

The logo for 'place services' is located in the top left corner. It consists of a solid blue square with the words 'place' and 'services' stacked vertically in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font.

**Braintree District Council - Pre Submission Site Allocation and  
Development Management Plan**

**Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment**

**Environmental Report: Annex C Sustainability Framework**

**February 2014**





## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction and Methodology</b> .....	<b>4</b>
1.1	Background .....	4
<b>2</b>	<b>Sustainability Framework</b> .....	<b>5</b>
2.1	Sustainability Objectives .....	5
<b>3</b>	<b>Site Appraisal Proforma</b> .....	<b>17</b>

## List of Tables

Table 1:	Sustainability Framework for SA/SEA of the Pre Submission Site Allocation and Development Management Plan .....	5
Table 2:	Sustainability Framework .....	7
Table 3:	Site Appraisal Proforma .....	18



# **1 Introduction and Methodology**

## **1.1 Background**

Braintree District Council commissioned Place Services (formerly part of Essex County Council's Spatial Planning Group) to undertake a Sustainability Appraisal, incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA), on the proposed Pre-Submission Site Allocation and Development Management Plan.

Place Services are acting as consultants for this work; therefore the content of the SA/SEA should not be interpreted or otherwise represented as the formal view of Essex County Council.

This Annex sets out the Sustainability Framework and Site Proforma for the Pre-Submission Site Allocation and Development Management Plan.

## 2 Sustainability Framework

### 2.1 Sustainability Objectives

A Sustainability Framework is an important tool of the SA/SEA process that is developed during the scoping phase in line with the Planning Advisory Service's best practice guidance for Sustainability Appraisals. It provides the context against which the policies of the Pre-Submission Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Plan can be assessed and sets out the sustainability objectives; the key questions that should be asked to decipher whether the Pre-Submission Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Plan adheres to the principles of sustainability; and indicators which can monitor the impact of the documents.

The SA/SEA of the Pre-Submission Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Plan adopts an objectives based approach, with each objective combining to form the Sustainability Framework. The use of sustainability objectives to appraise a plan or programme is a theme of the Planning Advisory Service's best guidance practice for Sustainability Appraisal. It allows individual issues, policies and proposals within a plan or strategy to be appraised separately against each objective within the overall Sustainability Framework. In this way, beneficial or adverse impacts relating to each individual objective may be readily identified and reported. It also allows for alternatives and/or mitigation measures to be identified and subsequently appraised in similar fashion.

The sustainability objectives have been derived from the Stakeholder Workshop (January 2012), a review of plans and programmes and a strategic analysis of the baseline information. Objectives are based on policy advice and guidance and related to the assessment of the current state of the plan area. The appraisal is then able to evaluate, in a clear and consistent manner, the nature and degree of impact and whether significant effects are likely to emerge from the plan's proposed policies. It also means that indicators established for use in the appraisal process itself can be carried forward into subsequent monitoring of the implementation and delivery of policies and proposals. Recognising which indicators can be used to assess the impact of policies being appraised is important and points towards the specific monitoring which will need to be carried out. Collection of this information over a period of time will result in data trends being established, which will show if the policies appraised have a positive or negative impact on the social, economic or environmental factors they influence.

The sustainability objectives identified for the appraisal of the Pre-Submission Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Plan are tabulated below. The table presents each sustainability objective, together with its source and the sustainability topics to which it relates. The scope of the sustainability objectives has been derived from Annex 1(f) of the European SEA Directive, 2001/42/EC with other topics, of relevance to the document being appraised also included.

**Table 1: Sustainability Framework for SA/SEA of the Pre Submission Site Allocation and Development Management Plan**

Sustainability Objectives
1) Create safe environments which improve quality of life and community cohesion
2) To provide everyone with the opportunity to live in a decent home
3) To improve the health of the Districts' residents and mitigate/reduce potential health inequalities
4) To promote the vitality and viability of all service centres throughout the District
5) To achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth
6) To conserve and enhance the biological and geological diversity of the environment
7) To promote more sustainable transport choices and uptake

8) Promote accessibility and ensure the necessary transport infrastructure to support new development
9) To improve the education and skills of the population
10) To maintain and enhance cultural heritage and assets within the District
11) To reduce contributions to climatic change
12) To improve water quality and address water scarcity and sewerage
13) To reduce the risk of flooding
14) To improve air quality
15) To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes

A wider Sustainability Framework has been used to appraise policies within the plan in more detail, with sub-criteria and to highlight potential indicators. This Framework is tabulated below.

