

Appendix 1

The SEA Directive's requirements	
Requirements	
Preparation of an environmental report in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme are identified, described and evaluated. The information to be given is (Art. 5 and Annex 1):	<i>SA report has been prepared alongside and informed the content of the draft SPD</i>
a) An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes;	Refer to introduction, Section 2, and appendix 2
b) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme;	Refer to introduction and appendix 3
c) the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;	Appendix 3 and 8
d) Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC;	Appendix 8
e) The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation;	Appendix 2
f) The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. (Footnote: These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects);	Appendix 7
g) The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme;	Appendix 7

h) An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information;	Section 2, Section 3, Section 5
i) A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Article 10;	Appendix 7
j) A non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings;	Pages 1-3
The report shall include the information that may reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, its stage in the decision-making process and the extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in that process to avoid duplication of the assessment (Art. 5.2).	
Consultation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the environmental report (Art. 5.4). 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • authorities with environmental responsibility and the public shall be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the accompanying environmental report before the adoption of the plan or programme (Art. 6.1, 6.2) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • other EU Member States, where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that country (Art. 7) 	
Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultations into account in decision-making (Art. 8)	
<p>Provision of information on the decision: When the plan or programme is adopted, the public and any countries consulted shall be informed and the following made available to those to be informed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the plan or programme as adopted; • a statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme and how the environmental report pursuant to Article 5, the opinions expressed pursuant to Article 6 and the results of consultations entered into pursuant to Article 7 have been taken into account in accordance with Article 8, and the reasons for choosing the plan or 	

programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and	
• the measures decided concerning monitoring (Art. 9 and 10).	
Monitoring of the significant environmental effects of the plan's or programme's implementation (Art. 10).	

Appendix 2 – Relationship with other relevant Plans, Programmes and Environmental Objectives

Level	Relevant plan or programme	Relevant key objectives	Relation to the SPD	Implications for SA
National	Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora	Aims to contribute towards maintaining bio-diversity in the Member states by defining a common framework for the conservation of wild plants and animals and habitats of community interest	Reference to protection of SAC's and SPA's	Have regard to bio-diversity objective
National	Water Framework Directive	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expanding the scope of water protection to all waters, surface waters and groundwater 2. Achieving "good status" for all waters by a set deadline 3. Getting the citizen involved more closely to influence the direction of environmental protection 	Comment on expectations for proposals to protect surface and ground water from pollution	Water quality and quantity to be addressed in appraisal
National	Securing the future – delivering the UK Sustainable Development Strategy 2005	<p>Guiding principles of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • living within environmental limits • achieving a sustainable economy • promoting good governance • using sound science responsibly • ensuring a strong, healthy and just society 	Strategic and national identification of sustainability issues for the UK. These will filter down through IRF	Strategic and national identification of sustainability issues for the UK. These will filter down through IRF
National	PPS1 Creating Sustainable Communities	<p>Four main relevant issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social cohesion and inclusion 2. Protection and enhancement of the 	Ensure high quality of place making	Include sustainability objectives to deliver quality housing – inclusive

Level	Relevant plan or programme	Relevant key objectives	Relation to the SPD	Implications for SA
		environment 3. Prudent use of natural resources 4. Sustainable economic development		communities
National	PPS3 - Housing	To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of living in a decent home, which they can afford, in a community where they want to live. To create sustainable, inclusive, mixed communities in all areas.	Locations to provide housing opportunities for all, good design, housing mix to provide inclusive mixed communities	SA objectives to cover community needs, links between design issues and quality of life
National	PPG4 - Industrial commercial development and small firms	To encourage continued economic development in a way which is compatible with its stated environmental objectives. Economic growth and high quality environment have to be pursued together	National guidance on the economic/environmental balance	Economic development to underpin quality of life. Support for small firms
National	PPS9 – Biodiversity and Geological Conservation	To provide sustainable development to conserve, enhance and restore bio-diversity of England’s wildlife and geology; to contribute to an urban renaissance	Ensure approach considers guidance	Include requirements of national planning guidance in SA – to maintain and enhance bio-diversity
National	PPS10 – Planning for Sustainable Waste Management	Ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management	Take guidance into consideration in considering approach	Include objective to help reduce waste, and encourage sustainable management of waste
National	PPS12 – Local Development Frameworks	Sets out Government policy on the preparation of local development documents including SPD’s		
National	PPG13 - Transport	To integrate planning and transport at national, regional, strategic and local level to promote more sustainable transport choices for both people and freight, promote	Promote green transport solutions and reduce need to travel	Include objectives for reducing the need to travel by car

Level	Relevant plan or programme	Relevant key objectives	Relation to the SPD	Implications for SA
		accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling and to reduce the need to travel especially by car		
National	PPG17 – Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation	Well designed and implemented planning policies for open space, sport and recreation are fundamental to delivering broader Government objectives about improving communities quality of life	Ensure approach has due regard to guidance to enhance quality of life	Address guidance through objectives/sub-objectives
National	PPS22 – Renewable Energy	Provides national policies for the development of renewable energy. Local development documents should contain policies that restrict the development of renewable energy resources	Promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy	Include renewable energy objectives
National	PPS 23 – Planning and Pollution Control	Provides national policies on preventing pollution through the use of measures to prohibit or limit the release of substances to the environment to the lowest practicable level	Any consideration of the quality of land air or water and potential impacts arising from development, possibly leading to an impact on health is a material planning consideration	Seek to minimise pollution outputs
National	PPS 25 – Development and Flood Risk	To strengthen and clarify the key role of the planning system in managing flood risk and contributing to adapting to the impacts of climate change. To ensure LPAs take flood risk properly into account at all stages in the planning process To prevent inappropriate development in areas at high risk of flooding To direct development away from areas of high risk	To ensure that the approach of the document pays due regard to new guidance	Include objectives relating to risk of flooding

Level	Relevant plan or programme	Relevant key objectives	Relation to the SPD	Implications for SA
National	Air Quality Directive	Define and establish objectives for ambient air quality	Consider impacts of development on air quality	Include objective relating to air quality
Regional	RPG9 – Regional Planning Guidance for the South East	Regional spatial strategy for the South East. Lists twelve key development principles to ensure continued environmental economic and social health		
Regional	Regional Transport Strategy 2004	To better support the local economy, to facilitate travel for the socially excluded, urban renaissance, reduce dominance of cars and lorries, an evolving regional transport system	New community to facilitate these aims	Include objective relating to reducing dominance of the car, social implications of exclusion from access to services and goods
Regional	Strategy for energy efficiency and renewable energy 2004	“By 2010 the South East should generate at least 5.5% of its electricity from renewable sources and by 2024 at least 16%”.	Promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy	Include renewable energy objectives
Regional	South East Regional Housing Strategy 2006 – 2009	Sets out regional priorities for housing investment on the South East and a framework for allocating resources, with a priority of increasing affordable housing and improving the quality of new housing and existing stock.	Sets out a range of principles, recommendations and aspirations relating to housing supply, affordability, sustainability, homelessness, health, diversity and equality, decent homes and stock condition, regeneration, site availability, infrastructure and planning.	Provides sustainable objectives
Regional	Regional Economic Strategy 2002 - 2012	Sets out a 10 year framework for delivering the region’s economic aspirations based on the vision of “A prosperous region delivering high quality of life and environment for everyone, now and in the future”.		

