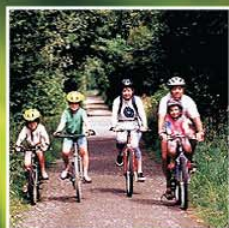
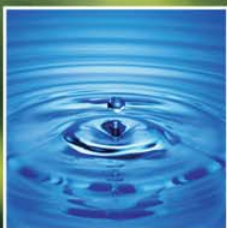
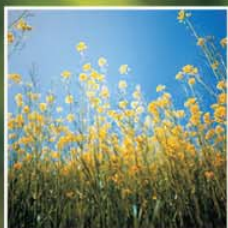


# Havant Borough Council

## Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy

Non-Technical Summary of the SA Report

March 2008



---

## Copyright and Non-Disclosure Notice

The contents and layout of this report are subject to copyright owned by Entec (© Entec UK Limited 2008) save to the extent that copyright has been legally assigned by us to another party or is used by Entec under licence. To the extent that we own the copyright in this report, it may not be copied or used without our prior written agreement for any purpose other than the purpose indicated in this report.

The methodology (if any) contained in this report is provided to you in confidence and must not be disclosed or copied to third parties without the prior written agreement of Entec. Disclosure of that information may constitute an actionable breach of confidence or may otherwise prejudice our commercial interests. Any third party who obtains access to this report by any means will, in any event, be subject to the Third Party Disclaimer set out below.

---

## Third-Party Disclaimer

Any disclosure of this report to a third-party is subject to this disclaimer. The report was prepared by Entec at the instruction of, and for use by, our client named on the front of the report. It does not in any way constitute advice to any third-party who is able to access it by any means. Entec excludes to the fullest extent lawfully permitted all liability whatsoever for any loss or damage howsoever arising from reliance on the contents of this report. We do not however exclude our liability (if any) for personal injury or death resulting from our negligence, for fraud or any other matter in relation to which we cannot legally exclude liability.

---

## Document Revisions

No.	Details	Date



---

## Report for

Bruce Neilson, Planning Policy and Urban Design Manager  
Havant Borough Council  
Civic Centre Road  
Havant  
Hampshire  
PO9 2AX

---

## Main Contributors

Phill Minas  
Pete Davis  
Philip Smith  
Barney Forrest

---

## Issued by

.....  
Barney Forrest

---

## Approved by

.....  
Pete Davis

---

## Entec UK Limited

17 Angel Gate  
City Road  
London EC1V 2SH  
England  
Tel: +44 (0) 207 843 1400  
Fax: +44 (0) 207 843 1410

Doc Reg No.

h:\projects\em-260\17000 projects\17689 havant sa scoping report\07 sa of core strategy\draft sa report\issue 280208\non-technical summary final i1.doc

# Havant Borough Council

## Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy

Non-Technical Summary of the SA Report

March 2008

Entec UK Limited



Certificate No. FS 13881

Certificate No. EMS 69090

In accordance with an environmentally responsible approach, this document is printed on recycled paper produced from 100% post-consumer waste, or on ECF (elemental chlorine free) paper



## Contents

<b>Summary</b>	<b>v</b>	
<b>Purpose of this report</b>	<b>v</b>	
<b>Overview</b>	<b>v</b>	
<b>Core Strategy</b>	<b>v</b>	
<b>Method</b>	<b>vii</b>	
Background	vii	
Consultation	vii	
Stages of the Sustainability Appraisal	vii	
<b>Key sustainability objectives</b>	<b>x</b>	
<b>Treatment and appraisal of alternatives</b>	<b>xiii</b>	
<b>Summary of the Sustainability Appraisal findings</b>	<b>xiv</b>	
Compatibility	xiv	
Appraisal	xiv	
Cumulative effects	xviii	
<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>xix</b>	
<b>Demonstrating compliance with the SEA Regulations</b>	<b>xxi</b>	
<b>In conclusion</b>	<b>xxi</b>	
Table 1	Core Strategy Objectives and Policies	vi
Table 2	SA Objectives and Detailed Criteria	x
Table 3	Sustainability advantages	xv
Table 4	Sustainability disadvantages	xvii
Table 5	Recommendations	xx
Box 1	Key stages in the Core Strategy and Sustainability Appraisal process	ix



## Summary

### Purpose of this report

This represents a non-technical summary of the findings of sustainability appraisal of Havant Borough Council's Core Strategy: Preferred Options. The sustainability appraisal is part of an ongoing process that aims to improve the sustainability performance of the Council's Local Development Framework.

### Overview

Havant Borough Council is required to carry out a sustainability appraisal of the Core Strategy, one of the documents contained in its Local Development Framework (LDF). This is in order to meet the requirements of the *Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004* and the *Environmental Effects of Plans and Programmes Regulation 2004* (also known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations).

The role of the sustainability appraisal report is to provide the context for the Core Strategy and to consider the positive and negative effects that it may have on the existing social, economic and environmental conditions in the district. This information is provided to improve the quality of the planning policies adopted by the Council in its Core Strategy. The sustainability appraisal will be submitted alongside the Core Strategy to the Secretary of State later this year. Subsequently an examination will be held in Spring 2009 before an independent inspector to consider the soundness of the Core Strategy. It is anticipated that the Inspector's report will be published later in 2009 and the final Core Strategy will be adopted shortly after.

This summary has been prepared in accordance with advice, on sustainability appraisal and SEA provided by the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG and formerly known as the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM)).

### Core Strategy

The Core Strategy is the key spatial planning document within the Council's Local Development Framework. Spatial planning refers to those issues that involve the use of land, the movement of people, access to employment, services, facilities and homes. The Core Strategy sets out overarching policies for housing, employment, retail development and environment for the period up to 2026 and seeks to provide the framework for the growth within the Borough over the next decade and a half. The Core Strategy is based on a spatial vision which aims to "*make Havant Borough a cleaner, safer, more prosperous place, which is more attractive, has fewer inequalities and a cleaner sense of community.*" This vision is articulated through a number of objectives and specific policies. Table 1 lists the objectives and policies which make up the Core Strategy assessed in the SA Report.