**Table 2: Sustainability Framework**

Sustainability Objective	Sustainability Issues	Key Questions - Policy	Potential Indicators
1) Create safe environments which improve quality of life and community cohesion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Percentage increases in the offences of violence against the person, burglary of dwellings, theft from a motor vehicle, and sexual offences between 2009/10 and 2010/11.</li> <li>- Lack of community facilities for young people</li> <li>- Lack of cultural facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does it seek to improve / supply community facilities for young people?</li> <li>- Does it seek to increase cultural activities or suitable development to stimulate them?</li> <li>- Does it seek to reduce inequalities between areas and support cultural identity?</li> <li>- Will there be measures to increase the safety and security of new development and public realm?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recorded key offences</li> <li>- KSI casualties for adults and children</li> <li>- Public perceptions on leisure / community facilities</li> <li>- Street level crime statistics</li> </ul>
2) To provide everyone with the opportunity to live in a decent home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of social housing - 0.1% of housing stock owned by the Local Authority (7.6% nationally).</li> <li>- Housing should respond more to demographics in population growth</li> <li>- Lack of care homes and capacity in existing care homes</li> <li>- Rural affordable housing is currently not suitable for rural areas and those who require them</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?</li> <li>- Does it respond to the needs of an ageing population?</li> <li>- Does the site respond to a housing type shortage as identified in the SHMA and responding to demographics in population growth?</li> <li>- Does it seek to provide appropriate rural affordable housing?</li> <li>- Does it seek to provide additional capacity in or of care homes?</li> <li>- Will it promote an increase in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- House Prices</li> <li>- Indices of Multiple Deprivation Score – particularly Housing and Services Domain and the Living Environment Deprivation Domain</li> <li>- Number of affordable dwelling completions</li> <li>- Annual dwelling completions</li> <li>- Population projections and forecasts</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objective	Sustainability Issues	Key Questions - Policy	Potential Indicators
<p>3) To improve the health of the District's residents and mitigate/reduce potential health inequalities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increases in obesity in Year 6 children and adult obesity higher than the national average</li> <li>- Uptake of sports and leisure facilities.</li> <li>- 35% of households within Braintree District do not have any access to natural greenspace</li> <li>- Greenspace in urban areas to be safeguarded against development for other means</li> <li>- Lack of walking and cycling infrastructure</li> </ul>	<p>social housing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will it improve access to high quality health facilities?</li> <li>- Will it increase access to sport and recreation facilities, open space and/or SANG?</li> <li>- Will it encourage access by walking or cycling, and will it increase the overall rates of walking and cycling?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Life Expectancy</li> <li>- Indices of Multiple Deprivation – Health and Disability sub-domain scores</li> <li>- Residents opinion on availability of open space/leisure facilities</li> <li>- Natural England Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGSt)</li> <li>- Location and extent of recreational facilities to development site</li> <li>- Location and extent of accessible greenspace to development site</li> <li>- Proximity of site to healthcare facilities</li> <li>- Percentage of population obese</li> <li>- Number of GPs and dentists accepting new patients</li> </ul>
<p>4) To promote the vitality and viability of all service centres throughout the District</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of retail and non-commercial office floorspace in relation to the total proportion of commercial and industrial floorspace – significantly lower than county and national averages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does it prevent further loss of retail and other services in rural areas?</li> <li>- Does it promote and enhance the viability of existing centres by focusing development in such centres?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Amount of retail, leisure and office floorspace in town centres.</li> <li>- Implemented and outstanding planning permissions for retail, office and commercial</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objective	Sustainability Issues	Key Questions - Policy	Potential Indicators
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will retailing in town centres be enhanced in areas of identified need?</li> <li>- Does it seek to increase the proportion of retail and non-commercial office floorspace (as a proportion of total commercial and industrial floorspace) in the district?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use</li> <li>- Number and type of services from Rural Services Study</li> <li>- Number of post offices closed down</li> <li>- Number of village shops closed down</li> <li>- Pedestrian footfall count</li> </ul>
<p>5) To achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Braintree District has a lower job density than both the region and Britain</li> <li>- The District displays a significantly higher percentage of employment in 'manufacturing' and 'construction' in comparison to the region and the country and significantly lower employees in the 'finance, IT and other business activities' sector.</li> <li>- Factories and warehouses account for the majority of industrial and commercial floorspace in 2008.</li> <li>- Too much employment land being developed for other uses, particularly housing</li> <li>- Lack of focus on tourism</li> <li>- Need for rural diversification and increased rural employment opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will new housing be supported by adequate local employment opportunities?</li> <li>- Does it support small businesses to grow and encourage business innovation?</li> <li>- Will it make land and property available for business development?</li> <li>- Will it enhance the Districts potential for tourism?</li> <li>- Will it encourage the rural economy and diversification of it?</li> <li>- Will it lead to development having an adverse impact on employment for existing facilities?</li> <li>- Does it seek to increase broadband coverage / bandwidth, especially in rural area?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Employment land availability</li> <li>- Typical amount of job creation (jobs per ha) within different use classes.</li> <li>- Percentage change and comparison in the total number of VAT registered businesses in the area</li> <li>- Businesses by industry type</li> <li>- Amount of vacant industrial floorspace</li> <li>- Amount of high quality agricultural land</li> <li>- Travel to work flows</li> <li>- Employment status by residents and job type</li> <li>- Job densities</li> <li>- Economic activity of</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objective	Sustainability Issues	Key Questions - Policy	Potential Indicators
