



Rother District Council Authority Monitoring Report



2024/25

This information can be made available in large print, audio or in another language upon request.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. The *Authority Monitoring Report* (AMR) details Rother District Council's progress in developing, adopting and implementing local planning policies within Rother district, as well as housing delivery, *Community Infrastructure Levy* (CIL) figures and duty to cooperate actions.
- 1.2. It is required, under national planning regulations¹, to be published on an 'at least annual' basis.
- 1.3. This AMR relates to the monitoring period from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.
- 1.4. This AMR includes the following sections and information:
 - **The Development Plan:**
Documents and policies that currently form the Development Plan for Rother District.
 - **Local Development Scheme (LDS) Implementation:**
Progress made on the preparation of planning documents detailed in the LDS.
 - **Neighbourhood Planning:**
Progress made on Neighbourhood Plans within the district.
 - **Duty to Cooperate:**
Details of cooperation undertaken with neighbouring local authorities, East Sussex County Council and other statutory bodies during the monitoring period.
 - **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Monitoring:**
CIL income and expenditure.
 - **Local Plan Policy Monitoring:**
The progress of Local Plan policies against key policy indicators, as well as the Council's five-year housing land supply position, delivery of housing during the monitoring period and Gypsy and Traveller pitch supply.

¹ [The Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2012 - Regulation 34](#)

2. The Development Plan

- 2.1. The development plan for Rother District is currently comprised of the following planning policy documents.
- 2.2. Rother District Local Plan (RDLP) documents:
- RDLP 2011-2028 Part 1: Local Plan Core Strategy (2014)²
 - RDLP 2011-2028 Part 2: Development and Site Allocations (DaSA) Local Plan (2019)³
 - RDLP 2006-2011 (2006) saved policies only.
- 2.3. Rother District Neighbourhood Plan (NP) documents:
- Battle Civil Parish NP 2019-2028 (2021)⁴
 - Burwash NP 2020-2028 (2022)⁵
 - Crowhurst NP 2018-2028 (2019, reviewed 2025)⁶
 - Hurst Green NP 2021-2028 (2025)⁷
 - Peasmarch NP 2021-2028 (2024)⁸
 - Rye NP 2016-2028 (2019)⁹
 - Salehurst and Robertsbridge NP 2016-2028 (2018)¹⁰
 - Sedlescombe NP 2016-2028 (2018)¹¹
 - Ticehurst NP 2018-2028 (2019)¹².
- 2.4. East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Local Plan documents:
- Waste and Minerals Sites Plan (2017)¹³

² [Core Strategy – Rother District Council](#)

³ [Development and Site Allocations \(DaSA\) Local Plan – Rother District Council](#)

⁴ [Battle Civil Parish Neighbourhood Plan – Rother District Council](#)

⁵ [Burwash Neighbourhood Plan – Rother District Council](#)

⁶ [Crowhurst Neighbourhood Plan – Rother District Council](#)

⁷ [Hurst Green Neighbourhood Plan – Rother District Council](#)

⁸ [Peasmarch Parish Neighbourhood Plan – Rother District Council](#)

⁹ [Rye Neighbourhood Plan – Rother District Council](#)

¹⁰ [Salehurst and Robertsbridge Neighbourhood Plan – Rother District Council](#)

¹¹ [Sedlescombe Neighbourhood Plan – Rother District Council](#)

¹² [Ticehurst Neighbourhood Plan – Rother District Council](#)

¹³ [Waste and minerals plans and monitoring reports | East Sussex County Council](#)

- Waste and Minerals Plan (2013)¹²
- Waste and Minerals Local Plan – Revised Policies (2024)¹⁴

Rother District Local Plan:

- 2.5. The Core Strategy (adopted 29 September 2014) is the Council's principal planning policy document and is effectively Part 1 of the current Local Plan for the District.
- 2.6. Part 2 of the Local Plan for the district, the Development and Site Allocations (DaSA) Local Plan (adopted 16 December 2019) sets out both detailed development policies and the site allocations necessary to deliver development in accordance with the spatial strategy set out in the Core Strategy. These allocations have superseded the saved site allocations from the RDLP (2006), except in Neighbourhood Areas where Plans have not been made.
- 2.7. Most of the policies of the RDLP 2006-2011 have been superseded in the RDLP 2011-2028 Core Strategy and DaSA, as well as the made Neighbourhood Plans, however there are three policies that continue to be saved.
- 2.8. RDLP 2006-2011 policy **DS3: Proposals within development boundaries** remains saved in the parish of Etchingham until its Neighbourhood Plan has been made.
- 2.9. RDLP 2006-2011 policy **VL1: Land South of Strand Meadow, Burwash** remains saved until the planning permission on the site is implemented.
- 2.10. RDLP 2006-2001 policy **EM4: Marley Lane – land at Rutherfords Business Park** remains saved as an identified site.

¹⁴ Adopted 2024-25, outside the reporting period.

Neighbourhood Plans in Rother district:

- 2.11. The status of the district's Neighbourhood Plans, as well as progress made during the monitoring year, is discussed in detail in Section 4: [Neighbourhood Planning](#).
- 2.12. All of the policies in the made Neighbourhood Plans remain extant, except for;
- Part (ii) of the Salehurst and Robertsbridge NP policy **EC3: Employment retention** which has been superseded by the RDLP 2011-2028 DaSA policy **DCO1: Retention of Sites of Social or Economic Value**; and
 - Part (i) of the Ticehurst NP policy **H4: Affordable Housing** which has been superseded by the RDLP 2011-2028 DaSA policy **DHG1: Affordable Housing**.

East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Local Plan:

- 2.13. The East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Local Plan is composed of two main documents: the Waste and Minerals Plan (WMP) and the Waste and Minerals Sites Plan (WMSP).
- 2.14. The WMP sets out the strategic policy decisions for waste and minerals in the East Sussex, part of the South Downs and Brighton & Hove. It was formally adopted on 19 February 2013 and replaced the majority of the policies that were contained in the Waste Local Plan (2006) and Minerals Local Plan (1999).
- 2.15. The WMSP provides the spatial details for the requirements contained within the WMP which was adopted in February 2013. The Sites Plan identifies potential locations for future waste facilities and safeguards existing waste and minerals resources. The Plan provides communities and the waste and minerals industry with greater certainty about where waste and minerals development can take place.
- 2.16. The Waste and Minerals Planning Authorities commenced a review of the Waste and Minerals Local Plan during 2017. This review focused on the provision of aggregates, mineral resources and infrastructure safeguarding and improvements to the effectiveness of certain policies within the Plan. Following a call for evidence and sites, the Authorities published the East

Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Local Plan - Revised Policies. The Revised Policies amend the existing Waste and Minerals Plan and Waste and Minerals Sites Plan. It was subject to Public Examination and adopted by the Authorities on 24 October 2024.

3. Local Development Scheme Implementation

- 3.1. The [Local Development Scheme](#) (LDS) is the Council's programme document for the preparation of development plan documents. It sets out the Council's timetable for the preparation of planning policy documents over a three-year period and identifies each of the stages of their preparation and the respective timescales for their completion.
- 3.2. The current LDS, published in March 2025, is focused on:
- Preparation of the emerging RDLP 2020-2040
 - Review of the CIL Charging Schedule
 - Annual updates to the Council's monitoring documents including the Brownfield Land Register, Authority Monitoring Report, Housing Land Supply Position Statement, Employment Land Supply Position Statement and Infrastructure Funding Statement.

Preparation of the emerging RDLP 2020-2040:

- 3.3. Rother District Council's current Core Strategy Local Plan is now more than five years old, having been adopted on 29 September 2014. In line with the requirements of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) and *Planning Practice Guidance* (PPG), the Council must review Local Plans at least once every five years to ensure that policies remain relevant.
- 3.4. The delivery of the new Local Plan is a key priority for Rother District Council as it will set out our policy response to the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis as well as plan for sustainable development up to 2040. The two key themes running through the plan will be:
- 'Green to the Core' - considering the impact of all planning decisions on the climate emergency, the biodiversity crisis and the High Weald Area National Landscape.
 - 'Live Well Locally' - creating healthy, sustainable and inclusive communities that support residents across the age spectrum in terms of housing, access to jobs, services and facilities.
- 3.5. Given the significance of these challenges, the evidence gathering stage must be as thorough as possible and therefore the Council has undertaken a significant amount of early engagement.

3.6. The Council undertook a public consultation (known as “Regulation 18”) on the draft Local Plan in Spring/ Summer 2024, in line with the timetable in the LDS. As well as the draft Local Plan itself, a number of evidence-based documents were published for consultation at the same time, including:

- a draft **Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment** (HELAA)¹⁵. This will help to identify a future supply of land in the district which is suitable, available and achievable for housing and economic development. A “Call for Sites” remains open via the Call for Sites webpage¹⁶.
- A joint **Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment**¹⁷ (HEDNA) with Hastings Borough Council which assesses future housing needs, the scale of future economic growth and the quantity of land and floorspace required for economic development.
- A **Strategic Flood Risk Assessment**¹⁸ (SFRA) which will inform the Sustainability Appraisal of the Local Plan Update and will provide the basis from which to apply the Sequential Test and Exception Test in the development allocation and development management process.
- A **Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment**¹⁹ to assess the housing needs of gypsy and travellers within the district.
- A **Settlement Review** which considers settlement forms and constraints, the role/function of different areas within the district, provides an overview of their existing level of sustainability and analyses the physical and environmental constraints that may affect potential settlement capacity.
- A county-wide **Transport Assessment** to provide evidence of the transport infrastructure and interventions required to support the Local Plan.
- A **Windfall Assessment** which will provide justification for the likely contribution that windfall sites can make to the district’s housing supply over the course of the new plan period.

¹⁵ [Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment \(HELAA\) – Rother District Council](#)

¹⁶ [Call for Sites – Rother District Council](#)

¹⁷ [HEDNA \(rother.gov.uk\)](#)

¹⁸ [Strategic Flood Risk Assessment \(SFRA\) 2021 – Rother District Council](#)

¹⁹ [East Sussex Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs Assessment \(rother.gov.uk\)](#)

- A **Playing Pitch Strategy and Built Facilities Strategy**, jointly with Hastings BC, which assesses the current provision of indoor and outdoor sports facilities and establish needs, issues and priorities.
- A **Retail, Town Centre and Leisure Study** which assesses the needs for retail and leisure space, and the extent of designated retail areas within the District.
- A **Net Zero Carbon Evidence Base Study** to provide justification for policy approaches within the New Local Plan to respond to the Climate emergency and ensure that the Plan is ‘green to the core’.
- **Background topic papers** on areas of the Plan including Development Strategy, Health and Wellbeing, and Heritage.
- A draft **Infrastructure Delivery Plan** to identify the strategic infrastructure provision required to support the objectives of and the development proposed within the Local Plan.
- A draft **Density Study** to contains the evidence used to calculate housing density ranges and how these will apply to Rother’s different area types.
- A draft **Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA)** to assess whether the Local Plan may result in likely significant effects on the integrity of designated Habitats Sites, in accordance with legislation..
- A draft **Sustainability Appraisal** to assess the development of policy options and sites as the Local Plan progresses.

3.7. The Regulation 18 consultation, which covered a 12 week period from April to July 2024, involved 13 public exhibitions which were well attended, as well as many presentations to town and parish councils and the public. It resulted in the receipt of nearly 3,700 individual comments from over 600 respondents, a significant increase compared to previous consultation exercises. Officers continue to consider the representations received.

3.8. In light of the changes to the NPPF (December 2024) and the increase in the Local Housing Need figure for Rother, the next stage will be for the draft Local Plan and evidence base to be further refined and developed, also informed by the representations received during the public consultation period, and a further, focused (Regulation 18) consultation to be carried out on proposed site allocations, quarter 4 2025/26. Subsequent to this, the final “submission” version of the Local Plan will be produced for publication (“Regulation 19

stage”) and submission to the Secretary of State, for public examination, and ultimate adoption by the Council.

Review of the CIL Charging Schedule:

- 3.9. The *Community Infrastructure Levy* (CIL) allows local authorities in England and Wales to raise funds from developers undertaking new building projects in their area to fund a wide range of infrastructure that is needed to support new development. The CIL Charging Schedule sets out the rates applicable to certain types of development that are liable to pay the levy.
- 3.10. When deciding the levy rates, it is important that the viability of developments is not affected. Therefore, a review of the existing CIL charging schedule will take place alongside the production of the new Local Plan. This will ensure that infrastructure planning and the Charging Schedule are consistent and will ensure that key infrastructure priorities are delivered to facilitate growth and the delivery of planned development.
- 3.11. To date, due to other workload priorities, there has not been significant progress made with regard to the review of the CIL Charging Schedule, however this will be progressed within the next year alongside progressing the new Local Plan to the next stage.