**Table 1 Core Strategy Objectives and Policies**

Core Strategy Objective	Core Strategy Policies
<p>To ensure development protects and enhances the environment including the sense of place valued by local communities.</p>	<p>CS1 – Protection and Enhancement of the Environment</p>
<p>To make sure that development achieves the highest standards for water and soil conservation, energy savings and waste reduction.</p>	<p>CS2 – Efficient Use of Resources</p>
<p>To locate development where it makes the most effective use of land and infrastructure, which must be improved where required.</p>	<p>CS3 – Effective Use of Land and Infrastructure</p>
<p>To minimise the impact of flooding on public well-being, economy and environment along the coast, stream valleys and in other areas at risk.</p>	<p>CS4 – Flood Risk</p>
<p>To deliver Havant Borough's share of the regional growth with sites and skills that our dynamic economy requires.</p>	<p>CS5 – Skills</p>
<p>To attract more visitors to Hayling Island, Emsworth, the harbours, countryside and other places with tourism potential.</p>	<p>CS6 – Employment Land CS7 – Tourism</p>
<p>To deliver Havant Borough's regional housing requirements in ways which help to meet local needs.</p>	<p>CS8 – Housing Provision CS9 – Housing Mix CS10 – Gypsies and Travelling Showpeople</p>
<p>To Plan for a better future for Leigh Park, Wecock and other localities helping them to realise their full potentials.</p>	<p>CS11 – Regeneration</p>
<p>To strengthen the town centres of Havant and Waterlooville and the centres at Cowplain, Gable Head/Mengham, Emsworth and Leigh Park as vibrant places to visit for shopping, leisure and tourism.</p>	<p>CS12 – Location of Shopping Development CS13 – Hierarchy of Centres</p>
<p><b>Accessibility</b></p> <p>To make travel throughout the borough more convenient, safer, healthier and less environmentally damaging.</p>	<p>CS14 – Transport and Access</p>
<p><b>Culture and Recreation</b></p> <p>To improve cultural and recreational opportunities throughout the borough for the health and wellbeing of residents.</p>	<p>CS15 – Culture and Recreation CS16 – Development Management CS17 – Development Contributions</p>



## Method

### Background

To ensure that the sustainability appraisal of the various Local Development Framework documents (including the Core Strategy) was independent and objective, the Council appointed Entec UK Ltd (an environmental consultancy) to undertake the much of the work. A methodology for undertaking the appraisal was agreed with the Council. This followed the stages set out in the DCLG guidance and is presented below.

### Consultation

Consistent with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement, the process has sought to ensure active participation of key stakeholders. At the Scoping stage of the process, the key sustainability issues were developed in consultation with statutory (English Nature, English Heritage, Environment Agency and Countryside Agency) and non-statutory stakeholders. Consultation on the Core Strategy Issues and Options paper and the accompanying Sustainability Appraisal, occurred in July and August of 2006. The current Preferred Options for the Core Strategy, and this accompanying Sustainability Appraisal will be open to consultation in Spring 2008.

Initial Issues and Options pre-submission consultation was undertaken between July - August 2006 setting out the main issues and some options. A Stakeholder workshop in January 2007 developed the Core Strategy Objectives and explored some options. A further period of Issues and Options consultation was undertaken in March April 2007 which focussed more on the development options. Following this extensive period of consultation draft versions of the Preferred Options were produced and an iterative process of appraisal begun which is brought together in this SA Report.

### Stages of the Sustainability Appraisal

ODPM's guidance specifies a number of stages within the sustainability appraisal process. These are outlined in Box 1 below.

Two previous reports have been produced as outputs of this process. These are described below.

### Scoping Report

Stage A, the scoping stage, included: gathering information about other relevant plans and programmes that the Core Strategy could contribute to; information on Havant Borough's characteristics (the sustainability baseline); as well as proposed sustainability appraisal objectives. The sustainability objectives presented here are the finalised version of those presented earlier in the June 2006 Scoping Report and the updated February 2007 Scoping Report. These objectives have been used to assess the contribution of the various planning documents that make up the Local Development Framework towards sustainability. The background to the development of the objectives and



the proposed approach to appraisal was contained in the sustainability appraisal Scoping Report, completed in June 2006 (and revised in February 2007).

## Sustainability Appraisal of Issues and Alternative Options

The current Preferred Options assessed within this SA are the result of a detailed and iterative process that has considered an extensive range of alternatives. This has stemmed from the Core Strategy Issues and Options Document<sup>1</sup> (and accompanying SA<sup>2</sup>). The Issues and Options consultation paper prepared, by Havant Borough Council, identifies a number of key issues, these are as follows:

- Sustainable development;
- Local economy;
- Housing;
- Improving transport;
- Natural and built environment;
- Changing coastline; and
- Infrastructure.

These key issues reflect the major challenges facing Havant Borough and the options explored under each key issue. These options are expanded on in the preferred option paper under key objectives which fall under the following topic headings:

- Environment and resources;
- Economy;
- Housing;
- Regeneration and town centres;
- Accessibility; and
- Culture and recreation.

