

Local Development Framework

Provision of Community Facilities Supplementary Planning Document

Sustainability Appraisal Report

**Spatial Policy Team
Colchester Borough Council
(March 2009)**

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Section 1. Non-technical summary

Appraisal Methodology

A scoping report for the Provision of Community Facilities Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Sustainability Appraisal (SA) was prepared in January 2009 and consulted upon in February 2009 for a five week period. Following production of the scoping report work began on appraising the draft SPD and the no plan option in order to consider how sustainable the draft SPD is.

The SA was carried out by the Spatial Policy Team.

Difficulties encountered in compiling information or carrying out the assessment

The principal difficulty in carrying out this SA has been the consideration of realistic alternative options. For this SA assessment the SPD option and no plan option were the only two options considered.

Background

Purpose of the SA and the SA Report

SA is about asking at various intervals during plan preparation: "how sustainable is my plan?". A range of objectives are established and all options are assessed against these objectives to compare their environmental, economic and social effects and ultimately to assess how sustainable an option is. Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), SA is mandatory for Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS), DPDs and SPDs.

One of the most widely used definitions of sustainable development comes from the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Commission), 'Our Common Future' (1987), which defines it as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". A more detailed definition is offered in the government's strategy for sustainable development, 'Securing the Future' (2005), which includes the following five guiding principles for sustainable development:

- Living within environmental limits;
- Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society;
- Achieving a sustainable economy;
- Promoting good governance; and
- Using sound science responsibly.

Plan objectives and outline of contents

The Provision of Community Facilities SPD has been prepared to:

- highlight the importance of community facilities to the well-being of residents and as a mechanism for building community cohesion;
- ensure adequate provision of community facilities to satisfy the needs of local communities and the Borough as a whole;
- inform developers and other interested parties about what the Council will expect regarding contributions to community facilities within the Borough of Colchester.

The purpose of the SPD is to give clear guidance to developers (and others associated with the provision of community facilities) about the Council's expectations for the provision of community facilities and the process for delivering them.

The SPD expands on the Council's previous planning policy CF1 (Infrastructure and Community Facilities Provision) in the Local Plan. Policy CF1 has recently been superseded by 2 new policies SD2 Delivering Facilities and Infrastructure and SD3 Community Facilities following the adoption of the Core Strategy in December 2008. The SPD will expand further on the principles guiding the provision of community facilities set out these policies.

The SPD sets out the national and regional planning drivers governing the need to provide community facilities. In addition, the SPD also defines which community facilities are covered by the SPD, setting out their role and importance in building sustainable communities. Within the context of the SPD, community facilities have been defined as community centres, scout halls, youth centres and youth shelters. It does not include faith buildings, schools or medical buildings themselves however it does cover facilities attached to faith schools and medical buildings used by the wider community. The final section of the SPD includes an explanation about the various mechanisms used to assess the level of need for facilities within the local community including clarification about the level of developers contribution required to provide community facilities. It must be noted that it is not just the community facilities listed in this SPD that will need to be provided as part of sustainable development. Community facilities also include education, health, open space & sport facilities and sustainable transport schemes. Guidance supporting the provision of these types of community facilities and the mechanisms for funding them are covered in separate topic based SPD's or through planning policy.

Compliance with the SEA Directive

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (2001/42/EC) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes requires an environmental assessment to be made of certain plans or programmes. The objective of SEA, as defined in the Government's guidance on strategic environmental assessment, is *"to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans....with a view to promoting sustainable development"* (Article 1).

The Council has concluded that the Provision of Community Facilities SPD is not likely to have significant environmental effects and consequently an environmental assessment is not required. Criteria specified in Schedule 1 to the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 have been taken into account in reaching this conclusion. In line with regulation 9(2)(b) the appropriate consultation bodies were consulted about this conclusion prior to the local planning authority making a formal determination. As part of the consultation on the SA scoping report the consultation bodies were consulted on the Council's conclusion. No objections or comments were received from the statutory consultees. The SA report includes the Council's formal determination that an environmental assessment under the SEA Directive is not necessary for this SPD. (refer Table 5, p.42)

Sustainability objectives, baseline and context

Links to other policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives and how these have been taken into account

The following table includes the key messages from the review of relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives.

Key Messages	Source
All LDDs should encompass the vision for the future of the Borough that responds to the local challenges and opportunities and is based on evidence a sense of local distinctiveness and community derived objectives, within the overall framework of national policy and regional strategies.	PPS12
Ensure that town centres provide an attractive, accessible and safe environment for businesses, shoppers and residents through the promotion of high quality and inclusive design, improvement of the quality of the public realm and open spaces, protection and enhancement of the architectural and historic heritage of centres and provision of a sense of place and a focus for the community and for civic activity.	PPS6, Sustainable Community Strategy, By Design, Regional Economic Strategy
Create a framework for private investment and regeneration that promotes economic, environmental and social well being, particularly in deprived areas.	Sustainable Community Strategy, Corporate Strategy, Regional Business Plan for the Olympic Games, Regional Economic Strategy, PPS6, RSS14, PPS12, Regional Health Strategy, Essex Rural Strategy
Olympic spirit: maximise the benefits from the Olympics coming to London in 2012 by playing a part and getting people involved and participating in sport (£600 million is the estimate economic impact for the East of England from the Olympic Games).	A Better Life, Regional Business Plan for the Olympic Games, Regional Health Strategy
Maximise the potential for landscape and biodiversity enhancement by securing the high quality restoration of land at the earliest opportunity, with appropriate aftercare to facilitate beneficial after uses.	PPS9, Sustainable Development Framework for the East of England, Essex Minerals Development Document Core Strategy Issues and Options Paper, Essex Minerals Local Plan, Essex Rural Strategy
Areas must be maintained as attractive places to live, work and visit with their own distinctive identity.	PPS1, PPS3, PPS6, PPS7, RSS14, By Design, A Better Life
Access policies should be clear, comprehensive & inclusive.	PPS1
Community involvement is essential.	PPS1, Essex Rural Strategy

The needs of the changing demographic should be met.	IRS, Regional Social Strategy
Support people in the region in 'active ageing' and adding life to years, linking in with the National Service Framework for older people.	Regional Health Strategy
Policies should promote high quality, inclusive design.	PPS1, Regional Economic Strategy, Regional Social Strategy, Regional Health Strategy
Housing developments must be located in suitable locations that make efficient use of land and offer a good range of community facilities and with good access to jobs, key services and infrastructure.	PPS3, Corporate Strategy, Regional Housing Strategy, RSS14, PPS1, PPG13, Regional Health Strategy, Colchester's Core Strategy
Promote social inclusion, ensuring that both urban and rural communities have access to a range of main town centre uses and that deficiencies in provision are remedied.	PPS6, IRS, Regional Economic Strategy, East of England Regional Social Strategy, PPS3, PPS7, Essex Rural Strategy
Open spaces, sports and recreational facilities promote social inclusion and are a means of promoting healthy living and preventing illness, and in the social development of children.	PPG17, Open Space SPD, Regional Business Plan for the Olympic Games, East of England Regional Social Strategy, Regional Health Strategy
Consistent with the aims of sustainable development, a balance between safeguarding the environment of Essex, and the quality of life of its residents must be achieved.	PPS9, RSS14, Sustainable Community Strategy, East of England Regional Social Strategy, Essex and Southend Waste Local Plan, Colchester's Core Strategy, Essex Rural Strategy
Locate day to day facilities which need to be near their clients in local centres so that they are accessible by walking and cycling.	PPG13, RSS14, East of England Regional Social Strategy, Colchester's Core Strategy
Reduce levels of poverty and exclusion and promote well being through community cohesion and social capital.	RSS14, IRS, East of England Regional Social Strategy, Essex Rural Strategy
Improve the skills base through increased learning opportunities for all.	IRS, Corporate Strategy, Sustainable Community Strategy, The Leitch Review of Skills
Those who live in the most deprived areas are likely to be multiply disadvantaged and without gainful employment are more likely to be socially excluded from the community at large.	Sustainable Community Strategy, East of England Regional Social Strategy, Essex Rural Strategy
Olympic spirit: maximise the benefits from the Olympics coming to London in 2012 by playing a part and getting people involved and participating in sport.	A Better Life, Regional Business Plan for the Olympic Games

Description of the social, environmental and economic baseline characteristics and the predicted future baseline

Collation of existing baseline data has helped to identify the key sustainability issues facing Colchester and set the context for the appraisal of the Provision of `Community Facilities SPD. Relevant indicators from the full set of baseline data are included in Appendix A of the SA report.

Main social, environmental and economic issues and problems identified

As part of the SA process it is necessary to identify the key sustainability issues to be addressed across the Borough. The sustainability issues and problems facing Colchester related to the provision of community facilities are:

1. The Borough is experiencing vast population growth. A key challenge will be matching anticipated population growth with growing demand for a range of community facilities and services to meet local needs.
2. Population projections for the Borough indicate that the greatest growth is expected in the 60+ age group and by 2021 16.1% of Colchester's population will be aged 65 or over. The growing and aging population will increase pressure on the current community facilities and services including health, retail, education, public transport and recreational services.
3. Deprivation is an issue for small areas of the Borough. A key issue in tackling deprivation will be the removal of barriers preventing access to community facilities and services thereby encouraging greater social inclusion
4. As Colchester has a large rural area rural isolation can also be an issue. The main urban areas of Colchester Borough provide the focus for local communities with the majority of facilities, services and activities being concentrated there. Rural areas often have limited facilities, and this coupled with poor public transport links can prevent those without access to a car accessing the facilities they need. However one third of the local population live in the rural parts of the Borough and lack of access to services and community facilities can be a major problem within these areas.

The SA framework, including objectives, targets and indicators

The table below is the SA framework for this SPD. It will be used for the appraisal of the draft SPD and the alternative no plan option and to monitor the effects of this SPD.

Objectives	Assessment Criteria	Indicators	Evidence
To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent and affordable home.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will the delivery of community facilities reduce the viability of providing affordable housing? - Will the delivery of affordable housing increase? - Will it deliver the number of houses needed to support the existing and growing population? - Will it deliver a range of housing types to meet the diverse needs of the Borough? - Will it deliver good 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of affordable homes completed annually - Proportion of affordable homes completed annually against total dwellings completed - Housing completions per annum (net) - Number of dwellings built to code for sustainable homes level 3 and above - Number of households accepted as full homeless - Financial contributions towards affordable housing provision - Number of key worker households delivered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing Land Availability Assessment Housing Needs Study Housing Market Assessment Housing Topic Paper Annual Monitoring Report Community Facilities Audit

	<p>quality and sustainable housing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will affordable housing be well integrated throughout development sites? - Will it result in affordable housing to meet local needs in rural areas? 	<p>annually</p>	
<p>To ensure that development is located sustainably and makes efficient use of land</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will it ensure the creation of mixed and sustainable communities? - Will it provide people with good access to their needs? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of applications resulting in new, extended or improved community facilities - Percentage of new residential development accessible to community facilities - Number of applications resulting in the loss of community facilities 	<p>PPS 1, PPS 12, Colchester's Core Strategy</p>
<p>To achieve a prosperous and sustainable economy and improve the vitality of town centres</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will it improve the delivery of employment to support the growing population? - Will it support the vitality and viability of town centres? - Will it provide peoples needs at accessible locations? - Will it help sustain the rural economy? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of applications resulting in new, extended or improved community facilities - Percentage of new residential development accessible to community facilities - Amount of leisure floorspace (Use Class D2) completed (gross) - Financial contributions towards community/leisure facilities - Number of new businesses setting up in the Borough - Percentage of employment floorspace (Use Classes B1, B2 and B8) on previously developed land (completed and occupied) 	<p>Retail Study Haven Gateway Employment Land Study Employment Study (initial report) Employment Land Study Centres and Employment Topic Paper Community Facilities Audit</p>
<p>To achieve more</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will it reduce the need to travel? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monetary investment in sustainable transport 	<p>Local Transport Plan</p>