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need to promote and aid the expansion of small businesses</li> <li>- Broadband inequalities across the district meaning home working and rural employment is stifled</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>residents</li> <li>- Average gross weekly pay</li> <li>- Proportion of business in rural locations</li> <li>- Implemented and outstanding planning permissions for retail, office and commercial use</li> </ul>
<p>6) To conserve and enhance the biological and geological diversity of the environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are 4 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). 5% of the Bovingdon Hall Woods SSSI is 'unfavourable no change'. Parts of both Belcher's &amp; Broadfield Woods and Glemsford Pits SSSIs are in a state of 'unfavourable recovering'.</li> <li>- There are approximately 251 Local Wildlife Sites (LoWS)</li> <li>- A need to increase the green infrastructure of the district</li> <li>- The fragmentation of habitats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will it conserve and enhance natural/semi natural habitats?</li> <li>- Will it conserve and enhance species diversity, and in particular avoid harm to indigenous BAP priority species?</li> <li>- Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest?</li> <li>- Will it maintain and enhance the connectivity of habitats and their ability to deliver ecosystem services?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spatial extent of designated sites within the District</li> <li>- Achievement of Biodiversity Action Plan targets</li> <li>- Ecological potential assessments</li> <li>- Distance from site to nearest: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. SSSIs</li> <li>2. NNR</li> <li>3. LoWS</li> <li>4. Ancient Woodland</li> <li>5. Protected lanes</li> <li>6. Other sensitive designated or non-designated receptors</li> <li>7. Other special landscape features</li> </ol> </li> <li>- Condition of the nearest sensitive receptors</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objective	Sustainability Issues	Key Questions - Policy	Potential Indicators
			(where viable) - Site visit surveys on typical abundance and frequency of habitats (DAFOR scale)
7) To promote more sustainable transport choices and uptake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Higher car ownership in Braintree District compared to county and national levels.</li> <li>- Lack of parking at public transport interchanges, particularly Witham train station</li> <li>- Lack of walking and cycling infrastructure</li> <li>- Lack of public transport infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will it increase and/or improve the availability and usability of sustainable transport modes?</li> <li>- Will it seek to encourage people to use alternative modes of transportation other than private vehicle?</li> <li>- Will it lead to the integration of transport modes?</li> <li>- Will it improve rural public transport?</li> <li>- Does it seek to increase the uptake of public transport through parking standards at destinations?</li> <li>- Does it seek to increase the uptake or viability of walking and cycling as methods of transportation, through new infrastructure or integration?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Access to services and business' by public transport</li> <li>- Indices of Multiple Deprivation</li> <li>- Travel to work methods and flows</li> <li>- Car ownership</li> <li>- Network performance on roads</li> <li>- Public transport punctuality and efficiency</li> </ul>
8) Promote accessibility and ensure the necessary transport infrastructure to support new development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Large commuting outflow of Braintree District residents.</li> <li>- In-commuters filling jobs in the District.</li> <li>- Accessibility of GPs by either walking or using public transport.</li> <li>- Accessibility to employment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will it contribute positively to reduce social exclusion by ensuring access to jobs, shopping, services and leisure facilities for all?</li> <li>- Does it seek to concentrate development and facilities in town centres or where access</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Residents opinion on availability of open space/leisure facilities</li> <li>- Access to services by public transport</li> <li>- Indices of Multiple Deprivation – sub-domain scores</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objective	Sustainability Issues	Key Questions - Policy	Potential Indicators
	sites and retail centres - Lack of public transport infrastructure - Lack of major roads, and lack of quality in smaller roads	via sustainable travel is greatest? - Will it assist in reducing the number of road casualties and ensure ease of pedestrian movement especially for the disabled? - Will it improve parking conditions at destinations, particularly for commuters? - Does it seek to minimise congestion at key destinations / areas that witness a large amount of vehicle movements at peak times? - Would the scale of development require significant supporting transport infrastructure in an area of identified need? - Will planning controls seek to retain garages to reduce conversion to living space to reduce on-street parking?	- Recorded traffic flows - KSI casualties for adults and children - Car ownership - Location of site with regards to areas of high deprivation - Transport Assessments
9) To improve the education and skills of the population	- 4 LSOAs are in the top 5% most deprived nationally in regards to education, skills and training deprivation: 1 in Halstead, 1 in Braintree and 2 in Witham. - Lack of highly skilled jobs in the District - Attainment is an issue across all levels	- Does it seek to improve existing educational facilities and/or create more educational facilities? - Does it seek to improve existing training and learning facilities and/or create more facilities? - Will the employment opportunities available be mixed to suit a varied employment skills base?	- Additional capacity of local schools - GCSE or equivalent performance - Level 2 qualifications by working age residents - Level 4 qualifications and above by working age residents - Employment status of