---

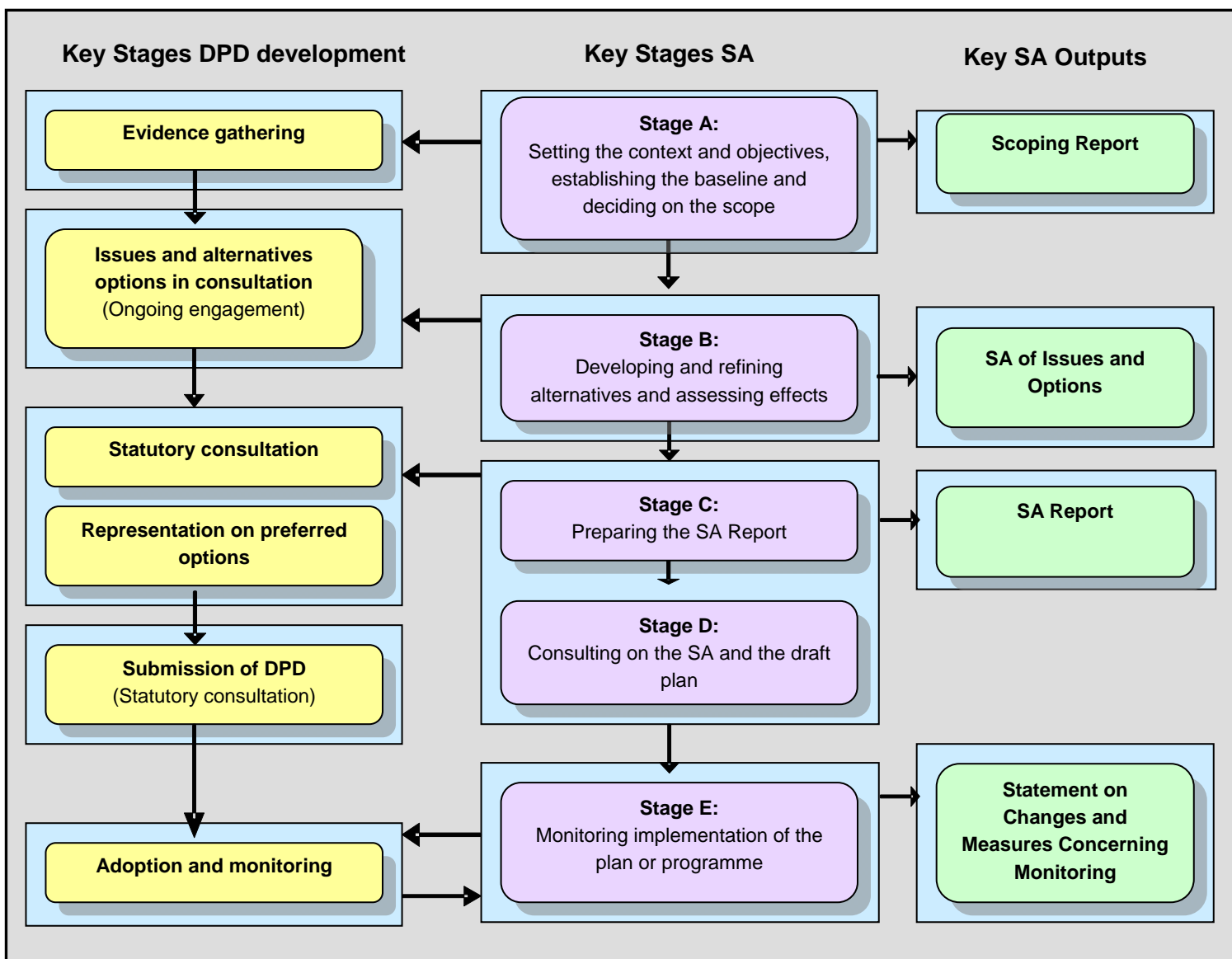
<sup>1</sup> Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation Paper (July 2006) Havant Borough Council. Available online at: <http://www.havant.gov.uk/havant-7889>

<sup>2</sup> Core Strategy Issues and Options Sustainability Appraisal (July 2006) Havant Borough Council. Available online at: <http://www.havant.gov.uk/havant-7889>



The key challenge for the Core Strategy is in seeking to achieve an appropriate balance between the regional and sub-regional housing targets with the necessary regeneration agenda, the internationally important wildlife sites and the local economy. The following sections briefly explore how a range of alternatives have been considered in reaching the current preferred option, which is assessed in the following chapter. In addition to the Issues and Options report, further consultation has been undertaken during March/April 2007, November 2007 (which investigated the development of employment sites) and October 2007 (a community organisation workshop which investigated infrastructure options). Box 1, below, details the interactions between the development of the Development Plan Documents (DPD) and the Sustainability Appraisal process.




**Box 1 Key stages in the Core Strategy and Sustainability Appraisal process**



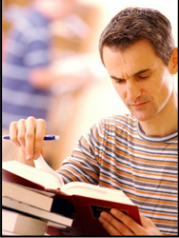





## Key sustainability objectives

The sustainability appraisal Scoping Report was completed in June 2006. During the scoping process, consultation was undertaken in order to consider the initial sustainability issues which apply to Havant (building on the analysis of environmental, social and economic information gathered). These tailored sustainability issues were then used to develop bespoke sustainability appraisal objectives for the Borough. These objectives were used in the subsequent appraisal process to assess the contribution of the Core Strategy policies towards sustainability. The sustainability objectives (along with specific appraisal criteria) are listed in Table 2 below.







**Table 2 SA Objectives and Detailed Criteria**

SA Objectives	Appraisal Criteria
 <p><b>1. Housing:</b> To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a good quality, sustainably constructed and affordable home.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it increase the range and affordability (both upfront and over its lifetime) of housing (taking into account different requirements and preferences of size, location, type and tenure)?</li> <li>• Will it ensure that appropriate services and facilities are in place for the new population?</li> <li>• Will it provide the housing that ensures a good standard of living and promotes a healthy lifestyle?</li> <li>• Will it increase use of sustainable design, improve the quality of the housing and use sustainable building materials in construction?</li> <li>• Will it improve energy efficiency and insulation in housing to reduce fuel poverty and ill health?</li> <li>• Will it provide housing that encourages a sense of community and enhances the amenity value of the community?</li> <li>• Will it improve the wider built environment and sense of place?</li> </ul>
 <p><b>2. Health and Well-being:</b> To improve the health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it reduce health inequalities and improve health and well-being?</li> <li>• Will it improve access to high quality public services (including health services and facilities)?</li> <li>• Will it promote health lifestyles?</li> </ul>
 <p><b>3. Equality, Poverty and Social Inclusion:</b> To increase equality and social inclusion while reducing poverty by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the Borough and the rest of the Borough.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it improve equal access to opportunities, services and employment?</li> <li>• Will it promote a culture of equality, fairness, and respect for people and the environment?</li> </ul>