<p>sustainable travel behaviour and reduce the need to travel.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will the levels of sustainable travel increase? - Will it improve sustainable transport infrastructure and linkages? - Will it reduce dependence on car travel? 	<p>schemes, such as public transport facilities, cycleways, traffic calming measures and bus shelters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - proportion of journeys to work by public transport - proportion of journeys to work by car 	<p>Transport Topic Paper Essex Rural Strategy</p>
<p>To improve the education, skills and health of the Borough's population</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will it provide equitable access to education, health, recreation and community facilities? <p>Will it improve the education, skills and health of the population and reduce levels of deprivation?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - percentage of population of working age qualified to NVQ level 3 or equivalent - percentage of adults with poor literacy and numeracy skills - percentage of new residential development accessible to community facilities 	<p>Sustainable Community Strategy, Community Facilities Audit</p>
<p>To create safe and attractive public spaces and reduce crime.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will attractive and safe public spaces be created? - Will actual crime be reduced? - Will the fear of crime be reduced? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in areas of public open space/public realm - All crime – number of crimes per 1000 residents per annum - Number of Domestic Burglaries per 1000 households 	<p>Urban Place Supplement Crime Safety Audit</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance the townscape character, historic and cultural assets of the Borough.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will it enhance the historic and cultural assets of the Borough? - Will it enhance the character and attractiveness of the Borough's settlements? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Condition of Landscape Character Areas - Buildings of Grade I and II* and scheduled monuments at risk - Number of new pieces of community art installed in the Borough 	<p>Townscape Character Assessment Landscape Character Assessment</p>
<p>To conserve and enhance the natural environment, natural resources and the biodiversity of the Borough.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will it enhance the landscape character of the borough? - Will it enhance designated areas of the countryside and coastal environment? - Will it protect and improve biodiversity? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Condition of internationally and nationally important wildlife and geological sites (SSSI, SPA, SAC & Ramsar) - Number and area of Local Sites within the Borough - Area of ancient woodland within the 	<p>Landscape Character Assessment Essex Biodiversity Action Plan (BARS monitoring) Appropriate Assessment</p>

	- Will it improve environmental quality in terms of water air and soil quality?	Borough. - Change in priority habitats and species	
To make efficient use of energy and resources, and reduce waste and our contribution to climate change.	- Will it reduce pollution and greenhouse gas emissions? - Will it increase the use of renewable energy and reduce the use of fossil fuels? - Will it help to reduce, reuse and recycle resources and minimise waste?	- Number of developments built to BREEAM /code for sustainable homes level 3+ standards - Number of developments using reclaimed/recycled materials in construction - Percentage of electricity consumed that is generated from renewables - Domestic energy consumption per household - Percentage of domestic waste composted - Per capita consumption of water	Sustainability Topic Paper

Compatibility between SA objectives and SPD objectives

This SPD has a number of objectives as discussed on page 5. The key purpose of the SPD is to give clear guidance to developers (and others associated with the provision of community facilities) about the Council's expectations for the provision of community facilities and the process for delivering the. This purpose is highly compatible with the SA objectives which seek to 'ensure that development is located sustainably and makes efficient use of land' and to 'improve the education, skills and health of the Borough's population.'

SPD options

Main options considered and how they were identified

It has been difficult to consider alternative options in this SA. The SPD expands upon and provides further clarity to policies SD2 and SD3 of the Core Strategy. Realistically therefore the only two viable options considered for assessment in the SA were the draft SPD and the no plan option.

Comparison of the social, environmental and economic effects of the options

Under both options it is likely that community facilities will be provided as part of new development. Policy SD2 of the Core Strategy states that the Council will work with partners to ensure that facilities and infrastructure are provided to support sustainable communities in Colchester. The policy states that new facilities provided must be provide at accessible locations and meet community needs. This policy also deals with the use of contributions to deliver strategic facilities. SD2 also supports the use of standard charges in appropriate instances to ensure that developments make a reasonable contribution to the provision of facilities and infrastructure. Any tariff approach used will be based on identified need and the viability of development will be an important consideration when determining the extent and priority of contributions requested. Policy SD3 of the Core Strategy states that new development will be required to contribute towards the provision of community facilities to meet the needs of new communities and mitigate impacts within existing communities. Policy SD3 also seeks to achieve the provision of community facilities close to accessible centres with good transport links. Policy SD3 and Table SD3 in particular focuses on the key facilities that the Council will expect to be provided within the Regeneration/Growth Areas. In contrast the SPD deals with a specific category of community facility i.e. community centres, scout huts, village halls etc.

Whilst the Core Strategy establishes the principle that developers will be required to provide community facilities as part of new development, the SPD will ensure that a range of community facilities will be provided at the local level as part of new development to help create sustainable communities and meet local needs. It is considered that the adoption of the SPD will have a more positive impact on the provision of community facilities as it clearly specifies what types of community facilities will be required and the level of contribution per dwelling being requested to ensure that this happens. The SPD also outlines the important function community facilities play in creating sustainable communities thereby helping reduce levels of social deprivation and social exclusion. Furthermore, the SPD by providing clarity reduces inconsistency in terms of the application of policy SD3.

It is clear that an SPD is needed to guide the detailed provision of community facilities. Under the no plan option the lack of clarity about the full range and type of community facilities needed and the lack of detailed information about how these would be funded could jeopardise the delivery of such facilities at the local level and could result in the creation of new communities devoid of suitable/appropriate community facilities required to meet local needs. The SPD reduces this risk by providing further clarity to policies SD2 & SD3 in the Core Strategy.

Likely effects of the SPD

Significant social, environmental and economic effects of the draft SPD

The section above sets out the likely effects of the SPD. The likely effects are all principally social. This is a topic based plan and no environmental effects are likely. No economic effects are likely as the provision of community facilities is a social issue. By increasing the level of provision of community facilities barriers to social isolation and exclusion will be reduced, access to services and training opportunities increased and there is likely to be greater equity in terms of the access to such facilities across the Borough.

Proposed mitigation and enhancement measures

It is not considered that any mitigation or enhancement measures are necessary. As previously explained this SPD provides further information and clarity in support of policies SD2 and SD3 and therefore the options are limited. As part of the appraisal of the draft SPD no adverse impacts were identified that will require mitigation or enhancement measures to be implemented.

Monitoring and implementation

An Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) is compiled every December and monitoring is carried out in accordance with government guidance (Local Development Framework Monitoring: a good practice guide 2005) which proposes the inclusion of the following types of indicators:

- a) Contextual indicators
- b) Output indicators and
- c) Significant effects indicators

The SA framework will be monitored as part of the AMR, which will ensure that the impacts of all Local Development Documents are monitored. If adverse impacts are identified consideration will be given to how these can be mitigated and avoided in the future.

1.2. How to comment on the report

We welcome your comments on this SA Report for the Provision of Community Facility SPD. Comments should be sent to:

Planning Policy
Colchester Borough Council
FREEPOST NAT4433
Box 885
Colchester
CO1 1ZE

Alternatively email your comments to planning.policy@colchester.gov.uk .
The closing date of the consultation is 29 May 2009.

Section 2. Appraisal Methodology

2.1. Approach adopted to the SA

A SA scoping report was prepared in January 2009. In February the consultation bodies under the Environmental Assessment of plans and programmes Regulations, Natural England, the Environment Agency and English Heritage; and GO East, the Highways Agency, EERA, Colchester Borough Homes and the Home Builders Federation were consulted on 9 February 2009 for a five week period. The scoping report was also placed on the Council's website. (www.colchester.gov.uk)

Following production of the scoping report work began on appraising the draft SPD and the no plan option in order to consider how sustainable the draft SPD is.

On 6 April 2009 the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 were amended in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning Act 2008. The 2009 Regulations remove the duty to provide a Sustainability Appraisal report for Local Development Documents other than Development Plan Documents. Therefore, a SA is no longer required for SPDs. At the time these amended Regulations entered into force the Council had already prepared a SA report for this SPD and it will continue to be published for consultation.

2.2. Who carried out the SA

The SA was carried out by the Council's Spatial Policy Team.

2.3. Difficulties encountered in compiling information or carrying out the assessment

The most common difficulty in terms of SA generally is lack of information; however the Council has commissioned or has access to a number of local studies relating to community facilities needs therefore in this instance the lack of information has not really been a difficulty for the SA of this SPD.

As the key function of this SPD is to expand upon and provide further clarity to policies SD2 & SD3 of the Core Strategy it has also been difficult to consider any other alternative option as part from the no plan option.

Section 3. Background

3.1. Purpose of the SA and the SA Report

SA is about asking at various intervals during plan preparation: “how sustainable is my plan?”. A range of objectives are established and all options are assessed against these objectives to compare their environmental, economic and social effects and ultimately to assess how sustainable an option is. Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), SA is mandatory for Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS), DPDs and SPDs.

Sustainable Development Principles

One of the most widely used definitions of sustainable development comes from the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Commission), ‘Our Common Future’ (1987), which defines it as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”. A more detailed definition is offered in the government’s strategy for sustainable development, ‘Securing the Future’ (2005), which includes five guiding principles for sustainable development, set out below.

Living within environmental limits

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

Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society

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

The SPD will help meet this principle by ensuring that the needs of the Borough’s residents are fully considered as part of all future developments. The provision of community facilities where a need has been identified will help ensure that local the communities both new existing and existing will have equal and reasonable access to a wide range of facilities that create sustainable communities.

Achieving a sustainable economy

This includes building a strong, stable and sustainable economy which provides prosperity and governance and opportunities for all, and in which environmental and social costs fall on those who impose them (the polluter pays principle) and efficient resource use is incentivised.

Promoting good governance

This is the active promotion of effective participative systems of levels of society – engaging people's creativity and diversity.

Active involvement of stakeholders is essential in the development and implementation of the Local Development Framework. The Council will therefore need to ensure that it involves all relevant stakeholders at all stages of production as set out in the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). This is available from the Council's website (www.colchester.gov.uk)

Using sound science responsibly

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

Decisions should be based around a robust evidence base, which will ensure that decisions are credible. A comprehensive evidence base was developed for the Core Strategy and this should be built upon where necessary.

Stages & tasks involved in the SA process

Table 1, overleaf, demonstrates how the SA is incorporated within the SPD process.

Figure 9 – Incorporating SA within the SPD process	
SPD Stage 1: Pre-production – Evidence gathering	
SA stages and tasks	
Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainable development objectives. • A2: Collecting baseline information. • A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems. • A4: Developing the SA framework. • A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA. 	
SPD Stage 2: Production – Prepare draft SPD	
SA stages and tasks	
Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B1: Testing the SPD objectives against the SA framework. • B2: Developing the SPD options. • B3: Predicting the effects of the draft SPD. • B4: Evaluating the effects the draft SPD. • B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects. • B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the SPD. 	
Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C1: Preparing SA Report. 	
Stage D: Consulting on draft SPD and Sustainability Appraisal Report	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D1: Public participation on the SA Report and the draft SPD. • D2: Assessing significant changes. 	
SPD Stage 3: Adoption	
SA stages and tasks	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D3: Making decisions and providing information. 	
Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the SPD	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E1: Finalising aims and methods for monitoring. • E2: Responding to adverse effects. 	

(ODPM Guidance (2005) ‘Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies & Local Development Frameworks’ (p. 59)

3.2. Plan objectives and outline of contents

The SPD has a number of objectives and its purpose is to give clear guidance to developers (and others associated with the provision of community facilities) about the Council’s expectations for the provision of such facilities and the mechanism for delivering them.

The SPD starts out by defining what community facilities are covered by the SPD. It sets out the national policy context on planning obligations and standard charges, including guidance contained in Circular 05/2005. The SPD includes additional sections on local planning guidance governing the

provision of community facilities, explaining how local needs are identified, the level of contributions expected from developers to ensure the delivery and maintenance of such facilities and the use of commuted sums from smaller developments to support Borough wide community facility projects.

3.3. Compliance with the SEA Directive

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (2001/42/EC) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes requires an environmental assessment to be made of certain plans or programmes. The objective of SEA, as defined in the Government's guidance on strategic environmental assessment, is *"to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans....with a view to promoting sustainable development"* (Article 1).

