



SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

Scoping Report

January 2013



Prepared jointly by Christchurch Borough Council and
East Dorset District Council

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Introduction

- 1.1. The Planning Act made far-reaching changes to development plan arrangements with a new system for the production of Local Development Frameworks introduced. The Local Development Framework was to be made up of a Core Strategy and a number of Development Plan documents. Since the change of Government in 2010, further changes have been made. The National Planning policy Framework, introduced in March 2012, requires Local Planning Authorities to produce a Local Plan which should set out the strategic priorities for the area, addressing the opportunities for development including clear policies on what will or will not be permitted and where. The new Local Plan and Core Strategy will replace the Borough of Christchurch Local Plan 2001 and the East Dorset Local Plan 2002 in setting out policies and proposals to guide the future development of the area.
- 1.2. The Planning Act 2004 (Section 39 (2)) requires that Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents should be subject to Sustainability Appraisal. This is elaborated in Government Guidance: Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks (ODPM, Nov 2005). This report comprises the first stage of the Sustainability Appraisal for the emerging Christchurch and East Dorset Local Development Frameworks.

Sustainability

- 1.3. The most commonly accepted definition of sustainable development is:

‘...development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.’¹

- 1.4. The Government has set out 5 guiding principles for sustainable development², these are:

- Living within Environmental Limits

Respecting the limits of the planet’s environment, resources and biodiversity to improve our environment and ensure that the natural resources needed for life are unimpaired and remain so for future generations.

- Ensuring a Strong Healthy and Just Society

¹ Brundtland Commission Report – Our Common Future (World Commission on Environment and Development) 1987

² Securing the Future – Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy (March 2006)

Meeting the diverse needs of all people in existing and future communities, promoting personal wellbeing, social cohesion and inclusion and creating equal opportunity for all.

- Achieving a Sustainable Economy

Building a strong, stable and sustainable economy which produces prosperity and opportunities for all, and on which environmental and social costs fall on those who impose them (polluter pays), and efficient resource use is incentivised.

- Promoting Good Governance

Actively promoting effective, participative systems of governance in all levels of society – engaging peoples’ creativity, energy and diversity.

- Using Sound Science Responsibly

Ensuring policy is developed and implemented on the basis of strong scientific evidence, whilst taking into account scientific uncertainty (through the precautionary principle) as well as public attitudes and values.

- 1.5 Sustainability appraisal is a systematic process undertaken during the preparation of a plan or strategy. Its role is to assess the extent to which the emerging policies and proposals will help to achieve relevant environmental, social and economic objectives. In doing so, it provides an opportunity to consider ways in which the plan or strategy can contribute to improvements in environmental, social and economic conditions, as well as a means of identifying and addressing any adverse effects that draft policies and proposals might have.
- 1.6 The overall aim of the appraisal process is to help ensure that the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Plan, makes an effective contribution to the pursuit of ‘sustainable development’.

The Purpose of the Report

- 1.7 The purpose of this Scoping Report is to:
 - identify environmental, social and economic objectives contained in other plans and programmes that are relevant to the Local Development Frameworks;
 - assess the existing broad environmental, social and economic characteristics of Christchurch and East Dorset, and how these are changing, taking a long term view of whether, and how, the area is expected to develop;
 - in the light of these reviews, consider key issues and problems that the Local Plan should address in the pursuit of sustainable development; and to

- set out an appropriate framework for carrying out the remainder of the Sustainability Appraisal, including objectives against which draft policies and options may be assessed, and indicators against which progress towards meeting those objectives can be monitored in future.

1.8 This report has been prepared following consultation with relevant stakeholders in order to ensure that the identification of sustainability objectives and issues, and the proposed collection of the baseline data, are adequate for the assessment of the future formulation of Local Development Documents. This included a stakeholder consultation, held between 21st November 2005 and 30th December 2005 and a further consultation in 2008, including those required to be involved as part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment process. This Scoping Report has taken on board many of the useful comments received, as well as other changes introduced through improved understanding.

Legislative Framework

- 1.9 European Directive 2001/42/EC requires an ‘environmental assessment’ of plans and programmes prepared by public authorities that are likely to have a significant effect upon the environment. This process is referred to commonly as Strategic Environmental Assessment, and covers relevant plans and programmes whose formal preparation began after 21 July 2004. Among the documents to which this requirement will apply are land use plans that cover a wide area, such as the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Plan and Core Strategy.
- 1.10 As stated previously, the planning system from 2004 also requires local authorities to undertake a Sustainability Appraisal of Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents. The purpose of a Sustainability Appraisal is to promote sustainable development through better integration of sustainability considerations into the preparation and adoption of the documents. The Strategic Environmental Assessment will form the environmental part of the Sustainability Appraisal.
- 1.11 This Scoping Report will use an approach that addresses the requirements of Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal simultaneously, by giving full consideration to environmental issues whilst also addressing the spectrum of socio-economic concerns. In terms of the specific requirements of the Directive, the Scoping Report and the Sustainability Appraisal Report on the draft Local Plan will together meet the need for an ‘Environmental Report’, as required by the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, setting out the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the draft plan (and the reasonable alternatives that have been considered).
- 1.12 Due to the presence of internationally designated nature conservation sites the Councils will also have to undertake Appropriate Assessments when producing Development Plan Documents. These assessments are made to meet the

requirements of the Habitats Regulations, and if the Development Plan Documents are to pass the test which they impose, the assessment must conclude that they will not damage the integrity of the international nature conservation sites.

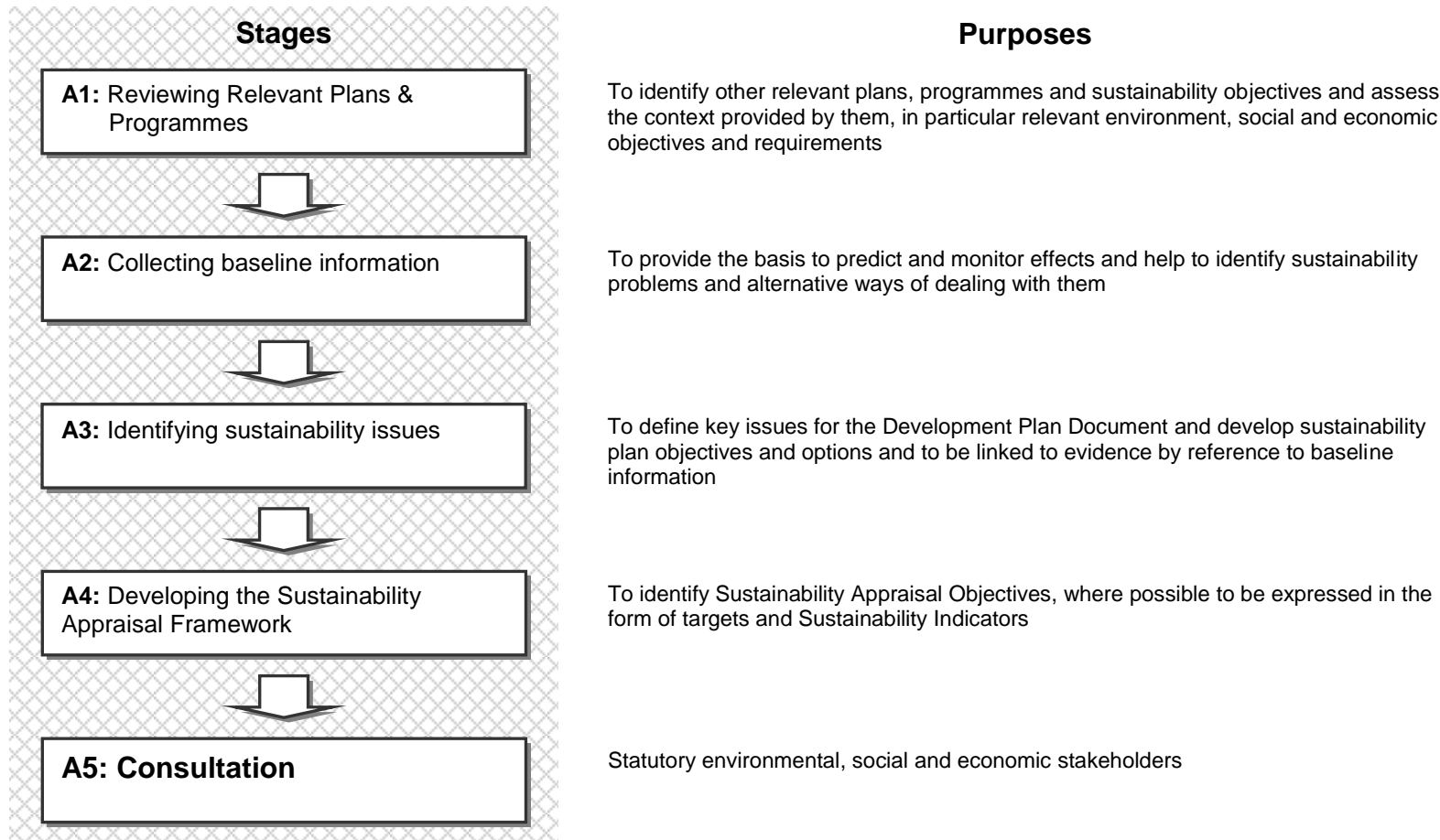
The Local Plan Process

- 1.13 The Local Development Schemes for Christchurch and East Dorset set out the Local Development Documents that will form the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Plan. Local Development Schemes for the two Councils have been published setting out the timetables for document production. These will be updated as circumstances require.
- 1.14 A joint Statement of Community Involvement for both Authorities was adopted in July/August 2006.
- 1.15 It is proposed that the first part of the Local Plan will be a Core Strategy, again covering both Authorities. This document will set out the overall planning strategy for Christchurch and East Dorset.

Scoping methodology

- 2.1 The general methodology to be employed draws upon the guidance on Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment published by ODPM in 2003 and 2005, now the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG).
- 2.2 Sustainability Appraisal is an iterative process that identifies and reports on the likely significant effects of a Development Plan Documents or Supplementary Planning Documents and the extent to which their implementation will fulfil the Government's principles of sustainable development.
- 2.3 Within the overall process stage A consists of five key tasks, as set out in Figure 1. This Scoping Report sets out the findings of Stage A together with information on what happens next in the process.

Figure 2: Stages of Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Study Process



Stage A1: Identifying other Relevant Plans, Programmes and Sustainability Objectives

- 3.1 The first stage in the Sustainability Appraisal process is to establish the context in which the Local Plan is being written. It is necessary to review all of the other policies, plans, programmes, strategies and initiatives which may influence, or be influenced by, the Local Plan in order that any conflicts or synergies may be identified.
- 3.2 A list of those policies, plans, programmes, strategies and initiatives which we believe to be relevant is shown at Appendix 1. No list is exhaustive and often there is a hierarchy which may influence the significance given to any particular document.
- 3.3 Each of the documents will have to be taken into account to a different degree. The Local Plan will be written in the context of local, sub-regional, national and even international policies.
- 3.4 The work is ongoing and further documents will continue to be reviewed and added to the list if appropriate.
- 3.5 Some of the key messages so far emerging from the review are as follows:

General

- The need to integrate social, environmental and economic issues in considering future development.
- The aim to create mixed communities.

Social

- The area has a predominantly ageing population.
- There is a need for affordable private and social housing.
- Access to local amenities (particularly in the rural areas), including green spaces is a major issue.
- The need to ensure the community can access cultural facilities.

Environmental

- Impact of climate change
- Conservation, maintenance and enhancement of protected habitats and species is essential.
- Efficient use of land for development (brownfield sites, higher densities) is preferable to development on green field sites.

- The communities value the high quality built and natural character of the area.
- Traffic congestion and car dependency influence development and community perceptions.
- The maintenance of good air quality is important for the health of the community.
- Flooding is likely to have a significant impact.
- Provision and maintenance of a safe and plentiful water supply is required.
- There is need to conserve energy, including energy used in travel, and provide renewable energy sources to reduce the use of fossil fuels.
- The population faces problems with how to deal with the waste it generates.

Economic

- There is presently a shortage of labour and this is forecast to worsen in the coming years. Out migration of young people will have a major impact on the future economy.
- Businesses are finding it hard to grow because of a lack of suitable and available employment land.
- The Airport should accommodate relevant knowledge based activity and industries which make a positive contribution to sustainable economic growth
- There is a need to control the levels of commuting.
- The area has important town centres that need to be supported in order to keep them vital and viable.
- There is a need to ensure a sustainable economy in rural areas.

Stage A2: Baseline Information

- 4.1 The collection of baseline data is a key component of the Sustainability Appraisal process and a legal requirement of the Strategic Environmental Assessment legislation. Baseline data helps to identify sustainability issues and monitoring indicators to refine the effects of policies.
- 4.2 In compiling the list of possible indicators there are inevitably gaps in data identified. Where this is the case it is legitimate to note the gap and make provision for the collection of such data in the future. The proposed local indicators are identified in

Table 2. These have been identified to provide a robust assessment of the performance and impact of policies on the proposed objectives considered in Stage A4.

- 4.3 Baseline data is usually collected in the form of indicators which can either be monitored over time or against regional or national statistics. When undertaking an assessment it will be important to look at the cumulative effects and trends shown through the monitoring of the indicators.
- 4.4 Indicator data can be useful for identifying sustainability issues to which the Local Plan may need to respond. For each indicator, enough data should be collected to identify how good or bad a situation is and whether trends show an improvement or deterioration.
- 4.5 It is anticipated that some data can be shown spatially and can therefore be mapped; examples would include open space provision, areas at risk of flooding, landscape designations, Conservation Areas etc. This will be done as part of the overall Sustainability Appraisal process ready for the public consultation phase of the Sustainability Appraisal.
- 4.6 The baseline data for Christchurch and East Dorset has been set out alongside key sustainability issues in Section 5 and key baseline indicators are also set out in Appendix 2. Each of the “Joint Principles of Sustainability” published jointly by the two Councils in 2001 acts as a thematic heading with Sustainability Objectives listed below and a number of indicators for each objective.
- 4.7 This list is not exhaustive and will change as new information becomes available.
- 4.8 The review of indicators has identified several areas where there are gaps in the data currently available. These are:
 - How to measure access issues meaningfully
 - The indicators under the Biodiversity Objective
- 4.9 Where data supply is a problem, attempts will be made to fill any gaps during the process. Where information is still to be collected or is awaited, this is stated in the table.

Stage A3: Identifying Sustainability Issues

- 5.1 The purpose of this section is to identify key sustainability issues for Christchurch and East Dorset, which will inform the development of policy objectives and options for individual Development Documents. Any issues/problems identified will be, where possible, linked to evidence by reference to the baseline information contained within Appendix 2 and explained previously in Stage A2.
- 5.2 The description below contains the key sustainability issues for Christchurch and East Dorset that have been identified to date. They have been compiled taking into account:
- The existing knowledge of planning issues arising from work of the Councils.
 - Recent studies carried out to inform the Local Plan e.g. Town Centre Retail Survey; Open Space Survey etc.
 - Public Consultation Responses obtained through Consultation and Community Strategy work.
 - Initial review of plans, policies and programmes (Stage A1).
 - The baseline information collected for Stage A2 of this Scoping Report and listed in Appendix 2.
- 5.3 In order to predict and subsequently monitor the impacts of the Local Plan for Christchurch and East Dorset, we need to know what condition the area is in at present. What is needed is a 'baseline', in terms of the environment, society and the economy, from which to forecast and measure the effects of proposed plans and policies which are being promoted through the Local Plan process.
- 5.4 The baseline appraisal is also important because it helps identify the key issues that are currently facing Christchurch and East Dorset and are likely to do so in the future. It will form an important part of the evidence base upon which the Local Authorities will be developing the Local Plan.
- 5.5 The baseline information has been obtained from a wide range of sources including the Office for National Statistics, the Department for Communities and Local Government and a range of County Council, and local monitoring sites. Whilst there are many sources of social, environmental and economic information, the intention is to focus on issues at a scale that is appropriate to the Local Development Framework. The collation of baseline information is an ongoing process. There may be current gaps in the data and new data may become available as we proceed through the Local Plan process. Therefore, a database of baseline information for Christchurch and East Dorset will be developed and refined or revised as necessary.

Geography

- 5.6 East Dorset District and the Borough of Christchurch are located in the east of Dorset and represent the most south-easterly local authorities in the South West region of England.
- 5.7 Christchurch is relatively small in area, at 50 square kilometres, occupying only 2% of the land mass of the County. It has a coastline which extends to 10.3 kilometres in length (including 1.5 kilometres of harbour coast) and the historic town of Christchurch lies at the confluence of the rivers Stour and Avon.
- 5.8 The principal settlement is Christchurch which has the role of a local service centre, providing a range of shopping, health, recreation and other community facilities. During the twentieth century, the town expanded along the coastal frontage and immediate hinterland. Much of the built up area takes the form of low-rise suburban post war residential development around small cores of earlier settlements. 80% of Christchurch residents live in the main built up area.
- 5.9 About 70% of the Borough remains as open countryside, harbour or coast. North of the built up area, the village of Burton has seen major residential growth, whilst the villages of Winkton and Hurn remain as small rural settlements. The Borough is characterised by a low lying landscape with only gentle variations in topography with the rural area being divided in two by St Catherine's Hill, a ridge at 45 m above sea level running north/south between the valleys of the rivers Avon and Stour.



- 5.10 © Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. East Dorset District Council. Licence: 100024319. 2005 The town of Christchurch is located close to Bournemouth with easy access to the A338 which runs to the north of the Borough, providing links to primary routes to the east and the west. The town has a railway station providing a two hour link to London and the South East. Bournemouth Airport, lying in the north-east of the Borough, provides scheduled and charter flights to a range of national and international destinations.
- 5.11 The District of East Dorset is located in the north-east of the County. To the east, it is bordered by the River Avon and its valley which separates it from the New Forest whilst to the south, the River Stour divides a large area of the District from the coastal towns of Christchurch, Bournemouth and Poole (the South East Dorset conurbation). To the south-west, the District has a boundary with Purbeck, whilst North Dorset lies to the west. East Dorset has an area of 355 square kilometres which, although around seven times the size of Christchurch, is the smallest rural Authority in Dorset. (Dorset Data Book)
- 5.12 The landscape character of the district is closely related to the geology which is predominately chalk in the north-west and sands and clays in the south-east. This gives rise to downlands in the north-west and a mix of heathland, woodland, coniferous plantations and small fields bounded by hedges in the south-east.