Level	Relevant plan or programme	Relevant key objectives	Relation to the SPD	Implications for SA
Sub-regional/County	Pride of Place – A Community Strategy for East Sussex 2003	Lists priorities for achieving vision of a sustainable county, including protecting the District environment for the benefit of present and future generations.		Suggests indicators to support sustainable development
Sub-regional/County	East Sussex and Brighton and Hove Structure Plan 1991 – 2011,	Aim is to meet the needs for development and change in ways that minimise long-term environmental impacts.	Identification of issues relating to North East Bexhill, with Structure Plan's overall aim of seeking a more sustainable future.	Include objectives to cover landscape conservation and protection of locally distinctive habitats
Sub-regional/County	East Sussex and Brighton and Hove Waste Local Plan 2066	Detailed land use policy framework for the management of waste. Aims to balance the need for waste management facilities with the need to protect environment	Priorities for action will inform the approach	Include objectives to reduce waste and recycle
Sub-regional/County	East Sussex Local Transport Plan (LTP2) 2006	Charts the way forward, to provide a high quality transport system and improved accessibility for residents, businesses and visitors.	Gives framework for accessibility strategy	Consider transport issues
Sub-regional/County	Sussex Biodiversity Action Plan 1998	The overall aim of the BAP is to conserve and enhance the biological diversity of Sussex and contribute to the conservation and enhancement of both national and international bio-diversity	Ensure approach considers bio-diversity	Include bio-diversity objectives
Sub-regional/County	East Sussex County Landscape Assessment 2006	Identifies problems, pressures formulate vision and landscape action priorities	Identify character to be strengthened, problems to be addressed	Provide baseline evidence
Sub	The Cuckmere	Concerned with managing flood risk from		

Level	Relevant plan or programme	Relevant key objectives	Relation to the SPD	Implications for SA
regional/County	and Sussex havens Flood Management Plan	rivers and surface water in a sustainable way		
Local/District	Rother District Local Plan 2006	Vision is to provide a high quality of life based on vibrant and inclusive communities, access to a wide range of jobs and respect for the built and natural environment. Development and change should contribute to this vision, and thereby to the Community Strategy, in a positive and sustainable manner, properly supported by the necessary infrastructure, services and community facilities.	Parent policies BX2 & BX3 give focus for SPD.	Sustainable development principles translated into policy in Local Plan will guide objectives.
Local/District	Rother Community Plan 2004	States vision and nine priority action areas for the Rother Area. Lists outcomes that are the priority to achieve.	Identify problems to be addressed to achieve outcome.	Issues in community plan to inform objectives
Local/District	Rother Economic Regeneration Strategy 2004 – 2009	Sets out a five year action plan which lists seven aims for the economic regeneration of Rother, with specific reference to North East Bexhill.	Informs on service aims, issues, resources and capabilities	Consider regeneration/economic objectives
Local/District	Integrated Cultural and Leisure Strategy 2006 – 2011	Proposes action plan for the Culture and Leisure strategy for the District covering the following themes: Access and Transport Information and learning Community and well-being Coast and Countryside Regeneration and Tourism	Informs on how themes can be integrated	Include cultural and leisure objectives

Level	Relevant plan or programme	Relevant key objectives	Relation to the SPD	Implications for SA
Local/District	Rother Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2005-08	Lists Strategic objectives and priorities to reduce crime, increase reassurance, and tackle the underlying causes of crime, to ensure that Rother remains a safe place to live work and visit.	Ensure approach considers crime and community safety	Provides indicators and objectives relating to crime reduction and community safety
Emerging Regional Plan	South East Plan	Regional spatial strategy for the South East integrates policies to ensure sustainable development	Will sit above LDF in planning document hierarchy. Proposals should reflect emerging policies.	South East Plan refers to IRF objectives. South East Plan sets targets which might support monitoring framework

Appendix 3 – Baseline Information

Indicator	Data from Old town, St Michaels and Sidley wards of Bexhill	District Data	National data	Trend	Data Sources
1. Does it ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent, sustainably constructed and affordable home?					
Average property price ratio to average earnings	Not available	8.1 :1	5.6 :1 (England and Wales)	District has one of the higher ratios of average house prices to earnings and has increased over last 5 years. (ratio was 4.3:1 in 2000) Increasing numbers of households in the District will find it difficult to afford to purchase a home	East Sussex in Figures
Number of affordable houses built annually	3 for 2005/06	3 for 2005/06	23 for 2000/01	Although affordable housing completions in 2005/6 were very low, it is anticipated that rates will increase as developments are built with the application of Local Plan Policy HG1	East Sussex in Figures
Number of housing completions	82 for 2005/06	228 for 2005/06	N/A	House building in Rother since 1991 has averaged 229 dwellings/year. Implementation of the Local Plan proposals will shift the balance of house completions towards the District's towns and especially Bexhill.	East Sussex in Figures

2. Does it reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment?					
Number of planning permissions granted contrary to advice from EA on flood defence grounds	0	0	Not available	The Environment Agency has confirmed that monitoring data shows that in the period April 2005 to March 2006 there were no planning permissions granted contrary to their advice.	Annual Monitoring Report
3. Does it improve the health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health?					
Life expectancy	77.7 years	79.3 years	78.3 years	Generally life expectancy is increasing	East Sussex in Figures
Percentage of people with limiting long term illness	26.3% of population or 10,638 people (whole of Bexhill area)	18,793 or 22% of population	18.2%		East Sussex in Figures
4. Does it reduce poverty and social exclusion?					
Number of population of working age claiming key benefits	No local data available	4,300 – 2001 4,500 – 2003 4,900 - 2005	30,500 – 2001 32,100 – 2003 32,200 - 2005		East Sussex in Figures
Indices of multiple deprivation	In comparison with the national picture, the only part of the District to fall within the top 20% most deprived areas is the Sidley ward. However for child poverty specifically, the Bexhill areas of St Michaels is within the top 20% nationally whilst part of Sidley falls within the top 10%.	Average score Rother ranked 181th from a total of 354 districts. East Sussex 101 out of 149 counties			East Sussex in Figures
Average gross annual household income	£27,001 (2006) average annual household income £21,935 (2003)	£31,600 – 2006 £28,400 - 2003	£32,400 – 2006 annual average household income	Average household income of 3 wards in Bexhill is below that for Rother, East Sussex	Rother in Profile