Update to the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI):

- 3.12. The SCI was adopted by the Council on 31 January 2022. It updates and supersedes the previous SCI which was adopted on 18 December 2018.
- 3.13. The updated SCI sets out how the Council will involve the community during the production of the emerging RDLP 2020-2040.
- 3.14. In addition to identifying the Council’s statutory consultation requirements, the updated SCI provides a higher level of detail in respect of how early engagement will be undertaken, as well where the Council will carry out informal engagement.
- 3.15. The SCI also has regard to the increased scope of engagement that is now available through new online platforms and includes information about the incorporation of the changes made since 2018 to the public speaking

processes at Planning Committee. This section of the SCI was reviewed in January 2024 to reflect further changes to the Planning Committee public speaking arrangements, made at Full Council in December 2024.

4. Neighbourhood Planning

- 4.1. Neighbourhood planning was introduced through the Localism Act 2011 and gives communities the power to develop a shared vision for their area. They can shape, direct and help to deliver sustainable development, by influencing local planning decisions as part of the statutory development plan.
- 4.2. The Council has encouraged and supported the production of Neighbourhood Plans by offering support and advice through a dedicated Neighbourhood Planning Officer.

Neighbourhood Planning Status:

- 4.3. There are currently 11 designated neighbourhood areas within the district that include the parishes of Battle, Burwash, Crowhurst, Etchingham, Fairlight, Hurst Green, Peasmarch, Rye, Salehurst and Robertsbridge, Sedlescombe and Ticehurst.
- 4.4. Nine Neighbourhood Plans have been ‘made:’ in Battle, Burwash, Crowhurst, Hurst Green, Peasmarch, Rye, Salehurst and Robertsbridge, Sedlescombe, and Ticehurst.
- 4.5. Figure 1 provides a brief overview of the current status of neighbourhood planning within the district, as of the end of the current monitoring period.

Figure 1: Neighbourhood Planning status at 1 April 2025

Plan	Designated (Reg. 7)	Status at the end of the monitoring period	Made
Battle Civil Parish NP	13/04/2015	Made	03/11/2021
Burwash NP	07/06/2016	Made	04/07/2022
Crowhurst NP	24/11/2015	Made and reviewed	08/07/2019, 06/12/2024
Etchingham NP	15/07/2016	Preparation for Regulation 14 pre-submission consultation has paused.	N/A
Fairlight NP	09/11/2015	Plan abandoned (27/02/2018).	N/A
Hurst Green NP	08/06/2017	Made	15/12/2025
Peasmarch NP	25/03/2021	Made	22/04/2024
Rye NP	04/11/2013	Made	08/07/2019

Plan	Designated (Reg. 7)	Status at the end of the monitoring period	Made
Salehurst and Robertsbridge NP	13/04/2015	Made	09/07/2018
Sedlescombe NP	01/07/2013	Made	23/04/2018
Ticehurst NP	02/11/2015	Made	08/07/2019

Neighbourhood Plan allocated housing sites:

- 4.6. Figure 2 shows that allocated housing sites in the made Neighbourhood Plans make a significant contribution towards the district's housing supply, with a minimum allocated supply of 449 dwellings, as of 1 April 2025.
- 4.7. The sites highlighted in green have planning permissions in place or resolutions to grant permission (subject to completion of a Section 106 agreement) equating to 457 dwellings on allocated sites, as of 1 April 2025.

Figure 2: Neighbourhood Plan allocated housing sites

Plan ²⁰	Policy	Site	Dwellings allocated or permitted
BCPNP	HD2(i)	Land at White House Poultry Farm, Netherfield	23
BCPNP	HD2(ii)	Land at Swallow Barn, Netherfield	10
BCPNP	HD2(iii)	Land at Glengorse, Battle	15
BCPNP	HD2(iv)	Land at Caldbec House, Battle	5
BCPNP	HD2(v)	Land at Blackfriars, Battle	220
CNP	CH1	Land at Station Road and Forewood Lane, Crowhurst	12
CNP	CH2	Land south of Forewood Rise, Crowhurst	12
CNP	CH3	Land adjacent to the Station Car Park, Crowhurst	6
RNP	H3	Former Tilling Green School, Rye	20
RNP	H4	Rock Channel, Rye	30
RNP	H5	Winchelsea Road East, Rye	10
RNP	H6	Winchelsea Road West, Rye	20
RNP	H7	Former Freda Gardham School, Rye	30
RNP	H8	Thomas Peacocke / Former Lower School, Rye	63
SRNP	HO2(i)	Mill Site, Robertsbridge	96
SRNP	HO2(ii)	Heathfield Gardens, Robertsbridge	35
SRNP	HO2(iii)	Vicarage Land, Robertsbridge	6
SRNP	HO2(iv)	Grove Farm, Robertsbridge	30
SNP	2	Land at Sunningdale, Sedlescombe	8
SNP	3	Land at Pestalozzi, Sedlescombe	6
SNP	4	Land North of Village Hall, Sedlescombe	10

²⁰ Neighbourhood Plans are abbreviated as follows: Battle Civil Parish NP (BCPNP), Crowhurst NP (CNP), Rye NP (RNP), Salehurst and Robertsbridge NP (SRNP), Sedlescombe NP (SNP), Ticehurst NP (TNP).

Plan ²⁰	Policy	Site	Dwellings allocated or permitted
SNP	5	Land at Sedlescombe Sawmills, Sedlescombe	6
SNP	6	Land adjacent to St John the Baptist Church, Sedlescombe	8
SNP	7	Land at Gate Cottage, Sedlescombe	8
SNP	8	Land at Church Hill Farm, Sedlescombe	10
SNP	9	Land at Pump House Yard, Sedlescombe	2
TNP	H2(i)	Land at Orchard Farm, Ticehurst	6
TNP	H2(ii)	Land at Singehurst, Ticehurst	10
TNP	H2(iii)	Land at Wardsdown House, Flimwell	9
		Total	706

5. Duty to Cooperate

- 5.1. The Council has continued to undertake engagement work on the new Rother Local Plan. The Council has had effective engagement and cooperated²¹ with other local planning authorities (LPAs), statutory consultees and other bodies²² on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries, particularly in relation to strategic planning matters.
- 5.2. The Council is committed to its duties in relation to the Duty to Co-operate, and in summer 2020 prepared a Duty to Co-operate Action Plan which outlined how and at what stage it intends to engage and consult with organisations on the development of the Local Plan. This document was issued jointly with an Early Engagement Document on the Local Plan to seek early views through targeted informal engagement with neighbouring local authorities and other key organisations and consultees. Feedback received at this early stage helped to shape the Council's Engagement Strategy and progress of the Local Plan. Whilst the timetable for the delivery of the actions has been slightly delayed, the Council has continued with its duties and will seek to implement and complete Memorandums of Understanding and Statements of Common Ground with its partners to formalise strategic planning issues, agreements and working practices to support the preparation of the Local Plan. This will continue to take place, right up to the submission date of the plan for examination.
- 5.3. The Council also maintains effective communication with neighbouring local authorities on strategic planning matters at the East Sussex Local Plan Managers Group, as well as having a representative on a number of other working groups.
- 5.4. Rother District Council and Hastings Borough Council have a *Memorandum of Understanding* (MoUs) in place and have worked together in commissioning a joint *Housing and Economic Development Need Assessment* (HEDNA) study, and a *Playing Pitch and Built Facilities Strategy* across Rother and Hastings, to inform the preparation of the Council's respective Local Plan updates.

²¹ The 'duty to cooperate' is defined in Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, is contained in the NPPF at para 178, with guidance from DCLG in its 'Duty to Co-operate' Planning Practice Guide

²² See Part 2 of the Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations, 2012

- 5.5. In addition, both Councils jointly prepared a *Sustainability Appraisal* (SA)/Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report which underwent consultation in the summer of 2020. This has resulted in a joint approach to the SA Framework that will be used to assess the development of planning policies and proposed development allocations in respective Local Plans. As Hastings Borough Council are more advanced in the preparation of their Local Plan, the Councils will move forward with separate final Sustainability Appraisal Reports. The Councils continue to work closely together to discuss synergies in our Local Plans and share findings of our evidence base.
- 5.6. *Statements of Common Ground* (SoCG) have previously been produced between Rother District Council and Folkstone & Hythe District Council, Ashford Borough Council, and Tunbridge Wells Borough Council to support their respective Local Plans. It has been agreed through recent early engagement on Rother's Local Plan that all neighbouring planning authorities are committed to preparing MoUs or more formal SoCG on strategic planning matters, to support future formal consultation stages of the Rother Local Plan. Other prescribed bodies and infrastructure providers have also shown their support to signing up to MoUs to be published alongside the Rother Local Plan.
- 5.7. The Council will continue to focus its attention on the Duty to Co-operate elements of the Local Plan and contribute to consultation undertaken by neighbouring local authorities. The Council are committed to maintaining effective engagement on the cross-boundary strategic planning issues identified in Rother's Engagement Strategy.

6. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Monitoring

- 6.1. The CIL allows local authorities in England and Wales to raise funds from developers undertaking new building projects in their area to fund a wide range of infrastructure that is needed to support new development. This includes transport schemes, schools, flood defences, health and social care facilities, parks, green spaces, leisure centres and other community and cultural facilities. As almost all development has some impact on the need for infrastructure, services and amenities, this tariff-based approach is seen as an effective, quicker and fairer framework to fund new infrastructure to support growth.
- 6.2. Rother District Council approved the implementation of its CIL from 4 April 2016 and it applies to all liable development²³ after this date. The CIL Charging Schedule²⁴ sets out the relevant charges per square metre that will apply to each category of development that is liable. The Council has adopted a differential approach, whereby different zones have different charging rates.
- 6.3. The CIL is to be used to help provide infrastructure to support the development of an area, rather than making an individual planning application acceptable in planning terms (which is the purpose of Section 106 Agreements). CIL does not replace Section 106 Agreements but works alongside them in order to deliver infrastructure in support of development. It should be noted that the provision of affordable housing lies outside of the remit of CIL and continues to be secured through Section 106 Agreements.
- 6.4. The amendment to the CIL Regulations²⁵ in September 2019 introduced the requirement for authorities to publish an annual Infrastructure Funding Statement²⁶.
- 6.5. The Infrastructure Funding Statement provides information on the monetary (and non-monetary) contributions sought and received from developers for the provision of infrastructure to support development within the district and the subsequent use of those contributions by the Council.

²³ Information on what kind of development is CIL liable can be found at: [Community Infrastructure Levy \(CIL\) – Rother District Council](#)

²⁴ [CIL Charging Schedule](#)

²⁵ [The Community Infrastructure Levy \(Amendment\) \(England\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2019](#)

²⁶ [Monitoring – Rother District Council](#)

Headline CIL Figures:

- 6.6. The Infrastructure Funding Statement presents a detailed analysis of CIL activity over the monitoring year and meets the annual CIL monitoring requirements, however, headline figures for the monitoring period are also presented in Figure 3 below. The full Infrastructure Funding Statement, including explanations and definitions for the Headline Figures, can be found on the Council's website²⁷.

Figure 3: Headline CIL figures

CIL invoiced (set out in Demand Notices) in 2024/25	£3,141,0708.05
CIL receipts received in 2024/25 (collected within the funding year)	£2,684,919.47
CIL expenditure in 2024/25	£2,204,178.00
CIL retained at end of 2024/25 (4 th April 2016 to 31 st March 2025)	£8,431,265.63

²⁷ [Monitoring – Rother District Council](#)

7. Local Plan Monitoring

- 7.1. Each of the policies within the Core Strategy relate to objectives, for which targets and indicators are identified.
- 7.2. The performance of objectives during the monitoring period has been measured against targets as well as year-on-year trends. Indicator data for each of the targets measured is available in Appendix 2: Local Plan Monitoring Data Tables²⁸.
- 7.3. It should be recognised that indicators are influenced by many factors and that fluctuations are inevitable. Hence, a judgement has been applied in interpreting the findings, drawing on an understanding of the data and its context in terms of other relevant information, general economic conditions and wider trends. It should also be noted that information is not currently available for some indicators and, in such situations, alternative indicators have been selected to reduce data gaps where possible. The most current information relating to the performance of indicators has been used. However, it does mean that timeframes vary, due to different publication dates of data.
- 7.4. Performance of the indicators most centrally relating to the development strategy for the district (as set out in Core Strategy policy OSS1) are highlighted below.

Core Strategy:

- 7.5. The Core Strategy set district-wide targets for the delivery of at least 5,700 new homes between 2011 and 2028, which gave an annualised target of 335 new dwellings per annum, and 100,000 sqm of additional employment floorspace between 2011 and 2028, equivalent to 5,882 sqm per annum.
- 7.6. The district wide targets are broken down into separate targets for each of the five core spatial areas. These are Bexhill, Battle, Rye, The Rural Areas and The Hastings Fringes, as shown in Figure 4 below.