SA Objectives	Appraisal Criteria
 <p><b>4. Education and Skills:</b> To raise educational achievement levels across the Borough and develop the opportunities for everyone to acquire the skills needed to find and remain in work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it increase the opportunities for educational and vocational goals to be achieved through employment and entrepreneurial opportunities?</li> <li>• Will it increase the levels of participation and attainment in education?</li> <li>• Will it improve employee education/training programs?</li> <li>• Will it improve the skills and qualifications of the population?</li> <li>• Will it promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life skills?</li> </ul>
 <p><b>5. Safety and Security:</b> To enhance community safety by reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it provide opportunities to use design and development layout to reduce the opportunity for crime?</li> <li>• Will it reduce the fear of crime?</li> </ul>
 <p><b>6. Liveability and Sense of Place:</b> To create and sustain vibrant communities and to increase engagement in cultural, recreational and sporting activity across all sections of the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it help to create a favourable image of the Borough to both residents and visitors?</li> <li>• Will it improve the quality of the environment?</li> <li>• Will it help to create a sense of place and add to the distinctiveness of the area?</li> <li>• Will it encourage sporting and recreational events and promote participation?</li> <li>• Will it encourage cultural events and promote participation in the arts?</li> <li>• Will it encourage an appreciation of the heritage of the Borough and its local communities?</li> </ul>
 <p><b>7. Accessibility/Transport:</b> To improve accessibility to all services and facilities and to improve travel choice and increase the proportion of journeys made by public transport, bicycle and foot (relative to those taken by car/lorry).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it reduce the need to travel?</li> <li>• Will it help to improve accessibility within the Borough?</li> <li>• Will it increase the proportion of journeys made by public transport?</li> </ul>
 <p><b>8. Flooding:</b> To reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it help to reduce flood risk to existing and new developments?</li> <li>• Will it help to reduce the risk of coastal and fluvial flooding?</li> </ul>
 <p><b>9. Regeneration and Land Use:</b> To improve efficiency in land use through the re-use of previously developed land and existing buildings and to encourage urban renaissance and stimulate economic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it improve efficiency in land use through the re-use of previously developed land and existing buildings?</li> <li>• Will it promote the vitality and viability of the Boroughs town, district and local shopping centres?</li> <li>• Will it maximise the efficient use of land by such measures as higher density development and mixed use etc.</li> </ul>



SA Objectives	Appraisal Criteria
<p>revival in priority regeneration areas.</p>	
 <p><b>10. Air Quality:</b> To reduce air pollution and improve air quality.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it reduce current air pollution?</li> <li>• Will it reduce odour nuisance?</li> <li>• Will it prevent the production of any new sources of air pollution?</li> </ul>
 <p><b>11. Climate Change:</b> To minimise the contribution of greenhouse gas emissions and seek to minimise and manage the adverse effects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it reduce the emission of greenhouse gasses and help to meet regional and national emission targets?</li> <li>• Will it avoid exacerbating the local effects of climate change?</li> <li>• Will it help to protect Havant Borough from the effects of climate change?</li> </ul>
 <p><b>12. Biodiversity:</b> To conserve and enhance the Borough's natural habitats and wildlife.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it improve the quality and extent of designated and non-designated sites?</li> <li>• Will it seek to enhance the quality of 'wildlife corridors'?</li> <li>• Will it promote sustainable and responsible access to areas of biodiversity interest?</li> </ul>
 <p><b>13. Natural Landscape:</b> To conserve the distinctive natural landscape of the Borough.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it protect and enhance the natural landscape and local character?</li> <li>• Will it protect and enhance areas of open space?</li> </ul>
 <p><b>14. Built and Historic Environment:</b> To protect and enhance the Borough's built and historic landscape (including architectural distinctiveness, townscape/ landscape and archaeological heritage).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it protect and enhance features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value?</li> <li>• Will it promote high quality design and enhance the built environment?</li> </ul>
 <p><b>15. Waste and Natural Resources:</b> To reduce waste generation, disposal and consumption of resources and increase reuse, recycling and recovery rates.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it minimise the production of waste?</li> <li>• Will it help to meet regional targets for recycling?</li> <li>• Will it reduce the demand for natural resources and raw materials?</li> <li>• Will it encourage the efficient use of natural resources and encourage the use of sustainable and locally sourced products?</li> </ul>



SA Objectives	Appraisal Criteria
 <p><b>16. Water Quality and Quantity:</b> To maintain and improve the water quality of the Borough's rivers, coasts and groundwater and to achieve the wise management and sustainable use of water resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it improve the quality of water bodies?</li> <li>• Will it reduce discharge to surface and ground water?</li> <li>• Will it encourage the use of sustainable urban drainage?</li> <li>• Will it reduce water consumption?</li> <li>• Will it encourage rainwater harvesting and greywater recycling?</li> </ul>
 <p><b>17. Energy:</b> To increase the energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources in the Borough.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it use energy efficient measures such as combined heat and power?</li> <li>• Will it encourage the production of energy on site?</li> <li>• Will it be going through sustainable building appraisal such as BREEAM assessment?</li> <li>• Will it encourage measures that will reduce the Borough's dependence on fossil fuels?</li> </ul>
 <p><b>18. Economy, Opportunity and Innovation:</b> To encourage a strong, diverse and stable economy which promotes innovation and encourages opportunity for all.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it promote opportunities for all categories of society?</li> <li>• Will it promote a dynamic, diverse and knowledge-based economy that excels in innovation with higher value, lower impact activities?</li> <li>• Will it encourage business start-up and business growth?</li> <li>• Will it improve flexibility of work?</li> <li>• Will it help to develop lifelong skills and reduce long-term unemployment?</li> </ul>