Sustainability Objective	Sustainability Issues	Key Questions - Policy	Potential Indicators
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will new housing be supported by school expansion or other educational facilities where necessary?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>residents</li> <li>- Average gross weekly earnings</li> <li>- Standard Occupational Classification</li> </ul>
<p>10) To maintain and enhance cultural heritage and assets within the District</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 3,192 designated listed buildings within the District</li> <li>- 40 Scheduled Monuments located throughout the District</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value in both urban and rural areas?</li> <li>- Does it seek to enhance the range and quality of the public realm and open spaces?</li> <li>- Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?</li> <li>- Does it encourage the use of high quality design principles to respect local character?</li> <li>- Will any adverse impacts be reduced through adequate mitigation?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proximity to nearest (including its setting):               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. Scheduled Monument?</li> <li>9. Listed Building?</li> <li>10. Conservation Area?</li> <li>11. Registered Historic Park or Garden?</li> <li>12. Site identified in the Historic Environment Record?</li> <li>13. Building of local interest?</li> <li>14. Other historic feature?</li> </ol> </li> <li>- Number and spatial extent of listed buildings</li> <li>- Number and spatial extent of scheduled monuments</li> <li>- Buildings At Risk Register</li> <li>- Heritage at risk surveys</li> <li>- Percentage of conservation area</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objective	Sustainability Issues	Key Questions - Policy	Potential Indicators
			<p>demolished or otherwise lost.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Amount of derelict properties and/or vacant land</li> <li>- Numbers of buildings being removed from the buildings at risk register</li> <li>- Amount of damage to listed buildings or scheduled monuments</li> </ul>
11) To reduce contributions to climatic change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In 2008 Braintree District consumed more energy than the county average, largely associated with road transport.</li> <li>- Road transport in Braintree District produces the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest amount of CO<sub>2</sub> per capita across the county's local authorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by reducing energy consumption?</li> <li>- Will it lead to an increased proportion of energy needs being met from renewable sources?</li> <li>- Does it ensure more sustainable modes of travel are provided?</li> <li>- Will it encourage greater energy efficiency?</li> <li>- Will it improve the efficient use of natural resources?</li> <li>- Will it seek to adhere to the Code for Sustainable Homes?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Carbon Dioxide emissions</li> <li>- Energy consumption GWh/households</li> <li>- Percentage of energy supplied from renewable sources.</li> <li>- Code for Sustainable Homes certificates</li> </ul>
12) To improve water quality and address water scarcity and sewerage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The majority of water bodies within Braintree District are given a 'moderate' current overall potential. However the River Blackwater and the River Chelmer are both given a 'poor' current status.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will it lead to no deterioration on the quality of water bodies?</li> <li>- Will water resources and sewerage capacity be able to accommodate growth?</li> <li>- Does it ensure the reinforcement of wastewater</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Percentage of water bodies at good ecological status or potential</li> <li>- Percentage of water bodies assessed at good or high biological</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objective	Sustainability Issues	Key Questions - Policy	Potential Indicators