The Council has concluded that the Provision of Community Facilities SPD is not likely to have significant environmental effects and consequently a SEA is not required. The criteria specified in Schedule 1 to the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 has been taken into account in reaching this conclusion. Under regulation 9(2)(b) the consultation bodies must be consulted on this conclusion prior to the local planning authority making a formal determination. As part of the consultation on the SA scoping report the consultation bodies were consulted on the Council's conclusion. No objections or comments were received from the statutory consultees about this decision. Section 8 of this report is the Council's formal determination under regulation 9(1) of the Environmental Regulations that an environmental assessment under the SEA Directive is not required for this SPD. (refer Table 5, p. 42)

Section 4. Sustainability objectives, baseline and context

4.1. Links to other policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives and how these have been taken into account

A review of relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives was undertaken for the SA of the Core Strategy. This review was updated as part of revised scoping for the Development Policies and Site Allocations DPDs to include a greater number of documents and update documents already reviewed where necessary, and has been further updated and amended to ensure that the policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives reviewed are relevant to this SPD.

The purpose of reviewing policies, plans and programmes is to help set the context for the SA and consider relevant constraints and targets. Generally plans and programmes tend to sit in a hierarchy, with the same issues covered in increasing detail from the international level through to the local level. Consequently this review of policies, plans and programmes focuses more closely on regional and local level plans and only deals with a few plans at international and national level. The full review of policies, plans and programmes was appended to the scoping report, which is available on the Council's website and is available upon request. The table below includes the key messages from this review.

Table 2. Key messages from review of relevant policies, plans, programmes, and sustainability objectives

Key Messages	Source
All LDDs should encompass the vision for the future of the Borough that responds to the local challenges and opportunities and is based on evidence a sense of local distinctiveness and community derived objectives, within the overall framework of national policy and regional strategies.	PPS12
Ensure that town centres provide an attractive, accessible and safe environment for businesses, shoppers and residents through the promotion of high quality and inclusive design, improvement of the quality of the public realm and open spaces, protection and enhancement of the architectural and historic heritage of centres and provision of a sense of place and a focus for the community and for civic activity.	PPS6, Sustainable Community Strategy, By Design, Regional Economic Strategy
Create a framework for private investment and regeneration that promotes economic, environmental and social well being, particularly in deprived areas.	Sustainable Community Strategy, Corporate Strategy, Regional Business Plan for the Olympic Games, Regional Economic Strategy, PPS6, RSS14, PPS12, Regional Health Strategy, Essex Rural Strategy
Olympic spirit: maximise the benefits from the Olympics coming to London in 2012 by playing a part and getting people involved and participating in sport (£600 million is the estimate economic impact for the East of England from the Olympic Games).	A Better Life, Regional Business Plan for the Olympic Games, Regional Health Strategy
Maximise the potential for landscape and biodiversity enhancement by securing the high quality restoration of land at the earliest opportunity, with appropriate aftercare to facilitate beneficial after uses.	PPS9, Sustainable Development Framework for the East of England, Essex Minerals Development Document Core Strategy Issues and Options Paper, Essex

	Minerals Local Plan, Essex Rural Strategy
Areas must be maintained as attractive places to live, work and visit with their own distinctive identity.	PPS1, PPS3, PPS6, PPS7, RSS14, By Design, A Better Life
Access policies should be clear, comprehensive & inclusive.	PPS1
Community involvement is essential.	PPS1, Essex Rural Strategy
The needs of the changing demographic should be met.	IRS, Regional Social Strategy
Support people in the region in 'active ageing' and adding life to years, linking in with the National Service Framework for older people.	Regional Health Strategy
Policies should promote high quality, inclusive design.	PPS1, Regional Economic Strategy, Regional Social Strategy, Regional Health Strategy
Housing developments must be located in suitable locations that make efficient use of land and offer a good range of community facilities and with good access to jobs, key services and infrastructure.	PPS3, Corporate Strategy, Regional Housing Strategy, RSS14, PPS1, PPG13, Regional Health Strategy, Colchester's Core Strategy
Promote social inclusion, ensuring that both urban and rural communities have access to a range of main town centre uses and that deficiencies in provision are remedied.	PPS6, IRS, Regional Economic Strategy, East of England Regional Social Strategy, PPS3, PPS7, Essex Rural Strategy
Open spaces, sports and recreational facilities promote social inclusion and are a means of promoting healthy living and preventing illness, and in the social development of children.	PPG17, Open Space SPD, Regional Business Plan for the Olympic Games, East of England Regional Social Strategy, Regional Health Strategy
Consistent with the aims of sustainable development, a balance between safeguarding the environment of Essex, and the quality of life of its residents must be achieved.	PPS9, RSS14, Sustainable Community Strategy, East of England Regional Social Strategy, Essex and Southend Waste Local Plan, Colchester's Core Strategy, Essex Rural Strategy
Locate day to day facilities which need to be near their clients in local centres so that they are accessible by walking and cycling.	PPG13, RSS14, East of England Regional Social Strategy, Colchester's Core Strategy
Reduce levels of poverty and exclusion and promote well being through community cohesion and social capital.	RSS14, IRS, East of England Regional Social Strategy, Essex Rural Strategy
Improve the skills base through increased learning opportunities for all.	IRS, Corporate Strategy, Sustainable Community Strategy, The Leitch Review of Skills
Those who live in the most deprived areas are likely to be multiply disadvantaged and without gainful employment are more likely to be socially excluded from the community at large.	Sustainable Community Strategy, East of England Regional Social Strategy, Essex Rural Strategy
Olympic spirit: maximise the benefits from the Olympics coming to London in 2012 by playing a part and getting people involved and participating in sport.	A Better Life, Regional Business Plan for the Olympic Games

4.2. Description of the social, environmental and economic baseline characteristics

General characteristics

The Borough of Colchester is located in the county of Essex in the east of England and is situated 62 miles north east of London. The Borough covers an area of almost 125 square miles (34,540 hectares) and has the main town of Colchester surrounded by a rural hinterland with centres of population in the larger villages of Tiptree, West Mersea and Wivenhoe. These three prosperous and growing villages each have their own strong identity, aspirations and requirements. The remainder of the Borough is largely rural in character with a number of smaller villages and many small hamlets. The

northern part of the Borough which borders with Suffolk lies within the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Data from the mid-2007 population estimates that the population of the Borough is 175,500. Less than 7% of the population comprises ethnic minority groups, an increase of 3% since 2001. Colchester's population has seen a growth of 12.5% since mid-2001. It accounts for 12.8% of the Essex County population and based on mid-2007 figures the average population density of Colchester was 533 people per square kilometre (sq km). This is an increase from 2001 when there were 329 people per sq km.

The population of Colchester is expected to grow by 30.9% (since mid-2006 population estimates) to 223,500 people in 2021. The largest growth will be in the older age groups (60+), whilst growth levels are expected to decline in the younger ages groups (aged 19 or younger). This means that by 2021, there will be an 'ageing population' in Colchester, which will affect many areas of the community for example, the economy, housing and health. The aging population is evidenced by the fact that 16.1% of Colchester's population will be aged 65 or over in 2021.

The Borough is connected to a comprehensive network of major roads via the A12 and A120, which provide routes to London, the M25, Harlow and Cambridge. The Borough also lies in close proximity to the major seaport of Harwich (20 miles) and Stansted Airport (30 miles). Transportation provision includes six railway stations, bus routes operated by ten bus companies and several cycle trails including National Cycle Route One. Cycling infrastructure will increase in future as the town has recently been awarded Cycling Town status.

The Borough is relatively prosperous ranking 224 out of 354 districts on the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 (rank 1 being the most deprived), the rank has improved from 217 in 2004. There are variations in prosperity and there are pockets of deprivation in parts of both the towns and rural areas.

Five areas are undergoing ambitious regeneration programmes: North Colchester, the Garrison, St. Botolph's, East Colchester and North Station. The redevelopments will collectively provide new housing, employment, a university research park, new army garrison, a visual arts facility and new community stadium.

Whilst the Borough of Colchester is extensively rural, the majority of the population live in the towns and villages. Two-thirds of the total population is concentrated within the built-up areas of Colchester and Stanway.

As a result, it is the built up areas, which figure most prominently in many people's lives and the appearance, and quality of their urban surroundings is an important factor in the quality of life.

Colchester is not a deprived area when measured against national statistics however three of its wards are in the most deprived 20% of wards in East of England (2007, a decrease from four wards in 2004). St Andrew's ward has

the highest levels of children living in poverty in Essex. 12,084 crimes were reported between August 2007 and July 2008 and approximately a quarter of these were within Castle ward.

Life expectancy in the Borough has been estimated as nearly 78 years for men and approximately 82 years for women. There are 2 hospitals, 32 doctors and 26 dental surgeries within the Borough. In addition, there are 6 clinics, 15 opticians and 21 pharmacies.

There are 79 maintained schools: 64 primary, 11 secondary and 4 special schools. There are two further education colleges, Colchester Sixth Form College and the Colchester Institute, plus the University of Essex, making the Borough a major educational base with visiting students significantly adding to the diversity of the population. The provision of day care, nursery education and out-of-school care is a significant issue for the Borough, with there being more demand than formal supply.

Educational achievement in the Borough is generally good and has improved from recent years. In 2007 29.9% of Colchester's working age population were qualified to NVQ level 4 or above standard and over three quarters were qualified to NVQ level 1 or above. However, 9.5% of the working age population had no qualifications.

The community has access to a wide range of council run services and facilities, including those owned by the 31 parish councils. Facilities include country parks at Cudmore Grove, East Mersea and Highwoods, Colchester; and a leisure centre (Leisure World) including swimming pools and four multi-activity centres. A 10,000 seat capacity Community Stadium in North Colchester opened in autumn 2008.

4.3. Main social, environmental and economic issues and problems identified

As part of the SA process it is necessary to identify the key sustainability issues to be addressed across the Borough. These issues have been identified from collection and analysis of the baseline data, evidence and consultation with stakeholders. The SA of the Core Strategy, and SA work carried out for the Site Allocations and Development Policies DPDs have focused on a broad range of issues given the wide scope and level of detail of these documents. As this SPD is topical a more concise list of sustainability issues has been identified, which are relevant to this SPD rather than the full range of sustainability issues facing Colchester. The sustainability issues and problems facing Colchester in relation to related to the provision of community facilities are:

1. The Borough is experiencing vast population growth. A key challenge will be matching anticipated population growth with growing demand for a range of community facilities and services to meet local needs.

2. Population projections for the Borough indicate that the greatest growth is expected in the 60+ age group and by 2021 16.1% of Colchester's population will be aged 65 or over. The growing and aging population will increase pressure on the current community facilities and services including health, retail, education, public transport and recreational services.
3. Deprivation is an issue for small areas of the Borough. A key issue in tackling deprivation will be the removal of barriers preventing access to community facilities and services thereby encouraging greater social inclusion
4. As Colchester has a large rural area rural isolation can also be an issue. The main urban areas of Colchester Borough provide the focus for local communities with the majority of facilities, services and activities being concentrated there. Rural areas often have limited facilities, and this coupled with poor public transport links can prevent those without access to a car accessing the facilities they need. However one third of the local population live in the rural parts of the Borough and lack of access to services and community facilities can be a major problem within these areas.

The table below highlights the key social issues facing Colchester. Also included within the table is the relevant sustainability objective, which is taken from the SA framework. This demonstrates that the SA framework fully addresses the identified issues and problems.

4.4. Limitations of the information and assumptions made

As part of the evidence base for the Core Strategy and emerging Development Policies DPD, the Council commissioned a Community Facilities Audit for the Borough. Information has also been gathered from needs assessments, and via regular consultation with community groups and community led planning projects. These sources have provided up to date information about the current level of need for facilities across the Borough. The studies have also helped identify the issues and problems associated with the provision of community facilities that need to be addressed within the Borough.