- 5.13 At the beginning of the twentieth century, Wimborne Minster, an ancient and historic market town, was the principal settlement serving an almost entirely rural area. The town maintains its position as the main settlement in the district although rapid population growth from the 1920s onwards in the district as a whole has resulted in extensive areas of urban development which have transformed East Dorset. Urban development and population growth have been concentrated in the southern and eastern parishes bordering, and influenced by, the South-East Dorset conurbation with an extended 'finger' of growth stretching northwards through Verwood to Alderholt. These urbanised areas include the settlements of Corfe Mullen, Colehill, Ferndown, West Parley, West Moors, St Leonards and St Ives and Verwood. Whilst each of these has its own identity, they share a number of common characteristics: each is a discrete urban area, separated from one another (and the main conurbation) by corridors and wedges of open country. The principal land use is residential, at relatively low densities and suburban in character. Populations range between 5,600 and 10,000 for each settlement, although Ferndown and West Parley are distinguished as a single continuous built up area with a combined population approaching 19,000. This represents the largest single concentration of population in the district.
- 5.14 The chalk downlands of the north and west largely retain their rural character. The settlements are generally small villages, many being of architectural and historic interest. The major estates (together with planning policy) have been an important factor in sustaining the character of this area of the district.
- 5.15 The A31 trunk road from London to the South West runs through the district providing direct links to Southampton and on to the M3, M27 and A34 to the Midlands. There is no rail link in the district. Bournemouth Airport in the Borough of Christchurch lies within two miles of the eastern boundary and provides national and international air links, while the Port of Poole to the south provides cross Channel sea links.

Environmental Baseline and Issues

- 5.16 The environment of Christchurch and East Dorset is of exceptional quality, cherished by the local community and attracting tourists throughout the year. Both Authorities boast a rich archaeological and built heritage within an attractive landscape setting. The following sections set out particular aspects of the environment.

Climate Change

Baseline

- 5.17 Climate change has the potential, not only to affect the environment, but also the social and economic aspects of life in Christchurch and East Dorset. Although the precise nature of environmental changes is not fully understood, changes to

precipitation patterns (and river flow) and rising sea level have significant implications particularly for the town of Christchurch. Conversely, predicted dry, hot summers will cause problems of low flows for some of the chalk downland rivers in the area. Additionally, climate change could have a significant impact on agriculture and wildlife throughout the whole area.

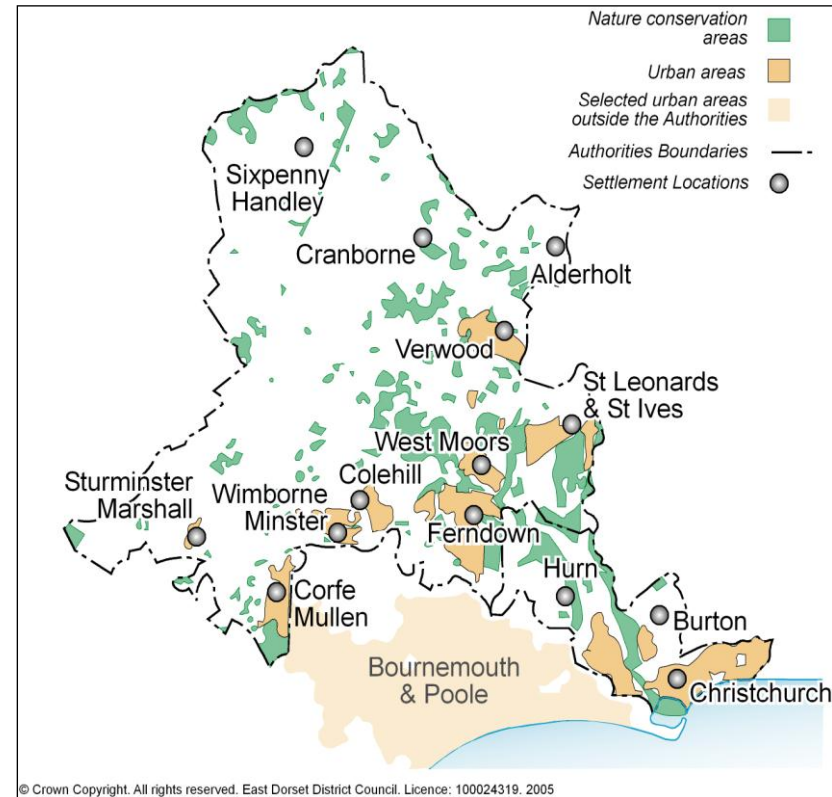
Plans, Policies and Programmes – Key Issues

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>Climate change is likely to affect biodiversity, increase hazards from fluvial and coastal flooding, and increase the problem of low flow rivers during the summer.</p> <p>1) How will climate change have an impact on the Districts and how can planning policy be used to reduce any impact?</p> <p>2) How can planning policy be used to limit greenhouse gas emissions?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Planning Policy Framework • Environment Agency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Protect, enhance and expand habitats and protected species. 2 Make sustainable use of resources. 4 Minimise factors contributing to climate change. 5 Provide access to meet people’s needs. 6 Provide a safe and secure environment.

Biodiversity

Baseline

- 5.18 The natural environment of Christchurch is diverse and of high quality, consisting of the coast, harbour and cliffs and, inland, of extensive areas of wet and dry heath and river valleys. There are around 150 hectares of nature reserves wildlife areas and a significant proportion of the Borough (18.6%) is protected by some form of nature conservation designation from sites of local importance (SNCI) and green corridors to those of international importance (Ramsar). There are 10 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), two of which are also designated as Special Protection Areas and two as candidate Special Areas of Conservation. Three of the Sites of Special Scientific Interest are also designated Ramsar sites.
- 5.19 East Dorset is similarly endowed with a rich natural heritage with 9.7% of the District covered by one or more nature conservation designations (including Special Protection Areas, candidate Special Areas of Conservation Ramsar sites). Holt Heath is a National Nature Reserve (NNR).
- 5.20 The condition of SSSIs in both Districts is unfavourable compared to national standards. This is due to a combination of poor management, but also the significant recreational pressures exerted on the heathlands.



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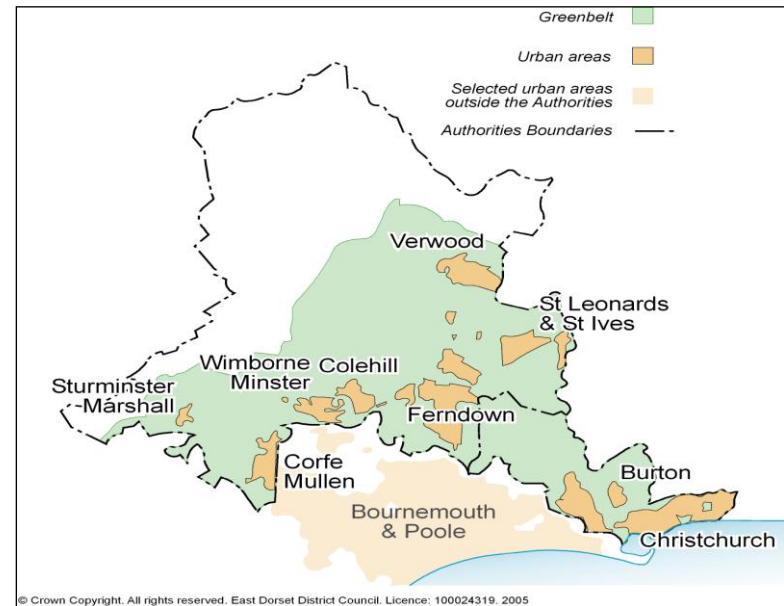
Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>The Districts contain some of the most rare and precious nature conservation assets in the Country. These are under threat from urban pressures, including disturbance and damage from recreational use.</p> <p>3) How can the valuable biodiversity of the area be maintained and enhanced?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Plans, Policies and Programmes • Structure Plan 2001 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Protect, enhance and expand habitats and protected species. 2 Make sustainable use of resources. 3 Minimise pollution. 6 Provide a safe and secure environment.

Countryside

Baseline

5.21 Approximately 80% of the area of the two Districts is rural, within which about 20% of the overall population reside. This is in contrast to the southern part of Christchurch and Highcliffe and the towns to the south of East Dorset which are more urban and suburban in character. The area has seen significant urban development since the Second World War and there are continuous pressures for more to take place. Improvements to private transport have made the rural areas accessible to those who wish to live in the countryside and work in the urban areas, or for those who wish to use the countryside for recreation. To contain urban sprawl and to maintain the separate identity of settlements the South East Green Belt was introduced in the 1980's and this has reduced the loss of green fields to development. It also provides easy access to countryside on the doorstep of many residents, avoiding the need to travel substantial distances.



Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>The countryside is continuously under pressure from urban influences and the demand for new development is strong.</p> <p>4) What is the impact of urban influences on the countryside and how can this be managed?</p> <p>5) How can the separate identity of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Planning Policy Framework 	<p>2 Make sustainable use of resources.</p> <p>11 Maintain and enhance local distinctiveness.</p>

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>settlements be maintained?</p> <p>6) How can sustainable access to countryside be fostered?</p>		

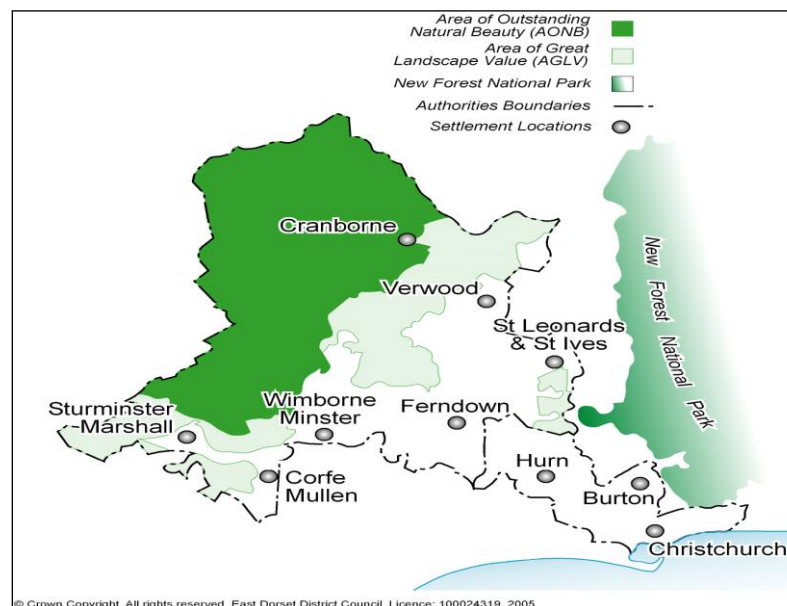
Landscape

Baseline

5.22 Christchurch has no designated special landscape areas although the 'Environmentally Sensitive Area' in the Avon Valley is a positive landscape protection and enhancement programme administered and funded by DEFRA. (Christchurch Borough-wide Character Assessment 2003)

5.23 In East Dorset, 45% of the land is designated as the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). This comprises the chalk downlands in the north-west of the District, being one of the richest in Britain in archaeological remains, representing a landscape of great historic and amenity value. Additionally, a large part of the remaining countryside in East Dorset has been identified as an Area of Great Landscape Value in the East Dorset Local Plan.

5.24 The New Forest National Park lies on the border of the Districts and neighbouring development could impact on the landscape quality of the Park.



Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
The Districts have significant areas of landscape importance, including the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscape Character Assessment 2004 	11 Maintain and enhance local distinctiveness.

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>Cranborne Chase and Wiltshire Downs AONB, River Avon SSSI, and Areas of Great Landscape Value, Special Character Areas and areas of historic value.</p> <p>7) How can the local character and environment of the area be maintained and enhanced, at the same time as meeting changing needs and demands?</p> <p>8) How can development in Christchurch & East Dorset be managed to avoid undue impacts on the New Forest National Park?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Area Statements • Local Plans • Christchurch Borough wide Character Assessment 	

Historic Environment

Baseline

- 5.24 The historic town centre of Christchurch is characterised by narrow streets and a number of Listed Buildings, some dating from the medieval period and the majority from the 18th and 19th centuries. Sustaining the high quality townscape is important to defining the character of the settlement. Within the Borough there are 12 designated Conservation Areas (three of which are in the rural areas) around 287 Listed Buildings and 12 Scheduled Monuments. Most of Christchurch town lies within a conservation area.
- 5.25 East Dorset has many attractive villages and other areas of special architectural or historic interest which, in order to protect their character and appearance, have been designated as Conservation Areas. There are 19 in total. The District has 697 Listed Buildings and 152 Scheduled Monuments. There are also 5 sites which are included in the 'Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England'. (Dorsetforyou.com)
- 5.26 In addition to the Conservation Areas, East Dorset has identified 'Special Character Areas' within a number of areas, which are distinguished by their built form and layout, often within a sylvan setting.

5.27 There are significant pressures exerted on the historic environment. These come from the demand to modernise historic buildings, change their uses, develop within conservation areas and from increased affects from traffic and highway improvements.

Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>There are areas of significant built historic importance and aesthetic quality that should be preserved and enhanced. These are continuously facing pressures for change.</p> <p>9) How can the Conservation Areas, Special Character Areas and areas of historic value best be preserved and enhanced?</p> <p>10) How can the role of historic town centres such as Wimborne or Christchurch be enhanced whilst respecting their conservation area status?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Area Statements • Local Plans • Christchurch Borough wide Character Assessment 	<p>10 Protect and enhance historic buildings and archaeological sites.</p> <p>11 Maintain and enhance local distinctiveness.</p>

Water

Baseline

5.28 The Stour and Avon flood regularly and wide areas within the Borough of Christchurch are subject to marine or fluvial flood risk. The town has a major flood protection scheme, however, it is estimated that around 3,247 properties and two caravan sites would be at risk in the event of overtopping or failure of defences. Additionally, a breach of Mudeford Spit in the event of a tidal or storm surge could put the safety of about 2,000 people at risk. (Major Incident Plan for Flood Emergencies, Christchurch Borough Council, July 2011)

5.29 Within East Dorset, the Stour and its tributaries have historically caused serious flooding problems, notably in Wimborne, Shapwick, Longham and Sturminster Marshall. The floodplains are an important part of the river system, providing

necessary water storage. There is a need to ensure development does not impinge on this, or exacerbate flooding elsewhere. Additionally, there have been serious incidents of groundwater related flooding within the chalk areas of the District. A large part of the District, again relating to the chalk downlands, is designated as Groundwater Protection Zones. Here groundwater is taken via boreholes to serve the needs of the community.

Plans, Policies and Programmes

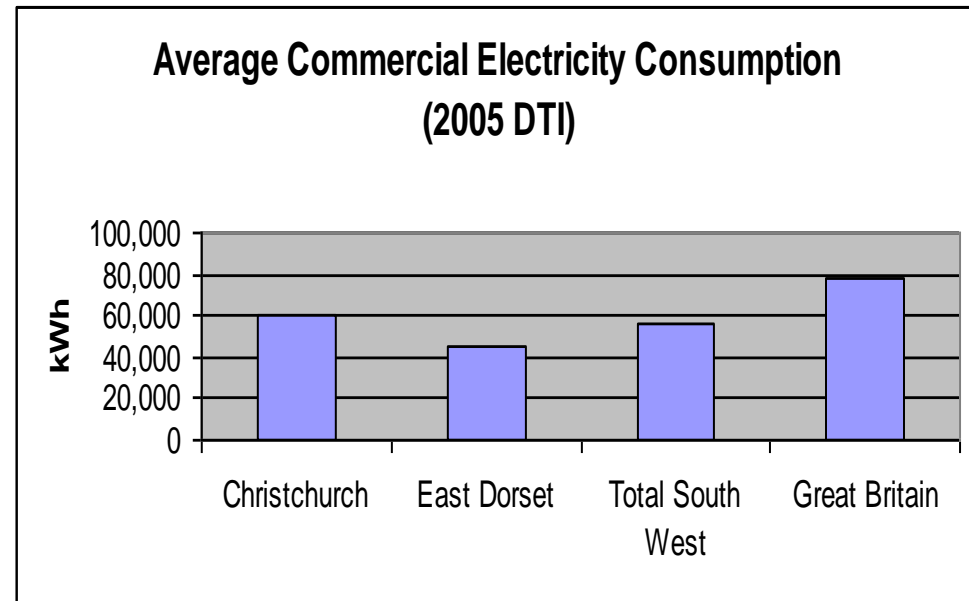
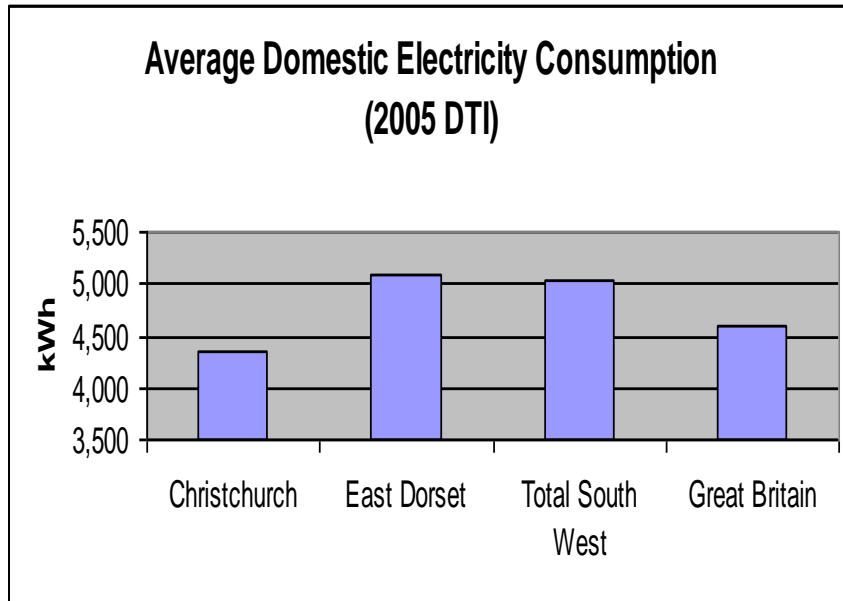
Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>There are a series of rivers that pass through the area that can cause serious flooding. Additionally, Christchurch is threatened by potential sea level rises.</p> <p>11) What response should be made to the threat of sea level rises and river flooding?</p> <p>12) How can flood defence schemes be better designed to minimise impact on the character of the coast?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Plans • National Plans, Policies and programmes 	<p>6 Provide a safe and secure environment.</p>
<p>The amount of water used by households in the area has increased over the past decade, as has the abstraction of water. Water supply in the area is taken from groundwater associated with a chalk aquifer, and the River Stour. The quality and quantity of water to supply future demands is going to be critical to the future levels and location of development that can be accommodated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Plans • National Plans, Policies and programmes 	<p>2 Make sustainable use of resources.</p> <p>3 Minimise pollution.</p>

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>Abstraction from the River Avon has caused low flow problems, adversely affecting its high nature conservation value.</p> <p>13) What is required to protect and provide sustainable water supplies and maintain natural water systems?</p>		