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Water scarcity is a major issue in regards to significant development in particular</li> <li>- Sewage capacity</li> </ul>	<p>treatment works or the provision of alternatives (where required) to support growth?</p>	<p>status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Percentage of water bodies assessed at good chemical status</li> <li>- Water cycle study capacity in sewerage and resources</li> </ul>
13) To reduce the risk of flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Potential for development in Flood Risk Zones</li> <li>- Surface water runoff in urban areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does it promote the inclusion of Sustainable Drainage Systems in new developments?</li> <li>- Does it seek to avoid development in areas at risk of flooding (fluvial, surface water, groundwater)?</li> <li>- Does it seek to avoid increasing flood risk (fluvial, surface water, groundwater) in areas away from initial development?</li> <li>- Will developer contributions be utilised for the provision and maintenance of flood defences?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spatial extent of flood zones 2 and 3</li> <li>- Residential properties flooded from main rivers</li> <li>- Planning permission in identified flood zones granted permission contrary to advice from the Environment Agency</li> <li>- Incidences of flooding and location</li> <li>- Distance of site to floodplains</li> <li>- SFRA results</li> <li>- Incidences of flood warnings in site area</li> <li>- Distance to 'Areas susceptible to surface water flooding' – EA Maps</li> </ul>
14) To improve air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The main air quality issues in the district are found to be NO<sub>2</sub> and PM10 emissions from vehicles travelling on the A12</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will it improve, or not detrimentally affect air quality along the A12 or A120?</li> <li>- Does it ensure that National Air</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number and spatial extent of potentially significant junctions for air quality in the District</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objective	Sustainability Issues	Key Questions - Policy	Potential Indicators
	<p>and A120.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Meeting National Air Quality Standards.</li> <li>- Five potentially significant junctions with a daily flow of greater than 10,000 vehicles (2004) at Newland Street, Witham; Cressing Road, Witham; Head Street, Halstead; Railway Street, Braintree and Rayne Road, Braintree.</li> </ul>	<p>Quality Standards are met at relevant points?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does it seek to improve or avoid increasing traffic flows generally and in particular through potentially significant junctions?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NO<sub>2</sub> emissions</li> <li>- PM10 emissions</li> <li>- Recorded traffic flows on A12 and A120</li> </ul>
<p>15) To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Much of the District's landscape is sensitive to change and new development.</li> <li>- Open skylines with panoramic views</li> <li>- Strong historic integrity with dispersed historic settlement patterns and Conservation Areas</li> <li>- Coalescence between neighbouring settlements and beyond village envelopes</li> <li>- Continuation of development on Previously Developed Land (PDL)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will homes be designed to enhance the existing street scene creating a better cultural heritage &amp; public realm?</li> <li>- Will areas of special landscape character be protected?</li> <li>- Will it see a loss of Greenfield land / does it promote development on PDL?</li> <li>- Will development see a disruption in current field boundaries?</li> <li>- Will it lead to rural expansion or development outside development boundaries/limits that increases coalescence with neighbouring settlements?</li> <li>- Is the scale / density of development in fitting with the local townscape / landscape?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Developments permitted contrary to Landscape Character Assessment 'sensitivities to change'.</li> <li>- Number and extent of field boundaries affected.</li> <li>- Development on PDL</li> <li>- Number of permitted developments within Conservation Areas.</li> </ul>