The appraisal will consider the success of the Core Strategy in influencing positively the social, economic and environmental status of the Borough. There is however, a wider framework in which the Core Strategy will operate, other local, regional, national and international legislation and regulation will have a bearing on the relative success of the Strategy in realising the stated vision and objectives. Similarly, the scope of the Core Strategy (which is concerned with spatial planning) means that the location and extent of housing, employment sites, transport links and areas for regeneration are among the factors controlled by the Core Strategy. However, there are other factors, such as the housing market, prevailing economic and employment conditions and public health that are products of complex interactions between multiple agencies and are far more difficult for the Core Strategy to directly influence. In light of this it should be recognised that working towards a more sustainable future cannot be achieved solely by one organisation, but requires a global “buy in” to be truly successful.

## Treatment and appraisal of alternatives

Developing the Core Strategy Preferred Options Draft has involved substantial deliberation and consultation on a number of key strategic choices facing the Borough. These alternatives were consulted on through an Issues and Options Paper between July and August 2006 and through Issues and Options Workshops held in January 2007 and also during March and April 2007. In addition to this, a workshop was undertaken on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2007



which helped to refine the employment options and a community organisation workshop was undertaken in October in order to explore the infrastructure options.

The spatial location of proposed housing and employment land requirements comprise two of the key issues for which a number of alternatives have been explored. Given the volume of new homes to be built in Havant (6,301 new homes) and the amount of employment land required, some of this will need to be located on greenfield land. The various options for housing explored different approaches (concentration on a limited number of urban extensions, focus on mainland development or dispersal of the proposed development through the Borough). A similar set of options were presented for employment sites.

The broad conclusions from the SA with regard to the performance of the options for growth were positive with some uncertainties and negative effects anticipated in relation to biodiversity and natural landscape.

Using the responses from the consultation process, in conjunction with a growing evidence base and the sustainability appraisal report, the Council has developed a set of preferred options for the draft Core Strategy which includes a proposed vision, objectives and 17 proposed policies. This preferred Core Strategy has been assessed and the findings summarised as follows.

## Summary of the Sustainability Appraisal findings

### Compatibility

The compatibility and possible tensions between the Core Strategy objectives and the SA objectives (listed in Table 2) have been explored in relation to the SA Objectives, which have been developed to reflect the social, environmental and economic aspirations of the Borough. The social and economic orientated objective such as equality, social inclusion, sense of place, regeneration, tourism, economy, education, housing and culture are clearly compatible with the SA objectives and would appear to reinforce each other, particularly with regard to economy and regeneration. However, the area where an obvious tension exists is between those objectives that seek to protect and enhance the environment and those objectives promoting housing growth and employment sites. In considering the policies in more detail through the appraisal, this issue is highlighted; however, there are a range of social and economic factors that remain material to the decision along with the potential for measures to address any concerns regarding potential effects on biodiversity and amenity loss.

### Appraisal

The process of appraising each of the 17 proposed policies of the Core Strategy resulted in 17 tables which record the positive or negative effects of each of the policies against the sustainability objectives over the short, medium and long term. These relate to the operational length of the Core Strategy – short 1-2 years, medium up to 5 years, long term until 2026. The scale of positive and negative effects is distinguished in the appraisal matrixes. Effects are said to either be major or minor and positive or negative. Table 3 below summarised those policies likely to



have a major positive effects against identified SA objectives (for example Policy CS3 Skills should have a major positive effect on the education and skill sustainability objective and also potentially on the economy and opportunity sustainability objective). The full assessment of each of the Core Strategy policies against the SA objectives including areas where minor effects are predicted is included in Appendix D of the report. Table 4 summarises those which might have a major negative effect (for example the potential effects of developing housing and employment land on greenfield sites set out in Policies CS6 and CS8 against both the biodiversity and natural landscape Sustainability Objectives), those minor negative effects are included in Appendix D of the main Sustainability Appraisal report.

**Table 3 Sustainability advantages**

Sustainability Advantages
<b>Policy CS1: Protection and Enhancement of the Environment</b>
The measures proposed in policy CS1 should lead to an improvement in liveability and sense of place within the Borough through the protection of environmental resources and improvement of the green infrastructure. The policy also looks to enhance the environment, including the strategic gaps between the Boroughs main towns, landscape character areas, the remnants of ancient woodland of the Forest of Bere, open space and green infrastructure. Due to the time it is likely to take for the CS1 policy to take effect it is likely that positive effects could be seen in the medium to long term.
The enhancement of the natural environment promoted by Policy CS1 should help to protect a number of wetland and hydrological features in the Borough. Allowing buffer zones around waterways and controlling development around the two harbours in the Borough might help to reduce, or at least help to prevent an increase in flooding. Similarly tree planting and an increase in green cover might help to reduce run off rates. This implementation of Policy CS1 is likely to take some time to have a positive effect on flood risk reduction.
Policy CS1 could have a direct and beneficial effect on the biodiversity resources, including those internationally important sites, within the Borough. The policy looks to improve the quality of designated and non-designated sites, to enhance and promote wildlife corridors (through strategic gaps and green infrastructure) and also to encourage a sustainable approach to the appreciation of the biodiversity resources in the Borough. The scale of effects is likely to increase with time.
The protection of the natural environment within Havant Borough could have a major positive effect on the protection of the natural landscape across the Borough.
Policy CS1 could also bestow a significant advantage on the built and historic features of the Borough through an additional layer of protection for conservation areas, archaeological sites, buildings, monuments and gardens of national and local importance.
<b>Policy CS2: Efficient use of resources</b>
Policy CS2 should have a significant positive effect on the housing in the Borough through the promotion of the Code for Sustainable Homes on all developments. An increasing target against the Code for Sustainable Homes over the time span of the policy (as detailed in paragraph 3 of CS2) might mean that in the long term sustainability should improve. A contribution to the PUSH targets (paragraph 2 of CS2) may help to improve efficiency and lead to savings on energy bills in the new developments. Similarly the inclusion of recycling facilities within all residential developments might ensure that waste facilities are part of all new developments.
Policy CS2 should have a positive effect on flooding by increasing targets for BREEAM and the Code for Sustainable Homes the need to ensure that new developments should have to score increasingly well against surface water runoff targets. However, as such, the effect of Policy CS2 on flooding in the Borough is considered to be positive in the medium and long term.
Policy CS2 should help to reduce the amount of greenhouse gasses from new developments, this is directly tackling the one of the causes of climate change.
The built environment should be benefited through Policy CS2 as high quality design standards are imposed within the Policy.
The promotion of recycling facilities in all new developments should help to tackle waste.
The targets set within the identified design standards for both water quality and energy should have significant positive sustainable advantages. In addition, it promotes the PUSH target of 100MW of renewable energy by 2026.



