

Braintree District Council

Strategic Environmental Assessment Baseline Information Profile

2009 – 2010

Plans and Programmes

**Prepared For
Braintree District Council
by
Essex County Council**

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1 INTRODUCTION

'Local authorities need to prepare and maintain an up-to-date information base on key aspects of the social, economic and environmental characteristics of their area, to enable the preparation of sound Local Development Documents which can deliver sustainable development objectives (PAS, 2008).'

The production of a sound evidence base is not just the requirement of PPS12, but also as part of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of plans and programmes. The requirement for SA and SEA emanates from a high level national and international commitment to sustainable development.

The European Directive 2001/42/EC "on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment" (the 'SEA Directive') was adopted in June 2001 with a view to increase the level of protection for the environment, integrate environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes and to promote sustainable development. The Directive was transposed into English legislation by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the 'SEA Regulation'), which came into force on 21 July 2004. It requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment to be carried out for all plans and programmes which are:

'subject to preparation and/or adoption by an authority at national, regional or local level or which are prepared by an authority for adoption, through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government, and required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions'.

The aim of the SEA is to identify potentially significant environmental effects created as a result of the implementation of the plan or programme 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 these factors.

Sustainability Appraisals examine the effects of proposed plans and programmes in a wider context, taking into account economic and social considerations together with environmental considerations required by the SEA Directive in order to promote sustainable development. SA is mandatory for all Development Plan Documents and Regional Spatial Strategies in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as amended by the Planning Act 2008.

The County Council has entered into a Service Level Agreement with several local authorities in Essex to collect and maintain the baseline information to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive and to provide an up-to-date information base on key aspects of the social, economic and environmental characteristics of their area. This report has been prepared for Braintree District Council by Essex County Council.

The information is collected in a series of three reports:

- The first is the **Executive Summary**. This draws together the conclusions from the more detailed baseline monitoring report. The summary is intended to give an overview of the baseline report, which can be then looked at in detail for specific information on specific topics.
- The second document is the **Baseline Information Profile** which itself is organised into topic areas, covered by the SEA Directive.
- The last document (this document) is the **Plans and Programmes** Annexe which sets out the policy context for each of the topics and subjects presented in the baseline information profile. It sets out a comprehensive list of International, National, Regional, County wide and Local contextual information. A brief summary of each of the Plans and Programmes is provided together with a web link to the document itself.

This report has been compiled using an extensive set of information from a variety of sources. The information was correct at 30th September 2009. Changes in the source information after that date may affect the continued accuracy of information contained in this report. Essex County Council takes no responsibility for the accuracy, reliability and correctness of any information produced by external sources which are outside of the control of the County Council.

2 BROAD SUSTAINABILITY

2.1 International

A. Review of the European Union Strategy for Sustainable Development (2009)	
Web link	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52009DC0400:EN:NOT
Description	In July 2009 the Commission adopted the 2009 Review of EU SDS. It underlines that in recent years the EU has mainstreamed sustainable development into a broad range of its policies. In particular, the EU has taken the lead in the fight against climate change and the promotion of a low-carbon economy. At the same time, unsustainable trends persist in many areas and the efforts need to be intensified. The review takes stock of EU policy measures in the areas covered by the EU SDS and launches a reflection on the future of the EU SDS and its relation to the Lisbon strategy.
B. European and International Sustainability Development Strategy (June 2006)	
Web link	http://ec.europa.eu/sustainable/docs/renewed_eu_sds_en.pdf
Description	<p>Aims at the continuous improvement of the quality of life and well-being on Earth for present and future generations. To that end it promotes a dynamic economy with full employment, a high level of education, health protection, social and territorial cohesion, and environmental protection in a peaceful and secure world, respecting cultural diversity.</p> <p>The overall objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To limit climate change and its costs, its negative effects to society, and to the environment; • To ensure that our transport systems meet society's economic, social and environmental needs whilst minimising their undesirable impacts on the economy, society and the environment; • To promote sustainable consumption and production patterns; • To improve management and avoid overexploitation of natural resources, recognising the value of ecosystem services; • To promote good public health on equal conditions and improve protection against health threats; • To create a socially inclusive society by taking into account solidarity between and within generations and to secure and increase the quality of life of citizens; and • To actively promote sustainable development worldwide.
C. Draft European Constitution (2003)	
Web link	http://european-convention.eu.int/docs/Treaty/cv00850.en03.pdf
Description	It is stated that the Union shall, "work for the sustainable development of Europe based on balanced economic growth, a social market economy, highly competitive and aiming at full employment and social progress, and with a high level of protection and improvement of the quality of the environment. It shall promote scientific and technological advance. It shall combat social exclusion and discrimination, and shall promote social justice and protection, equality between women and men, solidarity between generations and protection of children's rights. It shall promote economic, social and territorial cohesion, and solidarity among Member States. The Union shall respect its rich cultural and linguistic diversity, and shall ensure that Europe's cultural heritage is safeguarded and enhanced."
D. The Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (2002)	
Web link	http://www.un-documents.net/jburgdec.htm
Description	<p>The key objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • change production and consumption patterns; • protect and manage natural resources; and • protect biodiversity

E. Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice - The Sixth Environment Action Programme of the European Community (2001)	
Web link	http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/pdf/6eapbooklet_en.pdf
Description	<p>The overall objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackling climate change; • Protect nature and wildlife; • Address environment and health issues; and • Preserve natural resources and manage waste
F. European Spatial Development Perspective (May 1999)	
Web link	http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/official/reports/pdf/sum_en.pdf
Description	<p>The aim of spatial development policies is to work towards a balanced and sustainable development of the territory of the European Union. In the Ministers' view, what is important is to ensure that the three fundamental goals of European policy are achieved equally in all the regions of the EU:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • economic and social cohesion; • conservation and management of natural resources and the cultural heritage; and • more balanced competitiveness of the European territory.

2.2 National

A. The Planning Act 2008 (November 2008)	
Web link	http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2008/pdf/ukpga_20080029_en.pdf
Description	<p>The Act builds on the proposals set out in the Planning White Paper and introduces a new system for nationally significant infrastructure planning, alongside further reforms to the town and country planning system and the introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy.</p> <p>The Act also makes further reforms to the town and country planning system, including improving the Local Development Plan system by removing some minor procedures; adding a duty on councils to take action on climate change in their development plans; and to have regard to the desirability of achieving good design; streamlining development control procedures; making changes to the appeals process; and adding transitional powers allowing regional assemblies to delegate some planning functions to regional planning bodies.</p>
B. Planning for a Sustainable Future: White Paper (May 2007)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/planningsustainablefuture.pdf
Description	<p>Proposes reforms on how we take decisions on nationally significant infrastructure projects - including energy, waste, waste-water and transport - responding to the challenges of economic globalisation and climate change. It also proposes further reforms to the Town and Country Planning system, building on the recent improvements to make it more efficient and more responsive.</p>
C. Securing the Future Delivering UK Sustainable Strategy (March 2005)	
Web link	http://www.defra.gov.uk/sustainable/government/publications/uk-strategy/
Description	<p>The guiding principles for the 2005 UK Sustainable Development Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • living within environmental limits; • ensuring a strong, healthy and just society; • achieving a sustainable economy, promoting good governance; and • using sound science responsibly.

D. PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development (February 2005)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/planningpolicystatement1.pdf
Description	Sustainable development is the core principle underpinning planning. At the heart of sustainable development is the simple idea of ensuring a better quality of life for everyone, now and for future generations.
E. The Environment Act 1995 (July 1995)	
Web link	http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts1995/Ukpga_19950025_en_1
Description	An Act to make further provision for the control of pollution, the conservation of natural resources and the conservation or enhancement of the environment; to make provision for imposing obligations on certain persons in respect of certain products or materials.

2.3 Regional

A. Sustainable Futures: Integrated Sustainability Framework for the East of England (January 2009)	
Web link	http://www.eera.gov.uk/What-we-do/developing-regional-strategies/integrated-sustainability-framework/
Description	<p>The Integrated Sustainability Framework (ISF) is a statement of the sustainable development priorities and challenges facing the East of England. Its vision is:</p> <p>“To promote and enhance the environmental, economic and social well-being of the East of England, and ensure a better quality of life for everyone – now and in the future”</p> <p>The ISF seeks to identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main objectives to achieve sustainable development in the East of England; • How those objectives are being addressed by current regional targets in the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) and Regional Economic Strategy (RES) and any gaps that may need to be addressed in a future Single Regional Strategy; • A monitoring framework to assess current and future performance in relation to the sustainable development objectives;
B. East of England Plan (May 2008)	
Web link	http://www.gos.gov.uk/goeec/docs/Planning/Regional Planning/Regional Spatial Strategy/EE Plan1.pdf
Description	<p>This plan is a revision of the Regional Spatial Strategy and sets out a spatial vision that “by 2021 the East of England will be realising its economic potential and providing a high quality of life for its people, including by meeting their housing needs in sustainable inclusive communities. At the same time it will reduce its impact on climate change and the environment, including through savings in energy and water use and by strengthening its stock of environmental assets.”</p> <p>The vision is supported by 5 objectives, which are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to reduce the region’s impact on, and exposure to, the effects of climate change; • to address housing shortages in the region; • to realise the economic potential of the region and its people; • to improve the quality of life for the people of the region; and • to improve and conserve the region’s environment

C. Our Environment, Our Future. The Regional Environment Strategy for the East of England (July 2003)	
Web link	http://www.eera.gov.uk/GetAsset.aspx?id=fAAxADMAMwA2AHwAfABGAGEAbABzAGUAfAB8ADAAfAA1
Description	<p>The objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plan to provide a full range of essential services and facilities within communities commensurate with their size and location; • target investment on the rail network, and on creating and improving integrated local networks of walking, cycling and public transport; • ensure that all local planning authorities are aware of, and use, guidance and checklists on sustainable design in determining planning permissions; • ensure that the design of all new development minimises impact on natural resources (e.g. consumption of energy, water and materials) during both construction and operation; • avoid development from being located in areas at risk from coastal flooding, fluvial flooding or storm surges; • prepare and implement Integrated Coastal Zone Management for the whole coast, incorporating Coastal Habitat Management Plans (CHaMPS), and protection of historic assets found in the coastal zone; • fully engage with regional and local stakeholders to increase awareness of, and involvement in, strengthening and management of landscape character; • ensure strong protection and active management of wildlife sites to sustain or restore their interest; • increase the uptake of agri-environment schemes; • increase the range of regionally distinctive traditional building materials in the region; and • increase awareness of the role of the historic environment as providing a catalyst for regeneration.