			£29,000 - 2003	and England and Wales	
5. Does it raise educational achievement levels and develop the opportunities to everyone to acquire the skills needed to find and retain in work?					
Levels of educational attainment (achievements key stage 2 level 4 or above) shown as a percentage	No local data available	English 78%) Maths 75%) 2005 Science 86%) English 75%) Maths 71%) 2000 Science 85%)	English 75%) Maths 75%) 2005 Science 86%)		Rother in Profile
Percentage of Students aged 16 plus in full time education	2.5% aged 16 – 17 2.8% aged 18 – 74 (all Bexhill wards)	2.7% aged 16 – 17 2.3% aged 18 - 74	2.7% aged 16 – 17 4.3% aged 18 - 74	Data set for 2001 No trend figures available	East Sussex in Figures
Proportion of 16+ year olds with level 2 qualifications (GCSE's A* - C or NVQ equivalent 2001	20.6% (all Bexhill wards)	21%	19.4%	Skills levels are lower than average with a low portion of highly skilled workers. The below average GCSE results and post 16 education levels suggest that this is set to continue	East Sussex in Figures
6. Does it reduce crime and the fear of crime?					
Recorded crime in Rother (all types)	No local data	18.6% per thousand population (jan-march 2004)	27.8 per thousand population (jan-march 2004)		Home Office Crime Statistics
Percentage of residents who feel fairly or very safe after dark in their area	No local data	67% (2001) 65% (2004)	No national data		Performance Plan
7. Does it create and sustain vibrant rural communities?					
		No appropriate data	No appropriate data		
8. Does it create and sustain vibrant urban communities?					
		No appropriate data	No appropriate data		
)	No appropriate data	No appropriate data		

9. Does it improve accessibility to all services and facilities?					
Proximity to services and facilities	No local data	Of all dwellings completed on large sites (6 dwellings or more) between 2005 and 2006: 100% were within 30 mins public transport time of a GP 100% were within 30 mins public transport time of a primary school 89% were within 30 mins public transport time of a main shopping centre None were within 30 mins public transport time of a General Hospital(with A and E dept)	N/A		
10. Does it encourage increased engagement in cultural, leisure and recreational activity across all sections of the community?					
Satisfaction with sport and leisure facilities in Rother	No local data	44% (2000) 53%(2003)	N/A		Performance Plan
Satisfaction with theatres and galleries	No local data	59%(2000) 46%(2003)	N/A		Performance Plan
Satisfaction with the museum service	No local data	48% (2000) 47% (2003)	N/A		Performance Plan
Satisfaction with parks and open spaces	No local data	61% (2000) 75% (2003)	N/A		Performance Plan

11. Does it improve efficiency in land use through the re-use of previously developed land and existing buildings, including re-use of materials from buildings, and encourage urban renaissance?					
Percentage of development on previously developed land	No local data	66% 2002/2003 74% 2003/2004 90% 2004/2005 90% 2005/2006			Annual Monitoring Report – Page 25
12. Does it reduce air pollution and ensure air quality continues to improve?					
Background levels of main air quality pollutants	To be verified				Environment Agency
Number of Air Quality Management Areas	0	0			Environment Agency
13. Does it address the causes of climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases?					
Annual reduction in domestic energy consumption	No data available	No data available	No data available		Data source under investigation
14. Does it conserve and enhance the biodiversity of Rother?					
Condition of SSSI's	Local SSSI is 100% in favourable condition	10 are 100% favourable condition 4 are 100% unfavourable condition 5 have parts that are classed as continuing to decline 4 have parts that are classed as recovering	N/A		Annual Monitoring Report
Number of Sites Nature Conservation Importance	1 SSSI 5 SNCI	1 SPA 1 SAC 2 RAMSAR 20 SSSI 60 SNCI 1 NNR 1 LNR	N/A		Annual Monitoring Report

15. Does it protect, enhance and make accessible for enjoyment, the countryside and historic environment?					
Number of Conservation Areas	1	10			Annual Monitoring Report
Buildings of Grade 1/2*	Grade 1* - 0 Grade 2* 0 0	41 Grade 1* 76 Grade 2*			Annual Monitoring Report
Number of Listed Buildings	36	2,128 (including streets and forecourts)			Annual Monitoring
16. Does it reduce road congestion and pollution levels by improving travel choice, and reducing the need for travel by car/lorry?					
Mode of travel to work 2001 data	Train 687 Bus, minibus or coach 311 Motorcycle, scooter or moped 180 Driving car or van 8,211 Passenger in car, van or taxi 996 Bicycle 305 On foot 1,868 Other 57 (Figures for all Bexhill wards)	Train 2,004 Bus, minibus or coach 610 Motorcycle, scooter or moped 337 Driving car or van 19,585 Passenger in car, van or taxi 1,956 Bicycle 477 On foot 3,537 Other 149	Train 1,674,725 Bus, minibus or coach 1,747,683 Motorcycle, scooter or moped 258,344 Driving car or van 13,050,529 Passenger in car, van or taxi 1,599,689 Bicycle 650,977 On foot 2,364,633 Other 110,627		East Sussex in Figures
17. Does it reduce the global, social and environmental impact of consumption of resources by using sustainably produced and local products?					
No indicators known at present					
18. Does it reduce waste generation and disposal, and achieve the sustainable management of waste?					
Tonnage of recycled household waste collected	No local data	5435			Performance Plan
Kilograms of household waste collected per person	No local data	407.6 (2005)			Performance Plan
Percentage change in kilograms of household waste collected per year	No local data	-2% (2005)			Performance Plan
19. Does it maintain and improve the water quality of the district's rivers and coastline?					