<b>Sustainability Advantages</b>	
<b>Policy CS3: Effective use of land and infrastructure</b>	
There should be a significant positive effect on the housing objective as a result of Policy CS3 which seeks to maximise housing densities where appropriate infrastructure already exists.	
The effective use of land and infrastructure might help to concentrate areas of development alongside existing built up hubs. Prioritising previously developed land within urban areas should help to ensure that green networks and landscape features are not eroded.	
Regeneration should be benefited through the redevelopment of previously developed land (and unused or underused land within urban areas) and the development of areas where existing infrastructure permits.	
<b>Policy CS4: Flood Risk</b>	
Policy CS4 should have a significant positive effect on flooding by ensuring that new developments are not built on flood susceptible area and also that a high emphasis is placed on ensuring SuDs are in place in all new developments. The policy does acknowledge that there can be exceptional reasons for development and in such cases the site must meet the sequential and exceptions test. Where such exceptional circumstances occur, provision is made in the policy to ensure that the development addresses specific requirements for adaptation and mitigation of the effects of flooding.	
Water quality should also be improved through the implementation of SuDs as part of new developments which might reduce storm water discharge, and subsequently improve water quality.	
<b>Policy CS5: Skills</b>	
Education and skill could be directly benefited through the implementation of the Core Strategy. This might involve the targeted re-skilling of the low skill elements of the population. The benefits are then expected to increase in magnitude as projects become established and sub-regional partnerships are developed.	
Training low skilled sections of the community could eventually lead them back into work. This might have a benefit on the economic performance of the Borough in the long term and also on the opportunities available to local residents.	
<b>Policy CS6: Employment Land</b>	
The provision of large areas of office and manufacturing class floor space in the Borough could encourage start up and also attract established business into the area which should in turn benefit the local economy, providing employment and potentially skills development opportunities.	
<b>Policy CS7: Tourism</b>	
The promotion of tourism in the Borough could require the improvement of the Boroughs image which would not only help visitors image of the Borough but might also improve local pride of place and community identity.	
<b>Policy CS9: Housing Mix</b>	
The proposed housing mix could have a significant positive effect on the opportunity for people within the Borough to live in a good quality, sustainably constructed and affordable homes (the housing Sustainability Objective). The provision of 40% affordable housing in new developments of 15 dwellings or over might help to improve social inclusion and equality as communities become more increasingly integrated. The policy demonstrates an evident desire to create an appropriate housing mix for the community by ensuring a balance of housing.	
<b>Policy CS11: Regeneration</b>	
Regeneration of the most deprived areas of the Borough could have a direct and beneficial effect on the health and well being of the Borough, particularly in those areas where there are health and wellbeing inequalities.	
The regeneration of the Boroughs most run down areas should have a positive effect on the equality, poverty and social inclusion.	
Policy CS11 might also have a positive effect on liveability and sense of place through the improvement of 'outmoded and unattractive buildings and public space' Improving the quality of the surroundings in which people dwell could boost sense of community and pride of place.	
Policy CS11 should have a direct and positive effect against the regeneration SA Objective. It will seek to reinvigorate four of the Boroughs most deprived area and centres.	



Sustainability Advantages
Regeneration of the most deprived areas within the Borough aims to bring economic prosperity, opportunity and innovation to the four areas identified in Policy CS11. As such it is predicted that there should be a positive effect that could increase with time as regeneration projects are implemented and the economic benefits seen.
Policy CS12: Location of Shopping Development
Policy CS12 should have a significant positive effect on the accessibility/transport as it seeks to improve shopping areas in town and district centres throughout the Borough.
The placement of shopping centres in town and district centres could also have a significant positive effect against regeneration.
Policy CS14: Transport and Access
Policy CS14 will have a direct and significant effect on the accessibility/transport sustainability objective through the improvement of public transport and promotion of sustainable transport.
Policy CS15: Culture and Recreation
Policy CS15 would have a significant effect against regeneration and land use through the redevelopment of open space to create good quality areas this could also have a positive effect on the social and community facets of regeneration in the Borough (for example social cohesion and community identity).
Policy CS16: Development Management
The Policy directly addresses this objective. It states that development should only be permitted that 'reduces the possibility of crime or anti-social behaviour'.
Policy CS16 should have a positive effect against the liveability and sense of place by only permitting development which 'creates and attractive environment that has its own distinct identity'. This might help to build community pride and cohesion through improved environment but also through associated infrastructure improvements.
Policy CS16 should have a direct positive effect against the regeneration and land use sustainability objective as it promotes development which 'makes efficient use of land, including where appropriate providing for dual use of facilities' and that 'retains, improves or creates public spaces and where appropriate links these spaces to others in the area'.
There should be a positive effect against air quality as a result of Policy CS16 which seeks to protect the public from 'polluting emissions' from developments.
Natural landscapes could also benefit from this policy which seeks to protect the existing landscape character and features.
The built and historic environment should also be enhanced through protecting and enhancing existing features.

