

'the likely significant effects on the environment including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors.' EU Directive 2001/42/EC (Annex 1)

5.2.1.2 UK Sustainable Development Objectives

The UK Government recognises five objectives for Sustainable Development as part of its Sustainable Development Strategy 'Securing the Future', 2005. These are outlined in Figure 2.1 Furthermore the NPPF sets out overarching principles and guidance by which the planning system can contribute to sustainability and prescribes a 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' The SA Framework should support and incorporate these objectives and principles.

5.2.1.3 Established Objectives and Locally Relevant Issues and Parameters

The 2009 SA Scoping Report included an exercise to identify the key themes referred to within the Community Strategy and compare these against the

⁴² Sustainability Appraisal of regional spatial strategies and local development documents, 2005

proposed SA Objectives. In addition to the Community Strategy, the key objectives of the Integrated Regional Framework (IRF) for South East England and objectives of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) were also identified and compared against the proposed SA Objectives.

Since 2009 changes to the planning system and introduction of the NPPF and Localism Act 2011 has led revocation and redundancy of the RSS and IRF. To mirror this change, SA framework objectives developed in 2009 have been reviewed and comparison made with NPPF principles to ensure alignment. This is summarised in Table 5.1.

Following this review - No further potential SA Objectives were identified, and the objectives proposed for the SA were considered to be robust.

5.2.2 Proposed SA Objectives and DMC

The SA Objectives are listed in Table 5.1 below. The full SA objectives, indicators and supporting DMC and indicators are given in Appendix B.

The SA objectives have grouped against the themes of economy, social and environment, to tie in with SA policy. Each objective has been numbered to assist with cross referencing. The derived objectives are as follows:

5.2.3 Social

1. To provide a sustainable supply of housing including an appropriate mix of types and tenures to reflect demand and need;
2. To maintain appropriate healthcare provision and access to healthcare facilities for all sectors of society;
3. To provide access to appropriate educational facilities for all sectors of society including focus on training vulnerable and welfare dependant workers with skills necessary to ensure year round employment;
4. To increase public safety and reduce crime and fear of crime;
5. To provide a sustainable public transport network that allows access to key facilities, services and employment opportunities without reliance on private vehicles;
6. To provide appropriate key facilities to support vulnerable people and reduce the level of deprivation identified across the wards;
7. To create vibrant balanced communities where residents feel a 'sense of place' and individual contribution is valued.

5.2.4 Economic

8. To provide access to employment opportunities for all sectors of society ensuring that everyone who wants to work has the opportunity to secure appropriate paid employment;
9. To ensure the sustainable development of the proposed economic growth and encourage industrial and employment development at key sites within the District to support priority regeneration areas;

10. To protect and enhance the areas natural, semi-natural environments and street scene to support the tourist economy and quality of life;
11. To improve efficiency in land use through the re-use of previously developed land and existing buildings, including reuse of materials from buildings, and encourage urban renaissance;
12. To ensure that a sustainable pattern of development is pursued.

5.2.5 Environmental

13. To conserve and enhance the character and quality of the area's landscape and townscape particularly associated with town centres and coastal areas.
14. To preserve and enhance sites, features and areas of historic archaeological or architectural importance, and their settings;
15. To improve air quality in areas where air quality (pollutant) levels exceed national standards;
16. To provide a sustainable public transport network that allows access to key facilities, services and employment opportunities without reliance on private vehicles;
17. To develop key sustainable transport links between Thanet and the wider Kent region and beyond, including road, rail and air;
18. To reduce waste generation and disposal and achieve the sustainable management of waste;
19. To ensure development within the District responds to the challenges associated with climate change;
20. To ensure appropriate development control procedures in place to manage the risks of coastal erosion, coastal and fluvial flood risk, in accordance with development management policies and NPPF;
21. To conserve and enhance biodiversity;
22. To protect and improve the quality of fluvial and coastal water resources, including European designated sites;
23. To reduce the global, social and environmental impact of consumption of resources by using sustainably produced and local products;
24. To increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources in the area.

While it is acknowledged that some objectives could fit in a number of themes, it is not considered to be a barrier to the effective delivery of the appraisal process due to the following:

- The impact on each of the SA Objectives is assessed individually, and the appraisal also considers the impact on all the SA Objectives as a whole rather than by theme; and
- It must be recognised that the themes and SA Objectives are inextricably interlinked, contributing and impacting on each other.

It is important to consider the links between the SA Objectives when completing the appraisal and this has been noted throughout. The links between the SA Objectives and other plan objectives are included in the following Table 5.1.

5.3 Indicators and Targets

5.3.1 Development

Indicators and targets have been developed for each SA Objective. These enable the baseline situation to be assessed and monitored to facilitate positive change. When selecting indicators and targets a number of issues were taken into consideration:

- Indicators had to be measurable and useful;
- A wide range of indicators are already collected in Thanet and nationally, and it was considered important to align indicators with these as far as possible;
- While it is preferable that the selection of indicators has available data it is important that data does not dictate what is measured. Therefore indicators which are new or are known to be problematic in relation to data collection have at times been included (where no alternative indicators are available) and gaps should be left in the baseline until data either becomes available or new methods for collecting such data have been established.
- In order to make the best use out of these indicators and time spent collecting data, consideration was given to the ability to utilise the indicators for monitoring sustainability impacts during Stage E of the SA process.

Core sources of indicators include:

- Office of National Statistics Website;
- Thanet District Council Annual Monitoring Report 2010-2011
- Thanet District Council Local Plan 2006 (Saved Policies);
- Thanet District Council Housing Strategy 2012-2016.

5.3.2 Indicators and decision making criteria

Suggested indicators and decision making criteria have been developed for each SA Objective. These enable the baseline situation to be assessed and monitored to facilitate positive change. The proposed indicators and decision making criteria are contained in Appendix B.

The emerging Local Plan will not only contain strategic level policies (e.g. housing numbers and their general distribution) it will also identify potential sites for housing allocations. As a result, a different set of decision making criteria will be required to appraise the more site specific and spatial effects of the allocations. These criteria will be developed alongside those being developed by the Council to select sites using GIS to assess the proximity of potential housing sites to facilities and/or potential sensitive receptors (e.g. Sites of Special Scientific Interest or Conservation Areas).

The proposed indicators and targets and their source are contained in Appendix B.

5.4 Approach to Appraisal

5.4.1 Development

A series of Matrices have been developed to guide the SA process. In developing these it was important to ensure that they considered the scope and requirements of an appraisal. This included confirmation of the following key aspects:

Stages of Appraisal

The SA Framework has to be applicable to all stages of the appraisal process. The key stages of the appraisal as outlined in the SA Guidance 2005 are known as Stage B and include:

- Testing plan objectives against SA Objectives; Appraisal of options and preferred options;
- Appraisal of the cumulative effects of the Local Plans as a whole and in combination with other relevant plans and/or programmes; and
- The identification of measures to mitigate significant adverse effects.

Requirements of SEA

The appraisal process also has to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive. These include:

“The likely significant effects.... These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects” (Annex I (f) and footnote)

“The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme...” (Annex I (g))

The significance of potential impacts will also be assessed including the magnitude of the predicted effects. For the purposes of this SA and SEA a significant effect will be categorised as one of moderate or greater significance.

5.4.2 Recording the Appraisal

The Local Plan will contain a range of policy types including strategic policies regarding housing numbers, spatial policies that direct different types of development to specific locations and development policies that specify the way that future development should be implemented. As a consequence, the approach to assessment needs to be flexible so that these different forms of policy can all be assessed.

All of the alternative and preferred policies, strategic policies and allocations will be assessed using criteria derived from the same overarching SA Framework. However, because some of the SA objectives do not have a clearly defined ‘spatial element’ it will not be appropriate to assess all the potential site allocations against the full suite of SA objectives and assessment criteria. To address this we will screen the SA objectives only selecting those that are likely to

be relevant to the SA of the allocations. We will also draw on the findings from the Council's own assessment criteria for selecting potential sites.

Another important element for the SA process is the need to assess the alternative policies and options to the same level of detail as the preferred options and that the justification for a preferred option being taken forward is set out.

To make this process more efficient a number of matrices will be developed to compare results from the SA of the 'reasonable' alternative options against each other (It is assumed that the SA will only assess the options brought forward by the Council that are deemed to be deliverable and in broad compliance with national policy and the evidence base).

It will also be necessary to assess the likely significant cumulative effects. Whilst the alternatives and preferred options will be assessed on a policy or Local Plan issue basis cumulative effects will be assessed by each of the SA / SEA topics. This will draw on the results from assessment of policies.

5.5 Mitigation measures

Where significant effects are predicted mitigation measures will be identified. These measures may include amendments to the preferred policies and/or allocations, suggestions for new policies and other measures to avoid the effects. Any significant residual effects, following the implementation of mitigation measures, will also be identified.

Table 5.1 – SA Objectives Cross Referenced against other Plans Objectives.

Objective Number / Thanet District SA Objective	Community Strategy Themes (2004)	NPPF Objectives
<p>1. To provide a sustainable supply of housing including an appropriate mix of types and tenures to reflect demand.</p>	<p>Improve the choice, supply, quality and accessibility of housing available to Thanet people.</p>	<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i> Proactively drive and support sustainable economic development to deliver the homes, business and industrial units, infrastructure and thriving local places that the country needs. Every effort should be made objectively to identify and then meet the housing, business and other development needs of an area, and respond positively to wider opportunities for growth. Plans should take account of market signals, such as land prices and housing affordability, and set out a clear strategy for allocating sufficient land which is suitable for development in their area, taking account of the needs of the residential and business communities.</p> <p><i>NPPF - Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes</i> To deliver a wide choice of high quality homes, widen opportunities for home ownership and create sustainable, inclusive and mixed communities, local planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan for a mix of housing based on current and future demographic trends, market trends and the needs of different groups in the community (such as, but not limited to, families with children, older people, people with disabilities, service families and people wishing to build their own homes); • Identify the size, type, tenure and range of housing that is required in particular locations, reflecting local demand; and • Where they have identified that affordable housing is needed, set policies for meeting this need on site, unless off-site provision or a financial contribution of broadly equivalent value can be robustly justified (for example to improve or make more effective use of the existing housing stock) and the agreed approach contributes to the objective of creating mixed and balanced communities. Such policies should be sufficiently flexible to take account of changing market conditions over time.

Objective Number / Thanet District SA Objective	Community Strategy Themes (2004)	NPPF Objectives
<p>2. To maintain appropriate healthcare provision and access to healthcare facilities for all sectors of society.</p>	<p>To develop a better understanding of mental health, co-ordinated action to prevent mental ill health, improve access to prevention services and provide improved support for people with mental health.</p> <p>To reduce the numbers of people dying prematurely from cancer, heart disease and stroke.</p> <p>Older people being encouraged to play an active part in their community and being able to live safely and securely in their own home for as long as possible.</p> <p>A range of family support services, children’s services and a range of affordable childcare places which contribute towards enabling every baby, child and young person to have an equal start in life and opportunity for self-fulfilment throughout their development.</p>	<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i></p> <p>Take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all, and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.</p>
<p>3. To provide access to appropriate educational facilities for all sectors of society including focus on training vulnerable and welfare dependant workers with skills necessary to ensure year round employment.</p>	<p>Lifelong learning</p> <p>To provide all residents of Thanet with good literacy, language, numeracy and information technology skills.</p> <p>Good quality education services available to all with every one having access to pre-school with good prospects of securing employment and the opportunity to access further education and training.</p>	<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i></p> <p>Take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all, and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.</p> <p><i>NPPF – Promoting sustainable transport</i></p> <p>Planning policies should aim for a balance of land uses within their area so that people can be encouraged to minimise journey lengths for employment, shopping, leisure, education and other activities.</p> <p><i>NPPF – Promoting healthy communities</i></p>

Objective Number / Thanet District SA Objective	Community Strategy Themes (2004)	NPPF Objectives
	<p>To raise aspirations and enable all to achieve their full potential through the provision of high quality further education and training.</p> <p>To raise aspirations and increase the number of people participating in Higher education in the Thanet Area.</p> <p>A range of high standard facilities available to Thanet residents and everyone able to access and participate in a leisure and sporting activity.</p>	<p>The Government attaches great importance to ensuring that a sufficient choice of school places is available to meet the needs of existing and new communities. Local planning authorities should take a proactive, positive and collaborative approach to meeting this requirement, and to development that will widen choice in education. They should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give great weight to the need to create, expand or alter schools; and • Work with schools promoters to identify and resolve key planning issues before applications are submitted.
<p>4. To increase public safety and reduce crime and fear of crime.</p>	<p>Safer Community</p> <p>To improve the quality of life of the community by reducing the number of acts of vandalism.</p> <p>To create safer public places where communities are free from fear of crime.</p> <p>To enable victims to become free of abusive relationships [Domestic Violence].</p> <p>Increased public confidence in the criminal justice system that offenders will be brought to justice.</p>	<p><i>NPPF – Requiring good design/Promoting healthy communities</i></p> <p>Create safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion.</p>
<p>5. To provide a sustainable public transport network that allows access to key facilities, services and employment opportunities without</p>	<p>Transport</p> <p>Fast efficient rail, road, sea and air links between Thanet and main markets in UK and overseas</p>	<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i></p> <p>Actively manage patterns of growth to make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling, and focus significant development in locations which are or can be made sustainable.</p>

Objective Number / Thanet District SA Objective	Community Strategy Themes (2004)	NPPF Objectives
reliance on private vehicles.	An integrated public transport system that enables residents without private cars to access jobs, training and facilities.	<p><i>NPPF – Promoting sustainable transport</i></p> <p>Plans should protect and exploit opportunities for the use of sustainable transport modes for the movement of goods or people. Therefore, developments should be located and designed where practical to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accommodate the efficient delivery of goods and supplies; • give priority to pedestrian and cycle movements, and have access to high quality public transport facilities; • create safe and secure layouts which minimise conflicts between traffic and cyclists or pedestrians, avoiding street clutter and where appropriate establishing home zones; • incorporate facilities for charging plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles; and • consider the needs of people with disabilities by all modes of transport.
6. To provide appropriate key facilities to support vulnerable people and reduce the level of deprivation identified across the wards.		<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i></p> <p>Take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all, and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.</p>
7. To create a vibrant balanced communities where residents feel a ‘sense of place’ and individual contribution is valued	Everyone able to be part of the local community and to influence the way it operates and develops.	<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i></p> <p>Always seek to secure high quality design and a good standard of amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings.</p> <p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i></p> <p>Not simply be about scrutiny, but instead be a creative exercise in finding ways to enhance and improve the places in which people live their lives.</p> <p><i>(NPPF – Headline principle)</i></p> <p>Take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all, and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.</p>

Objective Number / Thanet District SA Objective	Community Strategy Themes (2004)	NPPF Objectives
<p>8. To provide access to employment opportunities for all sectors of society ensuring that everyone who wants to work has the opportunity to secure appropriate paid employment.</p>	<p>A diverse economy providing high quality jobs for Thanet leading to full employment.</p>	<p><i>NPPF – Local Plans</i> Local planning authorities should set out the strategic priorities for the area in the Local Plan. This should include strategic policies to deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • jobs needed in the area; <p><i>NPPF – Building a strong, competitive economy</i> In drawing up Local Plans, local planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set out a clear economic vision and strategy for their area which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth?
<p>9. To ensure the sustainable development of the proposed economic growth and encourage industrial and employment development at key sites within the District to support priority regeneration areas .</p>	<p>A one-stop-shop for business support.</p> <p>Provision of utility infrastructure and high quality space on key sites to accommodate inward and local investment demand.</p>	<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i> Proactively drive and support sustainable economic development to deliver the homes, business and industrial units, infrastructure and thriving local places that the country needs. Every effort should be made objectively to identify and then meet the housing, business and other development needs of an area, and respond positively to wider opportunities for growth. Plans should take account of market signals, such as land prices and housing affordability, and set out a clear strategy for allocating sufficient land which is suitable for development in their area, taking account of the needs of the residential and business communities</p>
<p>10. To protect and enhance the areas natural, semi-natural and street scene to support the tourist economy.</p> <p>13. To conserve and enhance the character and quality of the area’s landscape and townscape particularly associated with town centres and coastal areas.</p> <p>14. To preserve and enhance sites, features and areas of historic archaeological or architectural importance, and their settings.</p>	<p>Culture and Tourism</p> <p>Thanet’s cultural and tourist attractions are effectively marketed, well maintained and expanded upon so as to attract a steady supply of visitors from the UK and overseas.</p> <p>Wildlife, Coast and country side – Thanet’s coast and countryside is a rich and diverse series of linked habitats, providing wildlife havens and a good environment for all.</p> <p>Everyone in Thanet has convenient access to public open spaces that are safe,</p>	<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i> Conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations.</p> <p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i> Contribute to conserving and enhancing the natural environment and reducing pollution. Allocations of land for development should prefer land of lesser environmental value, where consistent with other policies in this Framework.</p> <p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i> Take account of the different roles and character of different areas, promoting the vitality of our main urban areas, protecting the Green Belts around them, recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside and supporting thriving rural communities within it.</p>