Quality of river water in Rother	No local data	(2004) 36.8 very good 42.1 good 10.5 fairly good 5.3 Fair 5.3 Poor			Rother in Profile
Bathing water quality at Rother's 4 main beaches	No local data	Beaches meeting stringent guideline 1 (2000) 1 (2004) Mandatory guidelines 3 (2000) 3 (2004) Failing to meet guidelines 0 (2000) 0 (2004)	N/A		
20. Does it achieve sustainable water resources management?					
Total domestic water consumption per capita	To be verified				EA
Water resource supply – demand balance	To be verified				EA
River flow and groundwater level	To be verified				EA
21. Does it increase energy efficiency, and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources ?					
Number of commercial renewable energy schemes	0	0			AMR
Number of applications that include capacity for on site energy production from renewable sources	0	5 (2005/6)	N/A		AMR

22. Does it ensure high and stable levels of employment?					
Percentage of unemployed who have been unemployed for more than one year	No local data	Unemployed 850 (100%) Unemployed more than 1 year 220 (26.3%)	Unemployed 948,005 (100%) Unemployed more than 1 year 198,545 (20.9%)		East Sussex in Figures
Unemployment as percentage of the population	All people aged 16-74: 26,049 (100%) All unemployed 16-74 605 (2.3%) (all Bexhill wards)	All people aged 16-74: 57,638 (100%) All unemployed 16-74 1,333 (2.3%)	All people aged 16-74: 37,607,438 (100%) All unemployed 16-74 1,261,343 (3.4%)		East Sussex in Figures
23. Does it sustain economic growth and competitiveness?					
GVA per person at current basic ¹	No local data	East Sussex data 11,014	16,144		East Sussex in Figures
24. Does it stimulate economic revival in priority regeneration areas?					
Amount of land developed for employment by type					Annual Monitoring Report
Amount of land with planning permission and allocated for B class employment uses	0 M2	9384 M2 (2006)			Annual Monitoring Report
Amount of land developed for employment on previously developed land	0 M2	9384 M2(2006)			Annual Monitoring Report
Losses of employment land to residential	0 M2	0M2			Annual Monitoring Report

¹ County indicator used pending the identification of an appropriate local indicator

25. Does it develop a dynamic, diverse and knowledge-based economy that excels in innovation with higher value, lower impact activities?					
Levels of educational attainment (achievements key stage 2 level 4)	No local data	English 78%) Maths 75%) 2005 Science 86%) English 75%) Maths 71%) 2000 Science 85%)	English 75%) Maths 75%) 2005 Science 86%)		East Sussex in Figures
26. Does it encourage the development of a buoyant?					
Number of visits to Rother Tourist Information Centres/year	Phone 5152 E mail 4671 Visitors 121400	Phone 11440 E mail 8113 Visitors 284906	N/A		Rother District Council Local data
Number of visits to 1066.com website/year	N/A	Approximately 80,000 per annum	N/A		Local data

Appendix 4

North East Bexhill Scoping Report Consultation responses

Environment Agency:

Comment that the following documents be included when identifying the other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainable objectives:

1. The Cuckmere and Sussex Havens Catchment Flood Management Plan.
2. Cuckmere and Pevensey Levels Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (CAMS)
3. Planning Policy Statement 23 – Planning and Pollution Control

In addition it is recommend that the indicators in the baseline information include chemical and biological water quality.

Natural England

No response

English Heritage

No response

Appendix 5 Task B1: Testing the SPD Objectives against the SA Framework

SPD Option	SPD Objectives				
SA Objectives	(a) Provides a high quality sustainable extension to Bexhill, which enhances the attractiveness of the town as a place to live, work and invest	(b) Contributes to meeting the economic and social needs of the town and its existing and future residents	(c) Is physically, economically and socially integrated with the town and its wider environment	(d) Protects and enhances the environment	(e) Has a clear character and sense of place consistent with a “new community”
Objective 1 Does it ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent, sustainably constructed and affordable home?	+	+	O	-	?
Objective 2 Does it reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment?	?	o	o	+	O
Objective 3 Does it improve the health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health?	+	+	+	+	+
Objective 4 Does it reduce poverty and social exclusion?	O	+	+	O	+
Objective 5 Does it raise educational achievement levels and develop the opportunities to everyone to acquire the skills needed to find and remain in work?	+	+	+	O	O
Objective 6 Does it reduce crime and the fear of crime?	+	+	+	O	+
Objective 7	?	-	+	+	+

SPD Option	SPD Objectives				
SA Objectives	(a) Provides a high quality sustainable extension to Bexhill, which enhances the attractiveness of the town as a place to live, work and invest	(b) Contributes to meeting the economic and social needs of the town and its existing and future residents	(c) Is physically, economically and socially integrated with the town and its wider environment	(d) Protects and enhances the environment	(e) Has a clear character and sense of place consistent with a “new community”
To create and sustain vibrant rural communities					
<u>Objective 8</u> Does it create and sustain vibrant urban communities?	+	+	+	+	+
<u>Objective 9</u> Does it improve accessibility to all services and facilities?	+	+	+	O	+
<u>Objective 10</u> Does it encourage increased engagement in cultural leisure and recreational activity across all sections of the community?	+	+	+	+	O
<u>Objective 11</u> Does it improve efficiency in land use through the re-use of previously developed land and existing buildings, including re-use of materials from buildings, and encourage urban renaissance?	+	O	O	+	+
<u>Objective 12</u> Does it reduce air pollution and ensure air quality continues to improve?	?	O	+	+	O
<u>Objective 13</u> Does it address the causes of climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases?	+	O	+	+	O

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SA Objectives	(a) Provides a high quality sustainable extension to Bexhill, which enhances the attractiveness of the town as a place to live, work and invest	(b) Contributes to meeting the economic and social needs of the town and its existing and future residents	(c) Is physically, economically and socially integrated with the town and its wider environment	(d) Protects and enhances the environment	(e) Has a clear character and sense of place consistent with a "new community"
<u>Objective 14</u> Does it conserve and enhance the biodiversity of Rother ?	?	○	○	+	○
<u>Objective 15</u> Does it protect, enhance and make accessible for enjoyment, the countryside and historic environment?	?	○	?	+	○

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Objective 16 Does it reduce road congestion and pollution levels by improving travel choice and reducing the need for travel by car/lorry?	+	+	+	○	○
Objective 17 Does it reduce the global, social and environmental impact of consumption of resources by using sustainably produced and local products?	?	○	○	+	○
Objective 18 Does it reduce waste generation and disposal, and achieve the sustainable management of waste?	○	○	○	+	○
Objective 19 Does it maintain and improve the water quality of the District's rivers and coastline?	○	○	○	+	○
Objective 20 Does it achieve sustainable water resources management?	?	○	○	+	○
Objective 21 Does it increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources?	?	○	+	+	○
Objective 22 Does it ensure high and stable levels of employment?	+	+	+	○	○
Objective 23	+	+	+	○	○

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Does it sustain economic growth and competitiveness?					
Objective 24 Does it stimulate economic revival in priority regeneration areas?	+	+	+	○	○
Objective 25 Does it develop a dynamic, diverse and knowledge-based economy that excels in innovation with higher value, lower impact activities?	?	+	+	○	○
Objective 26 Does it encourage the development of a buoyant sustainable? tourism sector	○	○	○	○	○