**Table 4 Sustainability disadvantages**

Sustainability Disadvantages
Policy CS6: Employment Land
The allocation of a strategic employment area between the A3(M) and Havant could potentially be in conflict with the promotion of strategic gaps in Policy CS1 and the commitment to environmental protection. However, it is unclear the importance of the Dunsbury Hill Farm site to biodiversity in the Borough. The areas of greenfield land identified as possible areas for job creation include Type 3 agricultural land (protected by PPS7) and consideration should be given to focussing development on less valuable agricultural land; however, the lack of precision in the land allocation map makes this difficult to confirm (and the exact nature of the grade of land would need to be clarified to conclude on the potential significance of the proposed land take).
The provision of employment land on greenfield sites could lead to a significant negative effect on the biodiversity of the borough, especially if development is proposed within the strategic gaps and in areas close or at least partially ecologically connected to the internationally protected areas. However, the relative significance of the land take will be dependent on the biodiversity, amenity and landscape value of



Sustainability Disadvantages
the land lost and the extent to which new or equivalent habitats or green open spaces can be created as part of the development proposals. If the ecological value of the existing sites is high however, the opportunities to improve certain aspects of ecological value will be limited when compared to existing conditions and/or ecological connectivity across the site.
As with biodiversity, the natural landscape is likely to be compromised by development on greenfield land. The loss of green gaps would be an effect which is naturally associated with growth into these areas and is unlikely to be mitigated.
Policy CS7: Tourism
There are likely to be significant negative effects relating to an increase in tourism on accessibility/transport across the Borough, this is likely to be felt most acutely on Hayling island, specifically the bridge.
An increase in tourism is likely to go hand in hand with an increase in private vehicle travel. This is identified in Policy CS7; although, no solutions are suggested within the Policy CS7. As a result, with increasing tourism there is likely to be increasing car use and the problems this causes (most notably on the approach to and on Hayling Island). The negative assessment has assumed a steady growth in tourist numbers against time and that no improvements are made to the Hayling Island access. It is acknowledged that a proportion of tourism based traffic to the island is coach based, however, there is also a large number of people who visit Hayling Island who want to take their windbreaks, BBQs, boats, jet skis etc to the beach.
A successful park and ride scheme for Hayling Island may help to reduce the effects of an increased demand for access over poor infrastructure. Due to the environmental sensitivity of Langstone and Chichester Harbour there is not a clear solution to the transport access to Hayling Island which would not have an impact on internationally important sites for nature conservation.
There is no provision within CS7 for dealing with the increased resource demand and the disposal of waste. It is anticipated that there might be a minor negative effect in the medium to long term as a result of increased visitor numbers.
Policy CS8: Housing Provision
The provision of housing to meet the boroughs targets aims to initially target previously developed land, however, the targets are high and greenfield land is likely to be needed for >50% of development resulting in a significant negative effect against the sustainability target for regeneration and land use.
The provision of housing land on greenfield sites could lead to a significant negative effect on the biodiversity of the borough, especially if development is proposed within the strategic gaps and in areas close or at least partially ecologically connected to the internationally protected areas. However, the relative significance of the land take will be dependent on the biodiversity, amenity and landscape value of the land lost and the extent to which new or equivalent habitats or green open spaces can be created as part of the development proposals. If the ecological value of the existing sites is high however, the opportunities to improve certain aspects of ecological value will be limited when compared to existing conditions and/or ecological connectivity across the site.
As with biodiversity, the natural landscape is likely to be compromised by development on greenfield land. The loss of green gaps would be an effect which is naturally associated with growth into these areas and is unlikely to be mitigated.

## Cumulative effects

In addition to the effects of individual policies on individual SA objectives, the cumulative effects of policies against the SA objectives have been investigated. The following key SA objectives are expected to be affected, both positively and negatively.

A significant positive effect can also be expected against both the following SA objective topics:

- Regeneration and land use:** One of the most positive steps within the Preferred Option is the focus on regenerating those areas in the Borough that, for a range of social, economic and to a lesser degree environmental factors are deprived. A number of the proposed Core Strategy topic areas look to address these issues and the cumulative effect of this will hopefully result in the predicted significant positive effect.



- **Economy:** A number of factors contribute to difficulties faced by Havant Borough's economy. The Preferred Option, addresses through a number of policies these issues. The focus on re-skilling, attracting new business and tourism to the Borough present an excellent opportunity for the Havant Borough economy to meet sub-regional economic targets.

The two of the key negative effects are listed below:

- **Biodiversity:** Although the preferred options concentrate on maintaining and enhancing the considerable biodiversity resources in the Borough, there are a number of innate conflicts between certain policies. The need to meet government targets will inevitably result in development on some of the remaining greenfield land in the Borough and this might lead to some negative effects on specific biodiversity resources in the Borough. The link between those resources which are not internationally protected and those that are is complex and the adverse effects on the inter-relationship may not be easily mitigated.
- **Natural landscape:** As with Biodiversity, the need to develop areas of greenfield in the Borough could result in negative effects and could cause a level conflict between elements of the Preferred Option.

There are a number of other SA Objectives which cumulatively score minor positive effects when compared against most of the Core Strategy policies. These include those which targeted regeneration including improving sense of place, community cohesion and also those which tackle safety, security issues as well as employment and opportunity. There is a similar pattern when tackling the skills gaps within the community which could have knock on effects on equality, health and wellbeing and social inclusion. There is also a focus within the Core Strategy on culture and recreation, and this focus results in minor positive effects on a number of similar sustainability objectives, including housing (and the neighbourhoods and community people live in), health and well being (both physical and mental health and general well being), safety and security and liveability.

## Recommendations

The sustainability appraisal of the Havant Borough Core Strategy has identified a number of significant effects, the majority of these have been positive, though four significant negative effects have also been identified. The appraisal tables show that there are also a number of minor positive and negative effects that have been identified through the assessment.