Objective Number / Thanet District SA Objective	Community Strategy Themes (2004)	NPPF Objectives
	<p>attractive and diverse.</p> <p>Public spaces and urban areas are attractive, successful and safe for both residents and visitors.</p>	
<p>11. To improve efficiency in land use through the re-use of previously developed land and existing buildings, including reuse of materials from buildings, and encourage urban renaissance.</p>		<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i></p> <p>Encourage the effective use of land by reusing land that has been previously developed (brownfield land), provided that it is not of high environmental value.</p>
<p>12. To ensure that a sustainable pattern of development is pursued.</p>		<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i></p> <p>Proactively drive and support sustainable economic development to deliver the homes, business and industrial units, infrastructure and thriving local places that the country needs. Every effort should be made objectively to identify and then meet the housing, business and other development needs of an area, and respond positively to wider opportunities for growth. Plans should take account of market signals, such as land prices and housing affordability, and set out a clear strategy for allocating sufficient land which is suitable for development in their area, taking account of the needs of the residential and business communities.</p>
<p>15. To improve air quality in the District's Air Quality Management Areas.</p>		<p><i>NPPF – Conserving and enhancing the natural environment</i></p> <p>Planning policies should sustain compliance with and contribute towards EU limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and the cumulative impacts on air quality from individual sites in local areas. Planning decisions should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas is consistent with the local air quality action plan.</p>
<p>16. To provide a sustainable public transport network that allows access to key facilities, services and employment opportunities without reliance on private vehicles.</p> <p>17. To develop key sustainable transport links between Thanet and</p>		<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i></p> <p>Actively manage patterns of growth to make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling, and focus significant development in locations which are or can be made sustainable.</p> <p><i>NPPF – Promoting sustainable transport</i></p> <p>Plans should protect and exploit opportunities for the use of sustainable transport modes for the movement of goods or people. Therefore, developments should be located and designed where</p>

Objective Number / Thanet District SA Objective	Community Strategy Themes (2004)	NPPF Objectives
the wider Kent region and beyond, including road, rail and air.		<p>practical to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accommodate the efficient delivery of goods and supplies; • give priority to pedestrian and cycle movements, and have access to high quality public transport facilities; • create safe and secure layouts which minimise conflicts between traffic and cyclists or pedestrians, avoiding street clutter and where appropriate establishing home zones; • incorporate facilities for charging plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles; and • consider the needs of people with disabilities by all modes of transport.
18. To reduce waste generation and disposal and achieve the sustainable management of waste	Waste Generation – the culture of waste reduction is deeply embedded within Thanet households, businesses and public services.	<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i></p> <p>Support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change, and encourage the reuse of existing resources, including conversion of existing buildings, and encourage the use of renewable resources (for example, by the development of renewable energy).</p> <p><i>NPPF – Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals</i></p> <p>So far as practicable, take account of the contribution that substitute or secondary and recycled materials and minerals waste would make to the supply of materials, before considering extraction of primary materials, whilst aiming to source minerals supplies indigenously.</p>
19. To ensure development within the District responds to the challenges associated with climate change.	Energy Efficiency – Thanet sustainable in terms of energy generation and usage.	<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i></p> <p>Support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change, and encourage the reuse of existing resources, including conversion of existing buildings, and encourage the use of renewable resources (for example, by the development of renewable energy).</p>
20. To ensure appropriate development control procedures in place to manage the risks of coastal erosion, coastal and fluvial flood risk, in accordance with PPS25.		<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i></p> <p>Support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change, and encourage the reuse of existing resources, including conversion of existing buildings, and encourage the use of renewable resources (for example, by the development of renewable energy).</p>
21. To conserve and enhance biodiversity.		<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i></p> <p>Contribute to conserving and enhancing the natural environment and reducing pollution. Allocations of land for development should prefer land of lesser environmental value, where consistent with other</p>

Objective Number / Thanet District SA Objective	Community Strategy Themes (2004)	NPPF Objectives
<p>22.To protect and improve the quality of fluvial and coastal water resources, including European designated sites</p>		<p>policies in this Framework.</p> <p><i>NPPF – Protecting Green Belt Land</i></p> <p>Once Green Belts have been defined, local planning authorities should plan positively to enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt, such as looking for opportunities to provide access; to provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation; to retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity; or to improve damaged and derelict land.</p> <p><i>NPPF – Conserving and enhancing the natural environment</i></p> <p>The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government’s commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures; and • Preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability
<p>23. To reduce the global, social and environmental impact of consumption of resources by using sustainably produced and local products.</p>		<p>To reduce the global, social and environmental impact of consumption of resources by using sustainability produced and local products (objective 16)</p> <p>(NPPF – Headline principle)</p> <p>Support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change, and encourage the reuse of existing resources, including conversion of existing buildings, and encourage the use of renewable resources (for example, by the development of renewable energy).</p> <p>(NPPF – Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals)</p> <p>So far as practicable, take account of the contribution that substitute or secondary and recycled materials and minerals waste would make to the supply of materials, before considering extraction of primary materials, whilst aiming to source minerals supplies indigenously.</p>

Objective Number / Thanet District SA Objective	Community Strategy Themes (2004)	NPPF Objectives
<p>24. To increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources in the area.</p>		<p><i>NPPF – Headline principle</i></p> <p>Support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change, and encourage the reuse of existing resources, including conversion of existing buildings, and encourage the use of renewable resources (for example, by the development of renewable energy).</p> <p>NPPF - Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change</p> <p>To support the move to a low carbon future, local planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan for new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions; • Actively support energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings; and • When setting any local requirement for a building’s sustainability, do so in a way consistent with the Government’s zero carbon buildings policy and adopt nationally described standards.

6 Next Steps

6.1 Overview

There are a number of stages required to complete the SA process for Thanet's Local Plan as outlined below. They are in accordance with current DCLG SA Guidance 2005. Proposals include completing Stage A and undertaking all the tasks required in Stages B-E. The following appraisal stages must be completed.

6.2 Completing Stage A: Consulting on and amending the Scoping Report

This Scoping Report provides the basis for SA of the Local Plan. The Scoping Report is subject to a 5 week consultation period. For this Scoping Report this consultation is due to take place in March 2013 and will include the statutory consultee bodies (Natural England, English Heritage and Environment Agency) and other stakeholders with social, environmental and economic responsibilities or interests. The Scoping Report will also be made available to other key stakeholders in, and close to, the Thanet District. Following consultation, stakeholder feedback may result in the need to make changes to the SA Framework. Where appropriate, the Scoping Report will be re-released to consultees to demonstrate the changes which have been addressed as a consequence of the consultation process.

6.2.1 Stakeholder Involvement

The identification and engagement of key stakeholders is considered to be critical to support the development of strategic policy and plans, whilst opportunities for wider community involvement are considered important to ensure the process remains open and inclusive.

6.3 Stage B: Appraising the Effects of the Plan (Options, Preferred Options (Draft Policies) and Draft Plan)

6.3.1 Purpose

This stage of the SA process is where the significant effects of the Local Plan as defined by the SEA Directive, and mitigation and enhancement opportunities are identified. However, it is important to note the SA informs decision making but will not make decisions. In the case of the Options Appraisal the ODPM SA Guidance 2005 states:

'It is not the role of the SA to determine which of the options should be chosen...This is the role of those who have to decide which strategy is appropriate. The role of the SA is to assist with the identification of the appropriate options, by highlighting the sustainability implications of each, and by putting forward recommendations for improvement.' Appendix 11.

6.3.2 Key Tasks

The Appraisal Process includes the following tasks in accordance with SEA Directive requirements:

- Test the plan objectives against the sustainability objectives;
- Predict and assess the effects of different issues and options;
- Predict and assess the effects of the preferred options (draft policies);
- Assess the effects of the draft plan as whole (cumulative and synergistic impacts); and
- Identify mitigation and enhancement opportunities in order to improve the sustainability impact of the draft plan

As outlined in section 5.4, Appraisal Matrices have been developed to guide and document this process and are contained in Appendix C for comment.

6.3.3 Developing Monitoring Systems

The SEA Directive requires the impacts of a plan on sustainability to be monitored and it is an important on-going element of the SA process. It can test predicted effects, help ensure the SA Objectives are being achieved (although it is acknowledged that there will be many factors that influence this) and help ensure unforeseen issues are identified so they can be mitigated where possible. As the Core Strategy is appraised its monitoring needs will thus be identified.

Thanet District Council is also required to develop monitoring systems to assess the general implementation and effectiveness of LDDs and produce an Annual Monitoring Report for the LDF. There will be overlap between sustainability and LDD monitoring systems. This is recognised by the ODPM SA Guidance 2005 and it suggests that monitoring systems can be aligned. To increase efficiency further monitoring systems should be aligned with existing data collection or monitoring systems in place within Thanet.

The indicators and targets produced for the SA Framework could form a sensible basis for developing a monitoring system as:

- Data for each of the indicators needs to be collected anyway to keep the baseline up to date;
- They have already been aligned as far as possible with other Thanet data collection systems; and
- It has been recommended that all LDD indicators align themselves to these.

Appendix 14 of the ODPM SA Guidance for Regional Planning Bodies and Local Planning Authorities November 2005 provides a guide to developing monitoring systems. The SA Report will include recommendations for the monitoring process.

6.4 Stage C: Document the Appraisal Process and Preparing the SA Report

6.4.1 Documenting the Preferred Options and Whole Plan Appraisal

The draft SA Report must be produced to sit alongside the consultation of the draft Local Plan. It should detail the SA process and the findings of the options and preferred options (draft policies) appraisals and will need to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive for an Environmental Report, and clearly demonstrate how the SEA requirements have been met. The SA Report will initially be produced in draft and consulted upon to ensure that statutory consultees are content that the Environment report discharges the requirements of the SEA Directive.

At this stage it is proposed that SA Report follows the format contained in the ODPM SA Guidance 2005.

6.5 Stage D: Consulting on the Draft Plan and the SA Report

6.5.1 Consultation Process

The Draft SA Report should be consulted on alongside a draft LDD. This should include the SEA Consultation Bodies, the public and other relevant bodies and stakeholders with social, environmental and economic responsibilities or interests. Before consultation proceeds the latest DCLG Guidance should be checked to ensure it is in line with this.

6.5.2 Appraising Significant Changes and Amending the SA Report

If significant changes are made to the preferred options following consultation, an SA will be required on these changes. The SA Report will need to be amended to reflect changes. This may take the form of an annex or addendum to the SA Report.

Similarly if there are any changes to the monitoring proposals these will also need to be amended.

6.5.3 Independent Examination

Once the LDD is finalised the final SA Report should be submitted to the Secretary of State for Independent Examination. Further information on this is contained in the ODPM SA Guidance 2005.

6.6 Stage E: Monitoring the Implementation of the Plan

6.6.1 Implementing the Monitoring Systems

The monitoring systems developed in Stage B and consulted on in Stage D should be implemented.

6.6.2 Responding to Adverse or Unexpected Effects

If monitoring reveals adverse or unexpected effects then actions should be taken to address these. These could include actions by Thanet District Council or other bodies and may include:

- Reviewing policies;
- Changing the way policies are implemented; or
- Changing other plans and programmes to compensate for the LDD.

Recommendations for dealing with adverse or unexpected effects should be included in the SA Report.

Table 6.1 Proposed Format for SA Report (Source DCLG Draft SA Guidance, 2005)

Example Structure and Contents of the Sustainability Report	
Structure of Report	Information to Include:
Components making up the Environmental Report	Table sign-posting the components of the SA Report which make up the Environmental Report for the purposes of the SEA Directive
1. Summary and outcomes	1.1. Non-technical summary 1.2. Statement on the difference the process has made 1.3. How to comment on the report
2. Appraisal Methodology	2.1. Approach adopted to the SA 2.2. When the SA was carried out 2.3. Who carried out the SA 2.4. Who was consulted, when and how
3. Background	3.1. Purpose of the SA and the EA Report 3.2. Plan objectives and outline of contents 3.3. Compliance with SEA Directive Regulations
4. Sustainability objectives, baseline and context	4.1. Links to other strategies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives 4.2. Description of the social, environmental and economic baseline characteristics and the predicted future baseline 4.3. Difficulties in collecting data and limitations of the data 4.4. The SA framework, including objectives, targets and indicators 4.5. Main social, environmental and economic issues and problems identified
5. Plan issues and options	5.1. Main strategic options considered and how they were identified 5.2. Comparison of the social, environmental and economic effects of the options

Example Structure and Contents of the Sustainability Report	
Structure of Report	Information to Include:
	5.3. How social, environmental and economic issues were considered in choosing the preferred options 5.4. Other options considered, and why these were rejected 5.5. Proposed mitigation measures.
6. Plan policies	6.1. Significant social, environmental and economic effects of the preferred policies 6.2. How social, environmental and economic problems were considered in developing the policies 6.3. Proposed mitigation measures 6.4. Uncertainties and risks
7. Implementation	7.1. Links to other tiers of plans and programmes and the project lever (environmental impact assessment, design guidance, etc.) 7.2. Proposals for monitoring

7 Summary

This Scoping Report defines the work proposed for the SA of Thanet District Council's Local Plan. It is intended to provide baseline information; initial identification of key issues and to set the framework for enabling the Sustainability Appraisal to be conducted.

The Scoping Report contains a review of international, national, regional, sub regional and Thanet plans, policies and programmes, a description of the current baseline for Thanet and identification of the Districts key sustainability issues and sets out a general SA Framework for Thanet. This latter item includes SA Objectives, Decision Making Criteria, indicators and targets and Appraisal Matrices.

Consultees are invited to comment on the proposed approach to the SA described within this report. It is intended that comments from the Environment Agency, Natural England and English Heritage, as well as non-statutory consultees, are incorporated within evolving plan-making process. It is recognised that during a previous round of consultation, consultee comments have been useful in refining baseline data and the SA Framework.

There are a number of stages required to complete the SA process and this report details the next stages in the process. These include completing Stage B to guide option development for the plan and undertaking all the tasks required under Stages C to E

.

Appendix A

Review of Plans, Policies and Programmes

A1 Review of International through to Local Thanet Plans, Policies and Programmes

A plan may be influenced in various ways by other plans or programmes and by external environmental objectives such as those laid down in policies or legislation. Therefore a review of relevant plans, policies and programmes (PPPs) is essential to highlight these relationships for the Sustainability Appraisal process.

Through the identification of these relationships it is possible to address potential inconsistencies and constraints, enabling potential synergies to be exploited. The review is also useful in raising issues that have already been addressed in other PPPs and therefore may not need to be addressed further in this exercise. Finally the review also provides a useful focus for refining Sustainability Appraisal objectives.

The SEA Directive states that:

The environmental report should provide information on:

‘the plan’s relationship with other relevant plans and programmes and the environmental protection objectives, established at international, [European] 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’.

The following tables outlines all of the policies, plans and strategies at the international, national, regional and local levels which will have a bearing on the Local Plan based on the Sustainability Appraisal objectives

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
International				
<p>The Copenhagen Conference 2009 and Delhi Summit on Sustainable Development</p>	<p>Sustainable consumption and production patterns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production - 10-year framework of programmes of action; • Reverse trend in loss of natural resources. • Renewable Energy and Energy efficiency. • Urgently and substantially increase [global] share of renewable energy. • Significantly reduce rate of biodiversity loss by 2010. 	<p>No targets or indicators, however actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater resource efficiency; • Support business innovation and take-up of best practice in technology and management; • Waste reduction and producer responsibility; and • Sustainable consumer consumption and procurement. <p>The need to limit global temperatures rising no more than 2C Create a level playing field for renewable energy and energy efficiency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New technology development; • Push on energy efficiency; • Low-carbon programmes; • Reduced impacts on biodiversity. 	<p>The LDF can encourage greater efficiency of resources. Ensure Policies cover the action areas; The LDF can encourage renewable energy. Ensure policies cover the action areas; The Local Plan can protect and enhance biodiversity. Ensure policies cover the action areas.</p>	<p>SA Framework should include objectives aligned to key messages</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP)	<p>ESDP considers that there are strong links and impacts from urban development and spatial organisation on sustainable development, as well as on environmental quality, energy consumption, mobility, health and quality of life.</p> <p>The ESDP put forward three spatial policy guidelines: Development of a balanced and polycentric urban system and a new urban-rural relationship; Securing parity of access to infrastructure and knowledge; and Sustainable development, prudent management and production of nature and cultural heritage.</p>	<p>The ESDP does not contain targets. It sets a number of guiding principles:</p> <p>Policies and decisions with implications for spatial development must not have negative impacts on sustainable development; Spatial planning should balance public interest between the objectives of social cohesion and sustainability and need of competitiveness and market imperatives; Conservation of the rich diversity of European territory is paramount; and Spatial planning should be a tool for combating local and global climate change.</p>	Mainly relevant at national and regional scale.	Mainly relevant at national and regional scale.
European Sustainable Development Strategy (ESDS)	<p>The ESDS focuses on four key-priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limiting climate change and increasing the use of clean energy; • Addressing threats to public health; • Managing natural resources more responsibly; and • Improving the transport system and land use. 	<p>The ESDS sets a number of headline indicators to meet its priorities. These are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit climate change and increase the use of clean energy; • Address threats to public health; • Manage natural resources more responsibly; and • Improve the transport system and land-use management. 	Mainly relevant at national and regional scale.	Mainly relevant at national and regional scale.
EC Council Directive on the Conservation of Natural	<p>The aim of the Habitats Directive is to create a coherent European ecological network known as Natura 2000. This network will consist of a series of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) which will protect habitats and species of Community</p>	<p>Concerns flora, fauna and natural habitats of EU importance. Seeks to establish a framework of protected areas, and ensure biodiversity.</p>	<p>Plan policies should support the objectives of the directives. Where Local Plan policies may impact on</p>	<p>Reflect objectives of the directives in the SA framework.</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
Habitats of Wild Fauna and Flora (Directive 92/43/EC) 1992	interest.		an environmentally designated site, especially if that site is of international importance, under the EC Habitats Directive Article 6 it will require an Appropriate Assessment.	
Our Life, our Insurance European Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 (2011)	This strategy is aimed at reversing biodiversity loss and speeding up the EU's transition towards a resource efficient and green economy.	The EU 2020 biodiversity target is underpinned by the recognition that, in addition to its intrinsic value, biodiversity and the services it provides have significant economic value that is seldom captured in markets. Because it escapes pricing and is not reflected in society's accounts, biodiversity often falls victim to competing claims on nature and its use.	Ensuring that biodiversity forms part of the SA assessment and that the Local Plan addresses biodiversity mitigation measures to reduce the impact of development upon the environment.	SA Objectives must consider biodiversity
Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change - 1999	The ultimate objective of the Convention is “to achieve stabilisation of atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases at levels that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic (human-induced) interference with the climate system.”	Reduction of Greenhouse gas emissions by UK by 12.5%, compared to 1990 levels, by 2008 – 2012	Mainly relevant at national and regional scale, however it is influential to achieving sustainable development as it encourages transition to low carbon economy and is therefore an integral factor in planning documents.	Reflect objectives of the protocol within the SA Framework