Appendix 6 - Task B2: Developing the options

SPD Option	Option A – New Community		Option B – Urban Extension	
	Performance	Commentary/ explanation	Performance	Commentary/ explanation
<u>Objective 1</u> To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent, sustainably constructed and affordable home	+	This option will promote a mix of housing and an overall high density of development.	++	This option will bring forward housing that will have regard to the needs of a wider area, therefore having the potential for a greater positive impact.
<u>Objective 2</u> To reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment	O	This site is not in an area at risk from flooding. Generic Policy GD1 of the Local Plan applicable to all development proposals and seeks to reduce risk of flooding	O	This site is not in an area at risk from flooding. Generic policy GD1 of the Local Plan applicable to all development proposals and seeks to reduce risk of flooding
<u>Objective 3</u> To improve the health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health	+	This option may encourage walking and cycling as service facilities are close to homes	+/?	Positive impact in that new facilities will be available to existing community, subject to no additional car use
<u>Objective 4</u> To reduce poverty and social exclusion	+	This objective may have positive impact on social exclusion by the inclusive characteristics of a new community	+/?	May have more positive outcome in that community shared facilities may be more readily accessible to greater numbers of people
<u>Objective 5</u> To raise educational achievement levels and develop the opportunities to everyone to acquire the skills needed to find and remain in	+	Policy BX2 includes the provision of a primary school, which will be at the heart of the new community	++/?	Potentially more beneficial as accessible to a greater population

SPD Option	Option A – New Community		Option B – Urban Extension	
SA Objective	Performance	Commentary/ explanation	Performance	Commentary/ explanation
work				
<u>Objective 6</u> To reduce crime and the fear of crime	+	Possibility that new community may engender a sense of social inclusion allied with a sense of place which may reduce levels of crime	?	Linkages may increase crime levels whilst provision of facilities may reduce it
<u>Objective 7</u> To create and sustain vibrant rural communities	O	No direct impact	O	No direct impact
<u>Objective 8</u> To create and sustain vibrant urban communities	+	The self-sufficient character with strong distinct identity will foster a vibrant urban community.	++	Strong links may enhance vibrancy of existing area
<u>Objective 9</u> Does it improve accessibility to all services and facilities	+	Low penetration of accessibility from outside of site will restrict positive outcomes	++	Strong links to existing areas will encourage accessibility of existing and proposed development
<u>Objective 10</u> To encourage increased engagement in cultural leisure and recreational activity across all sections of the community	+	Opportunities for access to countryside park	++	Opportunities for access to countryside park, leisure and recreation facilities to wider population
<u>Objective 11</u> To improve efficiency in land use through the re-use of previously developed land and existing buildings, including re-use of materials from buildings, and encourage urban renaissance	-	Loss of Greenfield site, but opportunity to re-use farm buildings	-	Loss of Greenfield site, but opportunity to re-use farm buildings
<u>Objective 12</u> To reduce air pollution and ensure air quality continues to improve	+?	The self-sufficient character of this option may encourage the use of more sustainable forms of transport. May depend on form of development	O?	Walking and cycling may be less attractive with the increase in travelled distances. Depends on form of development
<u>Objective 13</u>	?	The self-sufficient character of this	?	Walking and cycling may be less

SPD Option	Option A – New Community		Option B – Urban Extension	
SA Objective	Performance	Commentary/ explanation	Performance	Commentary/ explanation
To address the causes of climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases		option may encourage the use of more sustainable forms of transport thereby reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases. Depends on form of development		attractive. Depends on the form of development
<u>Objective 14</u> To conserve and enhance the biodiversity of Rother	?	Impact dependent on the form of development	O	Impact dependent on the form of development
<u>Objective 15</u> To protect, enhance and make accessible for enjoyment, the countryside and historic environment	+	Countryside Park will offer opportunities	++	Countryside Park will offer opportunities. Option may give access to a wider population
<u>Objective 16</u> To reduce road congestion and pollution levels by improving travel choice and reducing the need for travel by car/lorry	+	Provision of centrally located facilities will reduce the need for less sustainable forms of travel	+?	Strong links to existing areas may provide sustainable access to community facilities to greater numbers
<u>Objective 17</u> To reduce the global, social and environmental impact of consumption of resources by using sustainably produced and local products	?	Depends upon the recommendations of the SPD in relation to the use of resources	?	Depends upon the recommendations of the SPD in relation to the use of resources
<u>Objective 18</u> To reduce waste generation and disposal, and achieve the sustainable management of waste	?	Depends upon the recommendations of the SPD in relation to ESCC related SPD	?	Depends upon the recommendations of the SPD in relation to ESCC related SPD
<u>Objective 19</u> To maintain and improve the	O	Generic Local Plan Policy GD1 requires that new development	O	Generic Local Plan Policy GD1 requires that new development provides suitable

SPD Option	Option A – New Community		Option B – Urban Extension	
SA Objective	Performance	Commentary/ explanation	Performance	Commentary/ explanation
water quality of the District's rivers and coastline		provides suitable alleviation and mitigation measures for foul and surface water drainage		alleviation and mitigation measures for foul and surface water drainage

SPD Option	Option A – New Community		Option B – Urban Extension	
SA Objective	Performance	Commentary/ explanation	Performance	Commentary/ explanation
<u>Objective 20</u> To achieve sustainable water resources management	?	Depends on the recommendations of the SPD in relation to water resources	?	Depends on the recommendations of the SPD in relation to water resources
<u>Objective 21</u> To increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources	?	Depends on the principles of the SPD in relation to energy strategy	?	Depends on the principles of the SPD in relation to energy strategy
<u>Objective 22</u> To ensure high and stable levels of employment	○	Policies BX2 and BX3 make provision for business floorspace. Orientation of development not likely to impact on success of this objective	○	Policies BX2 and BX3 make provision for business floorspace. Orientation of development not likely to impact on success of this objective
<u>Objective 23</u> To sustain economic growth and competitiveness	○	Policies BX2 and BX3 make provision for business floorspace. Orientation of development not likely to impact on success of this objective		Policies BX2 and BX3 make provision for business floorspace. Orientation of development not likely to impact on success of this objective
<u>Objective 24</u> To stimulate economic revival in priority regeneration areas	○	Policies BX2 and BX3 make provision for business floorspace. Orientation of development not likely to impact on success of this objective	+	Policies BX2 and BX3 make provision for business floorspace. More linkages to the Town Centre and Sidley
<u>Objective 25</u> To develop a dynamic, diverse and knowledge-based economy that excels in innovation with higher value, lower impact activities	○	No direct link	○	No direct link
<u>Objective 26</u> To encourage the development of a buoyant sustainable tourism sector	○	No direct link	○	No direct link

Appendix 7 – Task B3 – Predicting and appraising the effect of the draft SPD
Task B4 – Evaluating the effects of the draft SPD