In some cases, there may be minor alterations to the wording of the policies which will reduce the significance of negative effects or enhance the positive gains from those positive effects. Table 7.1 includes those areas where it is might be possible to alter the wording of the policy or amend the accompanying text to improve the contribution of the policy towards specific SA objectives. The proposed policy, SA objectives and recommendations are presented in Table 5.



**Table 5 Recommendations**

Policy	SA Objective	Recommendation
CS1	Health and wellbeing	Consideration could be given to the inclusion of more detail on the potential location of green infrastructure and new open space within the accompanying text. This could also allow a more comprehensive assessment of the potential effects and may lead to further minor amendments proposed locations.
CS1, CS8, CS9 and CS14	Livability and sense of place, Biodiversity, Natural landscape, the Built and historic environment and Accessibility/transport	Clarification that there are no conflicts between Policy CS1 and the placement of additional housing and work space in Policies CS8, CS3 and CS6 is required in order to better assess each policy against the SA Objectives. It may be useful to include a cross reference between these policies. Similarly there are also possible conflicts between Policy CS1 and the transport policy CS14, part 2 of which promotes the improvement of existing highways links between the main towns, this will inevitably impact on the gaps between the settlements. There are apparent conflicts between the Part 3 of Policy CS1 which aims to protect the Boroughs Strategic Gaps and Policy CS8 which identifies new areas for housing, including areas between Havant and Waterlooville and Havant and Emsworth. It might be that a simple clarification of the extent of the Strategic Gaps on the Key Diagram may resolve this issue.
CS1	Biodiversity	Consideration could be given to the inclusion within paragraph 6 of the biodiversity value of important trees. Paragraph 5, 'biodiversity' could be changed to include 'notable habitat and protected and otherwise notable species'. This would strengthen the case for retaining trees on the ecology they support rather than the value of the tree in isolation.
CS2	Education and skill	Education is one of the key drivers for changing attitudes to recycling and energy use and some text on the promotion of recycling and simple energy and water saving practices might help to optimise the value of Policy CS2.
CS2	Energy	Consideration could be given to the inclusion of wording which highlights the need to maximise on site regeneration will help to ensure that where a resource is available developers will be obliged to seek to maximise the on site energy generation capacity. It is understood that this will be brought out in more detail in the SPD that is being developed for development industry.
CS5	Biodiversity	In order to reduce the minor negative effect scored against biodiversity in the long term it is suggested further clarification is given pertaining to the site, the ecological value of it and the priority of strategic employment land over green corridors and strategic gaps.
CS6	Accessibility/transport	Consideration could be given to the inclusion of reference to CS14 within this policy to emphasise the importance of the provision of public and sustainable transport links to the development. This would help to reduce the potential medium and long term minor negative effects on accessibility and transport.
CS7	Accessibility/transport	Consideration could be given to the inclusion of a park and ride scheme for Hayling Island within this policy (or accompanying text) which may help to reduce the effects of an increased demand for access over poor infrastructure.
CS9	Housing	Consideration could be given to the inclusion of a detailed rationale behind the 40% mix of affordable housing is not clearly made within the policy and this should extend beyond the reference to PPS3 (as detailed in the South Hampshire Housing Market Assessment Part II 2006). Given the caveat that proportion of affordability may drop with viability it might be prudent to set a higher % of houses in order to hit an overall 40%.
CS11	Regeneration and land use	Consideration could be given to the inclusion of information in the accompanying text as to how the CS11 would be delivered. It may be useful to prepare a vision for regeneration in order to develop good momentum behind this policy. A SPD may also be useful to clarify the planning tools which will be used to achieve the regeneration of the areas identified within Policy CS11.



Policy	SA Objective	Recommendation
CS15	Liveability and sense of place	It is suggested that the cultural leaning of the policy is strengthened through identification of specific community facilities which could be promoted and including the capacity for community use in those facilities currently supported by Policy CS15. It is understood that this might be developed through the allocations DPD.

## Demonstrating compliance with the SEA Regulations

Whilst the term ‘sustainability appraisal’ has been around for a number of years, it is with the implementation of the SEA Directive (and its enactment in the UK through the SEA Regulations), that the process has moved from being solely a qualitative process to one that relies more substantively on an evidence base. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that the sustainability appraisal also includes compliance with the SEA Regulations. In order to demonstrate compliance against the reporting requirements of the SEA Regulations, a checklist is produced within the report which demonstrates compatibility of the full sustainability appraisal report against the Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations (which concern information to be contained in sustainability appraisal reports).

## In conclusion

The Havant Borough Core Strategy seeks to balance the demands of regional growth targets against the social, environmental and economic needs of the Borough. Given the geographic constraints on the Borough there are inevitable tensions between the core strategy objectives and the SA objectives. Although it is recognised that the Council have sought to optimise the value of the growth targets throughout the Borough and to use planning mechanisms to negate negative effects against sustainability objectives there are some effects which are not possible to mitigate. Land take of greenfield sites cannot be mitigated per se; however, the relative significance of the land take will be dependent on the biodiversity, amenity and landscape value of the land lost and the extent to which new or equivalent habitats or green open spaces can be created as part of the development proposals.

Despite these areas where the trade off between the growth proposals and the environment is difficult, there are a range of sustainability topics (such as social inclusion, equality, sense of place, employment, housing provision, regeneration, sustainable design) where the Core Strategy performs strongly. The appraisal process has been iterative (with earlier versions of the Core Strategy being subject to assessment) and the Council has shown itself willing and open to incorporate suggestions to improve the contribution of the proposed policies towards the sustainability objectives. Recommendations have been provided which could continue to reduce the negative effects of the proposed policies. Through the completion of the current consultation process, the Council has an opportunity to consider these recommendations (along with submissions) and to seek to improve the contribution of the Core Strategy towards a more sustainable pattern of growth.



# Entec

*Creating the environment for business*