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Waste Framework Directive 92/43/EEC and daughter directives e.g.; Landfill Directive 99/31/EC	Waste production should be minimized through the promotion of clean technology and reusable or recyclable products. Where the possible secondary raw materials should be recovered from waste by recycling, reuse and reclamation or any other process, as well as used to produce energy. Waste should be managed with minimal environmental impact.	Advocates the use of a waste hierarchy – Reduce, reuse and recycle.	Implications for general waste management policies and also policies relating specifically to the waste energy facility.	Reflect objectives of the directives in the SA framework.
Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds	The Birds Directive provide for the protection, management and control of all species of naturally occurring wild birds in the European territory of Member States. Requires measures to preserve a sufficient diversity of habitats for all species of wild birds. To conserve the habitat of certain particularly rare species and of migratory species.	Conservation of all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state in the European territory of the Member States to which the Treaty applies. Seeks to establish a framework of protection and ensure biodiversity. Targets are set by the Member States at national, regional and a local level.	Where a DPD or SPD impact on an environmentally designated site, especially if that site is of international importance, under the EC Habitats Directive Article 6 it will require an appropriate assessment	Relevant at national, regional and local scale.
The Air Quality Framework Directive 1996, and Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC) June 2008	Relevant objectives are to maintain ambient air quality where it is good and improve it in other cases.	The Directive also sets limits for air pollutants, to be taken into account in national objectives. Where levels of pollutants exceed certain limit values, a plan for attaining the limit value shall be prepared.	Mainly relevant at national and regional level. Local Plan	Reflect objectives of the directive in the SA framework

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
EC Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC	This directive expands the scope of water protection to all waters, surface waters and groundwater with the prime objective of achieving "good status" for all waters by a set deadline. Water management based on river basins.	All inland and coastal waters to reach good ecological and chemical status by 2015. By 2010 ensure adequate contribution from key sectors to the recovery of costs of water services.	Mainly relevant at national and regional scale. Take measures to maintain or restore all waters to be detailed in regional and local plans. Plan will need to take account of catchment areas.	Reflect objectives of the directive in the SA framework.
European Flood Risk Directive 2007	Requires Local Authorities to feed in to the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (already completed), as well as the Local Flood Risk Strategy (forthcoming), and ensure that objectives within Local Plans compliment the objectives of the Directive.	The Directive requires Member States to first carry out a preliminary assessment by 2011 to identify the river basins and associated coastal areas at risk of flooding. For such zones they would then need to draw up flood risk maps by 2013 and establish flood risk management plans focused on prevention, protection and preparedness by 2015. The Directive applies to inland waters as well as all coastal waters across the whole territory of the EU.	The European Floods Directive requires Local Plans to compliment the objectives of the Directive. Ensure that plan policies assist in directing development to locations at least risk of flooding. Plan will need to take	Reflect objectives of the directive in the SA framework.

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive - 1996/61/EC	The Directive contains basic rules for integrated permits, which cover the whole environmental performance of Plants i.e. emissions to air, water and land, generation of waste, use of raw materials, energy efficiency, noise, prevention of accidents, risk management, etc. The permits must be based on the concept of Best Available Technique (BAT).	<p>In order to receive a permit an industrial or agricultural installation must comply with certain basic obligations. In particular, it must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use all appropriate pollution-prevention measures, namely the best available techniques (which produce the least waste, use less hazardous substances, enable the recovery and recycling of substances generated, etc.); • Prevent all large-scale pollution; • Prevent, recycle or dispose of waste in the least polluting way possible; • Efficient energy use; • Ensure accident prevention and damage limitation; and • Return sites to their original state when the activity is over. 	Mainly relevant at national and regional scale.	Mainly relevant at national and regional scale.
Convention on the protection of Archaeological Heritage	The Convention contains provisions for the identification and protection of archaeological heritage, its integrated conservation, the control of excavations, the use of metal detectors and the prevention of illicit circulation of archaeological objects, and the dissemination of information.	It was ratified by the UK in September 2000, and provides for a broad definition of 'archaeological heritage' that includes 'structures, constructions, groups of buildings, developed sites, moveable objects, monuments of other kinds as well as their context, whether situated on land or under water.	Mainly relevant at national and regional scale.	Mainly relevant at national and regional scale.

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EU Energy Efficiency Plan 2011	Energy efficiency is at the heart of the EU's Europe 2020 Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and of the transition to a resource efficient economy. Energy efficiency is one of the most cost effective ways to enhance security of energy supply, and to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and other pollutants.	The European Union has set itself a target for 2020 of saving 20% of its primary energy consumption compared to projections.	The need to ensure that energy efficiency forms part of the Local Plans mitigation strategy to reduce the impact of climate change upon the environment.	
European Landscape Convention 2009	<p>The Convention aims to encourage public authorities to adopt policies and measures at local, regional, national and international level for protecting, managing and planning landscapes throughout Europe. It covers all landscapes, both outstanding and ordinary, that determine the quality of people's living environment.</p> <p>The text provides for a flexible approach to landscapes whose specific features call for various types of action, ranging from strict conservation through protection, management and improvement to actual creation.</p> <p>The Convention proposes legal and financial measures at the national and international levels, aimed at shaping "landscape policies" and promoting interaction between local and central authorities as well as transfrontier cooperation in protecting landscapes. It sets out a range of different solutions which States can apply, according to their specific needs.</p>	<p>Specific measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •raising awareness of the value of landscapes among all sectors of society, and of society's role in shaping them; •promoting landscape training and education among landscape specialists, other related professions, and in school and university courses; •the identification and assessment of landscapes, and analysis of landscape change, with the active participation of stakeholders; •setting objectives for landscape quality, with the involvement of the public; and •the implementation of landscape policies, through the establishment of plans and practical programmes. 	<p>Plan policies to support overall objectives and requirements of the Convention.</p> <p>Plan policies to establish and Implement landscape protection, management and planning.</p>	<p>SA objectives (Countryside and Historic Environment) must consider the outcomes of the convention should feed into the Local Plan.</p>

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National				
River Basin Planning Strategy: Water for Life and Livelihoods (Consultation), EA - Jan 2005	<p>RBMP are the key management unit of the Water Framework Directive. The RBMP objectives of the Strategy are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a more integrated, long-term approach to river basin planning and management; • Work closely with partners and provide increased opportunity for stakeholder involvement; and • Aim to achieve environmental, social and economic benefits concurrently. 	Publish River Basin Management Plans by the end of 2009. Ensure appropriate reference to the Water Framework Directive in Planning Policy Statements.	<p>Direct regulation of abstraction from and emission to the water environment.</p> <p>Economic instruments – taxes, grants and incentives.</p> <p>New emphasis on collaborative agreements – land use planning and regeneration policies.</p> <p>Links between land use planning and River Basin Management Planning.</p>	Must address the requirements of the Strategy and Water Framework Directive for integrated, long-term approach and environmental, social and economic benefits.
The Wildlife and Countryside act 1981	<p>The Act makes it an offence (with exceptions) to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intentionally kill, injure, or take any wild bird or their eggs or nests; • Intentionally kill, injure, or take, possess, or trade in any wild animal listed in Schedule 5; • Prohibits interference with places used for shelter or protection, or intentionally disturbing animals; and, 	No specific targets	The Local Plan must put in place systems that encourage and support the Act and the protection of animals	The SA must ensure the protection of animals as detailed within the act and the duties in terms of SSSI are met

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	<p>Pick, uproot, trade in, or possess (for the purposes of trade) any wild plant listed in Schedule 8.</p> <p>The Act also provides for the notification of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and requires surveying authorities to maintain up to date definitive maps and statements, for the purpose of clarifying public rights of way.</p>			
<p>Habitats Regulations for England and Wales (amended) 2007</p>	<p>The Regulations came into force on 30 October 1994, and have been subsequently amended. The Regulations provide for the designation and protection of 'European sites', the protection of 'European protected species', and the adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European Sites.</p>	<p>The 2007 amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simplify the species protection regime to better reflect the Habitats Directive; • Provide a clear legal basis for surveillance and monitoring of European protected species (EPS); • Toughen the regime on trading EPS that are not native to the UK; • Ensure that the requirement to carry out appropriate assessments on water abstraction consents and land use plans is explicit. 	<p>Appropriate Assessment needs to be undertaken in respect of any plan or project which:</p> <p>a) either alone or in combination with other plans or projects would be likely to have a significant effect on a European Site, and</p> <p>b) is not directly connected with the management of the site for nature conservation.</p>	<p>SA will need to consider if there is a requirement for an Appropriate Assessment</p>

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UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)	<p>The aim of the action plan is to conserve and enhance biological diversity in UK and to contribute to the conservation of national and global biodiversity and include the following aims to maintain and, where practicable, to enhance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The overall populations and natural ranges of native species and the quality and range of wildlife habitats and ecosystems; • Internationally and nationally important and threatened species, habitats and ecosystems; • Species, habitats and natural and managed ecosystems that are characteristic of Kent; • The biodiversity of natural and semi-natural habitats, where this has diminished over 3 recent decades and, • Public awareness of, and involvement in, conserving biodiversity. 		The plan documents must make provisions for the protection and enhancement of biodiversity conservation	The SA should ensure the protection of existing biodiversity and support the development of new areas of conservation
Working with the grain of nature: a biodiversity strategy for England (2002) (Defra)	<p>The strategy builds on the Biodiversity Action Plan and aims to embed biodiversity in policy and decisions and society as a whole. It addresses the following issues;</p> <p>Agriculture - encouraging the management of farmland and agricultural land so as to conserve and enhance biodiversity;</p> <p>Water – whole catchment approach to wise, sustainable use of water and wetlands;</p> <p>Woodland – management and extension of</p>	<p>Agreement targets have been set to bring 95% of SSSIs into favourable condition by 2010 and to reverse the decline in farmland birds. Headline Indicators include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The population of wild birds; • The condition of Sites of Special Scientific Interest; • Progress with Biodiversity Action Plans; • Area of land under agri-environment agreement; 	The plan documents must support the aims of biodiversity policy across the key issues	The SA must support the strategy by addressing and supporting each of the key issues.

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	<p>woodland to promote enhance biodiversity and quality of life;</p> <p>Marine and Coastal Management – to achieve sustainable use and management of coasts and seas using natural processes and eco-system based approaches; and,</p> <p>Urban areas – biodiversity needs to become part of development policy on sustainable communities, urban green space and the built environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological quality of rivers; • Fish stocks around the UK fished within safe limits; • Progress with Local Biodiversity Action Plans; and • Public attitudes to biodiversity 		
<p>Rural Strategy 2004, DEFRA - Jul 2004</p>	<p>The strategy reviews the Rural White Paper, 2000 after the creation of Defra in 2001. It sets out a new devolved and targeted approach to rural policy and delivery over the next 3-5 years. There are three priorities for rural policy;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic and social regeneration – supporting enterprise across rural England but targeting greater resources at areas of greatest need; • Social justice for all – tackling rural social exclusion and providing fair access to services and opportunities; • Enhancing the value of our countryside – protecting the natural environment. 	<p>Reduce the gap in productivity by 2008;</p> <p>Improve accessibility of services for rural people;</p> <p>Production of a second generation Local Public Service Agreement;</p> <p>Provide affordable housing; and</p> <p>Make the countryside more accessible and promote sustainable tourism.</p>	<p>Local policies should seek to support the overarching themes contained within the Rural Strategy. In particular promoting economic development in rural areas and tackling social exclusion, including the promotion of good access to services and facilities.</p> <p>Policies to maintain and to enhance the quality of the countryside should also be considered.</p> <p>The SA framework should consider policies that encompass the</p>	<p>Strategic priorities for creating Sustainable Communities apply equally in rural and urban areas.</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
			overarching actions of the strategy, in particular the promoting access to services and facilities, protecting the countryside and promoting appropriate economic development	
Saving Lives: Our Healthier Nation White Paper (DoH – 1999)	<p>Strategy is largely an action plan for tackling poor health and improving the health of everyone in England, especially the worst off.</p> <p>Addresses inequality with a range of initiatives on education, welfare to work, housing, neighbourhoods, transport and the environment, which will help improve health.</p>	<p>By 2010:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the death rate from cancer in people under 75 by at least a fifth; • Reduce the death rate from coronary heart disease and stroke and related diseases in people under 75 by at least two fifths; • Reduce the death rate from accidents by at least a fifth and to reduce the rate of serious injury from accidents by at least a tenth; • Reduce the death rate from suicide and undetermined injury by at least a fifth; and • Increased education and training for health. 	Local Plan should support the provision of health care facilities where appropriate.	Consider sustainability objectives that aim to improve human health.
The Planning Response to Climate Change, (ODPM - Sep 2004)	<p>Provides planning professionals with an overview of current thinking and state of knowledge on planning response to climate change.</p> <p>It aims to stimulate planners to look for new strategies to respond to climate change in</p>	<p>LPA's must be:</p> <p>Familiar with the UK's commitment to its climate change programme;</p> <p>Actively involved in regional climate change studies;</p> <p>Identifying areas at risk of flooding an</p>	Climate change sensitive development checklist sets out the role of SA and EA in assessing development plans, DPD and SPDs	Consider efforts to respond to climate change in the framework

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	<p>partnership with developers and the wider community.</p> <p>It aims to strengthen policies that will mitigate and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p>	<p>unstable land on the DPD and SPD; Recognise the availability of water resources in formulating development plans; Include climate change sensitive policies on biodiversity and landscape. Set a context in which there is less need for travel; Set out a framework for minimizing greenhouse gas emission from waste management; and Consider an integrated framework for climate sensitive built developments.</p>	<p>for climate change considerations.</p>	
<p>The UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy: Securing the Future (DTI - Mar 2005)</p>	<p>The strategy key themes are:</p> <p>Living Within Environmental Limits - Respecting the limits of the planet’s environment, resources and biodiversity – to improve our environment and ensure that the natural resources needed for life are unimpaired and remain so for future generations; Ensuring a Strong, Healthy and Just Society - Meeting the diverse needs of all people in existing and future communities, promoting personal wellbeing, social cohesion and inclusion, and creating equal opportunity for all; Achieving a Sustainable Economy - Building a strong, stable and sustainable economy which provides prosperity and opportunities for all, and in which environmental and social costs fall on those who impose them (polluter pays), and efficient</p>	<p>The Strategy introduces a set of high-level indicators; the UK Framework Indicators to give an overview of sustainable development and priority areas shared across the UK.</p> <p>There will also be a mix of indicators, targets and performance measures in the individual strategies for the UK Government, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.</p> <p>The UK Government Strategy includes all 20 of the UK Framework Indicators and a further 48 indicators related to priority areas.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will have to take into account the Key Objectives and targets of the strategy.</p> <p>The Strategy states that it must be implemented by working across departmental boundaries and through all levels of government.</p> <p>Development must be focused on long-term solutions, ensuring we</p>	<p>This Strategy is the highest level plan for sustainable development.</p> <p>All aspects of this strategy must be reflected fully within the appraisal process.</p>

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	<p>resource use is incentivised;</p> <p>Promoting Good Governance - Actively promoting effective, participative systems of governance in all levels of society – engaging people’s creativity, energy, and diversity; and</p> <p>Using Sound Science Responsibly - Ensuring policy is developed and implemented on the basis of strong scientific evidence, whilst taking into account scientific uncertainty (through the precautionary principle) as well as public attitudes and values.</p>		get the full environmental, social and economic dividend for money spent.	
Waste not, Want not - A Strategy for tackling the waste problem in England December 2002	<p>Provides a robust and long-term economic and regulatory framework for waste management.</p> <p>Invest in new waste facilities and a package of measures to boost the progress on sustainable waste management.</p> <p>Provide additional funding accompanied by radical reform of delivery structures.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slow waste growth from 3% to 2% per annum; • Boost the national recycling rates to at least 45% by 2015; • Divert significant amounts of waste from landfill; • Increase choice for industry, Local Authorities and households over how waste is managed; • Stimulate innovation in waste treatment; and • Reduce damage to the environment while increasing resource productivity. 	Waste management strategy to be incorporated into waste policies within the DPD and SPD.	SA should include indicator relating to waste. Will also need indicators on re-use, recycling and recovery of waste as well, to demonstrate the movement away from disposal.
Waterways for Tomorrow, (DEFRA – 2000)	Key objective to promote of waterways, encouraging their use and development.	Maximise the opportunities the waterways offer for leisure and recreation; as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration and for freight transport; Encourage the innovative use of waterways such as water transfer and telecommunication.	Useful in context of regeneration master plans, as well as plan policies for regeneration, leisure and recreation, tourism, heritage and culture, natural environment and	Assess opportunities to include promotion of waterways in the SA framework.