SA Objectives	Option A – New community Option B – Urban extension	Magnitude	Duration			Mitigation	Secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects
			S	M	L		
1. Does it ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent, sustainably constructed and affordable home?	Option A – <i>Local Plan will help deliver sustainably constructed and affordable homes by virtue of policies BX2 and BX3. Policy HG1 in the local plan will require 40% of the total number of dwellings to be affordable housing. Option will promote a mix of housing and an overall high density of development.</i>	Major			√	Take account of and complement existing housing stock. Ensure a range of links between both communities	Self containment may promote broader provision of services and facilities. Risk of isolation and lack of integration of new and old communities
	Option B – <i>Local Plan will help deliver sustainably constructed and affordable homes by the existence of policies BX2 and BX3. Policy HG1 in the local plan will require 40% of the total number of dwellings to be affordable housing. Option will bring forward housing that will have regard to needs of a wider area, therefore having the potential to have a greater positive impact.</i>	Major			√		More opportunities for physical and visual connections. More inclusive social impact
2. Does it reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment?	Option A – <i>Option will not have direct impact on flooding baseline</i>	No effect				Ensure status quo continues. Develop drainage strategy for the whole site including use of sustainable drainage systems	
	Option B - <i>Option will not have direct impact on flooding baseline</i>	No effect				Ensure status quo continues. Develop drainage strategy for the whole site including use of sustainable drainage systems	

No effect short - 0-5 years
Minor - medium 5-10 years
Major - long term 10 years plus

SA Objectives	Option A – New community Option B – Urban extension	Magnitude	Duration			Mitigation	Secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects
			S	M	L		
3. Does it improve the health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health?	Option A – <i>This option may encourage walking and cycling as services and facilities are close to homes. In addition health facilities may be more accessible.</i>	Minor	√	√	√	The SPD could include further information on health needs of Bexhill	
	Option B – <i>There is a positive impact on health and well-being of population in that the new facilities will be available to the existing population, subject to no additional car use</i>	Minor	√	√	√		Existing community likely to benefit from accessibility of facilities
4. Does it reduce poverty and social exclusion?	Option A – <i>Provision of a balance of housing sizes and types may have positive impact on baseline evidence of poverty and social exclusion</i>	Minor	?	?	?		
	Option B – <i>This option may address issues of poverty and social exclusion over a wider geographic area</i>	Minor	?	?	?		Possible wider positive influence in tackling poverty and social inclusion by shifting centre of gravity to wider catchment area
5. Does it raise educational achievement levels and develop the opportunities to everyone to acquire the skills needed to	<i>Option A – Policy BX2 includes the provision of a primary school, and this will be at the heart of the community</i>	Minor	√	√	√		

No effect short - 0-5 years
Minor - medium 5-10 years
Major - long term 10 years plus

SA Objectives	Option A – New community Option B – Urban extension	Magnitude	Duration			Mitigation	Secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects
			S	M	L		
find and remain in work?	<i>Option B – Primary school may provide additional and accessible school option to children in the general area.</i>	Minor	√	√	√		Accessibility of school to existing community will increase potential for educational achievement
6. Does it reduce crime and the fear of crime?	<i>Option A – Possibility that new community may engender a ‘sense of social inclusion’ and ‘sense of place’ which may reduce levels of crime.</i>	Minor	√	?	?		
	<i>Option B – Whilst more linkages may increase potential for crime, provision of facilities may reduce it</i>	Minor	√	?	?	Explicit guidance for minimising crime within the site and inputs from crime prevention officer could be included in the SPD	
7. Does it create and sustain vibrant rural communities?	<i>Option A – No direct impact on data envisaged</i>	No effect					
	<i>Option B - No direct impact on data envisaged</i>	No effect					
8. Does it create and sustain vibrant urban communities	<i>Option A – The self sufficient character with strong distinct identity will foster a vibrant urban community</i>	Minor	√	√	√		
	<i>Option B – Strong links to existing areas may enhance vibrancy of existing community</i>	Minor	√	√	√		Links to new development may have positive influence on adjacent areas of Sidley

No effect short - 0-5 years
Minor - medium 5-10 years
Major - long term 10 years plus

SA Objectives	Option A – New community Option B – Urban extension	Magnitude	Duration			Mitigation	Secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects
			S	M	L		
9. Does it improve accessibility to all services and facilities?	Option A – <i>Lower penetration of accessibility from outside of the development will restrict benefits of development to wider geographic area.</i>	No effect/ Minor	√	√	√	Establish services and facilities at key locations to reinforce usage	Orientation of development will establish from the onset, the weight the 'ownership' of services and facilities to the new community
	Option B – <i>Strong accessibility links will benefit both existing and new community</i>	Minor/ Major	√	√	√		Permeability of new community will encourage association by existing community
10. Does it encourage increased engagement in cultural leisure and recreation activity across all sections of the community?	Option A – <i>Opportunities for access to Countryside Park</i>	Minor	√	√	√		
	Option B – <i>May be opportunities for access to Countryside Park for wider population. Strong accessibility links to existing areas will mean that existing communities will benefit more positively from leisure and recreation facilities.</i>	Minor/ Major	√	√	√		Pebsham Countryside Park will become more accessible to a wider population
11. Does it improve efficiency in land use through the re-use of previously developed land and existing buildings, including re-use of materials from buildings, and encourage urban renaissance?	Option A – <i>Greenfield site but potential exists for the re-use of farm buildings, existing buildings</i>	Major	√			The SPD to recognise the value and sensitivity of these buildings in the landscape, and their contribution as 'living' historical references	
	Option B – <i>Greenfield site but potential exists for the re-use of farm buildings, existing buildings</i>	Major	√			The SPD to recognise the value and sensitivity of these buildings in the landscape, and their contribution as 'living' historical references	

No effect short - 0-5 years
Minor - medium 5-10 years
Major - long term 10 years plus

SA Objectives	Option A – New community Option B – Urban extension	Magnitude	Duration			Mitigation	Secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects
			S	M	L		
12. Does it reduce air pollution and ensure air quality continues to improve?	<i>Option A – More self sufficient characteristics may encourage use of more sustainable forms of transport thereby contributing to a reduction in air pollution. Also depends on the form of development</i>	No effect/ Minor	?	?	?	Good pedestrian links to Pebsham and Sidley, the Town Centre and other local facilities. Flow and movement of people to maximise ease of access, with priority given to pedestrians, cyclists and public transport	
	<i>Option B – Walking and cycling may be less attractive with the increase in travelled distances. May however be accessible to wider population. Depends on form of the development</i>	No effect	?	?	?	Good pedestrian links to Pebsham and Sidley, the Town Centre and other local facilities. Flow and movement of people to maximise ease of access, with priority given to pedestrians, cyclists and public transport SPD to support energy efficient construction and	
13. Does it address the causes of climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases?	<i>Option A - More self sufficient characteristics may encourage use of more sustainable forms of transport thereby contributing to a reduction in greenhouse gases. May depend on the form of development</i>	No effect/ Minor	?	?	?	Good pedestrian links to Pebsham and Sidley, the Town Centre and other local facilities. Flow and movement of people to maximise ease of access, with priority given to pedestrians, cyclists and public transport. SPD to encourage sustainable construction and design	