4.5. The SA framework, including objectives, targets and indicators

Developing SA objectives is a recognised way in which sustainability effects can be described, analysed and compared. Table 3, below, outlines the sustainability objectives and assessment criteria (sub-objectives) against which the draft SPD and alternatives will be appraised. The SA objectives have remained the same for all SA work undertaken to date, however the assessment criteria have changed for some of the documents in order to ensure that the SA framework remains relevant to each LDD. Whilst some of the SA objectives will not be relevant to this SPD they have remained in the

SA Framework in order to ensure consistency throughout all of the Council's SA work. The table also identifies the indicators and evidence that relates to each sustainability objective. These indicators and evidence will provide a basis for appraising and scoring how well each proposed development policy option performs against the various objectives and criteria.

Table 3. SA Framework

Objectives	Assessment Criteria	Indicators	Evidence
To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent and affordable home.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will the delivery of community facilities reduce the viability of providing affordable housing? - Will the delivery of affordable housing increase? - Will it deliver the number of houses needed to support the existing and growing population? - Will it deliver a range of housing types to meet the diverse needs of the Borough? - Will it deliver good quality and sustainable housing? - Will affordable housing be well integrated throughout development sites? - Will it result in affordable housing to meet local needs in rural areas? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of affordable homes completed annually - Proportion of affordable homes completed annually against total dwellings completed - Housing completions per annum (net) - Number of dwellings built to code for sustainable homes level 3 and above - Number of households accepted as full homeless - Financial contributions towards affordable housing provision - Number of key worker households delivered annually 	Housing Land Availability Assessment Housing Needs Study Housing Market Assessment Housing Topic Paper Annual Monitoring Report Community Facilities Audit
To ensure that development is located sustainably and makes efficient use of land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will it ensure the creation of mixed and sustainable communities? - Will it provide people with good access to their needs? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of applications resulting in new, extended or improved community facilities - Percentage of new residential development accessible to community facilities - Number of applications 	PPS 1, PPS 12, Colchester's Core Strategy

		resulting in the loss of community facilities	
To achieve a prosperous and sustainable economy and improve the vitality of town centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will it improve the delivery of employment to support the growing population? - Will it support the vitality and viability of town centres? - Will it provide peoples needs at accessible locations? - Will it help sustain the rural economy? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of applications resulting in new, extended or improved community facilities - Percentage of new residential development accessible to community facilities - Amount of leisure floorspace (Use Class D2) completed (gross) - Financial contributions towards community/leisure facilities - Number of new businesses setting up in the Borough - Percentage of employment floorspace (Use Classes B1, B2 and B8) on previously developed land (completed and occupied) 	Retail Study Haven Gateway Employment Land Study Employment Study (initial report) Employment Land Study Centres and Employment Topic Paper Community Facilities Audit
To achieve more sustainable travel behaviour and reduce the need to travel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will it reduce the need to travel? - Will the levels of sustainable travel increase? - Will it improve sustainable transport infrastructure and linkages? - Will it reduce dependence on car travel? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monetary investment in sustainable transport schemes, such as public transport facilities, cycleways, traffic calming measures and bus shelters - proportion of journeys to work by public transport - proportion of journeys to work by car 	Local Transport Plan Transport Topic Paper Essex Rural Strategy
To improve the education, skills and health of the Borough's population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will it provide equitable access to education, health, recreation and community facilities? Will it improve the education, skills and health of the population and reduce levels of deprivation? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - percentage of population of working age qualified to NVQ level 3 or equivalent - percentage of adults with poor literacy and numeracy skills - percentage of new residential development accessible to community facilities 	Sustainable Community Strategy, Community Facilities Audit
To create	- Will attractive and	- Increase in areas of	Urban Place

safe and attractive public spaces and reduce crime.	<p>safe public spaces be created?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will actual crime be reduced? - Will the fear of crime be reduced? 	<p>public open space/public realm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All crime – number of crimes per 1000 residents per annum - Number of Domestic Burglaries per 1000 households 	Supplement Crime Safety Audit
To conserve and enhance the townscape character, historic and cultural assets of the Borough.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will it enhance the historic and cultural assets of the Borough? - Will it enhance the character and attractiveness of the Borough's settlements? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Condition of Landscape Character Areas - Buildings of Grade I and II* and scheduled monuments at risk - Number of new pieces of community art installed in the Borough 	Townscape Character Assessment Landscape Character Assessment
To conserve and enhance the natural environment, natural resources and the biodiversity of the Borough.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will it enhance the landscape character of the borough? - Will it enhance designated areas of the countryside and coastal environment? - Will it protect and improve biodiversity? - Will it improve environmental quality in terms of water air and soil quality? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Condition of internationally and nationally important wildlife and geological sites (SSSI, SPA, SAC & Ramsar) - Number and area of Local Sites within the Borough - Area of ancient woodland within the Borough. - Change in priority habitats and species 	Landscape Character Assessment Essex Biodiversity Action Plan (BARS monitoring) Appropriate Assessment
To make efficient use of energy and resources, and reduce waste and our contribution to climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will it reduce pollution and greenhouse gas emissions? - Will it increase the use of renewable energy and reduce the use of fossil fuels? - Will it help to reduce, reuse and recycle resources and minimise waste? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of developments built to BREEAM /code for sustainable homes level 3+ standards - Number of developments using reclaimed/recycled materials in construction - Percentage of electricity consumed that is generated from renewables - Domestic energy consumption per household - Percentage of domestic waste composted - Per capita consumption of water 	Sustainability Topic Paper

4.6. Compatibility between SA objectives and SPD objectives

This SPD has a number of objectives as discussed on page 5 and the key purpose of the SPD is to give clear guidance to developers (and others associated with the provision of community facilities) about the Council's expectations for the provision of community facilities and the process for delivering the. This purpose is highly compatible with the SA objectives which seek to 'ensure that development is located sustainably and makes efficient use of land' and to 'improve the education, skills and health of the Borough's population.'

Section 5. SPD options

5.1. Main options considered and how they were identified

It has been difficult to consider alternatives. The SPD expands upon and provides further clarity to policies SD2 and SD3 in the Core Strategy. Realistically the only two viable options to assess as part of the SA is the SPD option and the no plan option. Policies SD2 and SD3 are included below

SD2 – Delivering Facilities and Infrastructure

The Borough Council will work with partners to ensure that facilities and infrastructure are provided to support sustainable communities in Colchester. New facilities and infrastructure must be located and designed so that they are accessible and compatible with the character and needs of the local community.

New development will be required to provide the necessary community facilities, open space, transport infrastructure and other requirements to meet the community needs arising from the proposal. Development will also be expected to contribute, as appropriate, to strategic projects that support sustainable development and the wider community.

The Council will seek to employ standard charges where appropriate to ensure that new development makes a reasonable contribution to the provision of related facilities and infrastructure. The tariff approach will be based on a comprehensive review of the need, timing and scale of investment and how this relates to the key growth areas set out in the Core Strategy. The viability of developments will also be considered when determining the extent and priority of development contributions.

Policy SD3 - Community Facilities

The Borough Council will work with partners to deliver key community facilities (see TableSD3) to support the Sustainable Community Strategy and to develop Colchester as a prestigious regional centre.

The Council will also provide facilities for the local communities, based upon an analysis of needs, with particular regard to disadvantaged groups. New development will be required to contribute towards the provision of community facilities to meet the needs of new communities and mitigate impacts on existing communities. Safe, direct routes for walking and cycling and appropriate bus services will be established to serve existing and new preschool, primary, and secondary school communities.

Community facilities should be located in centres or other accessible locations to maximise community access and build a sense of local community identity. The Council supports the retention and enhancement of existing community facilities and encourages multi-purpose community facilities that can provide a range of services and facilities to the community at one accessible location. Where existing facilities can be enhanced to serve new development, the Council will work with developers and local partners to audit existing facilities and assess the requirement for additional facilities to deliver comprehensive provision of services to serve these extended communities. The Council will work with local partners, such as Parish Councils or Community Associations, to plan and manage community facilities.

Table 4: Developing the DPD options and predicting and evaluating the effects of the DPD

Objective	Assessment Criteria (sub-objective)	Option 1:	Option 2:	General Evaluation
To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent and affordable home.	Will the delivery of community facilities reduce the viability of providing affordable housing?	?	○	The provision of community facilities under option 1 could potentially mean that there is less money available for the provision of affordable housing. However the provision of affordable housing is a priority for the Council. The Core Strategy has set a target of 35% affordable housing provision in Policy H4. It will be important to prioritise competing demand between the need for affordable housing and the need for other community facilities as part of new developments. Neither of the options assessed in this SA were considered likely to lead to an increase in housing numbers in the Borough (market or affordable housing) or improve the sustainability of the Borough's housing stock.
	Will the delivery of affordable housing increase?	○	○	
	Will it deliver the number of houses needed to support the existing and growing population?	n/a	n/a	
	Will it deliver a range of housing types to meet the diverse needs of the Borough?	n/a	n/a	
	Will it deliver good quality and sustainable housing?	n/a	n/a	
	Will affordable housing be well integrated throughout development sites?	n/a	n/a	
	Will it result in affordable housing to meet local needs in rural areas?	n/a	n/a	
To ensure that development is located sustainably and makes efficient use of land	-Will it ensure the creation of mixed and sustainable communities?	++	+	Both options highlight the importance of providing community facilities as part of new development to help build mixed and sustainable communities.

	<p>Will it provide people with good access to their needs?</p>	<p>++</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>Of the two options assessed Option 1 meets this objective more as it provides a definition of the types of community facilities covered by the SPD and provides a clear indication for providers about the level of contribution they will be expected to make towards the cost of providing them, including small 1 bedroom dwellings. This adds a clarity for providers that is absent under Option 2. Option 2 would be dependant on the implementation of Core Strategy policies to deliver community facilities. Policy SD3 & Table SD3 in the Core Strategy both highlight the importance of providing community facilities close to existing centres but Table SD3 tends to focus on key community facilities needed within Regeneration/Growth Areas or the provision of multi use community facilities that are easily accessible and which provide a range of uses at a single location. These are more likely to be delivered as part of larger developments and could result in less small scale community facilities projects being delivered outside of the regeneration areas. Furthermore</p>
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				<p>although Option 2 also covers a wider range of community facilities (sustainable transport, schools and health facilities required to create sustainable communities than option 1, it does not include detailed information about how they should be funded. Reliance solely on option 2 could jeopardise the provision of certain types of facilities needed to support or meet locally identified community needs. Option 2 in particular promotes the enhancement/upgrade of existing facilities as an alternative to providing new ones which ensures that land is used efficiently and that buildings are existing buildings are re-used .</p>
<p>To achieve a prosperous and sustainable economy and improve the vitality of town centres</p>	<p>Will it improve the delivery of employment to support the growing population?</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>Both options will encourage the provision of a wide range of community facilities as an integral part of all new development. This will improve access to training, education and social support networks improving peoples skills set. A number of local jobs may be created through the provision of community</p>

				facilities i.e. pre-school/ nursery/ health and education services however this is not a key objective of this SPD or policy SD3.
	Will it support the vitality and viability of town centres?	0	+	Options 2 could help support the vitality of the Town Centre as it encourages the provision of major new community facilities e.g. First Site. Promoting such facilities centrally could increase visitors numbers to Colchester which would support the local economy. Option 1 does not support this objective as well as it tends to focus more on the provision of facilities at the local level.
	Will it provide peoples needs at accessible locations?	++	+	Both options identify the need to provide community facilities as part of new development to help build sustainable communities. Option 2 tends to focus more on the provision of key facilities at centralised locations. Under this option access could still remain a problem for people without access to a car or in areas where public transport links are poorly developed. Option 1 supports this objective more as it states that community facilities should be provided within walking/cycling
	Will it help sustain the rural economy?	n/a	n/a	