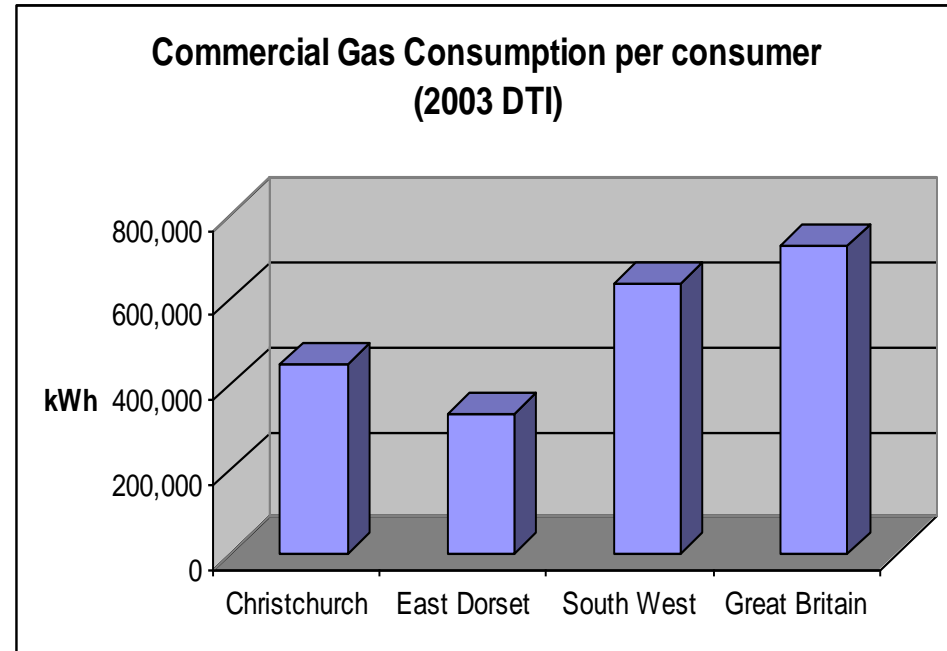
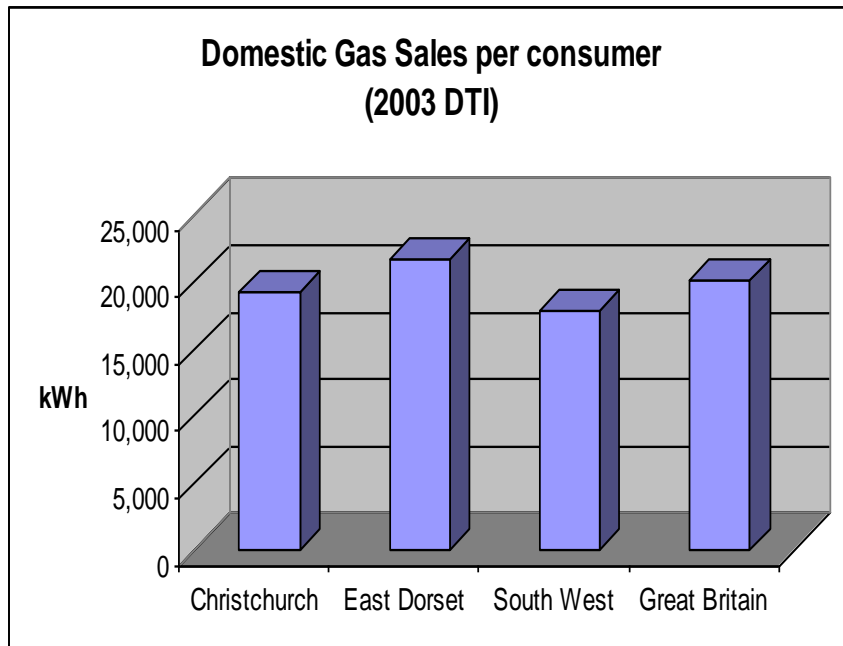
Energy

Baseline

5.30 In 2005, East Dorset had average levels of domestic electricity consumption in comparison to other authorities in the South West, whereas Christchurch was below average. In relation to commercial consumption Christchurch was above average, while East Dorset was significantly below average.



5.31 In relation to gas consumption per domestic consumer East Dorset is well above average, while Christchurch is average. For commercial use both East Dorset and Christchurch use less kWh per consumer than the average in the South West or Great Britain.



Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
There are increasing demands for energy provision predicted for the future. The supply of non-renewable sources is diminishing in the case of carbon based fuels, becoming more expensive and contributes to global warming. There is a need to provide alternative, affordable renewable sources of energy, as well as improve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Plans • National Plans, Policies and Programmes • Dorset Renewable Energy Strategy 	4 Minimise factors contributing to climate change.

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>energy conservation methods to manage our energy demands better.</p> <p>Some parts of the community experience fuel poverty.</p> <p>14) How can an affordable, safe and secure energy provision be secured to meet the needs of the community for the future?</p>		

Pollution

Baseline

- 5.32 Pollution is a wide ranging topic covering issues such as air quality, light, noise and visual pollution and land contamination. In general, pollution levels in both districts are low although only limited information is available on some indicators. There is a geographic Information System data base of all potentially contaminated land and the air quality strategies are updated regularly, although there are no areas within the districts which currently meet the criteria for an air quality management plan.
- 5.33 The key air pollutants are nitrous oxides – these are high (49.1µg/m³ in 2001) by contrast with levels of other pollutants, which are within target levels. The main source of this type of pollution is transport. There are no Air Quality Management Areas within the area. In Christchurch Road and air traffic associated with Bournemouth Airport may pose conflicts with air quality management and this will have to be monitored. Noise pollution is also an issue which will need special control around the airport. The Airport has adopted an air quality monitoring framework as required by the terminal permission.
- 5.34 Light pollution data collected from CPRE, using satellite technology, shows that the majority of Christchurch suffers from light saturation and that there has been a significant increase in light pollution since 1993 when measurements first began.
- 5.35 The CPRE has also undertaken work to measure tranquillity. This shows that only a small proportion of Christchurch and the rural north of East Dorset benefits from tranquillity. There is also the consideration of minimising or mitigating the harmful environmental impacts affecting the National Park.

- 5.36 Over 86% of the 23 kilometres of rivers in Christchurch are rated as good or very good for water quality (Christchurch in Profile 2010) and all Christchurch's beaches are rated as good or excellent judged by the Environment Agency's standards. There are no ground water source protection areas in the Borough.
- 5.37 Of the 85 kilometres of rivers in East Dorset, over 97% are rated as good for water quality.(East Dorset in Profile 2010) A large proportion of East Dorset is underlain by aquifers from which water supplies are already drawn. It is essential that this resource remains protected from the risk of pollution or over abstraction.

Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>Although contaminated land levels are comparatively low it is still an issue that can affect either existing, or future residents and visitors.</p> <p>15) How can levels of soil contamination be reduced and future contamination prevented?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National plans, policies and programmes 	3 Minimise pollution.
<p>There are many national statutory standards to prevent pollution. There are currently no identified significant problems, but it is necessary to ensure that this is correct and that no future problems are caused.</p> <p>16) How can it be ensured that new development does not cause harm in relation to air, noise and light pollution?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National plans, policies and programmes 	3 Minimise pollution.
<p>There are some very sensitive water environments throughout the Districts and these need to be protected.</p> <p>17) How can it be ensured that water pollution levels do not cause</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National plans, policies and programmes National Planning 	3 Minimise pollution.

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
harm to natural systems?	Policy Framework	
Urbanisation has resulted in increased levels of light pollution. 18) How can light pollution be reduced when urbanisation is likely to continue?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National plans, policies and programmes National Planning Policy Framework 	
Increasing urbanisation and the demand for further travel has resulted in a loss of tranquillity. 19) What can be done to enhance tranquillity?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National plans, policies and programmes National Planning Policy Framework 	

Resource use/Waste & Recycling

Baseline

5.38 In 2008/09, 0.3 tonnes of waste went to landfill in Christchurch, the highest of all Dorset authorities. 0.23% was generated in East Dorset, the lowest of all Dorset authorities. In Christchurch 54% of household waste was recycled with 46% recycled in East Dorset. (Christchurch in Profile 2010 and East Dorset in Profile 2010)

Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
Both Districts have high levels of recycling when compared with national figures. However, there are increasing requirements to improve recycling. Waste disposal is a major issue in an area of such high landscape value. 20) How can waste disposal be	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dorset Waste Strategy 	2 Make sustainable use of resources.

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>managed to prevent significant adverse affects on the environmental quality of the area?</p> <p>21) Are their potential locations for waste disposal/recycling facilities within Christchurch/East Dorset?</p>		

Social Baseline and Issues

Population

Baseline

- 5.39 Christchurch has a population of 46,950 (ONS Mid Year Estimates 2009). The Authority has the second smallest population in the County but, because of its limited area, has the second highest population density, at over 895 persons per square kilometre.
- 5.40 The age structure of the population demonstrates a higher proportion of elderly persons in the Borough compared to national averages. For example, one in two of the Christchurch population is aged over 50 whilst the average for England is one in three. Christchurch has the highest proportion of population in age bands 50 to 75 and over compared with all local authorities in England and Wales and is within the 10 local authorities with the lowest proportions of population in the age group 0-39. Although the age distribution in Christchurch is biased towards the elderly, there are significant variations in distribution within the Borough. Clearly, this demographic profile has implications for social provision. However, examining trends in migration patterns, it appears that the Borough is experiencing net gains in the under 60 age group which may, over time, help to address some of the imbalance in the population structure. (The State of Christchurch 2008)
- 5.41 The residents of Christchurch are predominantly monotypic, being mostly White British citizens who constitute 96.83% of the population. (The State of Christchurch 2008)

- 5.42 According to Resident Surveys most people migrated to the town rather than having been raised from birth within the Borough. Although many are of a mature age, only 15% moved to Christchurch on retirement, a smaller percentage than those motivated by employment or proximity to family and friends.
- 5.43 East Dorset has a population of 87,557 (ONS Mid Year Population Estimates 2009) and around two thirds of the population live in the south and eastern area of the District.
- 5.44 The age structure of the district has undergone significant changes in recent years. Between 1991 and 2006, the number of people aged 50-59 years increased by 49% whilst those in age band 20-29 years fell by 29%. This was mainly due to in-migration by older people (perhaps in preparation for retirement) and the out-migration of younger people (seeking employment and or affordable housing or attending university) (The Dorset Data Book 2007) Whilst the population of the UK as a whole is ageing, the percentage over the age of 65 in East Dorset (27.7%) and in Christchurch (29.9%) far exceeds the national average of 16.6%. (ONS Mid Year Population Estimates 2010) Indicative of the high proportion of elderly in the two districts, the death rate per 1,000 people was 11.1 in East Dorset and 14.2 in Christchurch in 2010, compared with the national average of 8.9% in 2010. The birth rate in 2010 was 7.4 per 1,000 in East Dorset and 8.2 in Christchurch, compared with the national average of 13.1 which is unsurprising given the demographic profile. Despite death rates exceeding birth rates in the Districts, the population continues to increase as a result of in-migration. Long term projections suggest that the population may grow to 100,800 in East Dorset and to 55,900 in Christchurch by 2033. (The Dorset Data Book 2011)
- 5.45 East Dorset has the smallest black and ethnic minority population in the County at only 2.8%. This compares with a county figure of 3.2% and a national figure of 13%. Such small numbers in both Authorities may present difficulties in engaging these groups in the democratic process and measuring the efficacy of policies and services that are fully inclusive.

Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>The age structure of the population currently shows a significantly above average representation of retired people. This will have implications for the economy, service provision, accommodation and health.</p> <p>22) What are likely to be the main implications of the ageing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Census data • Community Plans • Health Plans 	<p>5 Provide access to meet people's needs.</p> <p>7 Create conditions to improve health.</p> <p>8 Help make suitable housing available and affordable.</p> <p>9 Help communities to support social cohesion.</p>

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>population profile of the Districts, and how should we provide for the needs of the elderly population?</p> <p>23) What should be done to provide the necessary skilled labour supply to sustain the economy and meet the needs of the community?</p>		
<p>There are very low numbers of ethnic minorities in the Districts. Nevertheless, it is important that they are not discriminated against and form part of a fully inclusive community.</p> <p>24) How can the needs and rights of ethnic minorities be secured?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Census data • Community Plans 	<p>5 Provide access to meet people's needs.</p> <p>6 Provide a safe and secure environment.</p> <p>7 Create conditions to improve health.</p> <p>8 Help make suitable housing available and affordable.</p> <p>9 Help communities to support social cohesion.</p>

Housing

Baseline

5.46 In 2011 Christchurch had around 23,149 dwellings whilst East Dorset had 38,940. 3.3% of dwellings in Christchurch and 0.7% of dwellings in East Dorset were identified as second homes. (Dorset Data Book 2011 based upon Council Tax information).

5.47 In 2011 a House Condition Survey in Christchurch indicated that approximately 710 (3.1%) of dwellings were empty and in 2008, a similar survey in East Dorset indicated that 490 dwellings were empty (1.3% of the housing stock). Figures that compare favourably with the national average of 4.2% reported in 2011.

- 5.48 At the time of respective Surveys only 350 (1.5%) dwellings in Christchurch were identified as long-term empty dwellings. i.e. over six months, and 240 (0.6%) in East Dorset.
- 5.49 In both Christchurch and East Dorset, the type of housing stock is atypical from the regional and national averages - the English House Survey (2009) indicated that the average English housing stock profile incorporated 28% detached housing and bungalows, 26% semi-detached dwellings and approximately 29% terrace housing.
- 5.50 By contrast around 46% of properties in Christchurch and 69% in East Dorset are detached houses or bungalows. 16% of properties in Christchurch are semi-detached houses and in East Dorset only 9% of properties are terrace houses (SHMA Update 2012).
- 5.51 In both Christchurch and East Dorset, the housing tenure mix is atypical from national averages. Census data from 2011 indicated that 74.4% of households in Christchurch and 80.9% of households in East Dorset were owner-occupied. 8.3% of households in Christchurch and 12.9% of households in East Dorset were 'social' rented. And in Christchurch and East Dorset only 10.8% and 9.3% of households were privately rented.
- 5.52 2011 Census data confirmed that within English local authorities 63.4% of households were owner-occupied, whilst 17.7% were social renters and 16.8% rented privately. Christchurch and East Dorset therefore have significantly greater proportions of owner-occupation and significantly lower levels of both social rented and privately rented households.
- 5.53 Between 1999/2000 and 2009/10 an average of 129 new-build dwellings completed each year in Christchurch and 238 in East Dorset. 78% of the dwellings in Christchurch and 81% in East Dorset were built on brown-field sites. (Dorset Data book 2011). Between 1999/2000 and 2009/10 an average of 27 new-build affordable homes completed each year in Christchurch and 18 in East Dorset. (Dorset Data book 2011).
- 5.54 Between 2000 and 2011 average (mean) house prices in Christchurch rose by 103% and 85% in East Dorset to £279,282 and £286,970 respectively (2011 CLG Live Tables based on Land Registry). In 2011 Christchurch was ranked as the 47th least affordable English Authority in which to live outside the London area, whilst East Dorset was ranked as the 6th least affordable (CLG live table 2011: lower quartile housing/income ratio).
- 5.55 Using CLG approved methodology the SHMA Update (2012) estimated that the annual affordable housing shortfall in Christchurch was 332 homes per annum. In East Dorset the annual affordable housing shortfall amounted to 426 homes per

annum. Although hypothetical, if all of the estimated need was to be met in Christchurch 84% of provision would be needed in the form of Affordable Rented or Social Rented housing and 14% as Intermediate Affordable Housing. Similar outcomes in East Dorset would require 79% for Affordable Rent or Social Rent and 22% Intermediate Affordable Housing.

5.56 The SHMA Update also indicated the most appropriate proportions of market and affordable housing (by bedroom size) to meet housing requirements over the next 20 years. Based on meeting the housing requirement for 131 market homes per annum in Christchurch, 44% should be 1 and 2 bedroom homes and 56% larger 3 and 4 bedroom homes. Based on delivering 87 affordable homes each year, 71% should be 1 or 2 bedroom homes and 29% larger 3 or 4 bedroom homes.

5.57 Based on meeting the housing requirement for 201 market homes per annum in East Dorset, 46% should be 1 or 2 bedroom homes and 54% should be larger 3 and 4 bedroom homes. Based on delivering 134 affordable homes each year, 60% should be 1 or 2 bedroom and 40% larger 3 or 4 bedroom homes.

Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>The provision of new housing needs to reflect the needs of the community, in terms of the size, type and tenure of dwelling provided. It may not be acceptable to simply allow the most profitable market demand to dictate these.</p> <p>House prices in the area are higher than the national average and wages below the national average. The supply of new housing is constrained by environmental, infrastructure and planning constraints. This coupled with the sale of social houses has resulted in a shortage of affordable</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Plans, Policies and Programmes • Structure Plan 2001 • Community Plans • Council Housing Strategies • SHMA 	<p>8 Help make suitable housing available and affordable.</p> <p>9 Help communities to support social cohesion.</p>

Key Issue	Source	Relevant Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (See Stage A4)
housing. 25) How can we provide housing in the area to meet the needs of all the community? 26) Do we need to protect areas for family homes, and if so, where should these be?		

Health

Baseline

- 5.56 Christchurch has 8 NHS surgeries and one hospital, the Christchurch Hospital which has a range of departments including a Macmillan Unit. There are 12 dental surgeries in the Borough offering a mix of NHS and private treatment.
- 5.57 Overall the health of the Borough's residents is good, with life expectancy for the period 2007/2009 being 81.0 years for men and 85.0 years for women. (The Dorset Data Book 2011) The main causes of death (in 2005) were from circulatory diseases (229), cancers (172), coronary heart disease (103) and stroke (85).
- 5.58 Although teenage pregnancies in the Borough are relatively low compared with national averages, with 29.5% per 1,000 women aged 15-17 in 2002-2004, this masks considerable difference between wards. The figure for 2006/08 shows a figure of 33% for conception to under 18's.
- 5.59 East Dorset has 15 NHS surgeries and two hospitals (St Leonard's Community Hospital and Wimborne Community Hospital). There are 11 dental surgeries offering a mix of private and NHS treatment.
- 5.60 Life expectancy in East Dorset is higher than the national average, being 85.4 for females and 81.4 for males for the period 2007-09. The national figures are 82.2 and 78.1 respectively. (Dorset Data Book 2011) Indeed, in 2003-05 life expectancy for males in East Dorset was second highest in the UK whilst females' life expectancy ranked 3rd in the UK. (The Dorset Data Book)
- 5.61 In 2001, the Census asked how people categorised their health over the past year. In East Dorset 68.9% described their health as 'good', 23.2% as 'fairly good' and 7.9% as 'not good'. These figures are comparable with national averages, although the figure for 'not good' is a little lower than the national average of 9.2%. Around 18.4% of the population has a

limiting long term illness and the principal causes of death in 2005 were from circulatory diseases (384), cancers (295), coronary heart disease (186) and stroke (115).

5.62 Rates of teenage pregnancies in East Dorset were 24.8 per 1,000 females aged 15-17 in 2002-2004. In 2006-2008 the figure for conception to females under 18 was 20 per 1,000.

Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant SA Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>In general, the health of residents in the area is good. However, the high proportion of older people in the area, which is anticipated to rise, does mean that there is an issue about providing adequate care for the elderly.</p> <p>27) What is required to ensure suitable health care for the elderly?</p> <p>28) How can the Local Plan assist with provision of development which promotes healthy lifestyles?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Census data • Community Plans • Health Plans 	<p>7 Create conditions to improve health.</p>

Social Inclusion and Deprivation

Baseline

5.62 Levels of deprivation are measured using a range of indicators including income, health, employment, education, housing, living environment and crime. In 2007 the Department for Communities and Local Government published the most recent Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMP) which provides an in-depth approach to pinpointing small pockets of deprivation. The data is now based on identified neighbourhoods known as 'Super Output Areas' rather than wards.

5.63 Setting the context at County level, Dorset ranks twelfth from a total of fourteen counties and unitary authorities in the south-west region (where one is the most deprived and fourteen the least).

- 5.64 Christchurch is generally perceived as an attractive, tranquil and affluent Borough and promotes itself as a place 'where time is pleasant'. Whilst this may be a reality for the majority, there are pockets of deprivation such as Somerford East and West which are ranked 6th and 9th most deprived in the County (from a total of 247) and within the 20% most deprived areas in the Country. In contrast, Mudeford Quay is amongst the 10% least deprived areas in the Country. (The Christchurch Annual Monitoring Report 2008)
- 5.65 A range of local initiatives have been introduced to address issues of deprivation including provision of a youth advisory centre 'Ladders', parenting courses, support for carers and a successful joint application by The Grange School and Somerford Primary School for 'full service extended school' status.
- 5.66 East Dorset is the least deprived of all the Dorset local authorities. In a national ranking of local authorities in England (where 1 is the most deprived and 354 is the least), East Dorset ranks 325, placing it within the top 10 percent. There are, however, pockets of deprivation, with Ferndown, Tricketts Cross East falling within the ten percent most deprived areas in Dorset, whilst Wimborne Leigh Park, Verwood, Potterne & Woolsbridge and Allen Valley fall within the 25 percent most deprived Super Output Areas in Dorset. (East Dorset: A Profile of the Economy and Labour Market 2008)

Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant SA Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>Access to essential facilities and services is an issue that needs to be considered in the light of the ageing population. Changes in the provision of services and facilities over the last 30 years have put pressure on local amenities, reducing their economic viability. This problem is particularly acute in the rural areas.</p> <p>29) How can access to facilities be maintained and improved?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorset Rural Facilities Survey • Community Plans • Local Plans 	<p>9 Help communities to support social cohesion.</p> <p>11 Maintain and enhance local distinctiveness.</p>
<p>The two Districts on average are not deprived. However, particular pockets of deprivation exist.</p> <p>30) How should deprivation be</p>		

Key Issue	Source	Relevant SA Objectives (See Stage A4)
reduced in identified areas of need?		

Crime

Baseline

- 5.67 The crime rate in Christchurch is 58 crimes per 1,000 people. This is compared to a rate for Dorset of 69 and an average of 104 for England and Wales. (Dorset police 2008/09) The Dorset Crime Audit 2004 shows that the Borough experienced a higher increase in recorded crime (2003-2004) than many of its neighbours and attributes this largely to increases in vehicle crime and criminal damage. The Grange ward is identified as experiencing the highest increases in crime in the Borough.
- 5.68 Although not generally meeting the threshold of 'criminal' behaviour, anti-social behaviour intrudes upon the quality of residents' lives. In Christchurch the rate of anti-social behaviour in 2009/2010 was 50.9 reported incidents per 1,000 people. This compares with the Dorset (including Bournemouth and Poole) average of 67.4. (The Dorset Data Book 2011) The figures are a fall on previous years.
- 5.69 Evidence drawn from the Community Safety Survey in 2003 show that in Christchurch (in common with the rest of the county), feelings of safety were slightly lower than the previous year and concern over certain types of crime had increased.
- 5.70 The crime rate in East Dorset is very low, indeed the lowest in the County and one of the lowest of any local authority in England and Wales, at 37 crimes per 1,000 population. (Dorset police 2008/09)
- 5.71 In East Dorset the rate of anti-social behaviour in 2009/2010 was 40 reported incidents per 1,000 people. (The Dorset Data Book 2011) This figure is, again, another fall.
- 5.72 Evidence drawn from the Community Safety Survey in 2001 showed that over 97% of residents in East Dorset said that they felt safe living in their neighbourhood. Although this figure has decreased to 96% in 2003, the fear of crime remains low compared with County averages. (Dorset Crime Audit 2004)

Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant SA Objectives (See Stage A4)
Although crime levels and fear of crime are low in the Districts it is important for residents that this is		6 Provide a safe and secure environment. 9 Help communities to support social cohesion.

Key Issue	Source	Relevant SA Objectives (See Stage A4)
maintained. 31) How can crime levels and fear of crime be maintained at a low level?		

Education

Baseline

- 5.73 Christchurch has a total of 11 state primary schools, 3 of which have separate infant and junior departments. There are 3 state secondary schools all of which are comprehensive schools: The Grange School, Twynham School and Highcliffe School. Three quarters of all 16 year olds go straight into full-time education or training. There is one independent school; Portfield School (Wessex Society for Autistic Children).
- 5.74 In 2006, 60% of Christchurch 15 year olds passed at least 5 GCSEs at grades A* to C. 2009 shows an increase to just above the national level. In contrast, Christchurch has the highest proportion of people with poor basic literacy and numeracy skills in the County. The 2001 Census showed that 28% of people aged 16-74 have no qualifications, compared with 29.1% in England and Wales. This figure may be indicative of the proportion of elderly in the population, since research has shown that the number of people leaving education without qualifications has decreased steadily over time. 17% of 16-74 in Christchurch have at least level 4/5 qualifications (degree or above) compared with the national average of 20%.
- 5.75 East Dorset has a total of 22 state first schools, 7 state middle schools and 2 secondary schools, Ferndown Upper School and Queen Elizabeth CE VC School. Additionally, there are 3 independent schools and 1 special school. (Dorsetforyou web site) In 2004, around 66% of East Dorset's 15 year olds achieved grades A*to C in 5 or more GCSEs with the period up to 2009 showing a slight year on year increase.
- 5.76 Dorset Adult Education Service provides courses for life long learning with centres in Christchurch, Wimborne and Ferndown.
- 5.77 It is predicted that there will continue to be an increase in the population for both Districts (ONS). This could be further increased by options for new neighbourhoods to meet the needs of the conurbation as a whole. This will put pressure on education facilities.

Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant SA Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>Projected population growth could put pressure on existing education facilities.</p> <p>32) How can we provide for the long term education needs of the population?</p> <p>33) What role can school facilities provide for the needs of the wider population and what can be done to enhance this?</p>		<p>5 Provide access to meet people's needs.</p> <p>9 Help communities to support social cohesion.</p>

Culture, Leisure & Recreation

Baseline

- 5.78 Christchurch has a range of cultural, leisure and recreational facilities which are used by both residents and visitors to the town. They include the Red House Museum and Gardens, the Electricity Museum, the Aviation Museum, Highcliffe Castle and the Regent Centre. The latter is a venue for professional and local amateur companies providing a diverse programme of around 400 events each year.
- 5.79 The Two Rivers Meet Leisure Centre provides a 25 metre swimming pool, 10 metre training pool, fitness suite and sauna, 4 squash courts and a main hall used for a range of sports. The facility has recently been extended. It is a base for a variety of clubs and courses.
- 5.80 There is a range of outdoor sports and recreation facilities including recreation grounds, sports pitches, tennis courts, bowling greens and golf courses. The natural amenities of Christchurch lend themselves to recreational activities with riversides, harbour and coastal locations used for water sports and fishing. The rural areas of the Borough provide opportunities for informal recreation (walking, bird and wildlife spotting, picnicking) whilst some areas have been subject to diversification into recreational uses such as golf courses and driving ranges, equestrian centres and a ski centre with artificial ski slopes.

- 5.81 All leisure activities contribute to the quality of life of residents, providing amenity and opportunities for enhancing intellectual, spiritual and physical well being. Additionally, they represent a tourism asset and their provision can result in economic benefits to the Borough.
- 5.82 East Dorset also has a wide range of cultural, leisure and recreational facilities. This includes the Priests House Museum, the Tivoli Theatre, Kingston Lacy House and gardens, which houses a major art collection, and several other country houses of note that open to the public during the year. There are numerous recreation facilities, including sports centres, golf courses, equestrian centres and sports pitches. The rural areas provide significant opportunity for informal recreation.
- 5.83 There is a conflict in both Districts between recreation and the protection of the heath lands for their nature conservation assets. Suitable alternative open space is required to reduce the number of people wishing to use the heaths for their recreation.

Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant SA Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>There is a potential conflict between the desire for recreation and the quality of the lowland heaths in relation to nature conservation.</p> <p>34) Where should open space be provided and in what form to act as an alternative to the heathlands for recreation?</p> <p>35) Is there a need to plan for more/particular types of community or cultural facilities in the Districts?</p>		<p>9 Help communities to support social cohesion.</p> <p>10 Protect and enhance historic buildings and archaeological sites.</p>

Economic Baseline and Considerations

Economy

Baseline

- 5.84 Christchurch has a large thriving business base with nearly 2,000 companies. Some of the major employers are: BAE Systems, Channel Express, FR Aviation, Revvo Castor Co. and VAI Industries. Between 1994 and 2004, 12.89 hectares of industrial land has been developed in Christchurch. The total area of land with permission and allocated in the current local plan is 81.97 hectares, a large proportion being located at Bournemouth Airport which lies to the north-west of the town. (The Dorset Data Book)
- 5.85 The Borough provides employment for 18,600 people. The average unemployment rate has risen from 1% in 2005 to 2.7%. This is less than the national average of 4%, and historically has been concentrated in the urban areas of the Borough such as Grange, Portfield and the town centre. (Christchurch in Profile 2010)
- 5.86 Since 1999, the service sector in Christchurch has been expanding, but in 2003, it still employed proportionately fewer people (77%) than the county average (79%), the South West average (81%) and the average for Great Britain (81%). The proportion of employees in manufacturing continues to decline at national, regional and local level, but in Christchurch, the proportion employed in manufacturing (18%) is the second highest in Dorset and is higher than the averages for the County, the South West and Great Britain (each 13%). (The State of Christchurch 2005)
- 5.87 The 'Knowledge Economy' refers to the shift away from wealth-creating economies based on physically based industries to those that are based on knowledge. Knowledge based industries (KBI) include businesses focusing on information technology, life sciences and health care, media and entertainment, and advanced manufacturing and materials. KBIs are perceived as pivotal to sustaining the UK's economic prospects. In 2008, 51% of employees in Christchurch were engaged in knowledge-driven industries, higher than the Dorset average of 47%.
- 5.88 East Dorset has approximately 4,640 firms, 89 % of which are micro-firms (employing ten or less people). Some of the major employers are FR Aviation/Cobhams, Key Industries, Farrow and Ball and Rollalong.
- 5.89 The District provides employment for around 30,600. (East Dorset in Profile 2010) Levels of unemployment are low with an average rate of 2%, which is half the Dorset average (East Dorset in Profile 2010).
- 5.90 As in Christchurch, the economy in East Dorset is centred on the service sector which accounts for 71% of employment. Of this, distribution, hotels and restaurants account for 29.6% of total employment (31.3% in Christchurch). This is closely

followed by banking, finance and insurance at 23%. This sector is a particular strength of East Dorset compared with 14% of employment in Dorset as a whole. Knowledge-based industries account for 43% of employment which is below the Dorset average. (East Dorset in Profile 2010).

Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant SA Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>The economy has the potential to grow in the next twenty years. It is predicted that the working age population will reduce. Current employment levels are very high, with very little unemployment. Many businesses are finding it hard to recruit and it is predicted that this problem is going to increase over the next twenty years. This is a particular problem in relation to the loss of young people from the area.</p> <p>36) What should be done to provide the necessary skilled labour supply to sustain the economy and meet the needs of the community?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Census 2001 	<p>5 Provide access to meet people's needs.</p> <p>12 Facilitate a sustainable and growing economy.</p>
<p>It is predicted that the economy will continue to grow significantly over the next twenty years. To accommodate this there will be a need to make land available in the right locations.</p> <p>37) How can suitable land and premises be made available to meet the needs of the economy?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Plans 	<p>12 Facilitate a sustainable and growing economy.</p>

Key Issue	Source	Relevant SA Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>There have been significant changes in the rural economy caused by the decline in agriculture. A high proportion of those living in the rural areas commute to work in urban areas.</p> <p>38) Should the rural economy be diversified to provide more local employment opportunities to reduce commuting?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other Plans, Policies and Programmes 	<p>11 Maintain and enhance local distinctiveness.</p> <p>12 Facilitate a sustainable and growing economy.</p>
<p>The role of Bournemouth Airport is recognised in the Regional Spatial Strategy and the Christchurch Borough Local Plan as a strategic employment centre. There are however, significant obstacles to development including infrastructure provision.</p> <p>39) What types of employment development should be located at Bournemouth Airport, and what infrastructure or other safeguards need to be considered?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plan 	<p>11 Maintain and enhance local distinctiveness.</p> <p>12 Facilitate a sustainable and growing economy.</p>

Shopping

Baseline

5.91 Shopping facilities exist at various local shopping parades throughout the Borough of Christchurch in addition to the main shopping centre in the town centre. The primary shopping frontages are: Saxon Square/High Street/Church Street/Castle Street, Bargates, Barrack Road and Highcliffe. There is one major retail park: Barrack Road Retail Park and smaller retail

parks at Stoney Lane and Somerford Road. According to the Venuescore 'National Rank' of 2,000 shopping locations, Christchurch ranked 506 in 2006.

- 5.92 There are two main town centres within East Dorset at, Wimborne Minster and Ferndown. Additionally, there are smaller centres at Verwood, West Moors and a scatter of shops throughout Corfe Mullen. Rural retail facilities are scarce, being mainly centred on the villages of Sixpenny Handley, Cranborne, Alderholt and Sturminster Marshall. Both Alderholt and St Leonards and St Ives are major settlements with very limited local facilities. According to Venuescore, Wimborne Minster is ranked 737 and Ferndown 820 (2006).

Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant SA Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>The town centres provide the hub of community life. They are under continued pressure from external forces, such as out of town supermarkets. It is important to make sure that the town centres are strong enough to adapt and remain vital and viable.</p> <p>39) How can town centres maintain their vitality and viability to provide for the needs of the community?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Plans Retail studies 	<p>11 Maintain and enhance local distinctiveness.</p> <p>12 Facilitate a sustainable and growing economy.</p>
<p>Many rural communities have lost their shops, which means that residents have to rely on provision within towns. This encourages car journeys, but also disadvantages those without easy access to the car.</p> <p>40) How can retail provision be maintained and enhanced within rural areas to meet the basic needs of the community?</p>		<p>11 Maintain and enhance local distinctiveness.</p> <p>12 Facilitate a sustainable and growing economy.</p>

Tourism

Baseline

5.93 Tourism is important to the economy of Christchurch, with the Borough attracting 192,000 staying visitors and 792,137 day visitors per year, collectively generating around £180 million for the local economy.

- 5.94 The rich historic and cultural heritage of Christchurch is an important factor in defining the character of the town for both residents and visitors with, for example, the 11th century Priory Church attracting almost 70,000 visitors per annum. Other heritage attractions include The Castle and Constable's House (Scheduled Monuments), Highcliffe Castle and the Red House Museum and Gardens.
- 5.95 Christchurch's natural capital, in the form of its coastal setting of harbour and beaches, riverside walks and wildlife areas, also serves to attract visitors for a range of outdoor activities including water sports, rambling, wildlife viewing etc.
- 5.96 There are over 900 overnight bed spaces in the Borough, consisting of 8 hotels and 75 guest houses, inns and bed and breakfast establishments. There are 11 caravan and camping parks providing 48 self catering units, over 1,000 tent or towing caravan pitches and over 400 static caravan pitches (The Dorset New Forest Tourism Project 2005).
- 5.97 Tourism is even more significant for East Dorset. Moors Valley Country Park is the second most popular attraction in Dorset, with Avon Heath Country Park being third (English Tourism Council). Other significant attractions in the District include Kingston Lacey House, Badbury Rings and Wimborne Minster. The area has a major resource in the form of caravan sites offering accommodation in static vans and chalets, or on touring pitches.

Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant SA Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>Tourism is a major part of the local economy, particularly for Christchurch, Wimborne and the rural areas.</p> <p>41) How can tourism be used to help the economy without harming the environmental assets of the area?</p>		<p>5 Provide access to meet people's needs.</p> <p>9 Help communities to support social cohesion.</p> <p>10 Protect and enhance historic buildings and archaeological sites.</p> <p>11 Maintain and enhance local distinctiveness.</p> <p>12 Facilitate a sustainable and growing economy.</p>

Transport

Baseline

- 5.98 The A338 runs northwards through the Borough of Christchurch to link with the A31 which, in turn provides access to the M3 and M25 for London and the South East. The A34 and M40 provide good access to and from the Midlands and the A35 links Christchurch to Southampton and Bournemouth, Poole and the South West region.
- 5.99 The railway station is located approximately 500 metres north west of the town centre and served by South West Trains which connects to major stations across the west of the county and provides fast and reliable services to Southampton and London. The station has around 50 parking spaces and is served by 3 taxi companies.
- 5.100 Bournemouth Airport lies within the north west of the Borough, about 10 minutes drive from the town centre. It was until recently, one of the fastest growing regional airports in the country with passenger numbers exceeding one million in 2006. (Manchester Airport Group) It should be noted that the number of flights and passenger numbers has reduced in recent years. In 2005, it handled 11,600 tons of freight and mail. Total aircraft movements were 83,000 in 2005 (Airport Masterplan 2007. Scheduled and charter flights are available primarily to European destinations and operators included; Palmar, Ryanair, Easyjet, Flybe and Thomsonfly although the number of operators has reduced since 2007.
- 5.101 Car ownership is relatively high at 1.21 cars per household compared with national averages, but below county and regional averages. Over the last 20 years traffic in the Borough has grown by 40% and congestion is a problem with some roads having reached capacity. The A35 Christchurch by-pass (west) takes around 47,000 vehicles per day. (Christchurch in Profile 2005)
- 5.102 Christchurch is served by two bus companies, Wilts and Dorset and Yellow Buses which provide direct journeys to a number of destinations within and outside the Borough. A 'Dial-a-Bus' service operates for residents in the east of the Borough which collects eligible people from their homes taking them to the town centre for a few hours. It operates on one day of the week and can accept wheel-chair bound residents.
- 5.103 East Dorset is poorly served by public transport. There are no railways and bus services are sporadic, with many suburban and rural areas having no service at all. The District consequently has the highest level of car ownership in the Country.
- 5.104 The A31 Trunk Road runs east-west across the District, linking West Dorset and parts of Devon to London, the South East and the Midlands. This is a major route that suffers from a high incidence of accidents and significant amounts of

congestion. The links from the A31(T) to the Port and employment centres of Poole are very important, but poor, leading to conflict with residential amenity and congestion.