2.4 County

A. The Essex Local Area Agreement 2008-2011 (Refreshed April 2009)	
Web link	http://www.essexpartnership.org/vip8/com/Community/content/binaries/documents/Local_Area_Agreement_August_2008.pdf
Description	<p>"The Local Area Agreement is an agreement between public, private, voluntary and community sector partners across Essex to achieve ten priorities that are regarded as key to Essex having the best quality of life in Britain". These priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fewer children and young people missing education or not in education, employment or training. • More people supported to live in their own homes and better support for carers. • Better public health and longer lives. • Children and young people realise their potential in education. • Essex roads are safer, less congested and everyone has access to essential services. • More participation in sport, culture and volunteering. • Essex is a safe place to live. • Essex has a strong and competitive economy. • A smaller carbon footprint with less waste. • A well managed natural environment.

B. Essex and Southend-on-Sea Structure Plan 2001 (Saved Policies)	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/dis/guc.jsp?channelOid=27961&guideOid=32938&guideContentOid=16002
Description	Although the majority of Structure Plan policies expired in September 2007 the Secretary of State has saved a number of policies which remains material considerations and will remain in force until they are replaced by DPD adopted by Local Authorities.

2.5 District

A. Braintree District Futures 2025 Final report (October 2006)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/7906E19B-DB2B-473F-952C-DEAE3C119749/0/BraintreeDistrictFutures2025Rev1.pdf
Description	This report presents an overview of the current position of Braintree and three visions for the district to 2025, including quantified projections for the economy. It brings together the policy implications arising from the analysis, and sets out some questions and challenges for the District Council as it moves forward.
B. Braintree District Local Plan Review (Adopted July 2005)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/local_plan/plan_index.htm
Description	<p>This Plan has been prepared by Braintree District Council to provide a framework for the development of the area for the period to 2011. The Plan is based on sustainability principles which seek to guide development in such a way as to conserve and protect resources and not to compromise future generations in meeting their own needs.</p> <p>The Plan sets out the policies and proposals to guide and promote development in the Braintree District for the period 1996 to 2011. It replaces the Braintree District Local Plan 1995, which covered the period from 1986 to 2001.</p>

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PART ONE: Natural Environment

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3 BIODIVERSITY, FLORA AND FAUNA

3.1 International

A. European Community Biodiversity Strategy (February 1998)	
Web link	http://ec.europa.eu/environment/docum/pdf/com_98_42_en.pdf
Description	<p>This strategy aims to anticipate, prevent and attack the causes of significant reduction or loss of biodiversity at the source. This will help both to reverse present trends in biodiversity decline and to place species and ecosystems, including agro-ecosystems, at a satisfactory conservation status, both within and beyond the territory of the European Union (EU). With this strategy, the EU reinforces its leading role world-wide in the efforts to find solutions for biodiversity within the framework of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).</p> <p>The Strategy is organised around four strategic themes and eight policy areas. There are also four thematic Action Plans developed for each of the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation of Natural Resources • Agriculture • Fisheries • Economic Cooperation
B. Directive 92/43/EEC – EU Habitat Directive Council (1992)	
Web link	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:31992L0043:EN:HTML
Description	<p>The aim of this Directive shall be to contribute towards ensuring bio-diversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora in the European territory of the Member States to which the Treaty applies. Measures taken pursuant to this Directive shall be designed to maintain or restore, at favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of Community interest. Measures taken pursuant to this Directive shall take account of economic, social and cultural requirements and regional and local characteristics. Conservation of natural habitats and habitats of species. Set up a coherent network of sites called Natura 2000 including SPAs.</p>
C. Directive 79/409/EEC – EU Wild Birds Directive (1979)	
Web link	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:31979L0409:EN:HTML
Description	<p>This directive relates to the 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. It covers the protection, management and control of these species and lays down rules for their exploitation applying to birds, their eggs, nests and habitats.</p> <p>Member states shall take the requisite measures to preserve, maintain or re-establish a sufficient diversity and area of habitats for all species of birds.</p> <p>The following shall be the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • species in danger of extinction; • species vulnerable to specific changes in their habitat; • species considered rare because of small populations or restricted local distribution; and • other species requiring particular attention for reasons of the specific nature of their habitat.
D. Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern) (1979)	
Web link	http://conventions.coe.int/treaty/en/Treaties/Word/104.doc
Description	<p>The key objective of this convention is “to conserve wild flora and fauna (as defined) and their natural habitats, with particular emphasis given to endangered or vulnerable species, including migratory species.”</p>

E. Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn) (1979)	
Web link	http://www.cms.int/pdf/convtxt/cms_convtxt_english.pdf
Description	The key objective of this convention is “to conserve migratory species (specific species defined in Convention) and agree to take action to ensure this happens, paying particular attention to migratory species and their habitats.”
F. Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (1971)	
Web link	http://www.ramsar.org/key_conv_e.htm
Description	The key objective of this convention is “to protect Wetlands of International Importance (as defined on the Ramsar List) as habitats for waterfowl.”

3.2 National

A. Climate Change and Biodiversity Adaptation: The Role of the Spatial Planning System (Natural England – NECR004) (April 2009)	
Web link	http://naturalengland.etraderstores.com/NaturalEnglandShop/product.aspx?ProductID=1b0e18e5-cf75-4068-a644-05bd294e2cfb
Description	Increasing the capacity of the natural environment to adapt to climate change is a key priority for Natural England. The planning system is starting to consider climate change issues, though policies and plans tend to focus on preventing the causes of change rather than adapting to them. The aim of this report is to help identify the role the planning system could play in helping biodiversity adapt to climate change.
B. Natural England: Strategic Direction 2008-2013 (2008)	
Web link	http://naturalengland.etraderstores.com/NaturalEnglandShop/Product.aspx?ProductID=7b86c3d7-6b47-4dfc-ae6b-436c4268c3d3
Description	Contains the aims and objectives of Natural England and the framework of objectives to achieve specific targets within the natural environment.
C. Working with the Grain of Nature – A Biodiversity Strategy for England (2007)	
Web link	http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/pdf/biodiversity/biostrategy.pdf
Description	<p>The Strategy sets out a series of actions that will be taken by the Government and its partners to make biodiversity a fundamental consideration in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture: encouraging the management of farming and agricultural land so as to conserve and enhance biodiversity as part of the Government's Sustainable Food and Farming Strategy. • Water: aiming for a whole catchment approach to the wise, sustainable use of water and wetlands. • Woodland: managing and extending woodland so as to promote enhanced biodiversity and quality of life. • Marine and coastal management: so as to achieve the sustainable use and management of our coasts and seas using natural processes and the ecosystem-based approach. • Urban areas: where biodiversity needs to become a part of the development of policy on sustainable communities and urban green space and the built environment.

D. PPS9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (August 2005)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/147408.pdf
Description	<p>The Government's objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to promote sustainable development by ensuring that biological and geological diversity are conserved and enhanced as an integral part of social, environmental and economic development. • to conserve, enhance and restore the diversity of England's wildlife and geology by sustaining, and where possible improving, the quality and extent of natural habitat and geological and geomorphological sites and the populations of naturally occurring species which they support. • to contribute to rural renewal and urban renaissance by enhancing biodiversity in green spaces and among developments and ensuring that developments take account of the role and value of biodiversity.
E. Circular 06/05: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation - Statutory Obligations and Their Impact Within the Planning System (August 2005)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/147570.pdf
Description	This circular provides administrative guidance on the application of the law relating to planning and nature conservation as it applies in England. It complements the expression of national planning policy in <i>Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation</i> (PPS9) and the accompanying <i>Planning for Biodiversity and Geological Conservation: A Guide to Good Practice</i> .
F. UK Biodiversity Action Plan, Defra (1994)	
Web link	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/library/Plan_LO.pdf
Description	The UK BAP is the UK Government's response to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) signed in 1992 and describes the UK's biological resources, commits a detailed plan for the protection of these resources and has 391 Species Action Plans, 45 Habitat Action Plans and 162 Local Biodiversity Action Plans with targeted actions. Major reviews of the Priority Species and Habitats are underway, and the Targets for these priorities are complete.

3.3 Regional

A. Regional Woodland Strategy: Woodland for life, EERA (2003)	
Web link	http://www.woodlandforlife.net/wfl/documents/Woodland_for_Life.pdf
Description	<p>The strategic objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhanced awareness raising and education; • management of the existing trees and woodlands of the region focused on the benefits they provide; and • continue tree planting and woodland expansion.

3.4 County

A. Essex Biodiversity Project (March 2009)	
Web link	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/lbap.aspx?id=373
Description	Includes action plans for species and habitats within the designated area.

B. Essex Biodiversity Action Plan (1999)	
Web link	http://www.essexbiodiversity.org.uk/Default.aspx?pageid=47
Description	<p>Identifies flagship species and habitats within Essex and then establishes an action plan for each for their conservation. Key principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess - the biodiversity value of the site. • Protect - current key habitats and species of wildlife interest. • Enhance and Create - enhance existing habitats or create new areas. • Mitigate - against potentially damaging impacts on wildlife. • Compensate - where damage is unavoidable to wildlife. • Monitor and Enforce - to promote the success of enhancement, mitigatory and compensatory measures. • A Checklist - for developers and planners.

4 LANDSCAPE

4.1 International

A. Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (July 2006)	
Web link	http://www.peblids.org/files/meetings/straco_2006_20_en.pdf
Description	The main overarching objective of this Strategy is to, “stop and reverse the degradation of biological and landscape diversity values in Europe.”
B. European Landscape Convention (October 2000)	
Web link	http://conventions.coe.int/Treaty/en/Treaties/Html/176.htm
Description	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.