				distance to where people live.
To achieve more sustainable travel behaviour and reduce the need to travel.	Will it reduce the need to travel?	+	i	Option 1 encourages the provision of community facilities close to where people live and work. It could therefore reduce the need for people to travel to access such services and reduce dependency on the car. Option 2 also encourages the provision of community facilities as an overall part of development but a greater emphasis is placed on locating these centrally in established centres where they will be accessible to a wider number of people. Under this latter option people are more likely to have to travel by car to access some of the key facilities identified in Table SD3 and any reduced need to travel or reduction on dependency on the car will depend on where community facilities are located. None of the other objectives are applicable to this SPD.
	Will the levels of sustainable travel increase?	n/a	n/a	
	Will it improve sustainable transport infrastructure and linkages?	n/a	n/a	
	Will it reduce dependence on car travel?	+	i	
To improve the education, skills and health of the Borough's population	Will it provide equitable access to education, health, recreation and community facilities?	++	+	While both options recognise the importance of providing community facilities as part of new development, Option 1 contains greater detail about the wide range of services that can
	Will it improve the education,			

	skills and health of the population and reduce levels of deprivation?	+	+	be met through the provision of such facilities e.g. adult education classes, pre school groups and residents groups. This option therefore helps meet the objectives slightly better than Option 2. Whilst option 2 recognises the importance of providing community facilities, the emphasis tends to be more on the provision of key facilities in established centres where facilities would be accessible to a wide group and there is a risk that very local needs might not be addressed if the Council relied on Core Strategy policies solely to deliver of community facilities. Furthermore under option access could still remain a problem for people without access to a car or in areas where public transport links are poorly developed.
To create safe and attractive public spaces and reduce crime.	Will attractive and safe public spaces be created?	+	○	Option 1 supports this objective more than option 2 as it specifically mentions the role communities facilities can play in reducing isolation, developing community cohesion, reducing the fear of crime and improving opportunities to participate in community activities. Policy SD3 does not mention the
	Will actual crime be reduced?	+	○	
	Will the fear of crime be reduced?	+	○	

				scope for community facilities to reduce crime or the fear of crime. The SPD should increase the range and level of provision of community facilities close to where they are needed thereby reducing the scope for antisocial behaviour and crime. As in issue crime prevention and the creation of safe & attractive environments is covered more generally by policies PR2 and UR1 in the core Strategy.
To conserve and enhance the townscape character, historic and cultural assets of the Borough.	Will it enhance the historic and cultural assets of the Borough?	n/a	n/a	None of these objectives are applicable to this SPD.
	Will it enhance the character and attractiveness of the Borough's settlements?	n/a	n/a	
To conserve and enhance the natural environment, natural resources and the biodiversity of the Borough.	Will it enhance the landscape character of the borough?	n/a	n/a	
	Will it enhance designated areas of the countryside and coastal environment?	n/a	n/a	
	Will it protect and improve biodiversity?	n/a	n/a	
	Will it improve environmental quality in terms of water air and soil quality?	n/a	n/a	

To make efficient use of energy and resources, and reduce waste and our contribution to climate change.	Will it reduce pollution and greenhouse gas emissions?	+/i	0	Both options identify the need to provide community facilities as part of new development to help build sustainable communities. Option 2 tends to focus more on the provision of key facilities at centralised locations. Under this option access could still remain a problem for people without access to a car or in areas where public transport links are poorly developed therefore this option would have less impact on reducing pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Option 1 covers the provision of facilities for all levels of development. It encourages the provision of facilities close to where people live, within walking and cycling distance therefore option 1 could help lower pollution levels by reducing the need to travel by car to access facilities. Both options promote the use of facilities for multiple uses which positively supports this objective. Option 1 & 2 seeks to promote the enhancement/upgrade of existing facilities as an alternative to providing new ones which makes efficient use of land and supports waste reduction objectives.
	Will it increase the use of renewable energy and reduce the use of fossil fuels?	+/i	o	
	Will it help to reduce, reuse and recycle resources and minimise waste?	+	+	

<p>Summary</p>
<p>Under both options it is likely that the provision of community facilities will increase as both the SPD and Policy SD3 in the Core Strategy encourages the provision of community facilities as part of new development. Under Option 2 the provision of such facilities would be guided by Core Strategy policy SD3. This policy states that new development will be required to contribute towards the provision of community facilities to meet the needs of new communities and mitigate impacts with existing communities. Policy SD3 also seeks to achieve the provision of community facilities close to accessible centres with good transport links. Further guidance is set out in Table UR1 which sets out which facilities the Council want delivered within the key Regeneration/Growth Areas.</p>
<p>However, there will be a more positive impact if this SPD is adopted. The SPD provides greater clarity about the Council expectations about the provision of community facilities including at the local level thereby reducing inconsistency in terms of the application of policy SD3. It achieves this by clearly setting out what types of community facilities will be required to help create sustainability communities and the level of contribution expected per dwelling being requested to ensure that this happens. It also ensures that all developments even those of only one dwelling contribute to improving the level of provision of community facilities generally across the Borough. The inclusion of this information on contributions adds clarity about the Council's expectations for the provision of facilities. The SPD will therefore ensure that the right community facility is delivered in the areas where a clear need has been identified. Furthermore, without the SPD providing necessary clarity there may be inconsistency in the application for policy SD3. Whilst the Core Strategy policy will ensure that a range of community facilities are provided as part of future development these are more likely to be larger facilities provided within the growth/regeneration areas identified in the Core Strategy that will serve wider sections of the population. The SPD goes further than this policy highlighting the need to provide facilities based on need even within small developments. This will help enhance social cohesion, reduce social exclusion and reduce levels of deprivation.</p>
<p>Recommendation</p>
<p>The SPD will bring positive impacts on the SA objectives to 'ensure that development is located sustainably and makes efficient use of land', and 'improves the education, skills and health of the Borough's population.'</p> <p>The draft SPD should be consulted upon and then adopted by the Council.</p>
<p>Key</p>
<p>++ Clear and substantive positive effect in response to criteria</p>

- +** Some positive effect in response to criteria
- -** Clear and substantive negative effect in response to criteria
- Some negative effect in response to criteria
- I** Effect depends on implementation
- O** No effect in response to criteria
- ?** Effect uncertain
- n/a** Not applicable

5.2. Comparison of the social, environmental and economic effects of the options

The summary in Table 4, above, sets out the likely effects of the SPD.

Policies SD2 sets out the generic approach that the Council will take regarding securing contributions towards the provision of community facilities within the Borough. Policy SD3 recognises generally the importance of providing communities facilities to help build new sustainable communities or to support existing communities. Table SD3 goes as far as identifying which community facilities the Council would like to see provided as part of development within the key Regeneration/ Growth Areas identified in the Core Strategy. Under the no plan option, without further explanation to add detail and clarity to how policies SD2 & SD3 should be implemented, there is a risk that community facilities will not always delivered as part of development even though a local need has been identified.

The SPD includes adds clarity to Policies SD2 & 3 for all community facility providers. The SPD includes a standard calculation detailing the level of contribution that will sought to support the provision of community facilities down to a single bedroom dwelling. This removes and risk of misinterpretation of Policies SD3 and helps meet the tests set out in circular 05/05. Without the SPD it could be more difficult for the Council to request financial contributions towards the provision of facilities from all development sites.

The SPD adds further clarity to the process as it defines which community facilities are covered by the document. It is important that a range of community facilities are provided not just key facilities delivered as part of wider regeneration programmes but also locally needed facilities which help tackle social exclusion and isolation. The strength of the SPD is that it highlights the need for local facilities as well as well as more strategic facilities and shows how their provision will be funded.

Failure to provide facilities as part of new development where a local need has been identified is not conducive to the creation of socially cohesive or sustainable communities and therefore guidance is needed to ensure that the right communities facilities are provided as part of development.

It is clear that an SPD is needed covering the many issues involved in the provision of community facilities. Under the no plan option there is risk that facilities would only be provided as part of larger regeneration schemes if there was a reliance solely on Core Strategy policies and it could be difficult to justify asking for contributions from small schemes without the detailed guidance set out in the SPD.

Section 6. Likely effects of the SPD

6.1. Significant social, environmental and economic effects of the draft SPD

This SPD has a number of objectives as discussed on page 5 and the key purpose of the SPD is to give clear guidance to developers (and others associated with the provision of community facilities) about the Council's expectations for the provision of community facilities and the process for delivering the. This purpose is highly compatible with the SA objectives which seek to 'ensure that development is located sustainably and makes efficient use of land', 'improve the education, skills and health of the Borough's population' and to 'achieve a prosperous and sustainable economy.'

The SPD will increase the provision of community facilities as part of new development. It will help ensure that the communities facilities provided are delivered in areas where a need has been identified and also ensure that the right type of community facilities are delivered to meet that need. This will help ensure that community facilities are the delivery of community facilities will increase, which will help create sustainable communities by meeting local needs in terms of enhancing access to community facilities and help reduce levels of deprivation and social exclusion. there will be a more positive impact if this SPD is adopted as it clearly sets out what types of community facilities will be required and the level of contribution per dwelling being requested to ensure that this happens. The SPD will ensure that a range of community facilities will be provided as part of new development to help create sustainable communities and meet local needs.

Furthermore, the SPD by providing clarity reduces inconsistency in terms of the application of policy SD3. Whilst the Core Strategy establishes the principle that developers will be required to provide community facilities as part of new development, the SPD goes further than this and defines what types of facilities will be required and the level of contributions that developers will be required to provide to fund this provision.

Whilst both options will ensure that community facilities are delivered, a more positive impact is likely under the SPD as it identifies more precisely what facilities will be sought and the role they play in creating sustainable communities thereby helping to reduce levels of social deprivation and social exclusion.

The SPD clearly sets out what is required by policy SD3 and includes an explanation for this. It will reduce any uncertainty with respect to the application of the policy. The SPD will contribute to improving social cohesion as it states that the provision of community facilities should be provided close to where people live and work. This is important to help starting to address poor access to services and facilities thereby reducing social isolation and enhancing socially deprived areas.

6.2. Proposed mitigation and enhancement measures

It is not considered that any mitigation or enhancement measures are necessary. As previously explained this SPD provides further information and clarity in support of Policy SD2 and SD3 and therefore the options are limited. As part of the appraisal of the draft SPD no adverse impacts were identified that will require mitigation or potential enhancement measures to be implemented.

Section 7. Monitoring and implementation

7.1. Links to other tiers of plans and programmes and the project level

This SPD expands upon policy SD3 of the Core Strategy. The Core Strategy is a higher level document and all further Development Plan Documents and SPDs the Council produce will need to be in accordance with the Core Strategy.

7.2. Proposals for monitoring

An Annual Monitoring Report is compiled every December and monitoring is carried out in accordance with government guidance (Local Development Framework Monitoring: a good practice guide 2005) which proposes the inclusion of the following types of indicators:

- a) Contextual indicators for monitoring the wider background against which the plan operates.
- b) Output indicators to monitor the direct effect of plan policies and progress towards policy targets. These include both mandatory Core output indicators as well as discretionary local outputs indicators.
- c) Significant effects indicators

The SA framework will be monitored as part of the AMR, which will ensure that the impacts of all Local Development Documents are monitored. If adverse impacts are identified consideration will be given to how these can be mitigated and avoided in the future.

Section 8. Determination that an SEA is not required

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (2001/42/EC) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes requires an environmental assessment to be made of certain plans or programmes. The objective of SEA, as defined in the Government's guidance on strategic environmental assessment, is *"to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans....with a view to promoting sustainable development"* (Article 1). The SEA Directive has been transposed into UK law through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

This section of the SA scoping report is the Council's determination that an environmental assessment under these regulations is not required. The first table is the Council's formal determination and the second table shows how the Council has systematically reached its determination.