No effect short - 0-5 years
Minor - medium 5-10 years
Major - long term 10 years plus

SA Objectives	Option A – New community Option B – Urban extension	Magnitude	Duration			Mitigation	Secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects
			S	M	L		
	<i>Option B – Walking and cycling may be less attractive with the increase in travelled distances. May be accessible to wider population Depends on form of the development</i>	No effect	?	?	?	Good pedestrian links to Pebsham and Sidley, the Town Centre and other local facilities. Flow and movement of people to maximise ease of access, with priority given to pedestrians, cyclists and public transport. SPD to encourage sustainable construction and design	
14. Does it conserve and enhance the biodiversity of Rother?	<i>Option A – Impact will be dependent on the form of development</i>	Major	x	√	√	In the short term bio-diversity will require time to recover. Medium and long term should have positive effect through retention of hedgerows, woodland ponds and ditches, allied with increased provision of freshwater habitats	
	<i>Option B - Impact will be dependent on the form of development</i>	Major	?	?	?	In the short term bio-diversity will require time to recover. Medium and long term should have positive effect through retention of hedgerows, woodland ponds and ditches, allied with increased provision of freshwater habitats	
15. Does it protect, enhance and make accessible for enjoyment, <u>the</u>	<i>Option A – Countryside Park will offer opportunities</i>	No effect/ Minor	√	√	√		

No effect short - 0-5 years
Minor - medium 5-10 years
Major - long term 10 years plus

SA Objectives	Option A – New community Option B – Urban extension	Magnitude	Duration			Mitigation	Secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects
			S	M	L		
countryside and historic environment?	<i>Option B – Countryside Park will offer opportunities. Option may give access to wider population</i>	Minor	√	√	√		
16. Does it reduce road congestion and pollution levels by improving travel choice, and reducing the need for travel by car/lorry?	<i>Option A – Road congestion and pollution levels likely to be improved by the reduced need to travel by car/lorry</i>	No impact/ Minor	√	√	√		
	<i>Option B – More remote siting of services and facilities may increase need to travel by car or lorry, although proximity to existing development may foster sustainable travel habits to wider population.</i>	Minor	√	√	√	Promote provision of cycle paths	May encourage use of sustainable forms of transport to wider population
17. Does it reduce the global, social and environmental impact of consumption of resources by using sustainably produced and local products?	<i>Option A – Impact on baseline will be dependent upon the recommendations of SPD in relation to sustainable use of resources</i>	Not known	?	?	?		
	<i>Option B– Impact on baseline will be dependent upon the recommendations of SPD in relation to sustainable use of resources</i>	Not known	?	?	?		
18. Does it reduce waste generation and disposal, and achieve the sustainable	<i>Option A – Impact on the baseline will be dependent upon the recommendations of the SPD in relation to the ESCC related SPD</i>	Not known	?	?	?		

No effect short - 0-5 years
Minor - medium 5-10 years
Major - long term 10 years plus

SA Objectives	Option A – New community Option B – Urban extension	Magnitude	Duration			Mitigation	Secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects
			S	M	L		
management of waste?	<i>Option B - – Impact on the baseline will be dependent upon the recommendations of the SPD in relation to the ESCC related SPD</i>	Not known	?	?	?		
19. Does it maintain and improve the water quality of the rivers and coastline.	<i>Option A – Option will not impact on baseline data</i>	Not known	?	?	?		
	<i>Option B - Option will not impact on baseline data</i>	Not known	?	?	?		
20.To achieve sustainable water resources management	<i>Option A – Depends on the principles established through the SPD in relation to water resources</i>	Not known	?	?	?		
	<i>Option B - Depends on the principles established through the SPD in relation to water resources</i>	Not known	?	?	?		
21. To increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources	<i>Option A - Depends on the principle of the SPD in relation to energy strategy</i>	Not known	?	?	?		
	<i>Option B - Depends on the principle of the SPD in relation to energy strategy</i>	Not known	?	?	?		
22.To ensure high and stable levels of employment?	<i>Option A – Policies BX2 and BX3 make provision for business floorspace. Orientation of development not likely to impact on baseline</i>	No effect					

No effect short - 0-5 years
Minor - medium 5-10 years
Major - long term 10 years plus

SA Objectives	Option A – New community Option B – Urban extension	Magnitude	Duration			Mitigation	Secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects
			S	M	L		
	<i>Option B - Policies BX2 and BX3 make provision for business floorspace. Orientation of development not likely to impact on baseline</i>	No effect					
21. Does it sustain economic growth and competitiveness?	<i>Option A - Policies BX2 and BX3 make provision for business floorspace. Orientation of development not likely to impact on baseline</i>	No effect					
	<i>Option B - Policies BX2 and BX3 make provision for business floorspace. Orientation of development not likely to impact on baseline</i>	No effect					
22. Does it stimulate economic revival in priority regeneration areas?	<i>Option A - Policies BX2 and BX3 make provision for business floorspace. Orientation of development not likely to impact on baseline</i>	No effect					
	<i>Option B - Policies BX2 and BX3 make provision for business floorspace. More linkages to adjacent areas of Bexhill may support economic revival by further improved accessibility</i>	Minor	√	√	√		
23. Does it develop a dynamic, diverse and knowledge-based economy that excels in innovation with higher value, lower impact activities?	<i>Option A - No direct link</i>						
	<i>Option B - No direct link</i>						

No effect short - 0-5 years
Minor - medium 5-10 years
Major - long term 10 years plus

SA Objectives	Option A – New community Option B – Urban extension	Magnitude	Duration			Mitigation	Secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects
			S	M	L		
24. Does it encourage the development of a buoyant, sustainable tourism sector?	<i>Option A - No direct link</i>						
	<i>Option B - No direct link</i>						
25. Does it develop and maintain a skilled workforce to support long-term competitiveness of Rother?	<i>Option A - No direct link</i>						
	<i>Option B - No direct link</i>						

No effect short - 0-5 years
 Minor - medium 5-10 years
 Major - long term 10 years plus