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
			transport.	
Environment Agency (2009) 'Water for people and the environment' - Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales	<p>Strategy sets out how water resources in England and Wales should be managed and provides a plan of how to use them in a sustainable way, now and in the future. The Strategy aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enable habitats and species to adapt better to climate change; • allow the way we protect the water environment to adjust flexibly to a changing climate; • reduce pressure on the environment caused by water taken for human use; • encourage options resilient to climate change to be chosen in the face of uncertainty; • better protect vital water supply infrastructure; • reduce greenhouse gas emissions from people using water, considering the whole life-cycle of use; and • Improve understanding of the risks and uncertainties of climate change. 	Target set for England, that the average amount of water used per person in the home is reduced to 130 litres each day by 2030.	LDF should take on board objectives set within the Strategy. These particularly apply to providing efficiency in terms of water use and protecting water resources.	Ensure water resource objectives form part of SA
'Water for Life' 2011 The White Paper	Water for Life describes a vision for future water management in which the water sector is resilient, in which water companies are more efficient and customer focused and in which water is valued as the precious and finite resource it is. And it explains that we all have a part to play in the realisation of this vision.	Over the long-term introduce a reformed water abstraction regime, as signalled in the Natural Environment White Paper.	Consider a New planning approval system for sustainable drainage;	Ensure water resource objectives form part of SA
Working with the Grain of	The Strategy builds on the Biodiversity Action Plan, 1994 and aims to embed biodiversity in	Strategy aim to provide biodiversity considerations are embedded in all sections	Inclusion of policies to preserve wildlife	Consideration of direct and indirect impacts of

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Nature: A Biodiversity Strategy for England, (DEFRA – 2002)	<p>policy and decisions and society as a whole. It addresses the following issues;</p> <p>Agriculture – encouraging the management of farmland and agricultural land so as to conserve and enhance biodiversity;</p> <p>Water – whole catchment approach to wise, sustainable use of water and wetlands;</p> <p>Woodland – management and extension of woodland to promote enhance biodiversity and quality of life;</p> <p>Marine and Coastal Management – to achieve sustainable use and management of coasts and seas using natural processes and eco-system based approaches; and</p> <p>Urban areas – biodiversity needs to become part of development policy on sustainable communities, urban green space and the built environment.</p>	<p>of public policy.</p> <p>Sets out key species for concern in different environments.</p> <p>Aims to bring 95% of SSSI's into favourable condition by 2010</p> <p>Aims to reverse the decline of farmland birds.</p>	habitats.	plan policies on the natural environment.
Conserving biodiversity- The UK Approach 2007	<p>This statement has been prepared by the UK Biodiversity Standing Committee on behalf of the UK Biodiversity Partnership. Its purpose is to set out the vision and approach to conserving biodiversity</p> <p>Within the UK's devolved framework for anyone with a policy interest in biodiversity conservation.</p>	<p>A shared purpose in tackling the loss and restoration of biodiversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The guiding principles that we will follow to achieve it • Our priorities for action in the UK and internationally • Indicators to monitor the key issues on a UK basis 	Ensure that the Local Plan addresses the biodiversity, enhancement, creation and protection	Incorporate biodiversity into the SA process and.
The Conservation of Habitats	The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 consolidate all the various amendments made to the Conservation (Natural	The Regulations provide for the designation and protection of 'European sites', the protection of 'European protected species',	Ensure that biodiversity and nature conservation issues are addressed in	SA Objectives and indicators should consider biodiversity

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and Species Regulations 2010	Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 in respect of England and Wales	and the adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European Sites. Under the Regulations, competent authorities i.e. any Minister, government department, public body, or person holding public office, have a general duty, in the exercise of any of their functions, to have regard to the EC Habitats Directive.	the SA and Local Plan.	issues
Air Quality Strategy for the UK. Working together for clean air, (DETR - Jan 2000)	Aims to improve and protect ambient air quality in the UK in the medium-term. Sets objectives for 8 main air pollutants to protect health. Performance against these objectives will be regularly monitored.	Contains a number of national air quality targets that were updated by DEFRA in Aug 2002.	Consider use of policies to improve Air Quality.	Consideration of direct and indirect impacts of plan policies on air quality.
Energy White Paper: meeting the energy challenge 2007	The Energy White Paper sets out the Government's international and domestic energy strategy to respond to changing circumstances and address the long term energy challenges faced now and in the future including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tackling climate change by reducing carbon dioxide emissions both within the UK and abroad; and • Ensuring secure, clean and affordable energy as we become increasingly dependent on imported fuel. 	The paper sets four policy goals; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To put ourselves on a path to cutting CO2 emissions by some 60% by about 2050, with real progress by 2020; • To maintain the reliability of energy supplies; • To promote competitive markets in the UK and beyond; and, • To ensure that every home is adequately and affordably heated. 	Local Plan should need to include energy policies that aim to meet objectives of strategy	The SA needs to take account of the long term aspirations and targets. Energy indicators should be included in the SA Framework

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Climate Change Act 2008	<p>The Climate Change Act 2008 makes the UK the first country in the world to have a legally binding long-term framework to cut carbon emissions. It creates a framework for building the UK’s ability to adapt to climate change. It creates a new approach to managing and responding to climate change in the UK, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. setting ambitious, legally binding targets b. taking powers to help meet those targets c. strengthening the institutional framework d. enhancing the UK’s ability to adapt to the impact of climate change e. establishing clear and regular accountability to the UK Parliament and to the devolved legislatures. 	<p>Target: a legally binding target of at least an 80% cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, to be achieved through action in the UK and abroad. Also a reduction of emissions of at least 34% by 2020. The targets are against a 1990 baseline.</p> <p>The 2020 target will be reviewed soon after Royal Assent to reflect the move to all greenhouse gases and the increase in the 2050 target to 80%.</p> <p>Further the Act provides for a carbon budgeting system which caps emissions over five year periods, with three budgets set at a time, to set out our trajectory to 2050. The first three carbon budgets will run from 2008-12, 2013-17 and 2018-22, and must be set by 1 June 2009.</p>	<p>Act sets out a clear precedent for the UK to lead in responding to the threats climate change provides.</p> <p>Ensure that plan policies contribute to meeting the targets set out within the Act.</p>	<p>The SA needs to take account of the long term aspirations and targets. Carbon reduction and greenhouse gas emissions indicators should be included in the SA Framework</p>
UK Renewable Energy Strategy (2009)	<p>Sets out path for meeting legally binding target to ensure 15% of our energy comes from renewable sources by 2020. It puts forward a path to achieving this including the balance of technologies that is most likely to achieve the goal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 30% of our electricity generated from renewables – much of this will be from wind power but biomass, hydro and wave will also play an important role • 12% of our heat generated from renewables – range of sources including biomass, biogas, solar 	<p>Sets out path for meeting legally binding target to ensure 15% of our energy comes from renewable sources by 2020</p> <p>It puts forward a path to achieving this including the balance of technologies that is most likely to achieve the goal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 30% of our electricity generated from renewables – much of this will be from wind power but 		<p>SA Framework to reflect strategy objectives.</p>

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	<p>and heat pumps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% of transport energy from renewables <p>It sets out the Government's strategic role as well as a number of detailed actions.</p>			
The Carbon Plan 2011	<p>This plan sets out how the UK will achieve decarbonisation within the framework of the Government's energy policy: to make the transition to a low carbon economy while maintaining energy security, and minimising costs to consumers, particularly those in poorer households</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Low carbon buildings <input type="checkbox"/> Low carbon transport <input type="checkbox"/> Low carbon industry <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture, land use, forestry and waste 		Incorporation of carbon initiatives/mitigation to reduce the impact of development proposals on the environment.	
Climate Resilient Infrastructure 2011	<p>Alongside the transition to a low carbon society, increasing infrastructure's resilience to climate change impacts is a high priority for the Government, to help protect the economy and its future growth.</p>	<p>To increase the resilience of both new and existing infrastructure, we must be prepared to plan ahead and manage the impacts of climate change. This is an important part of the transition to a green economy.</p>	<p>Ensure that climate change is fully considered and mitigation adequately addressed in the Local Plan.</p>	<p>Ensure that climate change is fully considered by the SA</p>
Making Space for Water: Taking Forward a Government Strategy for Flood and	<p>The government is trying to implement a more holistic approach to managing flood and coastal erosion. It takes into account all sources of flooding, embedding flood and coastal risk management across a range of government policies and reflecting other relevant government policies in policies and operations of flood and coastal</p>	<p>Progress stakeholder engagement at all levels of decision making; Revise risk management and scheme appraisal guidance; Complete revision of PPG25 into PSS format;</p>	<p>Flood risk assessment will become a more important part of planning policies. There will be increased emphasis on integrated systems and multi-</p>	<p>The SA should consider the direct and indirect implications of the plan policies on flooding coastal issues at all sites and in particular at sites of environmental</p>

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Coastal Erosion Risk Management in England. First Government Response, DEFRA March 2005	<p>erosion risk management.</p> <p>It aims to manage risks by employing an integrated portfolio of approaches which reflect both national and local priorities to:</p> <p>Reduce threat to people and their property; Deliver the greatest environmental, social and economic benefit consistent with government sustainable development principles.</p>	<p>Add flood risk assessment question into Standard Planning Application;</p> <p>Make Environment Agency a Statutory Consultee;</p> <p>Incorporate sustainable buildings code;</p> <p>Increase the use of multi-objective schemes in rural areas; and</p> <p>Undertake pilot studies for integrated urban drainage.</p>	objective schemes.	designation.
Natural Environment White Paper – The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature (2011)	<p>Outlines the Government’s vision for the natural environment over the next 50 years with practical action to deliver that ambition. It aims to set a clear institutional framework to achieve the recovery of nature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • establish Local Nature Partnerships (LNPs) • create new Nature Improvement Areas (NIAs) • reforms to the planning system 	<p>Specific actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removing barriers to learning outdoors • creating a new Local Green Areas designation • establishing a Green Infrastructure Partnership • new phase of the Muck In4Life campaign 	Plan policies should reflect the aims of the White Paper. In particular facilitate the designation of Local Green Areas and ensure a strategic approach to planning for nature within and across local areas.	SA objectives to include green space and infrastructure
National Planning Statements (2011-2012)	<p>National Policy Statements (NPSs) are produced by Government. They give reasons for the policy set out in the statement, and must include an explanation of how the policy takes account of Government policy relating to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change. They include the Government’s objectives for the development of nationally significant infrastructure in a particular sector and state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How this will contribute to sustainable 	<p>There are 12 designated or proposed National Policy Statements, setting out Government policy on different types of national infrastructure development, which are:</p> <p>Energy NPSs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overarching energy • Renewable energy • Fossil Fuels • Oil and Gas Supply and Storage 	The NPSs covering the development of nationally important infrastructure have been included here for information. However, because they relate to developments that would not be consented via policy in the Local	Not directly applicable

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	<p>development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How these objectives have been integrated with other Government policies. • How actual and projected capacity and demand have been taken into account. • Consider relevant issues in relation to safety or technology. • Circumstances where it would be particularly important to address the adverse impacts of development. • Specific locations, where appropriate, in order to provide a clear framework for investment and planning decisions. <p>They also include any other policies or circumstances that Ministers consider should be taken into account in decisions on infrastructure development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity Networks • Nuclear Power <p>These are produced by the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC).</p> <p>Transport NPSs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ports • Transport Networks (including rail and roads) • Aviation <p>These are produced by the Department for Transport.</p> <p>Water, waste water and waste NPSs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Supply • Hazardous Waste • Waste Water Treatment <p>These are produced by the <u>Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs</u></p>	<p>Plan or by the Council a review of their policies and contents is not appropriate. However, as the SA is undertaken they may provide helpful contextual information regarding the future development of energy, transport, water, waste water and waste related NPSs.</p>	
The Planning Act 2008	<p>Introduces a new system for nationally significant infrastructure planning, alongside further reforms to the Town and Country Planning system. A major component of this legislation is the introduction of an independent Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC), to take decisions on major infrastructure projects (transport, energy, water and waste). To support decision-making, the IPC will refer to the Government's National Policy Statements (NPSs), which will provide a clear long-term strategic direction for nationally</p>	No key targets	<p>The Local Plan and associated documents should take into account any relevant National Policy Statements when published. The proposed National Policy Statements relate in particular</p>	

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	<p>significant infrastructure development. To energy provision, transport, water supply and waste treatment. The Climate Change</p>			
<p>Play Strategy for England (DCMS, 2008)</p>	<p>Strategy aims that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •In every residential area there are a variety of supervised and unsupervised places for play, free of charge; •Local neighbourhoods are, and feel like, safe, interesting places to play; • Routes to children’s play space are safe and accessible for all children and young people; •Parks and open spaces are attractive and welcoming to children and young people, and are well maintained and well used; •Children and young people have a clear stake in public space and their play is accepted by their neighbours; •Children and young people play in a way that respects other people and property; •Children and young people and their families take an active role in the development of local play spaces; and •Play spaces are attractive, welcoming, engaging and accessible for all local children and young people, including disabled children, and children from minority groups in the community. 	<p>Every local authority will receive at least £1 million in funding, to be targeted on the children most in need of improved play opportunities.</p>		<p>Objectives should relate to this with regard to this Strategy promoting sport and physical activity and promoting healthy lifestyles.</p>
<p>Be active: be healthy A Plan for getting the</p>	<p>Be active, be healthy establishes a new framework for the delivery of physical activity alongside sport for the period leading up to the London 2012</p>	<p>No specific relevant targets</p>	<p>The Local Plan should ensure that open space, sport and recreation are</p>	<p>Health indicators to be part of SA Framework</p>

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nation moving 2009	<p>Olympic Games, Paralympic Games and beyond. Programmes outlined in the plan will contribute to Government's ambition of getting 2 million more people active by 2012 and have been designed to leave a lasting legacy from the Games</p> <p>Physical activity has the potential to create a healthier, happier and wealthier nation.</p> <p>four overriding principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informing choice and promoting activity • Creating an 'active' environment • Supporting those most at risk • Strengthening delivery. 		provided for and that development sites enhance opportunities to walk and cycle.	
Public Health White Paper 2011	The white paper is designed to build on the successes of previous governments whilst addressing some of the key problems experienced by the NHS over the previous years.	<p>Giving patients greater choice and control, and equipping them to make decisions through the provision of a greater range of data.</p> <p>Focussing on clinical outcomes rather than targets, building on Lord Darzi's review and particularly its focus on quality. The aim is to provide continuous improvement through reduced bureaucracy and greater focus on clinical outcomes.</p>	Access to public health services and facilities	Access to public health services and facilities
Healthy Lives, Healthy People White Paper 2011	The plans set out in this White Paper put local communities at the heart of public health. The Government intends to end central control and give local government the freedom, responsibility and funding to innovate and develop their own ways of improving public health in their area.	<p>Objectives relating to Lifestyle health problems including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obesity • Drugs • Alcohol consumption Inequalities between rich and poor. 	Ensure the Local Plan polices address these issues.	Ensure that health inequalities are picked up in the SA

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Health and Social Care Bill 2012	<p>The Bill seeks to address the issues facing the NHS and the need for it to change to meet the challenges it faces. The Health and Social Care Bill puts clinicians at the centre of commissioning, frees up providers to innovate, empowers patients and gives a new focus to public health</p> <p>State of Public Finances – the NHS has received the tighter funding settlement ever simply doing the same thing in the same way will no longer be affordable in the future.</p>		Recognition that the population of the Borough will age and as such will require housing, services and facilities that caters for their needs.	Consider health objectives within SA Framework
Noise Policy Statement for England 2010	<p>The aim of this document is to provide clarity regarding current policies and practices to enable noise management decisions to be made within the wider context, at the most appropriate level, in a cost-effective manner and in a timely fashion.</p>	<p>environmental noise” which includes noise from transportation sources;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “neighbour noise” which includes noise from inside and outside people’s homes; and • “neighbourhood noise” which includes noise arising from within the community such as industrial and entertainment premises, trade and business premises, construction sites and noise in the street. 	Noise mitigation should form an important part of development proposals.	Ensure that noise is adequately captured in the SA and Local Plan.
National Infrastructure Plan 2010	<p>The plan outlines the scale of the challenge facing UK infrastructure and the major investment that is needed to underpin sustainable growth in the UK. It focuses on the networks and systems – in energy, transport, digital communications, floodwater, waste management and in science – that provide the infrastructure on which our economy depends. The plan gives clarity on the role of Government in specifying what infrastructure we need and how it</p>	<p>The Plan sets out the Government’s vision for major infrastructure investment in the UK:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maximising the potential of existing road and rail networks; • transforming energy and transport systems to deliver a low carbon economy; 	Infrastructure forms an important part of the evidence base that will support the delivery of the Local Plan.	

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	can remove barriers to mobilise both private and public sector resources to maintain our world class infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transforming the UK’s strategic rail infrastructure; • meeting future challenges in providing sustainable access to water for everyone; • protecting the economy from the current and growing risk of floods and coastal erosion; • reducing waste and improving the way it is treated; • providing the best superfast broadband in Europe; and • ensuring that the UK remains a world leader in science, research and innovation. 		
Confident Communities, Brighter Futures 2010	This report is part of a continuing programme of action to improve the mental health and well-being of the whole population.	Improve the mental health and well-being of the population, and improving the quality and accessibility of services for people with poor mental health.	Ensure that the Local Plan addresses access to health services	SA Framework to respond and include to health and community objectives
National Planning Policy Framework	The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government’s planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It sets out the Government’s requirements for the planning system only to the extent that it is relevant, proportionate and necessary to do so. It provides a framework within which local people and their accountable councils can produce their own distinctive local and neighbourhood plans, which reflect the needs and priorities of their communities.	The entire document presents the Governments approach to development in respect of social, economic and environmental issues.	<p>The Local Plan will be in conformity with the NPPF.</p> <p>May require a focused review to ensure Local Plan Policies are in conformity with NPPF</p>	Ensure that SA framework objectives are aligned to NPPF (See Table 4.6)

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Localism Act 2011</p>	<p>The Localism Act is one of the key pieces of legislation introduced by the Government. It is a radical shift of power from central government to local communities.</p> <p>The Main aim of the Localism Act is to devolve more power to local communities to give them greater control over local decisions. The six actions identified in the Localism Bill are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. to lift the burden of bureaucracy b. empower communities to do things their way c. increase local control of public finance d. diversify the supply of public services e. open up Government to public scrutiny f. strengthen accountability to local people. <p>In terms of planning, the Localism Act enables the Government to abolish regional spatial strategies, introduce Neighbourhood Plans and Local Referendums.</p>	<p>There are no specific targets contained in The Localism Act.</p> <p>Abolition of regional strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duty to Cooperate • Neighbourhood Planning • Community Right to Build 	<p>Ensure that evidence collected to support the Local Plan is locally derived rather than top down. Coordinate plan production and plan delivery with neighbouring authorities and parishes through the duty to cooperate and neighbourhood plans.</p>	<p>Ensure that evidence collected to support the SA is locally derived rather than top down. Coordinate plan production and plan delivery with neighbouring authorities and parishes through the duty to cooperate and neighbourhood plans.</p>
<p>Enabling the Transition to a Green Economy 2011</p>	<p>This document sets out the range of policy tools the Government are using to support the transition to a green economy, the opportunities that are created and the implications for the way in which businesses operate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government’s vision is to: • Grow the economy sustainably and for the long term; • Use natural resources efficiently • Be more resilient (use of fossil fuels) 	<p>The SA and Local Plan needs to take into account the impact of economic development upon the climate and the way in which the SA appraises these impacts and how the plan will mitigate the effects on the</p>	<p>The SA and Local Plan needs to take into account the impact of economic development upon the climate and the way in which the SA appraises these impacts and how the plan will mitigate the effects on the</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
			environment.	environment.
The Homelessness Act 2002	<p>The 2002 act places a duty on local housing authority to formulate a homelessness strategy and;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out a homelessness review for their district; • Formulate and publish a homelessness strategy based on the results of that review; • Publish a new strategy every 5 years. 	No specific targets	The Local Plan policies relating to housing must be compliant with the requirements of the Act.	
The Housing Act 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Housing Act reinforces the role of Councils as strategic enablers with an overview of both public and private sector properties in their area. The Act contains: • Extra powers to license private landlords, especially those of houses in multiple occupation; • Changes in the way homes are judged as suitable to meet the needs of the occupier by means of risk assessment; • Modernising the right to buy policy to combat profiteering; • Home Information Packs to simplify the buying and selling of property; • Increase to the qualifying period for council tenants considering purchasing their property under Right To Buy, and also repayment of 	Energy efficiency must be at least 20% greater in properties by 2010 than compared with 2000.	Mainly relevant at national and regional scale however objectives set for the South East must be included in the Local Plan	Consider Energy efficiency objectives in the SA framework.