²⁸ Available on request

Figure 4: Spatial area targets

Spatial Area	Dwellings	Employment Floorspace (sqm)
Bexhill	3,100	60,000
Battle	475	10,000
Rye	355	10,000
The Rural Areas	1,670	10,000
The Hastings Fringes	100	3,000
District Total	5,700	100,000

Housing Land Supply:

- 7.7. As the Local Plan Core Strategy was adopted in September 2014, it is now more than five years old and in accordance with the NPPF, the Council measures its five-year housing land supply position against its minimum *Local Housing Need* (LHN) figure, defined using the standard method calculation set out in the national Planning Practice Guidance²⁹, until such time as a new target is established through the Plan-Making process.
- 7.8. As of 1 April 2025 (in line with the NPPF, 2024), the LHN figure for Rother is 912 dwellings per annum, calculated using the new methodology introduced in December 2025. This is in sharp contrast to the annualised Core Strategy target of 335 dwellings per annum and, due to the considerable uplift in the housing figure, the Council is only able to identify 3.04 years of housing supply.
- 7.9. Therefore, it is concluded that there is currently an insufficient supply of deliverable housing sites to meet the five-year housing land supply requirement in accordance with the NPPF. The implications, for Rother, of a lack of a five-year housing land supply on decision-making is explained in our Housing Land Supply April 2025 Position Statement³⁰.
- 7.10. It should be noted that it is a feature of the development strategy that major housing sites in North Bexhill and North-East Bexhill will give a significant boost to housing (and business space) delivery. The development at Worsham Farm, of which phase 2 is under construction, is anticipated to increase supply by some 780 dwellings over the next 6 years, for example.

²⁹ [Housing and economic needs assessment - GOV.UK](#)

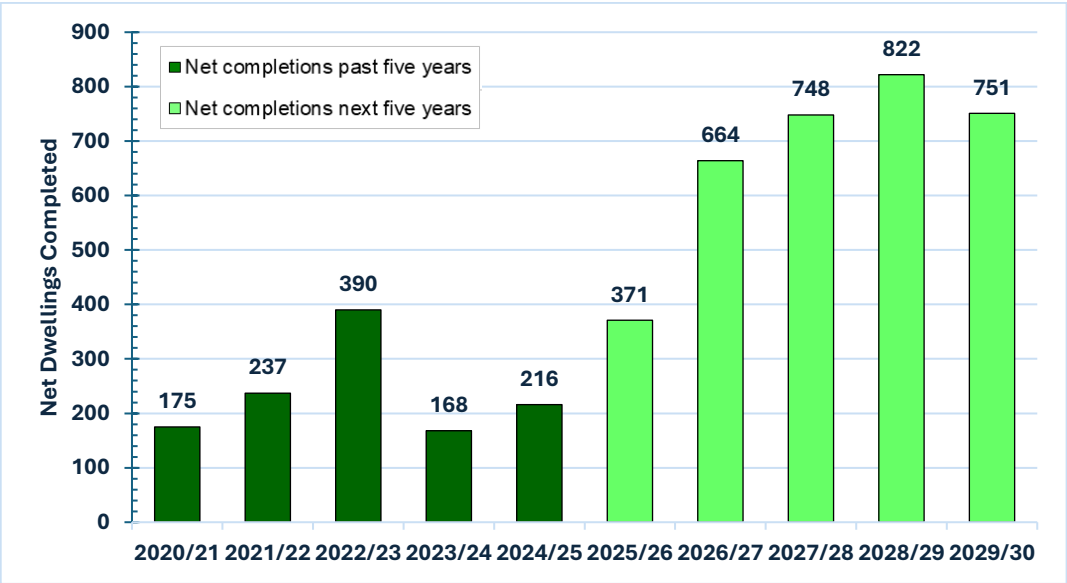
³⁰ [Monitoring – Rother District Council](#)

7.11. In terms of addressing the district’s lack of a five-year housing land supply, the adoption of a housing requirement through the new Local Plan will be key. Therefore, progressing the new Local Plan through to adoption, as soon as possible, will be prioritised.

Housing Delivery:

- 7.12. As shown in Figure 5 below, over the monitoring year there were 216 net additional dwellings built within the district. This is higher than the 168 dwellings completed the previous year and higher than the annual average of 215 dwelling completions since the start of the Plan period. Housing delivery has been variable in the last few years. In total, over the past five years, there have been 1,186 dwellings completed, equating to 237 dwellings per year.
- 7.13. The next five years, however, are projected to deliver significantly more housing, due to several of the larger housing sites having been permissioned or commenced and housing completions starting to be delivered. Based on information received directly from developers, agents and landowners, over the next five years, there are projected to be approximately 3,356 dwellings completed, equating to some 671 dwellings per year and over double what has been delivered in the preceding five years. Of course, these figures may be subject to change, but the data suggests that the district is entering a phase of higher housing growth.

Figure 5: Net housing delivery over the past five years and next five years



Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Supply:

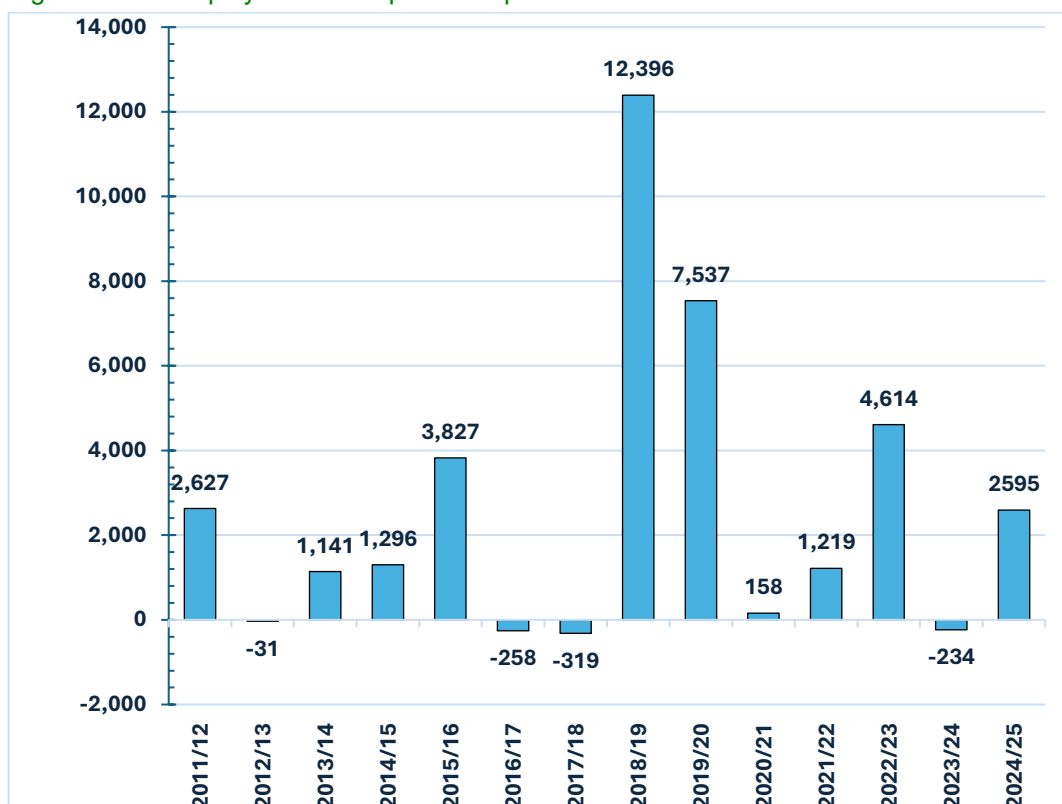
- 7.14. The Government's overarching aim is to ensure fair and equal treatment for Gypsies and Travellers in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic way of life while respecting the interests of the settled community. Its Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS) (December 2024) sets out the approach which Local Authorities should follow, firstly determining the level of need within the local area and then planning to meet that need. At paragraph 10 (a), the PPTS sets out the requirement for local planning authorities, in producing their Local Plan, to identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years' worth of sites against their locally set targets.
- 7.15. The locally set target is detailed in the Core Strategy, which sets out the need for pitches over the plan period (2011-2028) through Policy LHN5: Sites for the needs of Gypsies and Travellers, which states:
- “Provision will be made for five permanent pitches within Rother for Gypsies and Travellers over the period 2011-2016, and a further six pitches between 2016 and 2028. Sites will be allocated in the Development and Site Allocations (DaSA) Plan, considering any sites granted permission in the interim. Site selection will consider the Strategy objectives, the future needs of occupiers and the likely availability of sites for its intended occupiers. Sites should meet the criteria set in Policy LHN6”.*
- 7.16. Between 2011- 2016, five pitches were granted permanent planning permission, leaving a remaining requirement of six pitches up to 2028. Just as for “bricks and mortar” housing, the Council is required to demonstrate how it will meet the targets for the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers. The DaSA Local Plan allocates two sites to meet the outstanding need of six pitches (as at 1 April 2018, the base date of the Plan):
- Land adjacent to High Views, Loose Farm Lane, Battle (one pitch); and
 - Land at North Bexhill (five pitches).
- 7.17. To date, none of these allocated pitches have been delivered.
- 7.18. Since 2018 (the base date of the DaSA), a further eight pitches have been granted permanent permission:
- RR/2020/1181/P - Bramble Farm (four pitches) in October 2020; and

- RR/2019/1565/P - High Views (four pitches) in December 2021 and May 2023.
- 7.19. A further three pitches at two sites received temporary planning permissions in November 2022 and June 2023 (RR/2020/1613/P and RR/2022/2791/P).
- 7.20. Therefore, the sites which have received permanent planning permission since 2018 are, alone, sufficient to provide five years' worth of sites against the Core Strategy requirement, that is, the adopted locally set target. An appeal decision in 2021 (RR/2019/1565/P) cast doubt over the deliverability of both of the allocated sites, however, this analysis shows that the Council has a five-year supply, even without these.
- 7.21. The same appeal decision found that while the Council did have a five-year supply of sites, the evidence underpinning the Council's pitch target is out of date, meaning that the actual accommodation need may be higher than the six pitches (to 2028) which was identified through the Core Strategy and DaSA. While this point is noted, it remains the case that the Council does have a five year supply of specific, deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years' worth of sites against their locally set target, as required by the *Planning Policy for Traveller Sites* (PPTS).
- 7.22. However, the Council is committed to updating its evidence base and since that appeal decision, Rother has worked alongside all of the East Sussex local authorities and the South Downs National Park Authority to commission a joint Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTAA) for East Sussex for the study period between 2021 and 2040. This study was published in May 2022. Its findings are reflected in the draft (Regulation 18) Local Plan.

Employment land supply

- 7.23. Net employment floorspace completions since the start of the plan period, shown in Figure 6, have been relatively low. The notable exception was in 2018/19 where a large amount of B8 open-air storage was completed. Since 2011 there has been a total of 36,824 sqm completed, equating to an average of some 2,630 sqm per year.

Figure 6: Net employment floorspace completed in Rother 2011/12-2024/25



- 7.24. Despite the relatively slow growth in employment floorspace to date, the outlook is expected to improve in the coming years as several of the larger employment sites have commenced construction.
- 7.25. The amount of net additional employment floorspace currently under construction equates to some 17,085 sqm. In addition, there is 10,671 sqm of net employment floorspace on sites with detailed planning permission (full or reserved matters), and 26,300 sqm on allocated sites.
- 7.26. Outline permissions at Bexhill Enterprise Park (RR/2013/2166/P and RR/2014/2733/P) have expired, however those parts without Reserved Matters approval or not having already been completed, equating to some 13,742 sqm, are still expected to come forward as they remain in Sea Change Sussex's ownership.
- 7.27. As shown in Figure 7 below, the district has sufficient permissions and allocations in place, as well as sites still expected to come forward, to meet the development target of at least 100,000 sqm additional employment floorspace, as set out in the Core Strategy.

Figure 7: Performance against Core Strategy employment floorspace targets 2024/25

Year	Bexhill	Battle	Rye	Rural Areas	Hastings Fringes	Total
Target*	60,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	3,000	100,000
Completed	2,244	1,025	20,380	13,231	-56	36,824
In progress	10,566	206	4,087	2,226	0	17,085
Permitted	-904	1,546	3,055	5,265	204	9,166
Identified	13,742	2,700	0	0	0	16,442
Allocated	25,500	0	0	3,000	-2,200	26,300
Total	51,148	5,477	27,522	23,722	-2,052	105,817
Residual Required	8,852	4,523	0	0	5,052	18,427

- 7.28. Employment completions in Bexhill have been well under target to date, partly due to the longer timeframes involved in delivering the larger employment sites in North and North-East Bexhill. As discussed above, these sites are still expected to come forward.
- 7.29. Employment targets in the Hastings Fringes are also not being achieved. Like Bexhill however, there are permissions and allocations in place.
- 7.30. Employment in Battle is more problematic, as there has been limited progress towards its employment targets to date and there are not currently enough permissions in place to meet the Core Strategy targets. Furthermore, there have been no employment sites allocated in the Battle Neighbourhood Plan. Employment requirements will be reviewed in the emerging Local Plan.