Appendix 8 - Identifying Sustainability/Environmental issues/problems

Topic	Issue/Problem	Evidence	What SPD can do
Environment	Waste & Recycling (Sustainability Appraisal Framework Objective 18)	One of the Rother Community Plan's priorities relates to the need to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.	The SPD should encourage the use of recycled materials in construction of new buildings, and that the design of development incorporates recycling principals including facilities to promote recycling and composting.
Environment	Landscape Quality (SAF Objective 15)	The overriding landscape character of the area is pleasantly rolling and well wooded countryside, with a series of small winding valleys, and there is a distinct east west ridge that runs from Whydown in the west, to Pebsham in the east. The woodland element and strong field boundaries are the dominant landscape characteristics, and there are designations of Ancient Woodland in the vicinity as well as within the confines of the allocated sites.	A key issue will be to maintain the wooded character and to build on this element of the landscape to contain development, and maintain the essential character of the area.
Environment	Biodiversity (SAF Objective 14)	The land allocated for development in the local plan and subject to the SPD, includes land within the catchments of the Combe Haven SSSI. In addition there are records of protected species in the general area.	A key issue is how biodiversity can be protected and enhanced. This may include ensuring that necessary steps are taken to avoid disturbance of any protected species, and that opportunities for the enhancement of wildlife sites are considered.
Environment	Built Environment (SAF Objectives 8,11, 15)	In general terms Rother benefits from a high quality built environment. The District has over 2,100 listed buildings and 10 Conservation Areas, two of these being within the built form of Bexhill.	Key considerations are, exploring ways in which the local vernacular can be reflected in the new development, establishment of character areas and how good quality design including the efficient use of resources, can be incorporated into the design of houses, buildings and public spaces.

Topic	Issue/Problem	Evidence	What SPD can do
Environment	Climate Change (SAF Objectives 2, 13)	The new U.K Sustainable development strategy <i>Securing the future</i> confirms that we need to better manage the future impacts of climate change on the environment, economy and society. The consequences of climate change on the District may include sea level rise, habitat change, low river flows and extreme weather events. Sustainable construction and building design will help to tackle climate change.	SPD should ensure that all dwellings achieve an ECO homes rating of at least 'very good' or 'excellent' if possible. Also plan for a pattern of settlement and economic activity that reduces dependence on the car.
Environment	Water Quality (SAF Objective 19)	With such a large development it will be important to ensure that water quality is not compromised.	Ensuring that best practice is adopted during construction will assist in protecting ground and surface water from pollution.
Environment	Air Quality (SAF Objective 12)	There is no Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in Rother at present however, the review and assessment process for air quality will continue.	By planning development that reduces car dependence will contribute to achieving good air quality, especially in an urban area.
Social	Community Safety (SAF Objective 6)	Although Rother has generally low rates of criminal offences compared with the South East and England and Wales, the Rother Community Plan identifies community safety as a key local concern.	Ensuring that new development has had full regard to community safety and been designed for security will go some way to address this issue.
Social	Children & Young People (SAF Objectives 4, 5, 6, 9, 10)	The Rother Community Plan highlights that, in many cases, the services and facilities for young people are in need of improvement. In respect of child poverty specifically, parts of Bexhill and an area of Rye fall within the top 20% most deprived areas in the country.	The SPD can go some way to address this problem by ensuring that new development incorporates adequate accessible community facilities, open space and affordable housing.
Social	Culture & Leisure (SAF Objective 10)	Cultural and leisure opportunities can have a role in improving the quality of people's lives by promoting healthy lifestyles, supporting community cohesion, reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, supporting the economy and regeneration and contributing to environmental protection (Rother Community Plan).	One of the objectives of the SPD is to contribute to the social needs of the town and its existing and future residents, either by providing such opportunities on the development site or providing linkages to them.

Topic	Issue/Problem	Evidence	What SPD can do
Social	Health (SAF Objective 3)	The Community Plan recognises that an overall improvement in the health of Rother's residents and a reduction in health inequalities are important objectives.	The SPD can contribute to the wellbeing of residents by ensuring good linkages with safe cycle and pedestrian routes, links to the countryside, the provision of sufficient open space/recreational facilities and accessible health services..
Social	Housing (SAF Objective 1) The provision of more affordable housing is an identified priority in the Rother Community Plan.	Over recent years increases in average household incomes in Rother have not kept pace with house price rises, with the consequence that houses are becoming less and less affordable for local people.	A recent Housing Market assessment suggested that the application of 40% social rented housing on major development sites in Bexhill, may be an unbalanced approach, and that the level of social housing should not exceed 25%, with the balance being achieved through the provision of intermediate housing.
Social	Transport & Accessibility (SAF Objectives 7, 9, 16)	The Rother Community Plan identifies the need for transport improvements, particularly to improve access to education, job opportunities and health services. The planned link road is seen as critical in reducing not only current congestion, and helping to address accessibility and economic regeneration issues, but also in enabling the substantial development in the area.	The SPD should ensure good linkages with the public transport network, and address the demand for access to services and facilities by modes other than the car.
Social	Deprivation (SAF Objective 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 23)	The 2004 Indices of Multiple Deprivation rank Rother as the 181 st most deprived local authority area out of the 354 in England. There are pockets of more severe deprivation in parts of Bexhill and in the eastern wards of the District.	The SPD should ensure that the development incorporates a proportion of high quality affordable housing and meets the need for future residents to have good access to employment.
Economic	4.1 Education & Skills (SAF Objectives 5, 26)	Whilst educational attainment at GCSE level in Rother is relatively high at 64%, compared to 57% for East Sussex and 58% for the South East, opportunities for post 16 education are, on the face of it, more limited. The Community Strategy for East Sussex recognises that there is a need to raise educational aspiration and achievement whilst increasing lifelong learning opportunities is identified	The SPD should consider the need to improve access to further education establishments either by providing these services on the development site or by ensuring good public transport linkages to such existing facilities.

Topic	Issue/Problem	Evidence	What SPD can do
		as an objective in the Rother Community Plan.	
Economic	Jobs (SAF Objectives 7, 21)	<p>Whilst unemployment rates in Rother are low with 1.8% of working age population in May 2006, (Bexhill is slightly more at 2.6% though still less than the national average) average earnings for people working locally are lower than for East Sussex and the South East and a substantial proportion (40%) of local jobs are part-time.</p> <p>It is a priority of the Rother Community Plan to increase average earnings in the Rother District by 20% to match the UK average by 2009.</p>	The SPD can contribute by ensuring that employment opportunities are accessible and giving clear expectation of requirements for business development to support its early delivery.
Economic	Local Economy & Regeneration (SAF Objectives 22, 23, 24, 25)	The Community Strategy for East Sussex identified building a prosperous local economy as a priority in view of the generally low wage rates, significant levels of employment in lower paid sectors and the fact that the county GDP is less than two thirds of the national average.	The role of the SPD in ensuring the accessibility and creation of jobs will go some way to support the local economy. In addition the creation of the proposed link road will help address accessibility issues and support economic regeneration.