Table 5. SEA Screening Determination

Environmental Regulations Paragraph	SEA Requirement	Comments
2	Is the plan: (a) subject to preparation or adoption by an authority at national, regional or local level; or (b) prepared by an authority for adoption, through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government; and, in either case, (c) required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions?	Yes, the plan is prepared by Colchester Borough Council. It is set out in the Local Development Scheme and therefore required by administrative provisions.
5(2)	Is the plan (a) prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, and does it (b) sets the framework for future development consent of projects listed in Annex I or II to Council Directive 85/337/EEC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment, as amended by Council Directive 97/11/EC(9)?	Yes, the plan is prepared for town and country planning purposes and sets the framework for future development consent of projects listed in Annex I or II to Council Directive 85/337/EEC (urban development projects).
4(c)	Is the plan or programme likely to have significant environmental effects?	No, the plan is topic based and does not allocate land. It addresses a social issue and no environmental effects are likely.
6	Does the plan (a) determine the use of a small area at local level; or (b) is a minor modification to a plan or programme of the description set out in either of those paragraphs?	(a) No, the plan does not determine the use of an area of land. (b) The plan is a minor modification to the Colchester Borough Adopted Core Strategy (policies SD2 and SD3).

5(3)	Has it been determined that the plan requires an assessment pursuant to Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive?	No (see section 7 of the scoping report).
<p>This is the Council's determination under regulation 9(1) that the Community Facilities Supplementary Planning Document is not likely to have significant environmental effects and consequently a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is not required. The criteria specified in Schedule 1 to the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 has been taken into account in reaching this conclusion. Under regulation 9(2)(b) the consultation bodies must be consulted on this conclusion prior to the local planning authority making a formal determination. The consultation bodies were consulted on 9 February 2009 for a five week period and no representations have been received.</p>		

Schedule 1 of The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 - Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment:

Table 6. Likely significant effects

SEA Requirement	Comments
1. The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to -	
(a) the degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources;	The plan is topic based and will be applied across the whole Borough. However, it will not directly influence the location, nature and scale of development proposals.
(b) the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy;	The plan will improve the delivery of community facilities in the Borough; however it will not influence development proposals or other plans in terms of location, nature and scale.
(c) the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development;	The plan will promote sustainable development by helping to deliver community facilities for all, which may help to reduce levels of deprivation. However, it will not have an impact on environmental issues.
(d) environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme; and	There are no environmental problems relevant to this plan.
(e) the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).	This plan has no relevance to the implementation of Community legislation.
2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to -	
(a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;	The plan will result in an increased provision of community facilities. There is a high probability of this happening and the provision of more facilities will be long term. A review to the Core Strategy, which includes a policy on the provision of community facilities that this plan is compliant with, could lead to an amendment in policy in relation to the provision of community facilities in the future.

(b) the cumulative nature of the effects;	The cumulative effect of this plan and social strategies will likely lead to a reduction in deprivation within the Borough. Other local planning authorities will also need to deliver community facilities therefore the level of provision of community facilities will increase across the region.
(c) the transboundary nature of the effects;	There are no transboundary effects; this plan applies to Colchester Borough only.
(d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents);	The plan poses no risk to human health.
(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);	The whole Borough will be affected by this plan.
(f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to - (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; (ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or (iii) intensive land-use; and	The built, natural and historic environment will not be affected by this plan. This plan will have a positive social effect and will help contribute to the delivery of the Council's SA objective to 'ensure that development is located sustainably and makes efficient use of land', 'improves the education, skills and health of the Borough's population' and 'achieve a prosperous and sustainable economy
(g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.	No effects to areas of high quality landscape will occur as a result of this plan.
Conclusion	
The SA Report sets out the characteristics of the Borough, which are of relevance to this SPD. It highlights that there is both an expanding and ageing population in the Borough that will exert a pressure on current facilities and services and identifies pockets of deprivation in a small number of urban wards and rural isolation as key issues to be addressed in the future. The SPD raises the importance of providing community facilities as an integral part of new development in the Borough to help create sustainable communities and reduce social exclusion and deprivation. This SPD will result in positive improvements to these issues. As the SPD is topic based and will not affect the location, scale and nature of development no environmental effects will occur. Therefore, an assessment of the significant environmental effects of the SPD under the SEA Directive and Environmental Assessment Regulations is not required.	

Appendix A. Colchester's Economic Social & Environmental Baseline Data relevant to this SPD

Indicators	Colchester	Essex County	East of England	England	Trends	Data sources
Population						
Population of area	175,500	1,376,400	5,661,000	51,092,000	Colchester increases by 12.5% since mid-2001. The largest district accounting for 12.8% of Essex County.	Mid-2007 Population Estimates, ONS.
Number of males	86,500	672.2	2,778.3	25,114.5		Mid-2007 Population Estimates, ONS.
Number of females	89,000	704.3	2,882.7	25,977.5		Mid-2007 Population Estimates, ONS.
Life expectancy males	78.1					Colchester Health Profile, 2008. APHO and Department of Health. © Crown Copyright, 2008.
Life expectancy females	82.6					Colchester Health Profile, 2008. APHO and Department of Health. © Crown Copyright, 2008.
Population density (people per sq km)	533					Calculation based on Colchester area geography (329 sqm - Regional Trends) and the mid-2007 estimate.
Population projected to 2021	223,500	1562.2	6471.0	57154.8	Increase of 30.9% for Colchester since mid-2006 population estimates. Take caution - estimates and projections may be inaccurate due to ONS migration calculation.	2006-based Subnational Population Projections, ONS. © Crown Copyright, 2008.

% of population over the age of 65 in 2021	16.1					2006-based Sub-national Population Projections, ONS. © Crown Copyright, 2008.
% of Colchester that is 'White'	92.86%, 158,600 people	94.15	92.25	88.68	This is a decrease from 96.18% on Census Day 2001.	Mid-2006 Experimental Population Estimates by Ethnic Group, ONS, 2008.
% of population in an ethnic minority group (excluding 'other white')	7.09%, 12,100 people	5.85%			This is an increase from 3.82% on Census Day 2001. The Colchester proportion is probably higher than the Essex proportion due to the University of Essex residents being counted.	Mid-2006 Experimental Population Estimates by Ethnic Group, ONS, 2008.
Inflow migration	8,900					Internal Migration Estimates, mid-2006 to mid-2007, ONS, 2008.
Outflow migration	7,800					Internal Migration Estimates, mid-2006 to mid-2007, ONS, 2008.
Housing						
Number of dwellings	72,634					Colchester Hip Return, April 2008.
Number and % of privately owned households	58,465 dwellings = 80.5%					Colchester Hip Return, April 2008.
Number and % of Registered Social Landlord	3,260 dwellings = 4.5%					Colchester Hip Return, April 2008.
Average household size	2.37	2.38	2.37	2.36	Colchester's average household size is the same as that of the East of England. Expected that this may have decreased in recent years.	Census 2001, ONS

Housing Stock Conditions						Retrieve from AMR.
Number of vacant dwellings	2,227 = 3.1%					Colchester Hip Return, April 2008.
Mean house prices	£198,728	£230,588		£218,910		The Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA), 2007.
Average number of rooms	5.5					Census 2001, ONS
% of households with an occupancy rating of -1 or less	5.57	4.91			'Occupancy rating' measures overcrowding. A value of -1 implies that there is one room too few and that there is overcrowding in the household.	Census 2001, ONS
Net additional dwellings for the five year period	7,128					Retrieve from AMR 2008.
Net additional dwellings for the current year	1,243					Retrieve from AMR 2008.
Projected net additional dwellings	15,786					Retrieve from AMR 2008.
Annual net additional dwellings requirement	825					Retrieve from AMR 2008.
Annual average number of net additional dwellings needed to meet overall housing requirement	830					Retrieve from AMR 2008.
Annual completion of flats.	921				An significant increase from 735 the previous year.	Retrieve from AMR 2008.
Annual completion of houses.	555				Not much increase from 515 the previous year.	Retrieve from AMR 2008.
% of new and converted dwellings on PDL	1,027 = 81.0%					Retrieve from AMR 2008.

Affordable housing completions	265 completions				Currently unable to measure the 25% target of affordable houses in developments over 1ha or 25 units.	HIP Return (National), 2007-2008.
% of new dwellings completed at less than 30 dwellings per hectare	none					Retrieve from AMR 2008.
% of new dwellings completed at between 30 and 50 dwellings per hectare	23.34%					Retrieve from AMR 2008.
% of new dwellings completed at above 50 dwellings per hectare	76.60%					Retrieve from AMR 2008.
% of households with one or more car or van	78.9	80.7				Census 2001, ONS
Average gross household income (£)	24,065		27,000	22,500		Housing Needs Survey, Colchester Borough Council, 2002.
Number of registered homeless people	283					CBC Policy Performance Team, 2007-08
Number of people on the housing register	5,085					CBC Policy Performance Team, 2007-08
Number of people in Temporary Accommodation	223				This figure is a snapshot at the end of each quarter and is not cumulative for the financial year. However, it is a decrease from the previous year's snapshot of 279 people.	CBC Policy Performance Team, 2007-8
% of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP, hospital and major health centre	GP = 99.7% (1,239 homes) Hospital = 99.5%					Retrieve from AMR 2008.

	(1,237 homes)					
% of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of a employment and major retail centre	Employment area = 99.8% (1,240 homes) Retail Centre = 99.5% (1,237 homes)					Retrieve from AMR 2008.
% of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of a primary and secondary school.	Primary school = 99.5% (1,237 homes) Secondary school = 99.0% (1,230 homes)					Retrieve from AMR 2008.
Total No. of Gypsy & Traveller Caravans	23	1039	4,443	17,898	Data is a snap shot at January 2008. Produced annually by Colchester Borough Council	Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008
Number of social rented caravans on authorised sites (with planning permission)	0	183	1,333	6,696	Data is a snap shot at January 2008. Produced annually by Colchester Borough Council	Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008

Number of private caravans on authorised sites (with planning permission)	15	498	2,126	7,351	Data is a snap shot at January 2008. Produced annually by Colchester Borough Council	Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008
Number of caravans on authorised, gypsies own land (tolerated)	1	51	237	1,054	Data is a snap shot at January 2008. Produced annually by Colchester Borough Council	Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008
Number of caravans on authorised, gypsies own land (not tolerated)	7	296	491	1,233	Data is a snap shot at January 2008. Produced annually by Colchester Borough Council	Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008
Number of caravans on unauthorised sites and not owned by gypsies (tolerated)	0	2	141	731	Data is a snap shot at January 2008. Produced annually by Colchester Borough Council	Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008
Number of caravans on unauthorised sites and not owned by gypsies (not tolerated)	0	9	115	833	Data is a snap shot at January 2008. Produced annually by Colchester Borough Council	Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008
Education						
% of working age population qualified to NVQ level 1 and above	78.2%	76.8%	78.2%		Fewer than 5 GCSEs at grades A-C, foundation GNVQ, NVQ 1, intermediate 1 national qualification (Scotland) or equivalent	Annual Population Survey via Nomis Labour Market Profile, Jan-Dec 2007
% of working age population qualified to NVQ level 4 and above	29.9%	23.4%	26.0%		HND, Degree and Higher Degree level qualifications or equivalent	Annual Population Survey via Nomis Labour Market Profile, Jan-Dec 2007

% of the population with no qualifications	9.5%	14.4%	12.5%		Colchester is below both the Essex and Eastern %s.	Annual Population Survey via Nomis Labour Market Profile, Jan-Dec 2007
Employment						
Number of population economically active	92,000					Annual Population Survey, 2008
No. and % of people in employment	87,000 = 94.6%				% is of those economically active (92,000 people).	Annual Population Survey, 2008
Number of people of working age classed as employees	76,600				An increase over the previous year's estimate of 5,200 people, equivalent growth of 7.3%.	Annual Population Survey, 2008
Number of people of working age classed as self-employed	9,500					Annual Population Survey, 2008
% of population who are economically active but unemployed	3,800 = 4.2%				% is of the economically active population (model-based unemployment).	Annual Population Survey, 2008
No. of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance (JSA)	1,773				Equates to 1.6% of the resident working age population (110,600). Males =1,228, Females = 545.	Annual Population Survey, 2008
No. of young people aged 18-24 claiming JSA	570				Equates to 32.1% of those claiming JSA.	Annual Population Survey, 2008
Number of population economically inactive	21,200				% is of the working age population (110,600 people).	Annual Population Survey, 2008
% of economically inactive people classified as 'wanting a job'	25% (5,300 people)				A reduction from 24,200 in the previous year.	Annual Population Survey, 2008
% of economically inactive people classified as 'not wanting a job'	75% (15,900 people)				% is of those economically inactive (21,200 people)	Annual Population Survey, 2008