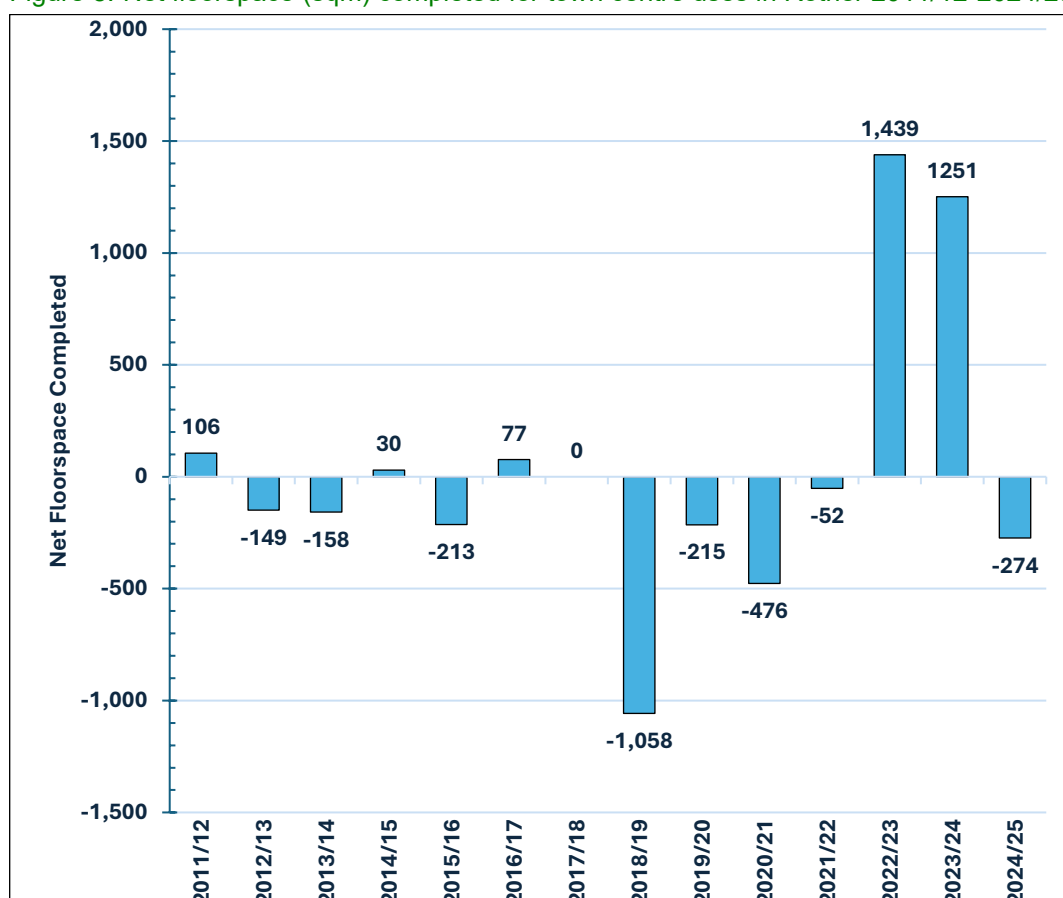
Town Centre Floorspace

- 7.31. Town centre uses are defined in the Core Strategy as uses within the former planning use classes³¹ A1, A2, B1(a) and D2, that is, retail, financial, and related uses, offices and some cultural uses. Most of these uses now fall within planning use class E (commercial, business and service). The Core Strategy monitoring indicators include the amount of floorspace for town centre uses.
- 7.32. Net floorspace completions for town centre uses shows a decrease of 274 sqm floorspace in 2024/25. Figure 8 shows that together with the previous year, this represents a change to the downward trend over earlier years, with larger losses occurring in the three years following the introduction of

³¹ The Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended)

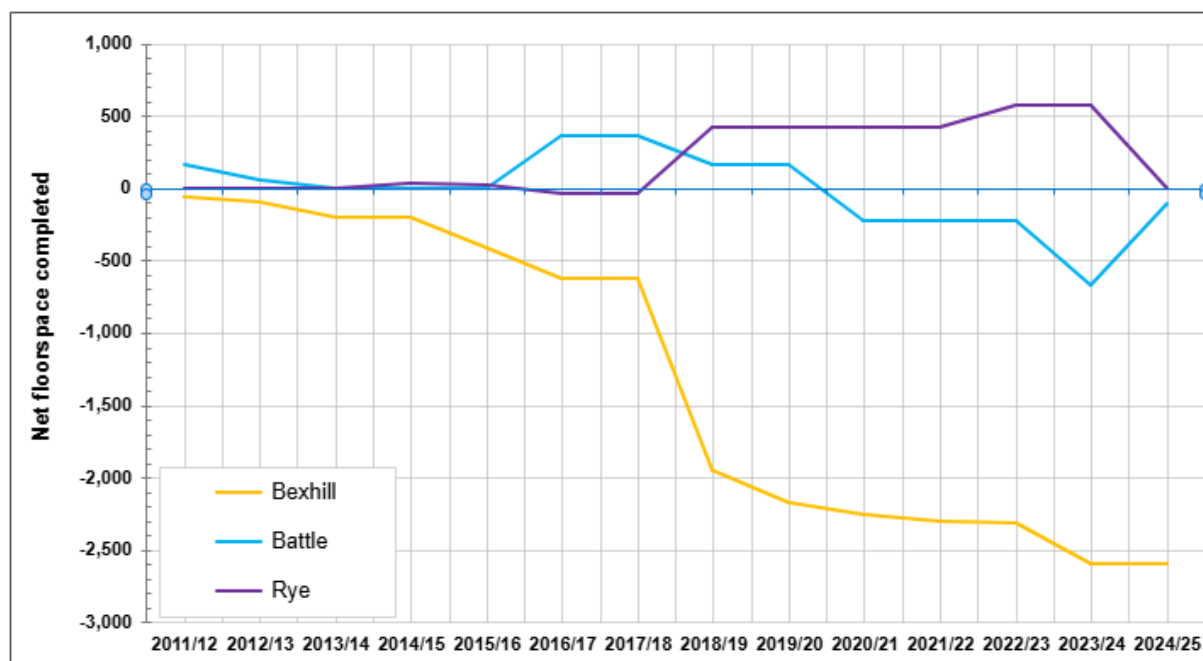
permitted development rights which allow the change of use of offices to residential without planning permission.

Figure 8: Net floorspace (sqm) completed for town centre uses in Rother 2011/12-2024/25



7.33. Figure 9 shows that town centre use losses in Bexhill represent the majority of losses in the district.

Figure 9: Cumulative net floorspace completed for town centre uses (area) 2011/12-2024/25



2.

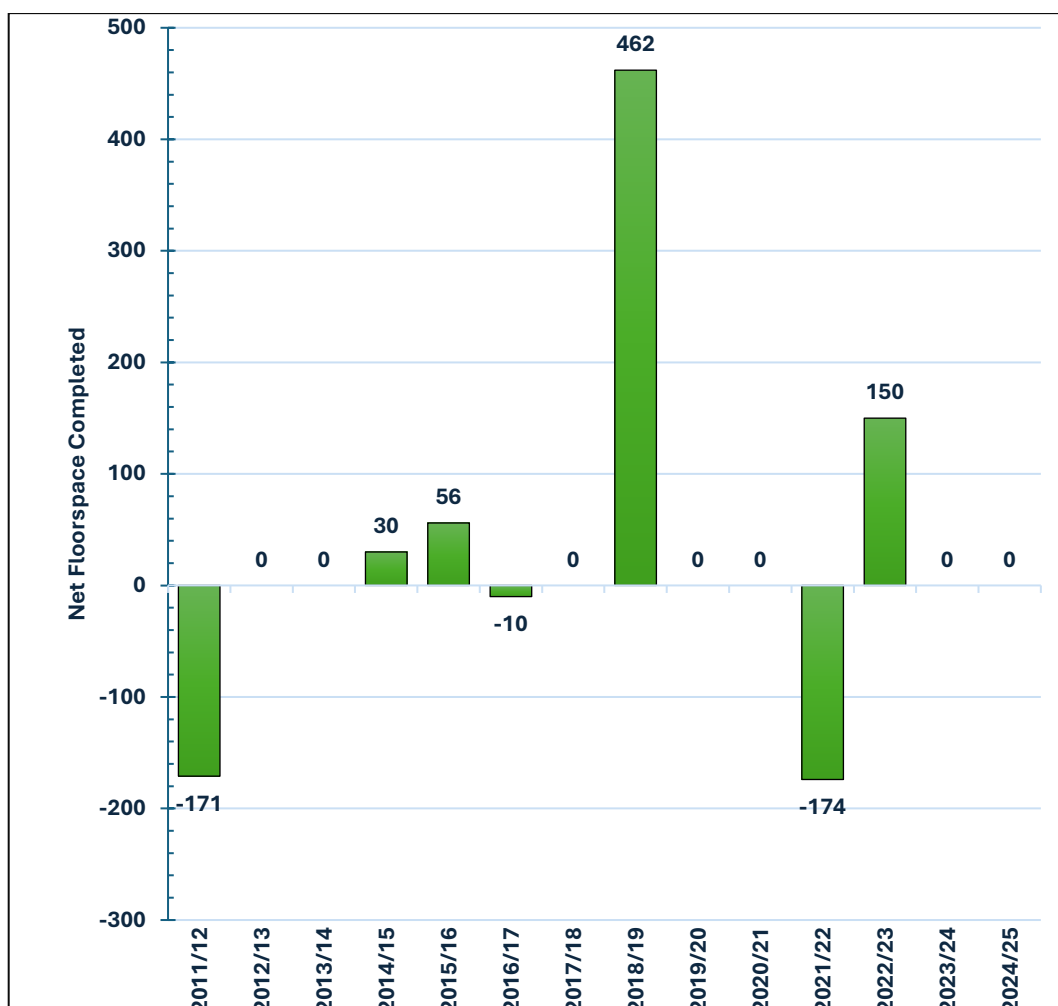
- 7.34. Losses of town centre uses are likely to be exacerbated by the effects of changes to the Planning Use Classes³² and the associated “permitted development” rights, when former uses in Classes A1, A2, B1a and D2 were subsumed into a single new Use Class E. In many cases these losses will not be monitorable, where changes of use no longer require planning permission or notification to the local planning authority.

Convenience Floorspace in Rye:

- 7.35. The Core Strategy contains a target to provide 1,650 sqm of convenience floorspace in Rye. Since 2011, there has been a net gain of only 343 sqm of additional convenience floorspace in Rye. This equates to some 27.2% when compared to the annualised average requirement for this point in the Plan period (1,262 sqm).

³² The Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020

Figure 1: Net additional convenience floorspace completed in Rye 2011/12-2024/25



- 7.36. The Rye Neighbourhood Plan policy B3 allocates part of the former Freda Gardham School site for convenience use and could provide up to 500 sqm of additional convenience floorspace. This goes some way to addressing the shortfall in required convenience floorspace; however, additional planning permissions are needed to fully plug the gap.

Sustainability Appraisal Monitoring Framework for the emerging Local Plan

- 7.37. Sustainability appraisal and strategic environmental assessment are tools used at the plan-making stage to assess the likely effects of the plan when judged against reasonable alternatives.
- 7.38. The significant environmental effects of implementing a plan which has been subject to sustainability appraisal should be monitored (as required by Regulation 17 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004). This will enable any unforeseen adverse effects to be identified at an early stage and to enable appropriate remedial actions.
- 7.39. Therefore, the baseline information which makes up the monitoring framework for the Sustainability Appraisal of the Local Plan has been included in the monitoring tables section below.

Core Strategy Monitoring Tables

- 7.40. The following tables show the Core Strategy objectives and the District's performance against them. The monitoring data tables, containing the relevant evidence, is within Appendix 2: Local Plan Monitoring Data Tables³³.

Figure 2: Core Strategy Monitoring Table Key

Score	Explanation
5	Target achieved or exceeded
4	Excellent progress towards target
3	Good progress towards target
2	Fair progress towards target
1	Poor progress towards target
0	Not achieving progress towards target
Trend	Explanation
▲	Improvement on previous monitoring year
—	No change / no comparison to previous year
▼	Deterioration on previous year

³³ Available on request

Overall Spatial Strategy:

To achieve a pattern of activity and development that contributes to the Sustainable Community Strategy and the 'Spatial Vision' and responds to local circumstances and environmental resources.