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> discounts. 			
<p>Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future (2003)</p>	<p>To ensure that all tenants have a decent home by 2010.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve conditions for vulnerable people in private accommodation. To ensure all tenants, social and private, get an excellent service from their landlord. To ensure all communities have a clean, safe and attractive environment in which people can take pride. Low demand and abandonment - bring back life to those cities where there is low demand for housing, and where homes have been abandoned. Land, countryside and rural communities - Ensure that in tackling housing shortages the countryside is protected and enhanced rather than creating urban sprawl. Address housing needs of rural communities who are often the guardians of the countryside. 	<p>No specific targets</p>	<p>Key national policy to be considered in the development of sustainable housing plans</p> <p>Encourage housing to be addressed by local partnerships as part of wider strategy of neighbourhood renewal and sustainable communities.</p> <p>Encourage environmental enhancement to be central to regeneration solutions.</p> <p>Encourage restoration and management of brownfield land. Have due regard for landscape character and designations, and encourage green space networks as basis for development.</p> <p>Address affordable housing need in rural</p>	<p>Review SA Framework against these objectives, including the need for affordable housing</p>

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			areas as well as urban settlements.	
Laying the Foundations: A Housing Strategy for England, November 2011	<p>The Housing Strategy sets out a package of reforms to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. get the housing market moving again b. lay the foundations for a more responsive, effective and stable housing market in the future c. support choice and quality for tenants d. improve environmental standards and design quality. <p>The new strategy addresses concerns across the housing market making it easier to secure mortgages on new homes, improving fairness in social housing and ensuring homes that have been left empty for years are lived in once again.</p>	Targets: Deliver up to 100,000 new homes by freeing up public sector land with Build Now, Pay Later deals.		
Floods & Water Management Act 2010	Seeks to “localise” responsibility for flood risk, particularly from ordinary watercourses. Key policies within the act include: providing the Environment Agency with an overview of all flood and coastal erosion risk management and unitary and county councils to lead in managing the risk of all local floods; encouraging the uptake of sustainable drainage systems and providing for unitary and county councils to adopt SUDS for new developments and redevelopments; introduce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1 of the Act requires the Environment Agency to develop a national strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk. It also requires all lead flood authorities in England to develop and maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for flood risk in the area. • Section 30 allows certain authorities to formally designate assets or features which affect flood or coastal erosion 	Ensure that plan policies assist in directing development to locations at least risk of flooding and help to reduce overall flood risk.	SA framework to consider flooding and water management in its objectives and indicators

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>an improved risk based approach to reservoir safety;</p>	<p>risk.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule 3 introduces standard for the design, construction, maintenance and operation of new rainwater drainage systems and introduces an approving body (generally the local authority). • It amends Section 106 of the Water Industry Act, 1991 to make the right to connect surface water run off to public sewers conditional on the approval of the drainage system by the approving body. 		
<p>Planning for Growth 2011</p>	<p>The Government’s economic policy objective is to achieve strong, sustainable and balanced growth that is more evenly shared across the country and between industries. The Plan for Growth contains four overarching ambitions that will ensure the progress is made towards achieving this economic objective. Key implications for planning are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radical changes to the planning system to support job creation by introducing a powerful presumption in favour of sustainable development • Localise choice about the use of previously developed land, removing targets, while retaining existing controls on greenbelt land • Produce shorter, more focused and inherently pro-growth NPPF to deliver more development is suitable 	<p>No specific targets</p>	<p>Ensure plans positively promote growth, deliver Sustainable development and reflect local views.</p>	<p>Ensure SA Framework objectives are in alignment</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • and viable locations • Clear expectations that decisions should prioritise growth and jobs • Powers to bring forward neighbourhood plans and development orders • Enterprise zones with lower levels of planning control • Speed up planning system and decision making • Extend permitted development rights 			
Safer Places: The Planning System and Crime Prevention	<p>This document identifies seven attributes of places that should be considered in order to make them safer:</p> <p>Access and movement: places with well-defined routes, spaces and entrances that provide for convenient movement without compromising security;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Structure: places that are structured so that different uses do not cause conflict; •Surveillance: places where all publicly accessible spaces are overlooked; •Ownership: places that promote a sense of ownership, respect, territorial responsibility <p>Physical protection: places that include necessary, well-designed security features;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Activity: places where the level of human activity is appropriate to the location and creates a reduced risk of crime and a sense of safety at all times; •Management and maintenance: places that are designed with management and maintenance in mind, to discourage crime in the present and future. 	No specific targets	Local Plan policies should consider design of safer places and crime prevention	SA Objectives to consider crime

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Regional				
<p>In July 2010, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government set out his commitment to abolish regional spatial strategies, including the South East Plan. The Localism Act (2011) removed the regional framework and existing regional strategies will be abolished by secondary legislation in the near future. This Act aims to shift power from central government back to communities and enable them to help shape their local areas. However, the South East Plan has had an important influence on the preparation of the Local Plan. It is, therefore, still relevant to review regional plans, policies and programmes which have set the context for policies contained within the Thanet’s Local Plan.</p>				
<p>Minerals Strategy</p> <p>Proposed Alterations to Regional Planning Guidance, South East – Regional</p>	<p>The Regional Minerals Strategy sets out a regional framework up to 2016 for the development of minerals such as chalk, clay, sand and gravel; raw materials which are important for both the manufacturing and construction industry by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the development and construction of sustainable construction practise; • Effective management of mineral extraction; • The need and use of primary aggregates should be reduced; • Advocated the need to adopt long-term statutory recycling and recovery targets; • The supply of construction aggregates in the South East should be met from a significant increase in supplies of 	<p>Development plans should:</p> <p>Encourage development projects to use construction materials that reduce the demand for primary minerals wherever practical.</p> <p>Promote a model shift to increase the proportion of minerals and derived manufactured products transported into and with the region by rail/or air</p>	<p>The mineral strategy to be incorporated into the policies of the Local Plan</p>	<p>Minerals strategy to be cross reference with transport and waste management objectives as part of SA indicators.</p>

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	<p>secondary and recycled materials.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A reduced contribution from primary land-won resources and an increase in imports of marine-dredges 			
<p>Harnessing the Elements - South East Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy May 2003</p>	<p>The objective of the policies is to promote a more sustainable pattern of energy use and generation while ensuring that development does not harm the region's environment or the quality of life of its people by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting measures that will conserve energy; Increase the use of renewable energy sources and support more local, small scale and dispersed pattern of generation; Encourage the incorporation of high standards of energy efficiency in all development; Development plans should include policies and proposals for the development of combined heat and power (CHP) schemes and encourage the integration into major development of 	<p>Numerous targets are given across the different policies.</p>	<p>The Local Plan should incorporate the energy and renewable energy objectives of the policy.</p>	<p>SA to include indicator on energy usage and use of renewable energy.</p>

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	<p>CHP and district heating infrastructure;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting minimal regional targets for electricity generation from renewable resources; • Contributing to the achievement for the regional and sub-regional targets from land-based renewable energy; and • Support developments that support the principle of renewable energy that has a minimal effect on landscape, wildlife and amenity. 			
River Basin Management Plan – South East River Basin District 2009	<p>The purpose of the South East River Basin District River Basin Management Plan is to focus on the protection, improvement and sustainable use of the water environment. The plan describes the river basin district and the pressures that the water environment faces. It shows what this means for the current state of the water environment, and what actions will be taken to address the pressures. It set out what improvements are possible by 2015 and how the actions will make a difference to the local environment – the catchments, estuaries, the coast and groundwater.</p> <p>The key objectives of the plan are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prevent deterioration in the status of aquatic ecosystems, protect them and improve the ecological condition of waters; • aim to achieve at least good status for all water bodies by 2015. • Where this is not possible and subject to the criteria set out in the Directive ,aim to achieve good status by 2021 or 2027; • meet the requirements of Water Framework 	<p>The key challenges identified in the plan include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 2015, 18 per cent of surface waters (rivers, lakes, estuaries and coastal waters) are going to improve for at least one biological, chemical or physical element, measured as part of an assessment of good status according to the Water Framework Directive. This includes an improvement of 710 kilometres of the river network in the river basin district, in relation to fish, phosphate, specific pollutants and other elements. • 23 per cent of surface waters will be at good or better ecological status/potential and 33 per cent of groundwater bodies will be at good status by 2015. In combination 23 per cent of all water bodies will be at good status by 2015.The Environment Agency wants to go further and achieve 	<p>The Local Plan should include policies to ensure that the quality of the south east river basin is protected in the future.</p>	<p>The conservation and enhancement of river quality could be reflected in the SA objectives</p>

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	<p>Directive protected areas; promote sustainable use of water as a natural resource;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conserve habitats and species that depend directly on water; progressively reduce or phase out the release of individual pollutants or groups of pollutants that present a significant threat to the aquatic environment; • progressively reduce the pollution of groundwater and prevent or limit the entry of pollutants; • contribute to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts. 	<p>an additional two per cent improvement to surface waters across England and Wales by 2015. The biological parts of how the water environment is assessed – the plant and animal communities are key indicators.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 47 per cent of assessed surface waters will be at good or better biological status by 2015. 		
<p>Destination South East – Tourism and related sport and recreation</p>	<p>The vision for tourism recognises the value of the industry to quality of life in the South East and contends that its contribution to the spatial development of the South East can be significantly enhanced for the good of the region.</p> <p>The Strategy sets out to deliver the following aims over the period to 2026:</p> <p>Emphasise the sub regional priorities (Thames Gateway, The Coastal Strip, South Downs and New Forest Proposed, Milton Keynes and Ashford, Thames Valley, Oxford and western Oxfordshire);</p> <p>Seek opportunities to diversify the economic base of the region’s costal resorts, while consolidating and upgrading tourism facilities in ways which promote higher value activity, reduce seasonality</p>	<p>Numerous targets are given across the different policies.</p>	<p>DPD and SPD should prevent inappropriate development, co-ordinate management and environmental initiatives and Identify land for particular types of tourism related development. Also Identifying necessary infrastructure investments.</p>	<p>SA framework to reflect local plan objectives in setting indicators in the SA framework.</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>and support urban regeneration</p> <p>Seek opportunities to promotes tourism and recreation based rural diversification should be encouraged where they provide jobs for local residents and are of a scale and type appropriate to their location; and</p> <p>Opportunities should be sought to protect upgrade existing and develop new, regionally significant sporting facilities in the region in accordance with the facilities strategies produced by the national governing bodies for sport.</p>			
<p>England Rural Development programme (South East Regional Chapter)</p>	<p>England Rural Development Plan in the South East: Regional Goals:</p> <p>Protect and enhance distinctive; landscapes, countryside character and historic environment;</p> <p>Safeguard and enhance the diversity of habitats and species of the region;</p> <p>Ensure appropriate management of woodland and water resources;</p> <p>Promote environmentally friendly farming;</p> <p>Exploit niche markets for high value products;</p> <p>Ensure economic activity is sustainable;</p> <p>Develop collaborative marketing initiatives;</p> <p>Encourage diversification of the rural economy and stimulate related activities;</p> <p>Build on market opportunities to develop local employment that is accessible to all;</p> <p>Improve provision of and accessibility of essential</p>	<p>Identifies key areas for examination during development of the South East regions rural areas including plan and policy suggestions, good practice comments and strength, weakness, opportunities and threats analysis. Also provides broad regional rural objectives</p>	<p>Should consider objectives and incorporate as possible to align with regional objectives.</p>	<p>The overviews of rural elements are useful for framework targets. Aspirations, objectives to inform SA indicators.</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>services;</p> <p>Ensure that the skills of the workforce match existing and potential business opportunities; and</p> <p>Promote understanding of the countryside and rural issues.</p>			
<p>A Framework For Economic Prosperity.</p> <p>Regional Economic strategy 2006-2016</p>	<p>The Regional Economic Strategy adopts three objectives:</p> <p>Global Competitiveness – assisting more businesses to operate internationally and maximising the South East’s share of foreign direct investment; increasing the region’s stock of businesses; maximising the number of people ready for employment at all skill levels, and ensuring they are equipped to progress in the labour market;</p> <p>Smart Growth – lifting underperformance through; ensuring sufficient and affordable housing and employment space of the right type and size to meet the needs of the region; reducing road congestion and pollution levels by improving travel choice, promoting public transport; and</p> <p>Sustainable Prosperity – supporting quality of life through reducing CO² emissions attributable to the South East and increasing the contribution of renewable energy to overall energy supply in the region; reducing per capita water consumption; achieving measurable improvements in the quality, biodiversity and accessibility of green space, open space and green infrastructure; and enabling more people to benefit from sustainable prosperity across</p>	<p>The Strategy adopts three headline targets:</p> <p>Achieve an average annual increase in Gross Value Added per capita of at least 3%;</p> <p>Increase productivity per worker by an average 2.4% annually, from £39,000 in 2005 to at least £50,000 by 2016; and</p> <p>Reduce the rate of increase in the region’s ecological footprint (from 6.3 global hectares per capita in 2003, currently increasing at 1.1% per capita per annum), stabilise it and seek to reduce it by 201</p>	<p>The DPD and SPD should observe and comply with the strategy contributing to targets were possible.</p>	<p>Use economic proprieties to inform the SA indicators.</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	the region.			
Sustainable communities in the South East Building for the future.	Strategy consider the key challenges to sustainable communities in the South East under the keys themes; Housing supply; Affordability of housing; Transport; Skills and the labour market; Tackling deprivation and renewing communities; and Community engagement and partnership working.	Action plans to tackle key challenges consider the roles of local and regional planning documents and agencies.	Must ensure that Local Plan Policies contribute to the regional strategy of sustainable communities.	Cross reference key regional and local challenges to providing sustainable communities to inform suitable SA framework indicators.
The South East Regional Sustainability Framework (RSF), 2008	The RSF sets out 25 regional sustainability objectives for the South East Region including : a. ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent, sustainably-constructed and affordable home suitable to their need b. improve the health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health c. reduce poverty and social exclusion and, by improving their performance, close the gap between the most deprived areas in the South East and the rest of the region d. raise educational achievement levels across the	Targets: a. to stabilise the Ecological Footprint by 2016 and reduce it thereafter b. to stabilise and then reduce per capita consumption of water to 135 litres per day by 2016 c. by 2050, reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) from activities within the region by 60% d. by 2010, install 620 MW of renewable capacity, by 2016 install 895		Ensure principles of the RSF are reflected in all the sustainability objectives

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	<p>region and develop opportunities for everyone to acquire the skills needed to find and remain in work</p> <p>e. reduce crime and perceptions of disorder</p> <p>f. create and sustain vibrant communities which recognise the needs and contributions of all individuals</p> <p>g. improve accessibility to all services and facilities including the countryside and the historic environment</p> <p>h. encourage increased engagement in cultural activity across all sections of the community in the South East and promote sustainable tourism</p> <p>i. ensure high and stable levels of employment so that everyone can benefit from the economic growth of the region</p> <p>j. sustain economic growth and competitiveness across the region</p> <p>by focussing on the principles of smart growth: raising levels of enterprise, productivity and economic activity</p> <p>k. stimulate economic revival in deprived areas</p> <p>l. develop a dynamic, diverse and knowledge-based economy that excels in innovation with higher value lower impact activities</p> <p>m. develop and maintain a skilled workforce to support long-term competitiveness of the region</p> <p>n. improve efficiency in land use through the appropriate re-use of</p>	<p>MW of renewable energy and by 2026 install 1,750 MW of renewable energy (16% of generation capacity)</p> <p>e. to prevent all inappropriate development in the flood plain</p> <p>f. by 2010, to increase the numbers of properties adequately protected by 15,000</p> <p>g. achieve the 2010 and 2026 regional biodiversity targets set out in the draft SE Plan</p> <p>h. by 2010 to improve performance and halve the gap between the most disadvantaged communities and the average position of the region</p> <p>i. to reduce health inequalities by 10% by 2010 (baseline 1995-97) as measured by life expectancy at birth.</p>		

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	<p>previously developed land and existing buildings - including re-use of materials from buildings - and encourage urban renaissance</p> <p>o. reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment</p> <p>p. reduce air pollution and ensure air quality continues to improve</p> <p>q. address the causes of climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases</p> <p>r. ensure the region is prepared for the impacts of climate change</p> <p>s. conserve and enhance the region’s biodiversity</p> <p>t. protect and enhance the region’s countryside and historic environment</p>			
County				