### **3 Site Appraisal Proforma**

The Pre-Submission Site Allocation and Development Management Policies Plan identifies sites to meet the Council development requirements over the plan period, and to identify areas which should be protected from unsuitable development.

Sites have been subject to SA/SEA and appraised using a proforma developed taking into account consultation comments from Statutory Consultees at the Scoping Report stage, the findings of the LDF Stakeholder Workshop (Jan 2012), the key issues of the area, and all relevant available information across a range of sustainability criteria. The proforma can be found in the below table.

**Table 3: Site Appraisal Proforma**

Sustainability Objective	Key Criteria	Significant Negative (-2)	Negative (-1)	Positive (+1)	Significant Positive (+2)	Neutral / No impact	Uncertain
		--	-	+	++	0	/
1) Create safe environments which improve quality of life and community cohesion	PROVISION OF Community facilities - (as per SHLAA [suitability for, requirements for, relocation of])	N/A	Removal of community facilities with no relocation	Suitability for new community facilities where none exist currently	N/A	Existing community facilities remain.	Uncertainty surrounding impacts.
	Number of crime incidents in past 6 months – WITHIN 1 MILE OF POSTCODE– <a href="http://www.police.uk">www.police.uk</a> (From January 2012)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No recorded crimes	1 or more recorded crimes. Informative
	Nearest Post Offices - <a href="http://www.postoffice.co.uk">www.postoffice.co.uk</a>	N/A	N/A	Distance < or equal to 800m	N/A	N/A	Distance >800m
2) To provide everyone with the opportunity to live in a decent home	Delivery of affordable housing (site potential yield for housing & applicable affordable housing threshold as per adopted Core Strategy Policy CS2)	N/A	N/A	Contributes to the delivery of affordable housing (<10 dwellings)	Significantly contributes to the delivery of affordable housing (10+ dwellings)	N/A / employment allocations	Uncertainty surrounding delivery
	Additional capacity in or of care homes (SHLAA)	N/A	Removal	Potential for additional capacity / new facilities	N/A	N/A / employment allocations	N/A

Sustainability Objective	Key Criteria	Significant Negative (-2)	Negative (-1)	Positive (+1)	Significant Positive (+2)	Neutral / No impact	Uncertain
		--	-	+	++	0	/
3) To improve the health of the District's residents and mitigate/reduce potential health inequalities	Distance to nearest national health care facility - GPs: <a href="http://www.nhs.uk/serviceDirectories/Pages/ServiceSearch.aspx?ServiceType=GP">http://www.nhs.uk/serviceDirectories/Pages/ServiceSearch.aspx?ServiceType=GP</a>	N/A	Distance 1km+ and no bus link within 800m.	Distance 400m+ to 800m	Distance < or equal to 400m	N/A / employment allocations	Distance 1km+ but with bus links within 800m
	Distances to: - accessible natural greenspace of at least 2ha in size? - 20ha accessible natural greenspace? - 100ha accessible natural greenspace? - 500ha accessible natural greenspace?	N/A	- more than 300 metres from home - more than 5km - more than 5km - more than 10km	- No more than 300 metres -No more than 5km - no more than 5km - no more than 10km	N/A	N/A / employment allocations	Uncertainty
	Loss of recreation (formal / informal), open space, allotments.	N/A	Loss	No loss	Provision of new	N/A / employment allocations	Uncertain impacts
	Contaminated land (Y/N)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Allocation not on contaminated land	Allocation on contaminated land – informative commentary, or unknown.
4) To promote the vitality and viability of all service centres	Will the site see an increase in retail?	N/A	Loss	Increase	N/A	No change	N/A

Sustainability Objective	Key Criteria	Significant Negative (-2)	Negative (-1)	Positive (+1)	Significant Positive (+2)	Neutral / No impact	Uncertain
		--	-	+	++	0	/
throughout the District	Distances to primary shopping area boundaries (towns and Freeport)	N/A	Distance greater than 800m, and no bus links exist	Within 800m	Extension of primary shopping areas or identified regeneration	N/A	Distance greater than 800m, but bus links exist
5) To achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth	Loss of high quality agricultural land (Grades 1 & 2)	N/A	Loss	N/A	N/A	No loss	Marginal loss identified
	Distances to employment sites (B1, B2, B8)	N/A	Distance greater than 800m, and no bus links exist  Loss of employment site	Within 800m  Addition of employment site	N/A	N/A	Distance greater than 800m, but bus links exist
	Broadband availability <a href="http://www.samknows.com/broadband/broadband_checker">http://www.samknows.com/broadband/broadband_checker</a>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	All data / impacts to be informative – see text in individual appraisals
6) To conserve and enhance the biological and geological diversity of the environment	Distances (impacts on) to: SSSI (any condition)	Designation on site	<100m from site	N/A	N/A	>200m from site	> or equal to 100m to 200m, mitigation possible or stated
	NNR	Designation on site	<100m from site	N/A	N/A	>200m from site	> or equal to 100m to 200m, mitigation possible or stated
	LNRs	Designation on site	<100m from site	N/A	N/A	>200m from site	> or equal to 100m to 200m, mitigation possible or stated