Core Strategy Objective	Core Strategy Policy	Target	Indicator	Monitoring Data Table	Score	Trend
To guide sustainable development and help build more sustainable communities, with a balance between homes and jobs	OSS1 (i-iii)	Maintain a rolling five year housing land supply.	Net additional dwellings provided in Rother	OSS1	1.1	▼
To guide sustainable development and help build more sustainable communities, with a balance between homes and jobs	OSS1 (i-iii)	Deliver employment targets set for Rother.	Net employment floorspace completed in Rother	OSS2	2.2	▲
To maintain and enhance the character of settlements, the relationship between them and with their landscape settings	OSS2 (i-viii)	All SSSI's in Rother to achieve favourable condition.	Condition of SSSI Units in Rother	OSS3	0.0	▲
To give particular attention to promoting economic regeneration and growth for the Hastings/ Bexhill area	OSS1 (iii) (a)	Deliver housing targets set for Bexhill.	Net additional dwellings provided in Bexhill	OSS4	3.1	▲
To give particular attention to promoting economic regeneration and growth for the Hastings/ Bexhill area	OSS1 (iii) (a)	Deliver employment targets set for Bexhill.	Net employment floorspace completed in Bexhill	OSS5	0.2	▼
To give particular attention to promoting economic regeneration and growth for the Hastings/ Bexhill area	OSS1 (iii) (a)	Deliver housing targets set for the Hastings Fringes.	Net additional dwellings provided in the Hastings Fringes	OSS6	5.0	—
To give particular attention to promoting economic regeneration and growth for the Hastings/ Bexhill area	OSS1 (iii) (a)	Deliver employment targets set for the Hastings Fringes.	Net employment floorspace completed in the Hastings Fringes	OSS7	0.0	—
To give particular attention to supporting the 'market town' roles and environmental qualities and settings of Battle and Rye	OSS1 (iii) (b)	Deliver housing targets set for Battle.	Net additional dwellings provided in Battle	OSS8	2.3	▲
To give particular attention to supporting the 'market town' roles and environmental qualities and settings of Battle and Rye	OSS1 (iii) (b)	Deliver employment targets set for Battle.	Net employment floorspace completed in Battle	OSS9	0.6	▼
To give particular attention to supporting the 'market town' roles and environmental qualities and settings of Battle and Rye	OSS1 (iii) (b)	Deliver housing targets set for Rye.	Net additional dwellings provided in Rye	OSS10	4.3	▲
To give particular attention to supporting the 'market town' roles and environmental qualities and settings of Battle and Rye	OSS1 (iii) (b)	Deliver employment targets set for Rye.	Net employment floorspace completed in Rye	OSS11	5.0	▲
To promote vital, mixed communities in the rural areas, whilst also giving particular attention to the distinctive characteristics of the High Weald AONB and the intrinsic value of the wider countryside	OSS1 (iii) (c, d, e)	Deliver housing targets set for the Rural Areas.	Net additional dwellings provided in the Rural Areas	OSS12	3.2	▼
To promote vital, mixed communities in the rural areas, whilst also giving particular attention to the distinctive characteristics of the High Weald AONB and the intrinsic value of the wider countryside	OSS1 (iii) (c, d, e)	Provide affordable housing in accordance with Policy LHN2.	Percentage of sites (5+) in the Rural Areas delivering 40% AH	OSS13	2.6	▼
To promote vital, mixed communities in the rural areas, whilst also giving particular attention to the distinctive characteristics of the High Weald AONB and the intrinsic value of the wider countryside	OSS1 (iii) (c, d, e)	Deliver employment targets set for the Rural Areas.	Net employment floorspace completed in the Rural Areas	OSS14	5.0	▲

Bexhill:

To strengthen the identity of Bexhill and for it to become one of the most attractive places to live on the south coast, attractive to families, the young and elderly alike, within an integrated approach to securing a more prosperous future for the Bexhill and Hastings area.

Core Strategy Objective	Core Strategy Policy	Target	Indicator	Monitoring Data Table	Score	Trend
To increase the number and range of local job opportunities, within an integrated approach across the Bexhill and Hastings area;	BX1 (i-vii)	Provide at least 60,000 sqm of employment floorspace in Bexhill.	Net employment floorspace completed in Bexhill	BEX1	0.2	▼
To make the town more attractive to younger people and families and thereby foster a more balanced demographic profile;	BX3	Increase the percentage of people in the 16-29 age group in Bexhill.	Small area population estimates, 2011-2020 - Bexhill	BEX2	1.3	▼
To improve the quality and character of the built environment, promote its heritage and a clean, safe image for the town;	BX1	Reduce crime rates in Bexhill.	Recorded crime by key offences, 2011-2021 (data only available at district level)	BEX3	0.0	▲
To secure investment in improved community infrastructure, particularly that which promotes active lifestyles;	BX1 (ii)	Increase participation in sport in Bexhill.	Participation in sport in the last 28 days (data only available at district level)	BEX4	2.6	▼
To strengthen the retail, commercial as well as cultural role of the town centre as the heart of the town;	BX1 (i, ii)	Reduce the number of empty shops within Bexhill town centre.	Percentage of shops vacant in Bexhill town centre	BEX5	4.4	▼
To strengthen the retail, commercial as well as cultural role of the town centre as the heart of the town;	BX2 (i-v)	Retain and increase the amount of floorspace for town centre uses within Bexhill.	Net additional floorspace completed for town centre uses (A1, A2, B1a & D2) in Bexhill Town Centre	BEX6	0.0	▼
To focus on meeting socio-economic needs within more deprived areas of the town;	BX1 (iv)	Increase median earnings in Bexhill.	Median Gross Annual Workplace-based earnings (data only available at district level)	BEX7	5.0	▲
To focus on meeting socio-economic needs within more deprived areas of the town;	BX1 (iv)	Reduce indices of deprivation in the most vulnerable wards.	Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) rank for Central Ward, Bexhill (2019)	BEX8	1.8	▼
To focus on meeting socio-economic needs within more deprived areas of the town;	BX1 (iv)	Reduce indices of deprivation in the most vulnerable wards.	Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) rank for Sidley, Bexhill (2019)	BEX9	3.0	▲
To promote a scale and nature of housing consistent with other objectives, especially economic growth, and infrastructure capacity.	BX1 (vii)	Provide 3,100 additional dwellings in Bexhill.	Net additional dwellings provided in Bexhill	BEX10	3.1	▲

The Hastings Fringes:

To provide attractive and accessible fringes of Hastings, consistent with environmental designations.

Core Strategy Objective	Core Strategy Policy	Target	Indicator	Monitoring Data Table	Score	Trend
To contribute to the setting of Hastings and, where appropriate, Bexhill;	HF1 (iii)	Define strategic gaps and areas for urban fringe management through the Development and Site Allocations Local Plan.	DaSA Local Plan progress	HAF1	5.0	—
To provide accessible green space in line with identified needs and opportunities;	HF1 (i)	Delivery of Combe Valley Countryside Park.	Project milestones in the delivery of CVCP	HAF2	4.5	—
To ensure that any development in Rother District is well integrated with Hastings.	HF1 (ii)(iii)(v)	Provide at least 100 net additional dwellings in the Hastings Fringes.	Net additional dwellings provided in the Hastings Fringes	HAF3	5.0	—
To ensure that any development in Rother District is well integrated with Hastings.	HF1 (ii)(iii)(v)	Provide at least 3,000 sqm of employment floorspace in the Hastings Fringes.	Net employment floorspace completed in the Hastings Fringes	HAF4	0.0	▲

Rye:

To improve the economic and social well-being of Rye, including in relation to its market town role, tourism and the Port of Rye, whilst fully respecting and sensitively managing its historic character, vulnerability to flooding and ecologically important setting.

Core Strategy Objective	Core Strategy Policy	Target	Indicator	Monitoring Data Table	Score	Trend
To work with stakeholders to improve traffic management, tackle congestion and promote sustainable transport measures; To work with agencies to support and promote strategic transport links from Rye to the wider locality	RY1 (i, ii)	Increase the number of rail passenger journeys taken year on year.	Passenger entries and exits by station (annual), Rye	RYE1	3.9	▲
To improve access to high quality education, employment and housing	RY1 (ix)	Provide at least 10,000 sqm of employment floorspace in Rye.	Net employment floorspace completed in Rye	RYE2	5.0	▲
To improve access to high quality education, employment and housing	RY1 (ix)	Provide at least 355 dwellings in Rye.	Net additional dwellings provided in Rye	RYE3	4.3	▲
To enhance sustainable tourism and leisure	RY1 (viii)	Increase tourism and leisure floorspace in Rye.	Net additional C1 and D2 floorspace completed in Rye	RYE4	3.6	▲
To improve the availability of day to day goods and services	RY1 (iv)	Provide at least 1,650 sqm of convenience floorspace in Rye.	Net additional A1 floorspace completed in Rye	RYE5	1.3	—
To secure investment in community facilities and in new and/or improved pedestrian and cycle routes linking residents to their facilities	RY1 (i-ii)	Increase D1 and D2 floorspace in Rye.	Net additional D1 and D2 floorspace completed in Rye	RYE6	2.8	—
To conserve and enhance the unique built character and quality of the Citadel and its distinctive landscape setting	RY1 (iii)	100% support of Policy EN3: Design Quality at appeal.	Support of Policy EN3: Design Quality at appeal in Rye	RYE7	1.3	▲
To protect and sensitively manage the high quality ecological and landscape resources	RY1 (iii)	All SSSIs in Rye to reach favourable condition.	Condition of SSSI Units in East Sussex	RYE8	4.8	▼
To continue to manage, and protect the community from, the risk of flooding	RY1 (vi)	No planning permissions granted in Rye contrary to EA advice.	Environment Agency objections to planning applications based on flood risk	RYE9	5.0	—

Battle:

To support the market town and tourist centre role and character of Battle and conserve its historic core and setting.

Core Strategy Objective	Core Strategy Policy	Target	Indicator	Monitoring Data Table	Score	Trend
To reduce congestion and improve accessibility, especially by non-car modes.	BA1 (ii) (vii)	Increase the percentage of people in Battle with reasonable access to town centres by public transport/walking.	JTS0508: Travel time, destination and origin indicators by mode of travel, LSOA	BAT1	1.5	▼
To enhance the commercial and tourism attractiveness of the town centre.	BA1 (i, ii, iv, v)	Retain and increase the amount of floorspace for town centre uses within Battle Town Centre.	Net additional floorspace completed for town centre uses (A1, A2, B1a & D2) in Battle Town Centre	BAT2	0.0	▲
To conserve the key characteristics of the town and setting that contribute to the AONB.	BA1 (i) (iii)	Reduce the number of Listed Buildings at risk in Battle.	Heritage at Risk Register	BAT3	5.0	—
To provide increased opportunities for employment locally.	BA1 (iv) (vi)	Provide at least 10,000 sqm of employment floorspace in Battle.	Net employment floorspace completed in Battle	BAT4	0.6	▼
To improve the level of community and sports/recreation facilities.	BA1 (vii) (viii)	Increase D1 and D2 floorspace in Battle.	Net additional D1 and D2 floorspace completed in Battle	BAT5	0.0	▲

Core Strategy Objective	Core Strategy Policy	Target	Indicator	Monitoring Data Table	Score	Trend
To preserve and enhance the historic character of the Abbey and Battlefield and maintain the town's physical identity.	BA1 (i, vi)	100% support of Policy EN3: Design Quality at appeal in Battle.	Support of Policy EN3: Design Quality at appeal in Battle	BAT6	0.0	—
To make an appropriate contribution towards meeting local housing needs.	BA1 (iii)	Provide at least 35% affordable housing on sites of 10 or more dwellings in Battle.	Percentage of affordable housing on sites of 10+ dwellings in Battle	BAT7	5.0	—

The Rural Areas:

To meet local needs and support vibrant and viable mixed communities in the rural areas, whilst giving particular attention to the social, economic, ecological and intrinsic value of the countryside.