Plans, Policies and Programmes

Key Issue	Source	Relevant SA Objectives (See Stage A4)
<p>Car dependency in the area is amongst the highest in the UK, particularly in the rural areas of East Dorset. There are serious congestion problems in key locations, such as Christchurch Town Centre, the Spur Road and A31. Systems need to be put in place to manage the potential for increased road traffic. Latest information indicates that there are significant flows of commuting in and out of the area.</p> <p>42) How can congestion, journey times and the reliance on the private car be contained and possibly reduced?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Census 2001 • Local Plans • Local Transport Plans • National Plans, Policies and Programmes • National Planning Policy Framework • Census 2001 (Travel to Work Patterns) 	<p>5 Provide access to meet people's needs.</p>
<p>Bournemouth Airport is predicted to expand in terms of the numbers of flights. Additionally, land adjacent to the Airport is identified as a strategic employment site, to meet the needs of the wider conurbation. Access to the site is currently congested and almost wholly reliant upon private transport. The delivery of these schemes therefore has widespread transport implications.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christchurch Local Plan • The Future of Air Transport – White Paper 	<p>5 Provide access to meet people's needs.</p> <p>12 Facilitate a sustainable and growing economy.</p>

Key Issue	Source	Relevant SA Objectives (See Stage A4)
43) How can sustainable access to the Airport and the adjacent employment site be improved?		

Stage A4: Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

- 6.1 The Sustainability Appraisal Framework is a means of describing, analysing and comparing sustainability effects. It consists of objectives and a series of indicators by which progress against these objectives can be measured. The Sustainability objectives are distinct from the objectives within the Local Development Framework although some may overlap.
- 6.2 The purpose of the Sustainability Appraisal Framework is to see how the Local Development Framework objectives and the various policy options that emerge will perform in sustainability terms.
- 6.3 The objectives are based on a combination of national and local objectives. Their relationship to Strategic Environmental Appraisal is set out below. There is no suggestion that these are in any priority order.
- 6.4 In future the Sustainability Appraisal objectives and indicators may be revised as baseline data is collected and sustainability issues are identified, and can be used in monitoring the implementation of the Local Development Framework including the Core Strategy Development Plan Document.

Table 3 Sustainability Appraisal Objectives

1	Protect, enhance and expand habitats and protected species (taking account of climate change), avoiding damage to designated wildlife and geological sites and protected species on which they depend.
2	Make sustainable use of resources.
3	Minimise pollution (including air, water, soil, noise, vibration and light).
4	Minimise factors contributing to climate change.
5	Provide access to meet people's needs.
6	Provide a safe and secure environment (including coastal protection, major hazards e.g. blast zones, crime / fear of crime and flooding).
7	Create conditions to improve health, promoting healthy lifestyles, especially routine daily exercise and reducing health inequalities.
8	Help make suitable housing available and affordable for everybody.
9	Help communities to support social cohesion through a reduction in the fear of crime and the provision of basic services and facilities, learning, training, skills, knowledge and culture.
10	Protect and enhance historic buildings, archaeological sites and other culturally important features.
11	Maintain and enhance local distinctiveness and create places, spaces and buildings that work well, wear well and look well.
12	Facilitate a sustainable and growing economy for the District that creates economic and employment opportunity, as well as providing for vital and viable town centres.

Table 4

SA Topic	SEA Directive Topic	Relevant National Objectives	Christchurch and East Dorset SA Objective	Criteria	Indicators	Source
ENVIRONMENTAL	<p>1 Bio-diversity, Fauna and Flora</p> <p>Other relevant SEA Topics 2, 3, 5, 6, 8</p>	National Planning Policy Framework	<p>1 Protect, enhance and expand habitats and protected species (taking account of climate change), avoiding damage to designated wildlife and geological sites and protected species which depend on them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal protect and enhance designated sites? • Will the policy or proposal limit pressures on designated sites arising from recreational and other uses? • Will the policy or proposal allow biodiversity to adapt to the effects of climate change? • Will the policy or proposal avoid harm to rare and vulnerable species? • Will the policy or proposal maintain biodiversity levels? 	<p>No. and total area of SSSI, SAC, SPA and Ramsar.</p> <p>% of SSSI SAC, SPA and Ramsar in favourable condition</p> <p>% of SSSI SAC, SPA and Ramsar in unfavourable recovering</p> <p>% of SSSI, SAC, SPA and Ramsar in unfavourable no change</p> <p>% of SSSI, SAC, SPA and Ramsar unfavourable declining</p> <p>% of SSSI SAC, SPA and Ramsar in unfavourable condition by development related reasons</p> <p>Number, total area and conditions of RIGGs</p> <p>% and spatial</p>	<p>DERC NE GIS Map</p>

SA Topic	SEA Directive Topic	Relevant National Objectives	Christchurch and East Dorset SA Objective	Criteria	Indicators	Source
					<p>distribution of urban/residential land more than 500m from accessible natural greenspace that is over 2ha in size and is not heathland SSSI</p> <p>% of 1km squares containing SSSIs where air quality exceeds the critical level for acidification or eutrophication of the natural vegetation</p> <p>Number, total area and condition of SNCI; LNR and Conservation Verge.</p> <p>Total area of Ancient Woodland.</p>	
	<p>2 Soil</p> <p>Other relevant SEA Topics</p> <p>1, 3, 6</p> <p>3 Air</p> <p>Other relevant SEA Topics</p> <p>5, 6</p>	National Planning Policy Framework	2 Make sustainable use of resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal ensure that development takes place on brownfield sites • Will the policy or proposal use land efficiently • Will the policy or proposal protect and enhance the best and 	<p>% of development on brownfield sites.</p> <p>Density of new major developments.</p> <p>Area of grade I and II agricultural land lost to development.</p> <p>Areas covered by mineral extraction (ha)</p>	<p>Dorset Data Book</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report</p>

SA Topic	SEA Directive Topic	Relevant National Objectives	Christchurch and East Dorset SA Objective	Criteria	Indicators	Source
	4 Water Other relevant SEA Topics 5, 6			most versatile agricultural land <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal limit the loss of soil to development • Will the policy or proposal maintain and enhance the quality of soil? • Will the policy or proposal allow for the reuse of old material in new construction? • Will the policy or proposal reduce water consumption? 		
			3 Minimise pollution (including air, water, soil, noise, vibration and light).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal result in a site being de-contaminated? • Will the policy or proposal reduce the risk of land being contaminated? • Will the policy or proposal limit waste generation? • Will the policy or proposal encourage recycling of waste 	% of Contaminated land Total waste tonnage arising % of waste recycled % of waste to landfill Level of CO2 emissions NOx levels % of river length meeting river quality (biological and	EDDC & CBC Environment Health DCC Data book

SA Topic	SEA Directive Topic	Relevant National Objectives	Christchurch and East Dorset SA Objective	Criteria	Indicators	Source
				<p>materials?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal limit the risk of air, noise or light pollution? • Will the policy or proposal reduce the need to travel or transport goods by car, lorry or air. • Will the policy or proposal limit the risk of water pollution? • Will the policy or proposal maintain the quality of water? • Will the policy or proposal reduce water resources? • Will the policy or proposal increase rain water/grey water use? • Will the policy or proposal encourage water saving schemes? • Will the policy or proposal reduce water resources? 	<p>chemical)</p> <p>River biodiversity</p> <p>Number of applications granted with sustainable drainage system</p> <p>Amount of water abstracted m3 per LA area per year</p> <p>Quality and quantity of groundwater.</p> <p>No. of applications granted with water consumption saving schemes</p>	

SA Topic	SEA Directive Topic	Relevant National Objectives	Christchurch and East Dorset SA Objective	Criteria	Indicators	Source
	<p>5 Climatic Factors</p> <p>Other relevant SEA Topics 1, 3, 4</p>	National Planning Policy Framework	<p>4 Minimise factors contributing to climate change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal result in the generation of renewable energy? • Does the policy or proposal result in the generation of non-renewable energy? • Will the policy or proposal encourage energy efficient building construction and layout? • Will the policy or proposal reduce the need to travel by car, lorry or air? • Will the policy or proposal encourage the use of alternative modes of transport to cars, lorries and aircraft? 	<p>CO2 emission level</p> <p>% of energy used from renewable energy sources</p> <p>% of new build and retro-fit homes meeting EcoHomes very good and excellent standards</p> <p>% of commercial buildings meeting BREEAM very good standards</p> <p>% of development to occur within limits of Catchment Flood Management Plan /Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.</p>	<p>DCC Research & Info</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report</p>
SOCIAL	<p>6 Population and human health</p> <p>Other relevant SEA Topics</p>	National Planning Policy Framework	<p>5 Provide access to meet people's needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal promote mixed used development • Will the policy or proposal provide a pattern of 	<p>% of households within walking distance of hourly daytime bus service, or better.</p> <p>No. of applications with mixed</p>	<p>Annual Monitoring Report</p> <p>DCC Data Book</p>

SA Topic	SEA Directive Topic	Relevant National Objectives	Christchurch and East Dorset SA Objective	Criteria	Indicators	Source
	1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9			<p>development that allows people to easily access facilities, such as post offices, shops, community facilities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal avoid development that generates further road or air traffic? • Will the policy encourage more efficient use of car travel (e.g. car sharing etc.)? • Will the policy or proposal provide a development pattern that reduces the need to travel by car, lorry, or air? • Will the policy or proposal ensure that transport infrastructure serves local needs? • Will the policy or proposal improve provision of public transport? • Will the policy or proposal improve 	<p>development scheme granted</p> <p>Proportion of travel by mode</p> <p>Access to outdoor recreational facilities</p> <p>Access to indoor recreational facilities</p> <p>Access to the countryside and coast</p> <p>No. of and location of outdoor recreational facilities within walkable distance (500m covering over 2ha in size)</p> <p>Access to library services</p> <p>Access to health care</p> <p>Access to employment</p> <p>Access to basic retail facilities.</p> <p>Access to public transport.</p> <p>Access to leisure facilities.</p>	

SA Topic	SEA Directive Topic	Relevant National Objectives	Christchurch and East Dorset SA Objective	Criteria	Indicators	Source
				provision for cyclists and pedestrians? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal encourage more walking and cycling? • Will the policy or proposal improve access to meet educational needs? • Will the policy or proposal improve access to employment? • Will the policy or proposal improve access for library facilities? • Will the policy or proposal improve access to outdoor and indoor recreation facilities for all? • Will the policy or proposal improve recreational access to the countryside and coast within environmental constraints? • Will the policy or 		

SA Topic	SEA Directive Topic	Relevant National Objectives	Christchurch and East Dorset SA Objective	Criteria	Indicators	Source
				proposal improve access to health care? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal improve access to leisure facilities? • Will the policy or proposal improve access to retail needs? 		
		National Planning Policy Framework	6 Provide a safe and secure environment (including coastal protection, major hazards e.g. blast zones, crime / fear of crime and flooding).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal limit new development within areas of risk of flooding? • Will the policy or proposal reduce the risks of flooding? • Will the policy or proposal ensure that the environment does not encourage crime? • Will the policy or proposal increase risks from major hazards? 	Areas/no. of properties at risk of flooding No of applications refused because of the risk of flooding Level of crime	Flood risk maps Annual Monitoring Report DCC Data book

SA Topic	SEA Directive Topic	Relevant National Objectives	Christchurch and East Dorset SA Objective	Criteria	Indicators	Source
		National Planning Policy Framework	7 Create conditions to improve health, promoting healthy lifestyles, especially routine daily exercise and reducing health inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal improve access to health care? • Will the policy or proposal improve access to leisure facilities? • Will the policy or proposal encourage walking and cycling? • Will the policy or proposal reduce noise, air, water and ground pollution? • Will the policy or proposal improve the quality and range of health services available? • Will the policy or proposal improve the environmental quality of deprived areas? 	Life expectancy at birth Percentage of people describing their health as good Access to a GP or primary care profession Access to local green space Access to the countryside Proportion of journeys on foot or by cycle Access and participation in sport and cultural activities	DCC Data book PPG 17 Open Space Survey

SA Topic	SEA Directive Topic	Relevant National Objectives	Christchurch and East Dorset SA Objective	Criteria	Indicators	Source
		National Planning Policy Framework	8 Help make suitable housing available and affordable for everybody.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal meet identified housing needs? • Will the policy or proposal provide for special accommodation needs? (elderly / disabled / agricultural and forestry / gypsies / travelling show people / key workers). • Will the policy or proposal ensure adequate standards of residential accommodation? 	No. of housing completions. Number of affordable houses developed. Number of special needs housing provided. % of houses in decent condition Average housing price Average income Ratio of bottom quartile incomes to bottom quartile family housing prices Ratio of annual housing requirement Market entry housing purchase and rental price	EDCC & CBC monitoring Housing Needs Survey ONS

SA Topic	SEA Directive Topic	Relevant National Objectives	Christchurch and East Dorset SA Objective	Criteria	Indicators	Source
		National Planning Policy Framework	9 Help communities to support social cohesion through a reduction in the fear of crime and the provision of basic services and facilities, learning, training, skills, knowledge and culture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal provide for adequate educational needs? • Will the policy or proposal provide for adequate library facilities? • Will the policy or proposal increase provision of employment training? • Will the policy or proposal lead to an increase in the fear of crime? • Will the policy or proposal encourage local cultural traditions? • Will the policy or proposal provide new cultural facilities? • Will the policy or proposal improve the quality and provision of sporting facilities and open space? • Will the policy or proposal ensure 	<p>% of residents defined within a distance of 500m (15 min. walk) from basic services</p> <p>Access to GPs, Schools and Hospitals by public transport</p> <p>% of working age graduates with NVQ Level 4 and above</p> <p>% of 17 to 19 years old enrolling at universities</p> <p>No of people suffering from fear of crime</p> <p>No of cultural facilities</p> <p>No of people using cultural facilities</p> <p>No of outdoor and indoor sporting facilities</p> <p>No of good quality outdoor and indoor sporting facilities</p> <p>No. of non sporting</p>	<p>PPG17 Open Space Survey</p> <p>DCC Accessibility Data</p> <p>DCC Adult Services</p> <p>DCC Data book</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report</p> <p>PPG17 Open Space Survey</p> <p>District & Borough Art Officers</p>

SA Topic	SEA Directive Topic	Relevant National Objectives	Christchurch and East Dorset SA Objective	Criteria	Indicators	Source
				<p>adequate provision of, and maintenance of outdoor and indoor recreation facilities for all?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the policy or proposal improve the quality and quantity of public amenity space? 	recreational facilities	
	<p>7 Cultural Heritage Other relevant SEA Topics 6, 8</p>	National Planning Policy Framework	<p>10 Protect and enhance historic buildings, archaeological sites and other culturally important features</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the policy or proposal protect, maintain and enhance listed buildings and their settings, conservation areas, archaeological sites and historic landscapes? 	<p>No. of listed buildings at risk</p> <p>No. of listed buildings at risk</p> <p>No. of conservation area and archaeological sites</p> <p>No. of archaeological sites at risk</p> <p>No. of applications refused in conservation areas, because of their adverse effects</p>	<p>(GIS)</p> <p>English Heritage</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report</p>
	<p>8 Landscape Other relevant SEA Topics 1</p>	National Planning Policy Framework	<p>11 Maintain and enhance local distinctiveness and create places, spaces and buildings that work well, wear</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the policy or proposal enhance and contribute to local building traditions? Will the policy or proposal lead to the merging of 	<p>No. of applications refused because of adverse effects to local setting</p> <p>Number of Special Character Areas</p>	Annual Monitoring Report

SA Topic	SEA Directive Topic	Relevant National Objectives	Christchurch and East Dorset SA Objective	Criteria	Indicators	Source
			<p>well and look well.</p>	<p>settlements?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal enable farmers and other land workers to live in the countryside? • Will the policy or proposal protect the countryside from sub-urbanisation? • Will the policy or proposal ensure high design standards? • Will the policy or proposal contribute to an areas recognised design quality? • Will the policy or proposal enhance an area's recognised poor design? • Will the policy or proposal protect the AONB and Areas of Great Landscape Value? • Will the policy or proposal enhance the quality of poor landscape? 	<p>No. of applications refused because of poor design</p> <p>No of applications refused because of lack of provision of amenities</p> <p>No. of applications refused because of their adverse effects on their setting</p> <p>The extent of AONB areas</p> <p>The extent of Areas of Great Landscape Value</p> <p>No. of applications refused because of adverse effects on the designated landscape areas</p> <p>No. of applications refused because of impact on trees, woodland and hedgerows</p>	

SA Topic	SEA Directive Topic	Relevant National Objectives	Christchurch and East Dorset SA Objective	Criteria	Indicators	Source
ECONOMIC	<p>9 Material Assets</p> <p>Other relevant SEA Topics</p> <p>6</p>	National Planning Policy Framework	<p>12 Facilitate a sustainable and growing economy for the District that creates economic and employment opportunity, as well as providing for vital and viable town centres.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the policy or proposal provide for local convenience and comparison shopping? • Will the policy or proposal provide a wide range of diverse shopping facilities • Will the policy or proposal ensure a sufficient supply of land to meet local employment needs? • Will the policy or proposal encourage provision of diverse employment opportunities? • Will the policy or proposal enhance skill levels and provide high paid jobs? 	<p>Retail floor area/frontages by sector</p> <p>Shop unit vacancy rate</p> <p>Amount of floor space completed retail, office and leisure development in town centres</p> <p>Unemployment Workforce</p> <p>Employment by sector</p> <p>Employment land available by type</p> <p>Lost employment land</p> <p>Average earnings</p> <p>New employment permissions</p> <p>Level of productivity (GVA)</p>	<p>Chamber of Trade/ Retail organisation data</p> <p>Retail Health Check survey</p> <p>Annual monitoring Report</p> <p>DCC Data Book</p> <p>Employment Land Survey</p>

Stage A5: Consulting on the Scope of the SA

- 7.1 Consultation helps to ensure the Sustainability Appraisal will be comprehensive and robust enough to support the Local Development Framework during the later stages of full public consultation and examination.
- 7.2 In order to meet the statutory requirements of Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Appraisal, consultation has been carried out with the Strategic Environmental Appraisal Statutory Consultation bodies as set out below together with other appropriate social and economic consultees.
- 7.3 **Statutory Consultees (as required by Strategic Environmental Appraisal Directive):**
1. Countryside Agency (Now part of Natural England)
 2. English Heritage
 3. Natural England
 4. Environment Agency

Additional Organisations:

External:

5. East Dorset Community Partnership
6. Christchurch Community Partnership
7. Government Office for the South West (GOSW)
8. Highways Agency
9. Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM)
10. Planning Inspectorate (PINS)
11. Housing Corporation
12. South East England Regional Development Agency
13. South East Regional Assembly
14. South West Regional Assembly

15. South West of England Regional Development Agency
16. British Geological Survey regional office
17. British Waterways regional office
18. Forestry Commission
19. North Wessex Downs AONB Group
20. RSPB regional office
21. Sport England
22. Network Rail
23. The British Wind Energy Association
24. Wessex Water
25. Dorset Wildlife Trust
26. Manchester Airports
27. SE Dorset PCT
28. Dorset Police (Eastern Division)
29. BDPEP
30. Dorset County Council Economic Development
31. Dorset Strategic Partnership and Task Groups:
 - Affordable Housing
 - Accessibility
 - Children and Young People
 - Older People
 - Active Communities
 - Culture
 - Life Long Learning
 - Active Dorset
 - Safer and Stronger Communities
 - Drug Action Team
 - Health Gain Group

- Economy
- Environment

32. Learning and Skill Council
33. Dorset County Council Social Services
34. Dorset County Council Education Services
35. Friends of Earth (regional office)
36. Campaign to Protect Rural England (East Dorset and Christchurch group)
37. Dorset Biodiversity Partnership
38. Cranborne and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Nature Beauty
39. Dorset County Council Sustainability Officer
40. Dorset County Council Environment Officer
41. Bournemouth and West Hampshire Water Company
42. Scottish and Southern Energy
43. Dorset County Council Transport Planning
44. Dorset County Council Mineral and Waste Planning
45. Dorset County Council Strategic Planning
46. Arts Council for the South West
47. Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment
48. South West Museums, Libraries and Archives Council
49. Public Art South West

Local Authorities

50. Dorset County Council
51. Hampshire County Council
52. Wiltshire County Council
53. New Forest National Park Authority
54. Bournemouth Borough Council
55. New Forest District Council

56. North Dorset District Council
57. Poole Borough Council
58. Purbeck District Council
59. Salisbury District Council

All Parish Councils and Neighbouring Parish Council

60. to 100

Internal Council Services:

East Dorset District Council:

- 101 Community Services Division
- 102 Public Health Services Division
- 103 Technical Services Division
- 104 Legal Services Division
- 105 Planning and Building Control Division

Christchurch Borough Council

- 106 Community Services Division includes:
 - ❖ Housing and Environmental Health,
 - ❖ Operations
 - ❖ Building and Development Services
 - ❖ Community and Planning Policy
 - ❖ Leisure, Parks and Countryside
 - ❖ Highways Design
- 107 Legal Services
- 108 Tourism and Economic Development

Appendix 1:

Relationship with Other Plans and Programmes (Stage A1)

This section will list those published plans and programmes that have an impact to a lesser or greater degree on the objectives of the Local Development Framework. The main issues are set out in an accompanying document, which was updated in November 2012, identifying the broad impact.