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<p>Integrated Transport Strategy for Kent: Growth Without Gridlock</p>	<p>The LTP aims to provide a choice in the transport network and reduce dependency on the private car, thereby improving accessibility for the whole community and protecting the environment. In doing so 10 key objectives have been identified:</p> <p>Accessibility; Demand Management; Environment, Heritage and Communities; Health; Integration; Keep Kent Moving; Road Safety; Sustainable Regeneration; UK Connections; and UK Gateway.</p>	<p>The Kent LTP headline targets include:</p> <p>A 10% increase (from 58%) by 2011 in the number of households within 30 minutes traveling time of a hospital by public transport;</p> <p>A 5% increase (from 88.9%) by 2011 in the number of households within 15 minutes of a GP's surgery by public transport;</p> <p>A reduction in average vehicle speeds on Kent's roads in residential areas by 10% by 2011;</p> <p>A 2% increase per year in bus patronage on 2003/4 levels;</p> <p>A 6% improvement in bus punctuality by 2011;</p> <p>A 38% increase in cycling on 2003/4 levels by 2011;</p> <p>Restraining Kent wide traffic growth to less than 2% per annum; and</p> <p>A 10% increase in the use of sustainable transport modes for journeys to school by 2011.</p>	<p>DPD and SPD need to contribute to key targets of the LTP.</p>	<p>Ensure the DPD and SPD are aligned with the LTP and objectives are reflected in the SA Framework.</p>

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<p>Expansion East Kent: new opportunities through East Kent's Regional Growth Fund June 2012</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Investment for businesses to benefit the whole of East Kent •Offer of 0% interest loans to start or expand businesses in in Canterbury, Dover, Shepway and Thanet •Target to create 5,000 jobs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Investment for businesses to benefit the whole of East Kent •Offer of 0% interest loans to start or expand businesses in in Canterbury, Dover, Shepway and Thanet •Target to create 5,000 jobs 	<p>Potentially provides an additional mechanism to support the delivery and viability of regeneration and new development that contribute towards the Local Economic Partnership's objectives for Kent.</p>	<p>Useful indication of sub-region's immediate priorities for growth in employment land and job opportunities.</p>
<p>Local Transport Plan for Kent 2011-2016 (LTP3)</p>	<p>five Themes based on the previous Government's five National Transport Goals as set out in the LTP3 Guidance, but made relevant to Kent:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Growth Without Gridlock 2. A Safer and Healthier County 	<p>No formal targets however the following performance indicators which reflect our five LTP3 Themes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journey time reliability in Kent's urban centres (Canterbury, 	<p>Implications applicable throughout Local Plan. These objectives need to be addressed in the Local Plan and in many general design as well</p>	<p>Ensure framework objectives are in alignment</p>

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	3. Supporting Independence 4. Tackling a Changing Climate 5. Enjoying Life in Kent	Gravesend and Maidstone) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal roads where maintenance should be considered • People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents • Local bus journeys originating in the authority area • Per capita reduction in CO₂ emissions • Children travelling to school - mode of transport usually used • Net satisfaction with the condition of roads, pavements and streetlights 	as locational policies	
Kent Design Guide	The Kent Design Guide aims to achieve environmental excellence by providing practical advice on the process and design of development proposals. The Guide will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • apply to all types of development; • supplement national and regional guidance; • describe Kent's planning policy framework and the process for obtaining planning consent; • provide a framework for detailed guidance at local level; • give examples of successful design and useful checklists for inspiration; and • help make sense of the many complex issues that have to be considered in preparing development proposals. 		Will Guide or its principles been adopted as an SPD? The LDF could include policies on promoting sustainable design and incorporate the Guide's recommendations.	The SA objectives could include an objective on promoting sustainable design.
Active Lives:	This document lays out the shared vision for adult social care in Kent for 2010-2013.	There are around 246,994 people over the age of 65 living in Kent (taken from Mid	Ensure that the LDF	The SA objectives

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<p>Active Lives: The Future of Social Care in Kent 2010-2013</p>	<p>Since the review of <i>Active Lives</i> in 2007 there have been many changes in social care, both nationally and locally. Kent Adult Social Services will be facing a challenging time in the next few years brought about by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increasing demand as a result of better health care and advances in medicine which mean • people, including those with complex health conditions, live longer • the impact on public spending caused by the recession • increased public expectation that services should meet needs based upon the individual, • giving them choice and control • fewer young people entering the social care workforce and the current workforce is ageing • a number of initiatives and policies launched by the government (see Appendix 1), setting • out a national vision for social care in the future focusing on independence, personalisation • and partnership working. 	<p>Year. Population Forecasts 2008) and it is estimated that the total number of over 65's will grow by 39.3 per cent by 2021 and that the total population of over 85's will rise by 100 per cent by 2026</p>	<p>integrates key objectives of promoting social inclusion and independence for Kent's residents into its policies and recommendations. It should reflect the needs of disabled people and others with additional needs. The provision of affordable housing could help alleviate recruitment problems.</p>	<p>should reflect the need to promote better public health (this in turn reflects the requirements of the SEA Directive which refers explicitly to 'human health' as an issue for consideration) and social inclusion.</p>

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Kent County Council Framework for Regeneration	<p>‘Unlocking Kent’s Potential’ is a review of the challenges and opportunities facing Kent. It sets out the Council’s overarching assessment of the key opportunities and challenges facing Kent over the next ten years. The purpose of the document is to look forward to the future challenges and opportunities facing Kent in global and domestic contexts and to act as a statement of Kent County Councils commitment to tackling the big issues facing the area.</p> <p>5 Key challenges/ aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Building a new relationship with Kent business 2. Unlocking talent to support the Kent economy 3. Embracing a growing and changing population 4. Building homes and communities 5. Delivering growth without transport gridlock <p>The Framework for Regeneration also focuses on the opportunity to develop and promote Kent as a destination for UK and international visitors.</p>	<p>A number of opportunities are identified within Kent’s Framework for Regeneration. These include major opportunities to develop the economy of the area through: the development and build out of employment space at Ebbsfleet Valley and Kent Thameside, Ashford, Manston Dover and Sittingbourne; a sequence of transport investment to road and rail and public transport; and cultural regeneration investment in Margate, Folkestone and Canterbury.</p>	<p>The LDF should include policies to respond, where possible, to the key challenges identified in the Framework.</p>	<p>The SA objectives could include objectives related to the key challenges identified in the Framework for Regeneration. The baseline review monitoring should also incorporate indicators that will help to ensure the impact on developing Kent’s economy is measured.</p>
Kent Prospects: Economic Strategy for Kent 2009	<p>Kent Prospects provides the Partnership’s framework for influencing, guiding and co-ordinating economic development and regeneration in the County. The 2007-2012 version takes forward the 20-year mosaic economy scenario and focuses on unlocking constraints and enabling economic development and regeneration opportunities.</p>	<p>12 indicators</p>	<p>LDF should seek to support initiatives to develop basic skills and IT skills in particular. Ensure a good supply housing and suitable employment sites. Promote high quality,</p>	<p>12 indicators have been created to monitor performance – some of these may be suitable for SA indicators and monitoring.</p>

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	<p>Kent Prospects contains several priorities which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility, infrastructure and connections • Increase accessibility and secure investment in infrastructure, roads and public transport • Develop ICT • Ensure Kent’s environmental infrastructure meets growth and regeneration challenges • Growth and regeneration • Promote economic development and regeneration opportunities • Encourage rural enterprise, innovation and skills development • Promote opportunities associated with the Olympics and other events • Enterprise and competitiveness Support innovation, skills and enterprise • Develop Kent’s tourism product Promote innovation and expand Kent’s knowledge base • Protect and improve the supply of business sites and focus new investment on sustainable strategic employment sites • Pathways to sustainable prosperity • Promote sustainable design consumption, resource efficiency and productivity • Support development of sustainable enterprises 		sustainable design.	
Kent Health and Affordable Warmth	The first Kent Health and Affordable Warmth Strategy was launched in 2001 and set out a number of objectives to help the fuel poor in Kent move into affordable warmth. The	Householders living in social sector properties will be helped by specific local authority home improvement programmes. Under the Home Energy Conservation	The LDF could promote sustainable design principles for new housing	The issue of affordable warmth should be considered when undertaking the SA

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Strategy Second Edition	second edition builds on these objectives. It defines a fuel poor household as one which needs to spend more than 10% of its income to heat the home to an adequate standard of warmth. There are around 12,500 of Kent residents that are fuel poor and in 2001-2002 there were 890 excess winter deaths in Kent including 60 in Sevenoaks. The most vulnerable group are the elderly with 93% of excess winter deaths occurring in the over 65s. The main cause of fuel poverty in the UK is a combination of poorly insulated homes, inefficient heating systems and low incomes.	Act 1995 (HECA), local authorities became Energy Conservation Authorities (ECAs) and were required to submit an annual energy conservation report to Government. This should assess the energy efficiency of all housing in the local authority area and identify appropriate energy conservation measures that are cost-effective and would result in significant improvements in energy efficiency. The Government introduced an obligation for ECAs to report on fuel poverty as part of the annual report. The Strategy is closely linked to the Kent Design Guide. Aim 3 Objective (f) states that Creative Environmental Networks will work with Kent Design to ensure that the Guide includes recommendations for new build housing to exceed existing building standards for thermal comfort.	development particularly in relation to insulation and the efficiency of heating systems.	particularly in appraising policies on sustainable design principles.
Learning for life, improvement for all. Education Development Plan 2002 - 2007 (Year 2004-05 Update)	“Learning for Life- Improvement for All” identifies that ‘Education, skills and learning are the key to personal success and fulfilment and to the future prosperity and quality of life in Kent’. The commitments are: To attract, support and reward the very best teachers; To help all schools to improve performance but target those few which are not fully developing children’s abilities;	The development plan sets out priorities, criteria, targets and actions to meet the strategic themes.	The Local Plan should observe and comply with the strategy	Ensure the SA objectives are in-line and contribute towards the strategy

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	<p>Early years provision is essential and to develop the social skills of children and give them the best start to education;</p> <p>Secondary schools should work together to provide the maximum degree of choice for young people in their area, ensuring all students have access to a curriculum that is best suited to their needs;</p> <p>To ensure that every child is supported to fulfil his or her potential;</p> <p>To help schools to become centres for their communities; and</p> <p>To create responsive structures to tackle underachievement and extend the potential of all pupils.</p>			
<p>Kent County Council Equality Strategy April 2007 – March 2010</p>	<p>The Strategy sets out how the Council will promote equality and community cohesion and tackle unfair discrimination in Kent incorporating the Council’s Disability, Gender and Race equality schemes. The strategy focuses primarily on five priority outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equal and inclusive services and information for all, regardless of age, disability, gender, faith, race or sexual orientation; • Creative opportunities for participation and involvement in service planning and decision-making; • Work with our partners to ensure the county’s most vulnerable groups feel safe and free from harassment; • Enhance the quality of our intelligence and 	<p>Equality impact assessments to be incorporated as part of the DPD and SPD.</p>	<p>The DPD and SPD should observe and comply with the strategy.</p>	<p>The SA should ensure that the LDF promote the outcomes of the Strategy and incorporate Equality impact assessments as appropriate.</p>

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	<p>monitoring systems, to ensure we can target disadvantage in the county where action is most needed; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain our reputation as an excellent employer. 			
Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy	<p>The purpose of the Strategy is to set out how the KWP intends to manage municipal solid waste arising over the next 20 years focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy Objectives and Policies; • Resource Management; • Partnerships; • Education and Engagement; • Waste Minimisation and Re-use; • Recycling and Composting; • Residual Waste Management Services; • Energy Recovery; • Disposal to Landfill; and • Waste transfer Facilities. 	No specific targets.	Waste management strategy to be incorporated into the waste policies of the Local Plan	SA will include indicator on minimization of waste. Will also need indicators on re-use, recycling and recovery of waste as well, to demonstrate the movement away from disposal.
The Kent Biodiversity Action Plan http://www.kentbap.co.uk/	The aim of the action plan is to conserve and enhance biological diversity in Kent and to contribute to the conservation of national and global biodiversity.	<p>To maintain and, where practicable, to enhance:</p> <p>the overall populations and natural ranges of native species and the quality and range of wildlife habitats and ecosystems;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · internationally and nationally important and threatened species, habitats and ecosystems; <p>Species, habitats and natural and managed ecosystems that are characteristic of Kent;</p> <p>The biodiversity of natural and semi-natural</p>	Ensure Local Plan policies aligns with BAP	Ensure that DPD and SPD encourage conservation and offer protection to areas and species of high conservation importance as identified in the action plan.

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		<p>habitats, where this has diminished over 3 recent decades.</p> <p>To increase public awareness of, and involvement in, conserving biodiversity.</p> <p>To identify priorities for habitat and species conservation in Kent and set realistic targets and timescales for these.</p>		
Kent County Council School Organisation Plan December 2004	The School Organisation Plan (SOP) is a statutory plan, the key purpose of which is to set out how Kent County Council as Local Education Authority intends to meet its statutory responsibility to secure sufficient education provision within its area in order to promote higher standards of attainment.	<p>The Education Development Plan for Key Stages 1,2,3 and 4 (school age children) on attainment in English, Mathematics, Science, ICT and across the curriculum;</p> <p>Increasing participation in learning by young people and adults;</p> <p>Achievement of basic skills and Level 2, 3 and 4 qualifications;</p> <p>93.6% of 16 year-olds achieving five or more GCSE A*-G) passes by summer 2003 (also PSA target); and</p> <p>65% of children looked after by KCC gaining at least one GCSE.</p>	Must contribute to the national and regional plans and policies towards education.	Useful for establishing SA baseline and education indicators.
Kent economic report- A review of the local economy and its Social and	The 'Kent Economic Report 2004' to provide a snapshot of how the economy of Kent is performing against regional and national benchmarks. The report also provides additional contextual information on social and environmental indicators to provide an overview of the "economy – society – environment" aspects of	No specific targets set.	Provide regional benchmarks for economic development.	Useful for establishing SA baseline for economic indicators.

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Environmental Context 2004	sustainable development.			
Local Enterprise Partnership Vision and Business Plan	1: Secure the growth of the Thames Gateway: 2: Promote investment in our coastal communities: 3: Strengthen our rural economy: 4: Strengthen the competitive advantage of strategic growth locations:	Within the next 20 years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established and new businesses across the area will have created between 250,000 and 300,000 new jobs. A further 760,000 people will live in the South East LEP area. • The regeneration of the Thames Gateway itself will be largely complete. All our coastal and rural communities will aim to match the prosperity of our small cities and market towns. • Formerly deprived areas will be making significant progress towards becoming thriving communities. • GVA per head will exceed that for the south east as a whole; unemployment will be well below the average other prosperous European regions. • Our workforce will be known for its ‘can-do’ and entrepreneurial attitude; offering skills and talents which compete with the best in Europe. • Our universities will be global businesses in their own right, not only attracting high calibre ‘learners’ to the UK, but exporting intellectual excellence across the world. • Every community across the LEP will 	Consider how Local Plan Policies might contribute to LEP operating plan goals and objectives	The SA should ensure that the DPD and SPD promote the outcomes of the Strategy and incorporate Equality impact assessments as appropriate Ensure SA Framework objectives are aligned to LEP objectives.

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		<p>be served by super-fast (100 mbps or greater) broadband networks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A steady flow of public and private investment in strategic infrastructure, including improvements in our road and rail networks, sea ports and airports will ensure that businesses in the LEP benefit from even better connections to key global markets. 		
<p>Vision for Kent 2012-2022</p>	<p>The Vision for Kent is the community strategy for the county. It focuses on 8 key themes and objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where a vibrant and successful economy and targeted regeneration are delivered and sustained • where learning is stimulated and supported for everyone - for life, for employment and for enjoyment • where people lead healthier lives and enjoy high quality services that meet their needs for health, care and wellbeing • where a high quality environment and countryside are protected and enhanced for current and future generations • where communities are stronger, safer and confident in the face of change • where residents and visitors enjoy life through an enhanced and accessible range of recreational, sporting, artistic, and cultural opportunities • where jobs and services are easily accessible for all sections of the community and 	<p>No specific targets</p>	<p>LDF Policies should support short and long term priorities and strategic objectives outlined in this community strategy. Many of the aims and objectives of the ‘Vision’ will be addressed and delivered through other district or county-wide strategies, including Thanet’s Local Plan.</p>	<p>The SA to reflect and support priorities. Useful for updating baseline data</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>congestion and pollution are reduced</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> where housing needs are met and decent, high quality homes help create attractive, safe and friendly communities <p>It also highlights a number of strategic, long-term challenges that cut across many or all of these themes.</p>			
<p>Growing the Garden of England: A strategy for environment and economy in Kent – July 2011</p>	<p>The Kent Environment Strategy is a three-year strategy organised into three themes and ten priorities representing the major challenges and opportunities for Kent over the next 10 to 20 years. Each theme has a 20-year vision, supported by high-level targets. The three themes and their priorities are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Living ‘well’ within our environmental limits - leading Kent towards consuming resources more efficiently, eliminating waste and maximising the opportunities from the green economy. 2. Rising to the climate change challenge – working towards a low carbon Kent prepared for and resilient to the impacts of climate change. 3. Valuing our natural, historic and living environment - optimising the real economic and social benefits of high environmental quality while protecting and enhancing the unique natural and built-in character of Kent. 	<p>Theme 1: Reduce Kent’s ecological footprint By 2016, Kent will stabilise its ecological footprint on the way to reducing the footprint below 2001 levels by 2026. Theme 2: Reduce carbon emissions in Kent By 2030 Kent’s greenhouse gas emissions, measured as CO2 equivalent, will be 60% below 1990 levels .Help the public sector, the business community and Kent residents to manage both positive and negative impacts of climate change, including extreme weather events Realising the value of the natural, historic and living environment</p> <p>The Kent Forum will lead the way in adopting and implementing a consistent county-wide methodology to assess the potential social, economic and environmental value of Kent’s ecosystems, green infrastructure and cultural heritage and the services they provide. Based on the results, we will develop targets to fully realise the benefits for the people of Kent</p>	<p>Consider how Local Plan may contribute to achieving county objectives and targets for economic growth and environment</p>	<p>Check SA Framework is aligned with themes and priorities.</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
		and the emerging green economy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quality of the natural, historic and living environment Significantly reduce the rate of decline in biodiversity by 2015 and achieve measurable improvements in the conservation and enhancement of landscape and designated heritage assets 		
South East Local Enterprise Partnership Business Plan 2011-2015	Four strategic objectives and four enabling activities were agreed by the Board on 15th July 2011: Objectives: i. Secure the growth of the Thames Gateway; ii. Promote investment in coastal communities; iii. Strengthen the rural economy; and iv. Strengthen the competitive advantage of strategic growth locations. Enabling activities: i. Strategic transport infrastructure; ii. Universal super-fast broadband; iii. Skills; and iv. New financial instruments.	No specific Targets: - but activity is concentrated on: 1: Engaging businesses – setting an enterprise and growth agenda Accurately and effectively articulating the business perspective on growth (barriers and opportunities) is a critical role for the LEP. Business critical infrastructure Access to facilities and effective connectivity in every sense of the word is essential to business growth. Investment Whether supporting the availability of short-term cash flow or longer term investment directly in to business, securing more finance to Local Authorities 4: Internationalisation & commercialisation of the knowledge base. A characteristic of growing economies is the effective application of higher value skills and knowledge transfer to create wealth and	Seek Opportunities in Local Plan to maximise deliverables of partnership	SA framework indicators to be aligned with SELP objectives.