Core Strategy Objective	Core Strategy Policy	Target	Indicator	Monitoring Data Table	Score	Trend
To emphasise the significant contribution of both villages and countryside to the character and culture of Rother	RA 1-4, inc. RDLP Policies DS3, VL1	Provide at least 1,670 net additional dwellings in the Rural Areas.	Net additional dwellings provided in the Rural Areas	RAR1	3.2	▼
To recognise the individual distinctiveness of villages and to retain and enhance their rich cultural heritage	RA1 (i, iii, vi)	100% support of Policy EN3: Design Quality at appeal in the Rural Areas.	Support of Policy EN3: Design Quality at appeal in the Rural Areas	RAR2	2.2	▲
To support sustainable local employment opportunities and the economic viability of rural communities	RA1 (ii), RA2 (ii), RA3	Provide at least 10,000 sqm of net additional employment floorspace in the Rural Areas.	Net employment floorspace completed in the Rural Areas	RAR3	5.0	▲
To promote thriving rural communities with a high quality of life, a strong sense of place and broad active civic participation	RA1, RA2 (i, ii)	Increase public participation in planning in the Rural Areas.	Number of 'made' Neighbourhood Plans in the Rural Areas	RAR4	4.0	▲
To be demographically balanced and socially inclusive, particularly in terms of access to housing	RA1 (v), inc. RDLP Policy VL1	Provide at least 40% affordable housing on schemes of 5 or more dwellings in the Rural Areas.	Percentage of sites (5+) in the Rural Areas delivering 40% AH	RAR5	1.9	▼
To reduce both the need to travel and reliance on the private car, by promoting the use of public transport and supporting viable and accessible services and facilities within villages; To ensure rural communities have access to necessary infrastructure	RA1 (ii, iv, vi)	Increase the percentage of households within 30 minutes public transport time transport to GP services, primary and secondary school, employment and a town centre in the Rural Areas.	JTS050X: Travel time, destination and origin indicators by mode of travel, LSOA	RAR6	2.9	▲
To protect the open countryside and retain its intrinsic rural character for the benefit of residents and visitors	RA1 (i), RA2 (ii, viii), RA3, RA4, DS3 (RDLP)	100% support of Policies RA2 and RA3 at appeal in the Rural Areas.	Support of Policies RA2 and RA3 at appeal in the Rural Areas	RAR7	2.9	▲
To respect and conserve the historic landscape mosaic, particularly in the High Weald AONB	RA1 (i), RA2, RA3, RA4	100% support of Policy EN1: Landscape Stewardship (AONB) at appeal in the Rural Areas.	Support of Policy EN1: Landscape Stewardship (AONB) at appeal in the Rural Areas	RAR8	2.6	▲
To support agriculture and foster other land-based industries	RA2, RA3, RA4	Maintain or increase the percentage of people in farming or land based industries in the Rural Areas.	Employment by industry, 2015-2021	RAR9	2.1	▼
To promote environmentally sensitive land management in a way that supports the diversity of natural habitats	RA2 (i, ii, viii), RA3 (v), RA4 (ii, iv)	All SSSIs in the Rural Areas to achieve favourable condition.	Condition of SSSI Units in the Rural Areas	RAR10	2.2	▲
To support sustainable tourism and recreation, including improved access to the countryside	RA2 (iii, vi, vii), RA3 (ii), RA4 (b)	Increase C1 and D2 floorspace in the Rural Areas.	Net additional C1 and D2 floorspace completed in the Rural Areas	RAR11	5.0	▼

Sustainable Development:

To mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts, and to use natural resources efficiently.

Core Strategy Objective	Core Strategy Policy	Target	Indicator	Monitoring Data Table	Score	Trend
To reduce carbon emissions and move towards a low carbon future	SRM1 (i-vii)	Reduce CO2 emissions in Rother.	UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics	SUS1	4.3	▲
To maintain an adequate, safe water supply, use water resources efficiently, and avoid their pollution	SRM2 (i)	Improve bathing water quality at beaches in Rother.	Bathing water quality, 2017-2023	SUS2	3.0	—

Communities:

To continue to support, and further develop, vibrant, safe, balanced and inclusive communities.

Core Strategy Objective	Core Strategy Policy	Target	Indicator	Monitoring Data Table	Score	Trend
To develop inclusive community life including support networks	CO1, CO2, CO3,	Increase C2, D1 & D2 floorspace in Rother.	Net additional C2, D1 & D2 floorspace completed in Rother	COM1	5.0	▼
To promote healthy, active lifestyles	CO1, CO2, CO3	Increase participation in sport in Rother.	Participation in sport in the last 28 days	COM2	3.5	▲
To support older people, particularly to live independently	CO1, CO2, CO3, CO5	Increase independence for older people.	Percentage of older people achieving independence through rehab/intermediate care	COM3	4.0	▲
To be more attractive to young people as a place to live	CO1, CO2, CO3, CO4	Provide 1,647 affordable dwellings in Rother.	Gross affordable dwellings completed in Rother	COM4	3.6	▼
To be more attractive to young people as a place to live	CO1, CO2, CO3, CO4	Increase median earnings in Rother.	Median gross annual workplace-based earnings	COM5	5.0	▲
To maintain low crime levels and improve the feeling of safety	CO6	Reduce crime rates in Rother.	Recorded crime by key offences, 2011-2021	COM6	0.0	▲

Housing:

To provide housing in a way that supports local priorities and provides choice, including for affordable housing.

Core Strategy Objective	Core Strategy Policy	Target	Indicator	Monitoring Data Table	Score	Trend
To provide and maintain a housing stock that supports sustainable, inclusive, communities in both towns and rural areas	LHN1 (i-vii), LHN5, LHN6	Deliver housing targets set for Bexhill.	Net additional dwellings provided in Bexhill	HOU1	3.1	▲
To provide and maintain a housing stock that supports sustainable, inclusive, communities in both towns and rural areas	LHN1 (i-vii), LHN5, LHN6	Deliver housing targets set for Battle.	Net additional dwellings provided in Battle	HOU2	2.3	▲
To provide and maintain a housing stock that supports sustainable, inclusive, communities in both towns and rural areas	LHN1 (i-vii), LHN5, LHN6	Deliver housing targets set for Rye.	Net additional dwellings provided in Rye	HOU3	5.0	▲
To provide and maintain a housing stock that supports sustainable, inclusive, communities in both towns and rural areas	LHN1 (i-vii), LHN5, LHN6	Deliver housing targets set for the Rural Areas.	Net additional dwellings provided in the Rural Areas	HOU4	3.2	▼

Core Strategy Objective	Core Strategy Policy	Target	Indicator	Monitoring Data Table	Score	Trend
To provide and maintain a housing stock that supports sustainable, inclusive, communities in both towns and rural areas	LHN1 (i-vii), LHN5, LHN6	Deliver housing targets set for the Hastings Fringes.	Net additional dwellings provided in the Hastings Fringes	HOU5	5.0	—
To provide and maintain a housing stock that supports sustainable, inclusive, communities in both towns and rural areas	LHN1 (i-vii), LHN5, LHN6	Provide five Gypsy and Traveller pitches between 2011 and 2016 and a further six pitches between 2016 and 2028.	Net additional Gypsy and Traveller pitches provided in Rother	HOU6	5.0	—
To respond to the changing mix and needs of households, including more older person households	LHN1 (i, vii)	To provide a proportion of residential schemes suitable for elderly occupants conforming to Lifetime Homes standard.	Percentage of older people achieving independence through rehab/intermediate care	HOU7	4.0	▲
To increase the availability of affordable housing	LHN1 (v), LHN (i-iv), LHN4	Provide 1,647 affordable dwellings in Rother.	Gross affordable dwellings completed in Rother	HOU8	3.6	▼
To provide housing choices that encourage young people to live locally	LHN1 (i), LHN3	Contribute to an overall balance of 65% social rented and 35% intermediate affordable housing.	Tenure breakdown of gross affordable housing completions	HOU9	5.0	▲
To make effective use of existing housing stock, including bringing empty homes back into use	LHN1 (i), LHN3	Reduce the number of long term (6 months+) empty homes in Rother.	Table 615: vacant dwellings by local authority district	HOU10	4.3	▲

Economy:

To secure sustainable economic growth for existing and future residents and provide greater prosperity and employment opportunities for all.

Core Strategy Objective	Core Strategy Policy	Target	Indicator	Monitoring Data Table	Score	Trend
To raise aspirations and improve educational attainment, where needed	EC1 (i)	Increase the percentage of pupils achieving the English Baccalaureate.	Key stage 4 performance	ECO1	2.7	▼
To increase skill levels	EC1 (i, ii, iii, viii), EC5	Reduce the number of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET).	Data on Participation and NEET	ECO2	2.2	▼
To increase skill levels	EC1 (i, ii, iii, viii), EC5	Reduce the percentage of working age people with no qualifications.	Qualifications of working age population, 2011-2021	ECO3	3.3	▼
To increase the business base and overall productivity	EC1 (i-vii), EC2 (i-v), EC4, EC5	Reduce the long term unemployment rate in Rother.	Unemployment estimates, 2011-2022	ECO4	4.1	▲
To increase the supply and range of job opportunities across the district as part of achieving a more sustainable pattern of development and activity	EC1 (v), EC3	Deliver employment floorspace targets.	Net employment floorspace completed in Rother	ECO5	2.2	▲
To increase local earnings, relative to living costs	EC1-EC6	Increase real-terms median gross annual workplace-based earnings in Rother.	Median gross annual workplace-based earnings, Annual consumer price inflation rate, April	ECO6	5.0	▼
To develop key existing sectors, including tourism	EC5, EC6	Increase the proportion of employment in knowledge-based sectors.	Employment by industry, 2015-2021 - Rother	ECO7	2.0	▼
To develop key existing sectors, including tourism	EC5, EC6	Increase C1 and D2 floorspace in Rother.	Net C1 and D2 floorspace completed in Rother	ECO8	5.0	▼
To realise economic opportunities and mitigate against locational disadvantages	EC5	Increase median earnings in Rother.	Median gross annual workplace-based earnings	ECO9	5.0	▲

Environment:

To maintain the high quality and improve the long term stewardship of the natural and built environment, with full regard to potential future consequences of climate change.

Core Strategy Objective	Core Strategy Policy	Target	Indicator	Monitoring Data Table	Score	Trend
To conserve, manage and, where appropriate enhance, the high quality landscape resources, including the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the historic built environment	EN1, EN2, EN4, EN5	100% support of Policy EN1: Landscape Stewardship (AONB) at appeal in Rother.	Support of Policy EN1: Landscape Stewardship (AONB) at appeal in Rother	ENV1	2.5	▲
To conserve, manage and, where appropriate enhance, the high quality landscape resources, including the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the historic built environment	EN1, EN2, EN4, EN5	Reduce the number of Listed Buildings at risk in Rother.	Heritage at Risk Register, Rother	ENV2	3.0	—
To protect important ecological resources in Rother, and, where appropriate, enhance these as part of a wider approach to 'green space'	EN1, EN5	All SSSIs in Rother to achieve favourable condition.	Condition of SSSI Units in Rother	ENV3	0.0	—
To place strong emphasis on design quality in all development	EN2, EN3, EN4	100% support of Policy EN3: Design Quality at appeal in Rother.	Support of Policy EN3: Design Quality at appeal in Rother	ENV4	2.2	▼
To protect communities from flooding and effectively manage risk	EN6 (i-iv), EN7 (i-iv)	No planning permissions granted in Rother contrary to EA advice.	Environment Agency objections to planning applications based on flood risk	ENV5	5.0	—

Transport:

To provide a higher level of access to jobs and services for all ages in both urban and rural areas and improve connectivity with the rest of the region.

Core Strategy Objective	Core Strategy Policy	Target	Indicator	Monitoring Data Table	Score	Trend
Improve connectivity between Rother and the wider South East region, both along the coast and towards London	TR1 (i-iv)	Delivery of the Bexhill to Hastings Link Road.	Delivery of the Bexhill to Hastings Link Road	TRA1	5.0	—
Achieve a re-balancing of the transport system in favour of sustainable modes as a means of access to employment, health services, recreation and community facilities	TR2 (i-vi), TR3 (i-ii)	Increase the percentage of households in Rother within 30 minutes public transport time transport to employment, primary and secondary school, further education, GPs, hospitals, food stores and a town centre.	JTS050X: Travel time, destination and origin indicators by mode of travel, LSOA	TRA2	1.5	▼
Maximise transport choice and otherwise provide for efficient and safe movement, in both urban and rural areas	TR1 (iii – iv), TR3 (ii)	Improve road safety in Rother.	Recorded road casualties, 2011-2023	TRA3	0.9	▲
Maximise transport choice and otherwise provide for efficient and safe movement, in both urban and rural areas	TR1 (iii – iv), TR3 (ii)	Increase the percentage of households in Rother with reasonable access (15m) to a town centre by public transport/walking.	JTS050X: Travel time, destination and origin indicators by mode of travel, LSOA	TRA4	0.8	▼

8. Sustainability Appraisal Monitoring Tables

The following indicators have been prepared as part of the SA/SEA Scoping Report to support the development of the emerging Local Plan and should not be used to consider the effectiveness of the current Local Plan. However, the data provided does help create a baseline assessment which will be monitored in future years as the Local Plan develops through to adoption.