Sustainability Objective	Key Criteria	Significant Negative (-2)	Negative (-1)	Positive (+1)	Significant Positive (+2)	Neutral / No impact	Uncertain
		--	-	+	++	0	/
	LoWS	Designation on site	<100m from site	N/A	N/A	>200m from site	> or equal to 100m to 200m, mitigation possible or stated
	Ancient Woodland	Designation on site	<100m from site	N/A	N/A	>200m from site	> or equal to 100m to 200m, mitigation possible or stated
	Presence of TPOs on site?	N/A	Loss of numerous TPOs, groups or areas	N/A	N/A	No loss	Minor loss that can be mitigated
7) To promote more sustainable transport choices and uptake	Loss of / creation of new Cycleways	N/A	Loss of public cycleway	Creation of new public cycleways	N/A	Diversion of cycleway or no loss	Impact unknown
	Walking and cycling infrastructure – loss/diversion of footpaths (0-5+) Loss of / creation of new Footpaths	N/A	Loss of footpath	Creation of new public footpaths	N/A	Diversion of footpath or no loss	Impact unknown
	Distance to Bus Stops and Bus Regularity	N/A	Outside 800m	Within 800m and frequent service (≥1 a day)	within 800m and frequent service (≥1 an hour)	N/A	800m and non-frequent service (≤1 a day)
	Distance to Railway Stations and Train Regularity	N/A	Outside 800m	Within 800m and frequent service (≥1 a day)	Within 800m and frequent service (≥1 an hour)	Allocations in settlements with no railway station as per Core Strategy Settlement	800m and non-frequent service (≤1 a day)

Sustainability Objective	Key Criteria	Significant Negative (-2)	Negative (-1)	Positive (+1)	Significant Positive (+2)	Neutral / No impact	Uncertain
		--	-	+	++	0	/
						Hierarchy	
8) Promote accessibility and ensure the necessary transport infrastructure to support new development	Is the allocation in an accessible location? (As per the settlement hierarchy from Core Strategy).	N/A	THE COUNTRY-SIDE Development outside all development boundaries.	KEY SERVICE VILLAGES Coggeshall, Earls Colne, Hatfield Peverel, Kelvedon, Sible Hedingham, Silver End. Site in main town which is suitably outside town boundary Site extends into neighbouring main town/Key Village borders boundary	MAIN TOWNS Braintree, Bocking and Gt Notley; Witham; Halstead.	N/A	OTHER VILLAGES Villages with a development boundary / 'village envelope.' Uncertainty where development is suitably outside village boundary Site in 'The Countryside' that borders main town
	Is the allocation within a settlement with rail links?	N/A	N/A	BRANCH LINE STATIONS Bures, Chappel & Wakes Colne. Site extends into neighbouring settlement with mainline station	MAIN LINE STATIONS Braintree, Braintree Freeport, Cressing, White Notley, Witham, Kelvedon (and parts of Feering), Hatfield Peverel.	N/A	Uncertain impacts identified – explained in commentary
	Highways access – access information in	N/A	Access issues as identified	No access issues	N/A	N/A	N/A

Sustainability Objective	Key Criteria	Significant Negative (-2)	Negative (-1)	Positive (+1)	Significant Positive (+2)	Neutral / No impact	Uncertain
		--	-	+	++	0	/
	SHLAA (Y/N)						
9) To improve the education and skills of the population	Distance to a primary school - GIS	N/A	Over 800m	Less than 800m, more than 400m	400m or less	N/A	Uncertainty
	Distance to a secondary school - GIS	N/A	Over 4.8km	Less than 4.8km, more than 2.4km	2.4km or less	N/A	Uncertainty
	Capacity in nearest primary school to support the size of development – School Organisation Plan and proposal / site capacity from SHLAA and threshold of 0.3places per household	N/A	No capacity	Capacity exists	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Capacity in nearest secondary school to support the size of development – School Organisation Plan and proposal / site capacity from SHLAA and threshold of 0.2places per household	N/A	No capacity	Capacity exists	N/A	N/A	N/A