The work is still ongoing. Additional documents are being reviewed and if appropriate will be added in due course.

Plans and Programmes of Potential Relevance to the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Development Frameworks and the Application of Sustainability Appraisal	
International/European Plans and Programmes	
I/E1	The World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg (2002)
I/E2	Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992).
I/E3	The (Ramsar) Convention on Wetlands of international Importance (1971).
I/E4	The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (1979) (known as the Bonn Convention)
I/E5	The Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979) (known as the Bern Convention, ratified by the UK in 1983)
I/E6	Europe 2020 Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth
I/E7	EC Sustainable Development Strategy Revision (2009)
I/E8	EC Spatial Perspective (1999)
I/E9	The EC Council Directive on Conservation of Wild Birds (1979) (known as the EC Birds Directive)
I/E10	The EC Council Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna & Flora (1992) (Directive 92/43/EC) (known as the EC Habitats Directive)

Plans and Programmes of Potential Relevance to the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Development Frameworks and the Application of Sustainability Appraisal	
I/E11	The EC Bathing Water Directive (76/160/EEC amended 1999 and 2008)
I/E12	Directive on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe (Directive 2008/50/EC)
I/E13	Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive 1991.
I/E14	The EC Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC).
I/E15	The EC Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC).
I/E16	The EC Directive to Promote Electricity from Renewable Energy (2009/28/EC).
I/E17	The EC Waste to Landfill Directive (99/31/EC).
I/E18	Aarhus Convention (C 1998)
National Plans and Programmes	
N1	Securing the Future – Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy 2005
N2	National Planning Policy Framework
N2/1	National Planning Policy Framework Building a strong competitive economy
N2/2	National Planning Policy Framework Ensuring the vitality of town centres
N2/3	National Planning Policy Framework Supporting a prosperous rural economy
N2/4	National Planning Policy Framework Promoting sustainable transport

Plans and Programmes of Potential Relevance to the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Development Frameworks and the Application of Sustainability Appraisal	
N2/5	National Planning Policy Framework Supporting high quality communications infrastructure
N2/6	National Planning Policy Framework Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes
N2/7	National Planning Policy Framework Requiring good design
N2/8	National Planning Policy Framework Promoting healthy communities
N2/9	National Planning Policy Framework Protecting Green Belt land
N2/10	National Planning Policy Framework Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change
N2/11	National Planning Policy Framework Conserving and enhancing the natural environment
N2/12	National Planning Policy Framework Conserving and enhancing the historic environment
N2/13	National Planning Policy Framework Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals
N3	Localism Act
N4	Building a Greener Future: Policy Statement (2007)
N5	Natural Environment White Paper The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature 2011
N6	UK National Ecosystem Assessment (2011)
N7	Biodiversity 202 DRFRA 2011
N8	The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulation 2010 (Amended 2011 and 2012)

Plans and Programmes of Potential Relevance to the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Development Frameworks and the Application of Sustainability Appraisal	
N9	The Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution (RCEP) Report on Artificial Light in the Environment 2010
N10	The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)
N11	Hedgerow Regulations (1997)
N12	Rural Strategy (2004)
N13	The Future of Transport, A Study of the Civil Aviation Authority (2005)te Paper (2003) and the Progress Report 2006
N14	UK Regional Air Services: A Study of the Civil Aviation Authority
N15	Developing a Sustainable Framework for UK Aviation: Scoping Document- Consultation (March 2011)
N16	DfT (2011) Local Transport White Paper-Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon: Making Sustainable Local Transport Happen
N17	Manual for Streets 1 and 2. Department for Transport and Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation (2007)
N18	DETR (200) The Air quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Working Together for Clean Air. 2000
N19	DEFRA (2011) Food 2030
N20	DEFRA (July 2004) making space for water: Developing a new Government strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management in England. A Consultation Exercise. Flood and Water Management Act 2010 DEFRA and Environment Agency (July 2011) National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England
N21	Environment Agency: Groundwater Protection (GP3)

Plans and Programmes of Potential Relevance to the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Development Frameworks and the Application of Sustainability Appraisal	
N22	National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure
N23	DEFRA (2004) The First Soil Action Plan for England 2004-2006
N24	BREs Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM)
N25	CROW Act (Countryside and Rights of Way Act) 2000
N26	ODPM Circular 06/2005 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation
N27	Town and Country Planning (Green Belt) Direction (2005)
Regional Plans and Programmes (South West)	
R1	SWRA (2004, draft) Just Connect- an Integrated Regional Strategy for the South West 2004-2026
R2	Draft SW Regional Spatial Strategy (June 2006)
R3	Strategic Sustainability Assessment of the South West Regional Spatial Strategy
R4	Draft Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West Panel Report (2008)
R5	Regional Spatial Strategy Proposed Changes (2008)
R6	Government Office for the South West (2001) Regional Planning Guidance for the South West RPG10
R7	South West Regional Assembly (2001) A Sustainable Future for the South West The Regional Sustainable Development Framework for the South West of England
R8	A Sustainable Future for the South West- Moving in the Right Direction (Progress report 2002)

Plans and Programmes of Potential Relevance to the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Development Frameworks and the Application of Sustainability Appraisal	
R9	South West Regional Assembly (Draft March 2004) Developing the Regional Transport Strategy in the South west consultation draft
R10	Government Office for the South West (2002) South West Area Multi Modal Study SWARMMS Final Report
R11	South Regional Development Agency, South West Regional Assembly, Government Office South west and Department for Transport. Development of an Air Transport Strategy for the far South West
R12	South West Regional Assembly in association with the South West Regional Environmental Network (2004) Our Environment: Our Future- The Regional Assembly for the South West Environment 2004-2014
R13	South west Biodiversity Plan (Biodiversity: a Natural Advantage for the South West) (2004)
R14	South West Regional Forestry Framework 2005
R15	Government Office for the South west and the South West Regional Assembly (2005). Revision 2020: South West Renewable Electricity, Heat and On Site Generation Targets for 2020
R16	South West Regional Assembly (March 2004) From Rubbish to Resource- The Regional Waste Strategy for the South West Consultation Document
R17	Environment Agency (2009). Water Resources Strategy Action Plan for South West Region
R18	ODPM (2003) Sustainable Communities in the South West Building for the Future
R19	The Way Ahead: Delivering Sustainable Communities in the South West
R20	Culture and the Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West (2005)
R21	Culture South West (2003). In search of Chunky Dunsters- a Cultural Strategy for the South West

Plans and Programmes of Potential Relevance to the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Development Frameworks and the Application of Sustainability Appraisal	
R22	Joining Up: Culture South West Report
R23	English Heritage (2004) A Strategy for the Historic Environment in the South West
R24	Heritage Counts: The State of the South West's Historical Environment (2010)
R25	South West Regional Housing Strategy 2005-2016 (2005)
R26	Better Planning of Rural Areas in the South West (2004)
R27	South West Sustainable Farming and Food Steering Group (2004). The Delivery Plan for a Sustainable Farming and Food Industry in the South West
R28	Regional Economic Strategy: 2006-2015 (2006)
R29	The Knowledge-Driven Economy, RES and Regional Spatial Strategy in South West England
R30	South West Regional Employment Forum (2002). South West Framework for Regional Employment and Skills Action (FRESA)
R31	Local Sustainability Group for the South West. (2000). Promoting Sustainable Tourism in the South west. A discussion paper by the local sustainability group for the South West
R32	Towards 2015- Shaping Tomorrow's Tourism (2005)
County Plans and Programmes	
D1	Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Structure Plan CSP28 (2001)
D2	Shaping our Future: The Community Strategy for Dorset (2007-2016)

Plans and Programmes of Potential Relevance to the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Development Frameworks and the Application of Sustainability Appraisal	
D3	South East Dorset Local Transport Plan 3 (2011)
D4	South East Dorset Multi Modal Study (2011)
D5	Bournemouth Airport Transport and Infrastructure Study (Peter Brett 2010) and following Transport Modelling Work by DCC and Buro Happold 2010-2011
D6	Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals Core Strategy Pre-Submission Draft July 2012
D7	Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Waste Local Plan (2005)
D8	Dorset Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (2008)
D9	Local Agenda 21 Strategy: towards a community plan, DCC (2000)
D10	Dorset Biodiversity Strategy, Dorset Biodiversity Partnership (2003) and Mid Term Review Summary (2010) Dorset Biodiversity Protocol
D11	The Dorset Local Geodiversity Action Plan (2005)
D12	Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Renewable Energy Strategy for 2020. (January 2013)
D13	Poole and Christchurch Bays Shoreline Management Plan 2 (2011)
D14	Hampshire Avon Catchment Abstraction Management Plan (Environment Agency)
D15	Hampshire Avon Catchment Flood Management Plan (Environment Agency)
D16	Dorset Stour Catchment Abstraction Management Plan (Environment Agency)

Plans and Programmes of Potential Relevance to the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Development Frameworks and the Application of Sustainability Appraisal	
D17	Dorset Stour Catchment Flood Management Plan (Environment Agency)
D18	Dorset Cultural Strategy 2009/12
D19	Heritage Strategy (undated)
D20	Dorset Sport Strategy (undated)
D21	Dorset Play Strategy (2012-2016)
D22	Dorset Police Authority Three Year Strategy 2009/2012, Annual Policing Plan 2010 and Draft strategy 2012/2015 and Plan 2012/2013
D23	Dorset Supporting People Strategy Refresh 2008
D24	A Strategy to Reduce Social and Health Inequalities in Dorset 2007 – 2012 Dorset PCT (Undated)
D25	The Dorset Children and Young Peoples Plan 2009-2012
D26	Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset Workplace Strategy (2012)
D27	Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site Management Plan 2009-2014
D28	South East Dorset Green Infrastructure Strategy-Investing in Green Places- Draft 2011
D29	Dorset Homelessness Review and Strategy 2008 to 2013
D30	Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2011 (JG Consulting)

Christchurch and East Dorset Partnership	
CED1	Corporate Plan 2012-2016
Christchurch	
CB1	Borough of Christchurch Local plan Policies (2001)
CB2	Christchurch Community Plan (2007)
CB3	Christchurch Town Centre Strategy (2003)
CB4	Christchurch Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal & Management Plan (2005)
CB5	Christchurch Borough-Wide Character Assessment (2003)
CB6	Use of Open Spaces Policy
CB7	Christchurch Active Living Strategy 2006-2011
CB8	Christchurch Parking and Access Strategy
CB9	Christchurch Arts Strategy
CB10	Comprehensive Equalities Policy
CB11	Licensing Policy
CB12	Youth Strategy
CB13	Christchurch Contaminated Land Strategy (February 2001)
CB14	Christchurch Air Quality Assessments

CB15	Christchurch Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 (2008) and Level 2 (2009)
East Dorset Context	
ED1	East Dorset District Local Plan (2002)
ED2	East Dorset Sustainable Community Strategy (2008)
ED3	East Dorset Housing Strategy 2004-2009
ED4	Air Quality Review and Assessment
ED5	Contaminated Land Strategy (2005)
ED6	Social Inclusion, Diversity and Equality Strategy (2006)
ED7	East Dorset Cultural Strategy
ED8	Cranborne Chase AONB Landscape Assessment 1997
ED9	East Dorset District Council Areas of Great Landscape Value, Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) 1997
ED10	19 Conservation Area Appraisals
ED11	Special Character Areas Supplementary Planning Guidance 2005
ED12	Countryside Design Summary SPG
ED13	Flood Risk, Groundwater and Sustainable Drainage SPG 2005
ED14	Affordable and Special Needs Housing and the Provision of Small Dwellings, Supplementary Planning Guidance, 2005
ED15	East Dorset Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1

ED16

West Parley Parish Plan 2010

Appendix 2 – Baseline Characterisation

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Indicator	Current Christchurch Information	Current East Dorset Information	Comparators and Targets	Issues and Constraints Identified	Stage A3 Issue	Data Sources
Environment	Number of New Buildings winning national design awards e.g. Civic Trust, RIBA, Green Apple, SCALA	unknown	unknown			5	Individual Authority Data
	Loss or damage to Listed Buildings or buildings within a Conservation Area	4 (Terrace of shops with flats above) in a Conservation Area	0			6	LPA Enforcement Cases and Prosecutions under Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
	Number of Conservation Areas with a character assessment as a percentage of all conservation areas	2 (of 12 conservation areas)	18 Conservation Areas all with Character Appraisals.			6	Designations made under Section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
	Grade 1 and 2* listed buildings at risk	None	3		Very few of the large number of listed buildings are at risk.	6	English Heritage Buildings at Risk Register 2005

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Indicator	Current Christchurch Information	Current East Dorset Information	Comparators and Targets	Issues and Constraints Identified	Stage A3 Issue	Data Sources
	% of new homes built on previously developed land	1994 -2010 82.9% on brownfield sites	1994 -2010 60.0% on brownfield sites. It should be noted that recent years have seen the percentage in the 90's.		The importance of protecting green fields from development is a key issue, acknowledged through the presence of the green belt designation.	4	The Dorset Data Book 2011 DCC
	New Development in flood risk zones per annum (number of permissions)	1 (2010/11)	0 (2010/11)		Both districts have main rivers passing through, or adjacent to urban areas.	7	LPA planning approvals granted
	% of SSSIs in favourable condition	26.83%	7.64%	Dorset 37.97%	Both Districts, in particular East Dorset have low figures. A key issue for the Local Plan is how to improve the condition of SSSIs	3	Dorset Environmental Records Centre (DERC) English Nature
	% of land managed for nature conservation as a proportion of total open space freely accessible to the public	unknown	unknown		The impact of human pressures on the SPA heathlands is critically important. Alternative open space is required to	3	LPA PPG17 survey

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Indicator	Current Christchurch Information	Current East Dorset Information	Comparators and Targets	Issues and Constraints Identified	Stage A3 Issue	Data Sources
					attract people away from the heaths.		
	Losses or increases in area of Heathland (Ha/year)	unknown	unknown		Much of the heathland in the area is internationally protected. It is an important issue as to how this habitat can be protected and expanded.	3	DERC
	Percentage of new build and retro-fit homes meeting EcoHomes "very good" standard	unknown	unknown		The eco improvement of new and existing housing is important to protect scarce resources and reduce greenhouse emissions.	1, 2, 9, 11	
	Recycling rate	54%	46%		The disposal of waste is becoming more difficult due to the reduction in landfill.	13	Christchurch in Profile and East Dorset in Profile 2010
	Permitted loss of Grade 1 or 2 Agricultural Land per year (hectares lost)	unknown	unknown		Impact on agricultural production	26	LPA planning approvals
	Number of reported noise	203	403		Fear of Crime	11	Environmental

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Indicator	Current Christchurch Information	Current East Dorset Information	Comparators and Targets	Issues and Constraints Identified	Stage A3 Issue	Data Sources
	nuisance incidents over last year						Health Business Unit
	Number of potentially contaminated sites remediated as a result of planning applications	Unknown for 2012/2013	Unknown for 2012/2013			10	Environmental Health Business Unit
	Compliance with bathing water standards	All local bathing waters passed the cleanliness guideline test. (DEFRA)	N/A			8	Christchurch in Profile 2010
	Rivers of good chemical and biological water quality	Over 86% of river water is rated as "good"	Over 97% of river water is rated as "good"			12	Christchurch in Profile and East Dorset in Profile 2010
	Life expectancy at birth	81.0 years men 85.0 years women (2007-2009)	81.4 years men 85.4 years women (2007-2009)	England 78.1 years men 82.2 years women (2007-2009)	Above average life expectancy in area.	18	The Dorset Data Book DCC 2010
	Proportion of the population aged 60 and over	37.5%	36.4%	England & Wales 22.5%%	Very high proportion aged 60+. This has health implications as well as limits employee supply.	18, 24	DCC
	Percentage of people describing their health as good	64%	69%	Dorset 68% South West 69% England & Wales 69%	Below average good health noted in Christchurch	18	The Dorset 2001 Census Data Book DCC