(1) Air

Indicator	Result	Data/Commentary	Trend
NO ₂ levels (µg/m ³) in AQMA meeting air quality objective standards (2020) Source: Rother Air Quality Annual Status Report 2024 – Table A.4 (Average across all sites)	Improving	There has been a decline in the average NO ₂ Mean Concentrations: from 15.09µg/m ³ in 2023 to 15.01µg/m ³ in 2024, resulting in a change of -0.1µg/m ³ .	↑
PM ₁₀ levels (µg/m ³) in AQMA meeting air quality objective standards (2019) Source: Rother Air Quality Report 2024 - Table A.6	Improving	Average PM ₁₀ levels have decreased from 20.2µg/m ³ in 2023 to 16.1g/m ³ in 2024, resulting in a -4.1µg/m ³ change. This is the most up to date data as of 2026.	↑

(2) Biodiversity

Indicator	Result	Data/Commentary	Trends
Condition summary of SSSI units Source: Biodiversity AMR Rother District 2024 Improve % of SSSI Units in Favourable or Recovering conditions	Improving	The percentage of SSSI units in favourable or Recovering condition increased from 78.4% to 79.2%. This is the most up to date data as of 2026.	↑
Areas infringed by planning applications Source: Biodiversity AMR Rother District 2024 Minimise areas infringed by planning applications	Improving	Permissions infringing Ramsars decreased from 1.10 ha to 0.00 ha between 2023/24 and 2024/25. Infringements on Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) decreased from 0.20 ha to 0.00 ha. Infringements on Special Protection Areas (SPA) increased from 0.90 ha to 0.0 ha. Infringements on Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) decreased from 199.60 ha to 101.40 ha. Infringements on National Nature Reserves (NNR) remained a 0 ha. Infringements on Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) decreased from 2.50 ha to 0.2 ha. Infringements on Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) decreased from 3.6 ha to 0.1 ha. The overall total reduced from 207.90 ha to 101.70 ha.	↑
Woodland access (2017) Source: Woodland Trust Accessible woods	No significant change (Increasing)	The most up-to-date data is from 2017. The data shows in 2015: 22.1% of the population had access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m. This is compared to the slight increase in 2017: 22.5% of the population had access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m, resulting in a 0.4% change. In addition, in 2015: 87.5% of the population had access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km. This is compared to the slight increase in 2017: 87.6% of the population had access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km, resulting in a 0.1% change.	○
Woodland access (2017) Source: Woodland Trust Inaccessible woods	No significant change (Declining)	The most up-to-date data is from 2017. The data shows in 2015: 45.9% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened. This is compared to the slight decrease in 2017: 45.6% extra population with access to a 2ha+ wood within 500m if existing woods opened, resulting in a –0.3% change. In addition, in 2015: 9.9% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened. This is compared to the slight decrease in 2017: 9.1% extra population with access to a 20ha+ wood within 4km if existing woods opened, resulting in a –0.8% change.	○
Woodland access (2017) Source: Woodland Trust Woodland creation	No significant change (Mixed)	The most up-to-date data is from 2017. The data shows in 2015: 32.0% of the population requires new woodland to be able to access a 2ha+ wood within 500m. This is compared to the slight decrease in 2017: 31.9% of the population requires new woodland to be able to access a 2ha+ wood within 500m, resulting in a –0.1% change. In addition, in 2015: 2.5% of the population requires new woodland to be able to access a 20ha+ wood within 4km. This is compared to the slight increase in 2017: 3.3% of the population requires new woodland to be able to access a 20ha+ wood within 4km, resulting in a 0.8% change.	○

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), now called National Landscape (NL), % of local authority in AONB (NL): Source: High Weald Management Plan	No change	82.62%	
Biodiversity Action Plans – Infringement on habitats by planning applications Source: Biodiversity AMR Rother District 2024 Minimise habitats infringed by planning applications	Improving	The headline figure is 18.10 ha of habitats were infringed by planning permission in 2024/25. This is a decrease from the 41.73 ha infringed in 2023/24. Full details of the 18 habitats infringed can be found on page 6 of the 2024 Biodiversity AMR.	

(3) Energy and Water Consumption

Indicator	Result	Data/Commentary	Trends
Carbon Dioxide Emissions (Kt) (all sectors) (2023) Source: Environment - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS	Improving	CO ₂ emissions decreased from 243 Kt in 2022 to 227 Kt in 2023 (the most recent data available).	
Domestic consumption, (2024) Source: Environment - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS	Improving	Consumption has decreased from 589.71 kWh in 2023 to 585.86 kWh in 2024 (the most recent data available).	
Industrial and commercial consumption, (2024) Source: Environment - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS	Declining	Consumption has decreased in electricity from 152 gWh in 2023 to 143 in 2024, and for gas 252 gWh in 2023 to 295 gWh in 2024 (the most recent data available).	
The proportion of people who travel to work by car (2021 Census) Source: Environment - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS	Improving	Over a period of 10 years, the car as a mode of travel to work has decreased by 13.9% to 54.1%, from 68.0% in 2011. This can likely be attributed to the rise in people working from home. In 2021, 32.4% of people predominantly worked from home (although this data needs to be treated with some caution as this was the time of the COVID-19 pandemic).	
Renewable energy generation (2024) Source: Environment - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS	Declining	The total electricity generated by renewable technologies (photovoltaics) has decreased from 14,184 MWh in 2023 to 13,744 MWh in 2024.	
Daily domestic water use – litres a day per capita Source: Water resources management plan 2024 South East Water	Improving	In contrast with the average of 150 litres per person per day in 2017/18, the South East Water Wwater Resources Management Plan (WRMP) (2020-80) states that the average was 172 litres per person per day as of 2011/12. In 2020/2021, the average water consumption per head was estimated to be 154 litres per head; with a target of 132 litres per head by 2049/50.	
Water company stress classification (2021) Source: Defra & EA	No change	Both South East Water and Southern Water are classified as being a company operating in a serious water stress area.	

(4) Flooding and Coastal Erosion

Indicator	Result	Data/Commentary	Trends
Properties at risk from flooding (2014) Source: Rother Local Plan 2020 - 2040	8,301	In 2014 there were 8,301 at risk from flooding. Rother DC will explore how often this statistic can be updated.	
Planning permissions granted contrary to advice by the EA (2022/23) Source: EA	0	In 2022/23 there were no permissions granted contrary to EA advice. This is the most recent data.	
Properties at risk from tidal flooding Source: https://se-coastalgroup.org.uk/coastal-defence-strategies/Redoubt Gardens to Cooden (2003)	14,000	These are baseline figures until new Coastal Defence Strategies are published. This is the most recent data.	
Properties at risk from tidal flooding Source: https://se-coastalgroup.org.uk/coastal-defence-strategies/Cooden to Cliff End (2004)	4,300	These are baseline figures until new Coastal Defence Strategies are published. This is the most recent data.	
Properties at risk from tidal flooding Source: https://se-coastalgroup.org.uk/coastal-defence-strategies/Folkestone to Cliff End (2015)	20,000	These are baseline figures until new Coastal Defence Strategies are published. This is the most recent data.	
Properties at risk from tidal flooding Source: https://se-coastalgroup.org.uk/coastal-defence-strategies/ TOTAL	38,300	These are baseline figures until new Coastal Defence Strategies are published. This is the most recent data. This indicator reflects the number of properties at risk from coastal flooding, if hypothetically the existing coastal defences, as they presently function, were not in place. Data has been sourced from the latest relevant coastal defence strategies which span from 2003 to 2015. The areas that two of these strategies measure include stretches of coastline outside of the District. The stated number of properties at risk therefore includes properties outside of the Rother District boundary.	

(5) Health and Wellbeing

Indicator	Result	Data/Commentary	Trends
Life expectancy at birth (2011-2020) Source: Health - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS	Increase	The most up to date data is from 2021/2022. In 2021/2022 the average life expectancy at birth was 81.70. This is a slight increase compared to 2019/2020 where the average life expectancy was 81.55. This is an increase of 0.05 years	
Standardised Mortality Ratio (2011)	Declining	This is the ratio of the number of deaths observed to the number expected in the standard population. The most up to date data is from 2019 which stated the standardised mortality ratio was 92 (the baseline is that of England and Wales which is 100). This was an increase from the ratio of 86 in 2018. This is the most up to date data as of 2024/25.	
Residents with long term illness (2023) Health - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS	Declining	The data projects that in 2024, 24.0 people per 100 will have a limiting long-term illness. This is an increase on 23.8 people per 100 in 2023 and 23.7 in 2022. This is the most up to date data as of 2024/25.	
Children Aged 4-5 classified as overweight or obese (2024-5) Health - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS	Declining	The figure for 2024/25 is 23.2%, this is an increase from 2014/16 when the figure was 22.0%.	
Children Aged 10-11 classified as overweight or obese (2024-5) Health - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS	Declining	The figure for 2024/25 is 34.3%, an increase from 2014/16 when the figure was 31.0%.	
Levels of activity and inactivity, 16+ (Nov 2023/24) Source: Sport England	Improving	Levels of high activity (defined as 150+ minutes a week) decreased from 63.3% to 62.2% between 2022/23 and 2023/24. Levels of fair activity (defined as 30-149 minutes per week) increased from 11.60% to 27.70%. levels of inactivity (defined as less than 30 minutes a week) decreased from 25.10% to 10.10%.	
Median and lower quartile affordability ratios, Workplace-based (2024) Source: House price to workplace-based earnings ratio - Office for National Statistics	Improving	Affordability ratios are calculated by dividing house prices by gross annual workplace-based earnings. Median workplace-based affordability ratios increased from 12.41 to 11.41 between 2023 and 2024.	

Median and lower quartile affordability ratios, Workplace-based (2024) Source: House price to workplace-based earnings ratio - Office for National Statistics	Improving	Lower quartile workplace-based affordability ratios decreased from 10.89 to 9.54 between 2023 and 2024. This is the most up to date version of this data.	
Dwelling stock by tenure (2024) Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing Communities Table 100	Improving	The number of dwellings with private registered providers of social housing increased from 4,548 to 4,622 between 2023 and 2024. Over the same period, dwellings in the private market sector grew from 42,471 to 42,585.	
Households on waiting list (2026) Source: RDC	Improving	The numbers of households on the housing register decreased from 1,918 to 1,484 between January 2024 and January 2026.	
Homeless households' number and rate, (2017/18) Source: Deprivation - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS	Declining	The numbers of households homeless in 2023/2024 was 511 (or 11.7 per 100). This was an increase from 2017/18 from 122 households (or 2.83 per 100). This is the most up-to-date comparable data.	
Access to services within 30 minutes of public transport / walking (2019) Source: adapted from several tables on ESiF	Declining	For the following five indicators, data is only available to 2019. Access to services within 30 minutes by walking and public transport in Rother changed between 2017 and 2019 as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employment Centres: increase from 94.6% to 95.8% - Primary Schools: increase from 97.4% to 98.5% - Secondary Schools: decrease from 87.0% to 85.8% - Further Education: decrease from 62.9% to 46.3% - GPs: decrease from 95.3% to 95.0% - Hospitals: decrease from 52.6% to 8.4% - Food Stores: increase from 96.8% to 100.0% - Town Centres: increase from 80.2% to 81.8% This is the most up-to-date data as of 2024/25	
Access to services within 15 minutes of public transport / walking – Urban areas (2019) Bexhill Source: adapted from several tables on ESiF	Declining	Access to services within 15 minutes by walking and public transport in Bexhill changed between 2017 and 2019 as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employment Centres: increase from 98.8% to 99.6% - Primary Schools: increase from 86.6% to 90.3% - Secondary Schools: decrease from 24.0% to 22.3% - Further Education: increase from 17.1% to 18.8% - GPs: increase from 72.7% to 75.6% - Hospitals: decrease from 26.5% to 0.0% - Food Stores: increase from 81.0% to 100.0% - Town Centres: decrease from 38.1% to 36.6% This is the most up-to-date data as of 2024/25	
Access to services within 15 minutes of public transport / walking – Urban areas (2019) Battle Source: adapted from several tables on ESiF	Declining	Access to services within 15 minutes by walking and public transport in Battle changed between 2017 and 2019 as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employment Centres: decreased from 48.8% to 48.2% - Primary Schools: increased from 48.5% to 48.6% - Secondary Schools: decreased from 54.1% to 45.5% - Further Education: remained 0.0% - GPs: decreased from 86.5% to 80.4% - Hospitals: remained 0.0% - Food Stores: increased from 86.5% to 100.0% - Town Centres: decreased from 78.7% to 72.7% This is the most up-to-date data as of 2024/25	
Access to services within 15 minutes of public transport / walking – Urban areas (2019) Rye Source: adapted from several tables on ESiF	Declining	Access to services within 15 minutes by walking and public transport in Rye changed between 2017 and 2019 as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employment Centres: increased from 22.5% to 22.6% - Primary Schools: decreased from 21.1% to 15.6% - Secondary Schools: decreased from 26.6% to 26.0% - Further Education: decreased from 32.5% to 0.0% - GPs: remained 100.0% - Hospitals: remained 0.0% - Food Stores: increased from 95.2% to 100.0% - Town Centres: decreased from 100.0% to 92.6% This is the most up-to-date data as of 2024/25	

Access to 8 key sectors in Rother by different means of transport. (2019) Environment - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS	New Data	Access to key sectors in Rother in 2019 (average journey time): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employment Centre 100-499 jobs: 8 minutes by car / 12 minutes by public transport / 18 minutes walking - Employment Centre 500-4,999 jobs: 9 minutes by car / 15 minutes by public transport / 18 minutes walking - Employment Centre 5,000+ jobs: 48 minutes by car / 48 minutes by public transport / 120 minutes walking - Primary School: 10 minutes by car / 12 minutes by public transport / 15 minutes walking - Secondary School: 20 minutes by car / 23 minutes by public transport / 44 minutes walking - Further education: 33 minutes by car / 35 minutes by public transport / 72 minutes walking - GP: 9 minutes by car / 15 minutes by public transport / 27 minutes walking - Hospital: 23 minutes by car / 51 minutes by public transport / 112 minutes walking - Food store: 8 minutes by car / 11 minutes by public transport / 17 minutes walking - Pharmacy: 9 minutes by car / N/A by public transport / N/A walking - Town Centre: 12 minutes by car / 22 minutes by public transport / 50 minutes walking This is the most up to date data as of 2024/2025	
Police recorded crime (2024/25) Source: Crime - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS	Improving	Most up to date data is from 2024/25. Crime per 1,000 population decreased from 63.9 to 59.6 between 2023/24 and 2024/25. For violence against the person over the same period, there was a decrease from 36.3 to 25.7.	