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
		commercial success. Innovation and commercialising intellectual property supports growth and creates value-added businesses: strong links between businesses and universities / colleges is just one element supporting this.		
Sub County				
The 2009 East Kent Sustainable Community Strategy'	<p>Provides an integrated approach to making region more sustainable.</p> <p>All local authorities have a duty to work with other organisations to produce a sustainable community strategy. This is a document which shows how organisations will work together to improve their area and safeguard its future. This document sets out the clear, long-term vision for East Kent, covering the districts of Canterbury, Dover, Shepway and Thanet. The following are aims and act as work themes</p> <p>Educational excellence that supports ambition, achievement and skills, for the workplace and beyond;</p> <p>Economic enterprise that is confident, resilient and with the support of local higher and further education institutions, innovative enough to seize opportunities presented by new markets and emerging technology;</p> <p>Fairer, stronger and healthier communities in</p>		Local plan should consider wider East Kent context and the integrated approach to issues and cross boundary issues highlighted by this strategy.	The SA should ensure that the Local Plan promotes the outcomes of the Strategy and incorporate Equality impact assessments as appropriate.

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>resurgent coastal towns, enjoying high quality homes and an enviable quality of life;</p> <p>A high quality, integrated transport network, with reduced congestion and pollution, offering a wide choice of accessible transport for all sections of the community;</p> <p>A distinctive profile as a visitor destination, with a wealth of cultural treasures, sustaining a thriving tourist economy;</p> <p>The priceless asset of its unique natural environment and a commitment to protect it for future generations.</p>			
<p>East Kent Homelessness Strategy 2008-2013</p>	<p>The strategy outlines 7 strategic priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise housing options and choice for customers • Prevent rough sleeping • Promote sustainable private sector accommodation • Help homeless households to secure and retain good quality accommodation • Reduce the use of temporary accommodation • Tackle youth homelessness • Monitor performance and develop best practice in homelessness 	<p>A series of detailed objectives have been developed to meet each of the key priorities. The strategy helps support the South East Regional Housing Strategy priority to prevent homelessness and specifically</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing the supply of new affordable housing • Housing-related support to enable vulnerable households to maintain tenancies • Better use of existing accommodation in both public and private sectors. 	<p>Ensure polices address and support the reduction and prevention of homelessness and meet regional and local priorities.</p>	<p>SA to include indicators on the impact DPD and SPD could have on preventing homelessness.</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
East Kent Local Investment Plan	<p>The HCA priorities for the South East are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlock surplus public sector land and brownfield sites for housing developments. • Regenerate town and city centres. • Deliver new and affordable homes in award winning developments. • Work with public sector partners to deliver new infrastructure. • Partner with developers, registered social landlords and local authorities to assist in comprehensive estate development. • Establish a strong investment programme which will support existing quality. 	<p>Additionally there are a number of strategic priorities. Of specific relevance to Thanet DC include:</p> <p>1. Manston and Central Thanet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kent International Airport • Parkway Station to link to HS1 • Manston Business Park • Eurokent Business Park • Westwood Housing • Highway improvements <p>4. Margate and Cliftonville Housing Intervention and Regeneration Programme</p> <p>This programme involves major interventions and comprises a number of initiatives aimed at rebalancing the failed housing market.</p>	<p>Local Plan can contribute to a number of the key objectives, priorities and targets through delivering development and regeneration in the district and allowing for growth. Policies should be consistent with HCA Projects identified for the district.</p>	<p>Ensure SA objectives comply with aims of Plan</p>
CAMS Stour catchments	<p>To manage water resources in a sustainable way by providing a structured approach to water resources management in the Stour Catchment. It recognises the needs of abstractors, river users and the environment.</p>	<p>Maintain and improve river quality and water resources.</p> <p>Improve and protect the natural environment (including biodiversity).</p>	<p>Ensure suitable measures are taken to protect the aquatic environment from pollution and over abstraction.</p>	<p>SA to include indicators on the impact DPD and SPD could have on the aquatic environments (coastal and inland).</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
North East Kent European Marine Sites Management Scheme and Action Plan 2007-2012	The management plan details actions for the management of the north east coastline under 5 management action types; planning, review, on-ground, monitoring, interpretation and awareness.	Specific objectives are separated between the relative authorities and groups who are responsible for their delivery	The plan documents should support the actions of the management scheme	The SA should ensure the actions are supported by the SA framework
Canterbury City Council Local Development Framework	Canterbury City Council are in the process of developing its own LDF through the production of a Core Strategy and related DPD and SPD documents. These documents will also be subject to Sustainability Appraisals	Targets and indicators will become available over time	The plan documents should consider any cross boundary issues and address them appropriately	The SA should ensure the cross boundary issues are considered
Dover District Council Local development Framework	Dover District Council are in the process of developing its own LDF through the production of a Core Strategy and related DPD and SPD documents. These documents will also be subject to Sustainability Appraisals	Targets and indicators will become available over time	The plan documents should consider any cross boundary issues and address them appropriately	The SA should ensure the cross boundary issues are considered
East Kent Partnership strategy 2005-2015	Details priorities for the area in terms of development and tackling deprivation. Priorities include; Prosperous inclusive community Quality Places Positive cultural identity Competitive and diverse economy Successful and aspirational workforce Secure quality investments Fully integrated transport	No specific targets	Support the objectives and priorities of the Partnership	The SA to reflect and support priorities

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	Quality environment Communications			
Local				
Thanet Council's Corporate Plan 2012-2016	Sets out the priorities for the District over a four year period. Priority 1 of the Plan states that the Council will support the growth of our economy and the number of people in work. By 2016 the Council aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase the number of employment opportunities in the District • decrease the number of unemployed people living in the District • increase wages • improve levels of qualifications • reduce journey times to London increase in development of the Council's land and commercial buildings to support business growth 		Ensure Local Plan Policies consider and contribute to objectives of Corporate plan and economic Growth	SA Objectives to include economy related objectives and indicators
Thanet District Council Transport plan 2005-2011	Key Strategic Themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining and improving community safety; • Improving health and social welfare; • Rejuvenating the city's economy; • Protecting and enhancing the environment; • Enhancing image and raising aspirations; 	Detailed objectives, baselines and actions are provided in this strategy, covering the key strategic themes indicated.	Ensure that Local Plan aligns with transport plan.	The SA should inform the evolving objectives of the transport plan. Must also consider the targets and objectives set in subsequent documents and policies.

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a learning city; • Reinvigorating the housing market; and • Improving transport. 			
<p>Thanet District Adopted Local Plan 2006</p>	<p>The Local Plan identifies the issues and opportunities that are arising in the area and sets out the Council’s views on how they would like to see the area develop over a period of time covering the key areas of:</p> <p>Economic Development & Regeneration; Housing; Town Centres & Retailing; Transportation; Design; Heritage; Tourism; Sport & Recreation; Countryside & Coast; Rural Settlements; Nature Conservation; Environmental Protection; and Community Facilities.</p> <p>The four main development proposals are:</p> <p>Continued emphasis on employment development; The development of a new town centre at</p>	<p>The Plan takes into account national, regional and county planning policies and guidance across the key areas.</p> <p>Key targets of success are:</p> <p>A reduction in unemployment in Thanet to that of the corresponding Kent average, during the Plan Period; An increase in average wages in Thanet to that of the Kent average by 2011; An increase in GDP in Thanet to match the Kent average GDP, during the Plan Period; and A reduction in the percentage of retail expenditure by Thanet residents outside the District to 25% of the gross retail expenditure by 2011.</p>	<p>Ensure that Local Plan support achieving the key targets as well as targets identified in the key themes.</p>	<p>The SA should inform the evolving objectives of the Local Plan</p> <p>Key local context.</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	<p>Westwood; The development of additional housing in the Westwood area; and The promotion of mixed-use developments.</p>			
<p>Shoreline Management Plan (1st review 2006)</p>	<p>The Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) provides a large-scale assessment of the risks associated with coastal evolution and presents a policy framework to address these risks to people and the developed, historic and natural environment in a sustainable manner. The objectives of the SMP are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · To define, in general terms, the flooding and erosion risks to people and the developed, historic and natural environment within the SMP area over the next century; · To identify the preferred policies for managing those risks; · To identify the consequences of implementing the preferred policies; · To set out procedures for monitoring the effectiveness of the SMP policies; · To inform planners, developers and others of the risks identified within the SMP and preferred SMP policies when considering future development of the shoreline and land use changes; · To comply with international and national nature conservation legislation and biodiversity obligations; and, · To highlight areas where knowledge gaps exist. <p>To provide an action plan to facilitate implementation of the SMP policies and monitor</p>			

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	progress.			
Southern Water – Strategic Direction Statement (December 2007, updated March 2011) and Water Resource Management Plan	<p>The Strategic direction Statement is Southern Waters strategy for managing water and wastewater services over the next 25 years. Its objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ·Provision of resilient services to customers in a changing environment • ·Facilitate sustainable growth • ·Recognised as best value for money 	<p>They aim to achieve these objectives by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead pipe removal • Better powers to control debt • Supply pipe ownership • Innovative tariffs • Education in water efficiency • Recycling from waste • Sewer replacement • Mains replacement • Catchment management • Renewable energy • Reduced phosphate dosing • Metering · New development · Pumping station resilience 	Local Plan polices to contribute Strategic objectives	Ensure Water resources are considered within SA
Thanet District Council Housing Strategy 2006 -10	<p>The Housing Strategy helps realise the effect a fundamental improvement in choice, supply, quality and accessibility of housing available to Thanet people through the following key strategic priorities;</p> <p>Improving standards and fitness of Private Sector Housing;</p> <p>Meeting the demand for affordable housing across the District;</p> <p>Promote housing activity in the Renewal Area;</p> <p>Improve choice and access to housing for all communities in the District; and</p>	The Strategy emphasis the commitment to other regional and national housing strategies. Detailed performance indicators are provided for the Thanet Strategy in the Annex N.	Ensure that Local Plan aligns with housing strategy.	Reflect objectives in the SA Framework.

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
	Tackling homelessness.			
Thanet District council Contaminated land strategy	Thanet District Council has produced this document to provide guidance for the identification, inspection, assessment, and remediation of land which may be Designated as Contaminated Land.	Specific targets not set in the strategy acts as guidance only.	Ensure Local Plan is developed using guidance where appropriate.	Ensure that SA supports the guidance.
From Audit to Action – Thanet Crime and Disorder Audit Strategy: 2005 to 2008	Following a review of the annual Crime and Disorder Audit the strategy priorities action for 4 keys themes: Reducing crime; Felling safe and being safe; Tackling anti-social behaviour; and Address substance misuse.	Key targets and objectives are linked to regional and national strategies. Detailed action plans are provided along with a number of specific targets across all 4 key themes.	Ensure that Local Plan supports the themes and actions of the strategy.	Reflect objectives in the SA Framework.

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Thanet District Council Policy on Flood and Coastal Defence</p>	<p>Policy prepared to provide a public statement of the Council’s approach to flood and coastal defence in its areas. Key Objectives in line with government policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage the provision of adequate and cost effective flood warning systems; To encourage the provision of adequate, economically, technically and environmentally sound and sustainable flood and coastal defence measures; and To discourage inappropriate development in areas at risk from flooding and coastal erosion. 	<p>Supports and reviews the Councils ability to deliver the government’s policy aims and objectives.</p>	<p>Ensure that Local Plan support the objectives on the governmental and local strategy.</p>	<p>Ensure SA framework is aligned with the objectives on the governmental and local strategy.</p>
<p>‘Feet first’ enabling and promoting walking in Thanet</p>	<p>The Strategy compliments Kent County Council’s “Walking Strategy for Kent” published in 2001 and to add a local dimension. The Strategy has the following key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that the appropriate infrastructure is provided and maintained to enable those wishing to walk to do so safely and conveniently; To promote and encourage walking as a healthy alternative to the private car for short work and leisure journeys and as a means of recreation; and To identify priorities form implementing a planned programme of high quality walking routes in Thanet. 	<p>Strategy supports local transport and county transport plans. Specific targets provided across key themes.</p>	<p>Need to compile with strategy so as to meet targets provided.</p>	<p>Ensure that the SA supports the objectives.</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Bus Strategy for Thanet</p>	<p>The intention of this strategy is to present a ten year plan which, if achieved, will lead to an improvement in the quality, reliability and perception of bus services in Thanet. The strategy covers the keys themes: Reliability Information Accessibility Community Transport The Rural Perspective Inter-Modal Issues School Travel Company/Green Travel Plans Reducing The Need To Travel</p>	<p>Strategy supports local transport and county transport plans. Specific targets provided across key themes.</p>	<p>Need to comply with strategy so as to meet targets provided.</p>	<p>Consider transport objectives within SA</p>
<p>Corporate Plan 2012-2013, Thanet District Council.</p>	<p>This Plan sets clear objectives and ambitions for Thanet Council for the next 10 years. This plan covers 6 key themes: Thanet’s Economy Safe Neighbourhoods Beautiful Thanet Quality Housing Healthy Communities Modern Council</p>	<p>This plan identifies why the key themes have been prioritised. Specific actions and a timescale for works are summarised.</p>	<p>Ensure that Local Plan Policies support the themes identified in this Plan</p>	<p>Ensure that SA Framework supports the objectives</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
<p>Community Strategy for Thanet.</p>	<p>This document recorded the process and outcomes of the community strategy co-ordinated by the Thanet Local Strategic Partnership.</p> <p>Key Themes: The economy Lifelong learning A safer community The environment and housing An inclusive community Health and lifestyle.</p>	<p>The community was asked what they would like to see in the area. The top five priorities were: A prosperous, thriving economy with job and training opportunities for all who want them. A safe community where people feel confident and able to take part in community life, social and recreational activities. Homes for all who need them Clean, safe streets and quality public spaces in an environment that we can all be proud of. Opportunities, facilities and activities for young people. Action plans were developed along these priorities.</p>	<p>Ensure that Local Plan policies support the priorities and action plans identified in the Strategy.</p>	<p>SA Framework to be aligned with strategy priorities.</p>
<p>Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan (2007)</p>	<p>The SMP is a non-statutory, policy document for coastal defence management planning. The main objective of the SMP is to identify sustainable long-term management policies for the coast. It does this by recommending policy for smaller different reaches of coastline on the basis of; Hold the line; Advance the line; Managed retreat; and, No active intervention.</p>	<p>Management policy for individual coastal reaches</p>	<p>Support the individual policies as appropriate</p>	<p>Must afford coastal protection in line with SMP</p>

PPP	Key objectives relevant to Local Plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Local Plan and SA	Implications for the Local Plan	Implications for SA
Pegwell Bay to Kingsdown Coastal Flood Risk Management Strategy (2007)	Details the management plans for flood risk management by through the consideration of strategic options for 9 coastal reaches	Strategic management options provided for individual coastal reaches	Support the individual policies as appropriate	Must afford coastal protection in line with the strategy

Appendix B

SA Objectives, Decision Making Criteria and Indicators

B1 SA Objectives, Decision Making Criteria and Indicators

Green = currently included in Thanet AMR

Red = Regional indicator, not included in Thanet AMR

Blue = Suggested indicator (to inform SA)

Objective Number / Thanet District SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
Social		
1. To provide a sustainable supply of housing including an appropriate mix of types and tenures to reflect demand.	<p>Will the plan:</p> <p>Supply an appropriate quantity of housing to satisfy demand?</p> <p>Supply an appropriate mix of types and tenures of properties in relation to the respective levels of demand?</p> <p>Supply 30% of new homes as affordable homes?</p> <p>Reduce the prevalence of unfit and derelict dwellings within the housing stock?</p>	<p>Net additional dwellings for the current year (10)</p> <p>Net additional dwellings over previous 5 year period or since the start of the relevant plan period, whichever is longer (9)</p> <p>Projected net additional dwellings up to the end of the relevant development plan period or over a ten year period, whichever is longer (11)</p> <p>Annual net dwelling requirement (12)</p> <p>Annual average number of net additional dwellings needed to meet overall housing requirements, having regard to previous years' performance.</p> <p>Number of affordable housing completions.</p> <p>% of new housing sites over 15 units net or 0.5 hectares where provision is made for an element of affordable housing.</p> <p>Average property price compared to average earnings.</p> <p>Number of unfit homes per 1000 dwellings.</p>
2. To maintain appropriate healthcare provision and access to healthcare facilities for all sectors of society.	<p>Will the plan:</p> <p>Ensure people are adequately served by key healthcare facilities, regardless of socio-economic status?</p>	<p>Death rates from circulatory disease, cancer, accidents and suicide.</p> <p>Infant mortality rates</p> <p>Conceptions among girls under 18</p> <p>Life expectancy</p> <p>Amount (and %) of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP, hospital, primary school, secondary school, areas of employment and major retail centres.</p> <p>Amount and % of residential property within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP, hospital, primary school, secondary school, areas of employment and major retail centres.</p>