4.2 National

A. CABE Green Space Strategies (2004)	
Web link	http://www.cabe.org.uk/files/green-space-strategies.pdf
Description	<p>A strategy’s broad aims and objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • generate political and inter-departmental support for parks and green spaces and establish clear lines of responsibility; • define the value and role of parks and green spaces in meeting corporate and community aims; • create a comprehensive policy framework for the protection, enhancement, accessibility and use of parks and green spaces; and • make sure that green spaces enhance the quality and diversity of the environment, the life of local communities and promote civic pride and social inclusion. <p>A green space strategy offers an opportunity to improve parks and green spaces. Its benefits include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reinforcing local identity and enhancing the physical character of an area; • maintaining the visual amenity and increasing the attractiveness of a locality; • boosting the economic potential of tourism, leisure and cultural activities; • providing a wide variety of cultural, social and community facilities; • protecting the historical, cultural and archaeological heritage; • illustrating the contribution to health agendas; • providing popular outdoor educational facilities for schools and academic institutions; • improving physical and social inclusion including accessibility, offering alternative routes for circulation; • raising air quality and moderating extremes of temperature; and • protecting and enhancing levels of biodiversity and ecological habitats providing environmental infrastructure to improve water quality and flood control.

4.3 County

A. Essex Landscape Character Assessment (2003)	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/dis/guc.jsp?channelOid=17089&guideContentOid=15421&guideOid=15423
Description	The landscape assessment builds on studies already completed for parts of Essex and assimilates the results of the current historic landscape assessment of the County. Its purpose is to form a basis for a county-wide landscape strategy, to guide development control, regeneration and future landscape management and conservation.

4.4 District

A. Braintree Settlement Fringe Study (November 2007)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/Braintree/planning/Planning+Policy/BraintreeSettlementFringeStudy.htm
Description	<p>The Braintree Settlement Fringe Study provides extra information on the Landscape Character Assessment by providing further assessment of the areas surrounding: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Braintree • Coggeshall • Earls Colne • Halstead • Hatfield Peverel • Kelvedon • Silver End • Witham
B. Braintree, Brentwood, Chelmsford, Maldon and Uttlesford Landscape Character Assessment (2006)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/Braintree/planning/Planning+Policy/LandscapeCharacterAssessment2006.htm
Description	<p>This document is a study of Landscape Character Areas and types within the administrative areas of Braintree, Basildon, Chelmsford, Maldon and Uttlesford. The study includes all the rural area up to and including the urban edge and, where they exist, river valleys and other green corridors extending into urban areas.</p> <p>The key objectives of the Study are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide a baseline inventory and description of landscape character by Type and Area at a scale of 1:25,000; • identify key issues, sensitivities to change and management strategy objectives/guidelines for each Character Area; • ensure that Landscape Character Areas and Types join up seamlessly across administrative boundaries, including with existing character assessment studies carried out by neighbouring authorities outside of the Study Area; and • to liaise with and understand the issues and concerns of the key stakeholder organisations in relation to the landscape characterisation process.
C. Braintree Green Spaces Strategy (2008)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/Braintree/planning/Planning+Policy/PPG17+Open+Space+Audit.htm
Description	The key aims of the Strategy are to provide accessible high quality green spaces and sport and recreation facilities which meet the recreational needs of all sections of the community, to engage the local community to participate in their improvement and management, and to raise their profile and promote their benefit to the district.

5 AIR QUALITY

5.1 International

A. Directive 2008/50/EC - Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (2008)	
Web link	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:152:0001:0044:EN:PDF
Description	<p>The new Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2008 on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe entered into force on 11 June 2008.</p> <p>This new Directive includes the following key elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The merging of most of existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive) with no change to existing air quality objectives* • New air quality objectives for PM_{2.5} (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives – exposure concentration obligation and exposure reduction target • The possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values • The possibility for time extensions of three years (PM₁₀) or up to five years (NO₂, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission. <p>* Framework Directive 96/62/EC, 1-3 daughter Directives 1999/30/EC, 2000/69/EC, 2002/3/EC, and Decision on Exchange of Information 97/101/EC.”</p>

5.2 National

A. Local Air Quality Management Practice Guidance 1 Economic Principles for the Assessment of Local Measures to Improve Air Quality (February 2009)	
Web link	http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/airquality/local/guidance/pdf/practice-guidance1.pdf
Description	The objectives of this guidance are to provide advice on the general economic principles, and economic appraisal methods, which can be applied for the assessment of local air quality measures and schemes. It thereby provides a means to aid improvements in Local Air Quality Management practice and local action plan performance.
B. Local Air Quality Management Practice Guidance 2 Practice Guidance to Local Authorities on Low Emissions Zones (February 2009)	
Web link	http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/airquality/local/guidance/pdf/practice-guidance2.pdf
Description	This guidance is intended to enable local authorities to improve on the service they already provide in tackling poor air quality by providing relevant policy and technical guidance on a specific transport measure – the Low Emission Zone. The guidance provides information on selecting methods for implementing this measure, practical issues that have arisen in implementing previous examples of this measure and advice on appraising potential costs and air quality benefits of the measure in cost-effectiveness and cost-benefit analyses.
C. Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (July 2007)	
Web link	http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/airquality/strategy/pdf/air-qualitystrategy-vol1.pdf http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/airquality/strategy/pdf/air-qualitystrategy-vol2.pdf
Description	<p>The Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sets out a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues; • sets out the air quality standards and objectives to be achieved; • introduces a new policy framework for tackling fine particles; and • identifies potential new national policy measures which modelling indicates could give further health benefits and move closer towards meeting the Strategy's objectives.

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6 CLIMATIC FACTORS

6.1 International

A. Directive 2001/77/EC - to Promote Electricity from Renewable Energy (2001)	
Web link	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/smartapi/cgi/sga_doc?smartapi!celexplus!prod!DocNumber&lg=en&type_doc=Directive&an_doc=2001&nu_doc=77
Description	<p>The key principles are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable energy developments should be capable of being accommodated throughout England. • RSSs and LDDs documents should contain policies designed to promote and encourage, rather than restrict, the development of renewable energy resources. • Planning authorities should set out the criteria that will be applied in assessing applications for permission. • Wider environmental and economic benefits for renewable energy projects are material considerations. • RPBs and LPAs should not make assumptions about the technical and commercial feasibility of renewable energy projects. • Small-scale projects can provide a limited but valuable contribution to overall outputs of renewable energy. • LPAs should foster community involvement in renewable energy projects. • Proposals should demonstrate environmental, economic and social benefits as well as how environmental and social impacts have been minimised through consideration of location, scale, design and other measures.
B. Directive 2001/91/EC - Energy Performance of Buildings (2001)	
Web link	http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/FindByProcnum.do?lang=2&procnum=INI/2007/2106
Description	The key objective of this legislation is to “promote the improvement of the energy performance of buildings within the community, taking into account outdoor climatic and local conditions, as well as indoor climate requirements and cost effectiveness.”
C. Kyoto Protocol (1997)	
Web link	http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/kpeng.html
Description	The main aim is to prevent potentially dangerous man made interference with the climate by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

6.2 National

A. Climate Change Act (2008)	
Web link	http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2007-08/climatechangehl.html
Description	<p>The UK has passed legislation which introduces the world's first long-term legally binding framework to tackle the dangers of climate change. The Climate Change Bill was introduced into Parliament on 14 November 2007 and became law on 26 November 2008. The Climate Change Act creates a new approach to managing and responding to climate change in the UK, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • setting ambitious, legally binding targets • taking powers to help meet those targets • strengthening the institutional framework • enhancing the UK's ability to adapt to the impact of climate change • establishing clear and regular accountability to the UK Parliament and to the devolved legislatures.

B. The Energy Act (2008)	
Web link	http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/legislation/energy_act_08/energy_act_08.aspx
Description	<p>The Energy Act updates energy legislation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reflect the availability of new technologies (such as Carbon Capture & Storage (CCS) and emerging renewable technologies • correspond with the UK's changing requirements for secure energy supply (such as offshore gas storage) • protect our environment and the tax payer as our energy market changes
C. Planning and Energy Act (2008)	
Web link	http://www.statutelaw.gov.uk/legResults.aspx?LegType=All+Primary&PageNumber=1&NavFrom=2&activeTextDocId=3529745
Description	An Act to enable local planning authorities to set requirements for energy use and energy efficiency in local plans.
D. PPS: Planning and Climate Change - Supplement to PPS 1 (December 2007)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/ppsclimatechange.pdf
Description	"This Planning Policy Statement (PPS) sets out how planning, in providing for the new homes, jobs and infrastructure needed by communities, should help shape places with lower carbon emissions and resilient to the climate change now accepted as inevitable."
E. PPS22: Renewable Energy (August 2004)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/147444.pdf
Description	<p>The key principles are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable energy developments should be capable of being accommodated throughout England. • Regional spatial strategies and local development documents should contain policies designed to promote and encourage, rather than restrict, the development of renewable energy resources. • Planning authorities should set out the criteria that will be applied in assessing applications for permission. • Wider environmental and economic benefits for renewable energy projects are material considerations. • Regional planning bodies and local planning authorities should not make assumptions about the technical and commercial feasibility of renewable energy projects. • Small-scale projects can provide a limited but valuable contribution to overall outputs of renewable energy. • Local planning authorities should foster community involvement in renewable energy projects. • Proposals should demonstrate environmental, economic and social benefits as well as how environmental and social impacts have been minimised through consideration of location, scale, design and other measures.