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Indicator	Current Christchurch Information	Current East Dorset Information	Comparators and Targets	Issues and Constraints Identified	Stage A3 Issue	Data Sources
	Percentage of people of working age with a limiting long-term illness	31%	33%	Dorset 37% South West 42% England & Wales 46%	Low relative level of limiting long term illness, but still significant.	18	The Dorset 2001 Census Data Book DCC
	Death rates from circulatory disease (Directly age-standardised rate)	40.6 (2007/09)	39.5 (2007/09)	England & Wales 71.1 (2007/09)	Low relative level.	18	The Dorset Data Book 2011 (DCC)
	Death rates from cancer (all types) (Directly age-standardised rate)	94.5 (2007/09)	89.9 (2007/09)	England & Wales 112.6 (2007/09)	Low relative level	18	The Dorset Data Book 2011 (DCC)
	Death rates from coronary Heart Disease (Directly age-standardised rate)	19.6 (2007/09)	20.2 (2007/09)	England & Wales 39.8 (2007/09)	Low relative level.	18	The Dorset Data Book 2011 (DCC)
	Death rates from Stroke (Standardised mortality rate)	9.1 (2007/09)	7.5 (2007/09)	England & Wales 13.0 (2007/09)	Low relative level	18	The Dorset Data Book 2011 (DCC)
	Number of Planning Permissions resulting in loss of formally identified public open space	unknown	0 (2010/11)			23	LPA Statutory Register
	Number of Planning Permissions resulting in the creation of formally identified public open space	unknown	0 (2010/11)			23	LPA Statutory Register
Social	Number of people declared as homeless between 1 st April and 31 st March each year	17 (2011/12)	10 (2011/10)		Need for additional affordable housing	17	Local Authority Data
	Number of families in temporary accommodation	47 Households (2011/12)	32 Households (2010/12)		Need for additional affordable housing	17	Local Authority Data

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Indicator	Current Christchurch Information	Current East Dorset Information	Comparators and Targets	Issues and Constraints Identified	Stage A3 Issue	Data Sources
	Average House Prices	£274,892 in 2010	£305,807 in 2010	Dorset £271,792 in 2010	Very high average house prices, causing problems of affordability.	17	Dorset Data Book 2011
	Difficulty of access to owner occupation (households who cannot afford)	91.93%	89.58%		Some of the highest ratios nationally underline the problem of affordability.	17	ONS
	% of empty homes 2006	2.3%	1.9%	Dorset 2.9% South West 2.8% England & Wales 3.2%	Very low proportion of empty homes reflects value of property and limits the scope to bring them back into occupation.	17	Census 2001 and Dorset Data Book 2007
	Number of affordable homes built in the last year (2009/10)	26	-3		Very few new affordable homes are being built	17	Dorset Data Book 2011
	% of housing stock rented from Registered Social Landlords	12.41% in 2001	8.05% in 2001	Dorset 12.1% South West 13.53% England & Wales 19.19%	East Dorset has a very low percentage of social rented stock.	17	Dorset 2001 Census Data Book
	% of housing stock rented from private landlords	5.83% in 2001	4.85% in 2001	Dorset 7.75% South West	Both Districts have a small	17	Dorset 2001 Census Data

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Indicator	Current Christchurch Information	Current East Dorset Information	Comparators and Targets	Issues and Constraints Identified	Stage A3 Issue	Data Sources
				9.6% England & Wales 8.72%	stock of private rented housing.		Book
	% of unfit homes 2005	3.3% (732 properties)	5.2% (1,996 properties)	South West 4.1% England 4.4%	East Dorset has an above average number of unfit dwellings, whereas the Christchurch stock is in better condition	17	ONS
	Percentage of people aged 16-74 with 2 or more A levels	7.09%	7.47%	7.43% Dorset 8.27 Eng and Wales	The workforce in both Districts has below the national average number of A Levels.	24	Dorset 2001 Census Data Book
	Percentage of people with 5 GCSEs at A* to C	22%	22.48%	21.97 Dorset 19.38 Eng and Wales	The workforce in both Districts has above the national average number of GCSEs.	24	Dorset 2001 Census Data Book
	Proportion of people 16 – 74 qualified to ONS Level 4/5	17% (April 2001)	19% (April 2001)	South West 19% England & Wales 20%	The workforce in both Districts has below the national average number of ONS Level 4/5.	22, 24	ONS Neighbourhood Statistics
	Proportion of adults 16 – 74 with no qualifications	28% (April 2001)	25% (April 2001)	South West 26% England &	The workforce in both Districts	22, 24	ONS Neighbourhood

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Indicator	Current Christchurch Information	Current East Dorset Information	Comparators and Targets		Issues and Constraints Identified	Stage A3 Issue	Data Sources
				Wales 29%		has below the national average number of adults with no qualifications.		d Statistics
	Total Crime per 1,000 population	58 (2008/09)	37 (2008/09)	England & Wales 104 (2008/09)		Crime levels are very low compared to national figures.	21	Dorset Police Annual Recorded Crime Figures
	Fear of Crime	96% surveyed felt very or fairly safe in their area	96% surveyed felt very or fairly safe in their area				21	Community Safety Survey 2004
	% of minority groups involved in the LDF process	unknown	unknown					Survey will be required
	Access to schools	unknown	unknown				19	
	Access to GP	unknown	unknown				18, 19	
	Access to Post Office	unknown	unknown				19	
	Access for disabled people	unknown	unknown				19	
	Access to Council buildings	unknown	unknown				19	
	Access to local green space	unknown	unknown				19, 23	
	Proportion of travel by mode as a percentage of those in employment:			Dor	Provis - ion of local facilities	A large proportion of workers travel to work by car, on their own. This	2, 30	Dorset Census Data Book 2001
	• Work from home	9.9	12.3	9.2				

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Indicator	Current Christchurch Information	Current East Dorset Information	Comparators and Targets		Issues and Constraints Identified	Stage A3 Issue	Data Sources
	• Tram/Train/ Bus	5.6	2.1	4.0		is particularly the case in East Dorset. Use of public transport is well below National averages, as is walking in East Dorset.		
	• Motorbike/ Scooter	1.4	1.4	1.5				
	• Drive	64.5	70.3	61.2				
	• Passenger in a car	5.2	5.3	5.7				
	• Cycle/walk	12.6	8.0	14.3				
	Other	0.9	0.6	0.9				
	Availability of car by household	80.7% of households have access to a car,	88.4% of households have access to a car	73.2% have access to a car in England & Wales,		Both Districts, in particular East Dorset, have very high numbers of households with cars. This is reflected in high car use.	2, 30	Census 2001
	Percentage of new employment permissions within 400m of a bus route	unknown	unknown				2, 30	LPA
	Length of designated cycle routes (including bridleways and byways)	32 km bridleway and byway Designated cycle ways unknown	267 km bridleway and byway Designated cycle ways unknown				2, 30	LPA

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Indicator	Current Christchurch Information	Current East Dorset Information	Comparators and Targets	Issues and Constraints Identified	Stage A3 Issue	Data Sources
Economy	Index of multiple deprivation 2007	Authority Average Score 220 <i>(1 is most deprived, 354 is least deprived)</i>	Authority Average Score 325 <i>(1 is most deprived, 354 is least deprived)</i>		Need to address disparity between neighbourhoods. Christchurch has two “Super Output Areas” (Somerford East and West) which are ranked amongst the 25% most deprived in the country	20	Office of National Statistics, Neighbourhood Profile
	Number of people in receipt of income support August 2006	990	1,180		This identifies a presence of people having to cope with low incomes.	2	ONS
	Percentage of households in fuel poverty	15.9%	15.8%			20	Public Health-Private Sector Housing Team
	Unemployment rate January 2007	1.3% average	0.8 % average	2.6% national average	These figures are some of the lowest in the Country. They reflect a buoyant economy, but signal potential problems with labour supply.	15, 24, 25, 26	The Dorset Data Book DCC 2007

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Indicator	Current Christchurch Information	Current East Dorset Information	Comparators and Targets	Issues and Constraints Identified	Stage A3 Issue	Data Sources
	Proportion of people of working age in employment Taken as persons aged 16-74 that are economically active	61.31%	64.78%	Dorset 64.87% South West 67.51% England and Wales 66.54%	The figures for the Districts, particularly Christchurch, are low.	15, 24	The Dorset 2001 Census The Dorset Data Book DCC 2007
	Average gross weekly earnings	Residence based: £468	Residence based: £481	Great Britain: £502	Earnings are below the national average.		The Dorset Data Book DCC 2011
	Total number of all firms	1980 firms in 2010	4,630 firms in 2010			25	Dorset Data Book 2010
	Proportion of businesses in knowledge based sector	21% (2005)	19% (2005)	Dorset Sub-Region 21% (2005)	Christchurch has an average representation of knowledge based businesses, whereas East Dorset is slightly below the County average.	25	The Dorset Data Book DCC 2007
	Proportion of businesses by sector: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture and fishing • Energy and water • Manufacturing • Construction • Distrib/hotels/ restaurants • Transport/ communications • Banking/ finance etc 	unknown	unknown		The need to provide a robust broad based economy that is productive and provides good jobs for the community.	25	Dorset Data Book

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Indicator	Current Christchurch Information	Current East Dorset Information	Comparators and Targets	Issues and Constraints Identified	Stage A3 Issue	Data Sources
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public admin/educ/health • Knowledge based • Tourism • Other 						
	Amount of land allocated as employment land in LDF	39 hectares	43 hectares		There is a substantial supply of allocated land. However, a large proportion of this is constrained by infrastructure costs.	25	LPA
	Loss of employment land (B1, B2, B8) approved over the last year (hectares)	0	0.25 hectares			25	CBC and EDDC Annual Monitoring Reports 2011

Appendix 3 - Glossary of Terms Used in the Local Plan and Associated Documents

A

Adoption

The final confirmation of a development plan or Local Development Document status by a local planning authority (LPA).

Affordable Housing (or sub-market housing)

Housing, whether for rent, shared ownership or outright purchase, provided at a cost considered affordable in relation to incomes that are average or below average, or in relation to the price of general market housing.

Ancient Woodlands

Woodlands where there is believed to have been continuous woodland cover since at least 1600AD. Ancient woodland is likely to be home to more threatened species than any other habitat in the UK.

Ancillary Use / Operations

A subsidiary or secondary use or operation closely associated with the main use of a building or piece of land.

Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)

A report produced by local planning authorities assessing progress with and the effectiveness of a Local Development Framework.

Archaeological Assessment / Evaluation

An assessment of the potential archaeological interest of a site or building. This can be either a desk-based assessment or a field assessment, involving ground survey and small-scale pits or trial trenching carried out by professionally qualified archaeologist(s) looking for historical remains.

B

Biodiversity

The whole variety of life encompassing all genetics, species and ecosystem variations, including plants and animals.

Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)

A strategy prepared for a local area aimed at conserving and enhancing biological diversity.

BREEAM

BREEAM (BRE Environmental Assessment Method) is the leading and most widely used environmental assessment method for buildings. It sets the standard for best practice in sustainable design and has become the measure used to describe a building's environmental performance.

Brief / Planning Brief

A document containing guidance and specification about the way a site or group of sites should be developed. The term can refer to site-specific development briefs, design briefs, development frameworks and master plans that seek to positively shape future development.

Brownfield Land and Sites

See 'Previously-Developed Land'.

Building for Life

A framework developed by Centre for Architecture and Built Environment (CABE) which is used as an indication of the design quality of new housing developments. The assessment comprises a set of 20 questions, which are used to evaluate the quality of new housing developments.

Built Environment

Refers to the man-made surroundings that provide the setting for human activity, ranging in scale from personal shelter to neighbourhoods to the large-scale civic surroundings.

C

Catchment (in retailing terms)

The geographical area from which a retail destination draws its trade. Sometimes measured in terms of 'Drive Time'.

Change of Use

A change in the way that land or buildings are used (see Use Classes Order). Planning permission is usually necessary in order to change from one 'use class' to another.

Character

A term relating to Conservation Areas or Listed Buildings, but also to the appearance of any rural or urban location in terms of its landscape or the layout of streets and open spaces, often giving places their own distinct identity.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

A levy allowing local authorities to raise funds from owners or developers of land undertaking new building projects in their area to help finance infrastructure projects needed to support the new development.

Circular

A government publication setting out policy guidance and procedural matters.

Climate Change

Changes to weather patterns caused by increased emissions of 'greenhouse' gases including CO₂. The changes are thought likely to bring wetter winters and hotter drier summers.

Code for Sustainable Homes

An environmental impact rating system for housing in England & Wales, setting new standards for energy efficiency (above those in current building regulations) and sustainability which are not mandatory under current building regulations but represent important developments towards limiting the environmental impact of housing.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

This is a local levy which local authorities can choose to apply to most new developments in their area in order to secure contributions towards funding for essential local or sub-regional infrastructure. It is aimed at providing top-up funding for the infrastructure necessary to mitigate the effects of housing and economic growth, for example roads, public transport, schools, health facilities, flood defences or sports facilities.

Community Services or Facilities

These include facilities such as local shops or post office, schools, medical or dental practice, village hall, play area or bus service.

Comparison Retail / Floorspace

Comparison goods (sometimes called 'Durables') are those other than convenience goods notably clothing, footwear, DIY and hardware, furniture, carpets, major appliances and electrical and gardening items.

Conditions (or 'planning conditions')

Requirements attached to a planning permission to limit, control or direct the manner in which a development is carried out.

Conservation Area

Areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.

Contaminated Land

Land that has been polluted or harmed in some way making it unfit for safe development and usage unless cleaned.

Convenience Retail

Convenience goods can be defined as food, drink, tobacco and other goods such as newspapers and magazines.

Core Strategy

Sets out the long-term spatial vision for the local planning authority area and the strategic policies and proposals to deliver that vision. It will contain a set of primary policies for delivering the core strategy. Broad locations for development may be set out in a key diagram.

D

Dorset Wildlife Trust

Aims to raise awareness of potential threats to wildlife in Dorset and encourage individuals and organisations to take responsibility for caring for their local environment.

Design guide

A document providing guidance on how development can be carried out in accordance with good design practice often produced by a local authority with a view to retaining local distinctiveness.

Designing Out Crime

The planning and design of street layouts, open space, and buildings so as to reduce the actual likelihood or fear of crime, for example by creating natural surveillance.

Development Plan Documents (DPDs)

Development Plan Documents are prepared by local planning authorities and outline the key development goals of the local development framework. Development Plan Documents include the core strategy, site-specific allocations of land and, where needed, area action plans. There will also be an adopted proposals map which illustrates the spatial extent of policies that must be prepared and maintained to accompany all DPDs. All DPDs must be subject to rigorous procedures of community involvement, consultation and independent examination, and be adopted after receipt of the inspector's binding report. Once adopted, development control decisions must be made in accordance with them unless material considerations indicate otherwise. DPDs form an essential part of the Local Development Framework.

District Centre

A group of shops, community uses and service outlets serving part of an urban area and providing a geographic focus for it, separate from the town centre, but with more variety than local centres.

E

Ecosystem Services

The benefits people obtain from ecosystems. These include provisioning services such as food and water; regulating services such as flood and disease control; cultural services such as spiritual, recreational, and cultural benefits; and supporting services such as nutrient cycling that maintain the conditions for life on Earth.

Edge-of-Centre

A location that is within easy walking distance (often considered 200-300 metres) of the primary shopping area.

Employment Land Availability (ELA)

The total amount of land reserved for industrial and business use awaiting development.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), and Environmental Statement (EA)

Applicants for certain types of development, usually more significant schemes, are required to submit an "environmental statement" accompanying a planning application. This evaluates the likely environmental impacts of the development, together with an assessment of how the severity of the impacts could be reduced.

Exceptions Test

The Exception Test is a series of three criteria as shown below, all of which must be satisfied for development in a flood risk area to be considered acceptable. For the Exception Test to be passed: a) It must be demonstrated that the development provides wider sustainability benefits to the community that outweigh flood risk, informed by a SFRA; b) The development should be on developable previously developed land or, if not, it must be demonstrated there is no such alternative land available; and c) A FRA must demonstrate that the development will be safe, without increasing flood risk elsewhere, and, where possible, reducing flood risk overall. All three parts of this test must be satisfied in order for the development to be considered appropriate in terms of flood risk. There must be robust evidence in support of every part of the test.

F

Flood Plain

Generally low-lying areas adjacent to a watercourse, tidal lengths of a river or the sea, where water flows in times of flood, or would flow but for the presence of flood defences.

Flood Risk Assessment

An assessment of the likelihood of flooding in a particular area so that development needs and mitigation measures can be carefully considered.

Flood Zones

National planning guidance sets out three levels of flood risk which can be mapped in zones. Zone 1 covers areas of little or no risk of flooding (less than 1 in 100). Zone 2 covers areas with low to medium risk (between 1 in 20 and 1 in 10). Zone 3 covers areas of high risk (greater than 1 in 10). The Environment Agency produces maps of these zones and updates them every 3 months.

Functional Floodplain

This zone comprises land where water has to flow or be stored in times of flood. Local planning authorities should identify in their SFRA areas of functional floodplain and its boundaries accordingly, in agreement with the Environment Agency. The identification of functional floodplain should take account of local circumstances and not be defined solely on rigid probability parameters. But land which would flood with an annual probability of 1 in 20 (5% or greater in any year, or is designed to flood in an extreme (0.1%) flood, should provide a starting point for consideration and discussions to identify the functional floodplain.

G

Green Belt (not to be confused with the term 'greenfield')

A designation for land around certain cities and large built-up areas, which aims to keep this land permanently open or largely undeveloped. The purposes of the green belt are to:

- check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas

- prevent neighbouring towns from merging

- safeguard the countryside from encroachment

- preserve the setting and special character of historic towns

- assist urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.

Green belts are defined in a local planning authority's development plan.

Green corridor / wildlife corridor

Green corridors can link housing areas to the national cycle network, town and city centres, places of employment and community facilities. They help to promote environmentally sustainable forms of transport such as walking and cycling within urban areas and can also act as valuable habitats and linkages for wildlife movement between wetlands and the countryside.

Green Infrastructure (GI)

This is a strategic network of multi-functional green space, both rural and urban, which supports natural and ecological processes, has the potential to provide sustainable transport routes and is integral to the health and quality of life in sustainable communities.

Greenways

Are generally car-free off-road routes for shared use by people of all abilities on foot, bike or horseback.

Green Wedges

Green wedges comprise the open areas around and between parts of settlements, which maintain the distinction between the countryside and built up areas, prevent the coalescence (merging) of adjacent places and can also provide recreational opportunities.

Greenfield Land or Site

Land (or a defined site) usually farmland, that has not previously been developed.

Greenhouse Gases

Naturally occurring examples include water vapour, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone. Some human activities increase these gases, including fossil fuel combustion within motor vehicles and some power stations.

H

Heritage Assessment

A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape positively identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions. Heritage assets are the valued components of the historic environment, and include designated heritage assets (Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens or Conservation Areas) and assets identified by the local planning authority during the process of decision making or through the plan making process. (e.g. local listings)

Historic Environment

All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and landscaped and planted or managed flora. Those elements of the historic environment that hold significance are called heritage assets.

Historic Environment Record

A resource that contains information on the historic environment within a defined geographic area.

Housing Land Availability (HLA)

The total amount of land reserved for residential use awaiting development.