Objective Number / Thanet District SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
3. To provide access to appropriate educational facilities for all sectors of society including focus on training vulnerable and welfare dependant workers with skills necessary to ensure year round employment.	<p>Will the plan:</p> <p>Improve educational levels of the population of working age?</p> <p>Improve access to educational facilities for vulnerable and welfare dependant workers?</p>	<p>Proportion of 19 year olds with level 2 qualifications (5 GCSEs, A *-C or NVQ equivalent)</p> <p>% of population of working age qualified to NVQ level 3 or equivalent.</p> <p>Proportion of adults with poor literacy and numeracy skills.</p> <p>Access to education facilities.</p>
4. To increase public safety and reduce crime and fear of crime.	<p>Will the plan:</p> <p>Reduce levels of burglaries, violent offences and vehicle crime?</p> <p>Reduce public perceptions and fear of crime?</p>	<p>Levels of domestic burglaries, violent offences and vehicle crimes.</p> <p>Fear of crime.</p>
5. To provide a sustainable public transport network that allows access to key facilities, services and employment opportunities without reliance on private vehicles.	<p>Will the plan:</p> <p>Improve public transport links to key facilities for existing development?</p> <p>Ensure new development is appropriately serviced by public transport to enable access to key facilities?</p>	<p>Amount (and %) of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP, hospital, primary school, secondary school, areas of employment and major retail centres.</p> <p>Amount and % of residential property within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP, hospital, primary school, secondary school, areas of employment and major retail centres.</p>
6. To provide appropriate key facilities to support vulnerable people and reduce the level of deprivation identified across the wards.	<p>Will the plan:</p> <p>Reduce the proportion of people living in deprived areas.</p> <p>Ensure new residential development is within a reasonable travel distance from key facilities.</p> <p>Ensure existing residences are adequately served by key facilities.</p> <p>Ensure vulnerable people within the community are adequately served by key facilities.</p>	<p>Proportion of children under 16 who live in low-income households.</p> <p>% of population of working age who are claiming key benefits</p> <p>Percentage of households in fuel poverty.</p> <p>Proportion of population who live in areas that rank within the most deprived 20% of areas in the country.</p> <p>Household income in rural areas.</p> <p>Amount (and %) of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP, hospital, primary school, secondary school, areas of employment and major retail centres.</p> <p>Amount and % of residential property within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP, hospital, primary school, secondary school, areas of employment and major retail centres.</p> <p>Access to key facilities by lower socio economic groups.</p>
8. To create vibrant balanced communities where residents feel a 'sense of place' and	<p>Will the plan:</p> <p>Result in communities where residents are</p>	<p>% of people who say they are satisfied with their local area as a place to live.</p> <p>% of people who feel that their local</p>

Objective Number / Thanet District SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
individual contribution is valued.	satisfied with their local area as a place to live? Result in harmonious and mixed communities?	area is a place where people from different backgrounds and communities can live together harmoniously.
Economic		
9. To provide access to employment opportunities for all sectors of society ensuring that everyone who wants to work has the opportunity to secure appropriate paid employment.	Will the plan: Increase levels of employment in the population of working age? Reduce the proportion of people on unemployment benefits?	Proportion of people of working age in employment Proportion of people claiming unemployment benefits who have been out of work for more than a year % increase or decrease in the total number of VAT registered businesses in the area Percentage change in workplace-based employment
10. To ensure the sustainable development of the proposed economic growth and encourage industrial and employment development at key sites within the District to support priority regeneration areas.	Will the plan: Increase the GVA per capita of the district's population? Encourage sustainable development of key sites across the district likely to stimulate economic growth? Encourage sustainable development of key services and facilities across the district likely to stimulate economic growth? Deliver industrial and employment development in regeneration areas? Deliver industrial and employment development that reduces unemployment in deprived areas?	GVA per capita Development of key sites to stimulate economic growth across the district. Development of key services and facilities to stimulate economic growth across the district. Development of key sites to stimulate economic growth in priority regeneration areas Proportion of people, in the most deprived areas, of working age in employment Proportion of people, in the most deprived areas, claiming unemployment benefit who have been out of work for more than a year Proportion of young people (18-24 year olds), in the most deprived areas, in full-time education or employment Percentage increase or decrease in work-place based employment in the most deprived areas
11. To protect and enhance the areas natural, semi-natural and street scene to support the tourist economy.	Will the plan Encourage development that will boost the tourism sector? Protect and enhance natural, semi-natural and built assets that support the tourist economy?	Percentage of jobs in the tourism sector Number of visitors staying overnight and overnight spend How to measure the protection of assets that support the tourist economy?
Environmental		
12. To improve efficiency in land use through the re-use of previously developed land and	Will the plan: Encourage locating development on	% of new and converted dwellings completed on previously developed land.

Objective Number / Thanet District SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
existing buildings, including reuse of materials from buildings, and encourage urban renaissance.	<p>previously developed land, avoiding Greenfield sites?</p> <p>Encourage an appropriate density and mix of development that reflects the needs of the population?</p> <p>Encourage the redevelopment of derelict land and properties, returning them to appropriate uses?</p>	<p>Development on previously developed land.</p> <p>% of new dwellings completed at (i) less than 30 dwellings per hectare (ii) between 30 and 50 dwellings per hectare (iii) above 50 dwellings per hectare.</p> <p>Net densities achieved on completed housing sites over 10 units.</p> <p>Empty properties brought back into use.</p> <p>Derelict land brought back into reuse</p> <p>Number of hectares of open countryside lost to irreversible development.</p> <p>Number of departures from policy safe guarding green wedges.</p> <p>Number of hectares of best and most versatile agricultural land lost to irreversible development during plan period.</p>
13. To ensure that a sustainable pattern of development is pursued.	<p>Will the plan:</p> <p>Promote development in sustainable locations that limits the need to travel to key facilities and services?</p>	<p>Amount (and %) of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP, hospital, primary school, secondary school, areas of employment and major retail centres.</p>
<p>14. To conserve and enhance the character and quality of the area's landscape and townscape particularly associated with town centres and coastal areas.</p> <p>15. To preserve and enhance sites, features and areas of historic archaeological or architectural importance, and their settings.</p>	<p>Will the plan:</p> <p>Improve landscape quality and the character of open spaces and the public realm?</p> <p>Protect and/or enhance the character and appearance of the District's townscape and countryside?</p> <p>Preserve or enhance the character and appearance of conservation areas, listed buildings, scheduled monuments and other features of cultural, historical or archaeological value and their setting?</p> <p>Ensure that development is sensitive towards the local environment?</p> <p>Support the restoration and re-use of existing buildings?</p>	<p>Land covered by management schemes</p> <p>Access to and the use of the countryside</p> <p>Buildings of Grade I and II* at risk of decay</p> <p>Empty properties brought back into use.</p> <p>Derelict land brought back into reuse</p>
16. To improve air quality in the District's Air Quality Management	<p>Will the plan:</p> <p>Encourage improvement</p>	<p>Days when air pollution is moderate or high</p>

Objective Number / Thanet District SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
Areas.	in air quality within Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs)?	
17. To provide a sustainable public transport network that allows access to key facilities, services and employment opportunities without reliance on private vehicles. (also included as social and economic objective)	Promote a sustainable public transport network that reduces reliance on private vehicles?	Average daily motor vehicle flows. Proportion of travel by mode. Amount (and %) of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP, hospital, primary school, secondary school, areas of employment and major retail centres.
18. To develop key sustainable transport links between Thanet and the wider Kent region and beyond, including road, rail and air.	Will the plan Improve transport links to key facilities within the district? Reduce reliance on private vehicles Support the development of key transport links between Thanet and the wider south East?	Average daily motor vehicle flows. Proportion of travel by mode.
19. To reduce waste generation and disposal and achieve the sustainable management of waste	Will the plan: Promote adherence to movement up the waste hierarchy? Promote reduced household waste generation rates? Promote increased waste recovery and recycling?	Percentage of the total tonnage of all types of waste (municipal solid waste, construction and demolition and industrial) that has been recycled, composted, used to recover heat, power and other energy sources, and landfilled.
20. To ensure development within the District responds to the challenges associated with climate change.	Promote a proactive reduction in the volume of greenhouse gas emissions released by development across the District?	Emissions of greenhouse gases from energy consumption, transport and land use and waste management.
21. To ensure appropriate development control procedures in place to manage the risks of coastal erosion, coastal and fluvial flood risk, in accordance with PPS25.	Will the plan: Restrict the development of property in areas of flood risk? Reduce areas available for flood storage? Ensure adequate measures are in place to manage existing flood risk? Ensure that development does not increase flood risk due to run-off? Ensure development is appropriately future proof to accommodate future	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood defence or water quality grounds. Properties at risk from flooding. New development with sustainable drainage installed

Objective Number / Thanet District SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria	Indicators
	levels of flood risk?	
22. To conserve and enhance biodiversity.	<p>Will the plan:</p> <p>Provide opportunities to develop or enhance new and existing wildlife and geological sites?</p> <p>Avoid destruction of important habitats or unique geological features?</p> <p>Avoid damage to designated wildlife and geological sites, protected species and their habitats?</p> <p>Support key objectives of the biodiversity action plan (BAP)?</p>	<p>Population of wild birds.</p> <p>Condition of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).</p> <p>Extent and condition of key habitats for which Biodiversity Action Plans have been established.</p> <p>Extent of ancient woodlands</p> <p>Achievement on BAP targets</p> <p>Loss of BAP or protected habitat as a result of new development.</p> <p>Area designated as SNCI and Local Nature Reserve</p> <p>Changes in populations of BAP species</p> <p>Changes in the area of BAP habitats</p> <p>% of greenspace gain in new developments</p>
23. To protect and improve the quality of fluvial and coastal water resources, including European designated sites	<p>Will the plan:</p> <p>Encourage Compliance with WFD?</p> <p>Encourage compliance with the EC Bathing Waters Directive?</p> <p>Promote management practices that will protect water features from pollution?</p>	<p>Rivers of Good or Fair chemical and biological water quality / Compliance with Water Framework Directive</p> <p>Compliance with EC Bathing Waters Directive</p> <p>Incidents of major and significant water pollution</p>
24. To reduce the global, social and environmental impact of consumption of resources by using sustainably produced and local products.	<p>Will the plan:</p> <p>Promote sustainability principles in the design, procurement, and operation of development?</p> <p>Encourage developers and operators in the District to 'green' their business operations and supply chains?</p> <p>Reduce the consumption rates of raw materials through strong sustainability policies?</p>	<p>Percentage of new build and retrofit homes meeting EcoHomes Very Good standard</p> <p>Percentage of commercial buildings meeting BREEAM Very Good standard</p> <p>Ecological footprint for the District</p>
25. To increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources in the area.	<p>Will the plan:</p> <p>Encourage reduction in energy use and increased energy efficiency?</p> <p>Encourage the development of renewable energy facilities within the District?</p>	<p>Energy use per capita</p> <p>Installed capacity for energy production from renewable sources</p>

Appendix C

SA Matrices

C1 Matrix 1: Testing Objectives Against Plan Objectives

Plan: Core Strategy Issues and Options

Date:

SA Objective		Possible Effects (Please tick)				Explanation	Mitigation and Enhancement
		Positive	Negative	Neutral	?		
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							

16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							
	Count of Effects						
	Summary of Appraisal (conclusions and recommendations)						

C2 Matrix 2: Predicting and Assessing the Impacts of Options

Plan:

Date:

Option Ref:

SA Objective	Option A			Commentary/ Explanation Note predicted nature of effect, how, who and where it will impact, and enhancement opportunities	Option B			Commentary/ Explanation Note predicted nature of effect, how, who and where it will impact, and enhancement opportunities	Option C			Commentary/ Explanation Note predicted nature of effect, how, who and where it will impact, and enhancement opportunities	Comparison of Options
	Effect (++, +, 0,-, --, ?)				Effect (++, +, 0,-, --, ?)				Effect (++, +, 0,-, --, ?)				
	ST	MT	LT		ST	MT	LT		ST	MT	LT		
Occurrence of Significant Long Term Effects (No)													

++														
+														
0														
-														
--														
?														
Qualitative Cumulative and Synergistic Impacts (Consider nature and significance of issues/impacts)														
Summary of Appraisal														

C3 SA Objectives, decision making Criteria and Indicators

Plan:

Date:

Policy Ref:

SA Objective/Decision Making Criteria	Predicted Nature of Effect Positive (Quantify if Possible). Please note type of impact, who it effects, spatial implications and if it is temporary or permanent	Predicted Nature of Effect Negative (Quantify if Possible). Please note type of impact, who it effects, spatial implications and if it is temporary or permanent	Assessment of Effect (++, +, 0, -, --, ?)			Explanation of Assessment, Level of Certainty, Assumptions, Additional Data Required to Qualify Assessment	Enhancement and Mitigation Opportunities
			Short Term (0-2 years)	Medium Term (2-5 years)	Long Term (5 years+)		

Occurrence of Long Term Effects (No)							
++							
+							
0							
-							
--							
?							
Qualitative Cumulative and Synergistic Impacts (Consider nature and significance of issues/impacts)							
Summary of Appraisal							

C4 SA Objectives, Decision Making Criteria and Indicators

Plan:

Date:

SA Objective	Long Term Effects							Occurrence of Effect (No)						Qualitative Long Term Synergistic or Cumulative Impacts (Consider nature and significance of different policies/issues/timeframes)	Conclusion and Mitigation
	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5			++	+	0	-	--	?		

Summary of All Policies																			

Appendix D

Baseline Data

D1 Thanet Designated Areas

Ramsar Sites

- Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay

Special Protected Areas

- Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay

Special Areas of Conservation

- Sandwich bay
- Thanet Coast

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

- Thanet Coast
- Sandwich bay to Hacklinge Marshes

Habitat Action Plans

The Kent BAP has developed the HAPs for the following;

Group	Habitat
Broad Habitats	Acid grasslands
Broad Habitats	Rivers and streams
Broad Habitats	Standing open water and canals
Local habitat	Heathland & Mire
Local habitat	Hedgrows
Local habitat	Intertidal Mud & Sand
Local habitat	Lowland Farmland
Local habitat	Marine Habitats

Local habitat	Neutral & Marshy Grassland
Local habitat	Old Orchards
Local habitat	Urban Habitats
Local habitat	Woodland & Scrub
Priority Habitats	Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh
Priority Habitats	Coastal saltmarsh
Priority Habitats	Coastal sand dunes
Priority Habitats	Coastal vegetated shingle
Priority Habitats	Lowland calcareous grassland
Priority Habitats	Lowland wood-pasture and parkland
Priority Habitats	Maritime cliff and slopes
Priority Habitats	Reedbeds

Species Action Plans

The Kent BAP has developed the SAPs for the following;

Group	Species
Amphibians	Great Crested Newt (<i>Triturus cristatus</i>)
Butterflies	Pearl-bordered Fritillary (<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>)
Butterflies	Silver-Spotted Skipper (<i>Hesperia comma</i>)
Butterflies	Heath Fritillary (<i>Mellicta athalia</i>)
Crustaceans	Freshwater White-clawed Crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>)
Fish	Allis Shad (<i>Alosa alosa</i>)
Fish	Twaite Shad (<i>Alosa fallax</i>)

Local species	<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i> (Serotine bat)
Local species	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i> (nightingale)
Local species	<i>Ophrys fuciflora</i> (late spider orchid)
Mammals	Water Vole (<i>Arvicola terrestris</i>)
Mammals	Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)
Mammals	Dormouse (<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>)
Vascular plants	Early Gentian (<i>Gentianella anglica</i>)

Regionally Important Geomorphological/Geological Sites

- Monkton Chalkpit Nature Reserve
- St Peter Quarry
- Pegwell Bay infilled dry valley

Registered Parks and Gardens

- Albion Place Gardens

Scheduled Monuments

- Anglo-Saxon cemeteries of Ozengall Grange
- Enclosure and ring ditches 200yds east north east of Minster Laundry
- Quex Park Settlements
- Anglo-Saxon cemetery and associated remains at Monkton, 550m north of Walters Hall Farm
- Double ring ditch and two enclosures 400yds north west of Danes Court
- Settlement one mile east of village
- Monastic Grange and pre-conquest nunnery at Minster Abbey
- Dent-De-lion Medieval Gatehouse
- Group of ring ditches 400yds north west of Great Brooks End Farm
- Salmestone Grange
- Anglo-Saxon cemetery, Parish Church of St Giles and associated remains immediately east of Sarre Mill
- Monastic Grange and pre conquest Nunnery at Minster Abbey

- Anglo-Saxon cemetery, Dane Valley Road
- Ring ditches and enclosure 500yds east south east of College Farm

Conservation Areas

- Acol
- Birchington
- Broadstairs
- Kingsgate
- Margate
- Margate Seafront
- Minster
- Monkton
- Northdown
- Pegwell
- Ramsgate
- Ramsgate, Royal Esplanade
- Ramsgate Montefiore
- Reading Street
- St Nicholas at Wade
- St Peters
- Sarre
- Westgate on Sea
- Westgate on Sea East
- Westgate on Sea South

Landscape Character Areas

- Pegwell Bay
- The Former Wantsum Channel
- The Former Wantsum North Shore
- The Central Chalk Plateau
- Quex Park
- The Urban Coast