7 WATER QUALITY

7.1 International

A. Directive 2000/60/EC - Water Framework Directive (2000)	
Web link	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32000L0060:EN:NOT
Description	<p>The Water Framework Directive establishes a legal framework to protect and restore clean water across Europe and ensure its long-term, sustainable use.</p> <p>The directive establishes an innovative approach for water management based on river basins, the natural geographical and hydrological units and sets specific deadlines for Member States to protect aquatic ecosystems. The directive addresses inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater. It establishes several innovative principles for water management, including public participation in planning and the integration of economic approaches, including the recovery of the cost of water services.</p>

7.2 National

A. DEFRA, River Basin Planning Guidance Volume 2 (August 2008)	
Web link	http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/water/wfd/documents/riverbasinguidance-Vol2.pdf
Description	<p>This guidance is an addition to the River Basin Planning Guidance volume 1, which the Secretary of State and the National Assembly for Wales⁵ issued to the Environment Agency in August 2006. By issuing this guidance, the Secretary of State and Welsh Ministers intend to assist the Environment Agency in carrying out its river basin planning functions, and in particular to help it to develop the River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) which it will submit to the „appropriate authority“ for approval.</p> <p>The document covers the approach which the Environment Agency should take in relation to environmental standards and criteria, objectives, natural conditions, technical feasibility, cost effectiveness and disproportionate costs. The sections on technical feasibility, cost effectiveness and disproportionate costs all have a similar structure. They:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • give guidance on how to interpret and assess these WFD terms and requirements • include national information which relates to each of them, and • discuss what further work the Environment Agency will need to do at the river basin district and local levels.
B. DEFRA, River Basin Planning Guidance (2006)	
Web link	http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/water/wfd/documents/riverbasinguidance.pdf
Description	This guidance is “focused on delivering (an) integrated approach for the protection and sustainable use of the water environment.”
C. Water Framework Directive (England and Wales) Regulations 2003	
Web link	http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2003/20033242.htm
Description	<p>The Regulations require a new strategic planning process to be established for the purposes of managing, protecting and improving the quality of water resources. That process applies to river basin districts identified by regulation 4. These are river basin districts that are wholly in England, wholly in Wales or partly in England and partly in Wales, but not river basin districts that are partly in Scotland.</p> <p>The Agency is required to carry out detailed monitoring and analysis in relation to each river basin district (regulations 5 and 9), and the appropriate authority must ensure that appropriate economic analysis is also carried out (regulation 6). Certain waters used for the abstraction of drinking water must be identified (regulation 7) and a register must be established of those waters and certain other protected areas (regulation 8).</p>

D. Guidance on The Groundwater Regulations 1998, DETR (2001)	
Web link	http://www.defra.gov.uk/ENVIRONMENT/water/ground/pdf/groundwater-guidance.pdf
Description	This Guidance explains the purpose, contents, scope and where appropriate, implementation of the Groundwater Regulations 1998. It is quoted that, "The Regulations are an environmental protection measure which complete transposition of the Groundwater Directive (80/68/EEC) and provide enhanced protection for groundwater.... The Regulations place a duty on the Environment Agency to protect groundwater, in effect by prohibiting discharges of List I substances to groundwater, and preventing pollution of groundwater by List II substances. These requirements, including prior investigation, apply to all discharges to groundwater, including those authorised under the existing requirements of the legislation mentioned in paragraph 4. The regulations also empower the Agency to issue Notices which may prohibit, or impose conditions on, activities other than disposals which could result in an indirect discharge of listed substances to groundwater. This is in addition to existing notice powers aimed at preventing pollution of controlled waters."

7.3 County

A. Essex and Suffolk Water Biodiversity Action Plan (2000 Ongoing)	
Web link	http://www.ukbap.org.uk/lbap.aspx?id=378
Description	Includes action plans for species and habitats within the designated area.

7.4 District

A. Braintree District, Haverhill and Clare Water Cycle Study (November 2008)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/D383404E-54BB-48D5-BD44-D761C1BABC86/0/C039FinalreportBraintreeWaterCycleStudy.pdf
Description	This study examines how much growth can be accommodated within the existing infrastructure. It examines whether sufficient water resources are available to supply forecast demand, how much growth the existing drainage and wastewater treatment works (WwTW) can accommodate, and whether or not the streams and rivers in the area can absorb additional discharges without deterioration in water quality or water dependant habitats.

8 FLOODING

8.1 International

A. Directive 2007/60/EC - on the assessment and management of flood risks (2007)	
Web link	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/smartapi/cgi/sga_doc?smartapi!celexplus!prod!DocNumber&lg=en&type_doc=Directive&an_doc=2007&nu_doc=60
Description	<p>The Directive aims to establish a common framework for assessing and reducing the risk that floods within the European Union pose to human health, the environment, property and economic activity. The Directive covers all types of floods, both along rivers and in coastal areas. There are also other risks, such as urban floods and sewer floods, which must also be taken into account.</p> <p>The proposed prevention and management measures are organised by river basin districts (which may cover several river basins), as established by the Water Framework Directive. The measures include the preliminary assessment of risks and the establishment of maps of areas at risk and flood management plans.</p>

8.2 National

A. Draft Flood and Water Management Bill (April 2009)	
Web link	http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm75/7582/7582.asp
Description	<p>The draft Bill has several aims but they can be grouped under the three themes of security, service and sustainability. The draft Bill will provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • greater security for people and their property from the risk of flooding and coastal erosion by creating clearer structures and responsibilities for managing that risk; • better service for people through new ways of delivering major infrastructure projects, better protection of essential water supplies during drought and improving complaints and enforcement procedures; and • greater sustainability by helping people and their communities adapt to the increasing likelihood of severe weather events due to climate change, encouraging sustainable drainage systems in new developments, protecting communities and the environment better from the risk of flooding, and protecting water resources and improving water quality.
B. PPS25: Development and Flood Risk (December 2006)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/planningpolicystatement25.pdf
Description	<p>Ensures that flood risk is taken into account at all stages in the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding, and to direct development away from areas at highest risk. Regional planning bodies and local planning authorities should prepare and implement planning strategies that help to deliver sustainable development by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • framing policies for the location of development which avoid flood risk to people and property • taking account of the impacts of climate change; • only permitting development in areas of flood risk when there are no reasonably available sites in areas of lower flood risk and the benefits of the development outweigh the risks; • safeguarding land from development that is required for current and future flood management e.g. conveyance and storage of flood water, and flood defences; • reducing flood risk to and from new development through location, layout and design and incorporating sustainable drainage systems (SUDS); • using opportunities offered by new development to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding e.g. surface water management plans; • making the most of the benefits of green infrastructure for flood storage, conveyance; and • re-creating functional floodplain; and setting back defences.

C. Water Act 2003	
Web link	http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2003/ukpga_20030037_en_1
Description	<p>The key issues of this document relevant to the SA are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land drainage and flood defence • Water conservation • Sewers and drains.

8.3 Regional

A. Draft Revision to Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England: Habitats Directive Assessment (under the Habitats Regulations) Technical Report Water Quality, Water Resources and Flooding (October 2007)	
Web link	http://www.gos.gov.uk/goe/docs/Planning/Regional_Planning/Regional_Spatial_Strategy/water1
Description	<p>Water quality can be affected by a number of factors, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pollution from toxic chemicals, metals, oils, pesticides, arising from accidental spills, industrial processes, run-off from urban areas, and agriculture. • Pesticides and nutrient enrichment, from agricultural fertilisers, leading to eutrophication. • Discharges from sewage treatment works (STWs), and over-flowing foul water systems at times of high rainfall and flooding. • Trans-catchment water transfer, introducing water of differing chemical characteristics.

8.4 County

A. Mid Essex Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Main Report (October 2007)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/DC5AB540-9F6F-41F0-B6AB-E9D87B33EA80/0/00MainReport.pdf
Description	<p>The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) process is essentially an assessment of flood risk issues at a strategic scale undertaken to inform the spatial planning process at a local scale and forms part of the LDF evidence base. This SFRA is used as part of the LDF evidence base for Braintree District Council, Chelmsford Borough Council, Colchester Borough Council and Maldon District Council.</p>

9 SOILS, MINERALS AND WASTE

9.1 International

A. Directive 2006/12/EEC - Waste Framework Directive, Council (2006)	
Web link	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2006:114:0009:0021:EN:PDF
Description	Aims to prevent or reduce the waste production and harmfulness by the development of clean technologies more sparingly in their use of clean technologies and more sparingly in their use of natural resources and the use of waste as a source of energy.
B. Directive 99/31/EC - Landfill of Waste Directive (1999)	
Web link	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:31999L0031:EN:NOT
Description	Aims to prevent and reduce the negative environmental effects associated with the landfilling of wastes by introducing stricter environmental practices and to significantly reduce the amount of waste going to landfill by using the waste proximity principle.

9.2 National

A. DEFRA - Waste Strategy for England (2007)	
Web link	http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/waste/strategy/strategy07/documents/waste07-strategy.pdf
Description	<p>The main elements of the new strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incentivise efforts to reduce, re-use, recycle waste and recover energy from waste; • reform regulation to drive the reduction of waste and diversion from landfill while reducing costs to compliant businesses and the regulator; • target action on materials, products and sectors with the greatest scope for improving environmental and economic outcomes; • stimulate investment in collection, recycling and recovery infrastructure, and markets for recovered materials that will maximise the value of materials and energy recovered; and • improve national, regional and local governance, with a clearer performance and institutional framework to deliver better coordinated action and services on the ground.
B. MPS2: Controlling and mitigating the environmental effects of mineral extraction in England (2006)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/mps2
Description	Sets out the policies and considerations in relation to the effects of mineral extraction.
C. MPS1: Planning and Minerals (2006)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/mineralspolycystatement5
Description	Minerals are essential for development, and through that for our quality of life and creating sustainable communities. The impact and phasing of extraction on people and the environment have to be mitigated against.
D. PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management (July 2005)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/planningpolycystatement10
Description	Regional planning bodies and all planning authorities should help deliver sustainable development through driving waste management up the waste hierarchy, provide a framework in which communities take more responsibility for their own waste, help implement the national waste strategy, and supporting targets.

E. PPS23: Planning and Pollution Control (November 2004)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/planningpolicystatement23.pdf
Description	This Statement advises that: any consideration of the quality of land, air or water and potential impacts arising from development, possibly leading to impacts on health, is capable of being a material planning consideration. The planning system plays a key role in determining the location of development which may give rise to pollution. It ensures that other uses and developments are not affected by major existing or potential sources of pollution. The presence of contamination in land can present risks to human health and the environment, which adversely affect or restrict the beneficial use of land. However development presents an opportunity to deal with these risks successfully and contamination is not restricted to land with previous industrial uses, it can occur on Greenfield as well as previously developed land and it can arise from natural sources as well as from human activities.
F. Environmental Protection Act 1990	
Web link	http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts1990/Ukpga_19900043_en_1.htm
Description	“An Act to make provision for the improved control of pollution arising from certain industrial and other processes; to re-enact the provisions of the Control of Pollution Act 1974 relating to waste on land with modifications as respects the functions of the regulatory and other authorities concerned in the collection and disposal of waste and to make further provision in relation to such waste...”
G. PPG14: Development on Unstable Land (1990)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/147471.pdf
Description	The purpose of these guidelines is principally to advise local authorities, landowners and developers on the use of planning controls over development on land which is unstable or is potentially unstable. The aim is not to solely prevent the development of such land, rather to ensure that development is suitable and that the physical constraints on the land are taken into account at all stages of planning. Any scope for remedial, preventive or precautionary measures must also be fully explored so that land could be brought back into use.