Gross weekly pay for full time workers in Colchester (2007)	£479.00	£503.20	£479.10		Colchester's gross weekly pay is in line with the Eastern figure but below that of Essex for the same period.	Earnings by residence 2007, ONS Annual Survey of hours and earnings
Job Density	87,000 jobs = 0.80 density	0.75	0.82		The density figures represent the ratio of total jobs to working-age population. Colchester's job density is higher than the Essex average and closer to the eastern average.	Job Density 2005, Nomis Official Labour Market Statistics, 2008
Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type which is on PDL	B1 - B8 Total = 25,710sqm				95% of all new employment floorspace was achieved on brownfield sites.	Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008
Number of jobs in the tourism sector	4,496 jobs				This has risen by 67% since 1993.	Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008
Visitor trips	54,000 staying trips taken by overseas visitors. 218,000 staying trips taken by domestic staying visitors. 4m day trippers.					Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2009
Number of VAT registered businesses in 2006	5,325					VAT Registered Buildings 2006, Nomis Official Labour Market Statistics, 2008
Deprivation						

% of people in Colchester living in seriously deprived small areas.	5% (7,790 people)				% is from 2001 Census population estimate for Colchester of 155,796 people).	Index of Multiple Deprivation Data, 2007.
Levels of deprivation in Essex	Colchester had 2nd highest local concentration score of all 12 Essex districts				This suggests that where deprivation exists in Colchester, it is concentrated in small areas.	Index of Multiple Deprivation Data, 2007.
Number of areas in Colchester in the top 20% most deprived in England	3 small areas - St Andrew's, St Anne's and Harbour				The most deprived small area in Colchester was located in St Anne's Estate within St Anne's ward.	Index of Multiple Deprivation Data, 2007.
Number of areas in Colchester in the top 40% most deprived in England	21 areas					Index of Multiple Deprivation Data, 2007.
% of areas within the top 20% most affected by Barriers to Housing and Services.	28%	19%				Index of Multiple Deprivation Data, 2007.
% of small areas that are seriously deprived in terms of living environment	2%					Index of Multiple Deprivation Data, 2007.
% of small areas that are seriously deprived in terms of education, skills and training	15%					Index of Multiple Deprivation Data, 2007.
Health						
Number of doctors surgeries	32					National Health Service Online
Number of Clinics	6					National Health Service Online
Number of dentists	26					National Health Service Online
Number of Opticians	15					National Health Service Online
Number of Pharmacies	21					National Health Service Online

Number of Hospitals	2					National Health Service Online
No. of live births	1,932	15,370				Key Population and Vital Statistics, ONS, 2006.
Total Fertility Rate	1.51	1.84				Key Population and Vital Statistics, ONS, 2006.
Live Birth Rate	11.3	11.3	11.9	12.5		Key Population and Vital Statistics, ONS, 2006.
No. of deaths	1,413	12,831	51,846			Key Population and Vital Statistics, ONS, 2006.
Standardised Mortality Ratio (SMR)	94	93	93			Key Population and Vital Statistics, ONS, 2006.
Infant Mortality Rate	3.6 deaths per 1,000 live births under 1 year old	4.0	4.1			Key Population and Vital Statistics, ONS, 2006.
% of households containing one or more people suffering with a limiting long-term illness	30.6					Census 2001, ONS
% of people of working age suffering from a limiting long-term illness	11.8					Census 2001, ONS
Number of conceptions per 1,000 females under the age of 18 years	43.3	34.9			Above the Essex average.	Key Population and Vital Statistics, ONS, 2000.
Crime						
Number of incidents in Colchester between 2007 and 2008	12,084					Essex Police Data, 2007-2008
Rate of burglaries per 1,000 households	6.7				A decrease from the previous year.	Essex Police Data, 2007-2008

Criminal damage per 1,000 people	16.3					Essex Police Data, 2007-2008
Theft per 1,000 people	13.9					Essex Police Data, 2007-2008
Robberies per 1,000 people	0.5				Decrease from 0.6 the previous year.	Essex Police Data, 2007-2008
% of residents who think people being attacked because of their skin colour, ethnic origin or religion was a very big or fairly big problem in Colchester	13.2					ODPM 2003-2004, located through the Audit Commission Area Profiles, 2006.
% of residents who feel 'very safe' outside after dark	2.0					ODPM 2003-2004, located through the Audit Commission Area Profiles, 2006.
% of residents who think that vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles is a very big or fairly big problem in their area	48.9	63.6			Lower than the Essex average.	ODPM 2003-2004, located through the Audit Commission Area Profiles, 2006.
% of residents who think that people using or dealing drugs is a very big or fairly big problem in their area	44.2	56.2			Lower than the Essex average.	ODPM 2003-2004, located through the Audit Commission Area Profiles, 2006.
% of residents who think that people being rowdy or drunk in public places is a very big or fairly big problem in their area	41.7	48.2			Lower than the Essex average.	ODPM 2003-2004, located through the Audit Commission Area Profiles, 2006.
Floorspace						
All bulk classes (count)	3,842		132,500	1,318,246		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.
Retail premises (count)	1,369		46,543	516,864		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.
Offices (count)	941		29,827	310,707		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.
Commercial offices (count)	814		25,334	263,910		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.

Other offices (count)	127		4,493	46,797		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.
Factories (count)	742		27,594	246,470		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.
Warehouses (count)	614		21,947	189,631		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.
Other bulk premises sqm	176		6,589	54,574		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.
All bulk classes sqm (000s)	1,393		55,476	557,302		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.
Retail premises sqm (000s)	388		9,860	97,273		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.
Offices sqm (000s)	220		8,271	94,216		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.
Commercial offices sqm (000s)	189		6,741	78,238		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.
Other offices sqm (000s)	30		1,530	15,978		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.
Factories sqm (000s)	395		19,581	204,237		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.
Warehouses sqm (000s)	335		15,742	142,853		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.
Other bulk premises sqm (000s)	55		2,023	18,723		Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2005.
Vacant Property Estimates	11		8	9	There have been fluctuations between 10% and 11%.	Office for National Statistics, ONS, April 2004 - March 2005.
Cultural Heritage & Material Assets						
Number of Grade 1 listed buildings	41					Essex County Council, 2005.
Number of Grade II* listed buildings	99					Essex County Council, 2005.
Number of Grade II listed buildings	1,410					Essex County Council, 2005.
Number of Grade B listed buildings (church only)	4					Essex County Council, 2005.

Number of Grade C listed buildings (church only)	2					Essex County Council, 2005.
Number of conservation areas	22					Colchester Borough Council, 2006.
Number of Scheduled Ancient Monuments	40					Colchester Borough Council, 2006.
Number of Countryside Conservations Areas (CCA)	8					Colchester Adopted Local Plan, 2004.
Number of parks on the National Register of Special Historic Interest	4					Colchester Borough Council, 2006.
Loss of listed buildings (by demolition)	0					Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008
Loss or damage to Scheduled Ancient Monuments or nationally important archaeological sites through development	0					Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008
% of residents satisfied with sports & leisure facilities					No data available - 65% is 2006/07 target.	Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
% of residents satisfied with museums					No data available - 60% is 2006/07 target.	Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
% of residents satisfied with arts activities					No data available - 62% is 2006/07 target.	Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
% of residents satisfied with parks & open spaces					No data available - 82% is 2006/07 target.	Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
Visits to/use of museums per 1,000 population	2,446					Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
The number of pupils visiting museums & galleries in organised school	23,750					Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
Biodiversity						

Area of ancient woodland within the borough	Found to the south of Colchester, clustered along the Roman River, on the Valley from Copford to its confluence with River Colne.					Essex County Council, Sustainability Appraisal, 2006.
Change in priority habitats and species						
Condition of internationally and nationally important wildlife and geographical sites (SSSI, SPA, SAC & Ramsar)						
Number of sites of international or national importance for nature, or ANOB, SSSIs or SINC, to be lost to or damaged by development	0					Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008
% of residential development on greenfield land	19%				An increase from 7.4% the previous year.	Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008
Amount of development in designated areas	34 applications were approved in a SINC. 5 applications approved in a SSSI. 49 applications				None of these applications resulted in damage or loss. More applications were submitted than approved due to environmental constraints on the site.	Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008

	approved in an ANOB.					
Applications involving Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) trees	141 applications for works to TPO trees. 130 were consented and 11 were refused.					Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008
Flagship species	Beautiful Demoiselle Damselfly, Great Crested Newt, Sea Holly, Stag Beetle, Lesser Calamint.					Essex County Council, Sustainability Appraisal, 2006.
Areas of unimproved acid grassland that remain in Essex	Tiptree Heath SSSI and Roman River SSSI.					Essex County Council, Sustainability Appraisal, 2006.

Designated international and national areas of nature conservation	The Blackwater Estuary and Cole Estuary - both contain areas of drained grassland within the marshes.					Essex County Council, Sustainability Appraisal, 2006.
Orchards	Found to the north of Colchester around West Bergholt, Great Horkesley and Langham					Essex County Council, Sustainability Appraisal, 2006.
Environment						
Number of planning applications approved contrary to advice given by the EA on flood risk/flood defence grounds	0					Colchester Borough Council's Annual Monitoring Report, 2008
Number of Air Quality Management Areas	2				These are Mersea Road and Brook Street.	Colchester Borough Council, 2006.
Proportion of journeys to work by public transport against the proportion of journeys to work by car	12.96% by public transport, 61.1% by car/van and 9.11% work from home.				Percentages are based on working-age population including full-time, part-time, self-employed workers and full-time students.	Census 2001, ONS.

Amount of household waste collected between 2007 and 2008	63,995.97 tonnes				Slight decrease from the previous year.	CBC Waste Policy Team - 2007-2008
% of household waste that was dry recycled	19.70%				Increase from 17.8% the previous year.	CBC Waste Policy Team - 2007-2008
% of household waste that has been green composted	12.00%					CBC Waste Policy Team - 2007-2008
Provision of recycling facilities in new development					Data not available - CBC is in the process of setting up a working group that will look at developing guidance for the designing in of recycling into developments before a planning application is submitted. In the future, developers will have to accommodate recycling facilities in new developments.	CBC Waste Policy Team - 2005/2006
% of stretches of watercourse that are compliant with River Quality Objectives (RQO's)					Data not available - 62.28% of Colchester's river length was assessed as good biological quality and 35.23% was assessed as good chemical quality.	OFWAT, 2004.
% of local street and environment cleanliness (litter)	11.0					Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
% of local street and environment cleanliness (graffiti)	1.0					Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
% of local street and environment cleanliness (fly-posting)	2.0					Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
% of local street and environment cleanliness (fly-tipping)					No data available	Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.

Kg of household waste collected per head	391.0					Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
Cost per household of waste collection	51.6					Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
% of people satisfied with the cleanliness standard of their area					No data available - 68% is 2006/07 target.	Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
% of people satisfied with household waste collection					No data available - 85% is 2006/07 target.	Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
% of people satisfied with recycling					No data available - 76% is 2006/07 target.	Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
Identifying contaminated land - number of sites of potential concern	624					CBC Environmental and Protective Services, 2008.
% with sufficient information to decide whether remediation is necessary	5%					CBC Environmental and Protective Services, 2008.
% of pollution control improvements completed on time	95.0					Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
Abandoned vehicles investigated within 24 hours	100.0					Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
Abandoned vehicles removed within 24 hours of legal entitlement	50.0					Best Value Performance Indicators, 2005/2006.
% of developed land that is derelict	0					National Land Use Database, CBC data, March 2006.
% of relevant land and highways assessed as having combined deposits of litter and detritus.	11%				This has increased from 9% the previous year.	Audit Commission, BVPI 199, (2005-05)
% of land designated as sites of specific scientific interest (SSSI) in favourable condition	69					English Nature, 2005
Amount of Local Nature Reserve land per 1,000 people	0.6 hectares					English Nature, 2005

Annual average domestic consumption of gas	18,365kWh				This is a decrease from 20,336 in 2004.	DTI Energy Trends, 2005
Annual average domestic consumption of electricity	4,787kWh				This is a slight decrease from 4,875 kWh in 2004.	DTI Energy Trends, 2005
Daily domestic water use (per capita consumption)	145 litres					OFWAT, 2004
Rivers at risk of pollution	Layer Brook, Roman River, Colne, St Botolph's Brook					Essex County Council, Sustainability Appraisal, 2006.
Extensive Flood Risk Areas	North coast of Mersea Island and opposite on the mainland.					Essex County Council, Sustainability Appraisal, 2006.
High Flood Risk Areas	Abberton Reservoir, Ardleigh Reservoir, Stour Valley and Colne Valley					Essex County Council, Sustainability Appraisal, 2006.
Main source of NOx emissions	Road traffic emissions					Essex County Council, Sustainability Appraisal, 2006.