Housing Market Area

Sub-regional housing market areas are geographical areas defined by household demand and preferences for housing. They reflect the key functional linkages between places where people live and work. Housing market areas may be comprised of smaller, more local sub-markets and neighbourhoods which can be aggregated together to identify sub-regional housing market areas.

Housing Trajectory

Means of showing of past and future housing performance by identifying the predicted provision of housing over a period of time.

I

Infill Development

The development of a relatively small gap between existing buildings.

Inset Map

A development plan map showing a particular area of interest on the wider proposals map at a larger, more readable scale.

K

Key Diagram

An illustration of the main policies and proposals in the Core Strategy on a non-Ordnance Survey map base.

Knowledge-based Industry

High technology industries (such as computers and office equipment, and pharmaceuticals) and knowledge-based services (for example, telecommunications, information technology, finance, insurance and business services), which are important to economic development.

L

Landscape Character

The distinct and recognisable pattern of elements that occur consistently in a particular type of landscape and give it recognisable identity. It reflects particular combinations of geology, landform, soils, vegetation, land use and human settlement.

Lifetime Homes Standards

Relates to the interior and exterior features of the home, which must be addressed to ensure that a house can be adapted to meet the changing needs of individuals during their lives. There are 16 Design Criteria which dwellings must incorporate to achieve the Lifetime Homes Standard.

Listed Building

Designated heritage assets of national importance, and are included on the statutory list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest.

Listed Building Consent

Consent required for the demolition, in whole or in part of a listed building, or for any works of alteration or extension that would affect the character of the building.

Local Centre

A small group of shops and perhaps limited service outlets of a local nature (for example in a suburban housing estate) serving a small catchment. Sometimes also referred to as a local neighbourhood centre.

Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)

Have replaced the eight regional development agencies outside Greater London in England under the current coalition government. These measures have been enacted as part of the Public Bodies (Reform) Bill and have been implemented from April 2012. Local enterprise partnerships are locally-owned partnerships between local authorities and businesses. Local enterprise partnerships will play a central role in determining local economic priorities and undertaking activities to drive economic growth and the creation of local jobs. They are also a key vehicle in delivering Government objectives for economic growth and decentralisation, whilst also providing a means for local authorities to work together with business in order to quicken the economic recovery. As local enterprise partnerships are based on more meaningful economic areas, they will be better placed to determine the needs of the local economy along with a greater ability to identify barriers to local economic growth. Christchurch and East Dorset are covered by the South East Dorset LEP.

Local Service Centre

Three well developed local centres with good retail, service and community facilities with good public transport links.

Local Development Document (LDD)

A document contained in a Local Development Framework.

Local Development Framework (LDF)

Local Development Framework (LDF) is a term used to describe a folder of documents, which includes all the local planning authority's local development

documents. A LDF is comprised of:

Development Plan Documents (which form part of the statutory development plan)

Supplementary Planning Documents

Proposals Map

The local development framework will also comprise of:

the Statement of Community Involvement

the Local Development Scheme

the Annual Monitoring Report

any Local Development Orders or Simplified Planning Zones that may have been added

any policies or guidance saved from the pre-2004 development plan system.

Local Development Scheme (LDS)

The local planning authority's time-scaled programme for the preparation of Local Development Documents that is reviewed every year.

Local Distinctiveness

The positive features of a place and its communities which contribute to its special character and sense of place.

Local Nature Reserve

An area designated by a local authority for the management of a habitat of local significance where protection and public understanding of nature conservation is

encouraged. (See also Site of Nature Conservation Importance)

Locally Important Building

Buildings and structures identified as having a degree of significance in terms of historic, architectural, archaeological or artistic interest.

Like all heritage assets, local listings are valued components of the historic environment.

Local Plan

An old-style development plan prepared by district and other local planning authorities. Some of these plans will continue to operate for a time after the commencement of the new development plan system, by virtue of specific transitional provisions.

New-style Local Plan

The National Planning Policy Framework (2012) defines current core strategies or other planning policies, which under the regulations would be considered to be development plan documents, to form part of the Local Plan. The term includes old policies which have been saved under the 2004 Act.

Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)

A partnership that brings together organisations from the public, private, community and voluntary sectors within one or more local authority areas, with the objective of improving people's quality of life and aspirations. (See also Sustainable Community Strategy)

Local Transport Plan

A five-year integrated transport strategy, prepared by local transport authorities in partnership with the community, seeking funding to help provide local transport projects. The plan sets out the resources predicted for delivery of the targets identified in the strategy.

M

Major/Minor Development

For dwellings, a major development is one where the number of dwellings to be constructed is 10 or more. Where the number of dwellings to be constructed is not given in the application, a site area of 0.5 hectares or more should be used as the definition of a major development. For all other uses, a major development is one where the floorspace to be built is 1000 square metres or more, or where the site area is 1 hectare or more. A Minor development is one that does not meet these conditions.

Market Towns

Small to medium-sized country towns that are rural service, social and economic centres. Most also hold or used to hold a regular market.

Master Plan

A type of planning brief outlining the preferred usage of land and the overall approach to the layout of a development on a site or group of sites. To provide detailed guidance for subsequent planning applications.

Mixed use

Provision of a mix of complementary uses, such as residential, community and leisure uses, on a site or within a particular area.

N

National Planning Policy Framework

Sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It states that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.

National Park

The statutory purposes of national parks are to conserve and enhance their natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage and to promote opportunities for public understanding and enjoyment of their special qualities. National parks are designated by the Countryside Agency, subject to confirmation by the Secretary of State under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.

Nature Conservation

The protection, management and promotion of wildlife habitat for the benefit of wild species, as well as the communities that use and enjoy them.

O

Office for National Statistics

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is the executive office of the UK Statistics Authority, a non-ministerial department which reports directly to Parliament. ONS is the UK Government's single largest statistical producer.

Outline application

A general application for planning permission to establish that a development is acceptable in principle, subject to subsequent approval of detailed matters. Does not apply to changes of use.

Out-of-Centre

In retailing terms, a location that is clearly separate from the primary shopping area of a town centre but not necessarily outside the urban area.

Over-development

An amount of development (for example, the quantity of buildings or intensity of use) that is excessive in terms of demands on infrastructure and services, or impact on local amenity and character.

P

Passive Solar Design

All the methods of architectural design and construction intended to capture and store the sun's heat. Very simple examples include a garden greenhouse, or a south-facing window in a dwelling.

Permitted Development (or Permitted Development Rights)

Permission to carry out certain limited forms of development without the need to make an application to a local planning authority, as granted under the terms of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order.

Phasing or Phased Development

The programming of development into manageable parts. For example, an annual rate of housing release for a large development that may need to be controlled so as to avoid destabilising housing markets and causing low demand.

Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

The Act updates elements of the 1990 Town & Country Planning Act. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduces:

a statutory system for regional planning

a new system for local planning

reforms to the development control and compulsory purchase and compensation systems

removal of crown immunity from planning controls.

Planning Condition

Condition attached to a planning permission.

Planning Gain

The benefits or safeguards, often for community benefit, secured by way of a planning obligation as part of a planning approval and usually provided at the developer's expense. For example, affordable housing, community facilities or measures mitigating adverse environmental impacts.

Planning Obligations and Agreements

Legal agreements between a planning authority and a developer, or undertakings offered unilaterally by a developer, that ensure that certain extra works related to a development are undertaken. For example, the provision of highways. Sometimes called "Section 106" agreements. (See also CIL)

Planning Permission

Formal approval sought from a local planning authority (such as Christchurch Borough Council or East Dorset District Council) to allow a proposed development to proceed. Often granted with conditions. Permission may be sought in principle through outline planning applications, or be sought in detail through full planning applications.

Previously Developed Land (PDL) or 'Brownfield' land

Previously developed land is that which is or was occupied by a permanent structure (excluding agricultural or forestry buildings), and associated fixed surface infrastructure. The definition covers the curtilage of the development.

Primary Frontages

The most important shopping frontages of the town centre. Most will have a high proportion of shops.

Priority habitats and species

Species and Habitats of Principle Importance included in the England Biodiversity List published by the Secretary of State under section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

Protected Species

Plants and animal species afforded protection under certain Acts of Parliament and Regulations.

Public Open Space

Urban space, designated by a council, where public access may or may not be formally established, but which fulfils or can fulfil a recreational or non-recreational role (for example, amenity, ecological, educational, social or cultural usages).

Public Realm

The publicly accessible external space including pavements, streets, squares, parks.

R

Ramsar sites

Wetlands of international importance, designated under the 1971 Ramsar Convention.

Recycling

The reprocessing of waste for further productive use either in its current form or in a different one.

Regeneration

The economic, social and environmental renewal and improvement of rural and urban areas.

Regional and Sub-Regional Shopping Centres

Out-of-town or out-of-centre shopping centres generally over 50,000 square metres net retail area, typically enclosing a wide range of comparison goods.

Registered Parks and Gardens

These are designated heritage assets of national importance and are registered for their special historic interest.

Registered Social Landlord

Registered Social Landlords are government-funded not-for-profit organisations that provide affordable housing. They include housing associations, trusts and cooperatives. They work with local authorities to provide homes for people meeting the affordable homes criteria. As well as developing land and building homes, RSLs undertake a landlord function by maintaining properties and collecting rent.

Renewable and Low Carbon Energy

is energy that can help reduce emissions of CO₂ and other 'greenhouse' gases (compared to the conventional use of fossil fuels).

Renewable and low carbon energy supplies include, but not exclusively, biomass and energy crops; combined heat and power; heat

pumps, such as ground-source and air-source heat pumps; energy from waste including from solid recovered fuel; hydro; solar thermal and photovoltaic generation and wind generation.

Retail Floorspace

Total floor area of a property that is associated with all retail uses. Usually measured in square metres. May be expressed as a net figure (the sales area) or in gross (including storage, preparation and staff areas).

Retail Offer

The range and mixture of different quality, sizes and types of shop within or outside town, district or local centres.

Retail Study

This study has been undertaken jointly for Christchurch and East Dorset Councils and will provide key evidence for possible future retail and leisure development in the borough and district. Nathaniel Lichfield & Partners (NLP) were commissioned by the councils to prepare a joint retail capacity study including an assessment of the main town centres within the authorities, namely Wimborne, Christchurch, Ferndown, Verwood, Corfe Mullen and Highcliffe.

Retail Warehouses

Large, usually out-of-town or out-of-centre units selling bulky non-food items such as DIY, furniture, leisure and household goods.

S

Saved Policies / Saved Plan

Policies within unitary development plans, local plans and structure plans that are saved for a time, pending their replacement through production of Local Development Documents.

Secondary frontages

Important shopping frontages in the town centre, generally with a greater diversity of ancillary retail uses than the primary frontages.

Section 106 Agreement

A legal agreement under section 106 of the 1990 Town & Country Planning Act. Section 106 agreements are legal agreements between a planning authority and a developer, or undertakings offered unilaterally by a developer, that ensure that certain necessary extra works related to a development are undertaken.

Sequential approach / sequential test

A planning principle that seeks to identify, allocate or develop certain types or locations of land before others. For example, brownfield housing sites before greenfield sites, or town centre retail sites before out-of-centre sites.

Setting (of a Heritage Asset)

Is defined as the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve.

Shoreline Management Plan

A plan providing a large-scale assessment of the risk to people and the developed, historic and natural environment associated with coastal process.

Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)

The aim of the SFRA is to map all forms of flood risk and use this as an evidence base to locate new development primarily in low flood risk areas (Zone 1). Areas of 'low' (zone 1), 'medium' (zone 2) and 'high' (zone 3) risk are mapped using data collected from many sources, including the Environment Agency, Highways, as well as the borough and district councils.

Significance of a Heritage Asset

The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its archaeological, architectural artistic or historic interest.

Site of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI)

Locally important sites of nature conservation adopted by local authorities for planning purposes. (See also Local Nature Reserve).

Site of Special Scientific Interest

Sites designated by Natural England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Social Infrastructure

Facilities enabling social interaction and well being including community, leisure cultural education and health buildings and other facilities such as allotments, pubs and post offices.

Social Inclusion

Positive action taken to include all sectors of society in planning and other decision making.

Spatial Vision

A brief description of how an area will change. The Core Strategy must contain a spatial vision of what the borough should be like by 2026 if it succeeds in addressing all the challenges it sets out.

Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Areas given special protection under the European Union's Habitats Directive, which is transposed into UK law by the Habitats and Conservation of Species Regulations 2010.

Special Protection Areas (SPA)

Areas which have been identified as being of international importance for the breeding, feeding and wintering or the migration of rare and vulnerable species of birds found within European Union countries. They are European designated sites, classified under the Birds Directive.

Special Needs Housing

Housing to meet the needs of groups of people who may be disadvantaged, such as the elderly, the disabled, students, young single people, rough sleepers, the homeless, those needing hostel accommodation, key workers, travellers and occupiers of mobile homes.

Strategic Gap

Land with predominantly open or rural appearance maintained to prevent neighbouring areas from merging into one another.

Sui-Generis

A term given to the uses of land or buildings, not falling into any of the use classes identified by the Use Classes Order 2005, for example amusement arcades, launderettes, car showrooms and petrol filling stations.

Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG)

Substantial areas of open space in the vicinity of major residential development to act as sites to attract users who would otherwise recreate on nearby internationally designated heathlands, to mitigate the harm caused by human occupation within 5km of internationally protected heathland.

Superstore

A self-service store selling mainly food, or food and non-food goods, usually of more than 2,500 square metres of trading floor space, with a large car park.

Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

A Local Development Document that may cover a range of issues, thematic or site specific, and which provides further detail of policies and proposals in a 'parent' Development Plan Document. Under the new planning system, this class of document is intended to take the place of Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG).

Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)

Document produced under the old development plan system which could cover a range of issues, both thematic and site specific and provide further detail of policies and proposals in a development plan. Intended to be replaced by Supplementary Planning Documents under the post-2004 planning system.

Sustainability Appraisal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment)

An appraisal of the economic, environmental and social effects of a plan from the outset of the preparation process to allow decisions to be made that accord with the principles of sustainable development.

Sustainable Development

A widely used definition drawn up by the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Commission) in 1987: "Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." The government has set out four aims for sustainable development in its strategy A Better Quality of Life, a Strategy for Sustainable Development in the UK. The four aims, to be achieved simultaneously, are:

- social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
- effective protection of the environment
- prudent use of natural resources
- maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.

Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDs)

Drainage techniques used with developments to help return excess surface run-off to natural watercourses (rivers, streams, lakes and so on) without negatively affecting people and the environment. These might include ponds or reed beds to hold water before it runs into a watercourse.

Sustainable travel / sustainable transport

Often meaning walking, cycling and public use of transport (and in some circumstances "car sharing"), which is considered to be less damaging to the environment and likely to contribute less to traffic congestion and pollution than one person car journeys.

T

Town Centres

Includes a range of different-sized centres, including market and country towns, traditional suburban centres, and quite often, the principal centre(s) in a local authority's area.

Town Centre Uses

These are uses other than shopping that are commonly found in town centres including residential, food and drink, offices and leisure.

Townscape

Character and appearance of spaces and buildings in an identified area of a town.

Transitional Arrangements

Generally used to describe arrangements that are put in place to manage the change from one system of regulations or procedures to another. More recently used to describe government regulations outlining the process of preparing development plans begun before, and to be completed after, the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It includes existing "saved" unitary, structure and local plans until new Local Development Documents are adopted.

Transport Assessment

An assessment of the traffic impact of a proposed development including measures to ensure highway safety and encourage the use of sustainable transport.

Travel Demand Management

Planning the travel impacts of existing and new developments to minimise travel needs and provide travel choices, for example by efficient car usage (including car sharing), bicycles, and walking and public transport.

Tree Preservation Order (TPO)

A mechanism for securing the preservation of single trees or groups of trees of acknowledged public amenity value. A tree subject to a tree preservation order may not normally be topped, lopped or felled without the consent of the local planning authority.

U

Unauthorised Development

Development that has taken, or is taking place, without the benefit of planning permission. It may be the subject of enforcement action if to allow the development could conflict with the policies of the Local Development Framework or other material considerations.

Urban Capacity Study

A study undertaken to establish how much additional housing can be accommodated within a particular urban area.

Urban Design

The art of making places. It involves the design of buildings, groups of buildings, spaces and landscapes, in villages, towns and cities, to create successful development.

Urban Fringe

The urban fringe is the transitional area at the point where urban areas meet the countryside. It can provide a valuable resource for the provision of sport and recreation, particularly in situations where there is an absence of land within urban areas to make such provision.

Urban Regeneration

Making an urban area develop or grow strong again through means such as job creation and environmental renewal.

Use
In the context of this development plan document, the way in which land or buildings are used. See also Change of Use and Use Classes Order.

Use Classes Order

The Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended) puts uses of land and buildings into various categories. Planning permission is not needed for changes of use within the same use class.

V

Viability

In terms of retailing, a centre that is capable of commercial success. In terms of community facilities such as village shops and pubs, operations which are capable of being sustained on the evidence of projected resources and usage.

Vitality

In terms of retailing, the vigour of a centre or individual shop's day to day trading, or the capacity of a centre to grow or develop its level of activity.

W

Wildlife Corridor

Strip of land (for example, along a hedgerow) conserved and managed for wildlife, usually linking more extensive wildlife habitats.

Windfall Site

A site not specifically allocated for development in a development plan, but which unexpectedly becomes available for development during the lifetime of a plan. Most "windfalls" are referred to in a housing context. They tend to be very small sites for one or a small number of homes.

Local Plan Acronyms		Other Planning Acronyms	
AAP	Area Action Plan	AGLV	Area of Great Landscape Value
AMR	Annual Monitoring Report	AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
DPD	Development Plan Document	CA	Conservation Area
EDLP	East Dorset Local Plan	ESA	Environmentally Sensitive Areas
LDD	Local Development Document	GB	Green Belt
LDF	Local Development Framework now replaced by Local Plan	GDO	General Development Order
LDS	Local Development Scheme	GIS	Geographical Information System
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework, replaces PPSs		
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance Note	GSPA	Groundwater Source Protection Areas
PPS	Planning Policy Statement (replacing PPG)	LNR	Local Nature Reserve
SA	Sustainability Appraisal	LTP	Local Transport Plan
SCI	Statement of Community Involvement	NNR	National Nature Reserve
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment	RIGS	Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Site
SEDS	South East Dorset Sub Regional Study	SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document	SAM	Scheduled Ancient Monument
SPG	Supplementary Planning Guidance	SCA	Special Character Area
		SNCI	Site of Nature Conservation Interest
		SPA	Special Protection Area
		SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
		SUDS	Sustainable Drainage Systems
		UCO	Use Classes Order
Organisation Acronyms			
CBC	Christchurch Borough Council		
DCC	Dorset County Council		
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government		
EDDC	East Dorset District Council		
LPA	Local Planning Authority		
LSP	Local Strategic Partnership		
PINS	Planning Inspectorate		