9.3 Regional

A. Regional Waste Management Strategy, EERA (2002)	
Web link	http://www.eera.gov.uk/GetAsset.aspx?id=fAA4ADQANQB8AHwARgBhAGwAcwBIAHwAfAAwAHwA0
Description	<p>The strategic objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise the environmental impact of waste management • Seek to reduce the generation of waste • View waste as a resource and maximise the reuse, recycling and composting of waste • Seek to secure, where appropriate, regional and county/unitary self-sufficiency in provision for waste management

9.4 County

A. Draft Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Essex (2005-2030)	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/content/binaries/documents/Draft_Joint_Municipal_Waste_Management_Strategy.pdf
Description	A target importantly emanates from this strategy. The essence of the future strategy is high recycling, with a minimum of 45% being recycled by 2009/10, rising to 55% in 2030

B. The Essex and Southend Waste Local Plan (2001)	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/content/binaries/documents/waste_plan.pdf?channelOid=null
Description	<p>Objective: Consistent with the aims of sustainable development to achieve a balance between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimising waste by recycling/composting and other means • Making adequate provision of necessary waste management facilities • Safeguarding the environment of Essex, and the quality of life of its residents
C. Minerals Local Plan (Adopted First Review – November 1996)	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/content/binaries/documents/Minerals_Local_Plan.pdf?channelOid=null
Description	<p>Objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to conserve minerals as far as possible, whilst ensuring an adequate supply to meet needs; • to ensure that the environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are kept to an acceptable minimum; • to minimise production of waste and to encourage efficient use of materials; • to encourage sensitive working, restoration and aftercare practices; • to protect areas of designated landscape or nature conservation value from development; and • to prevent the unnecessary sterilisation of mineral resources.

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PART TWO: Built Environment

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10 CULTURAL HERITAGE AND TOWNSCAPE

10.1 International

A. European convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage Valletta, (January 1992)	
Web link	http://www.fco.gov.uk/resources/en/pdf/3706546/3892733/4190568/4726725/10
Description	Seeks to reconcile and combine the respective requirements of archaeology and development plans by ensuring that archaeologists participate in the planning policies designed to ensure well-balanced strategies for the protection, conservation and enhancement of sites of archaeological interest in the various stages of development schemes. This is designed to result in decisions that involve full consideration of archaeological sites and their settings.

10.2 National

A. English Heritage - Understanding Historic Buildings: Policy and Guidance for Local Planning Authorities (August 2008)	
Web link	http://www.helm.org.uk/upload/pdf/Understanding-historic.pdf?1255430948
Description	This document sets out the English Heritage policy on the investigation and recording of historic buildings within the English planning framework. It provides advice on how a specialist understanding of the significance of an historic building and of its constituent parts, can inform a development proposal or scheme of works and assist in the decision-making process. It also identifies the need to record evidence that may be damaged or lost.
B. Councillors' Guide to Creating Quality Public Spaces (CLG) (August 2008)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/pdf/915722.pdf
Description	This guide provides examples of initiatives councillors can take to create quality public places. It reflects the new powers and responsibilities councillors have and supports them in taking effective action on cleaner, safer, greener and quality of life issues. It will be of particular interest to executive councillors who are responsible for creating and maintaining a quality public realm. However, the information will also be relevant to a wider audience of practitioners concerned with improving places.
C. CABE: Design at a Glance (June 2006)	
Web link	http://www.cabe.org.uk/publications
Description	Compendium of design guidance to promote design in the planning process.
D. 'Secured by Design' ACPO CPI (June 2004)	
Web link	http://www.securedbydesign.com/pdfs/SBD-principles.pdf
Description	Secured by Design aims to achieve a good overall standard of security for buildings and for the private and public spaces around them. Through the introduction of appropriate design features that facilitate natural surveillance, create a sense of ownership and responsibility for every part of the development, criminal and anti-social behaviour within the curtilage of grounds of an estate can be deterred. These features include secure vehicle parking, adequate lighting of communal areas, fostering a sense of ownership of the local environment, control of access to individual and common curtilages, defensible space, and landscape design to support natural surveillance and safety.
E. The Historic Environment: A Force for our Future (2001)	
Web link	http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/publications/4667.aspx
Description	The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future' highlights the importance of the historic environment to people's quality of life.

F. ODPM By Design, Urban Design In The Planning System (May 2000)	
Web link	http://www.cabe.org.uk/files/by-design-urban-design-in-the-planning-system.pdf
Description	<p>Good Design should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote character in townscape and landscape by responding to and reinforcing locally distinctive patterns of development, landscape and culture; • promote the continuity of street frontages and the enclosure of space by development which clearly defines private and public areas; • promote public spaces and routes that are attractive, safe, uncluttered and work effectively for all in society, including disabled and elderly people; • promote accessibility and local permeability by making places that connect with each other and are easy to move through, putting people before traffic and integrating land uses and transport; • promote legibility through development that provides recognisable routes, intersections and landmarks to help people find their way around; • promote adaptability through development that can respond to changing social, technological and economic conditions; and • promote diversity and choice through a mix of compatible developments and uses that work together to create viable places that respond to local needs.
G. PPG15: Planning and the Historic Environment (September 1994)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/142838.pdf
Description	<p>A place's historic environment is an irreplaceable record which contributes, through formal education and in many other ways, to our understanding of both the present and the past. It adds to the quality of our lives, by enhancing the familiar and cherished local scene and sustaining the sense of local distinctiveness which is so important an aspect of the character and appearance of our towns, villages and countryside. The historic environment is also of immense importance for leisure and recreation.</p>
H. PPG16: Archaeology and Planning (November 1990)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/156777.pdf
Description	<p>The desirability of preserving an ancient monument and its setting is a material consideration in determining planning applications whether that monument is scheduled or unscheduled. Developers and local authorities should take into account archaeological considerations and deal with them from the beginning of the development control process</p>

10.3 County

A. The Urban Place Supplement (UPS), ECC & EPOA (May 2007)	
Web link	http://www.the-edi.co.uk/downloads/UPS/UPS_2007_final.pdf
Description	<p>The objective of the UPS is to bring about a design and development process that is more collaborative, responds better to meeting local opportunities and needs and delivers high quality environments that produce fewer carbon emissions.</p> <p>Further considerations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Urban Grain: accessibility, where road users and pedestrians can share space safely. • Movement: well connected, convenient and integrated routes for pedestrians, cyclists, cars and public transport. • Mixed-uses: design and location of different uses sharing a space • Public Space: green space, community space, nature, safe, well maintained

B. Essex Design Guide, ECC (Updated, 2005)	
Web link	http://www.the-edi.co.uk/downloads/EssexDesignGuide.pdf
Description	<p>The key objectives of this guide consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the visual and physical character of developments and the visual and physical relationship of the development to its townscape and landscape context; • the views into and out of developments; • landmarks and the surrounding area; • existing movement patterns and access across, around, in and out of developments; • existing and potential nodal points within or near the development; • existing buildings and structures on and adjacent to the site and whether they are to be retained; • slopes; • wind shelter and overshadowing; • trees, their spread, height and condition; • hedges, boundary features and whether they are to be retained; • wildlife habitats and whether they are to be preserved; • development should be located in proximity to a town centre or similar set of facilities, and to public transport access; • development should have a mix of residential and employment uses, tenures and dwelling sizes in order to reduce the need to travel; • development should be laid out in such a way as to maximise proximity to facilities and public transport and to encourage walking and cycling; • development should be laid out in such a way as to safeguard the existing ecology, improve the natural habitat; and • minimising the heat loss from buildings.

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11 HEALTH

11.1 International

A. Directive 2008/1/EC – Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (2008)	
Web link	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:024:0008:0029:en:PDF
Description	The purpose of this Directive is to achieve integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from the activities listed in Annex I. It lays down measures designed to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions in the air, water and land from the above mentioned activities, including measures concerning waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment taken as a whole.

11.2 National

A. Draft Guidance on Health in Strategic Environmental Planning (2007)	
Web link	http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_073261
Description	The guidance is intended to help local planning authorities assess the health effects of their plans and programmes.
B. Choosing Health: Making Healthy Choices Easier, Government White Paper (2004)	
Web link	http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_4094550
Description	The Government White Paper emphasises the need to take positive action against ill health. It highlights that it is important to reduce the number of people who smoke, reduce obesity and improve diet and nutrition, increase exercise and encouraging sensible drinking.
C. PPG17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation (2002)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/ppg17.pdf
Description	Well designed and implemented planning policies for open space, sport and recreation are fundamental to delivering broader Government objectives. These include supporting an urban renaissance, supporting a rural renewal, promotion of social inclusion and community cohesion, health and well being, promoting more sustainable development.

11.3 County

A. Health and Opportunity for the People of Essex (2006)	
Web link	http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/aio/4581474
Description	Contains a number of initiatives to assist in promoting health and educational attainment for the people of Essex.

11.4 District

A. PPG17: Open Space Audit/Green Spaces Strategy (September 2008)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/960036B7-0B6C-4058-B60E-D23437E6F843/0/BRAINTREEGREENSPACESSTRATEGY_Publicationdoc_.pdf
Description	The aims of the Strategy are to provide accessible high quality green spaces and sport and recreation facilities which meet the recreational needs of all sections of the community, to engage the local community to participate in their improvement and management, and to raise their profile and promote their benefit to the District. It draws on the results of the open space audit and the community surveys.

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12 POPULATION AND SOCIAL

12.1 National

A. National PS Targets for GCSE attainment (2008)	
Web link	http://www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/ts/informationcentre/nattar/
Description	Sets achievement targets for GCSE pupils
B. National Community Safety Plan 2006-2009	
Web link	http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/communitysafety01.htm
Description	The NCSP sets out the Government's community safety priorities for 2006-2009. It outlines a new approach to community safety and aims to manage a coherent community safety programme across Government, providing people working in the field with a clear view of overall priorities
C. Safer Places – The Planning System and Crime Prevention (2004)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/saferplaces
Description	Safer Places focuses on seven attributes of sustainability that are particularly relevant to crime prevention. The attributes are general and descriptive. They are not prescriptive. They are not a set of rules to be applied to all situations. Instead, they should be considered as prompts to thinking about crime prevention and promoting community safety through the planning system
D. ODPM Planning and Access For Disabled People (2003)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/156681.pdf
Description	Under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 it is unlawful for employers (where they employ more than 15 persons) and persons who provide services to members of the public to discriminate against disabled people by treating them less favourably for a reason related to their disability, or by failing to comply with a duty to provide reasonable adjustments. This duty can require the removal or modification of physical features of buildings, provided it is reasonable. In deciding whether an adjustment is reasonable, both the costs and practicability of any adjustment and the financial resources of the employer or service provider would be considered.