Appendix B. Glossary

Appropriate Assessment - An assessment of a plan or project under the Habitats Regulations. This assessment relates to the integrity of Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas and is conducted specifically and solely in relation to the features for which they were designated and any supporting habitats, species or processes. Only projects determined as having no significant effect on site integrity may proceed.

Area Action Plan (AAP) - These are Development Plan Documents that will be used to provide the planning framework for areas where significant change or conservation is needed. They can be used in many ways to help deliver planned growth areas, stimulate regeneration, protect areas that are sensitive to change, resolve conflicting objectives in areas subject to development pressures and/or focus the delivery of area based regeneration initiative. They will also focus on the implementation of policies and proposals and will provide an important way of ensuring development of an appropriate scale, mix and quality for key areas of opportunity, change and conservation in the Borough.

Brownfield Site (also known as Previously Developed Land) - Previously developed land that is unused or may be available for development. It includes both vacant and derelict land and land currently in use with known potential for redevelopment. It excludes land that was previously developed where the remains have blended into the landscape over time.

Community Facilities – Developments which enable a variety of local activities to take place including, but not limited to the following:

- Libraries and community centres
- Child care centres
- Sport and recreational facilities
- Youth clubs
- Playgrounds

The above list reflects what is deemed to be a community facility within the context of the SPD. Community Facilities can also include educational establishments, museums and art galleries, faith buildings, medical centres, open space and transport infrastructure. Furthermore, some community activities can also be provided via privately run facilities (e.g. pubs and village shops).

Core Strategy - The Core Strategy sets out the long-term vision for Colchester and the strategic policies required to deliver that vision. Its main aim is to promote sustainable development. It will also seek to protect and enhance the environment, as well as defining the general locations for delivering strategic development including housing, employment, retail, leisure, community and transport.

Development Plan Document (DPD) - Development Plan Documents that the council are required to prepare include the core strategy, site specific

allocations of land and area action plans. There will also be a proposals map, which will illustrate the spatial extent of policies that must be prepared and maintained to accompany all development plan documents. All Development Plan Documents must be subject to rigorous procedures of community involvement, consultation and independent examination, and adopted after receipt of the inspector's binding report.

Development Policies DPD – A document that the council have produced to guide future development of the Borough. The Policies contained within this DPD will eventually replace the Local Plan Policies and be used to determine planning applications in the future. The Development Policies DPD is currently at Issues and Options Stage.

East of England Plan (also known as Regional Spatial Strategy/RSS) - A strategy formerly known as Regional Planning Guidance (RPG), for how a region should look in 15-20 years time and possibly longer. It identifies the scale and distribution of new housing in the region, indicates areas for regeneration, expansion or sub-regional planning and specifies priorities for the environment, transport, infrastructure, economic development, agriculture, minerals and waste treatment and disposal.

Green Links (also known as Green Infrastructure) – Green links are open spaces or links between open spaces that provide for walking and cycling and/or the movement of biodiversity. These areas of land are vital parts of the public realm and encourage sustainable travel behaviour. Green links provide attractive, safe and accessible spaces which contribute to positive social, economic and environmental benefits, improving public health, well being and quality of life. Strategic green links are shown on the Core Strategy Key Diagrams.

Greenfield Site - Land which has never been built on before or where the remains of any structure or activity have blended into the landscape over time.

Industrial Sites – Sites within the Borough that are considered appropriate for uses which fall within the B1, B2 and B8 Class.

Lifetime Homes - Lifetime Homes make life as easy as possible, for as long as possible because they are thoughtfully designed. They are homes for everyone and bring benefits to anyone who lives in them because of the individual choices that they make possible. The flexibility and adaptability of Lifetime Homes accommodate life events quickly, cost effectively and without upheaval. (www.lifetimehomes.org.uk).

Local Development Framework (LDF) - This is the term given to the portfolio of Local Development Documents (see above), which will provide the framework for delivering the spatial planning strategy for the area.

Local Development Scheme (LDS) - This is the project plan for a three year period for the production of all documents that will comprise the Local Development Framework. It identifies each Local Development Document

stating which are to be Development Plan Documents (see above) and which are to be Supplementary Planning Documents, and establishes a timetable for preparing each.

Mixed Use Development - A well integrated mix of land uses (retail, employment, leisure and other service uses) with decent homes of different types and tenures to support a range of household sizes, ages and incomes.

Neighbourhood Centre - Centres are mixed use places where we shop, work, learn, relax and live. A Neighbourhood Centre is a collection of local shops, services and community facilities at the centre of both villages and urban neighbourhoods. Neighbourhood Centres could range from a small parade of shops through to larger commercial areas providing a variety of services and facilities.

Planning Gain – the principle of a developer agreeing to provide additional benefits or safeguards, often for the benefit of the community, usually in the form of related development supplied at the developer's expense.

Planning Policy Guidance Notes (PPG) – Guidance notes issued by Government setting out planning policy and main land uses. They provide guidance and advice on the application of national policy.

Planning Policy Statements (PPS) - Statements issued by Government setting out planning policy and the main land uses. They are supported by a range of good practice and other documents providing guidance and advice on the application of policy. Planning Policy Statements are the replacements for the Planning Policy Guidance Notes.

Previously Developed Land (PDL) (also known as Brownfield land) - Previously developed land that is unused or may be available for development. It includes both vacant and derelict land and land currently in use with known potential for redevelopment. It excludes land that was previously developed where the remains have blended into the landscape over time.

Ramsar Sites - Ramsar sites are wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention.

Regeneration Areas – An area in the Borough identified on the basis of potential for brownfield land redevelopment, economic and social need and proximity to the town centre. The Regeneration Areas are key elements in the aim of Colchester becoming a prestigious regional centre. Five Regeneration Areas have been identified across the Borough; St Botolph's, North Station, East Colchester, North Colchester and Garrison.

Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) - see East of England Plan.

Retail Frontages – A term given to areas within the Town Centre where shopping is the primary function. The front of the shopping facing the street is used to calculate the retail frontages within the Development Policies DPD.

Rural Diversification (also known as Farm Diversification) – The alternative use of land or buildings which were once used for farming purposes or rural activity such as grain store, stables or poultry shed. The Local Plan definition is “alternative use of land or buildings that remains within the farming unit in the ownership of the farmer and run from the existing house”.

Site Specific Allocations - Land allocated for specific uses will be identified in specific Development Plan Documents. Specific policies that relate to these designations will be set out in a Development Plan Document and will cover principles such as design or specific requirements for implementation. Policies relating to the delivery of the Site Specific Allocations, such as any critical access requirements, any broad design principles or any planning obligations, which may be sought, must be set out in a development plan document.

Spatial Planning – Spatial planning goes beyond traditional land use planning to bring together and integrate policies for the development and use of land with other policies and programmes which influence the nature of places and how they function. This will include policies which can impact on land use, for example, by influencing the demands on or needs for development, but which are not capable of being delivered solely or mainly through the granting of planning permission and may be delivered through other means.” (PPS 1 ODPM, 2004, pp3).

Special Areas of Conservation - Special Areas of Conservation are strictly protected sites designated under Article 3 of the EC Habitats Directive. Article 3 requires the establishment of a European network of important high-quality conservation sites that will make a significant contribution to conserving the 189 habitat types and 788 species identified in Annexes I and II of the Directive (as amended). The listed habitat types and species are those considered to be most in need of conservation at a European level (excluding birds). Of the Annex I habitat types, 78 are believed to occur in the UK. Of the Annex II species, 43 are native to, and normally resident in, the UK.

Special Protection Areas - Special Protection Areas are strictly protected sites classified in accordance with Article 4 of the EC Directive on the conservation of wild birds (the Birds Directive). They are classified for rare and vulnerable birds, listed in Annex I to the Birds Directive, and for regularly occurring migratory species.

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) - This will set out the standards that the council intend to achieve in relation to involving the community and all stakeholders in the preparation, alteration and continuing review of all Local Development Plan Documents and in significant planning applications, and also how the local planning authority intends to achieve those standards. The Statement of Community Involvement will not be a Development Plan

Document (see above) but will be subject to independent examination. A consultation statement showing how the council has complied with its Statement of Community Involvement should accompany all Local Development Documents.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) - This is an assessment that is required (by a European Directive) to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adaption of plans with a view to promoting sustainable development.

Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) – A document produced by the Council to add further detailed guidance and information on a particular subject such as Sustainable Construction or Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities. An SPD is subject to a formal consultation period and then is used as a material consideration when determining planning applications.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA) - An appraisal of the economic, social and environmental effects of a plan from the outset of the preparation process, so that decisions can be made that accord with sustainable development.

Sustainable Communities - are places where people want to live and work, now and in the future. They meet the diverse needs of existing and future residents, are sensitive to their environment, and contribute to a high quality of life. They are safe and inclusive, well planned, built and run, and offer equality of opportunity and good services for all.

Sustainable Community Strategy - All local planning authorities have a duty to prepare community strategies under the Local Government Act 2000 in conjunction with other public, private and community sector organisations. Community Strategies should promote the economic, social and environmental well being of their areas and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. The intention is that Local Development Frameworks will provide the spatial expression to those elements of the Community Strategy that relate to the use and development of land. Copies of the Colchester Community Strategy can be viewed at www.colchester2020.com

Sustainable Construction – is the name given to building in an energy efficient way. The incorporation of many new technologies and energy saving techniques into a building can dramatically reduce the CO² emissions and carbon foot print of a building. Initiatives include grey water recycling systems, solar panels, home recycling, wind turbines and ground water heating systems. Full details can be found in the Council's Sustainable Construction SPD.

Sustainable Development - Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Sustainable Transportation - Sustainable transportation refers to walking, cycling and public transport, including train and bus. Sustainable transportation is transport that makes efficient use of natural resources and minimises pollution. In particular, Sustainable Transportation seeks to minimise the emissions of carbon dioxide – a greenhouse gas associated with climate change – as well as nitrogen oxides, sulphur oxides, carbon monoxide and particulates, all of which affect local air quality.

Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) - A sequence of management practices, techniques and control structures designed to drain surface water in a more sustainable fashion than some conventional piped drainage techniques.

Town Centre - The Town Centre is cultural and commercial heart of the Borough. Colchester's Town Centre includes the historic core of Colchester, as well as the surrounding fringe areas that are characterised by a mix of retail, residential, office, community facilities and other uses often found in other Centres. North Station and Hythe Station will be major gateways to Colchester and are therefore considered to be another important element of the Town Centre.

Transit Corridor - A rapid transit corridor provides a corridor for the fast and frequent movement of high quality public transport. Colchester's rapid transport corridors will provide unimpeded travel for express buses to bypass traffic congestion and link key facilities, centres, transport nodes and neighbourhoods. These corridors will also provide quality walking and cycle ways.

Urban Renaissance - Urban Renaissance is about renewing towns and cities in a sustainable way. It aims to make towns and cities vibrant and successful and, in doing so, protect the countryside from development pressure. It is about offering a high quality of life to people by:

- enabling them to shape the future of their community
- providing attractive places to live that use space and buildings well
- encouraging good design and planning to support a more environmentally sustainable way of life
- meeting people's needs with good quality services.

Appendix C. References

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