(6) Heritage

Indicator	Result	Data/Commentary	Trends
Number of Conservation Areas Source: RDC	No change	10	
Heritage counts (2020) Source: Local Authority Profiles - Historic England	No change	The number of heritage buildings/assets within Rother from 2021/22 to 2022/23 as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Listed Buildings: remained 2,143 - Scheduled Monuments: remained at 47 - Registered Parks and Gardens: remained 7 - Registered Battlefields: remained at 1 - Heritage at Risk: remained at 6 	
Archaeological notification areas (2024) Source: RDC	New Methodology	152 – Including overlapping between districts	

(7) Land and Water Quality

Indicator	Result	Data/Commentary	Trends
Household waste breakdown, 2023/24 Source: Environment - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS Tonnes	Improving	The levels of household waste in Rother processed between 2022/23 and 2023/24 changed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recycling-composting-reuse: increased from 16,499 to 17,312 tonnes - Not sent for recycling: decreased from 20,638 to 19,724 tonnes - Rejects: decreased from 796 to 781 tonnes - Disposal to landfill: remained at 0 	
Household waste breakdown, 2023/24 Source: Environment - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS Percentage of total household waste	Improving	The levels of household waste in Rother processed between 2019/20 and 2020/21 changed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recycling-composting-reuse: increased by 4.93% - Not sent for recycling: decreased by 4.43% - Rejects: decreased by 1.88% - Disposal to landfill: remained at 0% 	
Household waste collected per head of population, (2023/24) Source: Environment - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS	Improving	Household waste collected has reduced from 395 kg per person in 2022/23 to 388 kg in 2023/2024.	
Collected Waste for East Sussex, East Sussex County Council Source: Environment - county East Sussex Report Builder for ArcGIS	Overall positive change	The levels of household waste in East Sussex processed between 2022/23 and 2023/2024 changed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recycled, reused and composted: increased from 95,912 to 103,411 tonnes - Not sent for recycling: increased from 137,147 to 138,453 tonnes 	

Collected Waste for East Sussex and Brighton & Hove, (2023/24) Source: East Sussex Waste and Minerals Monitoring Report 2018/19 – Table 6 Percentage of total household waste	Overall positive change	The levels of household waste in East Sussex processed between 2022/23 and 2023/24 changed as follows: - Recycled, reused and composted: increased by 7.82% - Not sent for recycling: decrease by 0.95%	○
Proportion of Solid Waste Arising in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove 2018/19 Source: East Sussex Waste and Minerals Monitoring Report 2018/19 – Figure 1 Construction, Demolition & Excavation Waste	51%	No change. Most up to date data as of 2025.	○
Proportion of Solid Waste Arising in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove 2018/19 Source: East Sussex Waste and Minerals Monitoring Report 2018/19 – Figure 1 Commercial & Industrial Waste	27%	Decrease in Commercial & Industrial Waste from 28% in 2017/18, to 27% in 2018/19. This is the most up-to-date data as of 2025.	○
Proportion of Solid Waste Arising in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove 2018/19 Source: East Sussex Waste and Minerals Monitoring Report 2018/19 – Figure 1 Municipal Solid Waste	21%	No change. Most up to date data as of 2025.	○
Proportion of Solid Waste Arising in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove 2018/19 Source: East Sussex Waste and Minerals Monitoring Report 2018/19 – Figure 1 Hazardous Waste	1%	No change. Most up to date data as of 2025.	○
Bathing water classification (2025) Source: Environment Agency	Overall neutral change	Bexhill – Sufficient: same as 2022 Camber – Good: same as 2022 Normans – Excellent: improved from 2022 Winchelsea – Good: declined from 2022	○

(8) Natural Landscape

Indicator	Result	Data/Commentary	Trends
Access to open and green space, (2021) RDC An accessible natural greenspace, of at least 2 ha in size, no more than 300 metres (5 minutes' walk) from home	No change	33% of total households. This is the most up to date data as of 2025.	○
Access to open and green space, (2021) RDC At least one accessible 20 ha site within 2 km of home	No change	53% of total households. This is the most up to date data as of 2025.	○
Access to open and green space, (2021) RDC At least one accessible 100 ha site within 5 km of home	No change	14% of total households. This is the most up to date data as of 2025.	○
Access to open and green space, (2021) RDC At least one accessible 500 ha site within 10 km of home	No change	0% of total households. This is the most up to date data as of 2025.	○
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	No change	42,810 ha (83.1%)	○

(9) Skills, Employment and Economic Development

Indicator	Result	Data/Commentary	Trends
Business enterprises by size of business, (2024) Source: Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics (nomisweb.co.uk)	Increasing	Business size accounts for the number of employees in a range of business types: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Micro (0 to 9) - Small (10 to 49) - Medium sized (50 to 249) - Large (250+) The average total for numbers of employees across all sizes in 2023 was 4,115. In 2024, this total figure has slightly increased to 4,175. The number of micro businesses decreased from 3,735 in 2023, to 3,780 in 2024. This is a total increase of 45. The number of small businesses stayed the same between 2023 and 2024 (a total of 325). The number of medium-sized businesses decreased from 50 in 2023, to 60 in 2024. This is a total increase of 10. The number of large businesses stayed the same between 2023 and 2024 (a total of 10).	
UK Business Counts, (2025) Source: Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics (nomisweb.co.uk)	Increasing	Number of enterprises has increased from 4,170 in 2024 to 4,215 in 2025. Number of local units has increased from 4,655 in 2024 to 4,705 in 2025.	
Business Survival rates, (2022) Source: ESiF	Declining	Most up to date data is 2021 (including one year of data measurement). This data is measured over the span of 5 years in each year. In 2021, business survival rates after: 1 year: 96.3% 2 years: 77.6% 3 years: 63.0% 4 years: 51.4% 5 years: 54.1% In 2022, business survival rates after: 1 year: 94.6% 2 years: 72.1% 3 years: 66.3% 4 years: 53.7% 5 years: 49.3% Business survival rates change after: 1 year: 1.3% 2 years: -5.5% 3 years: 3.3% 4 years: 2.3% 5 years: -4.8% Overall, business survival rates have improved by -1.3% overall.	
GVA (£ million) (2023) Source: Gross Value Added (Average) at basic prices: CP SA £m - Office for National Statistics	Improving	Gross Value Added (GVA) The most up to date data is from 2022. In 2022, GVA was £1,559 (£million) In 2023, GVA was £1,650 (£million) Therefore, a total GVA increase of £0.091 (£million).	
Rother Tourism business turnover (£) (2017) Source: Rother Tourism Stats	329,178,000	The 2017 figure is a reduction in total business turnover of 4.7% from 2016 (345,242,000). Deteriorating trend. More recent data not available.	

Rother Tourism visitor numbers (2017) Source: Rother Tourism Stats	6,285,000	2017 saw a 1.9% reduction in visitor numbers compared with 2016 (6,406,316). A slight deteriorating Trend. More recent data not available.	
Unemployment rates (2023/24) Source: ESiF and ONS	Declining	Most up to date figures show unemployment has increased from 3.60% in 2021/2022 to 3.80% in 2022/23. This is an increase of 0.20%	
Claimant counts (combining JSA and UC) (Apr 2025) Source: Labour Market Profile - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics	Declining	Claimant rate has increased from 3.3% in 2023/24 to 4.0% in 2024/25	
Population that is economically active, (2024/25) Source: NOMIS	Improving	The number of economically active has decreased from 46,500 in 2023/24 to 39,575 in 2024/25.	
Percentage of children living in poverty (2016) Education - county East Sussex Report Builder for ArcGIS	Declining	Increase in the number of children living in poverty in Rother from 15.8% in 2015 to 16.8% in 2016. Slight deteriorating trend. More recent data is measured differently. As of 2023/24, 19.1% of children lived in families with relative low income.	
Number and percentage of households in Fuel poverty, (2023) Deprivation - district Rother Report Builder for ArcGIS	Declining	Decrease from 13.1% in 2022 to 12.5% in 2023.	
Completed apprenticeships (2019) Source: ESiF	Declining	Apprenticeship numbers have decreased from 180 in 2020/21 to 150 in 2021/22.	

(10) Transport

Indicator	Result	Data/Commentary	Trends
Licensed Vehicles (total), 2020 (and 2025) Source: ESiF (2021)	Declining	The most up to date data is from 2020. This has increased to 66,217 from 66,002 in 2019. An alternative form of more recent data is the percentage of households with 1 or more vehicles (increased from 76.5% in 2024 and 84% in 2025).	
Residents by mode of travel to work, by number and percentage (2021) Source: ESiF (2021) Private vehicle	20,829 (54.9%)	A 19.4% decrease from the number in 2011 (25,844). Deteriorating trend. Although this data needs to be treated with caution as the 2021 census was undertaken at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic when there were significant changes in working patterns and working locations.	
Residents by mode of travel to work, by number and percentage (2021) Source: ESiF (2021) Walking and Cycling	3,145 (8.3%)	A 30.9% decrease from the number in 2011 (4,550). Deteriorating trend. Although this data needs to be treated with caution as the 2021 census was undertaken at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic when there were significant changes in working patterns and working locations.	
Residents by mode of travel to work, by number and percentage (2021) Source: ESiF (2021) Public Transport	1,235 (3.3%)	A 63.1% decrease from the number in 2011 (3,350). Deteriorating trend. Although this data needs to be treated with caution as the 2021 census was undertaken at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic when there were significant changes in working patterns and working locations.	
Residents by mode of travel to work, by number and percentage (2021) Source: ESiF (2021) Other	417 (1.1%)	A 69.5% increase from the number in 2011 (246). Deteriorating trend. Although this data needs to be treated with caution as the 2021 census was undertaken at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic when there were significant changes in working patterns and working locations.	
Residents by distance travelled to work, by number and percentage (2021) Source: ESiF (2021) Work mainly at or from home	12,306 (32.4%)	An 88.1% increase from the number in 2011 (6,541). Although this data needs to be treated with caution as the 2021 census was undertaken at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic when there were significant changes in working patterns and working locations.	
Residents by distance travelled to work, by number and percentage (2021) Source: ESiF (2021) <2km	3,600 (9.5%)	A 38.2% decrease from the number in 2011 (5,826). Improving trend. Although this data needs to be treated with caution as the 2021 census was undertaken at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic when there were significant changes in working patterns and working locations.	
Residents by distance travelled to work, by number and percentage (2021) Source: ESiF (2021) 2-5km	2,554 (6.7%)	A 31.6% decrease from the number in 2011 (3,730). Improving trend. Although this data needs to be treated with caution as the 2021 census was undertaken at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic when there were significant changes in working patterns and working locations.	
Residents by distance travelled to work, by number and percentage (2021) Source: ESiF (2021) 5-10km	4,167 (11.0%)	A 22.8% decrease from the number in 2011 (5,398). Improving trend. Although this data needs to be treated with caution as the 2021 census was undertaken at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic when there were significant changes in working patterns and working locations.	

Residents by distance travelled to work, by number and percentage (2021) Census Source: ESiF (2021) 10-30km	5,864 (15.4%)	A 19.5% decrease from the number in 2011 (5,864). Improving trend. Although this data needs to be treated with caution as the 2021 census was undertaken at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic when there were significant changes in working patterns and working locations.	
Residents by distance travelled to work, by number and percentage (2021) Census Source: ESiF (2021) 30+km	2,193 (5.8%)	A 55.6% decrease from the number in 2011 (4,938). Improving trend. Although this data needs to be treated with caution as the 2021 census was undertaken at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic when there were significant changes in working patterns and working locations.	
Cycling at least 3 x per week (percentage of adults aged over 16) (2020/21) Source: ESiF (2021)	Declining	The latest data is from 2020/21, which was 1.5% of adults over 16, which compares with 3.5% in 2019/20, and showed a declining trend.	