12.2 County

A. Three Year Strategy Plan 2007-2010, Essex Police Authority and Essex Police (2007)	
Web link	http://www.essex.police.uk/cms/global/documents/Its07_lo.pdf
Description	Objectives are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to provide greater accessibility to policing services; • to reduce crime and fear of crime; and • to increase community confidence, tackle anti-social behaviour and reduce fear of crime.
B. Essex School Organisation Plan 2008-2013	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/content/binaries/documents/The_Essex_School_Organisation_Plan_2008-2013.pdf?channelOid=null
Description	The Plan sets out the requirement for places in maintained primary, secondary until 2013, and identifies the areas where providers will need to match supply with demand. It provides the context for the future organisation of school places in Essex and sets out the principles that need to be given serious consideration when planning school places.

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13 ECONOMY

13.1 National

A. Sustainable Tourism in England: A framework for action (March 2009)	
Web link	http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/publications/sustainabletourismengland_frameworkap.pdf
Description	The framework document sets out six key challenges for action to address the key sustainability challenges facing the tourism industry and key indicators. The challenges are to minimise environmental impact and resource use; address the impact of tourism transport; improve quality and make holidays accessible to all; improve the quality of tourism jobs; maintain and enhance community prosperity and quality of life; and reduce the seasonality of demand.
B. Achieving the Full Potential of the Visitor Economy (February 2009)	
Web link	http://www.visitbritain.com/en/Images/VB_Ex%20Summary_aw%20final_tcm12-151959.pdf
Description	<p>The final report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • makes it clear that the visitor economy is an even more significant part of the UK economy than had previously been estimated • reveals the high number of new business start-ups in tourism and how tourism plays a vital role both in regeneration and in the rural economy • highlights the significant multiplier effect tourism has on other parts of the British economy • identifies the many areas in which the visitor economy improves the quality of life for UK residents • makes it clear that, if the industry is to reach its full potential, government must play an active enabling role because of the fragmentation of the industry.
C. Living Working Countryside: The Taylor Review of Rural Economy and Affordable Housing (July 2008)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/livingworkingcountryside.pdf
Description	This report sets out a vision of flourishing, vibrant communities that will be genuinely sustainable – socially, economically and environmentally, and delivers a clear message: the planning process has to become an engine of regeneration or we face a future of decline. The overriding objective of this report is to help ensure the planning system brings a positive, lasting legacy of places in which people actually want to live. It suggests changes to the planning system necessary to deliver vibrant communities with a distinct identity, in keeping with the character of their surroundings, and which enhance the local landscape and bio-diversity.
D. PPS4: Industrial, Commercial Development and Small Firms (Consultation draft 2007)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/ppg4.pdf
Description	Consultation Draft document

E. Good Practice Guide on Planning for Tourism (May 2006)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/151753.pdf
Description	<p>This guidance, to be read alongside national planning policies, is designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure that planners understand the importance of tourism and take this fully into account when preparing development plans and taking planning decisions; • ensure that those involved in the tourism industry understand the principles of national planning policy as they apply to tourism and how these can be applied when preparing individual planning applications; and • ensure that planners and the tourism industry work together effectively to facilitate, promote and deliver new tourism development in a sustainable way."
F. PPS6: Planning for Town Centres (2005)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/147399.pdf
Description	<p>The Government's key objective for town centres is to promote their vitality and viability by planning for the growth and development of existing centres; promoting and enhancing existing centres, by focusing development in such centres and encouraging a wide range of services in a good environment, accessible to all.</p> <p>Other Government objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhancing consumer choice by making provision for a range of shopping, leisure and local services, which allow genuine choice to meet the needs of the entire community, and particularly socially-excluded groups; • supporting efficient, competitive and innovative retail, leisure, tourism and other sectors, with improving productivity; and • improving accessibility, ensuring that existing or new development is, or will be, accessible and well-served by a choice of means of transport.
G. PPS7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (2004)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/pps7
Description	Includes initiatives to guide the social, environmental and economic regeneration of rural areas and their communities.
H. Rural Strategy, Defra (2004)	
Web link	http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/pdfs/strategy/rural_strategy_2004.pdf
Description	<p>The Government's three objectives for rural policy are:</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 exclusion wherever it occurs and providing fair access to services and opportunities for all rural people; and • Enhancing the Value of our Countryside: protecting the natural environment for this and future generations.

I. PPG4: Industrial, Commercial Development and Small Firms (November 1992)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/ppg4.pdf
Description	<p>Key objectives of this guidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encourage new development in locations which minimise the length and number of trips especially by motor vehicles; • encourage development in locations that can be served by more energy efficient modes of transport (this is particularly important in the case of offices, light industrial development and campus style developments such as science and business parks likely to have large numbers of employees); • discourage new development where it would be likely to add unacceptably to congestion; and • planning applications for speculative development should be considered on their land-use planning merits.

13.2 Regional

A. Regional Economic Strategy for the East of England 2008–2031	
Web link	http://www.eastofengland.uk.com/res/files/RES_Complete.pdf
Description	<p>The strategy is based on eight goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enterprise, • Innovation, • Digital Economy, • Resource Efficiency, • Skills for Productivity, • Economic Participation, • Transport, and • Spatial Economy

13.3 County

A. North Essex Authority Retail Study Stage 1 Report and Stage 2	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/Braintree/planning/Planning+Policy/LDF+Evidence+Base/
Description	<p>The purpose of this study is to inform and guide town centre/retail planning in North Essex, and in particular, to input into the preparation of each authority's forthcoming Local Development Framework (LDF). Based on our research, analysis and overall findings, the study identifies a strategy for the future scale and form of new development and the distribution of growth, advising on the role of each centre within the retail hierarchy and any potential for change.</p>
B. Mid Essex Economic Futures (March 2006)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/1D5D8B05-26E3-4D6A-822A-E71155BF1A8B/0/MidEssexEconomicFuturesFinalReport.pdf
Description	<p>In October 2005, Braintree, Chelmsford, Maldon and Brentwood Councils retained the University of the West of England to undertake an appraisal of the local economy and provide an assessment of the future out look.</p>

C. Essex Rural Strategy, The Essex Rural Partnership, Partnership priorities for the future of Rural Essex (July 2005)	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/content/binaries/documents/Planning396/essex_rural_strategy.pdf?channelOid=null
Description	<p>The identified key delivery priorities and Associated Actions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improving access to services; • improving availability and accessibility of transport to and from rural areas; • promoting Essex 1-General and Essex 2-Tourism; • integrated business support; • improving skills and employment opportunity; • improving infrastructure; • responding to climate change; • attracting new sources of funding; • actively encouraging community involvement; • conservation and enhancement of the built, natural and historic environment; • increasing the availability of affordable housing; • ensuring that the Planning system is responsive to the needs of rural regeneration; • education and awareness of the rural environment; • exerting influence on policy and ensuring a co-ordinated approach to rural delivery; and • undertaking research and analysis to inform policy and delivery.

13.4 District

A. Braintree Town Centre Preliminary Development Analysis (April 2009)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/65206210-BAC3-4926-B72F-B422F0283668/0/BraintreeTownCentrePreliminaryDevelopmentAnalysisReportofCushmanandWakefield.pdf
Description	This Preliminary Development Analysis considers the existing role of the town centre within the wider sub-regional context whilst assessing its current comparison retail provision and future demand.
B. Braintree District Rural Services Survey (2008)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/2B84FE28-8DEA-40B3-9009-F872E2723AA6/0/RuralServicesSurvey2008.pdf
Description	<p>This report is an update of the Braintree District Rural Services Survey 2005. The report covers the 62 rural parishes (52 parish councils) in Braintree District. It excludes the parishes of Witham Town and Halstead Town and the unparished area of Braintree and Bocking.</p> <p>The report includes a summary for the district as a whole and also information for each of the three local areas of Braintree, Halstead and Witham. The purpose of the Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To establish the number of settlements with and without key services. • To find out which, if any, rural villages are considered to be service centres for other settlements. • To provide information about the services and facilities available to residents living in rural settlements.

C. Employment Land Review (November 2007)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/Braintree/planning/Planning+Policy/EmploymentLandReview.htm
Description	It comprises a survey of existing and potential land and premises for office, industrial and warehouse uses and analyses supply, demand and land requirements from 2006 to 2026

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14 HOUSING

14.1 National

A. Housing and Regeneration Act (July 2008)	
Web link	http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2008/pdf/ukpga_20080017_en.pdf
Description	The Act establishes the new Homes and Communities Agency, which will focus on delivering more new and affordable homes across all tenures and will drive and invest in regeneration. The new agency will support regeneration and provide decent places as well as decent homes, e.g. by grant funding social housing and investing in infrastructure. It implements the changes proposed in the Green Paper to give councils more freedoms and incentives to build new homes, and makes rating against the Code for Sustainable Homes mandatory for new homes.
B. Lifetime Homes, Lifetime Neighbourhoods: A National Strategy for Housing in an Ageing Society (February 2008)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/lifetimehomesneighbourhoods
Description	The ageing of the population will be one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century for housing. This strategy sets out our response to this challenge, our plan to create Lifetime Homes in Lifetime Neighbourhoods. It outlines our plans for making sure that there is enough appropriate housing available in future to relieve the forecasted unsustainable pressures on homes, health and social care services
C. Circular 04/07: Planning for Travelling Showpeople (August 2007)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/circulartravellingshowpeople.pdf
Description	This circular replaces <i>Circular 22/91: Planning for Travelling Showpeople</i> in England and provides updated guidance on planning aspects for travelling showpeople and how local authorities and travelling showpeople can work together to achieve that aim. The policies in this circular apply throughout England. <i>Circular 22/91</i> still applies in Wales. It applies equally to the development of public sites by local authorities or registered social landlords (RSLs), to applications for planning permission from travelling showpeople themselves or from others wishing to develop land for use as a travelling showpeople's permanent site.
D. Homes for the future: more affordable, more sustainable - Housing Green Paper (July 2007)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/pdf/439986.pdf
Description	This Housing Green Paper seeks views on the Government's proposals to increase the supply of housing, to provide well designed and greener homes that are supported by infrastructure and to provide more affordable homes to buy or rent.