Sustainability Objective	Key Criteria	Significant Negative (-2)	Negative (-1)	Positive (+1)	Significant Positive (+2)	Neutral / No impact	Uncertain
		--	-	+	++	0	/
10) To maintain and enhance cultural heritage and assets within the District	Impact on: Scheduled Monument Listed Building Conservation Area Historic Park or Garden Archaeology	Allocation leads to the loss of designation	Allocation is adjacent to designation or designation evident on site boundary with no mitigation	N/A	N/A	No designation on site or allocation is adjacent with mitigation.	Uncertain
	Protected Lanes (Grade 1 and 2)	N/A	Access is via a protected lane	N/A	N/A	Access is not via a protected lane	N/A
11) To reduce contributions to climatic change	Impacts have not been able to be assessed at this point due to lack of specific site/proposal information.						
12) To improve water quality and address water scarcity and sewerage	Groundwater protection zone. <a href="#">EA - groundwater protection zones</a>	N/A	Allocation falls within SPZ1 or SPZ2	N/A	N/A	Allocation does not fall in any SPZs	Allocation falls within SPZ3
	Water Cycle Stage 2 Report – capacities in sewerage network from Sewerage Network Constraint Mapping	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	AS PER CHAPTER 12 'SEWERAGE NETWORK CAPACITY' IN THE WCS  Site is in a key village or below in CS Settlement Hierarchy ('AWS confirm that the relatively low scale of the	AS PER CHAPTER 12 'SEWERAGE NETWORK CAPACITY' IN THE WCS  Limited to those sites identified in 12.2 of the WCS (Northern and western extents of Bocking, central and eastern areas

Sustainability Objective	Key Criteria	Significant Negative (-2)	Negative (-1)	Positive (+1)	Significant Positive (+2)	Neutral / No impact	Uncertain
		--	-	+	++	0	/
						proposed growth at the key service villages is unlikely to require significant upgrades to the sewerage network.')	of Braintree, the proposed employment site at Great Notley, the majority of the proposed sites within Halstead, and sites in the northeast and southwest extents of Witham.)
13) To reduce the risk of flooding	Is the site within: Flood Zone 2 Flood Zone 3 (a/b)	Within Flood Zone 3b and classified as incompatible as per PPS25	Within Flood Zone 3a and classified as incompatible as per PPS25	N/A	N/A	Within Flood Zone 1 or classified as compatible as per PPS25 or with sufficient mitigation	Uncertainty e.g. numerous zones
	Flooding from other sources – SFRA Maps	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Informative, where potential impacts are identified in SFRA Maps.
14) To improve air quality	Distance to: A12, A120.	N/A	Site boundary borders A12 or A120  Site is proposed for a sensitive receptor (hospital / school etc) within 100m of A12 or A120	N/A	N/A	Site boundary does not border A12 or A120	Site boundary marginally borders A12 or A120, but mitigation deemed possible through layout of development
	Impact on potentially Significant Junction for	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	All data / impacts to be informative –

Sustainability Objective	Key Criteria	Significant Negative (-2)	Negative (-1)	Positive (+1)	Significant Positive (+2)	Neutral / No impact	Uncertain
		--	-	+	++	0	/
	Air Quality (Annual Monitoring Reports)						see text in individual appraisals
15) To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	High sensitivity to change in the Landscape Character Assessment	N/A	High sensitivity to change	Low sensitivity to change	N/A	N/A	Moderate sensitivity to change
	Greenfield site or PDL - SHLAA	N/A	Greenfield	Previously Developed Land	N/A	N/A	Unknown
	Visually Important Space	N/A	Allocation is located on Visually Important Space as identified by BDC and Parish Councils	N/A	N/A	Allocation is not located on identified Visually Important Space	Allocation is on the boundary of identified Visually Important Space and may require mitigation
	Country Parks	N/A	Allocation is located on a Country Park	N/A	N/A	Allocation is not located on a Country Park	Allocation is located within 100m of the boundary of a Country Park and may require mitigation
	Landscaping associated with proposals and structural landscaping	N/A	N/A	Landscaping associated with proposals or identified as necessary by BDC and Parish Councils	N/A	Allocation benefits from naturally forming landscaping	No landscaping associated or identified that may require mitigation



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**Place Services Team at Essex County Council**  
You can contact us in the following ways:

Visit our website:  
**essex.gov.uk**

By telephone:  
**08456 430 430**

By post:  
**Place Services, Essex County Council**  
**PO Box 11, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1QH**

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