E. PPS3: Housing (December 2006)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/planningpolicystatement3.pdf
Description	<p>These housing policy objectives provide the context for planning for housing through development plans and planning decisions. The specific outcomes that the planning system should deliver are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High quality housing that is well-designed and built to a high standard. • A mix of housing, both market and affordable, particularly in terms of tenure and price, to support a wide variety of households in all areas, both urban and rural. • A sufficient quantity of housing taking into account need and demand and seeking to improve choice. • Housing developments in suitable locations, which offer a good range of community facilities and with good access to jobs, key services and infrastructure. • A flexible, responsive supply of land – managed in a way that makes efficient and effective use of land, including re-use of previously-developed land, where appropriate.
F. Circular 01/06: Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites (February 2006)	
Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/circulargypsytraveller.pdf
Description	This circular provides updated guidance on the planning aspects of finding sites for gypsies and travellers and how local authorities and gypsies and travellers can work together to achieve that aim. This replaces <i>Circular 01/94: Gypsy Sites and Planning</i> .
G. Affordable Rural Housing Commission Report (July 2005)	
Web link	http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/pdfs/arh/comm-report/affordable-housing.pdf
Description	The Affordable Rural Housing Commission was launched by Margaret Beckett and Baroness Andrews on 20 July 2005 to identify ways of improving access to affordable housing for people in rural areas.
H. Housing Act 2004	
Web link	http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2004/ukpga_20040034_en_1
Description	The Housing Act is a key piece of legislation, containing “wide-ranging measures of reform that will help to protect the most vulnerable in society while creating a fairer housing market for all those who own, rent or let residential property.”
I. Homelessness Act 2002	
Web link	http://www.opsi.gov.uk/ACTS/acts2002/en/ukpgaen_20020007_en_1
Description	It requires all local councils to publish their own homelessness strategies, as well as carry out reviews of those strategies. These strategies are to describe how homelessness is to be prevented in their district and to ensure that sufficient accommodation is and will be available for people in their district who are or may become homeless.

14.2 Regional

A. Accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the East of England (July 2009)	
Web link	http://www.go-east.gov.uk/qoe/docs/Planning/Regional_Planning/808762/gandtpolicies.pdf
Description	This document is the final outcome of a review of the RSS for the East of England. It addresses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in accordance with the requirements of Government policy in Circular 01/2006, Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites and Circular 04/2007, Planning for Travelling Showpeople. It forms part of the strategic planning framework for the East of England and reflects the Government's commitment to meet the housing needs of the whole community.

14.3 County

A. Looking Back, Moving Forward – Assessing the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers in Essex (2006)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/6E4F8335-0CF4-4AD4-ACFB-5089820945B8/0/EssexWideGypsyandTravellerAccommodationNeedsAssessmentFinalCopy.pdf
Description	This document provides reliable evidence to inform the allocation of sites for Gypsies and Travellers in forthcoming development plans across the East of England and Essex. It provides information on current tenure types, future needs, aspirations and tenure preferences for caravan dwelling/movement between housing and caravans as well as further aspirations, needs and social indicators regarding the Gypsy and Traveller demographics.

14.4 District

A. Braintree District Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Draft for Stakeholder Consultation (September 2009)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/Braintree/planning/Planning+Policy/LDF+Evidence+Base/Draft+Strategic+Housing+Land+Assessment.htm
Description	The SHLAA builds on the Urban Capacity Study (2007), which sought to identify potential development sites in the three main towns and six largest villages in the District, by not only considering the quantity and size of sites, but also their viability as housing sites; that is to say whether there are any constraints that might prevent a site from being developed and a likely timescale in which future development might occur. Sites which were informally submitted to the Council for land to be considered for residential development were also included in a preliminary list of sites to be assessed. The base date for the draft SHLAA is 31st March 2009.
B. Strategic Housing Market Assessment (February 2008)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/A5AAD57B-4AC9-4B3B-83DE-58AE2DA7F632/0/BraintreeSHMA_Finalopt.pdf
Description	The processes and outputs of this study are designed to help inform the evidence base for local policy and strategy as well as informing sub-regional and regional housing policies. It provides an assessment of recent and current trends in housing supply and demand, helping us to understand the broad impact of economic and demographic trends and the various factors which drive the demand or need of different households for different types of housing in the Braintree area.

C. Strategic Housing Market Assessment Update (April 2009)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/E8582DFC-25A8-479B-91E7-70ACD008A601/0/StrategicHousingMarketAssesment24409.pdf
Description	This report is an update to the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) published in 2008. It is stated in the original SHMA that the most crucial element of subsequent updates is the identification of the weekly housing costs by tenure. Given the current turbulent economy and the specific influence of this on the housing market, this report identifies that more extensive information will also be collected.
D. Urban Capacity Study (2007)	
Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/Braintree/planning/Planning+Policy/Urban+Capacity+Study.htm
Description	The Study covers the settlements of Braintree, Witham, Halstead, Great Notley, Coggeshall, Earls Colne, Feering, Hatfield Peverel, Kelvedon, Sible Hedingham, and Silver End. It assesses the potential for accommodating new housing within the existing development boundaries of these settlements.

15 TRANSPORT

15.1 National

A. Low Carbon Transport: A Greener Future (July 2009)	
Web link	http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/sustainable/carbonreduction/low-carbon.pdf
Description	<p>The measures set out in this strategy will ensure that transport makes a major contribution to the UK's efforts in reducing CO2 emissions.</p> <p>Before the impact of measures in this strategy are taken into account, existing policies mean that emissions from transport are projected to be around 15 million tonnes of CO2 lower than they would otherwise have been in 2020.</p> <p>On top of this, the further measures set out in this strategy mean a saving of an additional 17.7 million tonnes of CO2 in 2020, equating to 85 million tonnes of CO2 over the third carbon budget period from 2018-2022.</p>
B. Delivering a Sustainable Transport System (November 2008)	
Web link	http://www.dft.gov.uk/about/strategy/transportstrategy/dasts/
Description	<p>The document sets out the DfT's five goals for transport which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to support national economic competitiveness and growth, by delivering reliable and efficient transport networks; • to reduce transport's emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, with the desired outcome of tackling climate change; • to contribute to better safety, security and health and longer life expectancy by reducing the risk of death, injury or illness arising from transport, and by promoting travel modes that are beneficial to health; • to promote greater equality of opportunity for all citizens, with the desired outcome of achieving a fairer society; and • to improve quality of life for transport users and non-transport users, and to promote a healthy natural environment. <p>The document also: outlines the key components of the national infrastructure; discusses the difficulties of planning over the long term in the context of uncertain future demand; describes the substantial investments being made to tackle congestion and crowding on our transport networks setting out the approach to this through the new National Networks Strategy Group; covers the domestic and international approach to tackling greenhouse gas emissions from transport; and sets out the first steps of future plans for investment to 2014 and beyond.</p>
C. The Local Transport Act 2008	
Web link	http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2008/ukpga_20080026_en_1
Description	<p>An Act to make further provision in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • local transport authorities, • the provision and regulation of road transport services, and • the subsidising of passenger transport services.
D. Manual for Streets (2007)	
Web link	http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/sustainable/manforstreets/pdfmanforstreets.pdf
Description	<p>This document emphasises that "streets should be places in which people want to live and spend time in, and are not just transport corridors. In particular, it aims to reduce the impact of vehicles on residential streets by asking practitioners to plan street design intelligently and proactively, and gives a high priority to the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and users of public transport."</p>

E. Managing Our Roads (2005)

Web link	http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/roads/network/policy/managingourroadsprintver.pdf
Description	<p>“Road transport can have a significant effect on the environment, and there will continue to be a strong presumption against schemes that would affect significantly environmentally sensitive sites, or important species, habitats or landscapes. But it is clear, as recommended in almost all the studies that additional road capacity needs to be part of the solution, in reducing both congestion and the environmental consequences of congestion. In making such recommendations, the studies also recommended ways to “lock in” the benefits of additional capacity, rather than let the increase in speeds and improved reliability be eroded by the increase in traffic. These recommendations covered both physical demand management measures, such as limiting access to busy motorways, and measures which charge road users in order to limit demand for otherwise congested roads.”</p>

F. The Future of Transport (2004)

Web link	http://www.dft.gov.uk/pdf/about/strategy/whitepapers/previous/fot/
Description	<p>The key strategy objective of this publication is to balance the need to travel with the need to improve quality of life. This can be delivered by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the enhancement of road networks through more capacity, road tolls and the general improvement of management; • the improved efficiency, structure and performance of rail services; • promoting walking and cycling as alternatives to car use; and • sustainable freight movements.

G. The Future of Air Transport - White Paper and the Civil Aviation Bill (December 2003)

Web link	http://www.dft.gov.uk/about/strategy/whitepapers/air/
Description	<p>This document sets out a strategic framework for the development of airport capacity in the United Kingdom over the next 30 years, against the wider context of the air transport sector. Its purpose is to inform decisions on future planning applications, and be used by the relevant public bodies, airport operators and airlines to plan ahead. The introduction of the Civil Aviation Bill implements important Future of Air Transport White Paper commitments to sustainable aviation and protection of passenger interests.</p>

H. PPG13: Transport (March 2001)

Web link	http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/155634.pdf
Description	<p>This Guidance note seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • integrate planning and transport to promote more sustainable transport choices; • actively manage the pattern of urban growth to make the fullest use of public transport; • locate facilities which need to be near their clients so that they are accessible by walking and cycling; • accommodate housing principally within existing urban areas; • ensure that mixed-use development offers a realistic choice of access by public transport, walking, and cycling; • in rural areas, locate most development for housing, jobs, shopping, leisure and services in local service centres; • use parking policies, to promote sustainable transport choices and reduce car reliance; • give priority to people over ease of traffic movement and plan to provide more sustainable road space; • consider the needs of disabled people as pedestrians, public transport users; and • consider how best to reduce crime and the fear of crime, and seek by the design and layout of developments.

I. Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000

Web link	http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2000/ukpga_20000037_en_1
Description	An Act to make new provision for public access to the countryside; to amend the law relating to public rights of way; to enable traffic regulation orders to be made for the purpose of conserving an area's natural beauty; to make provision with respect to the driving of mechanically propelled vehicles elsewhere than on roads; to amend the law relating to nature conservation and the protection of wildlife; to make further provision with respect to areas of outstanding natural beauty; and for connected purposes.

J. Transport Act 2000

Web link	http://www.opsi.gov.uk/Acts/acts2000/pdf/ukpga_20000038_en.pdf
Description	Part 2 of this act focuses on local transport, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Transport Plans • Bus strategies • Bus services • Travel concessions • Financial and competition provisions

K. Transport Ten Year Plan (2000)

Web link	http://www.dft.gov.uk/adobepdf/165259/tenyearplan
Description	The vision of this plan is that by 2010 there will be a transport system that provides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • modern, high quality public transport, both locally and nationally. People will have more choice about how they travel, and more will use public transport; • more light rail systems and attractive bus services that are fully accessible and integrated with other types of transport; • high quality park and ride schemes so that people do not have to drive into congested town centres; • easier access to jobs and services through improved transport links to regeneration areas and better land use planning; • a modern train fleet, with reliable and more frequent services, and faster trains cutting inter-city journey times; • a well-maintained road network with real-time driver information for strategic routes and reduced congestion; • fully integrated public transport information, booking and ticketing systems, with a single ticket or card covering the whole journey • safer and more secure transport accessible to all; and • a transport system that makes less impact on the environment.

L. A new deal for transport: better for everyone - white paper (1998)

Web link	http://www.dft.gov.uk/adobepdf/187604/A_new_deal_for_transport_be1.pdf
Description	This White Paper fulfils a commitment to create a better, more integrated transport system to tackle the problems of congestion and pollution.

M. National Cycle Strategy (1996)	
Web link	http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/sustainable/cycling/deliveryofthenationalcycling5738
Description	<p>The key objectives of this strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to increase cycle use; • to achieve convenient cycle access to key destinations; • provide for increased cycle use within all local highways and traffic management schemes; and • cycle parking facilities to be available at all major destinations, including town centres, shopping developments, educational establishments, hospitals and leisure facilities.

15.2 Regional

A. Regional Freight Strategy for the East of England Region (July 2008)	
Web link	http://www.eera.gov.uk/GetAsset.aspx?id=fAAxADcAOAA0AHwAfABGAGEAbABzAGUAFAB8ADA AfAA1
Description	<p>This document sets the policy and investment framework and implementation plan in support of improved management of freight transport, as well as the development of freight related business opportunities in the East of England Region for the period up to 2031. The vision of this strategy is to “secure the efficient and sustainable movement of freight to maximise the overall competitiveness and productivity of the regional economy, whilst minimising global and local environmental impacts” with the key principle behind the Regional Freight Strategy (RFS) for the East of England Region being to promote ‘sustainable distribution’ that seeks to balance the needs of the economy, the environment and society.</p>
B. Regional Transport Strategy, East of England Plan (May 2008)	
Web link	http://www.gos.gov.uk/goee/docs/Planning/Regional_Plan/Regional_Spatial_Strategy/EE_Plan_1.pdf
Description	<p>Section 7 of the East of England Plan sets out the Regional Transport Strategy which provides a regional framework for the delivery of transport investment and policy priorities to support the aims of the spatial strategy.</p> <p>Policy T1 - Regional Transport Strategy Objectives and Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to implement the vision and objectives of the Regional Spatial Strategy, the following objectives of this RTS give a clear priority to increase passenger and freight movement by more sustainable modes, while reflecting the functionality required of the region’s transport networks; • to manage travel behaviour and the demand for transport to reduce the rate of road traffic growth and ensure the transport sector makes an appropriate contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions; • to encourage efficient use of existing transport infrastructure; • to enable the provision of the infrastructure and transport services necessary to support existing communities and development proposed in the spatial strategy; • to improve access to jobs, services and leisure facilities. <p>Further policies include:</p> <p>Policy T2 – Changing Travel Behaviour, Policy T3 –Managing Traffic Demand, Policy T4 – Urban Transport, Policy T5 – Inter Urban Public Transport, Policy T6 – Strategic and Regional Road Networks, Policy T7 – Transport in Rural Areas, Policy T8 – Local Roads, Policy T9 – Walking, Cycling and other Non-Motorised Transport, Policy T10 – Freight Movement, Policy T11 – Access To Ports, Policy T12 – Access to Airports, Policy T13 – Public Transport Accessibility, Policy T14 – Parking, Policy T15 – Transport Investment Priorities.</p>

15.3 County

A. Parking Standards Design and Good Practice, (September 2009)	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/content/binaries/documents/Parking_Standards_2009.pdf?channelOid=null
Description	The document includes advice on the minimum number of vehicle spaces required for new residential development, the minimum number of cycle and powered two wheeler spaces required at all uses and the maximum number of vehicle spaces required at commercial and leisure developments, it also includes advice on the provision of blue badge parking as well as guidance on design and layout of all forms of parking.
B. Essex Highways Maintenance Strategy (April 2008)	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/content/binaries/documents/Essex_Highway_Maintenance_Strategy_April_08.pdf
Description	The Essex Highways Maintenance Strategy 2008 sets out Essex County Council's approach to providing the highways maintenance service in accordance with statutory duties, whilst implementing the philosophy of the 2005 Code of Practice for Highway Management. The maintenance of street lighting, structures (bridges, culverts and retaining walls) and passenger transport infrastructure within the highway is not included in this document.
C. Essex Local Transport Plan (LTP2) 2006-2011	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/dis/gui.jsp?channelOid=16819&guideOid=39939
Description	<p>Policy Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure consistency with national policies for transport, aviation and ports; • Achieve a sustainable approach for all modes of transport; • Support the initiatives for both the Thames Gateway and M11/Stanstead National Sustainable Growth Areas; • Minimising the environmental impact of travel; • Delivering more integrated patterns of land-use, movement and development; • Improving social inclusion and accessibility; • Increasing the regeneration and renewal of disadvantaged areas; and • Sustaining and enhancing town centres; and ensuring that the Local Transport Plan will resolve current deficiencies and meet development requirements. <p>The second LTP's strategy is encapsulated by five objectives; Tackling Congestion, Delivering Accessibility, Creating Safer Roads, Promoting Better Air Quality and Enhancing Maintenance.</p>
D. The Essex Road Safety Strategy 2006-2011	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/content/binaries/documents/Road_safety_strategy_2007.pdf?channelOid=null
Description	<p>The Essex Road Safety Strategy has been produced as part of the Essex Local Transport Plan. It provides a plan to tackle road accidents over the coming five years to meet the Government's 2010 targets of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 40% reduction in the number of killed and seriously injured (KSI) casualties; • A 50% reduction in the number of children killed and seriously injured by 50%; and • A 10% reduction in the number of people slightly injured per 100 million vehicle kilometres, also known as the slight casualty rate. <p>The strategy sets out measures at both county and local levels to ensure that these targets are achieved.</p>

E. Essex Road Passenger Transport Strategy 2006-2011	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/dis/guc.jsp?channelOid=74978&guideOid=71683&guideContentOid=102392
Description	The Essex Road Passenger Transport Strategy (RPTS) is the County Council's strategy to improve bus, taxi, statutory and community transport services in Essex between 2006 and 2011. It is a statutory part of the Local Transport Plan.
F. Essex Rail Strategy 2006-2011	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/content/binaries/documents/RailStrategy.pdf?channelOid=null
Description	This strategy aims to deliver the rail passenger and freight services and facilities needed to support the growth, prosperity and preservation of Essex for future generations.
G. Essex Bus Information Strategy 2006-2011	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/dis/guc.jsp?channelOid=74978&guideOid=71683&guideContentOid=102392
Description	This information strategy has been compiled to meet Essex County Council's obligations under the Transport Act 2000 and its own targets set down in the Essex Approach and the Local Transport Plan (LTP), including the Road Passenger Transport Strategy (RPTS).
H. The Essex Cycling Strategy (August 2001)	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/content/binaries/documents/Essex_Cycling_Strategy.pdf?channelOid=null
Description	The Essex Cycling Strategy has been produced as part of the Essex Local Transport Plan. The aim is to bring about change by providing measures that encourage and promote cycling. It is recognised that there are many advantages in providing and encouraging cycling as an alternative form of transport for short trips and as a source of recreational enjoyment. The vision is to create an environment within Essex where people of all ages and abilities feel able to cycle safely, conveniently and pleasantly, by improving conditions for cyclists, improving the safety of cycling, improving cycle security, promoting a cycling culture, and integrating cycling within other relevant initiatives..
I. The Essex Walking Strategy (August 2001)	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/content/binaries/documents/Essex_Walking_Strategy.pdf?channelOid=null
Description	The Essex Walking Strategy has been produced as part of the Essex Local Transport Plan. The aim is to create an environment that encourages walking by considering the needs of pedestrians first in promoting walking; to improve safety and security for pedestrians; to improve the quality of the walking environment; to introduce and maintain walking as the primary mode of transport. The Strategy outlines the problems and opportunities associated with walking in Essex and brings together all Essex County Council's policies concerning walking. It also contains objectives and targets for walking and identifies the strategies for achieving them.
J. The Essex Powered Two Wheeler Strategy (August 2001)	
Web link	http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/content/binaries/documents/PTW_policy.pdf?channelOid=null
Description	The Essex Powered Two Wheeler Strategy has been produced as part of the Essex Local Transport Plan. The aim of this strategy is to provide measures that encourage and promote the use of powered two wheelers (PTWs) which have sustainable benefits over the private car

15.4 District

A. Assessment of Impact of Potential LDF Sites on Existing Junctions (July 2008)

Web link	http://www.braintree.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/A2E32F3C-4E64-40D6-A715-7B7F6BB82951/0/BraintreeLDFFinalReport.pdf
Description	<p>Braintree District Council (BDC), in conjunction with The Highways Agency (HA) and Essex County Council (ECC), have identified several sites that could be included in the Braintree and Witham Local Development Framework (LDF) allocations up to 2025.</p> <p>This study assesses the impact of these sites on the junctions in the locality.</p>

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